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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 2ND, 1892.

DEATHS.

At the German Hospital, Yokohama, July 1st, WALTER SOLOMON MANTEN, aged 43 years. China Papers please copy.

At the German Naval Hospital, on June 26th, JONAS HONIGSBERGER, of New York, aged 46.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H. I. H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKERHITO proceeded to Dzusli on Friday.

H. I. H. PRINCE KOMATSU left the capital on the 24th ultimo, to visit his villa at Numazu.

EARLY on the morning of the 27th ult. an incendiary fire occurred at Fujisawa, destroying eighteen houses.

H. E. MR. FRASER, the British Minister, was admitted to an Imperial audience on the 25th ult. at 10 a.m.

PRINCE ICHIJO SANETERU, who has been visiting Europe to accomplish his studies, will return home this month.

COUNT SOYERJIMA, ex-Minister of State for Home Affairs, will proceed to the country shortly for the benefit of his health.

H. E. THE MEXICAN MINISTER delivered a lecture relating to emigration at a meeting of the *Futsu gakkai* held on the 25th ult.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Stock Exchange will take place on

July 7th. The dividend for the past half-year is estimated at the rate of about 2 per cent. per annum.

MR. R. W. IRWIN, Hawaiian Minister, will leave Japan for home, about the middle of this month, on private business.

THEIR Imperial Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, will visit the residence of Marquis Nabeshima at Nagaiacho shortly.

THE people of Sapporo and Hakodate have petitioned for a visit from H. I. H. the Crown Prince to Hokkaido this year.

H. I. M. THE EMPEROR visited the Riding School at Naka-shibuya-mura, Tokyo, on the 28th ult., leaving the Palace at 8.30 a.m.

THE Directors of the Osaka Stock Exchange propose to declare a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum.

THE dividend of the Osaka Rice Exchange for the first half of this year is estimated at the rate of 18 yen per share of 100 yen, or 36 per cent. per annum.

DURING the absence of Mr. Hugh Fraser, British Minister, Mr. M. W. E. de Bunsen, Secretary of the British Legation, will take charge of affairs.

THEATRICAL performances will commence at the Minato Theatre, Yokohama, on July 1st by a party headed by Shikwan, Fukusuke, Dengoro, and other famous actors.

A STRONG shock of earthquake was felt at Nagoya on the night of the 23rd ult., the duration being 2 minutes. A slight oscillation was experienced at Gifu the same night.

THE marriage arranged between H. I. H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito and Lady Yaye, a daughter of Marquis Yamanouchi, ex-Chief of the Tosa clan, will take place on July 6th.

AN official telegram from Mr. Kumazaki, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* at Lyons, dated the 26th ult., states that the Italian Senate has passed a Bill for the abolition of the export duty on silk.

EARLY on the morning of the 22nd inst. flames burst out in a residence at Kajima-gun, Ishikawa Prefecture, and though the fire was confined to the building in which it originated one man was burnt to death.

THE monthly meeting of the Geographical Society took place on the 28th ult. at 7 p.m., in the rooms of the Society in Ginza, Tokyo, at which addresses were given by Messrs. Sakamoto Toshiatsu and Kato Masao.

ON the afternoon of the 22nd ult. an elementary school at Takasu in the province of Mino, Gifu Prefecture, collapsed; ten lads were seriously wounded and three killed, while several received slight injuries.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Fukuoka, dated the 24th inst., announces that in consequence of the recent heavy rains the Yabe and Chikugo rivers have overflowed, carrying away a bridge and submerging several houses.

A MEETING of the Japan Sanitary Association was held at the Koseikan, Kyobashi, Tokyo, on the forenoon of the 25th ult., a numerous audience attending. Addresses were given by Mr. Goto Shimpei and Dr. Nagayo, Chairman of the Central Board of Health.

A CHARTER has been granted to the promoters of the Oni Railway, permitting them to construct a railroad between Oni and Tatakawa. They met at Oni on the 17th ult. to discuss matters in connection with the commencement

of the work. It is expected to be completed before the close of this year.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, entertained Mr. Coombs, the American Representative, on the 24th ult. Among the distinguished guests present were Counts Matsukata, Goto, Oki, Viscount Takashima, and Mr. Kono, Ministers of State.—

DR. OKA, an Imperial Physician, who had been despatched to Kyoto to inquire into the physical condition of H. I. H. Prince Yamashina Akira, returned to Tokyo on the 23rd ult. He proceeded to the Palace the following day, and reported to H. I. M. the Emperor that the Prince has almost recovered his ordinary health.

A GENERAL assembly of the Oriental Society was held on the 27th ult. in the rooms of the Seamen's Aid Society in Shiba Park, Tokyo. Among those present were Prince Konoye, Viscount Matsudaira, and Messrs. Miura Yasushi, Hoshi Toru, Murata Tamotsu, Oi Kenaro, Kono Hironaka, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Nabashi Tokugoro, Minoura Katsuto, Boku Yeiko, Miyake Yajiro, Shigeno Kanjiro, and Tatsuno Shuichiro.

A NUMBER of high officials of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department, and chief members of the Central Sanitary Association, gave a banquet on the 26th ult. at the Imperial Hotel for the purpose of bidding farewell to Dr. E. Baelz, a German professor in the Imperial University, who intends to leave for home shortly, and welcoming Dr. Kitazato and Goto Shimpei, who returned from Europe recently.

THE business in Imports continues to show an improvement, and dealers' opinions of future prospects are encouraging. English Yarn has been in fair demand, and about 1,000 bales have been taken, for which better rates have been paid, as much as 50 cents and \$1 higher for certain counts, but the improvement has not reached Bombay, which for the time are a drug in the market. In Grey goods and Fancy Cottons business has been small, though values are about the same. There have been further large sales of Woollens to arrive, and the market altogether may be described as in a fairly healthy condition. The Metal trade continues dull, and most kinds of Iron are extremely quiet, though there has been a little done in Sheets, and there are some inquiries for stock to arrive. The Kerosene trade is sound, and though buyers have ceased firing for the time, deliveries continue good, prices are unchanged and firm, and demand may be expected at any moment. There has been a good deal of Sugar sold at a considerable advance, and there are buyers still unsupplied. A cargo for this port has been lost by the wreck of the *Haiphong*, a "Douglas" steamer, which went on the rocks near Shimoda a few days ago, with 25,000 bags, mostly Formosa Brown. The Silk season closed on the 30th ult., and the market for new fibre opened at high figures, which have been pushed daily higher, rates being fully \$25 per picul more than those of a week ago, and holders are very strong. There is talk of damage through the late excessive moisture, but though these reports have always to be received with caution, there is reason to believe that there may be some truth in the statements put forth on this occasion, though the extent of the damage, if any, it is impossible for any one to estimate at this period. Nothing doing yet in Waste Silk, of which there are several thousand piculs left over. The Tea trade is unchanged—arrivals of second crop come in freely, there is a good demand, rates are firm for the leaf in request, and the stock is manageable. Exchange has fluctuated, and has not yet reached a further slight decline.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE NATIONAL UNION.

THE National Unionists—for that seems to be the appellation to designate the new party, the *Kokumin Kyokai*—held a social meeting on the 24th in the room of the Marine Disasters Aid Society in Shiba Sannai. The principal object of the meeting seems to have been the admission of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa to the ranks of the Union. Mr. Watanabe Koki presided, and opened the proceedings by a brief speech, in which he expressed the pleasure felt by the members of the Union in welcoming two such distinguished associates. Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa both addressed the meeting. Count Saigo said:—

GENTLEMEN,—It gives me much pleasure to find myself among you at this friendly meeting. Viscount Shinagawa and myself, strongly approving of the objects of your Union, have resigned our official positions and made up our minds to join you. We shall work with you henceforth for better or for worse, in the interests of the national prosperity and the development of the people's resources. It is our earnest hope that you also will spare no effort to evolve wise plans and adopt useful measures in the cause of the country and in the cause of the people.

Viscount Shinagawa spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN—Count Saigo and I, approving of the motives that have led to the organization of this society, have determined to enter it, and for that purpose have resigned our official positions. We have not been guided in this matter by any sudden resolve. The matter has received our maturest reflection, and we therefore look forward to working with you, with the utmost energy, in the cause of our country and our countrymen. I may perhaps be permitted to call your attention to the fact that though Count Saigo comes from Satsuma, while I come from Choshu, we are both Japanese; and when there is question of serving our country, there is no difference between us. Looking back more than twenty years to the time of the Restoration, the early phases of which were not without bloodshed, I recall the fact that Count Saigo, who sits here in our midst to-day was one of that band of some fifty men who, under the leadership of the great Saigo Takamori, swore to give their lives for the good cause on the occasion of the Teradaya incident at Fushimi. Count Saigo did strong service then in the national interests, and I, at the same time, under the leadership of Kinsaka in Kyoto, was doing what little I could in the same cause. We were then each eighteen years of age, and since that time it has been our lot to hold official appointments for over twenty years, serving the State to the best of our ability. Now, however, we have resigned our official positions and enrolled ourselves in your ranks, to work with you for the promotion of the country's good and the development of the nation's prosperity. We have both agreed that should either of us prove unfaithful to the cause we have espoused, his life shall be forfeited to the other, and we now say that should we be found to obey the dictates of selfishness and to pursue our personal ambitions, we ask you to take our lives, and assure you that they shall be given to you freely. This we solemnly swear to you, and ask you to have faith in our sincerity.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo replied briefly to these speeches, and addresses were subsequently delivered by four or five leading members of the National Union.

SCHOOL-TEACHERS AND BOOKSELLERS.

A FEW weeks ago a paragraph in the *Choya Shimbun* stated that certain large booksellers are in the habit of offering various inducements to the directors of schools and school-teachers, to recommend books published by them for adoption as text-books in the schools under their control. According to the *Choya*, in some cases money or presents are offered, in others expensive entertainments are given, at which the teachers are sumptuously treated. Attracted by these reports, the Department of Education inquired into the matter, and found that the abuses referred to actually existed. Consequently an order has been issued to the Governor of Hokkaido, and to the various Prefects, instructing them to deal severely with anyone found guilty of the practice alluded to. Local authorities are reminded that the law forbidding the acceptance of bribes by officials, passed three

years ago, has reference to school-teachers as well as to other Government servants, and that since in the case of those to whom the education of the youth of the country has been entrusted susceptibility to corruption is likely to lead to very serious evils, an example should be made of anyone found guilty of this evil practice.

The *Fiji Shimpō*, commenting on the issue of this order, expresses the opinion that it will not compass its end. Our contemporary maintains that so long as immense profits are to be obtained by booksellers from the patronage of the directors of schools, they will openly, or secretly or indirectly, take measures to secure such patronage. The best way of remedying the evil, the *Fiji* thinks, would be to abolish the practice of granting copyright to the authors of school text-books, and to allow such works to be printed and sold by all booksellers. This surely would be a most unjust measure, and would give rise to a still greater evil than the one complained of. To refuse copyright to the authors of text-books would mean that no writer of any ability would trouble himself to publish such works, and hence the Government would either have to revert to the abandoned, expensive, and unsatisfactory practice of preparing its own text-books, or would be obliged to make use of books of inferior quality.

What is wanted to remedy this and kindred evils is a higher tone of morality among school teachers and a readiness on the part of the Department of Education to pay better salaries than it now gives. It has been the experience of all governments that the only effectual way of preventing bribery is to pay their servants at a sufficiently high rate to make them independent of other sources of income. To forbid the acceptance of bribes has never restrained certain men from yielding to temptation when pressed by poverty. It may be a humiliating confession, but it is undeniable that the history of politics, all the world over, goes to show that the best way of insuring strict honesty is so to arrange the scale of remuneration that honesty proves, in the long run, the best policy. The remuneration which school teachers in Japan now receive, as has often been pointed out in these columns, is miserably inadequate. Men struggling to keep the wolf from the door will inevitably yield to the pecuniary inducements held out by a bookseller to recommend a certain text-book for adoption in a school. The sooner the Department of Education attacks this and corollary abuses at their root, the better will it be for the cause of education in this country.

ARTISTIC ANATOMY.

It is pleasant to see that the subject of anatomy has begun to receive serious attention at the hands of Japanese artists. Many of the best painters of early and late eras escaped gross anatomical errors by the wonderful accuracy of their observation. Hokusai, for instance, was often absolutely correct in his delineations of the human figure. But that can be said of him only where he confined himself to outlines: so soon as he began to fill in details, ludicrous exhibitions of ignorance resulted. His pictures of emaciated men and women or of skeletons, for example, are disfigured by anatomical blunders painfully glaring. The fact is that the education of the Japanese artist is and always has been very incomplete. Conventional tricks take the place of accurate information, and strength of line covers a multitude of faults which would not be tolerated in the work of a Western painter. Among artists of the conservative school there exists, to this day, a strong prejudice against studying after the fashion of the Occident. They are misled by an idea that anatomical investigation, for example, is apt to betray painters into the fault which of all others they avowedly eschew, the objective accuracy of the photograph. Yet, strange to say, the very men who hold this doctrine are willing to completely subordinate their individuality for the sake of acquiring some special trick of style or grace of composition, that has received the cachet of connoisseurs' approval. No artist is more con-

ventional than the Japanese of the recognised old school, yet none professes more profound contempt for the photographic picture. Of course this contradictory and irrational mood must be dispelled, and we are glad to observe that an effort in the right direction has been made by Mr. Taguchi Moichiro, who has just published a handsome volume called *Bijutsu-oyo-Kaidogaku*, or "The study of anatomy as applied to fine art." The book contains a series of excellently conceived plates—confined to the male figure—with clear and succinct letterpress, showing all the articulations, bones, sinews, and other details of the human body, in such a manner that their study ought to be easy. It cannot, indeed, be called an exhaustive treatise, but doubtless if the author receives encouragement, he will continue his valuable work. Even as it stands, however, the volume should be of immense service to art students. It will probably be a long time before drawing from living models comes to be practised in Japan. Few artists could afford to pay a model, and moreover, there is a well founded belief that much of the remarkable Japanese power of depicting bodies in motion is due to the fact that, instead of attempting to copy models in positions of simulated motion, the artist trusts to the impressions which he derives from objects actually moving. There is room to doubt which system gives the better results, but in the meanwhile Mr. Taguchi's book should of the greatest use.

THE NECESSITY OF FORMING A STRONG GOVERNMENT PARTY.

THE *Shogyo Zasshi* seldom publishes political articles, but on the plea of the great importance of the subject, it inserts in its last number an essay by Mr. Kito Gokujō on the formation of a Government party, of which we give the gist. The policy of the Government's keeping aloof from party politics, advocated by many, cannot answer if persevered in for any length of time. The existence of the Diet implies the existence of parties. In fact, it is difficult to see how any kind of Constitutional Government can work smoothly without the organisation of parties. Some 20 years ago political parties were held in supreme contempt in Japan, and to belong to one was considered by many to be a lowering of reputation. But since the opening of the Diet, it has been made abundantly clear that a well organised political party is capable of wielding enormous power in a nation's legislature. Certain inviolable rights have been bequeathed to the Diet by the Constitution. The Diet is the means of communication between the people and the Government. Petitions, representations, memorials, and the like must all be submitted to the Diet, and receive its approval before being forwarded to the Government. Constituencies are only now beginning to realise the amount of good and harm members of the Diet are capable of doing. Complaints are made as to the wildness of the Diet's proceedings, the extreme measures advocated, and the levity with which grave questions are discussed. But the persons loudest in protesting against the course which affairs have taken are, to a very great extent, responsible for that course. The fact is that the general public formed far too low an estimate of the capabilities of the instrument of Government recently called into existence. Business-men and staid politicians alike, for the most part, refused to offer themselves as candidates for election. They left the arena clear for the theorising upstarts whose ambition it was to figure conspicuously therein, and ridiculed the notion that the Diet would succeed in changing the course of events for better or for worse. These men now begin to perceive that the influence of the Diet is more formidable than they had supposed possible, and that something must be done to prevent it from working mischief. There is no ignoring the fact that in the Diet everything depends on majorities—so many heads, so much power. It matters little what the heads contain. No question is asked as to the elements that make up the unit. It is a unit, and that is all that is required. To have a number of these units always ready to vote as in-

structed involves organisation. The so-called Popular Party is undoubtedly well organised, and its members held together in the last session better than might have been expected, considering the heterogeneous elements of which the party is composed. The Government supporters in the Diet lack cohesive power. The bond which binds them is not sufficiently strong to induce them to act together, except on very special occasions. On a variety of minor questions they invariably divide, and victory is thus given to their opponents. They agree in opposing extreme measures, but the principles of their cohesion have the disadvantage of being general. The public-spiritedness and fairness which they advocate are bonds too elastic to bind a party together. As matters are now situated, the only resource the Government has for the defence of its views is suspension or dissolution. Neither of these is desirable, unless as a last resort. If proper steps were taken, there would be no difficulty in utilising the small pro-Government factions that now exist under various names for the formation of a strong party. The principles and policy of the party should be carefully explained to the constituencies, which would then be able to take an intelligent interest in political struggles. The carrying out of this plan would of course involve the dissolution of numerous small political combinations and the retirement into comparative obscurity of many who are now known as their chief promoters, but this surely is an insignificant matter compared with the permanent benefit to be obtained by the formation of a party capable of holding its own against the present Opposition. Some persons seem to think that it is late in the day for the formation of a new party; but there are many indications that such an organisation, were it formed, would meet with wide support. Moreover, the disintegration which has already set in in the ranks of the Opposition might be taken advantage of for winning the popular support which the latter has hitherto exclusively enjoyed. It is high time that those who have hitherto succoured the Government behind the scenes should show themselves in public, take command of the unwieldy vessel lately launched, nail their colours to its mast, and defend it against its foes. It is high time that the present confusion and want of method should be reduced to order, and that the nation should be taught that politics are not toys for children to amuse themselves with. Surely the duty of all true-hearted statesmen is to guide the destinies of the nation into right channels, to rescue the people from the evils to which they are now exposed. In a word, to refrain from entering the arena of conflict on the plea of the inutilty of political discussions, and to watch the current of events, all setting in a wrong direction, from a safe distance, can hardly be regarded as other than disloyalty and wickedness.

MEXICO.

MEXICAN affairs find an excellent exponent in the *Mexican Financier*, a weekly newspaper published in Spanish and English. The *Financier* is a journal of very high class so far as concerns typography, paper and general get up, and not only are its pages full of interesting and valuable information, but the style of the writing is eminently well-balanced and scholarly. It has reached its twentieth volume, but we speak of it as a new acquaintance, because, prior to Japan's treaty with Mexico and the arrival in Tokyo of the latter country's able and popular Representative, Mexican matters did not greatly interest folks in the remote Orient. But Mexico now occupies a considerable share of Japanese attention, first, as the one Western State that has hitherto consented to treat with this country on terms of equality, and secondly, as a possible field for Japanese labour and enterprise. With regard to the latter point, we find a suggestive item in a recent number of the *Financier*:-

"One of the undeveloped sources of wealth we have in Mexico is the planting of India-rubber trees," says Don Matias Romero, writing in the *India Rubber World*. "During my stay in Soconusco, in the state of Chiapas, near the boundary line with Guatemala, from 1873 to 1875, I had occasion to see thousands of wild rubber trees growing

near the coast. The value of these trees, which were wantonly destroyed even when young, in order to extract from them the juice which forms India-rubber, suggested to me the convenience of making a plantation, as I was sure they would soon be entirely exterminated, and I conceived the idea of starting one myself, and I bought to that end such land as I thought was suitable for that purpose. To make the plantation intelligently, I applied myself to study all I could about the culture of India-rubber published at that time, and within my reach, which was little and very unsatisfactory. After I had obtained such information as was available to me and I had planted 1,000 trees, I concluded to write the result of my studies, but principally of my experience, in the shape of an article, which was published in the *Mexican Financier*. A plantation of 100,000 trees," Mr. Romero estimates, "would cost in Soconusco, under the prices of land and labour which prevailed in 1873, which I think have not changed materially, as follows:-

Cost of 40 acres of land at 10 cents each	\$ 40.00
Cost of surveying same and securing title	45.00
Clearing the land	1,070.00
Sowing	98.00
Five weedings in six years at \$5.00 each	4,910.50
Total	\$7,053.50

The yearly product in juice of 100,000 trees would be, after the sixth or seventh year of planting, about six pounds per tree, or 600,000 pounds; less 5 per cent. lost in drying the juice to convert it into rubber, would be 254,000 pounds, which at 40 cents per pound would amount to \$101,600. Deducting from this the expenses above mentioned (\$7,053.50) there would be a balance of \$94,546.50. Suppose the cost of the plantation to be double, and the yield of the trees one-half of the amount estimated by me, the profit would yet be immense. The principal drawback is that in such districts as are suitable for India-rubber culture there is great scarcity or rather almost a total want of labour and that the climate is generally full of malaria, at least in so far as Mexico is concerned."

The *Financier* quotes Mulhall's recently compiled statistics with regard to the growth of American wealth and its comparison with the wealth of England. The tables are well worth reproduction:-

1888.	UNITED STATES.	GREAT BRITAIN.
Land	\$19,800,000,000	\$ 7,740,000,000
Cattle, etc.	1,680,000,000	2,270,000,000
Houses	14,350,000,000	12,110,000,000
Furniture	7,435,000,000	6,600,000,000
Railways	9,745,000,000	4,325,000,000
Ships	300,000,000	670,000,000
Merchandise	800,000,000	1,215,000,000
Bullion	1,140,000,000	620,000,000
Sundries	12,380,000,000	11,700,000,000
Total 1888	\$81,120,000,000	\$47,000,000,000
Total 1880	16,190,000,000	97,700,000,000
Increase	\$64,930,000,000	\$49,300,000,000
Per inhabitant, 1888	\$1,053	\$1,836
Per inhabitant, 1880	513	956
Increase	\$540	\$880
Increase per cent	104	93

The second table shows the annual earnings in the two countries:-

	UNITED STATES.	GREAT BRITAIN.
Agriculture	\$3,400,000,000	\$ 1,130,000,000
Mining	400,000,000	805,000,000
Manufactures	4,280,000,000	2,416,000,000
Domestic transport	1,155,000,000	565,000,000
House Rent	785,000,000	675,000,000
Commerce	160,000,000	370,000,000
Shipping	60,000,000	130,000,000
Banking	100,000,000	275,000,000
Professions	1,070,000,000	585,000,000
Totals	\$11,110,000,000	\$ 6,425,000,000
Per Inhabitant	\$195	\$267

THE JAPANESE EXHIBITION OF 1894.

THE Chambers of Commerce in the centre of Japan are agitating to have the next Japanese Industrial Exhibition held either at Kyoto or at Osaka. The Kyoto Chamber draws attention to the fact that 1894 being the eleven hundredth anniversary of the choice of Kyoto as a capital by the Emperor Kwammu, the city is sure to be crowded with visitors, and argues that this is a sufficient reason for holding the Exhibition at the Western capital. The Osaka folks contend that their city is most convenient of access from all parts of Japan, and hence that the Exhibition should be held there. The citizens of Tokyo are content to rely on precedent as sufficient to establish the superiority of their claim to those of the southerners. For many reasons it is little likely, we should say, that the location of the Exhibition will be changed.

THE RADICALS' PROVINCIAL TOUR.

At a general meeting held by the Radicals in the Party's office on the 24th ultimo, it was resolved to despatch delegates throughout the whole country for the purpose of preaching the *Yi-u-to's* creed. The programme is most extensive, every place of any importance in the empire being entered on the list of localities to be visited. Twenty-five leading Radicals have been chosen to perform this arduous task, and

most prominent among them being, Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Kono Hironaka, Sugita Sadaichi, Kudo Kokan, Kato Heishiro, Uyeiki Shicho, Yebara Soroku, Kataoka Kenkichi, and Yamada Toji. In the rules recently compiled and passed by the Party, it was laid down that the expenses of delegates thus despatched to the localities must be borne by the provinces which they visit. These twenty-five gentlemen will therefore conduct their political tour at the charges of the country.

INFANTICIDE.

A DISTRESSING case came before the Tokyo Provincial Court a week ago. The wife of one Takanashi Sagenji, residing in Honjo, gave birth to a child on April 3rd. The parents were poverty stricken, and the new arrival was anything but a welcome visitor. Prior to the birth they had talked the situation over, and had come to the conclusion, which others in similar circumstances have often reached, that a speedy death is better for a child than a life of want and distress. Therefore, regardless of consequences, they determined to quench the spark of life directly after birth. This resolution they carried into effect by squeezing the head of the infant till life was extinct. They then wrapped the body in oil paper and buried it beneath the house, where it was subsequently discovered by the police. Takanashi and his wife were sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment with hard labour. The sentence was made lighter than is usual in such cases, on account of the dire distress which provoked the commission of the crime.

It is perhaps not generally known that infanticide of the kind noticed above used to be much more prevalent in Japan than it now is. The Japanese term applied to the practice of destroying children who happened to be considered superfluous was *mabiku*, which signifies to thin out, being used to describe the process of weeding out such plants and trees as the soil is unable to nourish. In the Tokugawa era it was held by certain persons that only the strongest offspring deserved to be reared, and many were the parents who secretly destroyed infants whose existence was considered likely to check the growth and development of better specimens of humanity in the family, by absorbing a portion of the available nourishment which could ill be spared. The notion of these parents was that the rearing of one strong child is far preferable to bringing up two weak ones. They were not only believers in the doctrine that the fittest ought to survive, but they undertook to see that the fittest did actually survive. The notion that there is no object in preserving the lives of children who are likely to become a burden to themselves and their parents, prevailed in Japan in the 14th century, and probably earlier. When Kusunoki Masashige was about to take the field against Ashikaga Takauji, we find him addressing his son Masatsura in the following terms:-"I have heard it said that a lioness, when she has cubs, waits till they are three days old, and then, taking them to the top of a high hill, throws them down to the bottom. The cubs which are strong enough to climb the steep ascent unaided, she brings up as her children; the others, she allows to die. She makes use of this device to test the strength of her cubs. The present is a testing time with you, and it will be seen what you are made of." The sentiment was probably derived from the Chinese originally, who show a singular disregard for the lives of infants of the female sex, and who feel under no obligation to lengthen the lives of confirmed invalids by artificial means. Similar notions to those held by ancient Japanese prevailed in ancient Sparta. As population increases, and the struggle for existence becomes intenser, it is not unlikely that the world will no longer tolerate the prevailing practice of burdening the community with sickly children, and that to become mothers of large families will cease to be the highest ambition of the wisest of women. The feeling that the rules which govern the production of ordinary animals should be applied to the human species, has been common in all ages. The uselessness

of allowing the supply of human beings to exceed the available means of maintaining them in tolerable comfort is universally acknowledged. Our marriage laws, and our notions respecting the abstract value of human life, must undergo great changes to suit our ever-straitening resources. But we are verging on a great problem which cannot be discussed here. While not defending the act of the parents whose crime has formed the subject of these comments, we feel with the judge who passed a mitigated sentence thereon that the distress which could induce parents to commit such cruelty must have been very great, and, to go back a step further, it is certainly to be deplored that, owing to the existence of exacting conventionalities, parents should be driven to adopt such dreadful methods to rid themselves of a responsibility they feel totally unable to bear.

THE QUELPAET AFFAIR.

It will be remembered that according to a clause in the Treaty between Japan and Korea, Japanese were authorised to fish in the waters surrounding the island of Quelpaet from November last. The fish are extremely plentiful in that vicinity and the Japanese fishermen had some magnificent hauls. This excited the envy of the Korean residents, and led to the disturbances which have been reported in these columns from time to time. The Korean Government has communicated with the Japanese Foreign Office in reference to the affair, and has expressed the wish that the right granted by the clause in the Treaty be foregone by Japan, at any rate for the present. Korea promises to grant a *quid pro quo*, in some form that may be agreeable to Japan. The fisheries being a rich source of wealth, the Japanese are, naturally enough, not disposed to relinquish them. What the Korean authorities are not able to effect by diplomacy the inhabitants of Quelpaet are attempting to gain by force. On the 28th of last month, the islanders attacked the Japanese fishermen residing on the seashore and drove them from the island. This attack, according to the accounts which have reached Japan, was connived at by the local Korean authorities. The Japanese have despatched a man-of-war to Quelpaet, the *Maya Kan*, to inquire into the affair. The *Yiji* asserts that the Japanese Foreign Office has in its possession proofs that the repeated attacks on the Japanese have been undertaken with the connivance, if not at the instigation, of the Korean Central Authorities. On the return of the *Maya Kan*, according to the *Yiji Shimpō*, the matter will form the subject of special negotiations with Korea.

MR. M. B. HUISE'S COLLECTION.

The editor of the *Art Magazine* is an enthusiastic admirer of Japanese art. He has made a large collection of lacquer and metal work, and catalogued it according to a novel method. Instead of dividing the objects by schools and eras, he has grouped them so as to illustrate Japanese manners and customs. The catalogue is consequently an interesting essay on this country, its traditions, religious beliefs, and history. The collection appears to be now on view in London, for we read in the *St. James's Budget*:—"The general public does not often get the chance of seeing a good collection of Japanese lacquer and metal-work. As a rule such collections are in private houses and carefully locked up in cabinets. Consequently no small degree of interest attaches to Mr. Marcus B. Huish's exhibition now on view at 148, New Bond-street. Mr. Huish has selected his specimens with an artist's eye. The detailed ornament with which a Japanese workman loads a box-wood button or a metal knife-handle is abundantly illustrated; and it is difficult to look at Mr. Huish's beautiful specimens without recognizing the fact that in Japan many a workman must have been an artist. The greater portion of a year's work has in many instances been occupied in ornamenting a lacquered medicine-box. Two subjects of ornament will especially attract the visitor: one is the use of flower designs and the other is the mimicry of

men and animals. If both show equal technical skill, it is the imitation of flowers that displays the most perfect sense of art. The sunflower, and the leaf of the Japanese maple perhaps, afford the best examples; Mr. Huish says he can point to equally good specimens of the use of iris, wisteria, and convolvulus in decoration. It is interesting to trace, by means of a clever chronological arrangement, the evolution of these artistic designs. The exhibition includes specimens extending over several centuries; and they show a genius which was not subject, as in Europe, to periodical revival and depression. We imagine few visitors to the exhibition will go away without being grateful for this glimpse of Old Japan; and they will appreciate it all the more because of the aid Mr. Huish has given them in a daintily printed and pleasantly written little pamphlet."

MR. HEBER BISHOP.

CONCERNING Mr. Heber Bishop, the well known American collector, who lately passed through Japan en route for Peking, and who is expected to return to this country shortly, the Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes:—

We had the visit here lately of several millionaire American globe trotters, one of whom—Mr. Bishop—has bought a splendid collection of jade. He is quite a connoisseur in this subject. He intends, it is said, to bring out a handsomely illustrated work on jade and to limit the edition to 100 copies. The work will cost \$1,000,000 and the binding of each copy \$120. After presenting copies to the various Foreign Governments, crowned heads, and public libraries, the plates are to be destroyed. The work will thus become one of the rarest and most expensive books in existence.

We had heard of this book, but our contemporary's correspondent has added a figure to the total cost, which is estimated at a hundred thousand dollars, not a million. Mr. Bishop possesses incomparably the finest collection of jades in the world, and the volume illustrating it will be indeed unique. Another work of the same character is also in course of preparation. It is a book on Chinese porcelains, the illustrations taken from the splendid collection of Mr. Walters of Baltimore.

THE CARD SCANDAL.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* states that there is not the slightest doubt that the prominence which the card affair has assumed is attributable to the existence of rival factions. Among the employés of the Department of Justice, it is said that the Cabinet has resolved to take stringent measures for the suppression of partisanship in the ranks of officers of justice. The occurrences which are so much deplored by the country at large, the *Yiji* attributes to the independent status with which judges have been lately endowed. We fail to see the connection. The independence which has been granted to the bench relates to a position *vis-à-vis* other legislative bodies, but certainly does not release its members from the obligation to treat each other with dignity and respect, or from the duty of cultivating that *esprit de corps* which the successful discharge of their high functions imperatively demands.

THE "KAISHIN TO."

THE *Kaishin-to*, whose meeting on the 23rd instant was interrupted by *ryōshi*, re-assembled on the 26th, and being specially protected by the police, succeeded in delivering a good many caustic speeches. Mr. Tanaka Shozo and the poisonous emanations from the Ashio Copper mine were, of course, much in evidence, and so were the forty millions of Japanese whose wishes this iniquitous Government is supposed to be slighting by remaining in office. But the interest of these political gatherings is becoming infinitesimal. It is almost possible to predict with accuracy what each speaker will utter when he ascends the rostrum. The Opposition at present may be said to have only one plank in its platform, namely, the contention that as the Government failed to obtain the consent of the Diet to the appropriations for naval shipbuilding and a Steel Foundry, as well as to the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the

charge of the Treasury, the Cabinet ought to resign. But to resign at the order of the majority in the Lower House would be frankly to inaugurate the system of party Government, and the Cabinet is resolved not to take any such step, while the *Kaishin-to* themselves, or at any rate their leader, Count Okuma, admits distinctly that the country is not ready for party Government. Under these circumstances, sober-minded persons may be pardoned if they consider that the issue now thrust into the foreground by the Opposition is not of an immediately practical character.

THE RADICALS AND THE NATIONALISTS.

THE Radicals held a meeting on the 26th instant in the *Kinki-kan*, and devoted themselves with great vehemence to attacking the new National Union, which they evidently regard as a formidable opponent. Mr. Nagano Toragoro preached a violent sermon against Count Saigō and Viscount Shinagawa, on the text of "the two head snakes," and Mr. Tatsuno Shuichiro, taking for his theme "the decapitation policy," had a great deal to say about Viscount Shinagawa's declaration that he and Count Saigō were prepared to stake their lives on their fidelity to the cause they had espoused. He denounced in strong terms the use of expressions such as those employed by Viscount Shinagawa when the latter spoke of the bloodshed at the Yamada-ro, twenty-five years ago, and of decapitation as a device to which politicians might properly resort to secure one another's constancy. Language of that nature, Mr. Tatsuno said, might be expected from Russian Nihilists or from the creatures of a despotic government, but was wholly unsuited to a free and constitutionally governed country like Japan. He urged Viscount Shinagawa to educate himself so as to become a fitting opponent of the Radical Party, and he did not hesitate to declare that the success of the official candidates in the late general elections had been achieved by recourse to "decapitation" methods. Other speakers adopted a similar tone, or varied it by repeating the somewhat hacknied appeal to the Cabinet to recognise the authority of the House of Representatives and resign *en masse*.

The speech of Mr. Tatsuno and other Radicals on the above occasion inspires a hope that they are really beginning to appreciate the spirit in which political controversies should be conducted. Viscount Shinagawa's language appears to us to have been indiscreetly chosen. It is not considered improper anywhere, though it may be counted a little extravagant, that a politician should declare himself ready to sacrifice his life in the cause he adopts. But there are ways of making the statement. In Viscount Shinagawa's speech the *nama-kubi* (freshly cut off head) was a great deal too much in evidence. The Viscount may have thought it necessary to utter words of strong import, so as to dispel all idea of half-hearted measures; but considering that he recently held the portfolio of Home Affairs, his language seemed to lack dignity and balance. On the other hand, these forms of expression are often used by Japanese in a figurative sense. Thus, in one of the articles which, a few days ago, led to the suspension of the *Yiyu*, the organ of the very Radicals who now avow themselves such sticklers for moderate language, we find this paragraph:—"As for us, we hold that instead of attacking the Government by vague arguments based on the morality of Confucianism, direct recourse must be had to the short sword (*tanto chokunin*) by appealing to the individual loyalty of our members and relying on the first article of the Imperial oath." We do not imagine that the *Yiyu* deliberately intended, when it published this paragraph, to preach recourse to lethal weapons: its "*tanto chokunin*" was probably penned only in the sense of "coming to close quarters." But the public may well be perplexed to divine how much must be taken literally and how much figuratively. At all events, Viscount Shinagawa might have advantageously exercised greater discretion, for, to say the least

of it, he put a weapon into the hands of his enemies. What we may be permitted to hope, however, is that since the Radicals are beginning so stoutly to condemn in their opponents everything savouring of methods at variance with the spirit of civilization and of constitutional institutions, they will practise what they preach by abolishing the *soshi*. We do not mean to suggest that they alone are responsible for the existence of these disgraceful nuisances, but we do mean to say that if the Radicals showed any really earnest desire to discountenance physical force in every form as a political weapon, the *soshi* would very soon disappear. It is impossible to avoid the reflection that whereas any indiscreet utterance on the part of a leading political opponent, which seems to point to violent methods, at once becomes the principal theme of Radical denunciation, not a single speech has ever been delivered by a Radical politician condemnatory of the *soshi* who for years have been disgracing Japanese politics and the Japanese nation by their lawless and barbarous procedure.

EARTHQUAKE INVESTIGATION.

The following appeared in Monday's *Official Gazette* :—

We hereby authorize the organization of the Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society (*Shinsai Yodo Chosa-kai*), and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(Imperial Sign-manual).

(Signatures of Minister President and Minister of State for Education).

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 55.

Organization of the Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society.

Art. I.—The Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall be under the supervision of the Minister of State for Education, and shall investigate measures for the prevention of earthquake disasters, and the method of putting the same into operation.

Art. II.—The Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall be competent to compile all rules necessary for its procedure.

Art. III.—The Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall consist of the following officers :—

1 President; 1 Manager; 25 Members.

Art. IV.—The President shall be of *Chokunin* rank. Members shall be chosen by the Minister of State for Education from among specialists in Physics and Engineering, and shall be appointed by the Cabinet. The Manager shall be chosen by the President from among the Members, and shall be appointed by the Cabinet.

Art. V.—The Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall be competent to have Special Members should circumstances require them. The Special Members shall be selected by the Minister of State for Education and appointed by the Cabinet.

Art. VI.—The President shall have control of all business relating to the prevention of earthquake disasters.

Art. VII.—The Manager shall manage all business under the orders of the President.

Art. VIII.—Officials of the Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall be entitled to receive an allowance of not more than 300 yen each per annum. Provided, that when special duties of investigation are entrusted to a member and when he has displayed exceptional ability in discharging them, an allowance may be made to him apart from the above provision.

Art. IX.—The Earthquake Prevention Investigation Society shall have a fixed establishment of three clerks, selected from among the *employés* of the Educational Society, whose functions shall be to keep records of all proceedings under the direction of the superior officials and to attend to other business.

Art. X.—The President shall be competent to engage special *employés* should they be necessary for the purposes of an investigation.

It will be remembered that the Supplemental Budget, submitted to the Diet in the session just concluded, contained an appropriation of 42,062 yen for purposes of earthquake investigation, and that the item, having been originally struck out by the Lower House, was subsequently restored and passed at the instance of the Peers. From eight to nine thousand yen of that total will be required for salaries according

to the provisions of the above Ordinance, and doubtless a considerable outlay must be incurred at first on account of instruments. But with funds at their disposal, and an organization approved by Imperial Ordinance, the Seismologists of Japan will now be enabled to inaugurate investigations on a scale worthy not only of the great industry, ability, and enterprise already shown by them when working entirely on their own resources, but also of the unique opportunities offering in Japan for such investigations. We have often expressed the hope that the Government would see its way to do something of this kind.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Korean affairs are much talked of in Japan at present. Excitement was naturally caused by the recent intelligence of an attempt to blow up the Tai-won-Kun with dynamite, and everyone has been anxious to obtain some further news, but although the Foreign Office in Tokyo immediately telegraphed for particulars, nothing appears to have been yet received. The *Nippon* alleges, however, that before the receipt of the news about the King's father and the bombs, intelligence had reached Tokyo to the effect that the impetuosity from which Korea is said to have been suffering for some time, has now become greatly aggravated. The King is pledged to deliver a certain quantity of rice every year to the Tai-won-Kun, for the latter's maintenance, but during the past two years the old Prince has been obliged to go without his allowance, owing to the empty state of the Treasury. Moreover, the salaries of officials and of the soldiers are reported to have remained unpaid for some time, and the Government, unable to defray the expenses of certain students sent to study book-keeping in Osaka, was compelled to despatch a telegram to Mr. Oniwa Chobel, under whose care the students were, directing him to send them back at once. This serious want of money has produced much discontent, and the dynamite outrage is supposed to have been connected with the dissatisfaction. But all this is very vague. The *Nippon* adds that there are several unaccountable points connected with the recent news. Thus, the discovery of the dynamite was said to have been made on the 16th instant, and Mr. Kajiyama, the Japanese Representative in Seoul, despatched a telegram the following day. But it did not reach Tokyo till the morning of the 23rd. Again, though the Foreign Office at once asked for further news, no reply has yet been received. Finally, the *Fayayama Kan*, which was ordered to proceed to Korea, has gone to Yokohama. The *Nippon* does not understand these things. Neither do we.

POLICE NOTICE.

On the 25th ultimo the Chief of the Metropolitan Police issued the following notice :—

Whereas, of late men calling themselves *soshi* have been prowling about in various localities, and causing much annoyance by entering people's houses for the purpose of extorting money or violently urging political views, refusing to leave when desired to do so; and whereas, although numerous instances of this kind have occurred, the persons concerned often shrink from the trouble of lodging information, or are deterred by apprehension of future annoyance; and whereas, the abuse has become more prevalent in consequence, notice is hereby given that since there are provisions of law to meet such cases, any persons who are hereafter subjected to such annoyance or who observe others being subjected to it, should at once convey information to the nearest police station.

DEPARTURE OF MR. AND MRS. FRASER.

HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTER AND MRS. FRASER left Tokyo on Monday by the 1.10 p.m. train for Yokohama, where they embarked in the Canadian Pacific mail steamer *Empress of China*. A great number of people assembled at Shimbashi terminus to say farewell, among them being Count Goto, Minister of State for Communications; Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Marchioness Nabeshima; Mr. Sannomiya, Vice Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Madame Sannomiya; several

of the Empress' Ladies in Waiting, Count Kuroda, the Foreign Representative, *Chargé d'Affaires*, and other members of the *Corps Diplomatique*; Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, many Japanese officials, and almost the whole foreign community of Tokyo without distinction of nationality. Mr. Fraser proceeds to England on leave. Neither he nor Mrs. Fraser have enjoyed good health lately, and it is hoped that the voyage home and an interval of rest will prove beneficial. Mrs. Fraser's absence will make a serious difference to Society in Tokyo, as well as to the cause of charity, for whenever her health permitted her to entertain, the British Legation was the centre of the capital's hospitality, and at all times her efforts on behalf of every work of benevolence were untiring.

TOURISTS.

At the annual general meeting of the Club Hotel (Limited) shareholders, held on Monday week, the Chairman, referring to the unsatisfactory results of the Hotel's working during 1891, said :— "Last year, as all present know, was not a good one for hotels, visitors to Japan being less than for some years past. Whether that was due to influenza or not, I do not know and cannot tell, but there was a great falling off in the past year, but now there are signs of improvement, and especially during the last six months." This statement caused us some surprise, our own impression having previously been that last year had witnessed a considerable increase in the number of visitors coming to Japan. We have therefore obtained figures, and, as we anticipated, they do not bear out the Chairman's assertion :—

NUMBER OF PASSPORTS ISSUED TO FOREIGNERS BY THE TOKYO FOREIGN OFFICE.

1889	4,074 passports.
1890	4,826 passports.
1891	5,830 passports.

It appears, therefore, that so far from the number of visitors having been less in 1891 than in previous year, there was a very marked increase, the issue of passports exceeding that in 1890 by over a thousand. The cause of the Hotels' want of prosperity must be sought elsewhere.

THE SAPPORO SUGAR FACTORY.

SINCE Mr. Asaba, Director of the Sapporo Sugar Company, left Tokyo for Hokkaido, for the purpose of examining the books of the Company, on 21st April last, Mr. Tamura, Manager, Mr. Mukai, Accountant and other officers of the Company have succeeded in inducing the principal shareholders and creditors to agree to the following Settlement :—

1.—The 16,000 shares of the Company shall be changed into 33,333 shares. For that purpose each share shall be estimated at 15 yen instead of 31 yen; the remaining sum of 16 yen per share being regarded as lost by the shareholders.

2.—In increasing the number of shares as stated above, 16,000 of them shall be distributed among the original shareholders; and out of the remaining 17,333 shares, every creditor is requested to receive shares at 15 yen per share, in payment of the sum due to him.

3.—The remaining shares shall be sold to provide for the capital of the company.

4.—Shares handed to creditors in discharge of the Company's debts, shall, of course, carry the ordinary interest guaranteed by the Government.

The subsidy to the Company for last, as well as for the present year, is still in the hands of the Hokkaido Administrative Board, owing to the temporary suspension of the Company's business. But so soon as the work is recommenced, the subsidy will be handed to the Company, and it is expected that things will proceed satisfactorily once more.

THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* has a paragraph which looks to us very like mischief-making. It is about Mr. Tomita, Governor of Tokyo. Mr. Tomita, says our contemporary, has done nothing remarkable since he was appointed Governor, but he is nevertheless much liked by the citizens. Now, however, the Government is about to remove him because he has not shown sufficient political zeal, and will give his post to Mr. Arita Yasukazu, Governor of Fukuoka,

who made himself conspicuous by interfering in the recent elections, and who supports a number of *soshi* for political purposes. There is a good deal more in the same strain, but it seems not worth re-producing. Apparently, however, Mr. Tomita has given some offence, for we read in the *Nippon* that a vote of want of confidence in him is about to be proposed in the City Assembly.

OSAKA WATER-WORKS.

It would seem as if Osaka were really likely to begin seriously the construction of the long expected Water-works. These works were, it may be remembered, designed by Major-General H. Spencer Palmer, R.E., some years ago. After much delay the execution of them was placed under the charge of Mr. B. Nofiri, Chief Engineer to the Osaka Fu. The original design was somewhat modified by Mr. Nofiri; the reason of the modification being that, after much difficulty, the Military Authorities were persuaded to give permission for a high level reservoir to be constructed on the Castle Hill. Water will gravitate from this reservoir to all parts of the town. The untimely death of Mr. Nofiri, at the beginning of the present year, interrupted the work just as it was about to begin in earnest, and there have been several months of delay in consequence. Only a little time ago Mr. T. Okino of the Naimusho, was appointed chief engineer, and associated with him was Mr. T. Yoshimura, well known as having successfully carried out the Nagasaki Water-works. It now seems as if the work would at last be actively taken in hand. The somewhat doubtful policy has been adopted of having the pipes cast at the arsenal in Osaka, doubtful—because a foundry has to be built and fitted specially for the work, and it is not very clear of what use the foundry will be after it has turned out the 16,000 or 20,000 tons of pipe needed for the Water-works. The source of water-supply for Osaka—the Yodogawa, a mile or two above the city—can scarcely be termed an ideal one, but it seems to be the only practical source and will afford a supply infinitely better than the wretched one there is at present. We only wish there was as good a prospect of an immediate beginning of work of a similar kind in Tokyo. The delay there in starting on this last mentioned work is inexplicable to us.

"THE REVUE FRANÇAISE."

French journalism in Japan has hitherto been of a somewhat fitful character. The French community is sufficiently large to have an organ of its own, and consciousness of this fact has led various enterprising men to start journals. But these ventures have been of necessity abandoned. In every case their fault was too ambitious conception. The French residents do not muster in sufficiently large numbers to support a daily journal. The British community have no less than eight daily newspapers; the American community has one—though we doubt whether our American friends will acknowledge the distinction; the Germans have their Asiatic Society, which, by the great excellence of its work, contributes materially to their reputation; but the French have hitherto had only the *Société de Langue Française*, an organization that serves many useful purposes, but can scarcely be regarded as entirely supplying the need we are considering. It is with much pleasure, therefore, that we notice the appearance of the *Revue Française du Japon*, a monthly publication brought out under the auspices of a Committee numbering men so distinguished as MM. Boissonade de Fontarabie; Fonque, French Professor at the Nobles' School; Giraud, French Professor at the Officers' College; Revilliod, Professor of French Law in the Imperial University; Sarazin, Attaché of the Foreign Office, together with Captain Harada, I.J.L.; Mr. Motono, Attaché of the Foreign Office; and Mr. Oumé, Professor in the Imperial University. The *Review* is of modest dimensions: the bulkiest number yet published only containing 40 pages. But its matter is all chosen with judgment, and we need scarcely say that with such a Committee of Publication the style leaves nothing to be desired. Political matters are avoided, as might have been expected, but in other directions we find

many interesting articles and items of intelligence. The publication of the *Review* commenced in January, and we may be permitted to hope that it has now secured sufficient support to place its permanent success beyond question. The statement of motives published by the Committee runs as follows:—

Il n'existe actuellement en l'Extrême-Orient aucun périodique imprimé en langue française et c'est à une situation aussi regrettable que nous avons désiré mettre un terme. La *Revue française du Japon*, entièrement rédigée en français, est destinée à combler cette lacune.

La *Revue* doit, tout d'abord, servir d'organe à la Société de Langue française fondée à l'Ōkyo en 1881, par l'insertion des comptes-rendus de ses séances et par la publication des conférences qui sont faites au siège de cette association. Nous espérons par ce moyen encourager le zèle des membres français et étrangers de la Société et en même temps gagner à celle-ci de nouveaux adhérents.

A ces comptes-rendus et à ces conférences nous ajouterons les articles que les collaborateurs de bonne volonté voudront bien nous adresser et dont ils seront libres de choisir le sujet (la politique exceptée).

Nous y joindrons les traductions de certains documents japonais qu'il nous semblera opportun de placer sous les yeux de nos lecteurs.

Nous voulons également, par l'œuvre que nous entreprenons, donner aux Membres japonais de la Société de Langue française et à ceux qui étudient cette langue des textes que les uns liront avec intérêt et que les autres, dont les connaissances sont moins avancées, pourront comparer utilement avec les traductions qui en auront paru dans les publications japonaises.

Nous voulons enfin, si nos ressources nous le permettent, faire un service gratuit de notre *Revue* aux Établissements littéraires et scientifiques, aux Salles publiques de lecture, aux Cercles de fonctionnaires et d'officiers, pour entretenir, parmi les personnes qui les fréquentent, la connaissance et l'étude de la langue française.

Nous faisons appel, pour mener à bien cette entreprise, à la bienveillance et au concours de tous ceux qui ont à cœur de maintenir son rang à la langue française et de contribuer à son développement au Japon.

MR. OI KENTARO AND THE "JIYU-TO."

THE long looked for separation between Mr. Oi Kentaro and the Radical Party has finally come. The thing was managed in a very friendly manner. On Tuesday, Mr. Oi addressed the following letter to the President of the *Jiyu-to*:—

SIR,—When a crisis approaches at home and abroad, and when the affairs of the nation become complicated and troublesome, even the indolent or the crippled are disposed to play an active part. In view of the conditions now existing, I feel myself stirred by every principle of patriotism to exert myself in any country's behalf. But if I follow the dictates of my own judgment, some collision with the policy of the *Jiyu-to* is inevitable. I have therefore become apprehensive lest my language or actions should incur the disapproval of the Party. We are at one as to our aim, the welfare of the nation. Therefore I desire to act in accordance with my own inclination in the interests of the country and of the cause of liberty, and having adopted this resolution I cannot pause to ponder over other matters. I thus find myself compelled to separate from political friends with whom, for many years, I have toiled in a common cause. I beg my well-beloved friend, the President of the *Jiyu-to*, to appreciate my humble desire and suffer me to organize a separate branch of the same Party. I tender my resignation from the *Jiyu-to* and await your favourable reply.

(Signed) OI KENTARO.

REPLY.

SIR,—In answer to your letter asking permission to resign your membership of the *Jiyu-to*, I desire to express my most sincere regret at being obliged to part with a political friend whom I have esteemed for years. But men must obey the dictates of their inclinations. I trust that you may long preserve your health and be able to work for the welfare of the country.

(Signed) President of the *Jiyu-to*.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

THE public is still kept on the tip-toe of expectation about the political situation. As an example of the journalistic paragraphs that foment the excitement, we may quote the following from the *Kokkai*:—"On Friday last Count Matsukata drove to the Cabinet, and at once proceeded to the Palace, where he is reported to have laid before the Emperor the result of consultations held in the Cabinet on various important matters relating to the political situation. At about 1.20 p.m. Count Ito, President of the Privy Council, visited the Cabinet, and, after a short interview with Count Matsukata, went to the Palace and had audience of the Emperor, remaining there until about 3 p.m. Meanwhile, Count Oki and Viscount Enomoto arrived at the Cabinet, and had a consultation with Count Matsukata. By and by the Minister President was again summoned before the

Sovereign, and presently he and Count Ito went home. It is said that the principal topics under consideration were the resignations of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, together with the policy of the Government in the immediate future. The resignations of the above two statesmen will probably be accepted in a day or two. Count Matsukata had been closeted with Count Ito early the same morning. It is reported that the Minister President went to talk over the result of certain Cabinet discussions as well as the views of the Camera statesmen. Count Matsukata visited Count Kuroda on his way home from Count Ito's."

It is understood that political affairs have not yet been fully settled. The question of the two vacant portfolios has led to some difference of opinion, and may possibly involve more serious consequences. As to the resignations of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, that event also has provoked much comment, not merely on account of the peculiar object of the two statesmen's retirement, but also because they openly associated themselves with the *Kokumin Kyokai* before their resignations had been officially accepted. It is true that the *Kokumin Kyokai* has not yet been definitely organized as a political party, and it is also true that no doubt can be entertained as to the acceptance of the two Privy Councillors' resignations. Nevertheless, it would certainly have been more circumspect to abstain from taking open part in the proceedings of the *Kokumin Kyokai*, until the fact of their retirement from the Privy Council had been officially announced. It is purely a technical point, but of course every point, however trivial, is eagerly seized upon by the opponents of the Government.

FIRES IN TOKYO.

THE spring of this year was unhappily distinguished by a number of somewhat serious conflagrations in Tokyo, but the record for 1891 is distinctly favourable. We read in the *Statistician* (*Tokai Shinshei*) that although 675 fires occurred in the capital during the year, the number of houses burned was only about one fourth of the number destroyed in the preceding year. The figures given by our contemporary are:—Godowns, 4; brick buildings, 5; houses plastered outside, 2; ordinary tiled houses, 483; houses roofed with copper, zinc, or tin, 134; shingled houses, 309; bark-roofed houses, 7; and houses thatched with reeds, 181. The total is 1,125, which shows that in more than half the conflagrations the fire was confined to the house where it originated. The value of these buildings alone, without their contents, is put at 509,349 yen, or 452 yen per house. Eight people lost their lives and 141 were injured.

The *Statistician* considers that the favourable record of 1891 is attributable to the gradual enforcement of the building regulations, and to the improved means now available for extinguishing fires. But it seems to us rather premature to attach much weight to either of these, in view of the fact that the fire annals of this year's spring were so peculiarly disastrous. The terrible conflagration in the Kanda district, and the repeated conflagrations in the Shiba district, will bring to a high figure the total for the current year. The scenes of these fires were markedly unfavourable for purposes of extinction, the whole area in each case being covered with shanty-like houses lining narrow streets. In such quarters the operation of the building regulations and the carrying out of the new scheme of city improvement—both of which reforms are possible in an efficient sense only after a conflagration has cleared the way for their enforcement—must produce excellent results, but in places where the city has undergone little change during the past decade, a fire under unfavourable circumstances as to wind and water-supply would effect just as much destruction as ever. In our opinion by far the most important factor in diminishing the number of fires and mitigating their disastrous effects, is the immense improvement that has taken place

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during the *Meiji* era in the character of the buildings in the business quarter of the city. This area has gradually been converted into a city of fire-proof godowns. The expense must have been very great, but the comparative immunity from fires thus obtained is well worth the extra outlay. We do not know whether any statistics have been compiled from which the altered natures of the structures in Tokyo during the past twenty-five years could be deduced. If not, an effort might be made to compile them before it is too late.

THE BRIBERY AFFAIR.

For a moment much excitement was caused among the public by the charge which Mr. Inagaki Shimesu preferred in the House of Representatives on the last day of the session, and several journals complained that the action taken by the Special Committee appointed to investigate the matter had been superficial and unsatisfactory. It will be remembered, however, that the House itself required only 20 minutes to come to a decision in secret session. The resolve to hold a secret session was taken at 5 o'clock, and an hour's recess was then ordered, the House re-assembling at 6.10 p.m., and re-opening its ordinary session at 6.30 p.m. If the committee's inquiry was abortive, the same might have been said with still greater truth of the House's secret session. The reason of these lame results is now beginning to be apparent. For it seems, after all, that the question is reduced to a mere dispute as to accuracy between Mr. Inagaki and Mr. Kuga. The former says that the latter made him an offer of money; the latter denies that he did anything of the kind, and as there are no witnesses the truth is hard to ascertain. Mr. Okamoto, who was indirectly implicated in the charge by Mr. Inagaki, is equally positive in his denials. It is a singular fact, too, that whereas several members were at first said to have been similarly approached, not one of them has come forward, or been induced to give any testimony one way or the other. We read in the *Kokai* by which, as already mentioned in these columns, a very detailed account was given of alleged interviews between Messrs. Inagaki and Kuga—that since the matter had been reduced to a mere verbal dispute between the two, it was arranged to hold a meeting on the 27th instant, when Messrs. Inagaki, Kuga, and Okamoto should discuss the affair in the presence of the editors of all the leading journals of the capital. But before that date, Messrs. Inouye Kakugoro and Ito Kenkichi instituted proceedings in a libel suit against the *Kaishin Shimbun*, and it was consequently decided that as the result of the suit must dispel all doubts, no steps need be taken of a private character. There the matter rests, accordingly.

COUNT SAIGO AND VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

The resignations of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa having now been officially accepted, their connection with the National Union ceases to be matter for surprise. Doubtless they had assured themselves from the outset that no difficulty would be made about allowing them to leave the Privy Council, but it would certainly have been more dignified to refrain from entering the political arena until all the formalities of resignation had been satisfied. Meanwhile, the National Union has not yet become an openly acknowledged political party. It continues to call itself merely a friendly association, although it has declared a programme which is distinctly political, and although it has now resolved to despatch members on a lecturing tour through the provinces. The names of the lecturers are not yet announced, but the list will doubtless be headed by Messrs. Sone, Furusho, Hayakawa, Ota, and so forth. For some reason, which we do not profess to understand, the most powerful speakers on the Government side, Messrs. Inouye Kakugoro and Takanashi Tetsu-shiro appear to be standing aloof from the National Union. It is difficult to conceive that these men could drift into the ranks of either the *Fiji-to* or the *Kaishin-to*, but their abstention from throwing in their lot with their hitherto acknowledged allies is perplexing. The lecturers

on the National side have announced their intention of paying their own expenses as they tour through the country, an announcement that will be much more welcome to their constituents than the plan pursued by the *Fiji-to*, namely, calling up in each locality to defray the expenses of the politician that visits it. Probably philosophers will contend that a nation benefits in the long run by being politically educated, however elaborate the process, but it often occurs to us that if all the time devoted by these various politicians to haranguing the people and by the people to listening to them, were employed in some cause more practically useful, things might go on in a happier and more prosperous fashion.

FOREIGN VISITORS.

The *Fiji Shimpō* makes the arrival of numerous visitors to Japan an occasion for reminding its readers that for many years it has been a steady advocate of mixed residence. It is not mere love of change, observes our contemporary, or a desire to write something out of the common that induces it to reiterate the importance of Japanese becoming more intimate with foreigners. Its views are based on principles which ought to be comprehensible to any person of ordinary intellectual capacity. It is universally acknowledged that there is a difference between the intelligence of town and country people, as the terms of reproach *inaka mono* and *inaka samurai* indicate. The quick wit of townfolk is owing to the numerous facilities for observation which a town furnishes. It is also the result of social intercourse. The wider the experience of the human mind the wiser it usually becomes. Hence the visits of Japanese to foreign countries are usually a fruitful source of intelligence. The number of Japanese who can go abroad must necessarily be very limited; consequently it is of immense importance that foreigners should settle in different parts of the country, and that the results of their influence should be felt by the whole nation. This the *Fiji* thinks to be absolutely essential to the general adoption of improved ways of doing things. At present, the disproportion between the town and the country in respect of the affiliation of the essential elements of western civilisation is very marked. Mixed residence would supply the country folks with the stimulus they need, and commerce and industry would soon feel the benefit of such a change, could it be effected. The delay in Treaty Revision involves the postponement of this urgent measure. But in the meantime, country folks should be encouraged to make all the use they can of the numerous foreigners who at this time of year flock to the country. Every year it is calculated these amount to some 3,000. The money they spend in the country is considerable. It is most desirable that they should go away with a good impression of Japan and its inhabitants. The *Fiji* impresses on its readers the importance of treating foreigners with kindness, of providing good accommodation, and the like. It is worthy of note that the *Fiji Shimpō* has never allowed itself to be borne along on the ever recurring waves of anti-foreign feeling. Its editor is deeply impressed with the benefits to be derived from foreign intercourse and never wearies of warning his countrymen against the danger of relapsing into that state of stagnation which characterised the ages when no stimulus was received from the contact of foreign enterprise.

THE AMERICAN BOARD MISSION'S MEDICAL WORK.

The Report of the American Board Mission's Work in Osaka, under the care of Dr. Wallace Taylor, M.D., shows that during the year 1891, the number of patients seen was 2,764, the number of consultations held, 13,750, and the number of operations performed, 337. Dr. Taylor, commenting on the year's record, says:—

While quite an amount of benevolent work is done, yet this work is very much less than our opportunities, and less than it should be. We are limited, however, by our ability. Arrangements have been made by which we hope to be able in the future to do more work in this line. There is a large class of day

labourers in Osaka who work for fifteen, twenty and some for thirty *sen* per day and have a family to support. They can pay their rent and live in a fairly comfortable style, compared with their class, while they are well. But if one of the family is taken severely ill and needs good care and treatment, or if any accident befalls them, they have no means laid by for such an emergency. Besides these there is a large number whose means of living are still more inadequate and precarious. When any of either of these classes are taken ill they content themselves with the cheap treatment of five or ten *sen* per day, if they can afford it, for medicine and no care. If this fails they *shimbo*. If their case requires it they are utterly unable to pay the cheap rates at the hospital of thirty or thirty-five *sen* per day for this class of patients. The consequence is they suffer and linger with neglect in their miserable homes. There is no adequate provision for sick poor in this country. We shall be glad to apply the funds that any may wish to contribute to meet the expenses of such patients.

The ominous-sounding word *shimbo*, which the Doctor employs, means nothing more than that the sick people make up their minds to suffer without aid. Want of means is not the only cause that drives them to this. There are still some of the old prejudices to be overcome. Speaking of patients suffering from ovarian tumour, the Doctor says:—

In these cases all the friends of the patient must be consulted, and even though the patient herself may be willing and even desirous for an operation, some *Oha san*, whose mind has not yet opened to the advancement of surgical skill, may object, and the patient be obliged to still continue carrying her burden and *shimbo*. Again, as the result of the *sodan* she is frequently told, "Oh you are growing old now, and you may as well wait and die with this *doku* as without it," and still the patient may not be over forty. The fact that an apparently quiescent abdominal tumor may rapidly take on or be the cause of pathological conditions that will speedily enlargeth life, is lost sight of. Three of the cases above referred to, that refused to submit to operation, resulted in that way during the year, without an effort being made to secure relief.

Another interesting remark contained in the Report is this:—

The kind of patients that seek relief at our hands has gradually been changing for the last few years. We see fewer of those suffering from the common and ordinary forms of disease than we did a few years ago, and a larger number of those who suffer from the severer and more complicated forms of disease. This is very readily accounted for, from the fact that there is an increasingly larger number of fairly qualified Japanese physicians now, than there were a few years previous, and these receive the patronage of the common and ordinary cases, while those who fail to be benefited by their family or neighbourhood doctors, more largely seek relief elsewhere. As the people become better acquainted with what medical (Western) science can do, there is a growing disposition, as it appears to us, to *shimbo* less, and make a wider effort to obtain help from those whom they reasonably suppose can give them aid.

CHOLERA.

APPREHENSIONS seem to be entertained in some quarters that Japan is likely to be visited by an epidemic of cholera this year. The dread is probably due, in the first place, to the knowledge that the terrible disease is raging in India, and in the second, to the circumstance that the country has enjoyed a comparatively long interval of immunity. The *Hochi Shimbun* points out that whereas last year there were 84 sporadic cases of cholera between January 1st and June 28th this year only some thirty cases were reported in the same interval. This record ought to indicate the absence of an epidemic, for it has hitherto been invariably the case that the advent of epidemic cholera is presaged by an unusually large number of sporadic cases in some locality. Nevertheless, the *Hochi* thinks that as the unwonted coolness of the spring and early summer this year is likely to be followed by sudden and trying heat, special precautions ought to be taken. We cannot say that we share this view.

PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.

Is a member of parliament bound to present to the House any petition, duly prepared for lawful purposes, which may be entrusted to him by any of his constituents? This curious question recently came up for hearing in the Lord Mayor's Court of London, and the result in thus given by the *St. James's Budget*:—"An action brought by Mr. A. Chaffers against Mr. H.

Hucks Gibbs and Sir Reginald Hanson, the City members of Parliament, was heard in the Lord Mayor's Court yesterday before Sir Charles Hall, the Recorder. Mr. Chaffers sought to recover £100 damages for the alleged omission by the defendants to present to the House of Commons a petition which he had drawn up. Mr. Chaffers declared that he, being a British subject and a Liveryman of the Wheelwrights' Company, and therefore entitled to petition Parliament, requested the defendants last January to present a petition to Parliament for the redress of grievances. The defendants, he said, refused to present the petition, whereby he had been deprived of his right. After hearing the arguments, the Recorder said: I am of opinion that no case has been made out against either of the defendants, and I enter judgment of nonsuit with costs."

SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SERICULTURE.

THE Society recently formed for the promotion of sericulture (*Sanshi-shinko-kai*) appears to be growing into an important organization. The temporary offices of the Society are in Yamashiro-cho in the Kyobashi District of Tokyo, and at a meeting recently held there the following twelve gentlemen were elected Councillors:—Messrs. Kanmuchi Tomotsune, Kumagaye Magoroku, Yebara Soroku, Mizuchi Kan, Igarashi Rikisuke, Tatekawa Umpei, Uwomizu Itsuji, Tsuda Morihiko, Uyeda Seichiro, Ando Kiuka, Sasada Tsutomu, and Shiota Okuzo. The great majority of these are members of the House of Representatives, belonging to both the supporters and the opponents of the Government. These Councillors have decided to meet on the first and third Saturdays in every month, and have further adopted eight resolutions while we translate from the *Mainichi Shinbun*:—

- 1.—The Society shall be called the *Sanshi-shinko-kai*, and its objects shall be the improvement and development of sericulture.
- 2.—Tokyo shall be the headquarters of the Society, and its temporary office shall be at No. 4, Yamashiro-cho, Kyobashi District.
- 3.—All books and documents required for investigating questions of sericulture shall be collected at the office of the Society for the use of the members.
- 4.—Any one wishing to become a member must be introduced by a member, and must send to the office an application stating his name and address.
- 5.—The Society shall have 12 Councillors and 4 Business Managers.
- 6.—The term of service of the officers of the Society shall be one year, but they may be re-elected.
- 7.—There shall be a meeting of the Councillors twice a month, and a general meeting of the Society in October every year. But an emergency general meeting may be summoned in accordance with a resolution of the Council, or an application of at least one fifth of the members.
- 8.—The expenses of the Society shall be defrayed out of contributions by public-spirited men.

CONTEMPT OF OFFICIALS.

MR. NOMURA KUSUROKU, real or nominal editor of the *Nippon*, has been found guilty of an offence against the 141st Article of the Penal Code. In the *Nippon* of April 15th there appeared a very strong attack upon the Headman of the Iwase District of Fukushima Prefecture. That official, Mr. Kai Soji, was severely censured for his conduct in connection with the election of a member of the Prefectural Assembly. He was declared to be morally and intellectually unfit for his post; to have shown glaring partiality towards the *Ri-to* candidate and against the *Nin-to*; to have misinterpreted the law in a manner which even a three-year-old child would have avoided; and to have interfered indirectly by guile, intimidation, and falsehood. The case appears to have occupied a considerable time in hearing, but it was finally concluded on the 30th ultimo in the Tokyo Local Court. The Judges found that the offence was proved under the provisions of the 141st Article, and that the defendant consequently became liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a period of from one month to one year, and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen. In consideration of mitigating circumstances, however, the penalty was reduced by two degrees, and a sentence of twenty days' major imprisonment together with

a fine of 3 yen was pronounced. We do not pity Mr. Nomura. Officials are just as much entitled as any one else to protection against the abuse of scurrilous newspapers. This was a case lying entirely outside the pale of the severe Press Regulations. Mr. Nomura had a fair trial in a Court of Law, and it is to be hoped that his fate will suggest to other editors the necessity of exercising caution before they prefer sweeping accusations against any official.

THE AFFAIR IN SOUL.

TELEGRAMS have been received confirming recent intelligence of an attempt upon the life of the Tai-won-Kun, in Soul. A message sent to the Foreign Office by the Japanese Representative in the Korean capital, says that an explosive burst under the floor in the Prince's reception room. The substance employed was not dynamite, however, as originally stated, but ordinary Korean gunpowder. A quantity of this was packed into a wooden box, one foot square by six inches deep, and the box was placed in the mouth of a warming flue under the floor. Presumably reference is made to the *khang*, a kind of underground furnace having flues that constitute the basement to a house. These flues are of stone or wood—doubtless the former in the case of a person of such importance as the Tai-won-kun. Evidently a charge of powder placed in such a place, a kind of open gallery, would have either to be very large in quantity or to be tamped so as to impart the desired direction to its explosive energy. The Korean plotters do not appear to have understood these essentials. They simply put a comparatively small box of powder into the flue, and when it burst the explosive force naturally followed the line of least resistance and distributed itself harmlessly along the flue.

A correspondent of the *Yiji Shimpō* telegraphs an account differing from the above with respect to the chamber in which the explosion took place. It is said to have been under the floor of the Prince's bed-room, not his reception room, and the correspondent adds that another charge of powder was found similarly placed in the latter. It would further appear that the incident occurred at about 1 or 2 a.m. on the 16th, not on the 17th as previously stated. The fact was kept very quiet, and things have remained perfectly tranquil in Soul ever since.

ANGELS UNAWARES.

FOLKS that have entertained angels unawares and folks that have talked with sovereigns incognito, have always been favourite heroes with compilers of primers and writers of tales for children. There is a story of this nature now making the round of the press. It first appeared in the columns of the *Pall Mall Budget*, and it professes to be on account of a real meeting and conversation with the Emperor of Germany. Here it is:—

"I was walking the other day in the 'Grunewald' at Charlottenburg when it suddenly began to rain. The small pine trees afforded poor shelter, and I had already reconciled myself to getting wet through when I noticed a small shed. I entered and lighted a pipe. I heard hasty steps, and a minute later a young man entered in the greenish-grey uniform of the German foresters. He did not seem agreeably surprised at seeing me, but bowed politely, and sat down not far off. Presently he took a pipe, and searched his pocket in vain for a match. I offered him mine, and he lighted his pipe and in fluent English without the slightest trace of foreign accent:—

"Oh, you are English?"—"And so are you," I replied.

"Oh, no!" He laughed and seemed amused.

"Well, it is wonderful how the Germans acquire language!" I exclaimed.

"There is such a difference between our schools and yours."

"Yes, there is. You mean to say we don't learn anything, and you learn everything. But I prefer our schools, nevertheless."

"May I ask why?"—"Because we educate the character in our public schools and you don't. Two little nephews of mine are in a German school, a 'Gymnasium,' as you call it. Poor little beggars; they are kept like slaves."

"Oh, not quite," he remonstrated.

"Well, it's not far off. The object of the German schools seems to be to keep the boys in dependence, while we try to make them dependent."

The young forester kept silence. After a while he said: "There is going to be a change."—"Did he mean a change in the weather? I looked up to the sky and said: 'Yes, I hope the sun is coming out.' He smiled. 'I hope so, too. But I just thought of a change in our school system.'"

"You mean on account of that young man, the Emperor?"

"Yes, on account of that young man, the Emperor." He put a singular stress on these words.

"Well, he tries to do his best," said I. "He is a plucky young fellow, and I take great interest in his doings."

"A good many people do, but they only do it to criticise him."

"That does not matter. Certainly he has his faults. Some writer says every child is born with two horns, and he must wear them off before he becomes reasonable."

"And has he still his horns?"

"To a certain extent. In spite of that he is a wonderful man. Don't you think so?"

"I do not know."

"Just imagine what he has done. When he came to the throne he was a devoted follower of Bismarck, until he saw that Bismarck was nothing but an old tyrant. And then he sent him home, and tried to introduce reforms in every branch of public life. He introduced reforms in the schools, in the army, in social legislation."

"And therefore they call him unsteady?"

"So he is. He wants to do too much all at once. He thinks he knows everything better than any one else."

"Oh, no, he does not think so!"

"At least people say—"

"I am afraid people say a good deal. I think the Emperor would be glad if they left him alone."

"But that is only possible if he resigns."

"Resigns?" asked the young man, as if the very idea horrified him.

"Every statesman is naturally subject to criticism, and he must get used to that, too. I should advise the Emperor to read English papers as much as possible."

"Why?"

"In them he would hear a good deal of untruth about him but also a good deal of truth."—"Quite so. He reads them."

"They say he got wild the other day over *Punch*."

The young fellow laughed. "You mean that poem about Struwwelpeter? I should say the Emperor can stand things like that!"

"If he can't at present, he will by-and-by. I have no doubt he will turn out a great man—he has a sense of duty to God and men; he has energy, and if he only acquires a little modesty he is sure to succeed. That is to say—"

"The young man looked at me attentively:

"Well?"

"If his health does not prevent him!"

My companion suddenly rose. "Thank you," he said, "for your kind opinion. With God's help I will do the best for my people. I am the German Emperor myself." He took my hand and gave it a hearty shake. "If you happen to speak with your countrymen about me, tell them I like their straightforwardness. *Leben Sie wohl!*"

He put his gun on his back and walked off. When I recovered my astonishment I saw him walking on the road, upright as a pine-tree.

"That was the German Emperor! That simple, unaffected fellow! God bless him! And no one shall in future talk badly of him in my presence."

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held on Friday evening, at the Van Schaick Hall, to "welcome home" its popular president Mr. J. T. Griffin, who has just returned from his annual visit to Europe. There was a gratifying attendance of members, who accorded Mr. Griffin a perfect and long-sustained ovation when he mounted the platform to introduce the programme. In a brief but characteristic speech, he said that he responded with much pleasure to the invitation of the society to attend the meeting. He had understood, however, that he was to occupy the position of their guest that evening, but it seemed that they wished him to resume the duties of his presidency at once.—(Hear, hear.) He had travelled over many lands and crossed many seas since he left Yokohama, but now that he was amongst them again his visit to Europe seemed but as a dream, and he felt that scarcely more than a fortnight had elapsed since he had bade them good-bye at one of their ordinary fortnightly meetings. He hoped that in their next winter session he would be able to give the society a paper upon his recent journeyings—(hear, hear)—but he would have to ask them for a little time in which to properly arrange his notes. Mr. Griffin concluded, amid applause, by thanking the society for the cordial and hearty welcome home which

had been given him. A nice programme of music and readings followed, the principal item being an extempore address by Prof. Ladd, of Yale University, upon "Psychology," a subject which, presenting as it does a wide field for interesting original research in its myriad departments, yet requires a more than ordinary method of condensation when introduced as an individual item in a literary entertainment given on a sultry night in July. Appended is the programme:—

- PART I.
1.—Duet Piano and Organ Overture... Pierrabras, von Schubert.
Miss Sale, Mr. Fenton.
2.—Lecture—Certain lines of research and discovery in Modern Psychology.....Prof. Ladd.
PART II.
1.—Piano Solo "La Gazelle" Richard Hoffman.....Miss L. Smith.
2.—Song "Spinning" Cowen.....Mrs. Gotch.
3.—Song "The Fire King" Klein.....Mr. F. S. Le.
4.—Song "The Masquerade" Michael Watson.....Miss Vincent.
5.—Song "The Erl King" Schubert.....Mrs. Herb.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA.

It is now several months since the above-mentioned plucky equestrian set out on his ride from Berlin to Vladivostok. It will be remembered that he undertook to do the whole journey on the same horse. Serious doubts are entertained as to the animal's capability of travelling, day after day, during the hot season, and over badly kept roads. Telegraphic information has been received announcing the arrival of the Major in Kazan, a city lying 430 miles East of Moscow on June 6th. It is stated that both horse and rider were in perfect condition. Major Fukushima's rides averaged about 25 miles per day. He left St. Petersburg on April 7th. Between that city and Moscow, he rode over hard frozen snow, and the animal, from day to day showed no signs of fatigue, but in the journey on to Kazan fearfully muddy roads had to be passed, and the horse had a hard time of it. On June 6th it was estimated Major Fukushima had done about a fourth of the distance to be traversed. There is every probability, we should say, of his accomplishing the feat he has undertaken. His arrival in Japan will cause quite a sensation.

THE RADICALS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS.

THE problems which the Radicals have set before themselves for solution before the opening of the next session of the Diet, are of a tolerably comprehensive character. The *Tokyo Shimpō* gives the following list of them:—

- EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.
1.—Is the present system of education suited to the people's standard of living?
2.—What methods ought to be pursued in establishing technical schools?
AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.
1.—What method should be pursued in protecting marine industries with a view to their promotion?
2.—What are the relative advantages and disadvantages of public and private ownership of forests and moors?
3.—What commercial or industrial enterprises have progressed and what have declined since the Restoration, and what enterprises may be expected hereafter to flourish or otherwise?
4.—The methods of developing Sericulture?
5.—The methods of developing the Tea Industry?
6.—The methods of developing the Spinning Industry?
7.—The steps to be taken with regard to Bourses?
8.—What enterprises should be undertaken abroad?
9.—The methods to be pursued for establishing offices to inspect agricultural products in the localities?
10.—Among articles of natural production, which call for protection—as, for example, silk, tea, tobacco, sugar, hemp, indigo, rice, barley, rape-seed, and beans?
COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.
1.—What steps should be taken to reduce the freight on goods carried by protected steamship companies?
2.—What maritime routes should be opened in home and foreign waters?
3.—In what places should telegraphs be established?

A SUIT AGAINST MR. IWASAKI YANOSUKE.

A CHINAMAN, whose name is given in the vernacular press as Ching Mei-kyn, has instituted legal proceedings against Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke, and Mr. Nabeshima Magorokuro for the recovery of 75,000 yen, lent to the latter on the security of the Hanjima coal mine, which was sold to Mr. Iwasaki after the loan was made. In the event of the yield of coal being in accordance with his expectations, Mr. Iwasaki, at the time of the purchase of the mine, promised to add the sum of 100,000 yen to the purchase money. This money has not yet been paid, and Mr. Ching maintains that since the sum of

75,000 yen was lent to Mr. Nabeshima on the security of the mine, which, without the lender's consent, was subsequently sold, the court should order that the amount due to him with interest be refunded out of the 100,000 yen promised by Mr. Iwasaki. The suit takes the form of a petition for the transference of rights. Mr. Hatoyama is representing Mr. Iwasaki in the case, which was opened on the 23rd ultimo.

LUCERNE.

THE commercial and industrial societies of Lucerne have organised a *Verkehrsbureau* (an Official Enquiry Office) which was opened on May 1st, at the beginning of the season, and which will remain permanently open all the year round. The municipal authorities, the administrations of the various railways, whose lines connect with Lucerne, which is the junction of so many interesting routes; the steamboat company of the Forest Cantons and Zoug Lakes, the bankers, and all those interested in the prosperity of Lucerne, have lent their support. The aim of this Office is to furnish trustworthy information to the multitude of foreigners who visit these parts, about the sights of the town, excursions on the Lake or in Central Switzerland, the arrivals and departures of trains, railroad connections, board in hotels and pensions, local taxation, &c., &c. General utility is the password of the Office, and no charge is made for information given or services rendered. The primary object is to assist visitors. Letters of inquiry are promptly and gratuitously answered.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* repeats its wonted assertions as to the attitude and policy of the Government towards the Opposition. Our contemporary maintains that the feeling of enmity to the Administration is deep-seated, and that nothing but the greatest unity in the Cabinet and clearness of policy will enable it to tide over the difficulties of the situation. If the present Cabinet feel itself unequal to the task before it, it would be well for it to retire. If to surrender office to antagonists would prove too galling, let the alternative of handing over the reins of government to friends be adopted. From whatever point of view the situation is regarded, unity of purpose in the Cabinet is the one desideratum, which seems to the *Fiji* to be difficult of attainment.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

THE *Choya Shimbun* published the following paragraph:—"People who occupy high positions are generally conspicuous for the liberality of their subscriptions and contributions. It is so with Mr. Hoshi, President of the House of Representatives and leader of the *Fiyu-to*. Out of the four thousand yen which he receives annually, he gives one thousand to Count Itagaki, President of the Party to meet the latter's petty expenses, and he also contributes one thousand to the coffers of the Party. Thus he pays away one half of his salary. It is said that he agreed to discharge this obligation before he was elected to the post of President of the House." The *Hochi* evidently implies that the above disposition of Mr. Hoshi's stipend was a condition of his elections to the post of President. It is a curious notion, and we find some difficulty in crediting it.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE Asiatic Society (*Toho-kokai*) held its second general meeting on the 27th ultimo in the rooms of the Society for Relieving Sufferers by Marine Disaster, in the Public Park, Shiba. Ninety-one members were present. A letter was read from Count Soyejima, the Vice-President, announcing his inability to attend through illness; explaining that the arrangements for establishing a school of the Russian language were not yet complete, prophesying useful results from the Society's labours, and suggesting that as the writer was not likely to be able to serve for any length of time as Vice-President, some one should be elected in his place. The chair was taken by Mr. Oi Kentaro, and the amended Rules of the Society were passed *nem. con.* A ballot for the post of President resulted in the

election of Count Soyejima, and Mr. Watanabe Kunitake was chosen as Principal Treasurer. Twenty-four Councillors were also elected.

THE RIGHT OF NAVAL OFFICERS TO RESIGN.

OUR readers doubtless remember the case of Mr. Hearson which excited so much interest in the East recently. We now read the following in a home exchange:—"Mr. Hearson's action against the Lords of the Admiralty became yesterday (May 19th) before the Court of Appeal. While an engineer in the Royal Navy he resigned his commission and, with permission, went to take an appointment in China. He was arrested and brought home, but released on *habeas corpus*, when he brought an action for damages, which was decided against him. After hearing arguments in support of his application for a new trial, the Master of the Rolls said Mr. Hearson was not entitled to resign without the permission of the Admiralty, and that, having done so, he was a deserter and ought not to have been released on *habeas corpus*. The appeal was dismissed with costs."

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE following is extracted from the annual report of this company for 1891:—Fire Department—The losses by fire during the year have amounted to £871,332 13s. 4d., which includes all losses actually ascertained and paid, and a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December, 1891. The directors have, as usual, set aside one-third of the fire premiums received during the past year, as a provision against liability on the unexpired fire policies of 1891. In the Life Department 3,688 policies were issued during the year 1891, assuring, after deducting sums reinsured, £1,670,790, and producing new premiums to the amount of £63,287 14s. 3d., together with 367 bonds securing the sum of £20,628 1s. 0d. yearly of immediate annuities, and £1,085 yearly of survivorship annuities, and £433 4s. 6d. of deferred annuities, for which the company received the sum of £218,012 10s. 4d. by single payment, and £695 13s. 7d. by annual premium. The claims during the year, including 51 endowments, were 564 in number, under 689 policies; and the sums amount, with bonus additions, to £499,253 5s. 5d. The profit and loss account, including the unappropriated balance of £56,358 13s. 11d., brought forward from 1890, amounted to £223,374 16s. 4d. out of which a dividend of twenty shillings per share on 100,000 shares, one-half payable 2nd May and the other half 1st November, was declared, together with a bonus of ten shillings per share, leaving a balance of £58,374 16s. 4d. to be carried forward.

THE LOSS OF THE "HAIPHONG."

THE "Douglas" steamer *Haiphong*, with a cargo of sugar from Hongkong and Formosa for this port, has gone ashore near Shimoda. The *Yokosuka Maru*, which went to the scene of the disaster to render assistance, returned to Yokohama on the 30th ult., and brought into port the crew and captain of the steamer. They report that their vessel is wedged in upon the rocks, seven and a half miles south-east of Shimoda, and there is every possibility that with the first strong breeze she will go to pieces. The cargo and vessel are valued at \$200,000.

EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA.

THE sixth annual meeting of the foreign and native ministers of the Evangelical Association of North America began in Tokyo on Wednesday, the 29th June. Thirteen native pastors and five foreign missionaries were present at the opening exercises, which were conducted by Rev. F. W. Voegelé, the President of the Mission. It is expected that the daily sessions will continue at least until Saturday. The body meets in the school-rooms of the Evangelical Theological Seminary, at No. 49, Tsukiji. During the session, the native pastors will unitedly hold services at the various chapels of the Mission in the city. On Sunday, special union services will be held in the Krecker Memorial Church, in Tsukiji, beginning 9 a.m. The work of the

year gives the appearance of prosperity, and the workers all seem filled with intense interest in the work of the annual meeting.

SCOTTISH UNION AND NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

At the sixty-seventh annual meeting of the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company held in Edinburgh, the directors' report for the year ending 31st December, 1891, was adopted. In the Life Department 1,133 policies were completed for £523,570 yielding £19,241 in new premiums, the claims including bonus additions amounted to £252,198 and the life funds, increased by the sum of £98,418 were £3,185,795 at the close of the year. The net fire premiums for the year were £311,332 and the losses paid and outstanding £189,888. The account showed a balance of £71,305, out of which the directors declared a dividend of 16 per cent. and a bonus of 1½ per cent.—£7,500 was added to reserve and a balance of £11,305 carried forward to next year.

THE INDEPENDENTS.

A MEETING of thirteen Independent members of the Lower House was held at the office of the Independents, Tameike, Akasaka, on the 26th ultimo, when it was decided that every day having a 1 or a 6 in its calendar number—as the 1st, 6th, 11th, and so forth—should be considered regular days for meeting, and that steps should be taken to conduct investigations of political and administrative problems. The Independents can scarcely hope to remain long in their present position. They will have to throw in their lot with either the Government or the Opposition ere long.

CHINA.

CONCERNING anti-foreign feeling in Szechuen, the Rev. W. M. Upcraft writes as follows in the *Chinese Recorder*—

Are the anti-foreign reports and rumours spreading? Our experience in Western Szechuen goes to prove that they are. The trouble is of a dual nature. There is the exaggerated, distorted report of what took place last year down the great river. The crowning of that long series of outrages by the sudden destruction of foreign property at Ichang made a profound impression at even this distant point. The tea-shops circulated their version of the affair, the people, ever credulous of the strange and exciting, believed, and suspicion was born of that belief. For the past few weeks we have been feeling a revival of that suspicion and our position in consequence has sometimes been unpleasant. There was a report of "baby eating"—the ghost that no one seems able to lay. It was cried on the street that the foreigners had bought a baby and eaten it. There was excitement, and it appeared to need only a few more favouring circumstances to develop a good-sized trouble, as the city was filled with military students, and this is the step taken by our enemies to ensure those circumstances. One evening at dusk a lad of sixteen came to the gate-keeper of our house and offered to sell a child to the foreigners, through him, for ten thousand cash, the money to be divided so as to give the gate-keeper a respectable bonus. The lad went off with the understanding that the child was to be brought the next morning. The gate-keeper then communicated with us; we informed the yamen, and in the morning when the child (a boy of seven years) was brought, we handed both him and his conductor over to the officials, it being their province to deal with such a case. They ill-used the boy to the yamen with sundry promises, discovered who his father was—a degraded member of the Ka-ti-hui (Ko-lao-hui) it is nearer the coast—gave him a beating, and finally issued a proclamation praising foreigners, and warning evil doers. This we trace to the reports of down-river outrages.

The other trouble is native, and perhaps the more serious. While on a journey north of this city, a few days since, we met with a company of men, who are carrying on a propaganda against foreigners and foreign things in general. There were said to be ten in the gang, and they claimed to be under the special protection of the Viceroy. Their plan is to go to large towns and markets, erect a stand, make a great show and noise, and one or two preach their crusade and sell books at this central stand, the rest disperse among the crowd and distribute their little books (which are sold at three cash) all through the place. The printed matter warns the people against foreigners, who are said to aim at the sovereignty of the empire, among other sinister designs. The people are warned against foreign calico, foreign rice, foreign opium and so on, at the same time they are exhorted to obey their parents (an instruction badly needed in those districts) and so on; thus the book can be called a "good book" and it sells readily. The first page says the publication is issued by an official of the second grade at the provincial capital,

but the men themselves were said to come from a city nearer to this place. They intend to go south and visit the provinces of Yunnan and Kweichow after a prolonged tour in Szechuen. The public preaching is of a fiery and direct kind; foreigners are held up to odium, much to the delight of the farmers and peasants who are ever ready for the strange and unnatural.

Perhaps we see things larger than they are, but all these rumours indicate a drift—but whither? The country districts are being infected, as witness the fact that a man who is an inquirer here, walked from a distant town to inquire into the truth of the rumours about us being spread around his native town, which does not lie on any main thoroughfare, being simply the centre of a farming district. To recognise facts does not indicate panic. The measures taken by the foreign community at Shanghai, Hankow, and elsewhere are wise; we pray they may be effectual in securing the desired end.

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING AND AMERICA.

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING has given dire offence to the Americans of San Francisco by accepting their hospitality and then criticising them. So they say at least, but inasmuch as we do not know of what hospitality he was the recipient or in what manner he repaid it, we can form no idea of the merits of the question. At all events a New York Club has blackballed the brilliant author, and people allege that the "piling" was due to his treatment of the San Franciscans. But it seems doubtful that New York should take up the cudgels on behalf of San Francisco. Kipling's account of the former city had quite enough salt in it to make the citizens wince, without anything additional from San Francisco. Be that as it may, here is the pleasant little parody which a certain New York writer has published of Kipling's ballad "East and West":—

There are men in the West, gentlemen, as good as God's raised,
With hearts as warm and hands as free, as ever poet praised:

Their salt is free to the stranger, as free as the wind that blows,
From out the warm Pacific, to melt the Sierra's snows.
Rudyard was there with his venal pen to raise the Yankee dust,

And he raised it with the Yankee's hair, eating the Yankee's crust
He ridiculed his host with the pen of a cad, in his charming British way.

And trampled his salt beneath his feet, at a dollar a line, they say.
Then up and spoke the 'Frisco men, "As our guest we were his guides.

To show him all we had to show, and he took it out of our hides;
He ate our salt and drank our cup, and all that we had was his.

Then he stabbed his hosts like a Ghazi; an Indian idea of it
We gladly bowed to the genius bright the British stranger had.

Nor dreamed that the brains of a genius were hid in the head of a cad.
But Kipling's gone from out our house, a raw, rough Rudyard he,

With the mouth of a bell, and the heart of hell, and the head of a gallow's tree;
For thirty pieces of silver the host was sold by the guest.

This may be the style of Hindostan, but 'tisn't the way of the West."
Rudyard again sailed over the sea, Kipling to Gotham came;

He'd quite forgot the 'Frisco lot, for India knows no shame.
He drank again the Yankee's cup, once more he ate his salt.

He asked a closer fellowship—but 'Frisco called a halt.
The message came. "Against his host he turned his ingrate pen!"

He is not fit at board to sit with Yankee gentlemen.
"But if he thinks the price was fair, when brethren wait to sup!"

Why, men of Gotham, turn him down when ye have called him up!"
The club men read the message brief, their ballots did the rest.

Rudyard no brother to them could be, though Kipling be their guest
They feast the writer, not the man, the brain and not the brawn.

There is no brotherhood 'twixt them and India's 'Jackal-spawn.'
Perhaps the stroke which manhood gave a blush of shame may raise

To Kipling's cheek, and bid him seek for honour first, then raise;
Perhaps he'll learn that in this West we scorn the venal pen,

And hold the man who stabs his host a bravo among men.
Lowell Arena. WOODYARD KINOLING.

SUICIDE OF A JUDGE.

It is probable that the rumour circulated in Tokyo on the 29th ultimo with reference to the suicide of the Prefect of Gifu, had its origin in a sad event which occurred on the 28th in the Kaisuiyoku, at Tomioka, in this Prefecture. Judge Yoshinari Shinnojo, of the Tokyo Local Court, had been suffering for a considerable

time from mental trouble, and under medical advice he proceeded to the sea-side at Tomioka for the purpose of recruiting his health. But on Tuesday last he cut his throat with a *kogatana*, and expired before medical aid could be obtained. A coroner's inquest held the following day found that he had taken his life in a fit of insanity.

KYORITSU JO GAKKO.

THE annual exhibition of the Kyoritsu Jo-gakko took place last evening at 212, Bluff, and proved a most decided success in every particular. In the vocal selections the graceful and natural actions of the children were particularly noticeable, while their voices harmonised with pleasing effect. The piece of the evening was the recitation by Miss Haru Kondo, entitled "Paul's defence before King Agrippa." The charming manner of its execution would have done honour to a far older and more experienced elocutionist. The various essays were also much appreciated by the large audience which had assembled, and particularly the Valedictory, which, though short, was to the point and gave sympathetic expression to the feelings which prompt one on such occasions. Programme:—

PRAYER.

Music—"Lift up your heads" Piano and Organ Duet from Handel. Misses Major and Miura.
Scripture Recitation.....Children.
Salutatory.....Miss Hyaku Suzuki.
Music—"Glorias on rope"—Round.....Children.
Recitation—"Only a Golden Coccus".....Miss Eugenie Gordon.
Music—"Winter"—Part Song from Gaul.....The School.
Essay—(Japanese)—Womanliness.....Miss Nobu Hayashi.
Music—Piano Solo—Christmas Pieces, No. 4 Mendelssohn.
Essay—"Flower of Words".....Miss Annie Urquhart.
Music—Theme from an Overture.....Miss Haru Kondo.
Essay—The Mighty Works of God.....Miss Toki Imai.
Music—"Poet and Peasant"—Piano Duet.....
Overture from Von Suppe.....Misses Major and Bewick.
Recitation—"Paul's Defence before King Agrippa".....Miss Haru Kondo.
Essay—(Japanese)—Address to Graduates. Miss Oto Okada.
Music—"Spring and Summer"—Part Songs from Gaul.
Essay—"The Student's Sanitarium".....Miss Kiro Mori.
Music—"Jesus High in Glory"—Hymn.....Children.
Recitation—"He Leadeth me" (adapted).....Miss Shika Ito.
Music—"Lift thine Eyes"—Mendelssohn.
Valedictory.....Miss Eleanor Bewick.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMA.

Music "Te Deum" Jackson.....The School.
Benediction.

MURDERED IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

THE *Choya Shimbun* gives meagre particulars of a ghastly murder recently committed in a first-class railway carriage between the Kasana and Koyama stations. The victim was a merchant, who left Mito on a business visit to Tokyo, and was last seen alive at Kasana station. He had in his possession, at the time of leaving home, 1,500 yen, but when his dead body was discovered by the railway officials at Koyama station the money was all missing. Two travellers, who boarded the train at Kasana, are suspected of being the murderers.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO COUNT GOTO.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that the Emperor will visit Count Goto's private residence at Takanawa on the 4th of July, and that the Empress will proceed thither on the 5th. In each case the departure from the Palace will be at 1 p.m., and the route chosen will be by Atarashi-bashi, along the Atago-shita-street, through Shiba Park by the back road, over Akabane Bridge, and along Mita-dori.

SETTLERS IN THE HOKKAIDO.

THE total number of families which settled in the Hokkaido last year is stated to have been 4,389, representing 15,164 persons—8,562 males and 6,602 females. This shows a decrease on the year 1890, but it has to be borne in mind that the *Tondenhei*, military settlers, who went to the Hokkaido last year were few compared with those in the previous year, so that, in point of fact, the number of ordinary emigrants was larger in 1891 than in 1890.

MR. KANEKO KENTARO.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR has been pleased to present a sum of one thousand yen to Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, chief Secretary of the House of Peers, who starts for Europe to-morrow to represent Japan at the Conference on International Law. The conference is to be held in

Zurich, not in Geneva, as previously stated in these columns, the former town having advanced the claim that 1892 is the five-hundredth anniversary of some great event—we are not sure what—in its history.

GARDEN PARTY IN TOKYO.

ON Monday afternoon the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Madame Hayashi entertained the members of the *Corps Diplomatique*, the leading foreign residents of Tokyo, and a number of Japanese officials at a garden party in the grounds of their official residence. The weather, unfortunately, was showery, but, as arrangements had been made for that contingency, the guests were enabled to remain under shelter while witnessing an exceptionally fine display of fencing by the leading experts of Tokyo.

THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES.

A TELEGRAM received in Tokyo on Saturday announces that Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Stevenson are the democratic nominees for President and Vice-President. Mr. Cleveland's nomination was expected, of course, but with regard to Mr. Stevenson we know nothing. It almost seems as though some mistake had been made in sending the message across the wires. The contest between the two Parties may now be expected to be of a very close character.

PASSPORTS.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that a great number of applications for passports have of late been made to the Japanese Authorities on the plea of the applicants' ill-health, but that it has been decided not to grant any passport for a period longer than two weeks. We believe that the News Agency has been misinformed. No heroic departure of that nature is likely to be taken by the Japanese Government, at any rate without due notice.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

We are informed by the Manager of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited, that he on Wednesday received the following telegram from London with regard to the Bank's position:—"Every probability of early re-construction. Welton's appointment (as Liquidator) postponed for a week."

THE PREFECT OF GIFU.

A RUMOUR, emanating from sources which we are unable to trace, was current on Wednesday in Tokyo to the effect that the Prefect of Gifu had committed suicide. From inquiries which we have instituted, we believe the statement to be entirely groundless.

EXPORT DUTY ON ITALIAN RAW SILK.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes a telegram received from Mr. Kumazaki, Japanese Consul in Rome, under date the 26th ultimo, to the effect that the Senate has passed a Bill for abolishing the export duty on raw silk.

MR. MITSUHASHI.

MR. MITSUHASHI NOBUKATA, Councillor of the Kanagawa *Kencho*, has received the additional appointment of Vice-Director of the Yokohama Temporary Harbour Works Office.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Ministerial question continues to absorb public attention. As we stated in our last weekly summary, the statesmen of the *Kuromaku* group—Counts Ito, Kuroda, Yamagata, and Oyama—have held several conferences at the residence of the Minister President of State, Count Matsukata. Some papers pretend to believe that the resignation of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, both Privy Councillors, and the filling up of vacancies at the Home Office and the Department of Justice, formed the sole topics of discussion at these meetings, and that nothing was said as to the advisability or inadvisability of reconstructing the Cabinet under a new Premier. But persons apparently

better informed report that the primary purpose of the conferences was to consider what can be done to secure the unity and strength of the Ministry, and that a change of Premier undoubtedly constituted a topic of discussion. The results of the conferences are not yet known; but from the fact that the Ministers of State were specially requested to assemble in the Cabinet office on Friday, it may be supposed that some definite plan had been agreed upon provisionally between the Minister President and the four *kuromaku* statesmen. We have to be especially prudent, however, in making forecasts of Ministerial changes at the present moment, for the question is complicated by the introduction of a novel and important factor into the situation, namely the organization of the National Union. No Cabinet can have much hope of passing its measures in the Diet, unless it is supported by the new party. It is an undoubted fact, as the *Choya Shimbun* observes, that there are in the Government and among the Camera statesmen two distinct factions, one advocating a strong and the other a moderate policy toward the Opposition. Count Yamagata, Viscount Shinagawa, Count Saigo, and several others are the recognized leaders of the strong faction, while the other faction is under the control of Counts Ito and Inouye. Not that these two sections are irreconcilably opposed to each other, or that their respective leaders are incapable of co-operation under certain conditions. Indeed they have hitherto worked together on all important occasions. But the creation of the National Union, with a definite programme, with leaders like Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, and with a following of young ambitious politicians—the *Kokkai* calls them desperadoes, who will not brook any half-hearted policy toward the Opposition—the creation of such a party has greatly augmented the difficulty of organizing any Ministry calculated to meet the views of the different sections in the Government and the *Kuromaku* statesmen.

The conduct of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, with regard to the *Kokumin Kyokai*, has elicited different comments from different papers. The Opposition journals welcome them in their new career of party leaders. Those papers, however, express wonder at the partiality shown by the Authorities, for the two statesmen, while still Privy Councillors, have been suffered to attend the meeting of a political party and to deliver political speeches, while Count Okuma was compelled to resign on account of his interview with Count Itagaki. Not only the Opposition journals but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Tokyo Shimpō* strongly condemn the inconsiderate conduct of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa. The *Choya Shimbun* alone defends their procedure, on the ground that the National Union, whatever it may eventually become, is at present a purely social institution, and that the speeches delivered by the two Privy Councillors were not political, being simply declarations of their resolve to serve the country to the best of their capacity. Viscount Shinagawa's speech is severely criticized by the press, on account of the crude and sanguinary character of the sentiments expressed by him. His solemn vow that his head and that of Count Saigo should be forfeited at any time, if they served the interests of any particular clan, is denounced as an incentive to assassination and murder. The papers, in order to ridicule the extravagance of such language, publish various caricatures of political assassinations purporting to be the results of the Viscount's speech.

A fortnight ago, it was believed in certain well informed circles that Count Matsukata had, through Mr. Kono, offered his seat to Count Ito, and that the latter had promised to consider the matter and consult the views of the other *Kuromaku* statesmen. If any change is now visible in the attitude of Count Ito, it may in some respects be owing to the step taken by Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa in openly associating themselves with the *Kokumin Kyokai* without previously consulting the opinions of the elder

statesmen. The two Privy Councillors are content to abide by their action, but there is no doubt that their precipitate conduct has not given pleasure to other statesmen, and certainly not to Count Ito. Their connection with the new party has imparted to the latter definite colour, and introduced, as we have said, an inconvenient factor into the situation. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, a journal noted for its opposition to Count Ito, declares that the President of the Privy Council now finds himself in a comparatively solitary position. His persistent refusal to come to the rescue of the country at important junctures has, according to our contemporaries, disgusted his followers, most of whom are consequently now found in the camp of his rival statesmen, those still ready to follow him through the thick and thin being confined to the ranks of his few immediate disciples such as Mr. Ito Miyoshi and others. The *Kokumin* recommends him to exert himself to recover his former influence, by taking some decisive step before it is too late. The *Choya Shimbun* also assures Count Ito that, if he is so inclined, Count Matsukata is willing to deliver the reins of government to him at any moment. The *Fiji Shimpō* repeats its advice to the elder statesmen to reconstruct the Cabinet. Its opinion, as already stated more than once, is that, unless those statesmen come forward at the present moment, their opportunity will be for ever gone. It strongly doubts, however, whether they are prepared to seize this unique opportunity. The vernacular press, generally speaking, urges the formation of a Cabinet by statesmen of the first order.

The Korean question has received a considerable amount of journalistic attention during the week. With regard to the occurrence of the 16th or 17th ult., the news of which reached this country a week later, no further particulars have been reported, except that the Korean Government, as well as the intended victim of the explosion, preserve the strictest silence on the subject, and that things are quiet in Seoul. The Tokyo papers persist in attaching great importance to the affair. The general belief among them is that the murderous plot was conceived by the courtiers of the Bin faction. It is understood that the latter are strongly opposed to Tai-won-Kun and his followers. The Rin party lean on the support of the Russians, while the other party are in league with the Chinese. Incidents like that of the 17th instant constitute, in the opinion of the metropolitan papers, a proof that the feud between the rival factions in the Korean Court has reached a desperate stage. It is consequently feared that an open rupture, possible at any moment, may bring into direct conflict the two neighbouring Powers which are believed to stand behind the contending factions. The first effect of the sense of an impending crisis in Korea has been to remind the organs of different parties of the absurdity of engaging heart and soul in political struggles, while the real interests of the Empire are in imminent danger of suffering abroad. Even hot blooded party organs like the *Hochi Shimbun* call upon the leading statesmen, both in and out of power, to abandon for a moment their party spirit and devote their attention to the solution of the Korean problem. Another *Kai-shin-to* organ, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, advises some members of both Houses of the Diet to spend the summer in Korea and study the Korean question on the spot. As to the course which ought to be pursued by Japan, opinion differs on minor points, but the press is united in urging the Government to adopt a strong policy. A few journals of the *Nippon's* type would like to have a decidedly aggressive attitude assumed by Japan. Even the *Kokumin Shimbun*, though it does not go to that length, advocates the emigration of Japanese to Korea on a large scale, so that, whatever turn events may take, Japan shall have a preponderating influence over the destiny of the peninsular Kingdom.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is the only paper that

takes the trouble to map out accurately the general course of policy to be followed by Japan in regard to Korea. Its idea is that Japan ought to combine with China and prevent Korea from falling a prey to Russia. At present Russia is supposed to be endeavouring to win the confidence of the Koreans by means of large promises and some actual aid, while China tries to maintain her sway in the little kingdom by threats and a show of force. But the overbearing conduct of China is calculated to push the Koreans into the out-stretched arms of Russia. Nothing can be more dangerous than persistence in such a short-sighted policy by China. Our contemporary recommends the Japanese Government to send to Peking a suitable Ambassador to persuade the Chinese Government to abandon its suicidal methods in Korea, and henceforth to coöperate with Japan for the preservation of the independence of the peninsula against the advances of any third Power. Formerly China had suspicions of sinister designs on Japan's part against Korea; but at present a better understanding exists between the two countries, and China's suspicions are now directed towards Russia. Consequently, the *Mainichi* thinks that the Statesmen in Peking would be inclined to listen favourably to proposals of coöperation coming from Japan.

There is a rumour that China secretly maintains a body of soldiers in Seoul under various civilian disguises. Many of the metropolitan papers write very wildly on this subject. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, refuses to give credence to the widely received report. At all events, our contemporary is confident that not only the Foreign Office, but also the Departments of War and of the Navy, will take prompt measures to ascertain the truth of the rumour. Should the story prove true, Japan, we are told, will not be slow to guard her honour and dignity by appealing to the Tientsin treaty, and, in case of necessity, will not hesitate to assert her rights by force.

As to the gambling case, the existence of faction strife among the administrators of justice, which is the primary cause of the present trouble, continues to be severely commented upon by metropolitan papers of all sections. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* dwells upon the injurious results of such discussions among the officers of the law. Thus, in this instance, important cases are left unattended to merely for the purpose of satisfying the personal pique of certain influential Judges. Moreover, the incident has exposed to public view a most deplorable want of discipline among legal officials. The effect of the whole affair is calculated to lower the dignity of the Judiciary in the eyes of the Japanese as well as of foreign nations. The authorities, therefore, are earnestly implored to bring the matter to an end with the utmost expedition, and also to take strong measures for the eradication of the primary evil, namely, faction feuds.

A report of a change of *personnel* in the Governor of Tokyo has caused much excitement among the metropolitan journals. The extraordinary reason assigned by rumour for the change is that Mr. Tomita, the present occupant of that office, maintained an attitude of strict neutrality in the last general elections, and refused to act in unison with the Metropolitan Inspector-General of Police in the interests of official candidates. For his successor, the press mentions Mr. Yasuba, Governor of Fukuoka, who is supposed to have rendered signal service to the Cabinet in connection with the general elections. The Municipal Council is said to have decided to petition the Government for the continuance of Mr. Tomita in office. The *Kokkai* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* rebuke the citizens of Tokyo for their indifference about the personality of their Governor. They are told to bring the pressure of their united voices to bear upon the Cabinet against the reported change.

While we see, on the one hand, unmistakable

signs of renewed activity among Buddhists, there are observable, on the other, numerous incidents which reveal a state of utter degradation in the ranks of the priests. The most important and scandalous of these incidents is the trouble that has arisen among the priests of the *Sodo* sect in connection with the election of the High Priest (*Kancho*) of their order. The unsuccessful party, after making repeated attempts during many months to oust the successful candidate, have at last appealed to a court of law, praying to have the election annulled on the ground of corruption. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing upon this subject, deplores that a sect, hitherto noted for its freedom from internal dissensions and feuds, should be connected with the most scandalous affair witnessed in recent years even in the ranks of demoralized Buddhists. According to our contemporary's information, the faction strife in the *Sodo* sect dates from the creation, a few years ago, of a religious fund of considerable amount by contributions from the devout. The ambitious and the worldly among the priests now covet the right of control over this sum of money; and hence the last election of a *Kancho* was contested most keenly, both sides resorting to unscrupulous means to attain their object. The *Nichi Nichi* avows disbelief in any form of religion, and claims to be therefore all the better qualified to express an unbiased view about the position of the *Sodo* sect in particular and of Buddhism in general. The priests of the *Sodo* sect are told that their conduct ill becomes men of their sacred calling. Is it, asks our contemporary, a time for them to be engrossed by their personal worldly interests, when the sphere of their creed's influence is being vigorously invaded by the hostile religions of the West? They are advised to withdraw their legal suit and heal up the breach in a manner befitting their noble profession.

The *Kokkai*, in one of its leaderettes, pronounces the opinion that the late Saigō Takamori, Count Okuma Shigenobu, and Count Itagaki Taisuke, will have the honour of figuring in history as the three great men of the *Meiji* era—Saigō for his martial ability, Okuma for his intellectual resources, and Itagaki for his devotion to principles.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It is a noticeable feature of the Japanese religious press, Buddhist as well as Christian, that much less space is devoted in this country to doctrinal exposition than in the West. This has already been a matter of comment by many with respect to the Christian press; but it is equally true of the Buddhist. There are a few conservative magazines of the latter cult in which one finds from time to time a lecture on the obscure and mystifying doctrines of the sacred books; but as a rule the entire press devotes itself to news, and to the discussion of topics of the day. Speculative or technical disquisitions do not seem to meet the wants of the people, if the contents of the press are any index of those wants. The topic of interest on all hands during the past month has been the debate in Parliament on the New Codes, and the statements there made as to the relation of Christianity to the social institutions of Japan. The opponents of the Codes evidently desired to utilize whatever antagonism might exist to Christianity, and endeavoured to represent its doctrines as subverting loyalty and filial piety, the two fundamental principles, if not of Japanese society, at least of that society as viewed by Shintoism and the conservatives. Unfortunately the answers they have received are quite inadequate, and it is a pity that some one competent to present a proper answer is not deputed to do so, for he is badly needed. The remarks called forth incidentally from a Buddhist magazine, defending Christianity from these misrepresentations, are worth recording as an instance of honesty and impartiality not common-place

in religious controversy. It is another example of what has been before adverted to here, that an intelligent Buddhist is capable of a true catholicism and tolerance which is very admirable. The Buddhists have begun to discuss a topic which it is strange they have not openly taken up before this time, their policy as to mixed residence. The natural disinclination of Buddhists to allow any further facilities for Christian propagandists, is doubtless one of the elements on which Mr. Oi and his followers count for the popularity of their campaign against mixed residence. But here also are to be found those who do not allow themselves to be carried away by prejudice, and it is to be hoped that their heaven will powerfully affect the rest. The unsolved problem of the month is still Mr. Kanamori. Professional courtesy or friendship or both have restrained the editors of the journals of his cult from making the comments on his retirement that one would naturally expect. But allusions in various journals indicate that the reasons for his withdrawal are still a mystery, and that, while no one openly impeaches his motives, many consider that there has been a backsliding.

The *Kiritukyo Shimbun* (Congregationalist) adverts briefly to the Code debate, Mr. Harada being the writer. One of the members quoted the sayings of Christ: "If any man come unto me and hate not his father and mother, etc., he cannot be my disciple;" "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me;" and pointed to this as a very good reason why Western principles were unsuited to Japanese Society. Mr. Harada, entitling his article "Does Christianity destroy Morality?" proceeds to show that the Parliamentary debaters misunderstood the meaning of Christ's words. In the *Gokyo* (Methodist), the animus of those who attacked Christianity is, perhaps with policy, ascribed to their being members of the legal fraternity, and the three successive articles on the subject are entitled: "Religious Individualism;" "Are Lawyers to teach Hypocrisy?" "The Ignorance of Lawyers." In the first article the assertions of the debaters are recited, that the new Codes are founded on Christianity; that Christian customs are exactly the reverse of Japanese national customs; that Christianity preaches the equality of all men, in short, a rank individualism; that it ignores Japanese ideas of marriage and indirectly reflects on the Emperor. The answer is a denial that Christianity teaches disloyalty, and an explanation that it does not absolutely forbid one's having more than one wife, but merely declares that one wife and one husband is the best rule. In the second article, the assertions are taken up that this is a country of ancestor-reverence, that filial piety and respect for the living head of the family, as well as for the spirits, now watching us, of those that have passed away are destroyed by Christianity. The answer is that it does not teach disobedience or disloyalty; that the true destroyers of the virtues are the Buddhists, who constantly proclaim the unreality of this world and the duty of despising its affairs, and the professors at the Imperial University, who drink of the fountains of Huxley and Tyndall and become enemies of the inherited national principles. If the lawyers really are anxious for the safety of these principles, why are not such men expelled from the University? Christianity is opposed, it is true, to the worship of ancestors, but not to the reverence of ancestors; and the principle of filial piety by no means requires worship, but only reverence. In the third article the assertions are taken up that Christianity, with its doctrines of equality, abolishes all distinction between master and servant, father and son, and puts both on the same level. This the writer proceeds to deny.

In the *Bukkyo Koron* (a Buddhist journal started only this year, but already one of the leading magazines), we find the same subject treated under the title: "The Lawyers and Christianity." The lawyers say that the new Codes are founded on the Roman law and its system of individualism, and that Christianity holds

that respect for fathers and masters is inconsistent with love for Christ; so that the new Codes if adopted, will destroy loyalty and filial piety. But the lawyers are all wrong. We are not Christians; but we must say on behalf of Christianity, that we can find no authority in their books for the statements of the lawyers. The direct commands of the Bible are to respect fathers and masters; so that it is not true that Christianity would destroy loyalty and filial piety.

In the *Shukyo* (Unitarian) Mr. Minami, with some effort at rhetoric, takes up the same subject in an article entitled "Do Christians destroy morality?" "The spirits of our ancestors," say the lawyers, "are about us, protecting their families from harm." Do the learned lawyers then believe that the dead protect the living? Are they so buried in polytheism? Have they no philosophical attainments? "In Christian countries one man and one woman are the foundation of the home; there is no distinction between master and servant; respect for fathers means contempt of Christ." The first of these statements Mr. Minami concedes and defends; the others he denies outright.

All cults, as usual, complain of the lukewarmness in religious matters, and the failure of religion to have the influence that it should. The *Kiristukyo Shimbu* (Congregational) laments that the leading personages who belong to the Church do not show active interest in religious affairs. Some years ago we used to advocate the idea that each member should take upon himself the duty of bringing in one convert a year, and thus the whole nation would soon be won over. But this is now an idle dream. Politics are absorbing the enthusiasm of our best men. The *Gokyo* (Methodist) notes the backsliding of those who are converted abroad. When they go abroad they usually become Christians; but as soon as they return, their hearts grow cold and their faith disappears. One reason is that the unfavourable influences about them are so strong. The only way to remedy this is to revive and strengthen their faith, by surrounding them with strong Church influences. Let us put on more coal and keep the Christian atmosphere warm for them. The *Hansei Zasshi* (Buddhist Temperance) addresses itself to the older men, and wants them to have more courage and energy. The young men are becoming teachers and merchants, and everything depends on the old men. "Take courage; Buddha looks down upon you. Do not depend on yourselves; ask the help of your Saviour Buddha: Thee we adore, O Eternal Buddha." In *Gokoku* (Buddhist) appears a thoughtful article on "The Present Condition of Buddhism." Every religion, the writer asserts, should have its proper influence upon the politics, the education, and the literature of the country. How far may we say that Buddhism, in this respect, fulfills its functions? (1) In politics, the influence of Buddhism has become very small. The Constitution has given freedom of religious belief, and Buddhism no longer possesses official patronage; though we may look with confidence for some assistance from those members of Parliament who were formerly priests. (2) In education, too, it is not as in days of yore. There was a time when education was entirely in the hands of the priesthood. But education and religion have been separated. The books used in schools have no reference to the precepts of religion, and the youths are straying far from the principles of Buddhism. (3) In literature, the prospect is no better. In European countries we find Christianity dominating with its ideas the whole of each national literature. But in Japan literature is quite independent of Buddhism. Thus in three of the greatest features of national civilization we find Buddhist influence lacking. With more than one half the population as believers of our cult, we find its influence on our institutions practically wanting. The *Bukkyo Koron* adverts to Mr. Kanamori's entrance into politics, and laments the tendency of the times that steals so many good men away from religion. Mr. Kanamori, it admits, is a greater man than any that Buddhism has lost, but it is discourag-

ing to find that politics has such tempting prizes for priests and preachers. The *Fukuin Shimpō* (Presbyterian) writes upon "Religious Nervousness." There are persons, as we all know, who are afflicted with a nervous anxiety about their health,—valetudinarians, in short. They are constantly inquiring of others how they look, and whether they seem better; constantly wondering whether they are not worse; and constantly trying to gauge their condition. The result is that they never have time or energy to accomplish any real work. Such is the condition of the Church to-day. Whenever pastors meet, they are found inquiring: "Why is not our church prosperous? Why is the attendance so small? Why are the educated classes so indifferent? How can we revive religion?" Is this not a sort of religious valetudinarianism? But the *Fukuin Shimpō*, like everyone else, find it hard to practice what it preaches; for the very next number contains a valetudinarian article on "Religious Activity in May," noting that Kyushu is the only region in which there has been any notable improvement in the condition of the Church.

On social reform there is not overmuch to record. The *Kiristukyo Shimbu*, comparing the sentiments expressed by the two most recent Japanese critics, Sir Edwin Arnold and Rev. Mr. Barnett, notes that the latter praises the courtesy and kindness of the nation, but finds a lack of true religious piety, as well as practices of polygamy and prostitution which indicate a lack of chastity. In another number the same journal earnestly advocates the abolition of the system of licensed prostitution, as the impure spring which defiles the morals of society. The *Gokyo* wants a reform in the method of arranging marriages. Parents interfere too much, by choosing partners for their sons and daughters without consulting their wishes, and by requiring absolute obedience to this choice. Few marry persons of their own choice; and even when this happens, it is frequently because honour compels the marriage. In America, on the contrary, there is freedom of choice, and with good results. It is not that we want complete license of selection; but at least parents should interfere less than they do. In the *Dogaku* (Shingon Buddhist) on appeal is made to the higher classes to take the lead in social reform. The higher classes know what is right, and the lower classes will follow their example. But at present they seem at once to increase in knowledge and decrease in virtue. They lack the stimulus of religion. In the *Hansei Zasshi* (Buddhist Temperance) is an article on "The Use of Wine in the Hokkaido," lamenting the excessive employment of strong drink. Even at funerals one sees relatives, priests, and neighbours sitting around, some weeping, others laughing, drinking, and smoking. Buddhism forbids the use of wine, and yet the priests break this command at every religious ceremony. Those who go to the Hokkaido fall into these drinking ways, and the result is that workmen spend their hard earned wages on wine, and remain as poor as ever, while farmers are negligent in their cultivation and add nothing to the country's wealth. In the *Shukyo*, Mr. Kawano discusses "The Decay of Morality." He begins with the proposition that morality, as a coherent system, can exist only where society is organized, not where it is disorganized and formless. Hence he finds it quite natural that at the present time one should notice so many signs of a weak and inefficient morality. The nation has been deeply stirred by the advent of Western thought and manners. The evolution of a strong material civilization is rapidly going on; social ideas are disorganized, and it is impossible for some time to expect to see morality occupy its true place in the nation's activity.

In the *Shinri* (German) the chief article by a Japanese writer is by Mr. Maruyama upon the term *Botsuri-jo*, a difficult metaphysical term about which there has recently been some discussion among Japanese scholars. In the *Fukuin Kiristukyo Zasshi* (Universalist) the sub-

ject of "Cruelty to Animals" is again adverted to. A "Young Man" writes an open letter to Mr. Kanamori. "Are you not," he says, "the morning star of the religious world? Why, then, when religion needs you, do you give rein to your political zeal and become an officer of a political party? If the captain deserts the ship, what shall the crew do? Do you think that is possible at the same to lead in politics and in religion? It is impossible. We know not your motives for this step of yours; but we would gladly learn what has impelled you to forsake religion for politics." In the *Shukyo*, Mr. Ko Yeizo writes on "The Honson of Unitarians." Every man has somewhere a *honson*, or chief object of devotion, if we can only find it. What shall be the *honson* of Unitarians? Shall it be Jesus, Socrates, Buddha, Kant? No, none of these. It is the Only God-Almighty, the spring of charity and love, the fountain of justice.

In the *Gokoku* "Buddhism among the Youth of the Country" is the subject of an appeal to the faithful. In the old days, when priests had charge of education, the children learned something of religion; now-a-days they learn nothing. There is a little Shintoism in the text-books officially prepared, but that is all. The young think that temples are all very well for the old people or for funerals, but for themselves the temple has no attraction. If things go on in this way, what will be the condition of Buddhism in 30 years from now? The *Bukkyo* writes in the same strain, and advocates following the example of the Christians by founding schools. The same journal sets forth "Reasons why Soldiers should become Buddhists." When soldiers are unsupported by the enthusiasm of battle and the fervour of patriotic conflict, they are likely to give way to the weaknesses of human nature even more than other men. At such times there can be no better support than the doctrines of Buddha. Not to obey earthly passions—this is the principle inculcated by Buddhism, and the one most needed by soldiers. The *Bukkyo Koron* chronicles a disturbance at Kanazawa, occasioned by the remarks of a missionary and his Japanese assistants. Something was said which to the mind of some hearers reflected on the character of the Emperor, and the speaker was interrupted by some students of the Higher Middle School, so that the police were called in to restore order. One of the Japanese speakers was afterwards pursued by the offended individuals, and sought safety by a night-escape from town.

In the *Bukkyo Koron* appears an acute article on "The Important Questions for Buddhism?" These are said to be four: (1) What would be the effect of mixed residence on Buddhism? (2) How shall the youth best be trained in Buddhism? (3) What are the duties of Buddhism to the country? (4) How shall the system of sect-government best be reformed? As to (1), it is probably that when the country is thrown open to foreigners, the first to take advantage of the privileges will be, not merchants, but missionaries, and their zeal will lead to the further spread of Christian schools, this time taught by themselves. Thus will Christianity become stronger and stronger, and the result to Buddhism is plain to be seen. As to (2), some reform must be made in the style of preaching. The present methods are too conservative; they suit the old, but not the young. On the other topics, the writer is to continue in a later number. In *Gokoku* also the subject of mixed residence is taken up, this time with noteworthy moderation. "It is said that we must give mixed residence in exchange for Extraterritoriality. This means that the contact with new ideas is sure to affect more or less the old customs of the country. Now this would not be an unmixed evil. There are some good customs in the West which we should not be sorry to see supplant some of our unworthy ones. On the other hand, we must hold fast to all that is good in our existing practices, and resist the innovations of Western Customs. For this no support is better or surer than Buddhism. The revival of Buddhism is the only means of preserving our national individuality."

RAILWAY GAUGES.

WE observe that the question of gauge is again beginning to attract attention in Japan, in connection with the large scheme of railway extension now on the *tapis*. The Authorities have been much criticised for adopting the narrow gauge—though, of course, the choice was originally made in accordance with the advice of foreign experts—and platform orators do not hesitate to recommend the alteration of the present standard to that employed in England and America. Reading these remarks, one is led to suppose that the 4 ft. 8½ inch gauge possesses some special intrinsic merits which entitle it to be selected above all others. But the history of the manner in which this dimension was reached ought to dispel any such notion. GEORGE STEPHENSON, when he first built a railway at the Bedlington Iron Works in Northumberland, proposed that the width between the rails should be the same as that between the wheels of carts in the north of England, viz., 4 ft. 6 inches. Finding, however, that with this dimension there was difficulty in getting the necessary machinery into the locomotive, he added 2½ inches, and thus reached the magic 4' 8½" gauge which habit has now invested with so much respect. Everyone remembers the historic fight between STEPHENSON and his gauge on the North Western, and BRUNEL with his 7 ft. gauge on the Great Western. The difference—nearly 50 per cent.—was certainly something to fight about. The battle lasted half a century, and it was only on the 20th of last May that the Great Western completed the conversion of its gauge to 4' 8½", having been driven to make the change by the great inconvenience of a break of gauge. But throughout the long contest, theory failed to establish the supremacy of any particular dimension. In Ireland a compromise—5' 3"—between BRUNEL's figure and STEPHENSON's was adopted, and in India another battle began twenty years ago between the first dimension there adopted, 5' 6", and the metre gauge. A special consideration applied to India's case, inasmuch as the Government, having allowed the guaranteed companies to monopolise all the most lucrative districts, and finding itself compelled to undertake the work of construction in less promising regions, was naturally compelled to pay serious attention to the question of cost. In 1889, India, out of a total of about 13,500 miles of railway, had 5,000 miles on the metre (say 3' 3") gauge. From her experience we obtain a figure valuable for Japan's information. For some of the Indian lines, originally laid to the metre gauge, were subsequently changed to the 5' 6" gauge, and the cost of the operation was £2,700 per mile, or about \$17,000. This means that to alter Japan's 1,700 miles of 3' 6" gauge lines would involve an outlay of

about 25 million *yen*. In India the question was an alteration of some 70 per cent.—i.e. from 3' 3" to 5' 6"—but in Japan the alteration would be only 34 per cent.—i.e. from 3' 6" to 4' 8½". It is not open to doubt that the adoption of the 4' 8½" gauge twenty years ago would have been wiser for Japan than the figure she chose. The wider base would have given steadier running, and rolling stock could have been more easily procured as conforming to the more frequently used pattern. The 3' 6" gauge was chosen, apparently, on the advice of men of colonial experience. They considered that Japan's system should be detached, like that of New Zealand, where some 1,400 miles on the same gauge were already in operation, as were also considerable lengths in Queensland, South America, and other countries. But indeed the dimension approximates so closely to the metre gauge that Japan's lines may be classed with the many thousands of miles of the latter dimension. She is not in an exceptional position, and at any rate the time has quite gone by to alter that position. The operation would involve reconstruction of the whole of her rolling stock, changes at the stations, rebuilding of all the larger and more expensive girder bridges, shifting of girders in smaller bridges, re-boring of tunnels, and so forth. The expense is prohibitive, and the inconvenience involved during the long period occupied by the work would be very great. The gain, on the other hand, would be trifling. We hear a good deal said about increased width of vehicle, but this argument evidently has no application to passenger traffic, where lack of width can be compensated by adding length. And in Japan passenger traffic largely preponderates. The last report published by the Railway Bureau showed that, taking the average for three years, the passenger receipts per mile were about 80 per cent. of the total earnings. A very different state of affairs exists in America and England, where the proceeds from goods traffic represent from 60 to 70 per cent. of the whole receipts. So long, therefore, as present conditions prevail in Japan, economy in the haulage of goods is not a factor of such paramount importance as it is in Great Britain or the United States. The widest trucks on Japanese lines measure 6' 8"; in America and England the corresponding dimension is 8' and 8' 4" respectively. The difference—1' 4" in the former case and 1' 8" in the latter—becomes insignificant when we remember that the vehicles to which it applies bring in only one-fifth of the total revenue. Doubtless the point to which most importance is attached by the general public in this matter is that of speed. But within certain limits the speed attained on a railway is not dependent upon the gauge. Thus, on the lines north of London, with their 4' 8½" gauge, quite as great a speed is attained as was ever developed on BRUNEL's 7' gauge. Moreover,

high speed involves the building of first-class, heavy permanent way, as illustrated by England's 90 lbs. rails against Japan's 62 lbs., and the expense of construction is correspondingly great. A heavy outlay on the road necessarily tells upon the fares, and these would have to be still further increased if trains were driven at high speed, for fast running is greatly more expensive in proportion than slow. On the whole, it probably suits the Japanese better to travel cheaply at moderate speed, than to be charged high fares and be carried at a high velocity. We doubt whether a special daily train from Tokyo to Kobe, covering the distance in, say, 10 or 12 hours, at high fares, would attract any passengers. So far as the gauge is concerned, nothing prevents the running of such a train. The EMPEROR has frequently travelled from Tokyo to Yokohama in 32 or 33 minutes, which gives a speed of 33 miles an hour. At the time of the Otsu incident, HIS MAJESTY's train traversed the distance—329½ miles—between Tokyo and Kyoto in 14 hours 32 minutes, or 23 miles an hour for a continuous run, including stoppages. Again, when the Kobe-Kyoto line was opened in 1877, the EMPEROR's special train covered the distance, 47 miles, in 1 hour 35 minutes, or very nearly 30 miles an hour. These facts are sufficient to show that a fair speed, probably as high as is wanted in Japan, can be developed with the existing gauge. At all events, there is much to be said for broad and narrow gauges alike. To dogmatise on such a matter is only to show ignorance. The best men, having had experience of both, are to be found in different camps, but young engineers, who rely on mere theory, are apt to speak with a dangerous semblance of assurance and authority when they get on a platform.

TOKUGAWA LAWS AND THEIR ADMINISTRATION.

ONE of the objections to the New Codes constantly urged by barristers and others, is that they do violence to social customs, that they disturb the relations which have hitherto existed between various members of the body social. This charge, as stated by the opponents of the new laws, is vague and unsatisfactory, since it does not specify the social customs affected by the Codes. Many of the men who wish to postpone the operation of the Codes have expressed themselves again and again as dissatisfied with the legislation of the Tokugawa era, have pointed out its insufficiency and its many crudities, and recognise that the laws passed during the *Meiji* era have been almost without exception improvements on those which they replaced. There is no difference of opinion whatever between the two rival schools as to the defective state of certain Japanese laws and as to the in-

adequacy, as a basis of law, of the Confucian system of Ethics, on which, as we shall presently show, the Tokugawa system was founded. In order to demonstrate the desirability of introducing an entirely new system, we shall now proceed to consider what were the leading characteristics of the Tokugawa Laws, and what were the methods of administration common in those days. It is important to bear in mind that though few of the Tokugawa Laws are still in force, and though the old methods of administration have been abandoned, the notions on which the legal system of those days was founded still prevail, and there are scholars, even of the calibre of Mr. NAITO CHISO, who maintain that all attempts to weaken the hold which Confucian ideas have on the minds of the Japanese people are to be regarded as a retrograde movement bound sooner or later to lead to disastrous results. Such scholars assert that the smoothness with which the machinery of government worked in the TOKUGAWA era was solely owing to the ethical basis on which the laws enacted were known to rest, and the consequent mental satisfaction felt in submitting to them. Such methods as were employed by the TOKUGAWA Shoguns, argue this school of writers, have never been surpassed anywhere, if their merit is tested by the fruits they produced. Whether the TOKUGAWA régime, as a whole, was more productive of good than harm, is too wide a subject to be discussed in this article. But of the depth and extent of its influence on the whole of Japanese social life, no student of Japanese history entertains a doubt.

The two and a half centuries during which the Shogunate flourished, may be designated as the age of interference. The Government left no social region unexplored; the family circle was constantly under its surveillance, and trifling domestic quarrels were referred to it for settlement. The judges and magistrates of those days were preachers as well as legal administrators, and a perusal of such reports of law cases as are extant reveals the fact that the morality or immorality of actions, rather than their legality or illegality, was the chief subject of inquiry with the TOKUGAWA judge. The laws issued were of the vaguest description, savouring more of the character of moral precepts and exhortations than of laws. They were all based on the fundamental principle of Confucianism—the submission of the younger to the elder, of children to parents, wives to husbands, and so on. With the judge who administered these laws the relationship of the litigants determined the nature of the verdict. Individual rights, as such, were not recognised. In this system the body politic and the body social were rendered interdependent. Men's social acts were invariably controlled and guided so as to be made to subserve political ends. The law of subjection to superiors was enforced

with uniform rigidity throughout the empire, and all attempts to act in defiance of this law, even in cases where the offender was some obscure peasant, entailed the severest penalties. The harshness of the system did not appear to those who lived under it as it does to us. They were of opinion that it was but the carrying into practice of the precepts of Confucianism—that the law and its administrators were the champions of a code of morals to which all alike were bound to submit. The authority of this code was as little questioned by the Japanese subject of the TOKUGAWA era as the authority of the Bible is by the sincere and earnest Christian. Law and Morality were to the men of those days synonymous terms. TOKUGAWA legislators themselves saw no distinction between them.

In order to give our readers some idea of the character of these laws we have selected a few from a collection which has been published. As will be seen, many of them are of the vaguest description; others have reference to culture, education, social entertainments, or personal behaviour.

The following were promulgated in the various fiefs in 1615, a year before IYASU'S death:—

I.—Literature, war, archery, and horsemanship are to be the favourite pursuit of all soldiers.

II.—Wine, feasts, and licentiousness of all kinds are forbidden.

III.—Any soldier in the employ of a *daimyo* or a *shōmyō*, guilty of murder shall be banished from the *daimyate* where the offence was committed.

IV.—The *samurai* of all *daimyates* are to practice economy.

The subjoined are among the regulations passed between 1632 and 1634:—

I.—*Samurai* are to be careful to do nothing that is out of keeping with their social status.

II.—*Samurai* are forbidden to form cabals, to assist those formed, or to take part in suppressing them.

III.—*Samurai* are to cultivate filial piety and loyalty, to pay great attention to the laws of politeness and to avoid violating established customs.

IV.—*Samurai* are not allowed to possess a number of useless weapons. They are strictly forbidden to keep more things by them than they absolutely need. They are forbidden to sell things for the sake of obtaining a profit.

Acting on the notion that it was the duty of the State to enforce the practice of filial piety and loyalty to superiors, various laws and regulations were passed specifying the manner in which disputes between relations and masters and servants should be settled. A regulation drawn up for the use of judges states that, in all disputes between parents and children, the will of the parent, and in dissensions between masters and servants, the will of the master, should determine the decision of the judge.

The following laws were promulgated in 1655-7:—

I.—A parent's debts must be paid by his children, but children's debts need not be paid by parents unless the written consent of relations to the incurring of such debts be obtained.

II.—Any child who refuses to obey his parents, or who disobeys the town elders or members of the *gōnin gumi* (5 men guild), shall be arrested and imprisoned. The conduct of the child while in confinement shall be closely watched, and if there are proofs of great innate wickedness, the child will be disinherited. If such a child, after its release from prison, show any signs of enmity to its

parents on account of what has happened, it will be the duty of the whole village or town in which it resides to arrest it and to put it to death.

It was quite common in those days for children to be imprisoned for unfilial conduct. If they persisted in opposing a parent's wishes they were liable to be condemned to death. It was open to the parents to save their children from the extreme penalty of the law. In case this took place, the common practice was to hand the child over to the relations and the neighbours of its parents and allow them to beat it into submission to parental authority.

Among the laws issued by ITAKURA SUWO-NO-KAMI, the following are worth quoting, if only to show the rigid manner in which the principles alluded to above were put into practice:—

I.—In disputes between parents and children, when a child appeals to a court of law against its parent, it may be decided without going into the details of the case that the child is in the wrong. Even supposing that the faults of a parent are of a most aggravated character, for a child to make these faults the subject of public accusation is most unfilial. Even in the cases of persons who are not specially related to each other, the obligation of the young to submit themselves to the old is universally recognised. Death shall be the penalty incurred by the child who goes to law against its parent. Its life can only be saved by the intercession of its parent.

II.—The above law will hold good in the case of children who bring charges against their grandparents or uncles. A grandson, or a nephew, has only to consider what is the relationship which he bears to the one whom he accuses in order to see that he is in the wrong.

All laws were framed so as not to do violence to filial piety. Even in cases where laws had been broken, if it could be shown that the offence was committed out of regard for a parent it was overlooked. Children were never expected to furnish information to the authorities implicating their parents or other relatives. But they were allowed to testify to their innocence. ITAKURA SUWO-NO-KAMI gave it as his opinion that in cases where the suitors were equally right and it was difficult to determine in whose favour a verdict should be given, if, in the course of the trial, it leaked out that one of the suitors was unfilial, disloyal, or unkind, judgment should be given against him. "This," said ITAKURA, "may involve in some cases a departure from strict justice, but, since it preserves the feelings which ought to exist between relations, it promotes the welfare of the public."

To show how universal was the opinion that a man's duty to the State was to be made subservient to his duty to individuals, we may quote the case of the official examination of TOKUGAWA NARIAKI. When I KAMON found that the open opposition to foreign intercourse shown by this baron was likely to seriously interfere with the success of his negotiations with foreign Powers, relying on the testimony of two of NARIAKI'S retainers, KASUJIMA and KAYANEI, I prohibited NARIAKI from taking part in public affairs. This use of evidence extracted from retainers against their lord was considered at the time a most unwarrantable proceeding, and drew forth a strong protest from the Head of

the Finance Bureau, KIMURA KEIZO, who, however, paid dearly for his boldness, for he was subsequently degraded from office and sent to Kii.

It was one of the principles of the TOKUGAWA rule that legal decisions should not be made public. In the days of HIDE-TADA, a magistrate called SHIMADA YUYU, who had been administering justice for 20 years, purposed publishing a full account of the cases which had come before him. This was forbidden by the Shogun who acted on the advice of the *Goroju*, or Chief Councillors of State. The ground of the objection is worth recording. It was contended that since the verdict in each case must depend on the facts elicited, and since these facts cannot possibly coincide in any two cases, it would only lead to mistakes were the decisions of judges to be based on verdicts pronounced by others. The process of generalisation is one which the legal expert must use sparingly. Every case must be decided on its own special merits, and the power to detect those merits is one whose development would be seriously hindered were the habit of resting verdicts on precedents to become common. Such was the view of the legislators of the TOKUGAWA era. There is no denying that, whether owing to the method in which they were expected to administer justice or as the result of other influences, no era of Japanese history produced a finer set of judges than those who served the Bakufu. The written laws which guided their decisions were few, and such as existed were so loosely worded as to be capable of the most varied interpretation. In the majority of cases which came before the courts social custom, political considerations, and the current ethical code, rather than any written law bearing on the case *sub judice*, swayed the mind of the judge. The liberty granted to judges was seldom abused; for the reason that the choice of men to fill the post of magistrate or judge was in most cases very wise. If the administration of an officer of justice was on the whole deemed satisfactory, he was allowed to resort to such methods of defending the innocent against the penalties of an inadvertently violated law as fancy dictated. A girl called KIVO, who had killed her mother under the impression that she was killing a fiend, was brought before OOKA TADASUKE. In order to convince the public that the girl had committed no crime, TADASUKE made use of a popular superstition relating to transformation. "Evidently it is a beast in human form that has been killed," said the judge. "In my opinion KIVO's mother must have, somehow or other, been killed by a fox or a badger, and the animal must afterwards have assumed the mother's form. People who know nothing about such things will perhaps fancy that KIVO has killed her mother; but it is nothing of the kind. It is an evil spirit that she has killed, in fact,

the spirit of the animal that killed her mother; and so she has revenged her mother's death. If the corpse were left for twenty-four hours after death, I have no doubt it would assume the shape from which it transformed itself, namely, the shape of a fox or a badger. But if it were left and allowed thus to change, and KIVO and others were to see the change, their feelings would be harrowed thereby. KIVO would grieve to think that the one whom she had been serving as a parent was nothing more than an animal; and others would, when they heard of this, say:—'How are we to know that our parents are not transformed animals?' This being the case, it will be best for all parties that the creature be buried out of sight as soon as possible."

Were we asked to state in a few words what was the chief element of strength in the Bakufu Government, we should reply, the skill with which it used men. The genius of IYEYASU like that of HIDEYOSHI seemed to reveal itself most in the discernment of character and ability. This power was inherited by IYEMITSU and was handed down to subsequent generations, and the judicial appointments of the TOKUGAWA era constitute one among many good results of the exercise of that power. But that the Bakufu laws were grievously defective and in many ways entirely antagonistic to western notions of justice, admits of no doubt. They sacrificed the weak to the strong. They defended the old against the young, and treated woman as a nonentity. They did much to perpetuate the demerits as well as the merits of the Confucian system of ethics. The results of their influence are conspicuous on all sides to-day. And we must say that it is a surprise to us to find a school of barristers professing progressive principles yet arguing in favour of the retention of institutions and methods which modern Japan has outgrown.

COUNT MOLTKE AND RELIGION.

THE late Count VON MOLTKE, whose ways and views were generally so noncommittal, has left in his "Consoling Thoughts on this Earthly and the Assurance of the Eternal Life" a legacy to the members of his family, which the latter have not felt justified in withholding from the world. These thoughts as now published afford a new, and to many quite an unexpected, insight into the mind of the departed warrior, and we will therefore give the substance of his opinions as written down by him shortly before his death. Man, he says, is isolated from the rest of the world, limited by his body, the temporary abode of his soul. During sleep, perhaps a third of our existence, the body receives no commands of its master, yet the heart beats, respiration goes on, and our strength is renewed. Pain is the body's method of crying for

help, sickness shows that its vital powers have lost control of dead matter, and we are conscious that our vassal suffers. We must thus recognise the body as part of our being, though as something foreign to our real selves. Reason slowly develops, while memory assists and judgment increases. Age may appear dull; but a real darkening of reason, that bright spark of the divine, seems impossible. Even the maniac is perhaps only like the deaf who touches the proper keys of a piano out of tune: he himself is conscious of playing correctly; others, however, hear the sad discords. In its own sphere reason is a true sovereign and recognises no authority, not even ourselves. It cannot be forced to accept as false what it has recognised as true. *E pur si muove!* Man's reason may wander through the boundless space of the shining stars, or sink its plummet into the unfathomable depths of the minutest life: there are no boundaries anywhere, but everywhere there is law, the direct expression of the divine thought. Everywhere do the same causes produce the same effects. There is no anarchy, there is only law. The final cause of things, however, reason cannot apprehend; but it is nowhere at variance with the laws that govern all. Reason and the universe agree; both must have the same source. Though reason, misled by the imperfection of everything created, may go astray, yet truth is ever its goal. It comes into collision with many venerable traditions, and dislikes especially the miracle, "Faith's dearest child." It cannot be convinced that Omnipotence, to gain its ends, should in matters of detail require the abolition of the laws that govern nature eternally. Its doubts, however, are not directed against religion, but only against the form in which it is offered. Christianity has raised the world from barbarism to civilization, but was it the dogma which has brought us this and its attendant blessings? We can agree upon all things, but not upon things which transcend reason; and yet it was precisely these matters that were subjects of dispute from the destruction of the Arians down to the fires of the Inquisition. And what has been the result? The same difference of opinion. A dogma we may accept, as we receive the assurance of a true friend, without examination; but the kernel of all religions is the morality they inculcate, none more purely and exhaustively than Christianity. Yet there are people that shrug the shoulder and talk of dry morality and make the form in which morality appears the chief point of importance. It is to be feared that the zealot in the pulpit, who wishes to persuade where he cannot convince, drives the Christians out of the church. Should not every pious prayer, whether addressed to BUDDHA, ALLAH, or JEHOVAH, reach the same GOD, than whom there is no other? Reason and morality are not at variance, for

the good, in the end, is also the reasonable; but our conduct depends on our soul, its emotions and will, as well as on our previous actions. To the soul, and not to its vassals, has GOD given that two-edged sword of the free will, a gift that according to the Scriptures leads to our salvation or damnation. Yet there is the conscience, a safe adviser, independent of ourselves, with authority from GOD; an incorruptible judge, stricter than the laws of church or state, which tells us that every day ought to be holy to the LORD, and that to take even lawful interest from the needy is wrong; which, in a word, preaches morality in the breast of Christian, Jew, pagan, and savage. Disloyalty and lying, treachery and ingratitude are everywhere considered evil, and the ties that bind together parents, children, and relatives are everywhere held sacred. Belief in the total depravity of man is difficult, for, however obscured by savagery and error, the germ of good lies in every human breast. Is there a more convincing proof of the existence of GOD than this universal sense of right and wrong, the presence of moral and physical law in the world? Body and reason are subject to the soul, but often put in their special claims; and if in the perpetual struggle that thus results, the decisions of the troubled soul are not always in harmony with the voice of conscience, we hope that the LORD, who created us imperfect, does not demand of us that which is perfect. To keep in the right path is easy for the rich and fortunate, for temptation, to crime at least, does not approach him; for the starving, the uneducated, and the passionate, however, it is most difficult. On the last day, when guilt and innocence are weighed against each other, all this must fall heavily into the scales, and then mercy will be justice, two terms that usually exclude each other. Life cannot be its own end. After death, our individuality will no doubt continue. Reason will remain with us, and perhaps—doubtful gift—the remembrance of our earthly existence. Suppose we should thus be compelled to be our own judges, incorruptible and merciless? Our emotions will go with us, above all love. Friendships requires reciprocity, but we can love without being loved in turn. The scriptures tell us that we should love GOD, an invisible, incomprehensible being, which causes us sorrow and pain as well as pleasure and joy. How can this be done, then, except by obeying His laws and loving our fellow-mortals? PAUL, concludes Count von MOLTKE, tells us that when all else has passed away, love shall still endure, and therefore we may confidently hope to meet the love of a lenient Judge. Thus the Holy apostle, the weary warrior, and the venerable poet of *In Memoriam* seem to agree in the hope which

England's seer has so well expressed in the immortal lines:

O yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill,
To pang of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt, and taints of blood.
That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroyed,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete.

REMINISCENCES.

PRAISE is certainly due to the Historical Society for its persistent and painstaking efforts to collect, and transmit to posterity, historical details that run the risk of being irrecoverably lost. At one of the Society's meetings held in 1890, attention was drawn to the fact that certain ex-officials, who had served under the Bakufu, were in possession of minute and valuable information bearing on the events of the closing days of the TOKUGAWA era, which information had never been published and it was agreed to be the duty of the Society to collect this information. A committee, consisting of five members, was appointed to hold conferences with such old men as were known to be versed in the special subjects referred to, and to publish the results of their inquiries. The answers given to the questions put by the committee are appearing in pamphlet form under the title of 舊事諸問錄 *Kyushi-Shimonroku*, "A record of Investigations of Ancient History," the first number of which was issued last August.

Among the information published in pamphlet VI., is an interesting account of the 1863 mission to Europe. It will be remembered that IKEDA CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI was the head of the mission, and that with him were associated KAWAZU IZU-NO-KAMI and Mr. KAWADA KI. Mr. KAWADA has furnished the Historical Society with an interesting account of the fortunes of the mission. We give the narrative as it stands, with the exception of transposing a few passages so as to make the events described follow in their proper sequence:—

"In order that you may understand why it was necessary to despatch an embassy to Europe to propose that the port of Kanagawa be closed, I must tell you that the country was in a great state of disturbance at the time. The nation was divided into three parties, consisting of (1) those who were in favour of opening certain places (Edo, Osaka, Niigata, and Hyogo) to foreigners; (2) those who advocated the total expulsion of Occidentals; and (3) those who steered a middle course. It was in order to pacify the last party that we were sent to Europe. They thought that great danger was to be apprehended from allowing foreigners to live so near the Shogun's capital. They were in favour of confining foreign trade to the outskirts of the empire. Hakodate and Nagasaki were the only ports they wished to see open. The proposal to close Kanagawa was first made

to the Foreign Representatives. They objected to take any action in such a serious affair. The French Minister advised the Shogun to communicate directly with Foreign Powers, by means of a special embassy. It was this action of the French Minister that led us subsequently to decide on negotiating with France, before approaching other Powers on the subject. I ought to mention here that a mission had been despatched to Europe in 1861, to propose that the opening of Edo, Osaka, Niigata, and Hyogo should be postponed for seven years. This proposal was met by the European Powers with a number of counter propositions. These did not obtain the approval of the Shogun, and negotiations on the subject ceased.

"The mission which I joined consisted of about 30 persons, most of whom were interpreters. Among these were SHODA SAMURO, NISHI KICHIJURO, TANABE TAIJI, SAITO JIRO TARO, YANO JIRO, MIYAKE SHIN, and MASADA KO. We started in December, 1863, just when the Shogun was about to set out for Kyoto. Our instructions were not to enter on the subject of the closing of Kanagawa too suddenly, but to lead up to it, after referring to other matters, the settlement of which was entrusted to us.

"We were well received, and handsomely entertained in Paris. The first business we settled with the French Minister for Foreign Affairs was the indemnity to be paid for the assassination of a French military officer, which was fixed at \$45,000. We then commenced to discuss the Shimonoseki affair. We contended that we had suffered more losses by the bombardment than the Europeans and Americans who took part in the fight, and hence we did not see why we should pay an indemnity.

"While this discussion was going on, Baron von SIEBOLD came to Paris, and offered his services as interpreter and mediator in our negotiations with Western Powers. His breast was covered with the orders he had received from various European Powers, and, pointing to these, he said: 'By these orders you will see that I am on intimate terms with all European States. I am quite willing to intercede for Japan.' At first we had our doubts about the wisdom of employing Baron SIEBOLD, but eventually we agreed to do so. Baron SIEBOLD explained to us that it was not the actual loss sustained that led European Powers to demand an indemnity: it was rather as an atonement for an insult offered to national flags. He further added that the practice of demanding indemnities from defeated powers was common in Europe. We saw no way out of the difficulty, and hence agreed to pay an indemnity of 100,000 dollars, which was afterwards increased. After consenting to this, we thought it a favourable time for introducing the subject of the closing of Kanagawa. We did it in the

following manner:—‘Our willingness to pay a large indemnity to you,’ we said, ‘shows you that it is the earnest desire of the Shogunate to be friendly. As friends we now wish to consult you about a difficulty in which we find ourselves. We are very anxious to open the country, but there is a strong party in favour of closing it, and the EMPEROR is on their side. How are we to deal with this party?’ To this the Minister replied that he was informed that the Shogun had large bodies of troops under his command, and that nothing was simpler than to enforce the general adoption of the policy which he had inaugurated. To this we rejoined that we were unable to resort to such extreme measures, and that we found it absolutely necessary to take some steps to pacify the anti-foreign party, and since the opening of Kanagawa, more than any other step, had excited great umbrage, we had come to propose that that port be closed and that trade should be confined to Hakodate and Nagasaki. The Minister replied:—‘You sent an embassy to us a few years ago, proposing that the opening of certain places be postponed seven years. We stated the conditions on which we agreed to allow this. You took no notice whatever of our proposals, and now you come with the proposition that one of the open ports shall be closed. England and Holland are preparing to send a fleet to your country to force negotiations. We will join them. You say the Shogun is anxious to be friendly. While he breaks his contracts, what proof have we of the sincerity of his professions? If you wish to avert war, then the only condition we will accept is the abolition of customs dues at Nagasaki and Hakodate.’ This condition we said could not be granted. After a long conversation between the French Minister and Baron Siebold, the demand for free trade at the Northern and Southern ports was abandoned. The Shimonoseki affair was reverted to and the French offered, in combination with other Powers, to keep the Straits open, if the Bakufu felt itself unequal to the task. To this we replied that those who had attacked foreign ships should be punished, and the Straits should be kept open; but that the carrying out of these measures would occupy some time. We were exhorted to keep our subjects in order, and reminded that this would cost us less than a war with foreign countries. With a view of helping us to do this the French offered to furnish us with ships at cost price, and to instruct naval cadets, if we would send them to France. We were informed that this offer was made by the special order of the EMPEROR himself. When we heard that the EMPEROR had interested himself in us, we at once accepted the offer, and YENOMOTO (the present Foreign Minister), who was then in Holland, and UCHIDA, were summoned to Paris to make arrangements for the pur-

chase of ships. The large French men-of-war then in use were all considered unsuitable for Japan, and new ships were ordered, the plans being furnished by YENOMOTO.

‘The French would not hear of the closing of Kanagawa, and we saw that it was useless to press the matter further. CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI decided that no better fortune could be anticipated in other States, and that, rather than expose his country’s weakness, he would do well to return to Japan and represent to the Shogun the impossibility of carrying out the proposed measure. The French advised us to try the other Powers, but we were convinced that no good could result from going farther, so we decided to return.

‘As I said before, we were treated very handsomely by the French. CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI, KAWAZU, and I all rode in separate carriages. An audience with the EMPEROR was granted to us. HIS MAJESTY received us in the Tuileries. By his side stood the Empress EUGENIE, and the Crown Prince. All the Ministers of State and their wives were in attendance. We wore the dress suit of that time. Three days after the audience we were invited to attend a review of the Imperial Body-Guard. On this occasion the EMPEROR, magnificently attired and mounted on a charger, looked like the monarch of a great empire. By his side rode the EMPRESS. As the troops were manoeuvring, suddenly my attention was attracted by the EMPRESS dashing off at a gallop down the lines. A soldier had been thrown from his horse, and she went to see whether he had been hurt. I could not but admire her tender-heartedness. After the review we attended a banquet, and in the evening went to an opera. We reached Japan in July, 1864.

‘The cost of our trip was very great. The sum of 500,000 *ryō* was appropriated for the purpose. We took 100,000 *ryō* in gold *ichibu* and the rest in the form of an order. In addition to this we took 100,000 *ryō* worth of presents for the various potentates of Europe. Those for France were presented, but the others were forwarded later.

‘When we reached Japan we found everything upside down. Confident that the failure of the mission would give umbrage to the Shogun, our first thought was to proceed to Kyoto and lay before the EMPEROR a statement representing the real situation. But we subsequently decided that it would never do to ignore the Shogun, as he was still in power. CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI was in a very excited state when we reached Yokohama. He had been brooding over the embarrassment of the position in which we found ourselves so much on the voyage that his nerves were strained to their very utmost, and KAWAZU and I were apprehensive of his committing some rash act. He was naturally impetuous and fiery, and brooked no opposition. The first order we received forbade our landing. We were command-

ed to send a written account of our negotiations, and to proceed to Hakodate. CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI was incensed by this treatment, and, disregarding the consequences, he mounted his horse and dashed off on the road to Edo. KAWAZU and I followed him on horseback, and after a hard ride overtook him at Namamugi. Here we encountered a messenger from the Shogun, who joined with us in endeavouring to persuade CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI to return to Yokohama. But our remonstrances only excited him more, and with drawn sword he left our presence and, leaping on his horse, set off at a wild pace for Edo. We followed and overtook our chief at his house. After conferring together we decided that the following morning we should go in person to the Shogun and explain the reason of the failure of the mission. In this expectation we all retired to rest. Early the next morning we were informed that we were in disgrace. The message we received was as follows:—‘*France sono ta ni tsukai to shite sashitsukawasare soro tokoro, sono gi ai togezu shite jimama ni kikoku soro dan, futodoki ni oboshimesu.*’ ‘You were sent to France and other countries for a special purpose. Without fulfilling that purpose you have taken upon yourselves to return to this country. Your conduct is regarded as improper.’

‘CHIKUGO-NO-KAMI was condemned to lose half his territory and was ordered to retire from public life. KAWAZU and I were both confined to our houses.

‘Before we left for Europe, INOUE KAWACHI-NO-KAMI told us that our visit would prove fruitless. We asked him whether in that case we had not better beg to be excused from undertaking the task. He said, ‘No. It is better that you should go and furnish proof to the nation that the course proposed is impracticable.’ When we returned we were informed that our punishment was only for the sake of keeping up appearances. But we ourselves did not regard it in that light. We thought it only proper.”

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

THE Japan Society of London has now become a very vigorous body. The idea of forming such a society was most excellent. England has a very material interest in Japan, yet it is an undoubted fact that in no Western country does profounder ignorance prevail concerning Japanese affairs than in Great Britain. As to the causes of this ignorance there will probably be various opinions, but, for our own part, we believe that want of opportunity to learn is chiefly responsible. It is a far cry from London to Tokyo, and although individual Englishmen have done more than any other nationals to interpret the Japanese language and Japanese customs, history and traditions, so that the world in ge-

neral shall understand them, it must be admitted that ninety-nine out of every hundred subjects of HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY live in a state of complete nescience and indifference as to Japanese affairs, while, in a majority of cases, the more inquiring hundredth regards the country merely as a place where some quaint, pretty works of art are produced, and where a tourist may spend a very pleasant three weeks if he has time and money at his disposal. Japanese visiting England have been surprised, and, if the truth be told, not a little hurt, to find that a great deal of uncertainty exists as to the difference, geographical or ethnological, between Japan and China, and that for all practical purposes the two empires occupy the same niche in the insular Briton's mind. Occasionally *The Times* or the *Manchester Guardian* throws a ray of light across the darkness in connection with some subject of passing importance, but for the rest the great dailies and even the periodicals have no space in their columns for Japanese matters. Englishmen think of Japan, whenever they do chance to think of her, as a kind of antipodal curiosity calling for study only at the hands of leisurely specialists; and speak of her, whenever they do chance to speak of it, in kindly but supercilious diminutives. To induce them to regard her a little more seriously, no better device could have been adopted than to organize in London an association on the lines adopted by the Japan Society. The Society has been in existence only a few months, yet its list of members already contains a number of distinguished and influential names. The President is Viscount KAWASE, Japanese Representative in London; and the Vice-Presidents are Lord ARMSTRONG, Lord DE SAUMAREZ, Sir FREDERIC LEIGHTON, Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, and the Hon. P. LE POER TRENCH; and the Council consists of the following: Mr. D. ANDERSON (Chairman), Mr. F. T. PIGGOT (Vice-chairman), Mr. PAUL BEVAN (Treasurer), Mr. JOHN MOGFORD (Librarian and Curator), Messrs. A. DIOSY and DAIGORO GO (Hon. Secretary), and Messrs. A. H. CHURCH, HYDE CLARKE, FRANK DILLON, ALFRED EAST, F. ELGAR, G. C. HAITE, W. S. HALL, P. B. HARBOTTLE, ERNEST HART, CHARLES HOLME, M. B. HUIH, G. W. LEITNER, A. LASENBY LIBERTY, N. OKOSHI, PERCIVAL OSBORN, J. S. PHENÉ, J. P. REID, F. A. SATOW, R. PHENÉ SPIERS, J. M. SWAN, and H. SEYMOUR TROWER. In addition to the above there are many other members, the total being 175, including such men as Messrs. ALMA-TADEMA, J. L. BOWES, F. DRESSER, W. GOWLAND, Sir W. H. B. FOLKES, M. E. GRIGSBY, Sir S. J. TREVOR LAWRENCE, JUSTIN MCCARTHY, T. P. O'CONNOR, Sir W. G. PEARCE, Sir E. T. REED, E. M. SATOW, ALFRED PARSONS, and so forth. It is more than gratifying to find that within a very brief space of time

the projectors of the Society have been able to secure such wide and valuable co-operation, and to establish the enterprise on a basis so promising. Two excellent papers have already been read, one on *Jujutsu*—a peculiar system of self-defence and gymnastics—by Mr. T. SHIDACHI, and one on the uses of Bamboo in Japan, by Mr. CHARLES HOLME. The Society is also promised essays by Mrs. ERNEST HART, on "Some Japanese Industrial Art Workers," and by Mr. W. GOWLAND on "The Naturalistic Art of Japan." Very wisely the Society does not tie itself down to periodical meetings at fixed intervals. The members are left to choose their own day for reading such papers as they may desire to contribute, the only condition being that they are requested to give early notice to the Hon. Secretaries, so as to enable the Council to arrange the programme for the sessions. The annual general meeting was fixed for the third week in June, and the first annual dinner was to take place on the same day. We think it scarcely possible to over-rate the useful effects that this Society is calculated to produce. It cannot fail to rouse a gradual and general interest in Japanese affairs, and to educate among the influential classes in England a more or less accurate knowledge of this country's real condition, and of the grounds upon which she bases her claim to be admitted on equal terms to the comity of nations. Japan has now a united band of 175 friends in London, who will seek by speech and pen to dispel the numerous delusions existing with reference to her, and whose union will be in itself a public evidence that she deserves more consideration than is usually bestowed upon her.

RAILWAY COUNCIL.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We, hereby, sanction the Rules of the Railway Council, and order the same to be duly promulgated. (Imperial Sign-Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

Dated the 20th day of the 6th month of 25th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned)

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister President of State and Minister
of State for Home Affairs.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 51.

RULES OF THE RAILWAY COUNCIL (*Tetsudo Kaigi*.)

Art. I.—The Railway Council shall be superintended by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and at his instance, the following matters shall be discussed:—

1. Matters enumerated in Art. 15 of Regulations relating to the Construction of Railways.
2. Estimate of expenditure for the construction of railways.
3. Methods and processes of purchasing railways constructed by private companies.
4. Matters relating to railway time tables, and the rates of freight.
5. All matters relating to the regulations for traffic, and for railway police, except such as concern engineering works.
6. Any matters the Minister of State for Home Affairs may suggest.

Art. II.—The Railway Council may address the Ministers of State concerned, on any subject connected with railways.

Art. III.—For the better conduct of its business, the Railway Council may compile rules, and ob-

tain the approval thereof of the Ministers of State for Home Affairs.

Art. IV.—The Railway Council shall consist of a President, 20 ordinary members, and a certain number of special members.

Four high officials from the Home Department or Railway Bureau, two from the War Department or General Staff, and one from every other Department of State, shall be made members of the Council.

Art. V.—The President of the Council shall be of *Chokunin* rank.

Members or special members to be appointed from among high officials shall be nominated by the Minister of State for such Department. The other members shall be nominated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and after Imperial sanction has been obtained, they shall be appointed by the Cabinet.

The term of service for members shall be three years; but they may be re-elected.

Art. VI.—The President, in accordance with the rules of debate, shall preside over the deliberations of the Council and shall notify its resolution to the Minister of State for Home Affairs, or to the other Ministers of State concerned.

Art. VII.—When the President is prevented from discharging his duties owing to circumstances, a member of the Council, nominated by him, may represent him.

Art. VIII.—A Manager shall be attached to the Railway Council. He shall be of *Sonin* rank.

The Manager shall discharge his duties under the orders of the President.

Art. IX.—Neither the President, Special Members, or Manager shall receive any salary. Provided that those who hold no other office from which they derive salaries, may receive an allowance of not more than 500 yen per annum each.

Art. X.—There shall be clerks in the Railway Council.

They shall report the proceedings of the meetings and discharge miscellaneous duties under the orders of the President and the Manager.

The clerks shall be appointed from among employees of the Home Department or the Railway Bureau.

PUBLIC WORKS COUNCIL.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby sanction the Rules relating to the Public Works Council, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(Imperial Sign-Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

(Dated) the 20th day of the 6th month of 25th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned)

Count MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister President of State and Minister
of State for Home Affairs.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 52.

RULES RELATING TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COUNCIL (*Doboku-kai*.)

Art. I.—The Public Works Council shall be superintended by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, and, at his instance, matters relating to the improvement of rivers, of roads, of harbours, and other important public works shall be discussed, and the Council shall be competent to express its opinion on these subjects.

Art. II.—The Public Works Council may address the Ministers of State concerned with reference to any question of Public Works.

Art. III.—For the better conduct of its business the Public Works Council may compile rules, and obtain the sanction thereof of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Art. IV.—The Public Works Council shall consist of a President, 20 ordinary members, and certain special members.

Three high officials from the Home Department or Railway Bureau; two from the War Department or General Staff; two from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and one each from the Department of the Navy, the Department of Communications, and the professors of the University, shall be made members of the Council.

Art. V.—The President of the Council shall be of *chokunin* rank. Ordinary and special members of the Council, to be appointed from high officials, shall be nominated by the Minister of State for each Department, and other members of the Council shall be nominated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs. After the Imperial sanction has been obtained, they shall be appointed by the Cabinet.

The term of service for members of the Council shall be three years, but they may be re-elected.

Art. VI.—The President shall preside over the deliberations of the Council in accordance with the rules of debate, and shall notify its resolutions to the Minister of State for Home Affairs and to any other Minister of State concerned.

Art. VII.—When the President is prevented from discharging his duty owing to untoward circumstances, a member of the Committee, nominated by him, shall represent him.

Art. VIII.—A manager shall be attached to the Public Works Council. He shall be of *sonin* rank. The manager shall discharge his duties under the orders of the President.

Art. IX.—Neither the President, ordinary or special members of the Council, or the manager shall receive any salary. Provided that members who hold no other office from which they derive salaries, may receive an allowance of not more than 500 *yen* per annum each.

Art. X.—There shall be clerks in the Public Works Council; they shall report the proceedings of the meetings, and discharge miscellaneous duties under the orders of the President and the Manager.

The clerks shall be appointed from among *em-ployés* in the Department of Home Affairs.

PARCELS POST.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby sanction the laws relating to the postage, insurance, indemnity, size, weight, and registration of parcels to be sent by post, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(Imperial Sign Manual.)

(Great Seal.)

(Dated) 27th day of the 6th month of 25th year of *Meiji*.

(Countersigned)

COUNT MATSUGATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister President of State.

COUNT GOTO SHOJIRO,

Minister of State for Communications.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 57.

Art. I.—Fees for postal parcels will be determined by weight and by the distance between the office from whence they are despatched and that which delivers them to the addressees, in accordance with the appended table.

Art. II.—Any parcel delivered outside a postal district will be charged an additional fee, according to its weight, as follows:—

600 <i>momme</i> and under	2 <i>sen</i> .
Over 600 <i>momme</i> , and not more than 1 <i>kan</i>	4 <i>sen</i> .
Over 1 <i>kan</i> and not more than 1 <i>kan</i> 500 <i>momme</i>	6 <i>sen</i> .

Art. III.—No parcel must exceed the following dimensions:—length, 2 feet, breadth, 2 feet, diameter, 2 feet; and must not exceed 1 *kan* 500 *momme* in weight (12½ lbs.).

Art. IV.—The value of any registered parcel must not exceed 150 *yen*.

Art. V.—The premium for the insurance of registered parcels will be 7 *sen* for one *yen* declared value, and 1 *sen* for every *yen* additional, over and above that value.

Art. VI.—The amount paid as indemnity for damage to an ordinary parcel will be 10 *sen* per 100 *momme* of weight. If only a portion is damaged the indemnity will be estimated accordingly.

Art. VII.—The amount paid as indemnity for damage to a registered parcel will be the full registered value. If only a portion is damaged the indemnity will be estimated accordingly.

ADDITIONAL RULES.

Art. VIII.—Post offices which despatch or deliver parcels will be notified by the Minister of State for Communications, from time to time, of any alterations in the rules of management, fees, etc.

TABLE OF RATES.

	200	400	600	800	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200	3400	3600	3800	4000	4200	4400	4600	4800	5000	5200	5400	5600	5800	6000	6200	6400	6600	6800	7000	7200	7400	7600	7800	8000	8200	8400	8600	8800	9000	9200	9400	9600	9800	10000																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE OSAKA COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I venture to enclose the programme of an entertainment that reflects great credit upon the ability of the students of the Osaka Commercial School, where the *Mail* is daily read, marked, learned and inwardly digested. Unfortunately, I arrived too late to hear the first part of the programme, but I have been informed that in No. 12 on the programme a widow in her "weeds" was represented, and I have no doubt that her distress and the imperial bounty were faithfully portrayed.

Brutus was speaking when my friend and I arrived; we followed the citizens who carried Caesar's bier. Caesar's vesture was wounded to a considerable extent, and when we marked the quantity of red ink that did duty for gore we were sure that he died game. The speech of Anthony II. was remarkably good. He stirred up the citizens to mutiny and rage. In Part II., No. 5, both Alexander and the Robber entered fully into the spirit of their parts. The dramatic effect was increased by the guards in uniform with fixed bayonets, who dragged in the robber clothed only in a *robe de nuit* with a straw rope for an *obi*. Alexander was gorgeous in buttons, gold lace covering his breast, and a crown resplendent with pendants of prizes won in athletic contests. In Part II., No. 9, the father of a family of boys, after struggling under a moustache and wrestling with a huge cigar, bestowed his diamond ring upon the noblest son who had saved his "dearest foe" from the bank of a frightful abyss. No. 13 was a Japanese farce acted in costume and character to the life, but in the English language.

I have attended many meetings of English Clubs where foreigners read, recited, and sang, and students sat and listened, looking very solemn meanwhile, and pretending to understand; but this one was thoroughly Japanese in origin, training, and management, and reflects great credit upon the students and their teachers, especially the Principal Mr. Naruse and Mr. Takashima.

The students of Tokyo should look to their laurels, or they may find that they have been left behind in the race for oratorical success and ability by the merchants' sons of Osaka. Let Rome beware of Venice, Athens of Corinth.

Yours truly,

Osaka, June 25th, 1892.

KAMIWA.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.	PART II.
1. Music	2. True Eloquence
3. Address	3. They both agreed
4. The Chinese	4. Denunciation of Slavery
5. How I got his	5. The Two Robbers
6. Price	6. Alexander the Great
7. The Miller, His Son, and	7. Music
8. Their Ass	8. The Five Shilling Piece
9. Knowledge is Power	9. The Noblest Deed of All
10. Fifty Ryo Stolen from a	10. The Soldier's Reprieve
11. Pickle Jar	11. On the Pleasure of Reading
12. The Price of Pleasure	12. Music
13. Mr. M. Shibata, Mr. Z.	13. Yajirobei and Kidachachi
14. Hira, and Mr. Maki.	14. Yajirobei
15. Napoleon and Wellington	15. Kidachachi
16. The World of Speculation	16. Sakenoichi
17. Mr. Hanaka.	17. Mikinoichi
18. An Emperor's Kindness	18. The Master of the
19. Mr. E. Iwanoto, Mr. Y.	19. Tea House
20. Murata, and Mr. H.	20. Farewell Address
21. Tsukaguchi.	21. Mr. J. Kiyonaga.
22. Music	
23. Self-ignorance	
24. Mr. T. Korenori.	
25. Our Country (By W. J. Par-	
26. bodie), Mr. S. Nishimura.	
27. How to tell the News	
28. Mr. K. Katayama and	
29. Mr. K. Vamazaki.	
30. Higher!	
31. Mr. O. Shirai.	
32. Bural of Caesar	
33. Tronius	
34. Mr. S. Kujirao.	
35. Antony	
36. Mr. K. Seku and	
37. Mr. K. Shindo.	
38. Music	

DISCHARGED SEAMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Ever since the United States Consular Agency was withdrawn from this port, the American whaling ships have considered Hakodate a free dumping ground for their useless men. It seems that during the passage from San Francisco the Captain finds out how many useless men he has on board, and during the few days he lies here manages to rid his ship of them. Not a year goes by but American sailors are left behind at this port, with the consequence that the few foreign residents have to subscribe to get

them away to Yokohama, where they are more likely to find employment. The Japanese Authorities telegraph to the United States Consul at Yokohama, but the answer is always the same, "The United States Consul can do nothing for them!" Lately the *W. H. Meyer* left four men here, but before she sailed the Captain shipped four good Japanese sailors in their place. Now, if the Captain can do this, I think the Japanese Authorities ought to have seen that the Captain left some means with the men, or local Authorities, to enable them to get to another port. I consider the way men are left here from American whalers is blot a on the escutcheon of the great and glorious country called America.

Yours truly,

Hakodate, 21st June.

OLD SAILOR.

SEAMEN LEFT AT HAKODATE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I noticed, in reading your paper of last Monday, the correspondence signed by "Old Sailor" in regard to seamen left at Hakodate by the whaling ship *W. H. Meyer*. Your correspondent is evidently misinformed as to this particular case, the true facts of which are as follow:—The seamen were not left by the captain as stated, but left the ship of their own accord. The ship lay there seven days while the captain tried to catch the men. The reasons for our leaving were, bad officers and food. The men were told by the captain that they were the best men he had, being what are called deep-water sailors, while the others were greenhands who had never been to sea before. Trusting that your will publish this,

I remain,

ONE OF THEM.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1892.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 27th, an "Old Sailor" does the Captain of the *W. H. Meyer* a great injustice. The four men left behind here were deserters from the vessel. The master did all possible to get them back. After waiting two days for the Police to bring in the men, without result, the Master had to ship other men at great expense and inconvenience.

Yours truly,

HENSON & CO.

Hakodate, June 29th, 1892.

"CHINA COAST TALES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Some time ago, the lady who veils her identity under the name of "Lise Boelm" published two stories in the *North China Herald*. The first was called "Fortuna"; the second, "Peter Wong's Revenge." These are not included in her *China Coast Tales*, which only contains two new stories entitled respectively "Dobson's Daughters," and "Of the Noble Army." Neither, I believe, has appeared previously. I do not know whether they, also, were offered to your contemporary for publication in its columns; but if they were, can only congratulate the editor upon the good sense and good taste which prompted his rejection of them. "Dobson's Daughter" deals with the seamy side of bachelor life in the East. The plot is simplicity itself. Matthew Dobson, a tea-merchant in Foochow, suddenly starts the ladies resident at that port by bringing into their midst a young girl, whom he introduces as his daughter, and who has hitherto been brought up in England under the impression that her mother was a Princess (!) The girl is of course an Eurasian, and the circumstances of her parentage are discussed by the ladies of Foochow with a candour that leaves nothing whatever to the imagination. In course of time she makes two discoveries: one, that her mother was not a Princess, and the other that she did not die in Sacha's infancy as the girl had been taught to believe—having been, in fact, bundled out of Dobson's house just before the arrival of her daughter. It is not necessary to follow out the plot of this remarkable story. Suffice it to say that the heroine is a mass of laziness and selfishness, the Foochow ladies are a pack of vulgar shrews—in one scene a hostess boxes one of her guests' ears in the drawing-room after dinner—and "Lise Boelm" herself is a person of strangely questionable taste. It is difficult to conceive what attraction such a topic as concubinage can have for a lady of education and refinement. "Of the Noble Army," is a caricature of missionaries. Yungkiang is of course Ningpo, which stands upon the river Yung, and Dr. Masters, who is living with his sixth wife, is intended for the late Dr. Loid. I do not deny that there may be mis-

sionaries in China and elsewhere who are ignorant, dishonest, self-seeking, worldly, and insincere. A more detestable set of persons than Miss Evans, Mrs. Simpson, and Mrs. Masters, it would be difficult to find anywhere. Does "Lise Boehm" put them forward as types of the missionary body—say in Ningpo? Does she wish us to understand that it is persons of this sort in whose hands the evangelization of China lies, and lies exclusively? Because, if so, I tell her in plain terms that what she affirms is false. "No attempt," she says, "has been made to caricature individuals, but rather to portray types of ordinary occurrence." These, then, constitute the rule. The "ordinary" missionary lady is an idle, greedy woman, spiteful, narrow, and, of course, unpardonably ugly. Well, I do not believe it; and I protest against the prejudices which can induce a writer, endowed with something, at any rate, of the penman's craft, to put forward so grave and ill-natured a misrepresentation. Nor is this the only fault I have to find. In this story again, we are confronted with the author's *penchant* for things not of good report. Again the ladies talk among themselves about matters they had better leave alone. In this case, the immorality of the Commissioner of Customs is seasoned by the additional fact that he has "a charming wife and growing up family at home,"—a state of things which so shocks the medical-missionary's wife that she writes to the injured lady and tells her all about it. This sort of thing imports a decided unsavouriness to the whole story. And there is an incident on page 74 which is more offensive still. I can only hope that when next "Lise Boehm" appears in print she will exercise greater discrimination in her choice of subjects, and show rather more delicacy in handling them.

Your obedient servant,

P. Q.

FILIAL PIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—One of the darkest clouds on the horizon at the present moment, in looking out over the wider problems with which this country has inevitably to deal, beyond the singing barriers of petty interests and party divisions, is the terrible misconception that has won a foremost place in men's minds, concerning that first great duty of man and woman alike, filial piety.

Some there are who assert that Old Japan could boast her saints and heroes, beyond all others in this matter, and that, with the loosening of old ties and the destroying of time honoured customs, this filial piety, which in very truth is the main-spring of wholesome, happy national life, must inevitably be swamped and lost; and that in consequence every new principle, or new doctrine, is to be feared for this reason, mainly as an instrument in such destruction, and proportionately detested.

Such thinkers assert, that the spread of the Christian Religion must affect the same unfortunate result, and must on that ground alone be treated as an enemy to the best advance of the nation.

Some, unfortunately for Japan, foreign observers, utterly ignorant of the true state of affairs, are content to flatter the vanity and the lower susceptibilities of the people by fulsome admiration of what they have imagined for themselves and set up as the standards of the country, utterly careless that the poor lying counterfeit they admire is a hideous idol, daily devouring the souls and bodies of its miserable victims and hopelessly barring the way to any progress.

Are there none able to follow a deeper reasoning, and strong and brave enough to put their fingers on the very "heart and pulse" of the disorder?

Where are the "brave hearts and true" who have so far opened the wider realms of thought and life to their country?

Is Japan to stand proudly in the foremost rank in Science, in Arts, in Learning, and so soon as the very commonest question of morality is concerned to sink below the possible esteem of any civilized nation without one voice raised to assert a better way? without one leader to guide or support her struggling children? Let us for a moment consider the grounds of this matter. Is it in truth "obedience" to an honoured law which is typified in old Japanese Custom? Is the bearing of children to parents and teachers, resulting from the usual methods of Japanese education, all that men could desire, all that bears good promise for the future citizens and leaders of their country? Filial piety has presented many and various results in different countries and in different ages. Foreign histories show us at one time the child willingly devoured by the fox without a cry of pain, the willing maiden led by her sorrowing father to the sacrificial altar—the child, compelled by the very highest law and principle of its being to an obedience entailing sorrow and sacrifice even on

those to whom a lesser, yet equally sacred obedience, was rightly due.

It is impossible to do more at this moment than call to mind some few such typical acts. I would chiefly ask the Japanese to consider whether in every such of the countless instances one might cite, there is not involved an ennobling, a purifying of those who offer and fulfil such sacrifices. It is the giving up of a lower will to follow the dictates of a higher will: it is the conforming of an imperfect, faulty, earthly character to the perfect selflessness of the spiritual character: in the last instance quoted it is the setting forth of the higher duties and pains involved in any real appreciation of perfect obedience.

I need not dwell at length on the many instances in Japanese legends and histories of filial devotion. They are familiar to all earnest lovers of their country. I ask only that they should be considered in reference to that spiritual character of sacrifice which I have endeavoured to point out. Let the Japanese turn their attention mainly to the problems of to-day: in the firm belief that it is only by wise, farseeing conduct in regard to such problems that their perplexed country may ever attain that honour and respect among men and nations that we all desire for her.

This duty of obedience thus necessarily involves a higher standard in those who carry out its precepts: and is to be a main factor in the growth of the people.

For the sake of a clearer understanding let me examine such instances as above quoted, the obedience of the child, of the maiden, the act of obedience to the highest law: the noblest of which man's nature is capable.

1.—*The child.* It is evident to anyone who can claim to be a thinker, in any sense of the word, that obedience must be voluntary, that it must be the obedience of a reasonable being: and that it should achieve some desirable self-conquest. Can anyone glance at the present state of education in Japan and say that this is the habit and mind of faith?

On all sides it is the child that asserts its miserable self-will, and asserts it triumphantly in spite of parents or master. The babe directs the goings of its poor, burden-bearing elder—the child follows uncontrolled each leading of its natural cravings, the boy governs the school, so far as there is any government at all, and the man starts in life with respect for no authority because he has never learnt to respect himself. This is no result of Christian training: this is no result of wise and wholesome law.

2.—*The Maiden.* Alas and alas, for the women of the country are entering the bitter waters of affliction. While smooth-speaking poets, forgetting the eminent privilege of the poet to be the speaker and foreteller of truth, and so the saviour of his times, laud the perfection they ignorantly admire, we, who know, who sorrow for this country's worst degradation, are yet powerless to rouse the spirit of the people to see and perceive and to cast away such bitter masquerades and amend their ways.

Instead of the father-offering all that is dearest and nearest, his utter best, his highest treasure in sign of sorrow for misdeeds, and of humble recognition of a nobler will; instead of a maiden, holy, pure, freely foregoing life and all that life could offer, in loving desire to carry out the best impulse of her father's heart, constraining not only herself but him to such high ideal, what do we find? It is shame and sorrow even to look this matter in the face.

"The perfect woman-wife" of Japan must be a something to which the very knowledge or perception of purity or honour is unknown: a chattel, a mere bit of goods in her owner's hands, she is passed from father to so-called husband, or from one to another without her own will; without her own cognisance, she is called upon to sacrifice, at the bidding of another, her very crown and privilege of womanhood; she is to make herself that which for ever blots out all prospect of true womanliness; which debases those who demand and those who allow; and by that act she is to win the honour due to filial piety? *Filial*—what sense of father-hood or son hood or daughter-hood exists in such a nation? Has that maiden ever known the meaning of the word "mother"? Is she ever to know of it in her own life? I ask every honest Japanese to refute me if he can. I ask every one of that noble-hearted minority which has realised a happier standard, whether that result was not found by breaking, and only by breaking, with Japanese custom and tradition.

3.—*The obedience to a Superior and Divine Will.* Sooner or later Japan must recognize that it is only the obedience of a self-respecting and self-responsible nature to the dictates of its highest spiritual indwelling conscience, as the Christian

has it, to the promptings of the spirit of God Himself, which is worthy of the name; which can restrain the wild passions of humanity and breathe a solemn self-restraint over the tumultuous storms and ragings of man's lower nature. In her power of such recognition and acceptance lies the only hope for any permanent development, or indeed of any national existence.

With such recognition, already found here and there in the case of individuals, comes the first possibility of the creation of family and national life. What then is that highest obedience? Obedience to the constraining and compelling of the spirit over the body—of will over desire—of self-forgetfulness over self-love, of the Man over the evil in man. In conclusion, I have only to lay before all such as love their country, this problem: What power can so restrain and master your own lower nature, what power can transform hate into love, impurity to purity, dishonour to honour, that which walks in the paths of deceit to that which can perceive and live the truth, but that same power of the despised Nazarene, which has once in time shone forth in splendour, that shall outlast all ages, in perfect obedience of perfect manhood on the outstretched arms of the cross.

Your obedient servant,
June 29th, 1892.

X.

CRICKET.

THE CLUB V. THE FLEET.

This match, twelve aside, was played on Saturday, and was remarkable in the first innings on both sides for the smallness of the scores—Club 41, Fleet 48. The Club, however, woke up in the second innings, and at the fall of the sixth wicket, with 94 chalked up, elected to close the innings and give the visitors another show. There was no time, however, to get in all the men of the Fleet, but they, like their opponents, did much better in their second innings, having scored 54 for the loss of three wickets, Taylor 20 not out, De Ro-beck 11 not out. Following are the scores:—

CLUB—FIRST INNINGS.		FLEET—FIRST INNINGS.	
Mr. Dodds, b. Iliewicz.....	0	Mr. De Ro-beck, b. Burn.....	2
Mr. Williams, b. Taylor.....	0	Mr. Waters, b. Burn.....	7
Mr. Johnson, b. Taylor.....	3	Mr. Raphael, c. Watson, b. Burn.....	14
Mr. Crawford, b. Taylor.....	10	Mr. Phillips, c. Crawford, b. Williams.....	4
Mr. Duff, c. Raphael, b. Iliewicz.....	4	Mr. Iliewicz, b. Burn.....	0
Mr. Bremner, b. Iliewicz.....	12	Mr. Taylor, c. Bremner, b. Burn.....	0
Mr. Watson, b. Iliewicz.....	5	Mr. Burns, not out.....	5
Mr. E. Morris, c. De Ro-beck, b. Iliewicz.....	7	Mr. Thursby, b. Watson.....	10
Mr. Dickenson, c. Phillips, b. Raphael, b. Iliewicz.....	0	Mr. Phillips, b. Burn.....	0
Mr. Burn, not out.....	0	Mr. Lane, c. Chope, b. Watson.....	3
Mr. Hope, run out.....	0	Mr. Aday, c. Duff, b. Watson.....	6
Mr. Philip, c. De Ro-beck, b. Iliewicz.....	1	Mr. Rogers, run out.....	2
b. 2.....	1	Mr. Walker, not out.....	0
	41		48
SECOND INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. Burn, c. Taylor, b. Iliewicz.....	74	Mr. Walker, c. Bremner, b. Burn.....	0
Mr. Bremner, c. and b. De Ro-beck.....	8	Mr. Raphael, c. Morris, b. Burn.....	5
Mr. Williams, b. Raphael.....	38	Mr. Taylor, not out.....	10
Mr. Johnson, b. Iliewicz.....	3	Mr. Iliewicz, b. Duff.....	15
Mr. Watson, c. Aday, b. Iliewicz.....	5	Mr. De Ro-beck, not out.....	12
Mr. Crawford, did not bat.....	—		
Mr. E. Morris, not out.....	12		
Mr. Duff, c. Thursby, b. Iliewicz.....	23		
Mr. Dickenson.....	—		
Mr. Dodds.....	—		
Mr. Chope.....	—		
Mr. Philip.....	—		
b. 2, w. 2.....	94	b. 2, w. 1.....	3
			54

The report just issued by Sir Frederick Abel and Mr. Redwood on the passage of petroleum through the Suez Canal sounds a timely note of warning. It is the opinion of these experts that the traffic as now carried on does not constitute a serious danger to other shipping in the Canal. Nor could the embankments fail to suffer considerably if one of the great tank steamers blew up. The shareholders are interested, therefore, in introducing such reforms as will place matters in a safer condition. It is admitted by the report that this can be done, partly by remodelling the construction of tank steamers but still more by subjecting them to stringent regulations during their passage through the canal. Another safeguard would be to so mark every vessel freighted with petroleum in bulk as to denote the dangerous nature of her cargo. This precaution would warn other ships to give the marked craft as side a berth as possible, thus diminishing to some extent the risk of collision. If a tank steamer were run into during the hot season, oil would speedily cover all the adjacent water, and being at high temperature, its ignition would be almost certain. A good deal is to be said, therefore, for the recommendation of the two experts, that the floating magazines should be protected after dark by strong booms—*L. and C. Express.*

CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

The adjourned annual meeting of shareholders of the Club Hotel, Limited, was held at No. 5, Bund, on Monday evening. There were present—Mr. D. FRASER, in the chair, Messrs. W. F. Richards, T. J. Morris, A. Allcock, T. Abbey, J. W. Hall, Geo. Blakeway, de Micheaux, J. McDonald, Ph. von Hemert, R. A. Wylie, W. R. Bennett, S. Cocking, T. W. Best, R. Ward, H. M. Arnold, C. V. Arnould, Wilson Walker, A. Hearne (Manager), T. H. Brower, and H. A. Schreuten (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN announced that the meeting was called for the election of directors and auditor, business that had been adjourned from the annual general meeting of shareholders held last week.

Mr. C. V. ARNOULD said that he would propose that four directors be elected, bringing up the number on the directorate to seven. He would nominate for the office, Messrs. D. Fraser, H. M. Arnold, T. H. Brower, and J. Johnstone.

Mr. BROWER—Mr. Johnstone declines to serve. Mr. ARNOULD—Then I propose in his stead Mr. Bennett.

Mr. BENNETT—No, no.

Mr. ARNOULD—I propose, in the place of Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Bennett.—(Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid that it is not law ful for this meeting to elect four directors; it is called for the purpose of transacting the business left over from the preceding meeting—that is for electing three directors and an auditor. To elect four directors would require a special resolution, so I think your motion is not permissible.

Mr. ARNOULD—But we are called to elect directors, not one, or two, or three.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, I should like to hear what the meeting has to say on the matter.

Mr. ARNOULD quoted Rule No. 69 in support of his motion.

Mr. COCKING said that he thought that there could be no other way of interpreting their laws, otherwise than had the Chairman's ruling, and in support thereof quoted Clause 52, which said that the general meeting was called to pass the balance sheet, the election of directors, who retired by rotation or resigned, and, according to Clause 59, any other business which might be brought before them. He argued that the meeting had been adjourned for the purpose of selecting three suitable directors, and that it was not in order to elect more, nor raise the directorate to seven in place of six.

Mr. ARNOULD—I am still at issue, there are no directions as to how many directors we are to elect.

Mr. COCKING—We are to elect directors in the place of those who retire by rotation.

Mr. C. V. ARNOULD—In Rule 52 you will find that we have power to increase the number of directors from time to time.

Mr. ALLCOCK—Are we to understand, Mr. Cocking, that you object to the directorate being increased?

Mr. COCKING—Oh, no, I have no objection to that, but I say that it might be done in a proper manner. In order to increase the directorate it is necessary to call an extraordinary meeting.

Several shareholders dissented to this definition, but Mr. Cocking said he was certain a seven days' notice of such a motion as Mr. Arnould's must be given.

Mr. ARNOULD—Well, we had better have legal opinion.

Mr. COCKING said that his objection would be supported by the Hongkong ordinances.

Mr. ARNOULD—But this is not new business.

Mr. COCKING—It must be, we are only here to elect three directors.

Several voices—"No; directors."

The CHAIRMAN read the notice calling the meeting, adding that there was nothing about retiring directors in it.

Mr. BROWER—The question is whether we shall increase the number of directors or not.

The CHAIRMAN—It seems to me that there is no number of directors specified in this notice of meeting, therefore I think it is quite legal to elect any number of them.—(Hear, hear.) I rule that the motion is in order. I think the best plan would be for us to proceed by voting for the election of directors singly, and I hope that the meeting will specially be good enough to leave my name out till the very last.

Mr. COCKING—I beg leave to propose Mr. R. Ward.

Mr. J. W. HALL—I will second him.

Mr. BROWER—In place of whom?

Mr. COCKING—In place of nobody.—(Laughter.)

Mr. WYLIE seconded Mr. Arnould's motion.

Mr. BXT asked whether Mr. Arnould would prefer to put up his names one by one?

Mr. ARNOULD—I propose them *en bloc*.

Mr. SCHREUTEN—They are Mr. D. Fraser, Mr.

T. H. Brower, Mr. W. Walker, and Mr. H. M. Arnould.

Mr. COCKING—Then I propose Messrs. Fraser, Brower, Walker, and Ward.

Mr. C. V. ARNOULD—Will the Chairman (Mr. Fraser) serve?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. ARNOULD—Then I withdraw my brother's name.

The CHAIRMAN—Then if there is no other proposition before the meeting, I will put Mr. Cocking's motion to the meeting.—Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is the election of an auditor, Mr. O. Keil declines to serve us longer.

Mr. COCKING—I propose Mr. Ure for the position.

Mr. C. V. ARNOULD—Before proceeding with the business of electing an auditor, I should like to hear Mr. O. Keil's reasons for declining to serve again.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Keil is not present.

Mr. BROWER—Do any of the Directors know Mr. O. Keil's reasons for declining to serve again?

The CHAIRMAN—No, I don't know his objections. But I believe he objected to the way in which the accounts were kept, they were not kept according to his ideas, and, as he did not have his way about them, he preferred not to audit them.

Mr. BROWER—Can any pressure be put upon Mr. Keil, in order to induce him to take the position again?

The CHAIRMAN—He told me positively that he would not serve again.

Mr. BEST—I would second Mr. Ure.

Mr. BROWER—Well, under these circumstances, that is on the condition that Mr. O. Keil has definitely refused to act as auditor of our accounts, I will second Mr. Ure.

Mr. SCHREUTEN—Mr. Best proposes and Mr. Brower seconds the appointment of the Mr. Ure as our auditor.—Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—This concludes the business, gentlemen.

Mr. ALLCOCK—I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman of the late board of directors of the Club Hotel, Limited, and I hope next year the new board will have a better report for us than has been presented this year.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. McDONALD—I beg leave to second.—Carried unanimously.

ELI PERKINS ON AMERICA AND JAPAN.

Eli Perkins, who has been travelling through Japan during the past few weeks, visiting Kobe, Kyoto, and Osaka on his way to and from Shanghai, is now resting for a few days in the Grand Hotel, Yokohama. Our representative called upon him on Friday, and, much to his regret, found the genial humorist stretched on his back, suffering acute agony from a malady akin to muscular rheumatism. This did not prevent him from extending a welcoming hand, however, to a fellow journalist, and, with a cheery smile, he bade us feel at home and turn on the torrent of queries which pressmen are popularly supposed to keep in readiness to spray over any unlucky individual who may fall within their particular sphere of motion. The usual stereotyped phrases were quickly exchanged, and Eli and his guest readily plunged into the midst of real business *katoba*. As a late comer from the land of the Stars and Stripes, and the question of the Presidential nomination being of course uppermost in the minds of the local community, it was only natural that conversation should soon be running strongly along that channel. When Eli Perkins was asked about the recent nomination of President Harrison over Mr. Blaine he said:—

"It was the culmination of a great fight. The Republican Party had two heads. The rightful head was the President in the White House; but Mr. Blaine, like the late Shogun, had built up a constituency seemingly stronger than the Mikado's. Blaine's power depended upon public popularity. He had no personal following. He was not in touch with any of the leaders. They all worshipped him from afar, but Blaine took no man into his confidence. Even Clarkson and Senator Platt were not in Blaine's confidence. Blaine was uncertain. When Clarkson went to Washington to see him, Blaine dodged, and went to New York and spent a day with the Damrosch baby. This, when the leaders of his party were waiting for him. Blaine actually tired out his friends. Everybody knows that Harrison is a positive man. He never avoids any issue. He never conceals a thought. His friends always know where to find him. When Blaine resigned his Secretaryship, it meant open war, but his friends were not positive. They were not organized. Their ardour was damped. In

fact Blaine wet the powder of his own men. They made no organized fight, and Harrison went in with a rush."

"And what of Blaine's future?"

Well, Blaine, great as he was, is dead. He has gone like Clay and Scott and Greeley. He has no political future. He will retire to Augusta. He had it is his power twice, by a positive commitment, to be President. He hesitated both times and is lost."

"How about his policy of reciprocity?"

"It will go right on. Harrison was always behind reciprocity. That is, he believes in free trade with young Republics where wages are high. But he does not believe in free trade with China, where labour is 5 cents per day. Not with England, France, and Germany where wages are half as high as in America. Carpenters, blacksmiths, cabinet makers, potters, and painters get three dollars a day in America. It would not do to have free trade with Japan and China where such labourers work for 50 cents a day. It is different with the South American Republics. Their wages are always as high as ours."

But it was when we tackled Eli upon more purely local subjects that he became really interesting—from a resident's point of view of course. It was with no little trepidation that we put the question—How about Japanese silk and tea?—and it is with greater trepidation that we give his oracular reply.

"They will always go to America free. I mean the raw silk. We can never make silk, tea, coffee, or rubber. So they will always come free. Our tariff is on things which we can make ourselves, and against any nation where wages are lower than ours. We will always buy twice as much of Japan as we sell her. What can we sell Japan? Possibly a little cotton, some flour, and some cheap cotton cloth. Japan will always supply us with her silks, teas, bronzes, and porcelain."

"What of China?" was naturally a corollary question.

"I have just come from China. She is going backward. Japan is coming forward. There are only two cotton factories in all China, and they do not pay. Japan is putting in thousands of looms and spindles. She has railroads, a superb postal service, and perfect light houses. Japan has put woman on an equality with man, she has licensed Christianity, established colleges and seminaries and adopted a cosmopolitan dress."

"And the people of Japan—how do you find them?"—was the next despairing query.

"Always happy. Always temperate. Always thrifty. The reformation commenced at the head with the Emperor, when, with his wife by his side, he rode into Tokyo in an English brougham. I notice some women still blacken their teeth, and some tattoo their arms and grease their hair, but it is among the lower orders. What Japan wants is a better foot-gear. These flip-flop sandals should go. They handicap progress. No soldier could fight in such foot gear. You are a nation in stocking feet. Put on good boots or shoes. A pair of good boots makes a man brave and valiant. With these flip-flop sandals you can neither fight nor run."

As we said good-bye we sorrowfully thought of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, more particularly of his famous remark—"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." Even "cute American humorists, when they come to spy out the fair land of Japan, do sometimes rush in where angels fear to tread and make a "mess" of it generally.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

An outdoor meeting of the above mentioned Society was held at Meguro, near Tokyo, on Saturday, June 26th. The weather was very fine and the attendance was good. Meguro is well suited for the place of meeting of a society such as the Photographic Society and, as a consequence, some members appeared on the scene quite early in the morning, and some remained till late in the evening.

The rendezvous for lunch was Uchidaya, a tea-house with a fine garden and good rooms, which is near the celebrated temple.

The number of small cameras, hand and otherwise, was greater than at any other meeting, and many members appeared armed with their small instruments, who had not taken part in outdoor meetings before. This is highly encouraging. There was a want expressed by many of those present for a convenient portable dark tent in which plates might be changed. It is to be hoped that some of the skilful photographic apparatus makers now in this country will see that this want is not felt for long. On the whole the meeting was a great success.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

THE LOSS OF THE "IZUMO MARU."—PENDING.

Some weeks ago, the Marine Inquiry Office held an examination into the circumstances connected with the loss of the *Isumo Maru*, commanded by Captain Minamide, which was wrecked off the coast of Korea on the 5th April last. The following judgment has just been delivered:—

[TRANSLATION.]

The present case refers to the loss of the *Isumo Maru*, iron screw steamer, of 446.47 registered tonnage, and of 73 horse-power, the property of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which was wrecked near Shonan Island, on the south coast of Korea, on the 5th April, 1892, while Minamide Oshi, *shiooku* of Wakayama Prefecture, was in command. The facts elicited at the inquiry were as follows:—The *Isumo Maru* left Chemulpo at 2 p.m. on the 3rd April for Fusan. About 4 a.m. on the following day the sky suddenly became overcast, and a strong south wind began to blow, causing the ship to roll heavily. Towards evening the wind veered to the west, while its force lessened, but the sky continued overcast and the sea became enveloped in a thick mist, blotting everything out of sight. At 9.15 p.m. between Sylvia Islands and Pinnacle Rock the position of the ship was adjusted, and the course was changed to south, steering towards Race Point. After that, regardless of current or wind, the Captain calculated that with the steam pressure under which the ship was then being propelled, the vessel would reach Race Point about 1 a.m. on the 5th April. Previous to that hour, however, Race Point should have been observable on the port bow. About 12.30 a.m. the Captain suddenly noticed some broken white waves immediately in front of his vessel. He at once ordered the man at the wheel to put it hard a-port, and the engineers to reverse engines at full speed. But these tactics were of no avail, and the ship's bows ran aground. Thereupon the engines were stopped and the depth of the surrounding sea was sounded. Eight feet of water were found at the bow, but the lead did not touch bottom aft. In the engine-room, as well as aft, there was no leakage of water, but at the bows it quickly reached two feet in depth. The Captain imagined that the rock on which the ship rested was some hidden obstruction off Race Point. As the bows were still jammed on the rock he believed the vessel would not sink at once, though it would eventually, and he consequently ordered out the life-boats and distributed life belts. At this time the ship was rolling so much that the sailors could obey orders only with difficulty and the lowering of the life-boats was delayed. One, on the port side, was lowered, but it was partially damaged and quickly filled with water, and the passengers were unwilling to enter it. While other boats were lowering the bows suddenly slid off the rock, and the steamer began to founder. Soon afterwards she disappeared beneath the waves. It was then about 12.40 a.m. The damaged life boat was still floating in the neighbourhood of the wreck and three sailors swam to it. Ishizaki Iwazo, one of the passengers, the Captain, as well as seven others were swimming or floating near it, and they were rescued by the men who had scrambled into the life-boat first. The other 28 passengers and 26 officers and sailors were lost. Upon this evidence, the Court makes the following finding:—The Captain implicitly believed that he could reach Race Point at 1 a.m. on the 5th April, by steam power alone against the stormy winds and rough waters, in a thick mist and darkness. He therefore did not take any notice of the direction of the current and wind; and thus the ship went aground and sank. This indicates gross mismanagement on the part of the Captain in the discharge of his duty. After the ship was aground, though he gave every necessary order to rescue the lives of those in his charge, the rolling of the ship was so great, and the bows left the rock so suddenly that there were no means of rescue. In accordance with the 22nd clause of the 10th Article of Regulations relating to Certificates for Captains, Mates, and Engineers on board Steamships, the certificate possessed by Minamide Oshi is suspended for 2 years from this day.

(Signed) ITO ISABURO, Chief-examiner.
YOKOI TOKIYASU, } Assistants.
IWASAKI KANICHI, }

(Dated) 29th June, 1892.

The above judgment is approved, and is to be enforced immediately.

(Signed) Count GOTO SHUJIRO,
Minister of State for Communication.

(Dated) 29th June, 1892.

CHRIST CHURCH BAZAAR.

The most fashionable local event of the present summer—Christ Church Bazaar—passed off with great éclat on Wednesday, when for the nonce, the plain, square, and ugly interior of the Public Hall, was converted into a veritable land of enchantment, wherein angels, who are popularly supposed to be destitute of even the smallest tokens of the current coin of the realm or even cash balance at any Bank, might have ventured with impunity, but which men, with the least notions of economy, greatly feared to tread. Great expectations had been formed of this bazaar, and of course, as ladies were the controlling and directing genius of the affair, they were exceeded on every hand. The half dozen well loaded stalls were almost hidden by the wealth of foliage, flowers, and drapery which were lavishly employed in their adornment, and so supplemented the charms of the goods on sale and enhanced the varied attractions of the fair bevy of youthful assistants which every matron had called to her aid. It would have been difficult under ordinary circumstances to have resisted the subtle fascination which each daintily frocked saleswoman had so readily at command for the financial undoing of customers, but amid this picturesque and becoming setting their powers of extracting dollars from reluctant possessors—and even chits, for the omniscient chitbook was of course present—were multiplied, and nobody long entertained the idea of resisting their entreaties to buy—business was consequently brisk, buyers content and stall holders glad.

The Flower-stall occupied the position of honour in the centre of the hall, and a very lovely collection of floral gems were exhibited under its spacious canopy, ferns and foliage plants also bulking largely among them. This was in charge of Mrs. F. S. James, assisted by Mrs. Bremner, Mrs. Kewick, Mrs. W. B. Waller, Miss E. Burdett Leach, Miss Palmer, Miss K. Palmer, Miss Parkes, and Mrs. G. E. Buchanan Dunlop. In the corners of the room, upon entering from the vestibule, were a Lucky-well and a Gipsy tent. The first mentioned was managed by Mrs. J. Ramsay Parsons and Mrs. Tripler, who had for assistants Miss E. Burdett Leach and Miss Laura Smith. This was a very popular institution and was patronised by nearly everybody, who, one and all, seemed to derive unlimited satisfaction from their drawings. Miss von Hement was the presiding oracle of fate in the Gipsy's tent, and she received clever assistance from Mrs. Frank Gillett and Madame Lafaye de Mischeaux, who appeared adepts in the mystic arts of astrology. At opposite corners of the building were the Children's Refreshment stall and a Fancy stall. The little one's wants were attended to by Mrs. J. A. Fraser, assisted by Mrs. R. Home Cook, Mrs. Dudley, Mrs. A. C. Read, Mrs. Steele, and Mrs. Till. The Fancy stall was in charge of Mrs. Rickett, whose labours were lightened by Mrs. Herbert Fearon, Mrs. J. Cole Hartland, Miss Laura Varum, Miss Rickett, Miss Alice Rickett, and Miss Wheeler. A nicely arranged stall was that which Mrs. Irwine directed. It was devoted to the work executed by the ladies of the congregation. The rector's popular wife was assisted by Mrs. Holyoake Box, Mrs. Brearley, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. W. F. Mitchell, Mrs. St. John, Miss Bourne, Miss Violet Brent, Miss Hattie Hitchcock, Miss Rice, and Miss Laura Smith. At the exactly opposite side of the hall was situated the Toy-stall, which was under the energetic superintendence of Mrs. Moss, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Brinkworth, and Miss Moss. It was dressed in pink and white, harmonising most excellently with Mrs. Rickett's stall, who had draped her's in green and white. These were all the stalls in the hall proper, but the floor had been raised so that the auditorium, platform, and proscenium were all on one level. The space between the front of the stage and the green-room, commonly known as "the wings," was converted into an ante-room, with lounges and settees placed under drooping palms, affording a most cosy retreat for five o'clock tea, or other light refreshment. At the back of this was placed the Refreshment-stall, where wearied and fagged out humanity were regaled with many dainties of a light and palatable order, suited to the heat of the day. This stall was in charge of Mrs. Whittall, whose assistants were Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. Dodds, Miss Eldridge, Miss Fanny Eldridge, Miss Grigor, Miss Nina Smith, and Miss R. Temple Willcox.

There were several extraneous means of obtaining fun without too long an attendance at the stalls, and perhaps the jolliest, from a juvenile and masculine point of view, was the Aunt Sally conducted by the men of H.M.S. *Pallas*. By the kind permission of Admiral the Hon. Sir E. Fremantle, K.C.B., C.M.G., Captain McQuhae, R.N., and officers of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, the Band of the

Fagship was in attendance, and by their capital programme of music added greatly to the enjoyment of the function.

Towards the close of the evening the remnants on the stalls were submitted to public auction by Mr. W. Bourne, and bidding ruled brisk and prices fairly high, while the fun was fast and hilarious. Among the decorations which excited more than general interest was the enormous skeleton crab belonging to Mr. E. J. Moss, and in close proximity to it were the two large sawfish proboscis in the possession of the same gentleman. The takings we understand were extremely satisfactory amounting in the aggregate, after all expenses were met, to a clear profit of \$1,000 which will be devoted to several much needed improvements to the fabric of Christ Church.

IN THE YOKOHAMA CHIHIO SAIBANSHO.

Before Judge Ono and the Assistant Judge.

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA KEN.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

The second hearing of the above case was resumed on the 14th April, in the Yokohama Chihio Saibansho.

Mr. Mitsuhashi, for defendant, and Mr. Okamura, for plaintiff, were the Counsel engaged.

Counsel for Defendant—Before proceeding with the case I wish to correct a misstatement made by plaintiffs, and I also wish to ascertain a fact. Counsel for the plaintiffs stated that in requesting the delivery of kerosene the plaintiffs handed document "C" to the purchaser, in accordance with Art. 11 of Regulations relating to the Storage of Explosives, and the purchaser then presented the said document to the officer at the storehouse. But such is not the case. The provision in Art. 11 is for the delivery of goods to the depositor only, and is therefore not applicable to the purchaser. Such has always been plaintiffs' custom.

The Judge—By document "C" in Art. 11, do you mean the delivery order which the owner of the goods hands to the purchaser?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes, but it is not presented by the purchaser.

The Judge—Then do you mean that when the deposited kerosene is delivered, the original owner alone shall present the order?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes, quite so. Document "C" in Art. 11 must be prepared by the owner, and he only presents the same to the officer. Therefore the statement made by plaintiffs at the last hearing was incorrect, and I wish to correct it. I wish also to ask a question of plaintiffs. At the first hearing I thought plaintiffs stated that the present suit concerned only those thousands of cases recently lost, and that there had been no wrong deliveries before or after the present suit; that is to say, all other cases had been properly delivered. I wish to ascertain whether that was so?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I did not say that all deliveries, excepting the one concerned in the present suit, had been properly made. But the facts can be ascertained at plaintiffs' office.

Counsel for Defendant—I have another question to ask concerning a statement made at the previous hearing. Upon comparing figures, I find that the number of kerosene cases stated by plaintiffs is different from that given by the Kencho. Have plaintiffs any books which show the exact number of cases lost?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Of course we have books whereby to check the number of lost cases, but they are not in Court, so I am unable to give you a positive answer.

Counsel for Defendant—I have a request to make. The present suit is a demand for an indemnity for the wrongful delivery of kerosene. But to establish the amount of such indemnity the plaintiffs must produce documents proving the exact number of cases lost, and the defendant, on the other hand, must also produce documents to disprove any statements made by plaintiffs. Such a process is very complicated, therefore, the defendant ventures to ask the Court, first, to ascertain whether the Governor wrongfully delivered the goods or not, and if that be proved, then to proceed to assess the amount of indemnity. If, on the other hand, the Governor is found to have properly delivered the goods, then the question of an indemnity need not be discussed at all.

The Judge—Since the wrongful delivery of any article in this suit has not yet been ascertained, the case cannot be separated thus.

Counsel for Defendant—I consider it would be more convenient to determine whether the Governor did wrongfully deliver the kerosene or not, and if

that be decided then to consider the number of cases thus delivered.

The Judge—What do the plaintiffs say to the proposition?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—There appears to be no inconvenience in acting thus, and as the amount of indemnity is a very important point in the suit, and so long as the proofs relating to the amount are allowed to be brought forth in the present hearing, there is no disagreement on the plaintiffs' side.

The Assistant Judge—We can settle whether the Governor wrongfully delivered the goods or not to day; but is there no disagreement on the part of defendant as to the number of cases alleged to have been lost?

Counsel for Defendant—Of course there is a disagreement. But I wish to put that question aside now, and proceed with the issue as to the Governor being responsible or not.

The Assistant Judge—Is there no objection on plaintiffs' part to proceeding with that part of the case first?

Counsel for Plaintiff—No. As the production of documents relating to the amount of indemnity is a very important point, I shall have no objection to the Court proceeding, if those documents are allowed to be brought out during the present hearing.

The Judge (to Counsel for Defendant)—Do you mean that those 43,400 cases of kerosene oil delivered to Akew, the Chinaman, were not a wrongful delivery, and that therefore the Governor has no responsibility, nor need pay plaintiffs any indemnity?

Counsel for Defendant—That is so. I fail to see that there was a wrongful delivery, although those cases of kerosene were handed to Akew, as I stated previously.

The Judge—Then do you mean that they were delivered to Akew by the proper process?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes. There was no wrongful delivery at all.

The Assistant Judge—The defendant has just now asked the Court to divide the case into two. But as the question relating to the number of times at which those cases were delivered is still undecided, will it not render the issue vague if the responsibility of the delivery is separated from the number of deliveries?

Counsel for Defendant—No. If the Court first determines whether the Governor is responsible or not; and, if that question is settled in favour of the Governor, then there will be no necessity to estimate the number of cases thus delivered.

The Assistant Judge—By the term determining the Governor's responsibility, do you mean whether the Governor wrongfully delivered those cases by his own negligence or not?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Assistant Judge—Is there no objection on the plaintiffs' side?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—None, so long as the evidence relating to the estimate is allowed to be brought forward, as I stated before.

The Assistant Judge—Does the defendant know which delivery was considered wrongful by the plaintiffs?

Counsel for Defendant—I don't know the exact number of lost cases, but I know the portions which they refer to. But if the application for delivery, expressly provided for in Art. 11 of the Regulations, be proved to be genuine, there will be no wrongful delivery in a single instance.

The Judge—I remember that at the close of the last hearing the defendant promised plaintiffs to investigate the actual quantity of kerosene oil cases received by him, the defendant. The present request of defendant, therefore, seems somewhat contrary to the previous arrangement.

Counsel for Defendant—The defendant has carefully inquired into this subject, according to promise, but the numbers given by plaintiffs do not coincide with those of defendant. It is owing to the great difficulty in deciding this point that I request the Court to determine whether the Governor is responsible for the loss or not, first of all.

The Court adjourned for a short time, and upon the Judges resuming their seats.

The Judge said—The Court considers it necessary to enquire more fully into the facts of the case, therefore the request of the defendant is not granted, and the examination into the number of lost cases shall continue.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Then I wish to ask the defendant whether he has ascertained the quantity of oil delivered to Akew?

Counsel for Defendant—I have examined into this matter, but the documents were so confused that the exact quantity of oil delivered to Akew could not be ascertained.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I did not ask you to enquire into the quantity or number of lost cases, but to investigate and produce the document relating to them, i.e. the applications and receipts.

Counsel for Defendant—Books and other documents must be produced by the plaintiffs.

The Judge—Then the plaintiffs may ask questions of the defendant.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The first question is—Did the defendant receive 64,523 cases of kerosene oil, which was imported per *Hilaria* on the 6th August, 1888?

Counsel for Defendant—We received some Kerosene oil cases, but the number of them differs.

The Judge—If the defendant is unable to present documents in which the difference of received numbers are stated, he may state that difference verbally.

Counsel for Defendant—It is difficult to collect all the documents relating to it.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—If the defendant presents the receipts and the orders for delivery, the whole thing will be made clear. It will cause some inconvenience if the defendant says that he cannot answer the question unless by making further enquiry. Everything would be made clear if those documents in the Kencho were brought here. What documents the plaintiff possesses are but copied from the documents in the Kencho, therefore there can be no trouble in presenting the original.

The Judge—Cannot the defendant produce such documents?

Counsel for Defendant—At the Kencho those documents are regarded as so much waste-paper, so they are incomplete.

The Judge—Do you mean then that you are unable to present them?

Counsel for Defendant—No.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—If the defendant has no receipts the applications alone will be sufficient, and I hope the defendant will produce them.

The Judge—To what vessels do the documents you want relate?

The Plaintiff—They are the *Hilaria*, *Enos Soule*, *Abbie S. Hart*, *Felipse*, *Anglo-American*, *Milverton*, and *Calyppo*.

The Judge—Do the plaintiffs know the date of the arrival of those vessels which imported the kerosene, which they allege was lost subsequently?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. The *Hilaria* arrived on the 6th August, 1888; the *Enos Soule* on the 2nd November, 1889; the *Abbie S. Hart* on the 17th December, 1889; the *Eclipse* about the 9th June, 1890; the *Anglo-American* on the 19th May, 1890, and the *Calyppo* on the 14th February, 1891. If the defendant produced the applications the person in whose name the oil was demanded back can be ascertained.

The Judge—Then the plaintiffs must state the reasons for the request.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In every application for the delivery of oil, if there is attached the signature of a proper member of the firm the application is valid, but no such name is affixed except that of a Chinaman, who has no such power, and the application is void, and any kerosene released upon it must be considered wrongfully delivered. It is to ascertain this fact, of proper or improper signature, that I request the production of those applications. As those documents are in the Kencho, I request the defendant to produce them. The reason of my stating this is that the plaintiffs always presented these documents to the Kencho, and as the receipts were returned to the officials at the time of the delivery of the goods the plaintiffs have now no such documents in hand.

The Judge—What answer does the defendant propose to make?

Counsel for the Defendant—The defendant may bring such documents forth to support his case, but at present I refuse to produce them.

The Judge—By which clause in Art. 336 of the Code of Civil Procedure do plaintiffs request defendant to produce those documents?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—By the express provisions of Article 335.

The Judge—The Code of Civil Procedure, Art. 335 only provides that a party to a suit may demand the presentation of documents which are in the hands of his opponent to support his case. But the same does not provide any obligation to comply with the request. The provisions of Art. 336, however, would oblige defendant to produce them. But by Art. 335 no such request need be granted by the defendant, therefore he may or may not produce them, just as he pleases. Plaintiffs must now proceed with any further questions relating to the facts of the case.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Does the defendant know the number of cases imported by the *Hilaria*, and was there any signature on the application for deposit?

Counsel for Defendant—I do not remember the exact number of cases at present, but the signature on the application was "Edwards."

Counsel for Plaintiff—When the receipt was given, was it addressed to the firm or to an employé of the firm?

Counsel for Defendant—It was addressed to the firm.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed the application for deposit of cases imported per *Enos Soule*? Counsel for Defendant—Edwards and Akew.

The Judge—Were those signatures on one document?

Counsel for Defendant—No, separately on three documents.

The Judge—What were those three documents?

Counsel for Defendant—Two were signed by Edwards and the third by Akew.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was the address the same?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Did you receive any kerosene oil imported per "Abbie S. Hart"?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed the application?

Counsel for Defendant—Edwards and Akew. There were four documents, and three of them were signed by Akew.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was the receipt also addressed to the firm?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes. On all those applications the name of the firm was stamped, under which Edwards' or Akew's name was signed.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Did you receive any kerosene oil imported per *Eclipse*?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed the application?

Counsel for Defendant—There was only one document, and it was signed by Akew under the stamp of the firm.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Did you receive any kerosene oil imported per *Anglo American*?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was the signature on the application that of Edwards also?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Did you receive any kerosene imported per *Milverton*?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed the application?

Counsel for Defendant—Akew. There were five applications.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were all those applications stamped with the name of the firm?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes. They were all the same.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were the receipts addressed to the firm.

Counsel for Defendant—Yes, they were all addressed to the firm.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Can you inform me what were the signatures on the delivery orders?

Counsel for Defendant—If asked minutely I may not be able to answer you, but I will answer as well as I remember. I cannot, however, inform you of the number of cases deposited.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Whose name or names were generally attached to the order?

Counsel for Defendant—Generally Edwards, Paterson, Akew, Aking, Shin, Ketchin, and Alai.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Delivery orders issued after the kerosene imported per *Anglo-American* were, I believe, signed by pen. Were there any orders signed in pencil?

Counsel for Defendant—I cannot answer you for certain, but I believe they were all signed by pen. There may be one or two signed in pencil, but they are so few that I do not remember any.

The Judge—You can give no definite answer?

Counsel for Defendant—Not just now.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What kind of ink was generally used in signing those orders?

Counsel for Defendant—They were generally written with foreign ink.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were there generally more signatures than Edwards and Akew on those orders?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs proceeded to ask several questions as to certain delivery orders, which the plaintiffs had copied at the Kencho.

Counsel for Defendant—Questions relating to those delivery orders cannot be answered with any certainty, as some of the documents are still in the Kencho, and possibly some of the dates and the exact number of cases delivered could not be ascertained.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I hope you will ascertain them.

The Judge—Can the defendant make such an investigation?

Counsel for Defendant—Even if they could be ascertained such unimportant matters can have, I think, very little weight in deciding this case.

Counsel for Plaintiff—I do not think so. I therefore must ask the defendant to make an investigation. I only wish to know the number of cases

brought by the *Anglo-American* and three other ships.

The Judge—Does the defendant intend not to answer the questions, owing to his inability to make a thorough investigation?

Counsel for Defendant—I do not intend to answer them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Do you mean to say that you refuse to answer them, or do you deny the correctness of our dates and the number of cases, as given by us?

Counsel for Defendant—They are certainly incorrect.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Then I must ask the Court for permission to call a witness. He is a foreigner, and as he is busily engaged he will not be able to appear until the afternoon. Will the Judges allow him to appear then?

The Judge—If counsel for plaintiffs wishes to call witnesses he may do so, but the case has not yet advanced far enough to allow of witnesses to be called.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—If the defendant acknowledges our documents with the number of cases deposited, and the respective dates, I shall not require to call any witnesses, but if not, I shall have to produce evidence to vouch for the accuracy of our statements. (To Counsel for Defendant)—Do you not know that in the trading usages of Yokohama no Chinaman employed in any foreign establishment is empowered to draw up orders or contracts by himself as representing the firm?

Counsel for Defendant—Of course the defendant is not only unaware that such a custom exists, but, on the contrary, we can call evidence to prove that the custom is quite the other way about.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I must then ask leave to call witnesses, to prove that the documents which we possess were copied at the Kencho; and also that, according to the trading usages of Yokohama, no Chinaman employed by a foreign firm has the right to represent such firm.

The Judge—You may call such witnesses. Counsel for Defendant—If so, then the defendant also wishes to call witnesses to prove that no such usages are recognized.

The Judge—Who are your witnesses? Counsel for Defendant—I must notify them afterwards.

The Judge—Very well. As it is 12 o'clock, the Court will adjourn till 2 p.m.

When the sitting was resumed in the afternoon, Counsel for Plaintiffs said—I wish to know whether the defendant acknowledges whether 35,241 cases of kerosene oil, imported per *Anglo-American*, were received by him?

Counsel for Defendant—The exact number cannot be ascertained until a full investigation is made, but according to the application presented by the plaintiffs the number of cases was put down as 57,525.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Has the defendant possession of a receipt for the 35,200 cases which he mentioned this morning?

Counsel for Defendant—That cannot be answered here.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Does he acknowledge the 86,000 cases of kerosene, imported per *Milerton*, were deposited?

Counsel for Defendant—Again the numbers differ. In the applications, besides an application for 86,000 cases, there were four other applications viz., for 410, 170, 90, and 453 cases respectively.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was the number of cases imported per *Calyssa* 60,000?

Counsel for Defendant—Again the amount is wrong. There were, besides these 60,000 cases, applications for 350; 70; 343; 290; 240; and 140 cases.

Mr. John Middleton, of 22, Settlement, Yokohama, was then put upon the witness stand.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What is the nature of your business in Yokohama?

Witness—I am a general importer and exporter. Counsel for Plaintiffs—Do you import kerosene oil?

Witness—Yes, but only in small quantities.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—When you imported any considerable quantity of kerosene oil how did you store it?

Witness—After it had passed through the Customs, I prepared an application to store it in the Kencho's warehouse.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—When it was stored did you always get a receipt?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—By what process was the oil delivered?

Witness—By presenting a delivery order.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed those delivery orders?

Witness—I, myself, or some one properly representing me.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was such a representative always duly and properly empowered?

Witness—Yes. One person was appointed to always represent me in general affairs.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was such an appointment made verbally or by a written document?

Witness—A power of attorney was handed to him, but sometimes it was done verbally. Whenever such a representative is appointed the formal process is gone through in the presence of a solicitor.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Does the person who signed the original application sign the delivery order also?

Witness—Not always; for a firm's representative does not always remain in the office.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Can anyone sign the delivery order, or only the proprietor and his representative?

Witness—No one, except those who hold a power of attorney.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What process is gone through when kerosene is to be deposited?

Witness—It is always the same. When a representative signs the application, he signs the firm's name first, and under that writes his signature.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In the application, the phrase "by the request of the undersigned only the goods shall be delivered," etc. is expressed. It looks as if no one else could demand delivery. Has any person who has not signed the original document obtained deposited goods by signing the delivery order?

Witness—I do not remember for certain, but I think anyone who was duly appointed as a firm's representative might sign the document.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Do you employ any Chinamen in your office?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Did you ever allow any of those Chinamen to sign a delivery order?

Witness—No; a power of attorney was never given to any Chinaman, so he has no power to sign.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Then to Europeans alone you give your power of attorney?

Witness—Only Europeans or Americans, who receive my power of attorney, may sign the delivery order.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Is it not an acknowledged custom in Yokohama never to commission a Chinaman to represent a firm?

Witness—Yes, I think it is the custom among foreign firms not to allow any Chinaman to represent them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In issuing a delivery order do you always stamp the seal of your company or firm upon it? Or, have you ever lent your seal to have documents stamped for you elsewhere? Did you ever receive from bond any quantity of kerosene simply by stamping the firm's seal on the document and without attaching any signature?

Witness—Sometimes. But then such a delivery order was drawn up by some one who was authorized to do so.

Counsel for Defendant—I wish to put some questions to the witness. Witness told us that he does not import kerosene in any large quantity. What percentage of your whole business is in kerosene?

Witness—My firm only imports kerosene every now and then. Generally this portion of our business is managed by the Chinamen employed in the office.

The Judge—That answer was not required. It is only necessary to state how much kerosene you imported annually, and what is its total value.

Witness—That I cannot answer at once, but I can ascertain from the books in my office.

The Judge—Cannot you give us a rough estimate?

Witness—I cannot give you the value of the oil, but the amount imported is, roughly, about 60,000 cases in two years.

Counsel for Defendant—How long have you been engaged in the kerosene trade?

Witness—About 10 years.

Counsel for Defendant—What quantity of kerosene have you imported during those 10 years? Is it your special business?

Witness—I cannot tell you how much I have imported, altogether. The Kerosene trade is not my special business, but only a subsidiary affair.

Counsel for Defendant—When the deposited oil was to be delivered back to you did you always present receipts with your delivery orders, in accordance with the Regulations?

Witness—Yes, always.

Counsel for Defendant—If your firm always appointed a representative, signing *per pro.*, you must have used at least two kinds of delivery orders. Were there any in which the signatures of both the proprietor and the representative were written?

Witness—Yes, there were many such.

Counsel for Defendant—Could you tell me in what particular form or way they were signed?

Witness—There are 4 different kinds, viz.—Middleton and Co., M. & Co., pp. G. W. Middleton; M. & Co. pr. G. W. Middleton atty.; Middleton & Co. pr. G. W. M.

Counsel for Defendant—By what method do you generally inform the public that you have appointed a person to act as representative for the firm?

Witness—I always inform my bank of his name, but I never notified the fact to anybody else.

Counsel for Defendant—Do any of the Chinese in your employ represent your firm in dealing with Japanese?

Witness—Never. But those Chinamen are of course authorized to transact the business of the firm.

Counsel for Defendant—All the answers you have given to our questions are simply the customs of your own firm, and not a general or acknowledged usage, are they not?

Witness—Except that portion relating to the signature of Chinamen, they are the customs of our own firm.

Mr. Chickshank, 35, Settlement, was then called as a witness.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—How many Chinamen have you in your office?

Witness—There are several and Ki-ching is at the head of them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Are Akew, Alai, Akin and other Chinamen under him?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What do they do?

Witness—Principally book-keeping and weighing tea.

Counsel for Plaintiff—Are those Chinese sometimes commissioned to manage your kerosene business?

Witness—Yes. But they only carry kerosene cases from the ship to the shore, or deliver the cases when they are sold; and then some European or American from the office always superintends them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Are they sometimes commissioned to sign kerosene delivery orders?

Witness—Never. We do not give them such authority.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—But do you know of no case in which any Chinese signed your delivery order, and received the kerosene?

Witness—What they did while I was absent from Yokohama I don't know. I have not known a single instance of such a thing myself.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., May 28th.

We are exercised in mind and body about this time by many things. Certainly there is physical exercise enough, for every Boston man who is in a hurry, will not wait to ride. If he does, he may wait all the afternoon for the raising of the blockade—the jam of street cars, horse and electric, that stops the way. This may not be of especial interest to the world at large, but it may serve to warn the absent and travelling Bostonian to be on his guard when he returns. A countryman was heard to exclaim, "By sixty! This beats anything! I've seen yet—'lectric cars er-runnin' like lightning in some streets, wander ther people aint all killed, an' jest er-stand-in' still in other streets. Give me ther kentry. It's ther safest!"

The "burning question of the hour" to politicians is, "Will Blaine run?" Under his signature appears occasionally a disclaimer to the effect that he is out of the race for the presidential nomination, and the next day this is contradicted and the country is assured that he will accept the nomination, if tendered to him. There was reason to suppose that the Harrison following was somewhat disturbed by the possibility that Blaine may be a candidate. The Democrat party is also in the dumps whenever Blaine's name comes up prominently as that of the candidate, for they realize, as do his opponents in the Republican ranks, that Blaine has great strength. It has been declared often by politicians who ought to know, that if Blaine does become a candidate, he will "carry the country." The fact that Blaine was unsuccessful in 1884 by a few votes, and that he lost the election through the ringwump defection, an element neither Republican nor Democrat, aroused the sympathy of the people. All along the line—both lines—the fight thickens. The state conventions have all been held, the delegates have been chosen, and now in a few weeks the national conventions will be held, and the question, "Blaine or not Blaine" will be settled. If Blaine be not nominated, it may be taken for granted that

will be the last of Blaine politically. According to some minds, Blaine has been always a disquieting element, and it is now time to lift him up or set him down "for good." The Republican leaders declare that there is no doubt that Harrison will receive the nomination.

The most disastrous flood since the breaking away of the dam at Johnstown in New York, a few years ago, has laid in waste a part of the city of Sioux City, on or near the confluence of the Floyd and the Missouri rivers, in the state of Iowa. It is reported that one hundred persons have been drowned. More than eight thousand persons were driven from their homes. The damage to property is estimated at two million dollars. Hundreds of houses were swept away, and thousands of cattle in stock yards were drowned and sent adrift in the Missouri. Near St. Louis four hundred square miles are covered by water, and fifteen hundred persons are homeless. The overflowing of the waters is felt all along the Missouri, from Sioux City down, and the loss, all told, is beyond estimate. Every year the "water problem" becomes more difficult of solution, both in the Missouri and the Mississippi valleys. The Government has made enormous appropriations, especially for the curbing of the Mississippi, but every year the river changes its bed and channel and, like an insatiable monster, "swallows up," and encroaches more and more on the land.

There is seldom a time when there is not a conflict between capital and labour in this country, but it is not often that a "strike" of such dimensions as the one now in progress disturbs the country. The granite workers, labourers in granite quarries, throughout New England and elsewhere, demanded higher wages, and not getting it, stopped work. The number of men idle "on strike" is said to be a hundred thousand, and daily increasing. It has already interfered with building operations, and is likely to result in great damage to builders, for already the supply of granite is cut off. A builder makes a contract to erect a building within a certain time, and is held responsible if he fails to complete the structure in the time specified. Builders of granite structures must now wait for a supply of material. The capitalists, thus far, refuse to accede to the demands of the strikers. The strike is spreading over the country and the various labour organizations are ordering their men to stop work. The workers on the Grant monument, and those employed on the Capitol at Albany, have joined the strikers, and in many other places work is abandoned. Thus, from the refusal of one firm in New England to advance wages a few cents a day, has come one of the greatest strikes the country has seen, and one that promises to be much more extensive before it is settled, interfering with all factors that enter into the construction of buildings.

The census bureau has issued a bulletin showing that the number of dwellings in the United States in 1880 was 8,955,812, and in 1890 was 11,483,318. The average number of persons to a dwelling in 1880 was 5.60, and in 1890, 5.45. In the North Atlantic region in 1880 there were 5.97 persons to a dwelling, and in 1890, 5.87. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York have the largest number of persons to a dwelling, the number averaging more than six.

In 1880 the national debt amounted to about thirty dollars for every inhabitant in the United States. In 1890 it had been reduced to about fourteen dollars to every inhabitant. In the decade the national debt was reduced one hundred million dollars a year. Never before was a public debt paid off so rapidly. Meanwhile, however, the aggregate of state and local debts has increased, and the total is greater than the national debt. Yet it has not increased so rapidly as the population. Accordingly, the state and local debt has decreased from twenty-two dollars for each inhabitant in 1880, to eighteen dollars for each person in 1890. The state and territory debts are for the most part, small. The state debts amount to less than one-third of the debts of cities. Only one state or territory, Utah, has no debt.

In 1890, a tax was paid to the United States on more than eighty-eight million gallons of distilled spirits, and a duty was paid on a million gallons more imported. In the same year, an internal revenue tax was paid on \$74 million gallons of malt liquors, and an import duty on three million gallons more imported, making about six quarts of distilled spirit for every man, woman and child in the United States, and fourteen gallons of malt liquor for every man, woman, and child.

We are at peace with Italy again. Baron Fava, Minister to this country from Italy, and who was recalled at the time of the New Orleans affair, has returned to Washington. He was met in the harbour of New York by some of his countrymen and welcomed. He has called at the White House,

seen the Secretary of State, and shaken hands all around. The Baron informed the President that the Sovereign of Italy, the Italian government, and all the people were much pleased with the amicable settlement of all difficulties, and hoped ever to remain on a friendly footing. Italy will now come to the World's Fair with a large and varied exhibit.

Memorial Day, a day set apart to decorate the graves of soldiers who fell in the War of the Rebellion, and to eulogize the services and sacrifices of the soldiers, comes on thirtieth of this month. General Horace Porter, who is collecting funds for the completion of the Grant monument in New York, announces that all of the \$300,000 except \$46,000 has been collected, and that the remainder will be subscribed, probably on or before Memorial Day.

T. Jefferson Coolidge, the new minister to France, has at last received his credentials in spite of the foolish objection of some of the members of Congress, and was given a "Farewell banquet" on May 24th at the Algonquin Club house in this city, at which were present many of the prominent men of Boston.

Later advices from the flooded district show that one county in Tennessee is under water, and that the water has destroyed 225,000 acres of corn, 300,000 acres of wheat, and 200,000 acres of cotton. The water is still rising, and it is believed that a million acres will be flooded.

About this time of the year the game of football is at its height. Colleges are closing up their "curriculums," and the students have more time (they appear to have all the time at any time) to give to sports. A gentleman from England, just arrived, happened to get into a railway train where were young men in various stages of wear or dilapidation. Some of them had one eye and some had none; clothing was torn, and in some cases showed signs of a bloody conflict; some had arms and legs in splints and bandages, all proclaiming the fact to a stranger that some terrible accident had befallen them. The Englishman, interested and sympathetic, asked where the accident occurred. He was greeted with "roars of laughter." It was merely a foot-ball eleven returning home after the "game."

The Rocky Mountain Cyclone has just appeared with this editorial announcement:—"We begin the publication of the *Cyclone* with some phew difficulties in the way. The type phounder phrom whom we bought the outfit phor this orphus phailed to supply ephs or cays and it will be phour or phive weex bephore we can get any. We don't ligue the idea ov this cind ov spelling, but mistax will happen in the best regulated phamillies and tpi the es and the exes and the qus hold out we shall ceep the *Cyclone* whirling aphter a phasion till the sorts arrive. Its no joque to us; it's a serious aphtair."

JAPANESE CHARACTERISTICS.

By PROFESSOR C. G. KNOTT, D.Sc., F.R.S.E.

(READ AT MEETINGS OF THE SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY AT EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, DUNDEE, AND ABERDEEN IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1892.)

To describe the characteristics of an alien race is a difficult task. There is apt to be a lack of perspective in the delineation, a want of balance in the coloring. What is novel to the observer is exaggerated unduly; and, in the straining after contrast, the representation degenerates not seldom into a caricature. In regard to Japan this is particularly true. The visitor who speeds through the country as one noon wax and wanes talks of Japanese ways of life and habits of thought with a certainty and an assurance which the resident of ten years' standing cannot attain to. The more we mix with this most interesting of Oriental peoples, the less we seem to know of them, the more difficult we find it to hit off their characteristics in a few brief sentences. The following paper is an attempt to give the impressions gathered during eight years' experience of Japanese life. If the result be only to correct certain exaggerated views that have wide currency, I shall feel that the paper has accomplished one good end. It will be noticed that nothing technical has been enlarged upon. For example, I have considered only the significance of the artistic feeling in its relations to every-day life, and have left untouched the art itself. In brief, the characteristics here spoken of refer almost entirely to the national character, intellectual, moral, and emotional, as it now exists, and as it has been developed in its historic setting. A short historic introduction does not seem out of place.

The Empire of Japan, like the Kingdom of Scotland, is inhabited by two distinct races speaking distinct languages. Of these the Ainus is the older, and must, from lack of earlier historic information,

be regarded as the primitive or indigenous race. The Japanese were invaders, although in their own mythology there is no distinct recognition of this fact, which must have happened before the national memory had awakened. The evidence that the Ainus occupied the land is three-fold. First of all, Ainus, at present found no further south than the Island of Yezo, have within historic times lived in the north of the main island. Then, secondly, Von Schrenck has shown, in his great work on *Amur Land*, that all over the north eastern parts of Asia numberless isolated tribes live, each speaking a different language. These are the fragments of earlier races, which have gradually been pushed into the holes and corners of this old-world region by the pressure of younger and stronger races surging ever eastwards. The Ainus is one of these remnants; and it is possible that the struggle between the Ainus and Japanese may have begun when both races inhabited the continent. That the old cave-dwellers and shell-heap architects of Japan were really the Ainus we have no evidence at all. Nor have we evidence that they were not—except that no Ainus lives in a cave now, and that in certain Ainus myths we have mention of dwarfs. Finally, we have the remarkable evidence, first brought forward by Professor Chamberlain, that many Japanese place names are of Ainus origin.

So familiar is this explanation of place-names to us English-speaking residents of a once Celtic country that we might easily fail to see the full significance of its application to the Ainus-Japanese problem. We know from history that the pure Celt was our predecessor in this land; and long before philology had birth many names were recognised as Celtic and understood in their Celtic sense. But until within the last few years, it had never entered the Japanese imagination that he was originally an alien to the soil on which he stood. Was he not with all his kin the direct descendant of the divine beings Izanagi and Izanami, from whom also by ordinary generation the whole Japanese archipelago was produced? The first human Emperor of Japan—the great Jimmu Tenno—was he not only four generations removed from the Sun-goddess, herself a child of the august pair of deities just mentioned? True, the better-educated Japanese of to-day ignore the legends of the gods, and are content to begin with Jimmu Tenno himself. Still, the fact remains that there is no distinct suggestion in these myths of the race having ever occupied other territory than the islands of Japan. All names in Japan are therefore presumably of Japanese origin, except in such regions, possibly, as are known to have been inhabited by the Ainus.

Now, in making this search after Ainus-derived names, Professor Chamberlain could get absolutely no assistance from the Japanese themselves. Every place-name in Japan is represented by a combination of Chinese characters as ideographs. Beyond the significance of these the Japanese cannot get. Ask him what the name meant originally. He will point to the characters, quite heedless of the probability, in some cases the absolute certainty, that the name existed as such long before the introduction of letters, long before a Japanese eye had gazed on an ideograph. To illustrate the process, and at the same time to show how misleading Japanese philological methods are, take a concrete example.

Back in the darkness of the unlettered past an Ainus community is settled by the banks of a stream. This by way of distinction they call *Tonai*, or "stream with the lake." Japanese strangers come in among them, few at first, no doubt, and perhaps friendly enough. Gradually, however, the superiority of the new comers tells, and the Ainus reluctantly seeks other haunts. But the name *Tonai* stays behind in the slightly disguised Japanese form *Tonami*. Centuries slip past until civilisation and letters come hand-in-hand from China. The Japanese schoolmaster is now abroad, and every name of importance must be cast in a Chinese mould. The priest and soothsayer lend their aid, and evolve a pleasing combination of lucky ideographs, phonetically identical with *Tonami*. In its written form, and to the Japanese eye, the name means "hares in a row;" how such a title could come to be applied to an insignificant village may be left to the ingenuities to solve. Other examples might be given; but I shall content myself with two. *Tsushima*, the island which lies between Korea and Japan, is represented by two characters meaning "opposite horses." Professor Chamberlain regards it as a Japanese corruption of the Ainus *tuima* "distant." The Japanese always introduces the *s* sound between *t* and *u*, and dislike certain diphthongs—hence from *tu i ma* comes *tsu-shi ma*. The Rev. Mr. Bachelor, following up this theory, has given a most plausible derivation of *Fuji-san*, the peerless mountain of Japan and one of the most frequent objects in pictorial decoration. It rises, an almost perfect

cone, to a height of 12,400 feet above the sea. It is a dormant volcano, hardly extinct. The Japanese write its name "the mountain of wealth." But there is an Ainu word *Euchi*, which in a Japanese mouth would almost certainly become *Fuji*, and which means the Goddess of Fire—a very appropriate name indeed for a lofty burning mountain.

Our first conclusion then is, that the Japanese are not aboriginal on the soil they now possess. Like ourselves, they passed over from a large continent to a small island, and there, in partial isolation, they began to develop their national characteristics. Exactly where they came from we know not; exactly what other race they are most nearly akin to is a problem still awaiting solution. The language is structurally similar to the Korean and Manchurian languages; but it is entirely dissimilar to the literary Chinese. It abounds in Chinese derivations, as our English does in Latin. But it was no mere borrowing that gave the Japanese their literary language—it was absorption, assimilation.

The Japanese, as we are all aware, have often been characterised as the most imitative of peoples. In this connection the imitative faculty is mentioned in rather a deprecatory way, as if we of the West were so very original. Nevertheless, historically, Japan has not been a greater borrower from her neighbours than were our barbarian ancestors, when they got their religion from Judæa, their philosophy from Greece, and their law from Rome. Civilisation came to the Japanese in the wake of the Buddhist missionaries, somewhere about the year 600 A.D. This was the first great event in their national development. Till then they were warlike savages, skilled possibly in the making of a rude pottery, but utterly unlettered. The *Kojiki*, or "Records of Ancient Matters," containing the legends of the gods and the so-called histories of the earlier Emperors, was not written till 712 A.D.; and, although there may be much truth in the traditions that were embodied in that first record, it is impossible to give credence to dates and events earlier than the 5th century. The conquest of Korea by the warrior Empress Jingō in 200 A.D. is altogether fabulous, although there is no reason to doubt that a queen of that name existed. There is ample evidence that in these early centuries there was no distinct political unity amongst the various Japanese clans. It was only about the eighth century that a centralised government began to be formed. The Emperor or Son of Heaven (*O Tenshi Sama*), as he is styled to this day, was theoretically absolute. But practically he very soon became a puppet in the hands of some powerful noblemen, who ruled the country in his name. From the eleventh to the sixteenth century there was a continual struggle for supremacy between the more powerful clans; and just at the time of the discovery of the country by the Portuguese (1542 A.D.) Japan was in a state of chaos.

And now came the second great event of Japanese history—the consolidation of the empire through the successive labours of three great men, Nobunaga, Hideyoshi, and Ieyasu. The second of these, Hideyoshi, has been called the Napoleon of Japan. He reduced the country to complete subjection, always of course in the name of his Most Sacred Majesty the Son of Heaven, and brought his brilliant career to a fitting climax by his conquest of Korea in 1598. On his death, Tokugawa Ieyasu promptly seized the reins of government, quelled the insubordination of the other barons, partly by able generalship, partly by astute diplomacy, and received from the Imperial Court of Kyoto the historic title of *Shogun* or Generalissimo. He established his own court at Yedo (now Tokyo), which thenceforth became the real capital of Japan. Ieyasu gave to Japan its final form of feudalism, which, perfected by his grandson Iemitsu, lasted down to the year 1868. In almost perfect isolation, and free from internal troubles of any magnitude, the people of Japan lived for two and a half centuries, evolving their exquisite art and their elaborate etiquette.

There is always a profound relation between a nation's history and a nation's character, and to appreciate the one we must know something of the other. Now Japan is unique among nations as regards certain periods of her life-history. Small wonder then that she is unique in regard to certain of her characteristics. Let us try to imagine the peculiar condition of affairs at the time when Ieyasu and Iemitsu determined on a policy of isolation. Under Hideyoshi the military genius of the people had risen to its high water mark. Ieyasu had no sooner established himself as *Shogun* than he issued a decree of expulsion against the Portuguese and other European missionaries. This was carried largely into effect in 1614, and under Iemitsu Japan entered upon her policy of rigorous seclusion, Nagasaki being the only port at which slight contact with the outer world was maintained.

Thus, at the beginning of her two and a half centuries of isolation, Japan had proved herself victorious in the East, and able to cope with the powers of the West. She, so to speak, retired from the strife of nations with the victor's wreath upon her brow.

Conjoin to this the peculiar features of her feudalism—filial piety and fealty carried sometimes to extravagant lengths—and we have much that throws light on the Japanese character.

Do we not here find at once a perfect explanation of that self-reliance, self-sufficiency, or "conceit," which many visitors to the Land of the Rising Sun have marvelled upon? It would indeed be a matter of surprise if the Japanese did not possess this "canty conceit of their selves," which is certainly not a monopoly of the Orient. It is one of the traits which go to the making of a great nation. It usually betokens independence of character; and we do not need to go very long in Japan before we have ample evidence that down to the lowest ranks the Japanese do indeed possess this valuable quality. There is no real servility in all their politeness; there is not, or at least there was not till recently, any of that spirit which is the essence of "snobbery." The reason of this is not far to seek. It is to be found in that 250 years' training in Ieyasu's school of feudalism. The broad characteristics of Japan's later feudalism may be described in a few sentences. The *Mikado*, too sacred to be gazed upon by the public eye, was theoretically absolute. The *Shogun's* attitude towards the *Mikado* was one of reverential homage; his duty was to strengthen the imperial supremacy. Theoretically on an equality with the *Shogun*, but practically under him, were the *Daimyo*, or territorial barons. These farmed out their territories to their *Samurai* vassals in return for military service. In the larger *daimyates*, sub-infeudation existed, the more powerful *Samurai* having their own vassals or *Samurai* of lower degree. The *Daimyo* and his *Samurai* lived in a walled town, the artisans and merchants living outside the walls, and the agriculturist further afield. These last-named classes of society were collectively called *Heimin*, and formed practically a caste distinct from the *Samurai*. It is very important to bear in mind this broad distinction between the *Samurai* and the *Heimin*. Their codes of conduct and of honour, their ideas of life, and their religious notions were essentially different. The difference lingers to this day, so that the ordinary globe-trotter, who does little else than witness the out-door life of the present day representatives of the *Heimin* class, can get no true idea of the feelings and life of the upper million. He may never meet a real lady of Japan at all, and he may meet the descendant of the *Samurai* only as an official. In the older days *Samurai* and *Heimin*—indeed, the various orders of these—dressed after a different fashion, and only the *Samurai* had the privilege of swaggering about with two swords in his belt. In the code of laws known as the *Legacy of Ieyasu* it is written—"The girded sword is the living soul of a *Samurai*." Each of the great *Daimyo* was obliged to spend half his time at the court in Yedo, and half his time at his country fief. The *Shogun's* capital was, indeed, the scene of a continual coming and going of barons and their retainers. Everything was matter of the strictest etiquette, this being the mode by which Ieyasu and his successors controlled the power of the stronger *Daimyo*, and prevented intrigue and coalition against the central government. The smaller *Daimyo* again—for there was a most elaborate classification of these—were compelled to change their provinces frequently. Ostensibly instituted to obviate misgovernment, this policy really prevented these *Daimyo* from acquiring strong local influence. The aim of the Tokugawa *Shogun* was, in fact, identical with that of William the Conqueror, who broke the decentralising tendency of feudalism by giving his barons scattered territories in different counties. But, in addition to this systematising the military form of government, Ieyasu, by precept and by example, inculcated two great principles of conduct. The first was reverence and respect to parents and superiors—in a word, fealty and filial piety. The second was courtesy and consideration to inferiors. To the cultivation of these social and domestic virtues the Japanese owe much of that claim which delights the traveller of our day. Amidst the peace and seclusion enjoyed under the Tokugawa rule, Japan became, as one recent writer puts it, the land of gentle manners and fantastic arts.

But there is another side to this picture. With the exception of the *Samurai* of highest rank, who found ample scope for their energies in administering their lord's affairs, these sworded gentry of old Japan had no suitable field for their faculties. To become an artisan, or worse, a de-

spicable tradesman, was out of the question. A few, in certain parts of the country, turned their attention to agriculture. But the vast multitude were simply retainers with little or nothing to do but garrison their lord's castle or town, take part in some petty quarrel or strut about with swords in belt. The support of this idle, conceited class became a greater and greater drain upon the country's resources, and heavily and more heavily were the *Heimin* taxed. Then, as the centuries grew older, low class *Samurai*, owing allegiance to no lord, and ready to swear temporary allegiance to any master who might desire their services, swarmed all over the country. These were the *Ronin*. Turbulent fellows many of them were, ready to use their sword at the slightest insult.

Thus the noblest energies of these *Samurai* degenerated for lack of employment. Japanese privateers had once scoured the Chinese seas, and had established commercial relations with Siam. The base-born Hideyoshi had trained an army that had conquered Korea. But this doughty spirit of enterprise gradually decayed as the Tokugawa régime drifted to its doom.

It was a strange combination of circumstances that culminated in the abolition of the *Shogunate* in 1868. The strong rule of the earlier Tokugawas gave free scope for a leisured, though limited, class of *literati* to spring up. The Princes of Mito, themselves closely allied to the ruling *Shogun*, were conspicuous patrons of learning. A revival of all things Japanese followed; Japanese was cultivated instead of the pure Chinese classic; the primitive religion, Shinto, came into partial favour; and it gradually dawned upon the mind that the *Shogunate*, though established for centuries, was not the original form of government. With the ever weakening power of the Tokugawa, certain of the more powerful clans began to assert themselves. The arrival of foreign fleets brought complications, which were made the best use of by these enemies to the Tokugawa rule, who thenceforth posed as the supporters of the Emperor's supremacy. The anti-foreign spirit was skillfully taken advantage of; the *Shogun's* treaty-making was denounced; and finally the *Shogun* himself was deposed. But no sooner was the Emperor established as the real ruler of Japan than his counsellors had to follow the same path of foreign policy entered upon by the *Shogunate*. Many of the lower class *Samurai*, full of the anti-foreign spirit, must have been astounded at this *volte face*. Hard, indeed, was the fate of many of these when, with the revolution or so-called restoration, feudalism went by the board, and they were left masterless, homeless, shiftless. The higher-class *Samurai* could look pretty well after themselves: they are the statesmen, the politicians, the lawyers, the officials of to-day, and constitute the intellectual backbone of the country. A lower grade finds employment as policeman; but many of them who call to mind the romantic days of old, when the sword was their soul, must sigh after the good old times.

How much true patriotism actuated the hearts of the men of Satsuma, Choshu, and Tosa, who led the revolution, is a difficult question to answer. The Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, under the veteran general Saigō, has an ugly look from this point of view. No doubt the rebels argued themselves into loyal subjects, who wished but to emancipate their sacred Emperor from the hands of self-seeking courtiers. We fancy, however, that clan jealousy and personal ambition were potent mainsprings of the movement that broke the *Shogun's* power. To go back a thousand years for reasons to support a political revolution is surely reading history backwards. It was indeed with no clear apprehension of the issues involved that the Satsuma and Choshu clans combined against the Tokugawa. In its subsequent policy, however, the *Sat-cho* combination, as it is called, is worthy of commendation. The leaders realised that they must give up their Orientalism or die a national death. Perseveringly have they pushed themselves, and drawn their country after them, into the moulds of our Western civilisation. Sage Orientalists shook their heads and prophesied a speedy relapse after a frantic spurt. Rather ambitious schemes were no doubt tried, only to be relinquished, but, broadly speaking, Japan has gone on steadily in the assimilation of nineteenth century wisdom. Money has doubtless been squandered at the expense of the tax payer; but, on the whole, the farmer is better off than he was under the old feudalism. "Fickle Japan" are words that have often been sneeringly uttered. But wherein is the fickleness of a spirit that tries new things because the old are insufficient, that tries to replace the stupid by the wise? For two and a half centuries Japan had lived a stagnant life, sufficient to have reduced any nation to a condition of effeminacy. Yet, out of a revolution of blood and thunder, she has sprung into a new and stronger life. She has sought to make her own those elements of

¹ In a wide sense the territorial barons were also *Samurai*, but its convenient and usual to restrict the term to the military vassal class.

material civilisation which had developed in Europe during her period of stagnancy. She has striven to assimilate in less than a generation what we of the West have in muddled ways taken generations to evolve. Naturally she paid most attention to those features of our civilisation which had no counterpart in her own. Naturally, too, she over-estimated those, and occasionally mistook the shell for the kernel. Nevertheless, judged by the ordinary conceptions of the meaning of civilisation, Japan has been phenomenal in her progress.

Now, there are two extreme views that have been taken regarding this unique education of a nation. The one is, that the Japanese are essentially imitators, losing their once national characteristics in their eagerness to take rank with Occidental peoples. The other is, that this acquisition is purely superficial, simply a veneering, while the great heart of the nation is unaffected in its Orientalism. The truth lies midway between these extremes, as it ought to do if the Japanese have any of the elements that make a strong nation. A policy which brings outlying parts of the empire into close association by means of well-regulated railways and steamships cannot but awaken the slumbering commercial energies of a people. The imperial gift of a Representative Parliament—a thing hitherto unknown to Asia—must foster a lively interest in public affairs. The national activities are turned into new directions; patriotism has some chance of becoming a reality. And even down to the lower ranks the accidentals of our Western civilisation penetrate in curious ways. Within the last ten years shoemakers, tailors, butchers, and sellers of woollen stuffs have established themselves in every street. The butcher's establishment is a curiosity. Below is the shop proper, recognisable afar by its row of keen hungry dogs; above is a restaurant where the *sof-disant* "western meal" can be enjoyed. A western epicure would probably starve rather than partake, by the aid of chopsticks, of the flavourless stew of coarsely chopped hash which is served up with rice *ad libitum*. Yet such beef has an evident claim for the petty official who has not been abroad, or who cannot afford the well cooked viands of a superior restaurant unattached to a butcher's shop. We have here, indeed, a very good illustration of the imitation practised by the Japanese. The imitation—even when it is simply the making of spurious labels for Bass's ale, Stock or Pilsener beer—is not pure, is not perfect. It has a genuine Japanese flavour, a subtle something which marks it off from the thing imitated. The ordinary traveller, who stays perhaps two months in the country, and chiefly at the treaty ports, being ignorant of what is really Japanese, ignores this native essence in a custom or regulation ostensibly borrowed from the foreign West. In political and governmental spheres we find much that is certainly modelled after English, French, or German methods, but there is more that is of distinctly native origin. For example, we see in their police system a reflection of the French method. Yet before the restoration Yedo was controlled by a most efficient organisation of *gendarmes* and watchmen; and there is no doubt that many of the methods used then still survive. In the feudal days, when a retainer went out of the gate of his lord's *yashiki* or town residence, he left his *fuda*, or wooden ticket with name inscribed, in the hands of the gate-keeper. The University is now situated in one of the largest of these old *yashiki*, and each student who goes out of the compound must leave his *fuda* in the hands of the gate keeper, just like the *Samurai* of old. There are many such links between the present and the past—many evidences of a strong continuity underlying all the innovations that this era has brought.

The introduction of Western materialistic ideals into the national life of Japan has been attended with one undoubted evil. The old Confucian basis of morals and ethics has been rudely shaken—the old etiquette is losing its power. This is particularly noticeable amongst the descendants of the old *Samurai*, who have grown up unrestrained by the gentle but inexorable etiquette of the Tokugawa feudalism. Obedience and reverence to parents and guardians, allegiance to their lord, loyalty to the Emperor—such was the *Samurai's* creed. But when his lord has been deprived of feudal power, when his immediate duties have been annulled, what can the average *Samurai* do but sink into a life of inactivity and semi-starvation? His sons, compelled to attend school, speedily out distance their fossil parent in knowledge and learning. The more ambitious flock to Tokyo, full of disdain for the old plodding ways and the paltry ceremonial life their fathers had led. Beyond the influence of the parental roof, devoid of much of the early training that had been the heritage of every *Samurai*, scoffing at the old religious and caring nothing for the new, he begins to develop himself, undisciplined and vain. Such are the *Sushi*, who form

at this moment a dangerous factor in the political life of Japan. Within the last five years one minister of State has been assassinated, and another has been maimed for life. The very recent conflict between the Government and the House of Representatives has accentuated the strained condition of things. The Emperor was obliged to dissolve the House, which refused, out of mere opposition to the Government, to sanction the grant for relief of the earthquake sufferers. For this Imperial act the ministers of State are now in daily danger of their lives. By a very peculiar logic the Japanese distinguishes between the Emperor and the Government which has been chosen by the Emperor. His loyalty to the Emperor is ostensibly of the highest order, for reasons which are not a little grotesque. Has not Japan the oldest dynasty in the world? True, on paper; but what of the directness of succession, the critical historian asks? And was not Japan always loyal to her Emperor? A strange loyalty indeed which allowed the *Shogun* in the middle ages to do very much as he liked. He deposed one *Mikado* and elected another, a mere infant of days. He decided whether the son of a *Mikado* should succeed, or whether the successor should be chosen from some collateral branch. Theoretically, the present Emperor is a direct descendant of Jimmu Tenno; his true descent is concealed in a tangle of adoptions.

In a limited sense the old dictum of Ieyasu was true:—"The girded sword was the soul of the *Samurai*," and many of them have not discovered a substitute for the soul they lost when the edict to disarm went forth.

Here I speak only of the lower *Samurai* class, and only of a certain proportion of these. For there is a great deal in-breeding and in-blood, and it is doubtful if a more perfect gentleman than a descendant of a blue blooded *Samurai* family walks this earth. Amongst the University professors, for example, there are some ideal men, honourable to the core; but they are old enough to have been trained in the old school of morals. One of them as I had aided in the defence of Wakamatsu, the last castle that stood out for the vanquished *Shogun* in 1868. His mother died two years ago, and was followed to her grave by a retinue that would have done honour to a *Daimyo*. This lady was a beautiful type of high *Samurai* womanhood. Trained as a girl in the "three obediences"—obedience when unmarried to parents, obedience when married to husband and husband's parents, obedience when widowed to sons—she became in her old age the honoured head of a family well known in the arts of peace and war. And there are many such to this day in Japan—gentle mannered, kindly and thoughtful, womanly in the best sense of the word, and yet possessed by a fearless *Samurai* spirit that will undergo any trial, any act of self abnegation, even voluntary death, in the interests of husband and family. In old Japan—romantic in retrospect whatever it was in reality—the *Samurai* women were taught the use of the sword, they were drilled to act as guardians of the castle, should the necessity arise. In troubled times each lady carried with her a small dagger for defence or for suicide. But in all this nothing was done or intended to be done for self, but only for her husband, for her children, for the honour of her husband's house. The whole duty of women is summed up in the words—obedience and self-renunciation. It is, I believe, because of the cultivation of this spirit of self-sacrifice that we find in Japanese woman so many of those characteristics which we commonly associate with pure Christian sentiment. In the treatise known as the "Greater Learning for Women" (*Onna Daiyaku*) it is laid down in unequivocal language that a girl's destiny is to wed, that a girl's duty is to absorb herself into her husband's home. If she does not please her husband and her husband's immediate kin, she has failed in her duty. Whatever the hardships of her lot, whatever the difficulties she has to meet, she must always maintain a cheerful countenance in the presence of her lord. Should she have occasion to remonstrate with him for unreasonable or dishonourable action, it must be done with composed mien and gentle voice—that most excellent thing in woman.

These womanly traits, cultivated to perfection in the *Samurai* classes and their present-day representatives, also exist more or less in the descendants of the lower *Samurai* classes. In the still lower ranks of life, when the wife has often, so to speak, to put her hand to the plough, there is less convention, less indoor existence. When we consider, again, the girls that compose the waiting class in inns and tea-houses we meet with a different code of conduct altogether. In one particular, however, these are at one with their nobler compatriots. They must act so as to please—in this case, of course, the guests. The charms of the Japanese waitress have been described by some recent writers in a most extravagant vein, and I ven-

ture to think much of the so-called charm depends upon the novelty of the situation. The foreign tourist alights at an inn; several healthy-faced damsels collect on the verandah near, and with low obeisance cry aloud in strained accents, which some think musical, *O irashai, O irashai*, which simply means "please enter," although certain bookmakers would translate it "the honourable entrance is solicited." A little later the weary traveller, stretched on the mats of his own room, thinks he would like his bath made ready. So he claps his hands; and up from the dingy corners of the huge kitchen there ascends a chorus of voices, of ready quality, yelling *Heo*. This exclamation also serves throughout any delivery of orders much the same purpose as our familiar "Yes's'r," "Yes'm." As he leaves, the guest's ears are almost deafened by the high falsetto intoning of the words, *Okueri nasai, O kueri nasai*—"please come again, please come again." Here again, of course, a so-called Oriental flavour might be given by translating the phrase "the honourable return is implored." These happy-faced waitresses form a bright picture in sunny Japan. From their innate desire to please they will laugh and giggle when they are expected to, even at the most miserable of jokes. But it is easy to see that they bear towards the strange, blundering, foreign traveller a very different attitude from that which they assume towards a Japanese guest. Amusement and novelty excite her as much as they excite him. Ignorant, in general, of the etiquette of inn life, he takes liberties, to which she, with quick witted ingenuity, responds by simply making fun of him. The experienced traveller, to whom the ways of the Japanese are familiar, finds the manners and the service of the inn satisfactory enough, but far from romantic. Similarly, the fair waitresses get no extra amusement from him, and treat him just as they would one of their own countrymen, with quiet respect and placid mien. When not perturbed by what must seem to her to be simply foreign vulgarity, the waiting-maid of Japan performs her duty quietly, faithfully, and unobtrusively. It is too true, however, that near the open ports, and in regions overrun by the globe trotter with his inevitable camera and dry plates, there is a marked deterioration in the manners of the lower class Japanese. It is mournful to have to confess that the traveller is himself to blame for this.

And the same holds for the servant class generally. A distinct line must be drawn between the servants of the Japanese themselves and the servants of the foreign residents. They belong to different guilds or cliques. A servant in a Japanese house is one of the family, and identifies himself with the best interests of the family. Those, however, who enter foreign service are usually engaged for very definite duties and at a comparatively high wage, out of which they find themselves in everything except the room they occupy. In the open ports the servants are to a great extent self-seeking and even dishonest; but in Tokyo, and in districts where only foreigners in Japanese employment can live, they compare most favourably with the same class in other lands. If their foreign master and mistress treat them with the courtesy which Ieyasu counselled all superiors to show towards inferiors, and, furthermore, do not lose their dignity in loud scolding and bullying, Japanese servants become a treasure. They will see to it that no rogue of a tradesman overcharges for goods. They will enter heart and soul into the interests of the household. If guests are being entertained—and in Japan the guest is almost a sacred being—they will make preparations with extraordinary zeal, and will as zealously bring things back to their normal condition after the guests are sped. The peculiar graces of Japanese politeness show themselves here as in higher ranks. Gentleness of manner and total absence of brusquerie are its fundamental characteristics. To these graces, which permeate more or less the whole social atmosphere, must be ascribed the lack of rough boisterousness in foreign children born and brought up in Japan. The boys are high-spirited without being rough, the girls are merry-souled and full of frolic without being spiteful or "screamy."

As Sir Rutherford Alcock long ago said, "Japan is a very paradise of babies." Lashed securely to the back of an older brother or sister, many an infant of weeks or months makes early acquaintance with the street, the sunshine, and the play. Or it may be the mother herself, behind whose head the little pate wobbles from side to side and the dark slit eyes gleam. Possibly the baby sleeps; but still the mother's voice goes crooning some lullaby as she shuffles along the path or lends a hand to push her husband's cart. In the well-to-do classes, the very young children seldom appear beyond the garden precincts, and the bigger children are not allowed to play in the street.

Then, in the house, with its soft matted floor and its space quite innocent of any furniture, what a perfect arena for the infantile manoeuvres of the rolling bit of humanity "that cannot gang its love." No fear of ugly blows from corners of sofas, tables, chairs, or stools; and for the toddler's bairn no forbidden ornaments to finger, no breakables to bring him into disfavour with the household deities.

Toy-shops are surely a mark of a high civilisation. There they are in every Japanese street, displaying their tempting stores in piled-up tiers upon the floor, unprotected by any plate-glass window. Prices range from 1 *sen*—less than 3d.—up perhaps to 10 *sen*, which is about fourpence. Miniature guns, swords, bows and arrows, workman's tools, models of domestic utensils, dolls, and everything the heart of child-loving man can devise, are therein quantity. And they are a child-loving race, the *Mikado's* subjects. In our opinion, indeed, they rather spoil their children; yet so mingled with this child-worship is the instilling from earliest years of Confucian wisdom that the evil results do not ensue which would almost inevitably follow if our children were trained up on the same lines. There is a subtle influence, surely, in their very forms of address, brothers and sisters even affixing the *san* as they call out to one another. *San* corresponds to our Mr. or Mrs. or Miss, and except in addressing servants of the very lowest rank, is used invariably. It is usual also to prefix the honorific "O" when addressing a girl—for example, *O Kiku-san* (Miss Chrysanthemum), *O Ume-san* (Miss Plum Blossom). Boys do not get this "O"; and their names are not chosen from the beautiful in nature, as so many girl's names are. They may be taken from the strong in nature, as, for example, *Tora san* (Master Tiger). In the better-educated classes, however, a combination of Chinese characters is chosen, with some lucky significance. Naming after relatives is not common, and, as it is against the law for a Japanese to have a middle name, the necessary distinction is not unusually effected by inventing a new name or modifying an old one. This is very easily done with the practically infinite number of Chinese characters at their disposal.

Glance again at the games, many of which are very similar to, if not identical with, our own. In spinning tops and flying kites the boys excel, while nothing can compare with the dainty and frolicsome grace of the girls playing battledore and shuttlecock or bouncing their balls. The battledore is of wood, and the tap-tap, mingled with merry laughter, is heard all along the streets at the great festive time of the New Year. Frequently a blithe damsel challenges a male friend to a bout, and he almost invariably comes off second best, as the black charcoal streaks on his face—one for every miss—sufficiently betoken. It is during the New Year's week that kites hover above in thousands, kites of all forms—square, circular, man-like, or like a great hawk pursuing.

These two sports are not confined to lads and lasses, but are indulged in by the older people also, who never seem to lose their fondness for play. There are cards, however, and a kind of chess, and that most complicated of games Go, to absorb the mental faculties of the cleverest.

The third day of the third month is the Girl's Festival, and this is held by all classes from nobles to coolies. In the better classes little effigies of the *Mikado* and his wife and the court nobility—all in the ancient, stiff, and not artistic robes of state ceremonial—are exposed to gaze, and with these and other dolls the girls have a happy time. The Boy's Festival is on the fifth day of the fifth month, when from a bamboo pole, surmounting every house where a boy is, a long paper carp flies. The head of the fish is tied to the pole, while the body balloons and fluctuates in the breeze. The motions are startlingly life-like. The carp, which races up rapids and leaps up waterfalls, is regarded as a symbol of the indomitable spirit of man overcoming all obstacles.

From oldest to youngest they are a holiday-loving people. For a bright abandon, without boisterousness, a Japanese crowd *en fête* can hardly be surpassed. This side of the national life has been dwelt upon by nearly all writers on Japan; so much so, that many who derive their information from books must have a very lopsided conception of what a Japanese is. It is with such scenes in his eye that one admirer of the people writes, "They have the nature rather of birds or butterflies than of ordinary human beings." Well might the earnest-minded Japanese say, "Preserve us from our self-appointed champions!" One cannot but feel a great pity and a strong sympathy for a nation that is terribly in earnest and yet is held up to the wide world as more bird-

like than human. We might do worse, indeed, than strive to imitate the Japanese in this power of casting from them the cares of life for a season and entering with childlike zest into the universal merriment of an hour. The Japanese dearly loves a joke and has not yet lost that faculty of laughter, over the decay of which the *Spectator* recently mourned. As Shakespeare has it—

"A merry heart goes all the day;
Your sad tires in a mile-a."

A more hopeful augury Japan could hardly find.

There is, however, one curious mode of festal enjoyment for which it is impossible to get up any enthusiasm. Novelty may give interest and amusement at first; but this soon wears off. I fancy some trait of barbarism lingers in all nations. And in the discordant tom-tomming, whistling, and chanting which accompany certain forms of festival dance we must confess that the Japanese touch closely on the savage. Generally, too, it is a religious fête in connection with some temple. A juggernaut like car passes along the street, carrying the effigy of some deity and a band of so-called musicians. Or it is in the temple-court itself, where a permanent stage or platform is adorned by a positing figure, probably masked, treading out a complicated measure to the rhythmic noises of the orchestra. These *Matsuri* or fêtes are of course only of interest to the common people. The higher classes take their enjoyment of similar character on rare occasions by witnessing the classic *No* dance. This combines a histrionic representation of some legend or tale of heroism with the most extraordinary musical *obligato* that can be imagined. In stiff garb and stately mien the chief actors glide through their monotonous chant, broken by fitful caterwaulings, shrieks, whistles, and drum-beatings from four or five solemnities in the background. The acting is impressive, though conventional and somewhat stilted. The vocal and instrumental accompaniment strongly suggests Milton's "hell-hounds" "singing a hideous peal." This particular kind of music that embellishes the *No* performance is the genuine Japanese classical music. Occasionally, as in realistic representations of storms and battles, it is powerful and appropriate. It is distinctly Wagnerian in the position it assigns to the human voice amongst the other instruments; and this is a characteristic which runs through all the styles cultivated by Japanese musicians. Of these there are several schools, which never overlap. For instance; the Chinese musical school, as it is developed in Japan, is peculiar in the high pitch in which the leading female voice chants the libretto. There is melody in the airs and timeliness in the instrumental *ensemble* of fiddle, guitars, and flutes. But there is no harmony in our sense of the term. Each piece is very long and wearisome in its apparently endless repetitions.

The most interesting school of music is, however, that which cultivates the higher class of popular music. The important instrument is the *Koto*, a kind of six foot zither of thirteen strings. In an orchestra there may be two *koto*, a *samisen* (or three-stringed guitar), and a *shakuhachi*, which in form suggests a flageolet, in sound a wheezy flutesop of a damaged organ. This last-named instrument is said to be very difficult to play; would that it were impossible! The performer must never take a desired note purely, but must approach it by a short-lived quarter tone and leave it with a gasp. The scales on which Japanese popular music is based are similar to some of the old Greek and mediæval church scales. Many of the cadences have a flavour suggestive of Scottish airs in the Dorian mode. In the tuning of the *koto* five notes are given to the octave, which may be represented as intervals by the tonic sol-fa notes *s t d m f*. But by pressing any string beyond the bridge the corresponding note may be lifted in pitch a semitone or even a tone, and, as this is being done constantly by the *koto* player, we have no right to conclude that the Japanese scale has only five notes to the octave. Any simple western air can be played by a good *koto*-player in as correct intonation as is given by the piano. On the other hand, the pressure notes on the *koto* give to Japanese airs a peculiar flavour which cannot be imitated on our piano, and can only partially be produced on the violin. The peculiarity might be termed a pitch-swell, and can be easily given by a voice gliding up a semitone and down again, all in one second of time.

Like painters, ivory-carvers, workers in bronze, and other artists, musicians form a distinct and largely hereditary professional class. The sword-girt *Samurai* of old engaged them to add to the brilliancy and variety of his festive evenings. And there still exists a disposition on the part of those of *Samurai* descent to look down upon the art, although, under the influence of the foreign spirit, some few are beginning to cultivate their faculties

in the Government Musical Academy. The fact that Japanese girls can, when trained, sing our music in good tune, and can learn at the same time both the western violin and the Japanese *koto*, shows that there is no fundamental disparity between their scales and ours. It does not seem, however, that Japanese music speaks to the proud *Samurai* ear any more distinctly than it does to the arrogant European ear. Fully they listen through a long piece of variations upon an air, but their interest is excited only when the words sung or recited appeal to them. One of the most interesting of musical experiences is to see a Japanese audience sitting enthralled at the famous *Heike monogatari*, the ballad history of the struggle between the Heike and Genji, or Taira and Minamoto clans, in the 12th century. This great struggle for supremacy may be likened to the Wars of the Roses. It is a tale of wild and fierce fightings, and ends with the complete extermination of the Heike or Taira clan. In the final battle at Dan-no-ura, near Shimonoseki, a terrible slaughter takes place, and the tragedy reaches its climax as the widow of Kiyomori, the late Taira Chief, leaps into the sea with Aoioku-Tenmō, the child Mikado of five years, in her arms. As the minstrel chants through the wild lay to the still wilder accompaniment of his guitar-like *Biwa*, the attention of the listener becomes tenser and tenser. The men with immovable features stoically suppress their deep emotion. The women find relief in silent weeping. They come, indeed, prepared for this emotional dissipation with a good supply of handkerchiefs in their satchels. In the hands of a master the *Satsuma Biwa* is undoubtedly a most appropriate instrument for accompanying those heroic lays of Old Japan. Its chief peculiarity is the high frets, which enable the performer, with great effect, to produce those pitch-swells or intervals in continuous motion that have already been referred to.

But by far the most popular instrument amongst the lower classes of Japan is the *Samisen*. The professional singing girls or *geisha* are proficient on it; and the strolling minstrel, the descendant of the once outcast *Eta*, makes its twangy tones audible in every street. It is never used as a solo instrument, but always accompanies either singing or dancing. The singing is really recitative, and the dancing is posturing, sometimes very effective and even impressive—but, after the novelty has worn off, excessively wearisome to the foreign ear and eye.

In brief the Japanese are, musically, sadly to be reckoned, and we are not surprised that the high-minded *Samurai* should despise the art. Historically, music and dancing received their great impetus at times of effeminacy and corruption, and to this day *geisha* performances are usually associated with frivolity and dissipation. In former days, when convivial gatherings were ungaced by the presence of the *Samurai* ladies, the necessary feminine element was supplied by the witty, accomplished, well-mannered, and fascinating *geisha*. These were the halcyon days for the professional singing-girls. But with the changed times the ladies of the upper million are beginning to take upon themselves the duties of entertainers as well as ministering angels. The *geisha*, being no longer in demand for high-toned socials, has consequently lost status. This no one can deplore, unless he belongs to that soulless sect of scientific investigators who deplore the impossibility of seeing a good cannibal feast in these days of Church Missions.

The whole question of the social position of woman in Japan is now of surpassing importance. I have touched on the broad features of the old etiquette which kept the wife completely in the background. This etiquette still holds under conditions which are purely Japanese. For example, when dressed in native costume the husband will precede the wife. But when decked out in Western robes the wife will be graciously permitted to enter a room in front of her husband. Truly in Japan the woman has no rights; she has only the great privilege of being allowed to please the man. In spite of the indications that a new dawn is breaking, it is significant that no woman can be present as a spectator in either House of Parliament when the Diet is in session. The time is one of extraordinary transition, unexampled in the history of a civilised nation. The rising generation of girls have a delicate problem before them. To preserve continuity in the passage from a condition of virtual bondage to one of comparative liberty, and to retain throughout those womanly qualities that are their special charm—this is their problem. The man of *Samurai* descent has his problem too; and it is no light one. With all his courteousness and high honour the old *Samurai* had a *hauteur* about him, a disdain for the common arts of life, a spirit of revenge, which are out of sympathy with the social movements of the age. To eradicate these will be no easy matter. To the turbulent *Sōshi*, and to the constitutionally appointed House of Re-

* This use of the honorific by a people whose womanhood is still in a condition of virtual bondage, warns us against placing too much confidence in forms of expression as an index to feeling. Compare our own "your humble servant."

representatives alike, some of these old-world sentiments cling. To take the life of a prominent man is no crime in the eyes of many of his political foes. The spirit of the *vandetta* still lingers, unfortunately, as witness the crowd of worshippers who continue to burn their incense at the tomb of the assassin of Viscount Mori, the late Minister for Education. So near is the nation to its feudal times that the Japanese do not have that feeling which we have for the value of a life. A man is murdered—yes, very pitiable, they say, but what matters it—*shikata ga nai*—it cannot be helped—there is no use crying over spilled milk. In the recent very narrow escape of the Czarewicz at the hands of a momentarily-frenzied constable Japan got a very significant lesson, from which it is to be hoped she will profit. It is easy for people to be wise after the event and to blame the Government for not strongly suppressing the lower class newspapers, which had been indulging in a fierce Russophobia. But it is hardly possible for us to think ourselves into the position of the Japanese. Foreign residents in Japan do not know all the outs and ins of political life in a country whose press is under a censorship that in this land would rouse the very walls to mutiny. They never know all the plots and intrigues that are nipped in the bud by sudden and severe methods. They cannot appreciate the feelings of resentment that the *Sat cho* combination rouses in many a truly patriotic breast. Theoretically the Government went by the board in 1868; yet after all it has practically been a replacement of the Tokugawa by the generals of Satsuma and the statesmen of Choshu. The more thoughtful minds feel little confidence in the sincerity of the statesmen whose clasp has put the helm of the State into their hands. At the same time they have no confidence in the ability of any of the political agitators outside of the Government. Many of them looked with foreboding at the new constitution, with its House of Representatives and House of Peers. The country, they felt, was not fit to govern itself. Recent events have to some extent borne out this view. In its second session the House of Representatives proved so stubborn and pig-headed that the only course the Emperor could pursue was to dissolve it. When we call to mind the storms and tribulations through which our own Parliamentary system struggled to its present imperfect condition, we need not be astonished at what has happened in Japan. To criticise is easy, to scoff at the temporary failure of a grand experiment is easy too; but the critic and scoffer should see to it that there is no obstructive beam in his own eye.

The Japanese themselves recognise that they are in a middle. This truth a native religious paper lately made the text of a call to repentance. After pointing out the misfortunes and calamities of the past year—the burning of the Houses of Parliament, the deaths of Prince Sanjo and Prince Kuni, the attack on the Czarewicz at Otsu, the great earthquake in the centre of Japan, and (most ominous of all) the sudden extinction of the lamps at Ise Temple—this journal thus continues:—

"There are persons who would chaff and say that the fires resulted from carelessness, the deaths from influenza, the Otsu attack from a disordered mind, the earthquake from a law of nature, and so on. Such remarks we may expect to hear from professors at the University or from other shallow persons who have swallowed the spittle of the foreigner. But the true reason for these things is this. There is the mind of the Universe, there is the mind of Gods or Buddhas, and there is the mind of Man. These are not many but one. The first is all-present, the second all-pure, the third an impure mixture. The last is spirit buried under human dust, the second is pure spirit, the first is without substance. The Gods and Buddhas teach us beforehand our fortunes and misfortunes. Now, to-day all is confusion and disorder in Japanese society. Religious people, newspapers, even the jolly story-tellers are quarrelling. Poets and novelists sharpen their nails to scratch each other. The whole nation is a struggling chaos. What are the earthquakes and other physical phenomena but the reflex result of this great commotion? The fault is with ourselves. Our minds are dark; this is the significance of the extinguishing of the lights at Ise; and thus have all these events their meaning. It is for us to reform our ways and gradually to achieve, by patient individual effort, that happiness for which we are fitted."

Whatever may be thought of this sermon, the style of which is not altogether unfamiliar to us, there is little doubt that Japan is forsaking the once well-trodden ways of the gods. It is usual to speak of the Japanese having two religions—namely, Shintoism and Buddhism. In proper parlance, however, Shintoism is hardly worthy of the name of a religion, and now the struggle for

supremacy is between Buddhism and Christianity. A few years ago Christianity, which had so far received its impulse almost entirely from foreign missionaries, entered upon a new phase. Certain young ardent spirits of Christian leanings and high culture determined to give shape to a national Christianity. They were not to be bound by the dogmas of any Western sect, dogmas which so often reflect the historic struggles through which that sect has passed. Such a movement, pushed by men of education and of good descent, might well make the Buddhist priests tremble for the future. Notwithstanding the prevalence of Buddhist shrines and Buddhist sects, it is doubtful how far true Buddhist doctrines have influenced the heart of the nation. With the rise of the Tokugawa power, a new philosophic influence was introduced from China, and intellectually Japan forsook the Buddhist paths, and adopted the pantheistic philosophy of Shintu. This *Tei-shu* system retained its sway in spite of the revival of pure Shinto, which at its best only affected a small number of the educated class. Under it the *Samurai* life was moulded, and the great *Samurai* creed of fealty for the man and obedience for the woman took final shape. The bulk of the nation, however, remained Buddhist, their Buddhism being elastic enough to absorb such Confucian teachings as reached them, or such traditions as had lingered through the centuries. Indeed, the popular notions regarding the lower regions, presided over by Ema Sama, are more suggestive of Dante than of Gautama. It must be noted also that there never was, nor now is, an antagonism other than priestly between the bald, meaningless, because archaic, Shinto rites and the elaborate and more spiritual forms and creeds of Buddhism. A low class Japanese will mutter his prayers as reverently—or as irreverently—at a Buddhist shrine as at a Shinto shrine. The streams of pilgrims that every summer ascend the high hills to perform their vows have no dogmas to irritate their placid souls. Special reasons may make them pay a visit to the shrine of some special deity or hero, but that in no way prevents them worshipping at any other important shrine they may chance to pass. Most tolerant is the workaday faith of the average Japanese. Then again, the educated Japanese of to-day, who is not Christian, is usually Agnostic of the purest Gaius type. One function of the priests, both Shinto and Buddhist, is to officiate at important ceremonies, such as funerals or the naming of children; and it simplifies matters greatly for a non-Christian Japanese to belong to the sect whose temple lies nearest to his abode. If he has changed his residence several times, he may thus belong to several distinct sects, and the collector of each will call round at his house at regular intervals for his donation. Such social duties obviously add to the stability of the traditional religions and rituals.

Japanese Buddhism, it may be mentioned, is widely divergent from its Indian prototypes. There are numerous sects, which denounce each other as heterodox, very much after the fashion of our sects of Christendom. These differ on points of doctrine and practice, but outside the priestly circles no real interest is taken in their disputes. The sacred books have never been translated into Japanese.

Shintoism, on the other hand, has no books, no dogmas, no moral code. Its precept is, Do as you like, only obey the Emperor. It is essentially homage to the Japanese spirit of the past, homage to the gods, to the former *Mikados*, and to the names of heroes of old. Its rites are intimately bound up with certain court ceremonials. Of these rites purification by water is one of the most important. I have heard it stated by an intelligent Japanese that, though Buddhism brought letters and the arts, Shintoism is the source of that cleanliness which is so characteristic of the nation.

Probably no people on earth understand better the art of taking a bath; and certainly none enjoy it more. A Japanese hot bath in a Japanese bath tub is a luxury of which those who have experience only of zinc or marble baths can have no conception. Every respectable house has its own private bath, while in every town and village there are public baths for the vast multitude, to disport themselves in. Then, there are numerous spas with natural hot springs, usually sulphurous and medicinal. The unconcern with which a Japanese will take a bath in full publicity, if the conditions of the place require it, has often struck a foreign traveller unpleasantly. In his haste he has said, or at any rate thought, "What immodesty!" and has similarly animadverted upon the promiscuous bathing of men, women, and children in the districts where present-day police regulations have not been enforced. But here, as in many other cases, we should not judge of a custom from our point of view. In the present instance cleanliness

is the object sought, and the etiquette of the bath-room, or of the bath, if there is no room, differs from the etiquette of the parlour. With us the attitude of waiters is only permitted when the music is sounding. In somewhat similar wise it is with the Japanese. When the necessary operations of washing or doing other work require it, to strip becomes a duty. On the other hand, a Japanese woman would seem to appear *décolletée*; to her eye our ball-rooms are an astonishment, and exposure of the person for display is incomprehensible. Which race is the more conventionally modest I leave others to decide to their own satisfaction.

The external details of Japanese life have been incidentally touched upon, only in so far as they seem to throw a further light upon the deep spring of the Japanese character. In general, the daily customs reflect the daintiness and æsthetic grace which enter so largely into the life of the people, but not always. For example, a Japanese meal is served daintily, very daintily, but there is a certain lack of grace in the manner of its consumption. Without napery of any description, without knives and forks, without spoons, with only a few lacquer bowls and porcelain cups set neatly on a raised tray—such is the preparation for a Japanese meal. It has an æsthetic beauty all its own.

Familiar to all of us is the position Japan takes in regard to art; even the semi-spirious specimens which are now manufactured for the foreign market are sufficiently æsthetic to arrest attention. But what strikes the resident more, the longer he sojourns in the Land of the Rising Sun, is the display of true æsthetic feeling in small things even more than in great things. An ordinary crockery shop is simply a treasure-house of bowls, cups, and plates of dainty form and delicate pattern. In such you can buy a real work of art for a few *sen*—a single plate, perchance, which Kraits could have apostrophised as a "thing of beauty" and "a joy for ever."

The exquisite droop of a branch over a wall will arrest the attention of your *betto* (groom) or *fiuri-kisha* runner. The very chimney sweep will get ecstatic over a vase with a single spray of plum-blossoms set in it. And their whole method of exchanging presents—how graceful, how full of delicate feeling, how æsthetic in the very act! Even a present of fish assumes, in Japanese hands, a positive attractiveness. In a shallow oblong wooden pail, half-full of water and lined with green leaves, splash the live fish, in all the beauty of life. A delicately embroidered square of crape or satin is used to cover the tray on which any gift is laid, and, be it eggs or a roll of silk, it is equally delightful to the eye. The etiquette of present giving on special occasions is very strict, and, where the circle of acquaintances is large, the lady of the house has no easy task to perform. A large share of her time is taken up in selecting and despatching pretty or useful gifts. In the feudal days it was more honourable to receive a gift of money than a set fee for any service rendered; and in this custom we readily find one explanation of the unbusiness-like character of the average Japanese. But, in spite of the rigid requirements of etiquette in the giving of presents on special occasions, the Japanese delight in exchanging gifts at all possible times. Birthdays are not held in particular honour in this respect; "unbirthday presents," as Humpty Dumpty would call them, bulk far more largely in the social horizon of the race. In their shop signs too, the lines of beauty lie embodied. A Chinese ideograph is a work of art; it is a decoration as well as a word picture. It delights the eye of the foreigner, even although he be ignorant of its meaning. As one writer has said, "Whatever these people fashion, from the toy of an hour to the triumphs of all time, is touched by a taste unknown elsewhere."

Take another artistic characteristic, which has not been so much noticed as it deserves—I mean landscape gardening. Of this the Japanese is a perfect master. To the eye that has become educated to the irregular symmetry and restful beauty of a Japanese garden there is a garish vulgarity in our flower-beds, with their regular rows of rainbow colours. Also, is not the Japanese conception of a garden as a retreat for calm enjoyment far superior to ours? In the great majority of cases we have our front garden conspicuously displayed, while the back garden is devoted to peas and cabbages, clothes' ropes, and such like. It is quite otherwise with the Japanese. When you call at his house, you enter by what has all the characteristics to us of a back door. You are then led to the guest-chamber, which lies at the other side of the house, with its verandah opening upon a perfect fairy land of a garden. There you sit and smoke the pipe and sip the tea of friendship in easy desultory chat upon things in general. The host may suggest a stroll in the garden, which, though no larger than a five's-court, will nevertheless repay careful inspection. Every bush is set with a meaning;

* See a recent paper by Rev. Dr. Knox, *A Japanese Philosopher*, in the *Trans. of Asiatic Soc. of Japan* 1891.

* *Japan Mail*, January 2nd, 1892.

every stone has a significance. The fundamental idea of a Japanese garden is a place for summer enjoyment of a leisurely character—as one poet puts it, “a place to stroll in when aroused from sleep.” Hence a garden must look cool; and this is best effected by having a pond in it. Should the nature of the ground not permit of water being introduced, then it is very usual to suggest the idea of water by suitable arrangements. A little bridge crossing a pebbly bed, a flat stretch of sand or bare earth to suggest a lake, are very common tricks, and the delusion is further aided by the grouping of hills, rocks, and shrubs. The effect of a Japanese garden is one of delicious restfulness. One simply looks and enjoys, and is never tempted pluck a flower. Flowers indeed are subsidiary to the general effect, and never crowded together. In their right place flowers, nevertheless, are intensely admired by the Japanese; but it is an eye-worship, not a nose-worship. At the time of the cherry blossoms, when the leafless trees are covered with the delicate pink-white petals, and the whole air is filled with the subtle perfume, the Japanese men out in *gala* costume to the parks and gardens to enjoy the beauty of the scene. And so on through the year; in May when the *Wistaria* hangs its pendulous heads over the ponds at Kameido, in June when the *Iris* unfolds its chalcids in the garden of Horikiri, in August when the *Lotus* lifts its globular flower above the broad leaves that float in the muddy waters of the moat, and in November when the *Chrysanthemum* is the cynosure of every eye, all Tokyo gathers to gaze. The *Camellia* blooms steadily, and we think beautifully, for several months in spring and early summer, but it is not admired by the Japanese. It is considered unlucky; its blossom falls off whole in a way that reminds them of a decapitated head.

In this connection, also, we should not omit a reference to the exquisite beauty of their castles and moats. A drive along the esplanades that sweep round the broad moats of Yedo Castle is a succession of fine effects, especially charming in moonlight. The massive walls, where huge stones of varied size and shape fit with an accuracy that needs not mortar, rise in noble curves above the limpid surface, while over their broad tops spread the long branches of the pine trees which find their root in the earthy rampart behind. Truly the Japanese understand, as no living race does, the beauty of form.

The exquisite grace of the Japanese dress has been dwelt on by all writers. It seems fitted, in a peculiar way, to emphasise the good points of the being it adorns. A man who looks very ordinary, not to say ugly, in European costume, is transformed when he dons the unofficial robes of an old *Samurai*. It gives him a fine nobility of bearing and manliness of mien. Still more striking is the effect of dress upon a Japanese lady. In her own exquisite and delicately tinted garments she is the personification of beauty and grace, of perfect manner and high breeding. Decked out in Parisian robes of finest quality and make she becomes *gauché*, plain-looking, a thing to pity. It is very extraordinary that the adoption of European costume seems to scatter to the winds the very rudiments of true taste in the Japanese. The woollen shops are full of knitted caps and slawls, the red, green, and yellow stripes of which are something to wonder at. This cannot be explained as a result of imitation, for no European or American outside a hallequinade or circus would dare wear such dreadful combinations of colours. It looks almost as if the Japanese had derived their own practice of colour-blending from an elaborate code prepared by some æsthetic genius of old—let us say a gift from the gods. What the code does not cover they must decide upon their own erring responsibility. And oh how erring! for, whatever be the explanation, there is no doubt that in new directions calling for application of fundamental æsthetic principles the Japanese errs in a very extraordinary manner.

Perhaps the weakest side of the Japanese nature, intellectually as well as æsthetically, is this failure to get at principles. But after all, is not this exactly the weakness of humanity generally? It is only aggravated or made more apparent in the Japanese because of their peculiar circumstances. In the rapid and unexampled transition through which, in these thirty years, they have passed, the best powers of the people have been strained over and over again. Particularly true is it of them that their destiny seems too great for them. Empire though they call their country, they have not attained to anything like an imperial conception of national life. Side by side with the steam-engine, the telegraph, and the telephone, there exists in the mind of the half-educated masses a mediæval regard for omens, lucky days, charms, and superstitions. The nineteenth century rubs shoulders with the fourteenth. Loyalty to the Imperial house is based on the fiction of a divine descent. When the fiction

appears in its true colours, as it must do ere long, what will happen to the loyalty? The better educated Japanese of to-day may laugh in English at the folly of the idea; but to him at such in his own language would be as much as to say—Write me down a traitor. In the cultured classes also we find a lack of many of the evidences of an all-round intellectual vigour. Only in one direction, that of pure and applied science, have they made any real progress. In former days they added nothing of value to the philosophy which was simply borrowed from China. In these days they take no deep interest in the philosophy of the West. In purely Japanese or Chinese literature nothing has been done of late which can compare with the masterpieces of a remote past. Modern journalism and modern thought have together developed literary styles which must be sickening to the eye of the old world scholar. It is extraordinary to note how youthful are the editors and essayists that would fain lead opinion in Japan. In the circumstances of the case this is perhaps unavoidable, and it is an evil which time will doubtless cure. There is ample evidence that the Japanese literary man is very utilitarian in his views, and the modern mind of the nation has not yet awakened to the full significance of literature as such. Fiction and poetry are at a very low ebb. Poetry, indeed, as recognised by the Japanese, is an archaic art, so it is small wonder that the present era cannot produce one true poet. With our poetry they have no sympathy. Of the many University professors, all of whom know English or French or German well, I have met not one to whom Shakespeare meant anything. Novels they read for the plot, so that Wilkie Collins cheers where Thackeray bores. In law they have, with the assistance of distinguished foreign jurists, drawn up admirable codes. But there is still to be trained a bench and a bar able to apply and develop these. Japan has not yet produced a true historian. Even the most recent historical studies by the Japanese themselves are vitiated by the lack of judgment. All is tainted by certain preconceived opinions, by what might almost be termed superstitions. Some of these have been already touched upon—for example, the fictitious basis of the national loyalty, the unbroken succession from Jimmu Temo, the supposed facts concerning that semi-mythical Emperor himself. At present the mind of the nation is not fitted to take in the truth that the early “Emperors” were only chiefs of the strongest clan, and that down to the days of Ieyasu, Japan was the arena of clan struggles for supremacy. But one of the most extraordinary superstitions is that the Tokugawa régime was the period of retrogression in civilisation and the arts. It is amazing to find educated and otherwise sensible men maintaining that “in the beginning of the eighth century the people enjoyed security of life and property,” and had reached a higher level of civilisation than they attained to in the eighteenth century. Compare with this statement these facts—letters had been comparatively recently introduced, and slavery was still widespread and continued for many centuries later.

In scientific lines the Japanese have shown a distinct aptitude. They are quick at the “up-tak,” and facile in reproducing the knowledge gained. Here their wonderful memory stands them in good stead. It is perhaps a little too soon to look for the existence of a really original scientific thinker. Yet men might be named who have already made their mark, and whose investigations are known to all who are interested in the subject. In engineering and other practical developments of science they must, however, be content for many years to come to follow the experience of the West.

Foreign residents not unfrequently lose their patience over what seems to be Japanese perversity. The Japanese, in fact, have habits of thought and methods of doing which to us appear complete inversions of the natural. Their very modes of expression are, so to speak, topsy-turvy. A prolonged residence in Japan is, indeed, a splendid training in patience. For the Japanese are never in a hurry and rarely in a flurry, and like all Orientals they are perfect masters in the art of loafing. But undoubtedly the most irritating quality of the average Japanese is his shifty-shallying tendency, his lack of any true business-like faculty. With the exception of a very few important firms in Tokyo, it is rare that work undertaken is executed in the time promised. The ordinary vendor will waste hours in bargaining before he condescends to come down to a fair price. It is all done in the best of humour, and usually in full expectation of the final compromise. If the buyer accepts the first named price his money will be taken, but his character as a simpleton will be established.

Now, it is not for the love of the filthy lucre that the shopman or pedlar thus systematically over-

rates his merchandise. It is simply from an innate delight in bargaining. For there is no sordidness as yet in the Japanese soul—none of that hunger after, and belief in, the almighty dollar, which is the growing curse of commercial peoples. Possibly the worship of gold is inseparable from the accumulation of material wealth and the fostering of the spirit of commerce. Sad if it be so, for hardly then, will the Japanese, as he becomes commercial and business-like, escape the taint of mammon. And there is the more danger of this because of his tendency to exaggerate the material benefits of civilisation, and to depreciate the elevating, spiritualising influences that leaven the people of the West.

And yet our civilisation, although it has evolved a high, moral, and spiritual type that is unknown in Japan, has also produced a low, brutal type that is rarely encountered there. It may fairly be questioned if the average moral tone of the Japanese is markedly, if at all lower than that of Europe or America. From the very nature of the case such averages are difficult to make. Consider, for example, drunkenness. Except at New Year, flower festivals, and certain national holidays, an intoxicated man is very rarely seen in the streets. It has been whispered indeed, by the Japanese themselves, that there is a great deal of nightly boozing in palace and in cot. But on this and on other questions of social morality it is impossible for a foreigner to speak with any authority. He simply does not know. From the absence of any strong public opinion against the indulgences of mankind he is apt to draw the too hasty conclusion that morally Japan falls far short of the average level reached by us. But then what of the other side of the question? How do we as moral agents strike the Japanese? Were it not—I say it deliberately—were it not for the example of the missionary bodies, Greek, Roman, and Protestant, a native of Japan would, from his own observation of European and American life and manners in the East, have difficulty in finding evidence of a superior moral tone. To return, however, to our text, one thing is certain; into the inner heart of this sunny people, the foreign eye has never penetrated. Friendly, very friendly are the Japanese with whom, in his day's work, the foreign resident mingles—pleasant, very pleasant is their intercourse. But there is no real intimacy, no heart to heart converse, no chumming together. In his Japanese friend's house the foreigner is an honoured guest. The deep springs of Japanese family life are hid from his view. Slight indications there may be occasionally that, though all is smiling, all is not smooth. Now and again social earthquakes occur in which a wife possibly is divorced for a mere caprice, but this is rare in the better ranks of society. To the stranger the good-humoured affability of a Japanese may often seem to be the outcome of a frank and confiding nature. But for keeping his own counsel there is not his superior on earth. Rarely does his countenance display the inner feeling of the soul. It is inscrutable. If not expressionless in repose, it is smiling. Then, his very politeness may compel him to hide a disagreeable truth, or at the utmost to express it in very indirect language. His native tongue, with its elaborate impersonal forms of address, and even of command, reflects the whole social sentiments of the people. It abounds in double negatives, in honorifics to the person addressed, in deprecatory phrases concerning self or self's belongings. To behave so as not to grieve others, to keep personal cares in the background, and to sympathise with others in their joys, are rules of conduct that find many curious illustrations and are sometimes strangely misunderstood by the foreigner. But there might be no end to such reflections. In a broad sense, the Japanese are like ourselves, very human. They are probably more callous to suffering and less susceptible to pain, and are not so overweighed with the responsibilities of life. But after a prolonged residence in the country, when the novelty has faded, and only a few characteristics retain their pristine freshness, the impression remains on the mind that to the Japanese, as to ourselves, life is grave. Their history abounds in tragic tales of heroism. The tragic still is, and, let us hope, the heroic too.

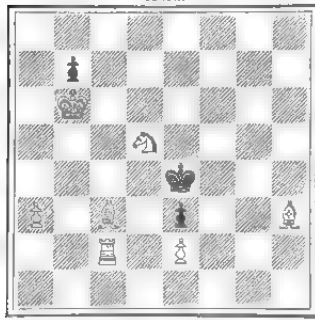
The Marquis Maha Yotha, the new Siamese Minister to London, is already well known in this capital from his previous connection with the Siamese Legation here. He is also accredited to Holland, Belgium, and the United States, and his Excellency will probably go to the Continent next month to present his credentials. It is uncertain when he will proceed to America, especially as there is some idea of appointing another separate Minister to represent Siam at Washington.—*London and Other Express.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 23.
WHITE. 1—B to R 2 2—Q mates at B 4
BLACK. 1—K to Q 5, or 6 1—K to B 6 or 4
 2—B mates at Q 5, or Kt sq., accordingly. 1—B or Kt moves.
 2—Q mates at Q 5
 Correct solution received from W. H. S., Scrochi, J. D., J. W. E., G. S., M. A. W., Ed. B., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 25.
 By W. B. MASON,
 BLACK.



WHITE. White to play and mate in three moves.

Game played August 4th, 1891, in the second division of Class I., at the meeting of the Counties' Chess Association, at Pembroke College, Oxford.

CAVO-KANN DEFENCE.

WHITE.	BLACK.
J. Wilson, Louth.	R. Marriott, Manchester.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—P to K 3
4—B to Q 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to K 5	5—K Kt to Q 2
6—P to B 4	6—P to Q B 4
7—P x P	7—B x P
8—Q to Kt 4	8—P to K Kt 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—P to Q R 3	10—P to Q R 3
11—Kt to K Kt 5	11—Q to K 2
12—P to K R 4	12—P to K R 4
13—Q to Kt 3	13—Kt to B sq.
14—B to Q 2	14—B to Q 2
15—P to Kt 4	15—B to Q 5
16—R to Q Kt sq.	16—P to B 3
17—Kt to B 3!	17—P to B 4
18—Kt x B	18—Kt x Kt
19—B to K 3	19—Kt to B 3
20—B to Q B 5	20—Q to Kt 2
21—P to Kt 5!	21—Kt to K 2
22—P x P	22—P x P
23—R to Kt 6	23—B to B sq.
24—Castles.	24—Kt to Q 2
25—B x Kt!	25—K x B
26—Q to Kt 5 ch.	26—K to B 2
27—Kt x P	27—R to K sq.
28—R x K P	28—R x R!
29—Kt to B 7	29—Kt to Kt 3
30—Kt x Q R	30—Kt x Kt
31—B to B 4	31—K to Kt sq.
32—R to Kt sq.	32—K to R 2
33—B x R	33—B x B
34—Q to Q 8	34—Q to R 2 ch.
35—R to R 2	35—Q to K B 2
36—Q x Kt	36—B to Q 4
37—Q to Q 8	37—P to R Kt 4
38—R P x P	38—Resigns.

A big match was played at the Bay Tree, St. Swinburn's Lane, on the 21st March, when seventy-five players of the Ludgate Circus Chess Club played a like number of the young but strong Metropolitan Club. The former scored 38½ against the latter's 30½. We believe that a still larger number of players have met at a match between the East and West of Scotland a few years ago.

A branch of the New Oriental Bank Corporation has been opened in Paris, under the charge of Mr. L. G. Adams, manager, and Mr. J. R. Bruce, sub-manager, the agency hitherto conducted by Messrs. J. R. Bruce and Co. being discontinued. As soon as the necessary alterations are completed, the offices will be removed from No. 25, Avenue de l'Opéra, to No. 8, Place de la Bourse.—*London and China Express.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, June 24th.
 The platform of the Democrats promises the repeal of the McKinley law and demands the revision of the tariff in the direction of free raw material and a reduction of the duty on manufactured goods.

London, June 25th.
 The borough elections begin on the 4th July. The Chicago Convention nominated Mr. Cleveland.

London, June 26th.
 The House of Lords has passed the Irish Education Bill.
 The Duke of York has assumed command of the cruiser *Melampus*.

London, June 27th.
 At an electoral meeting in the City of Chester a missile was thrown at Mr. Gladstone which struck him in the eye. The effect of the blow compelled Mr. Gladstone to return to Hawarden, where is confined to his room.

London, June 28th.
 The Sultan of Morocco has yielded to the British demands.

The Scottish Home-rule Society has refused to support Mr. Gladstone at the elections since Home-rule for Scotland was not included in his programme.

London, June 29th.
 Mr. Gladstone has recovered from the assault at Chester.

Parliament has dissolved.
 The first meeting of the new Parliament is fixed for August 4th.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, June 8th.
 The Emperor of Russia has visited the Emperor William at Kiel; their Majesties dined together and the toasts were of a most cordial nature. The Czar has been made an Admiral of the German Navy. His Majesty has returned to Copenhagen.

There have been great Russophile demonstrations at Nancy at the opening of the gymnastic fêtes. President Carnot was present and the Grand Duke Constantine was also an unexpected visitor; the presence of the latter is regarded as of the highest political importance. The French Press are jubilant at the visit and considers that it nullifies the importance of the meeting of the two Emperors at Kiel.

London, June 11th.
 The Government have withdrawn the Irish Local Self-Government Bill.

London, June 13th.
 After three days anxious debate the Italian Chamber of Deputies has granted the Premier's demand, and voted a six months' supply.

London, June 14th.
 It is reported that the British East Africa Company intends to abandon Uganda, as their funds are exhausted. *The Times*, in a leading article, urges Lord Salisbury, for the sake of England's honour, to intervene and prevent others from taking Uganda.

London, June 15th.
 All the European Governments, except Russia, have accepted the invitation to send delegates to the International Monetary Conference.

London, June 16th.
 The election manifesto issued by the Parnellites declares that their party sought for peace, but the McCarthyites having refused, there must be war to the knife.

The efforts made for a reconciliation between the Emperor of Germany and Prince Bismarck have failed.

[FROM THE "PIMANO GAZETTE."]

London, June 7th.
 A thunder cloud which burst over the oil region in Pennsylvania partly swamped two towns; the lightning fired the mineral oil, which spreading for miles, caused the death of three hundred and fifty persons.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 8th
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 3rd *	
From America, per U. & O. Co.	Wednesday, July 13th.	
From Manila, per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 10th.	
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 8th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, July 13th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, July 25th.	
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	

* *Forma* left Hongkong on June 13th. *Radio* left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 15th. *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on June 17th. *Natal* (with French mail) left Hongkong on June 16th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 3rd.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 3rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 5th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 9th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, July 15th.
For America.....	per U. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 16th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 19th.	

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 25th June.—Yokkaichi 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Drvenish, 25th June.—Otaru and ports 21st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 25th June.—Kobe 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Ferris, 26th June.—Shanghai 22nd June.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th June.—Hongkong and ports 18th June, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.
Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Rieley, 27th June.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 27th June.—Nagasaki 24th June, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,066, Fukui, 27th June.—Yokkaichi 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fullas (20), cruiser, Captain Angus MacLeod, 27th June.—Yokosuka 27th June.
Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Jaeger, 27th June.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 27th June.—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 28th June.—Otaru 25th June, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Arai, 28th June.—Hakodate 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Wilson, 28th June.—Yokkaichi 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, Tsuge, 28th June.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 28th June.—Otaru and ports 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Musashi Kan (7), Japanese corvette, Captain S. Hiuaka, 28th June.—Shinagawa 28th June.
Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 29th June.—Kobe 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 29th June.—Yokkaichi 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Stokes, 29th June.—Otaru 27th June, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Hokushin Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 30th June.—Otaru 27th June, Coal.—S. Oka.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Ferris, 20th June.—Target Practise, 30th June.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 30th June.—Yokkaichi 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Seale, 30th June.—Hongkong 25th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Drvenish,

30th June.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chih Yuan (5), Chinese cruiser, Captain Tang Shi Chang, 1st July.—Shanghai 28th June.
Wei Yuan (4), Chinese cruiser, Captain Ling Yea Keli, 1st July.—Shanghai 28th June.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Fukui, 1st July.—Yokkaichi 30th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Loosok, British steamer, 1,020, Benson, 1st July.—Hongkong via ports 19th June, General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,249, Cavanly, 1st July.—San Francisco 14th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 1st July.—Shanghai and ports 24th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 1st July.—Otaru and ports 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Ferris, 2nd July.—Shimoda 2nd July.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Ono, 1st July.—Otaru 29th June, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 26th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th June.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Inconstant (4), French gunboat, Captain de Jonquiers, 27th June.—Kobe.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Devenish, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sundai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 27th June.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 27th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 28th June.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 28th June.—Shanghai and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Fukui, 28th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 29th June.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Port Phillip, British steamer, 1,732, C. Grey, 29th June.—New York via ports, General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.
Tauser, British steamer, 1,802, Rieley, 29th June.—New York via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Ferris, 29th June.—Target Practice.
Tobique, British ship, 1,414, McLaren, 29th June.—Nagasaki, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Arai, 29th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Wilson, 29th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 29th June.—Miji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 30th June.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 30th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mikie Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 30th June.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 30th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 30th June.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Ferris, 1st July.—Shimoda to steamer *Haiphong*.
Loosok, British steamer, 1,020, Benson, 2nd July.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Mr. F. Kubo and Mr. T. Onome in cabin; Mr. K. Kishikawa and Miss O. Hakishima in second class, and 23 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sundai Maru*, from Kobe:

—Mr. Kingen and 9 Japanese in cabin; 30 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong:—Mr. A. B. Wise, Mr. W. W. Goodman, Hon. J. Amherst, Rev. A. Britten, Mr. and Mrs. Hargreaves, amah, and 2 children, Lieut. Petrie, Miss Webb and 3 children, Miss A. Langley, Mr. J. P. Reddington, Mr. W. W. Roach, Sub. Lieut. E. L. Leatham, and Surgeon-Major Stoker in cabin; Messrs. D. P. Brown, D. Langley, Nyblett, Harkin, Wm. Bray, and 2 Asiatics in second class, and 1 European and 27 Asiatics in steerage. From Shanghai: Miss L. A. Haygood, Mr. Jaeger, Mr. Suckin, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mathieson, Captain Jno. McLure, Mr. H. R. Kinnear, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips and child, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, Lieut. Com. A. H. Anson, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. A. Ross, amah, and 3 children, and Rev. Pêre Verecarter in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Thistle and 4 children in second class. From Kobe: Miss and Miss Forbes, Mr. P. Stanbury, Mr. H. Taber, Mr. H. O. Phillips, Mr. Couch, Miss Buchanan, Rev. and Mrs. H. G. Appenzeller and 3 children, Mr. Higgins, and Mr. Moorhead in cabin; Mr. Saito and Mr. F. Fioravanti in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Araki Tazawa and Tanaka Hisao in cabin; Messrs. Araki Tamo, Araki Toshinao, Araki Hira, Araki Tashikazu, Kawamata Masaji, and Inouye Kumazo in second class, and 43 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate:—8 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Mr. P. Okawais in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 14 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mikie Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. P. Stadfa in cabin; Mr. P. MacMillan in second class, and 20 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Chas. Kluck and S. J. Gill in cabin. For San Francisco: Messrs. H. Hartnes and P. Nygard in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. K. Sakagami, Miss Kiyama, and Mr. H. V. Pellet in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 34 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—15 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. R. Lane, Mr. C. Abenheim, Paymaster and Mrs. H. Peterson, U.S.N., Commander G. V. Gidley, U.S.N., Mr. T. Shoda, Commander and Mrs. F. W. Dickins, U.S.N., Lieut. H. P. McIntosh, U.S.N., Mr. J. M. Finch, Miss J. Lee, Dr. Paul Ritter, and Mr. C. Warburton in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Inouye, Mrs. Fukushima, Mrs. Kodama, Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Walker and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Amble and 2 children, Mr. Spalding, Mr. Smith, Prof. Burton, Messrs. Chas. Cronie, W. Toller, and Fuchiocka in cabin; 26 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Captain J. Nuel, Mr. G. P. Denbig and 2 daughters, and Mr. H. S. Thompson in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Allinight, Captain Anson, Mr. Andrews, Miss Andrews, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Appenzeller and family, Mr. Askell, Hon. M. Amherst, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Bryant, Colonel J. Bindley, Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. R. Brown, Miss Cunningham, Mr. Dubois, Mr. A. Fance Delaune, Mr. C. D. Fance Delaune, Mr. E. Fance Delaune, Mr. H. Fance Delaune, Mr. and Mrs. Folke, Mr. and Mrs. H. Fraser, Mrs. and Miss Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Firman, Mr. B. Force, Mr. J. Fraser, Mr. Genish, Mr. Goldschmidt, Mr. Goodman, Mr. G. F. Higgin, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey, Mr. E. Humphrey, Mr. J. Humphrey, Mr. J. Hellyer, Miss Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Kaneko, Mr. J. Kubo, Miss A. Kennedy, Miss Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Rudyard Kipling, Mr. H. R. Kinnear, Mrs. Ludlow and son, Mr. Laing, Lieut. Liebert, Mr. Littledale, Mr. and Mrs. Melville and child, Mr. Martin, Mr. Menzies, Miss Menzies, Mr. Motu, Mr. J. M. Moorhead, Mr. J. W. Mason, Mr. C. A. McDowell, Captain J. McLure, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mathieson, Captain Nicholson, Captain Pilkington, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips and child, Mr. Pitcher, Hon. Sydney Parker, Captain and Mrs. Pitt, Colonel Pitt, Lieut. Petrie, Mr. and Mrs. Ross, 2 children, amah, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Roosevelt, Miss Robinson, Mr. Raphael, Mr.

Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, Mr. F. Salvatori, Lieut. H. G. Smith, Mr. Samson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, Mr. C. Sharland, Mr. G. Sharland, Surgeon Major Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. Thistle and 4 children, Mr. A. Thione, Miss Thione, Mr. Thione, Mr. Taylor, Capt. and Mrs. de Tessio, Pêre Vercantein, Mons. de Vial, Mr. A. B. Wise, Mrs. Webb and 3 children, Mr. Webb, Miss L. Webb, Miss G. Webb, Miss Webb, Mr. B. Webb, Mr. W. F. Webb, Mrs. Weca and 2 children, Miss Weed, and Mr. Wagner in cabin; Mr. Bray, Mr. D. P. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Dinmore, Mr. Harkin, Mr. Langley, Mr. M. K. McDonald, Mr. Matsunato, Mr. C. Meadows and servant, Mr. Nyblett, Mr. Takahashi, and Mr. Walcott in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Edna Piase, Mrs. Sato and child, Messrs. Simpson, J. A. Figueiredo, A. Tison, A. McGlew, Rev. H. Moore, and Master C. McKim in cabin; Mrs. Toni and child, Mrs. Funaki, Mrs. Watanabe, Mrs. Nishiyama, Mrs. Mikami, Messrs. Matsuzawa, Mikami, and Tamo in second class, and 47 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$30,000.00.
 Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TRA.				TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	CHICAGO AND EAST.	NEW YORK COAST.	PACIFIC	
Hongkong ...	—	—	188	—	188
Amoy, Hankow, & Kiang ...	1,223	—	5,504	50	6,867
Foochow ...	605	—	613	—	1,218
Shanghai ...	177	1,067	3,380	30	4,554
Nagasaki ...	573	—	—	—	573
Hyogo ...	1,369	285	928	—	2,582
Yokohama ...	2,405	—	730	105	3,140
Total ...	6,212	1,352	11,445	313	19,122

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$89,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain H. Devenish, reports:—Left Otaru the 21st June at noon; had light to moderate winds and rainy weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 22nd at 8 a.m. and left the 23rd at noon; had light wind and fine weather times fogg. Arrived at Oginohama the 24th at noon and left at 2 p.m.; had light wind and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th June at 4.17 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sundai Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th June at noon; passed Oshima at 9.15 p.m. and Rock Island at 9.30 p.m. on the 25th; had gentle breeze with variable winds to Rock Island; thence to port moderate S.S.W. wind and fine clear weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th June at 6.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 26th June at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 27th June at 7 p.m.; had light to gentle S.E. breeze and fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Arai, reports:—Left Hakodate the 26th June at 8 a.m.; had moderate to strong S.W. winds and moderate sea with overcast and cloudy weather with occasional fog, rain, and very strong current against us from Inubuye, which was passed at 11.30 p.m. on the 27th. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th June at 1.10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Otaru the 24th June at noon and arrived at Hakodate the 25th at 8.30 a.m.; had fresh head wind and sea most of the way, with fine clear weather. Left Hakodate the 26th at noon and arrived at Oginohama the 27th at 1 p.m.; had moderate winds from the south with thick fog and rainy weather. Left Oginohama on the same day at 3.10 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 28th June at 8.40 p.m.; had moderate S.W. winds and heavy head swell with overcast showery weather all the way.

The Japanese steamer *Mikie Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Kobe the 27th June at 5.30 p.m.; had light southerly winds to Oshima with heavy rain; from Oshima to Rock Island fine weather; from Sagami to port thick foggy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th June at 7.30 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Seale, reports:—Left Hongkong the 25th June at 1 p.m.; had light winds and fine weather through-

entire passage. Time, 5 days, 6 hours, and 26 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain H. Devenish, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th June at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the 30th at 1 a.m.; passed Rock Island at 4 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, Captain Fukui, reports:—Left Yokohama the 30th June at 5.30 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 1st July at 1.30 p.m.; had fine weather all the way.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left San Francisco the 14th June at 4.15 p.m.; first five days had strong westerly winds with heavy head sea, since have had moderate weather, overcast, and thick fogs a good part of the time; on the 27th, lat. 43.29 North, long. 164.59 East, passed a ship hull painted lead colour, steering east. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st July at 4.35 p.m. Passage, 16 days, 6 hours, and 52 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 24th June at 11.30 a.m.; had light winds and foggy weather to Nagasaki, where arrived the 26th at 4 a.m. and left at 5 p.m. Arriving at Shimomoseki the 27th at 6 a.m. and left at 11 a.m.; had light winds and fog throughout the Inland Sea. Arriving at Kobe the 28th at 2 p.m. and left the 30th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st July at 11 p.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Wakunoura Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 27th June at noon; had light southerly winds and fine weather to Hakodate, arriving the 28th at 8.53 a.m. and left the 29th at noon; had light S. and S.W. winds to Oginohama, arriving the 30th at 0.5 p.m. and left at 3.5 p.m.; thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 1st July at 7.30 p.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Jaeger, 27th June,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Eves & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 30th June,—Hongkong 25th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Stokes, 29th June,—Otaru 27th June, Light.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,822, Ferguson, 6th June,—Shanghai 2nd June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Osus, French steamer, 2,500, Chaboud, 23rd June,—Marseilles 15th May, Hongkong 15th June, Shanghai 18th, and Kobe 22nd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 2nd June,—Kobe 1st June, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Wilson, 20th November,—North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Harris, 19th June,—Cardiff 14th February, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saipan, American schooner, 75, McGinnis, 19th June,—Guam 1st June, Coal.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Timandra, British ship, 1,500, Mowatt, 21st June,—New York 31st January, Petroleum.—Fraser, Farley & Co.

WEEK-OF-WAR.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Captain Chas. L. Adair, 24th June,—Hongkong via ports.

Imperieuse (10), cruiser, Captain McQuhae, 7th June,—Kobe 6th June.

Lion (4), French gunboat, Captain Papaix, 16th June,—Nagasaki via ports 4th June.

Musashi Kan (7), Japanese corvette, Captain S. Hiraka, 28th June,—Shinagawa 28th June.

Pallas (20), cruiser, Captain Angus MacLeod, 27th June,—Yokosuka 27th June.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. H. Henderson, 22nd June,—Hongkong via ports.

Triomphante (12), French flagship, Captain De la Noe, 16th June,—Nagasaki via ports 4th June.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market again shows symptoms of an improvement in business and dealers seem to think that its volume will gradually increase during the next few months, now that the bulk of the Produce requirements has been got through. In Cotton Yarn there has been more demand for English Spinnings, and an advance has been paid on

quotations ruling a week ago for Single Yarns, whilst for Two-folds, and especially the Fine counts, prices are 50 cents to \$1 per picul higher. Some bays have, however, not participated in the demand, and quotations are almost nominal. In Grey Cottons the business has been small with prices easier, and in Fancy Cottons sales have been on a very moderate scale without much change in prices, but in Woollens further large sales for arrival have been reported in Mouseline de Laine and to a moderate extent in Italian Cloths. Sales for the week comprise about 1,000 bales English Yarn, 5,000 pieces gth. Shirtings, 1,000 pieces T-Cloths, 250 pieces White Shirtings, 400 pieces Turkey Red, 300 pieces Velvets, 100 pieces Cotton Italians, 4,000 pieces Victoria Lawns, 300 pieces Prints, 350 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 2,000 pieces Italian Cloths, and 20,000 pieces Mouseline de Laine.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.50
T. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 41 inches	1.30 to 1.55
Prints—Assorted, 41 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satinets Black, 32 inches	0.13 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 55 yds, 42 inches	5.60 to 6.60
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 32 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetas—12 yds, 41 inches	1.15 to 2.25
Turkey Red—1.15 to 2.15, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Red—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Red—2.12 to 3 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Red—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Red—4 to 4.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yds, 32 inches	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.28
Medium—30 yds, 32 inches	0.41 to 0.43
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 32 inches	0.11 to 0.17
Cloths—Pillars, 51½ yds, 32 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Cloths—President, 51½ yds, 32 inches	0.47 to 0.54
Cloths—Union, 51½ yds, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Blankets—Scotch and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.45

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
No. 10/24, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
No. 16/24, Medium	26.75 to 27.25
No. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	28.00 to 29.00
No. 18/24, Ordinary	28.50 to 27.75
No. 28/24, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
No. 28/24, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
No. 38/24, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
No. 48, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 128, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.50
	PER BALL.
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 74.50
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 73.50
No. 10/14, Bombay	50.00 to 60.00

METALS.

Some little doing in Sheets, with a few enquiries for goods to arrive, but the market generally is dull and lifeless. Wire Nails are especially neglected, and quotations for all descriptions of Iron are more or less nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$4.85 to 5.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Market unchanged and firm. Buyers have apparently supplied their present wants, but deliveries are good, and probably we shall see further sales at an early date.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.54 to 1.65
Connet	1.57 to 1.66
Devos	1.52 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.54 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52

SUGAR.

Considerable business at a smart advance in prices and many thousand bags have changed hands. The wreck of the *Haiphong*, off Shimoda, seems to have worked a wonderful change in this market, buyers rushing in to secure some of the stock on hand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$1.20 to 1.30
Brown Daibang	1.30 to 1.40
Brown Indona	3.40 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated the 23rd ultimo; since that date, up to last night, settlements on this market are 424 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures*, 200 piculs; *Re reels*, 100 piculs; *Kukeda*, 85 piculs; *Oshu*, 39 piculs. Direct shipments have been 40 piculs, so that the total business for the week amounts to 464 piculs, and with this the season 1891/1892 is closed.

New Crop.—The above settlement figures include about 300 piculs of new silk, which have been eagerly taken by buyers at gradually increasing prices.

The market was opened on the night of the 23rd by the purchase of 10 bales true *Koshu Filatures*, at \$650 per picul, and this parcel was shipped per *Belgic*. Since then buyers have entered the market, pushing prices up from day to day. The principal demand has been for the so called *Shinshu Filatures*, which indeed are reeled in *Shinshu* province, but made from alien and mixed *Cocoons*. These have advanced fully \$25 per picul from opening price, and holders profess to be very strong at \$10 above our quotations.

The first purchase in new *Re-reels* was looked on the 25th, when *Tortoise-chop* was settled at \$630. A further parcel just to hand is held for \$650, \$640 being refused with scorn. Other very good, serviceable *Re-reels* have found buyers at \$620.

We have nothing fresh to say as to the estimate, expressed in our last, about the production of Japan during the season, which commences to-day. As the month advances, we shall see our way clearer upon this point. At present the weather is very favourable, and there is no reason to suppose that any further damage will be done.

Quotations in our list below are all for new silk. In old staple, some business has been done, chiefly in *Kukeda* and *Hamatsuki* at about previous rates. For these there is not much competition, while for new silks there are many buyers and not enough silk in the market to go round.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The American mail on the 25th June, steamer *Belgic*, carried 50 bales for New York; the English mail *Ancona*, on the 25th ult., carried 56 bales for Europe, the Canadian mail, *Empress of China*, on the 27th, took 51 bales for New York. These shipments bring the total for the season up to 50,138 piculs against 34,294 piculs last season and 35,967 to the 30th June, 1890.

Hanks.—One or two small parcels of *Hachaji* have come in, but proved poor and common. The silk is spongy and of full size. Sellers ask \$450 without finding a buyer.

Filatures.—Some business done in old silk, fine size, for Europe on the basis of last quotations. In new staple, we have seen an excited market, and prices have been pushed up fully \$25 upon the opening. Holders ask yet more and the probability is that they will get what they ask. Practically the market is cleared of new silk and fresh arrivals, when they come to hand, will command still higher prices.

Re-reels.—The market was opened on the 25th ultimo by a purchase of *Tortoise-chop* at \$630. Fresh arrivals of the same chop are held for \$650. Other kinds have been settled from \$620 to \$630, useful silk, although running full in size. Some old *Re-reels*, very common, have been done at from \$480 to \$520.

Kukeda.—The business done has been in old silk and the purchases have all been for Europe. The prices paid have been about \$500 for very medium stock.

Oshu.—Some few parcels have been sent home to Europe on consignment for native account.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 18	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Oshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 34	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	\$650 to 690
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kukeda—Extra	—

Kakadas—No. 1	—
Kakadas—No. 14	—
Kakadas—No. 2	—
Kakadas—No. 24	—
Kakadas—No. 3	—
Kakadas—No. 34	—
Kakadas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Solai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 30th June, 1892:—

	Season 1891-1892	1890-91	1889-90
Europe	19,005	15,319	15,128
America	30,935	18,143	20,377
Total	49,941	33,462	35,505
Settlements and Direct	50,550	34,750	35,907
Export from 1st July	50,550	34,750	35,907
Stock, 30th June	1,750	1,650	2,000
Available supplies to date	52,300	36,400	38,400

WASTE SILK.

The only transaction has been 30 bales of common *Filature Kibiso*, old fibre, at \$75 per picul. Beyond this nothing has been done, and the season is finished.

One parcel of *New Joshi Noshi* is said to have arrived, being of the ordinary mixed quality common to early arrivals. Holders are said to ask \$65 for it, but the goods at the price do not seem to tempt buyers.

No samples of Pierced Cocoons are yet in the market, although some are expected in the course of a few days.

There has been only one shipment during the week, by the English mail *Aucana*, which vessel carried 35 bales for Marseilles and 27 bales for Trieste. This departure brings the total export for the season, closing last night, up to 35,386 piculs, against 32,325 last year and 29,752 piculs at the 30th June, 1890.

All quotations withdrawn until some business is done in new fibre.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bansu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 30th June, 1892:—

	Season 1891-92	1890-91	1889-90
Waste Silk	31,287	31,138	27,562
Pierced Cocoons	2,099	1,287	2,190
Total	33,386	32,425	29,752
Settlements and Direct	37,250	31,800	29,600
Stock, 30th June	3,550	2,200	4,500
Available supplies to date	40,800	34,000	34,100

Exchange has fluctuated somewhat, closing as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71½; 4m/s. U.S. \$72; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3/73; 6m/s. fcs. 3/76.

Estimated Silk Stock, 30th June, 1892:—

RAW.	WASTE.
Hanks	Cocoons
285	100
Filatures	Noshi-ito
350	2,000
Re-reels	Kibiso
750	1,100
Kakada	Mawata
175	180
Oshu	Sundries
190	170
Tayssam Winds	
Total piculs	Total piculs
1,750	3,550

TEA.

Second crop leaf coming to hand freely, demand good, market firm, stock reasonable. Quotations unchanged; shall give statistics in our next.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$31 to 33
Choice	27 to 29
Finest	24 to 26
Fine	21 to 23
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	13 to 14
Common	11 to 12

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly from last week's low figure and towards the close showed signs of falling still further.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3/65
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	3/76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	11 3/4 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2 3/4 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	70½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	71½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	70½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	71½
Silver	40 3/8

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KILLS
BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
MOSQUITOES.

HARMLESS TO ANIMALS.
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but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS in FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THE PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that packages of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins and Bottles only.

March 26, 1892.

FOR SALE, THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:

SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:
No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

19.

BOARDING HOUSE FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmisgivable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout World. May 1st, 1890.

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IN ALL USUAL SIZES.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

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Of all Dealers.

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LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD!

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GUARANTEED

BEST QUALITY, BEST VALUE.

TRADE MARK.

May 14th, 1892.



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STEAM LAUNCHES & YACHTS

Fitted with KINGDON'S PATENT MACHINERY (of which we are sole makers) are far superior to any others. The chief advantages are:—

1. Wonderful Economy of Fuel.
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 3. Moderate Prices.
 4. Greatest obtainable power for weight and space occupied.
 5. Quickness in raising steam.
 6. High rates of speed guaranteed.
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- We build Steam Launches of every description, from the smallest size suitable for carrying on yachts of 40 tons and upwards. We also build small light Draft Paddle Boats, Tugs, Stern Wheel Paddle Steamers, and Boats in Frames &c., &c. We supply sets of Machinery separately. We are also sole makers of the

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Feb. 20, 1892.

1y.

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SANTAL-MIDY entirely different from the santal oil of the Indian Bazaars, is superior to Copaiba, Cubeb, or injections, and free from all bad smell or other inconveniences.

SANTAL-MIDY cures all derangements of the urinary organs in either sex in 48 hours.

SANTAL-MIDY is contained in small round Capsules, each of which bears the name..... MIDY in black letters, without which none are genuine.

SANTAL-MIDY Beware of imitations, all other Capsules or mixtures contain impurities, resins, oils &c. and are worse than useless.

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MATURED IN SHERRY CASKS.

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The letters B O S are the Name, Brand, and Registered Trade Mark of this Matchless OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

B O S

*** Gold Capsule.

** Blue "

* Green "

Exquisite blendings, possessing a flavour so rare, a character so novel and so entirely their own, that they may fairly claim the very first place among high-class stimulants. Clever judges pronounce them *unique and unrivalled*.

B O S Whiskies are remarkable for their "delicious individuality of flavour," mellowness and softness on the palate.—"A very Nectar," in marked contrast to ordinary blended Whiskies, which are more or less dominated by one or other of the Whiskies used in blending.

B O S is sold in square white bottles, labelled and capped, the quality being verified by a small label on each bottle. The Proprietors are skilled blenders of Scotch Whiskies, but in all the experience of their Firm, extending nearly over the present century, they have never been able to accomplish anything so fully complying with the most exacting tests, as is now presented in the special blends of B O S.

Correspondence invited from Firms who desire to handle our Whiskies.

PEASE, SON, & CO., LEITH, SCOTLAND.

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The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.



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The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel; the safest and most gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sufferers of Pregnancy.

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 9TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可認會清通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 9TH, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

On the evening of June 30th, at the residence of the officiating clergyman, Okayama, before Hon. E. J. Smithers, U.S. Consul, by the Rev. J. H. Petree, the Rev. Schuyler S. White to Miss Ida Augusta McLennan; both members of the American Board Mission.

On the 9th inst. by W. Filliston, Esq., U.S. Consul-General, and afterwards by the Rev. E. Hampneys Irvine, M.A., Christ Church, ELIZABETH HEATRICE, 2nd daughter of the late F. C. Webb, M.D., F.R.S.P., of London, to AUGUSTUS WELLINGTON, and son of A. W. Payne, Esq., of New York.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Emperor visited Count Goto at his private residence on the 4th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO left Shinagawa on the 1st inst. for Kiushu.

MR. MURATA, Japanese Consul-General at Fusan, left for his post on the 5th inst.

THE graduation ceremony of the Imperial University will take place on the 10th inst. at 10 a.m.

THE Botanical Garden of the Imperial University was visited by 1,112 persons during last month.

THE leading residents of Kochi intend to construct a railroad between Kochi and Ino in the Prefecture.

A FIRST class Meteorological Observatory has been opened at Tadotsu in the Tadotsu District of Kagawa Prefecture.

VICE-ADMIRAL VISCOUNT KABAYAMA, Minister of State for the Navy, has been decorated by the French Government.

DURING the night of the 26th ult. an alarming fire occurred at Tomikimura, Hasaha-gun, Ishi-

kawa Prefecture, destroying 107 houses, 3 temples, a post office, a police station, and a village office.

DURING last month 165,584 passengers left Shimbashi Railway Station, by whom yen 39,114.94 was paid for tickets.

THE various Government offices in Tokyo will be opened at 8 a.m., and closed at 12, noon, from the 11th inst. up to 10th October.

A SEVERE rainfall was experienced in Kyoto on the 28th ult., causing several rivers to overflow. Two children are reported missing.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, Minister of State, and Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, have been permitted by the Decoration Board to wear decorations conferred on them by the Czar.

THE dividend of the Tokyo Tramway Company for the first-half of this year is estimated at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum; that of the Tosegawa Shipping Company, Tokyo, at 5 per cent.

THE Directors of the Osaka Electric Light Company and the Oni Rice Exchange propose to declare dividends for the first half of this year at the rates of 10 per cent. and 17 per cent. per annum respectively.

THE returns of visitors to the Imperial Museum in Ueno Park, Tokyo, for June were:—4,064 adults, 139 children, and 294 students; and to the Zoological Garden:—9,921 adults, 817 children, and 265 students.

THE number of visitors admitted to the Tokyo Library during last month was 6,575 (5,667 ordinary and 608 special visitors), by whom 42,849 books (2,750 foreign and 40,095 Chinese and Japanese works) were inspected.

THE marriage of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito and Lady Yamaneuchi Yaye took place on the 6th inst. The Prince and Princess paid their respects to Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress the same day.

THE dividends of the Yokohama Bank, the 74th National Bank, and the 2nd National Bank, Yokohama, for the past half-year are estimated respectively at the following rates:—3 per cent., 11 per cent., and 16 per cent. per annum.

THE Commander-in-Chief of the French Squadron on the Asiatic Station, paid his respects on the 30th ult. to Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu, Fushimi, Kitashirakawa and Kanin at their respective residences.

CAPTAINS TANG SHI CHANG, of the *Chih Yuen*, and Ling Yea Keh, of the *Wei Yuen*, Chinese cruisers, recently at Yokohama, called on the afternoon of the 1st inst. on the Governor of Kanagawa and the Superintendent of the Yokohama Customs House at their respective offices; afterwards they visited the Chinese Consulate.

DURING the month of April last the total number of spindles at work in 33 Cotton Mills throughout the Empire was 325,280, and the quantity of cotton used was 1,026,925 *kwamme* (one *kwamme* = 84 lbs.), from which 868,345 *kwamme* of thread were obtained. Coal consumed in the mills during the month amounted to 15,825,780 pounds.

MR. W. SIMPSON, an American, now staying at the Grand Hotel, was relieved of his gold watch, valued at over 300 yen on the 29th ult., while witnessing the wrestling performances at Kumocho, Yokohama. The Japanese Police Authorities were informed of the occurrence, and

after a diligent search they were able to restore the watch to its owner the following day. The police state that the watch was discovered in the hands of a Chinaman living at No. 189, Settlement, who explained that he had bought it from a Japanese for the small sum of 8 yen.

THE presentation of certificates to graduates of the Kogyo Gakko, Kanda, Tokyo, took place on the 4th inst. in presence of a large party of distinguished guests. During the course of the proceedings a congratulatory address was read by Count Oki, Minister of State for Education, and an address was given by Mr. Kawase Hideharu, to which the representative of the graduates replied.

THE suit raised by Messrs. Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co., Yokohama, against Mr. Utsumi, Governor of Kanagawa, for the recovery of kerosene oil, alleged to have been wrongfully delivered by the latter to an unauthorised Chinaman by whom it was subsequently misappropriated, has been decided in the Yokohama Local Court in favour of the defendant. The plaintiffs have appealed in the Tokyo Court of Appeal against the decision.

THE Import trade continues healthy generally, and a further improvement can be recorded in Yarns at better rates, the sales of last week having increased by about 30 per cent. for English spinnings, and a few lots of Bomblays have also been taken. The rice crop having been planted out under favourable conditions, and the present weather being everything that could be desired, country dealers ought shortly to be turning their attention to supplies for the Autumn trade, as the agricultural outlook is of the kind to encourage the replenishment of stocks in the interior, which in many places are known to be exceedingly low. For Piece-goods there is considerable enquiry. At present prices are somewhat low, but the stocks are not heavy, and prices are more than likely to take an upward turn as the Autumn approaches. Metals, as usual in July, are very quiet, and quotations may be called nominal. Kerosene is very firm, and in view of no arrivals and a not excessive stock, dealers will certainly have to pay more before they pay less than recent rates. All Sugars have hardened, and though no great amount of business has been done during the week, buyers appear anxious to secure parcels, fearing a further rise on a diminishing stock. The Silk trade is not yet in full swing by a long way, and though some handsome new fibre has come in, the parcels are still small, while the prices asked are very high. Notwithstanding the latter condition, however, competition has been keen in certain quarters, and there is every appearance at present of current rates being maintained, and even advanced if the reports in regard to the Italian crop turn out to be correct. So far as can be seen, the reported damage to this season's Silk crop will be a smaller factor than the method of its preparation in the value of the total out-turn, for the advice so often tendered by experts in respect to evenness has already in certain cases shown signs of being disregarded. Settlements for Tea, which in the earlier part of the season were considerably below those of last year, have crept up till they have assumed the dimensions of a year ago at date, namely, 12½ million pounds. Some buyers now begin to pause—though the trade is still brisk—and full rates have to be paid for good leaf, which is gradually getting scarcer as the season advances, the bulk of that on offer being second crop. Exchange has further declined during the week, though at present there appears to be a check upon the downward course of silver.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO COUNT GOTO.

The Emperor's visit to the private residence of Count Goto at Shinagawa took place on Monday. His Majesty has now signified his intention of conferring a similar honour on Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies. The Imperial visit to the residence of the Marquis will take place on the 9th instant at 1 p.m., and will be followed by a visit from the Empress on the next day at the same hour. The Marquis will have the pleasure of receiving the Sovereign in his new house in Nagatacho. The house was in process of building for three years and its completion took place very recently. It is an imposing and spacious edifice of brick and stone, and it occupies one of the most admirable sites in Tokyo, commanding an extensive view of the city and the sea on the north and of Shinagawa and Fujiyama on the south and west. The architectural beauties of the place are not remarkable. Rumour says that romantic adherence to the designs of a deceased architect, who would doubtless himself have introduced some modifications had he lived to carry out the work, is responsible for certain peculiarities which do not appeal to everybody's taste. Nevertheless the house as it stands is one of the most imposing private residences in Tokyo.

Vernacular journals say that the Emperor left the Palace at 1.15 p.m. on Monday to proceed to the private residence of H.E. Count Goto at Shinagawa. His Majesty was accompanied by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, Viscount Sugi, Grand Master of Ceremonies to the Empress, and many other high officials of the Palace. The Imperial party, proceeding by the route previously announced, reached the house of the Minister of State for Communications at 1.50 p.m. Count and Countess Goto and others receiving His Majesty within the gates. The Emperor was at once conducted to a tent erected in a grove of plum trees. Close by was a Throne Room, furnished in European style, the floor covered with thick velvet carpet and the chairs and tables with brocade. This room opened into a waiting salon, which was in Japanese style. Everywhere huge blocks of ice, enclosing various kinds of flowers, had been placed to cool the air. Among the guests were their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu (senior and junior), Kitashirakawa, and Kusunoki, all the Ministers of State, Count Ito, Marquis Nabeshima, Count Higashikuni, Marquis Hachisuka, Count Kuroda, several Privy Counsellors and members of the Diet, the total number being over 300. Soon after his arrival, the Emperor gave audience to Count and Countess Goto and all their family, sons, daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters. Various arrangements had been made for the amusement of the Imperial Party. A *No* dance was the first performance. It was danced by Umewaka and other well known experts, on a beautifully decorated stage. This commenced at a little after 3 o'clock and lasted until nearly six, when His Majesty dined, the Princes of the Blood and various distinguished personages, to the number of about forty, being of the party. After dinner a display of legerdemain was given by Shoichi, and subsequently the celebrated *Koshakushi* Joyen recited a tale of the Nagashino campaign. After dark the branches of all the trees in the spacious grounds surrounding the house were illuminated by thousands of lanterns and electric lights, and myriads of fire-flies were released on the banks of the lake. The scene is said to have been very beautiful. The Emperor left at 9 p.m.

THE UNITED JAPANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Our readers are aware that a meeting of the various Chambers of Commerce of the Kwansei has been held in Osaka, and that a draft of rules for the United Chambers has been submitted for consideration. We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* that the draft was to be considered on the 2nd instant by delegates

from the Kobe, Otsu, Osaka, Sakai and Kyoto Chambers. The rules are given as follow by our contemporary:—

RULES OF THE UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

- 1.—This Association shall be called the United Chambers of Commerce Association (*Shogyo Kwaigi-sho Rengo-Kai*).
- 2.—This Association shall consist of members representing the United Chambers.
- 3.—The purpose of the Association shall be to investigate all business connected with Chambers of Commerce, and submit the results of its investigations.
- 4.—The decisions arrived at by the Association shall not be binding on the several Chambers forming the union.
- 5.—The Association shall not publish any opinions in its own name or engage in any design.
- 6.—Each Chamber belonging to the union shall choose two of its members and send them to represent it in the union.
- 8.—Two Managers shall be chosen to look after the business of the Association. Their term of service shall be one year, and in the event of a Manager's post not being filled, or of his absence, a suitable substitute shall be appointed from among the officials of the Chamber to which he belongs.
- 9.—The meetings shall be regular and emergency. The regular meetings shall take place in September of every year, the emergency meetings shall be held in accordance with a requisition from the five Chambers of the union.
- 10.—The place of each regular meeting shall be fixed at the regular meeting the year before and the place of an emergency meeting shall be indicated to the Managers by the projectors.
- 11.—Drafts of bills to be submitted to a meeting shall be sent to the Managers four weeks, at least, before the day of meeting, accompanied by documents of explanation and reference, and the Managers shall take steps to lay them before the various Chambers three weeks, at least, previously to the day of meeting.
- 12.—Bills not complying with the provisions of the preceding article cannot be submitted to a meeting unless they have the approval of three of the United Chambers.
- 13.—The rules of Debate shall be separately determined.
- 14.—The expenses of the Association shall be borne by the various Chambers.

FREIGHT TO CHICAGO.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a strongly worded paragraph on the subject of the freight to be charged for transport of goods from this country to the Chicago Exhibition. It was originally promised, we read, that exceptionally favourable rates would be given to intending exhibitors, but according to the programme now announced, the charge per ton from Yokohama to Chicago is to be \$16 (gold), whereas the charge under ordinary circumstances is only \$14. It is true that the former charge is to include the return of the goods to Yokohama within one year, if not sold there. But inasmuch as every exhibitor hopes to get rid of his exhibits on the other side, and will bring back nothing unless the price offered for it involves heavy sacrifice, the carrying companies stand to do a very pretty business. The rate proposed for the double journey is a reduction of only 43 per cent. on the full charge each way. That means that unless the sale in Chicago aggregate less than 43 per cent. of the total exhibits, the carrying companies will be making no reduction whatever; and that if the sales pass 43 per cent., the companies will receive higher freight than they would receive under ordinary circumstances. The *Nichi Nichi* says that, so far from affording facilities to exhibitors, such charges would be simply a device to exploit them in connection with the Exhibition. But surely there must be some misunderstanding. It is inconceivable that the Steamship and Railway Companies should have framed such a tariff.

A REMARKABLE MANIFESTO.

MR. OT KENTARO, the leader of the anti-mixed-residence party, possesses undoubtedly some elements of greatness. He knows how to seize an opportunity, and that knowledge carries a man far towards success. He has just issued a manifesto which will repay our readers' perusal as emanating from certainly one of the most resolute, reckless, and outspoken of Japanese Radicals:—

MR. OT KENTARO'S MANIFESTO.

For many years, obedient to the motto "suffer first and be happy afterwards," I have made common political cause with the people of the Eastern Provinces (*Kwantō*). The time has at last come when a great national problem has to be determined

once and finally. But unfortunately, at this vital juncture, almost every one of our so-called statesmen is found to possess only narrow and limited ability. All alike hasten to grasp some present advantage. In their short sighted eyes, the future looks as vast and obscure as a great ocean. They discover no way of reaching the other side of the wide expanse of water. What will be the fate of the nation should no spirited man arise at this crisis? After long meditation I have conceived a design concerning which I desire to address my old friends and associates, spirited men of the East. Should I be so fortunate as to obtain their approval, I will then proclaim my purpose throughout the empire and collect all who sympathize with our views. We shall then stand outside the Government and the Diet, and shall organize a powerful association to discuss the vital problems of the nation. Since a constitutional form of Government was established, we have indeed our Cabinet and our Diet, but men of spirit cannot rest content with these things, or wait quietly while the nation declines and falls, as must be the result unless the great problems now pressing for solution receive adequate attention. Spirited men of the East, it is time for you to stand forth.

Apparently the policy hitherto adopted by the Popular Party has been to reject every Bill presented by the Government, the intention being to paralyse the Administration and compel those in power to resign their positions. On the other hand, the apparent programme of the Government is to stand their ground in the face of all opposition, and in the event of the Popular Party maintaining its present attitude, to put forth their whole power with the object of keeping the administration in the hands of the clans. If this be a correct estimate of the attitudes of both sides, the collision between the Government and the Diet will continue from year to year, and the affairs of the nation must be neglected in the interval. Even though able men should appear upon the stage, they could accomplish nothing under such circumstances. On the other hand, consider the present condition of the world. The time for a terrible international collision in Europe is coming nearer every year, and the day when that collision occurs will also be a day of confusion for Oriental nations. The completion of the great Siberian Railway, too, is approaching, and the difficulties of Japan's struggle for independent existence will be inconceivably augmented. It would seem, in short, that an epoch some five or six years hence must be the most important in the history of Japan's independence. If an interval of such value is to be wasted in collisions between the Government and the Diet, problems of vital national importance will be neglected, and we shall find ourselves helpless when the moment of danger is at hand. Surely, then, the time has come for patriots to stand forth on behalf of the country's welfare.

The present situation of the empire may be compared with that of a family the head of which, abandoned to profligacy, devotes himself entirely to women and wine, and takes no thought to rule his family, while his wife and servants, exasperated by his dissipation, also neglect the house and pay no attention to the education of the children. So the moment of bankruptcy inevitably approaches. When the master of the house is profligate, the wife and servants must rule in his stead, or ruin will be the result. Neither the Government nor the Diet is wanting in patriotism. How is it then that neither the one nor the other grieves at the decline of the national power, and is content to fritter away valuable moments in the adoption of a time-serving policy? We cannot approve, nay are totally opposed to, the Government's persistent tenure of administrative power, in defiance of the popular will. But, on the other hand, we cannot possibly approve the policy of the Popular Party. Let us consider the matter for an instant. Has not the Popular Party declared that it has no confidence in the present Government? Hence, like the wife of a profligate householder, the Popular Party must take upon itself the duty of solving national problems. But the Government consists of men who, being only human, naturally say, "if the Popular Party attacks us by evil stratagems, we too shall resort to similar stratagems for our defence." The one side may continue to reject the Bills of the other, but the latter is all the more stubbornly pledged not to give up the administrative power. If the Popular Party desire to obtain that power, it must resort to brute force, for powers obtained by war are surrendered only on compulsion. To outsiders all this presents the appearance of sacrificing the welfare of the nation to individual ambition. The Popular Party, neglecting matters of State, confines itself to simply declaring that the Government has forfeited credit by its corruption, and that all Government Bills must consequently be rejected, even though some of them be good and

calculated to promote the welfare of the country. Five or six years may quickly pass in this fruitless quarrel, and meanwhile what is accomplished for the saving of the nation? What will be posterity's criticism of the Popular Party? Are its members without any sense of shame? Should the empire fall while the Government and the Popular Party fight, the responsibility will rest on both, which ever be in the right. Thinking of these things, I am filled with apprehension.

The responsibilities devolving upon us members of the Popular Party are indeed heavy. We have to consider the great problem of how to save the country. If we neglect that duty, posterity will regard us as we regard the wife and servants of the profligate householder. It behoves us carefully to consider our position. When the four walls of a beleaguered city are completely guarded, the garrison remains within and is not easily defeated. But if one wall be left unguarded so that the garrison can escape, the capture of the place becomes comparatively easy. Does not the Popular Party attack the Government according to the former plan? If the enemy is closely besieged they fight bravely within their walls. To save themselves they ultimately resort to the dissolution of the Diet. In that event, should the Government be victorious in the elections, well and good. But if it lose, if it find itself again confronted by a hostile majority in the House, it will ultimately resign as the Popular Party desires. Such resignation, however, merely signifies that a former Cabinet comes into office, clan statesmen retaining administrative sway all the while. With such a prospect in view, it is impossible to tell how long must elapse before the real aim of the Popular Party can be attained. If, while year after year is frittered away in these political disputes, the great problems of domestic policy are neglected and measures for securing the country's independence deferred, upon whom will the responsibility devolve? In the ranks of the *Fiyu to* are many patriots who have sacrificed themselves for the welfare of the nation. If a Party thus possessing the confidence of the people be unable to reform abuses or to save national problems from being buried away in a struggle with the Government, so that not even a clause of the Law of Elections can be amended, and the empire hears nothing but a story of perpetual collision with the Administration, posterity, so far from approving, will utterly condemn us.

To achieve any noteworthy deed in the world, a man must educate his own strength first, and then make his essay on sound lines. Is the Popular Party strong enough at present to undertake the great responsibilities of the State, or are its plans good enough to save the nation? I do not believe that it possesses any such strength. Though more than one half of the members of the House of Representatives belong to the Popular Party, I cannot think that their ability or experience are sufficient to warrant their being entrusted with those great responsibilities at once. If a man wishes to save another from drowning, he must jump into the water himself. So it is with a nation. To rescue a nation fast sinking in an abyss, the rescuer must plunge into the abyss. If the policy of the present Government be condemned, and if it appear that the nation is in danger, let spirited men be aroused who love the land and are ready to sacrifice themselves in its behalf. The men who accomplished great deeds at the time of the Restoration do not now give serious thought to the condition of the nation. They are content to have achieved that one great act. But does the Popular Party entertain any such great design or is it inspired by any such resolution? What can be more fatuous than to organize a number of feeble-minded Representatives, and seek by the clatter of their tongues to obtain the administrative power? The form of government has been changed to constitutional, but it is only a nominal change. Its actual working does not differ from the fashions transmitted from feudal times. We were foolishly misled when we imagined, that, in obedience to Western precedents, the Cabinet would resign if defeated in the Diet. To effect a great national reform men must sacrifice themselves. They must collect spirited fellow thinkers who are ready to act in concert with them, and brave enough to push forward with their full force even to the gate of death. Why should any devote themselves to the paltry object of gaining a victory in the House, merely to tickle the fancy of feeble members who care but little for their country? Such a line of conduct is analogous with that of panders who stand outside brothels to inveigle profligate passers by. Unless the strength of the Party be put forth and unless great works be accomplished now, when will either the one or the other be possible. Reason is reason, whether it be proclaimed by one voice or by ten thousand. But the views of thousands are easy to put into practice, whereas the views of a solitary individual, however just, are virtually powerless. It is so in interna-

tional negotiations. The country that commands a large fleet and a numerous army can always get what it wants. Truly it is lamentable that our once powerful Radical Party should have degenerated into a spiritless and helpless band of politicians. Is it not plain that the evils of the day are mainly due to the false fancy that by means of such feeble minded persons a great national reform can be accomplished? In feudal days it used to be said that the eight provinces of Kwan-to were strong enough to fight against the world. The old-time proverb is not less true to-day under a constitutional government. For the eight Kwan-to provinces are situated in the middle of the empire, and are the centre of politics. Moreover, they abound with spirited and heroic men. No undertaking, however great, if prompted by them has failed to succeed. If the men of the Kwan-to unite to undertake a noble enterprise and, gathering together all the men of spirit throughout the empire, discuss with them national problems and set themselves resolutely to solve constitutional questions, advising the Government how to govern and the people how to determine the policy of the nation, our aims will be achieved and our attitude towards foreign countries fixed. Men of Kwan-to, it is your duty to labour for the welfare of the country. The nation is sick, and in the outer world a great crisis is impending. When we look northwards we see,

A vast limitless waste,
Where human shadow never falls;
Nor in the bitter frost-bound air
Is any sound heard, save the crack
Of ice that drifts in sullen mass
On streams unbeaten by the ear.

If we do not apply some strong remedy to the growing disease, what will be the fate of the empire, what the destiny of the nations of the Orient? What indeed!

It appears to us that constitutional methods are much too slow for Mr. Oi Kenjiro. He has always had faith in muscle, and he returns to his old belief. The Manifesto is purposely obscure, but it can bear only one construction. It is an invitation to all the truculent persons in the empire to band themselves together for the purpose of imposing their will on the Government and on the people. Revolution under the guise of reform: an ancient story. Mr. Oi thinks that the time has come for such an essay. We should rather say that the time has passed.

THE EXCURSION TRAIN TO NIKKO.

THE first excursion train over a considerable distance of railway ever run in Japan was tried by the Nippon Railway Company last Sunday, over the portion of their lines between Tokyo and Nikko—92 miles, and although the enterprise was carried out in a rather curious fashion, when looked at from a Western point of view and usage, it has met with every success. The train was to be run if 300 tickets were applied for by the 29th ult.; applications however for over 500 were received by that date; and on Sunday morning the platform at the Ueno Station presented a bustling appearance, when 521 pleasure-seekers, mostly of the middle classes, dressed in their holiday garments, assembled at the point of departure. Sixteen large carriages were provided, and the accommodation was ample. The train drawn by one engine left Ueno punctually at 5 o'clock, the appointed time; and at Utsunomiya another engine was coupled on to assist in hauling over the steeper gradient of the remaining 26 miles. Though some 15 minutes late, the excursionists were brought into Nikko without any mishap. The return special came back in due time carrying about 400 passengers who appeared to have enjoyed the trip well. Nikko presented a busy aspect during the day; jinrikisha men, guides, and tea houses doing a thriving business.

It is stated in the vernacular papers that the applications for excursion tickets to Nikko being numerous, the Railway Company has decided to run cheap trains periodically. The Company announces that those who applied within the fixed period, and did not obtain tickets for the train of the 3rd inst., will be allowed to travel at still further reduced rates on Sunday the 10th. Are we to understand by this that on the 10th passengers will be travelling at different rates according to the time at which they applied for tickets? And, in case of the applications for tickets again exceeding the number the company decides to issue, are the

applicants to be remunerated for waiting till the following week by being furnished with tickets at reduced rates? If the number of applicants reaches a few thousands, as is not impossible, and the Company only accommodates 400 passengers each Sunday, some, instead of waiting a week may have to wait a fortnight or three weeks, and, according to the principle on which the Company now acts, they should receive double or treble remuneration for waiting. Thus the logical outcome may be that after a while the Company, to be consistent, will have to carry passengers for nothing. There is no reason whatever for demanding a written application for excursion tickets. If the Company wishes to make a success of these trains it should be prepared to put on two engines and as many carriages as are required, within reasonable limits. The inhabitants of Nikko are anticipating rich profits from this new departure, and have already commenced to make preparations for the accommodation of an increased number of visitors by the erection of booths, and the like.

THE INDEPENDENTS.

ONE would imagine that the "Independents" might by this time have made up their minds to enter some political camp, but it appears, on the contrary, that they are more than ever resolved to maintain their attitude of so-called neutrality. The five local associations which constitute the nucleus of the Independents, namely, the *Genyo-sha* of Fukuoka, the *Yeshin-sha* of Ishikawa, the *Dosei-kai* of Saga, the *Aikoku Koshin-sha* of Aichi, and the *Kyuyusha* of Niigata, have renewed the bonds that held them together during the last session, and resolved to continue standing aloof from both the *Ri-to* and the *Min-to*. These politicians hold the balance of power. Whichever side they join will at once find itself master of the situation.

THE DOSHISHA HOSPITAL.

THE Sixth Annual Report of the Doshisha Mission Hospital and Training School for Nurses in Kyoto is now published. The Medical Director and Surgeon is Mr. J. C. Berry, M.D., and there are three American ladies connected with the work, Miss H. E. Fraser acting as Superintendent of Nurses and Hospital Matron. The record for the year shown 200 in-patients, 7,199 out-patients, and 6,078 visits to out-patients. There is nothing special to note in this branch, the work being much the same in quantity and kind as that usually performed by the medical section of the American Board Mission. Referring to charity work, however, the Report contains a paragraph which ought to be quoted:—

It is with especial pleasure that we can record a largely increased charity work done during the year, and especially since January. In our last report attention was called to our needs in this direction, and to the necessity of further support in order to supplement the best influence of the Institution, and its legitimate work as a Christian hospital, by largely increasing our labours among the poor. The timely "thank offering" of three hundred dollars from Mrs. Buxton, supplemented by fifty dollars from Mr. and Mrs. Smithers, and the continued use of medical fees from private patients, enabled us at once to plan for a charity work of about six hundred dollars for the present calendar year. Tickets were prepared and placed in the hands of all the churches in this region, regardless of their denominational distinctions, while our plans were explained to the Kyoto census-police and their co-operation solicited. This they were glad to afford and our charity work is now averaging about eighty dollars a month. As at this rate even the funds we had would soon be exhausted, a circular was prepared soliciting from a few foreign residents and business firms to whom it was privately sent, contributions for this special feature of our work. But three among the hundred or more addressed responded, affording fresh illustration of the fact that the co-operation of foreign residents in support of the free service of mission hospitals in Japan is not generally realized. This is in striking contrast with the experience in China where, I am told, business firms and private individuals generally contribute to the support of the charity work of the mission hospitals. This, I am sure, is not due to any lack of generosity on the part of foreign residents. On the contrary, expressions of interest in other needs of less humanitarian significance show exceptional liberality. Perhaps the responsibility lies rather with the managers of mission hospitals themselves in not more frequently and publicly making known the needs of the work, and thus identifying foreign charities with its support. In Japan there is much suffering among the sick poor, and those coming in contact therewith feel a growing need for general effort for its relief. One hundred dollars, gold, will sustain a Free Bed for a year. Should any one feel disposed to assist in this work, such aid, small or great, will be gratefully received and carefully employed.

No immoral disease, no incurable case, and none but the actually needy, are admitted as charity patients. The story of the work done at Ogaki is very interesting. Immediately on receipt of the news of the earthquake, Dr. Berry organized a corps of physicians and nurses to proceed to the devastated regions, and he gives us the following account of what occurred:—

As soon as information of the great calamity of October 18th was received, a passport was applied for, by telegram, for permis-

son to take a corps of physicians and nurses to that region. On its receipt two days later we started with a full supply of medicines, surgical appliances, dressings, etc., Dr. Buckley taking full care of the Hospital in our absence. President Kozaki preceded us by a day, and arranged as far as possible for our coming. We were cordially received by government officials, and entered upon service at once. We were soon joined by Dr. Kawamoto of Kobe, and later by Rev. Mr. Clark, of our Mission and by four of our Doshisha College students. A large room in a school-house, one of the very few buildings remaining in the city that could be safely occupied, was assigned us for service: school desks, placed together and covered with mats, served as tables; the large yard in front as a waiting room; while straw mat pavilions made admirable hospital wards. Here the Corps, numbering twelve members, and including, besides those named, Messrs. Hori and Nakamura (physicians) and Nurses Tomita, Satō and Satō, worked nobly and harmoniously during the term of service until relieved, November 8th, by Japanese surgeons who had, in the mean time, come into the district in large numbers and who ardently labored in the work of relief. Dr. Inoko of the Kyōto Govt. Hospital and his staff occupied rooms adjoining us, while the University Second Hospital Relief Corps and the Kyōto Med. Ass. Co-operators joined us making, finally, four surgical clinics in operation. The brief service was heavy and the injuries treated were of exceptional severity. Fractures, dislocations and flesh wounds predominated. These latter were especially numerous, and, in some cases, fatal, having, in most cases, received no attention, were in a filthy and dangerous condition. Kindness and sympathy characterized the attention of the well to the injured,—the latter being brought on litters in such numbers that by ten o'clock in the morning the common clinic yard, and the street in front of the building, would be well filled with the sick and their friends. The patient submission of the injured, their courage in suffering and their confidence in and appreciation of the service rendered, contributed much toward sustaining the members of the five different Corps in the difficult performance of their work. Especially touching was the gratitude of a woman eighty-one years old. She had sustained a severe injury of the shoulder and, in spite of the attention of four physicians, had suffered unrelieved for five days. She was easily helped and when, two days later, she came to have the bandages renewed, so profound was her gratitude that, standing aside where she could see us at work, she bowed her head and lifted her hands in profound worship. My feelings may be imagined as I hastened to her side, took her little wrinkled hands in mine and told her that I was but a man sent with others by our common Father to give her and her people aid,—a Father who had loved her and kept her all those eighty-one years and even through the dangers of the earthquake. Let her and her people praise God.

Earth vibrations continued during the time of the service, as many as sixty-six being recorded in one day at the meteorological station at Gifu, but they did not interrupt the work of our Corps, though at night they sometimes sent us hastily into the yard. It was a somewhat novel experience to conduct surgical work when, in the midst of an operation, patient, surgeon and nurse would find themselves shaken and separated from each other by the strong earth vibrations, while among the less injured patients and friends there would be a general scramble for the door. It was our desire to leave Dr. Kawamoto in charge of the work, and to keep open the hospital for some months, making weekly visits thereto, but the desire of the officers of the Red Cross Society and of the Kyōto Medical Association to take up and carry on the work, rendered it advisable to early withdraw and commit the work to their care. The day after we were relieved, however, a letter was sent from the Prefectural Government, twelve miles away, conveying assurances of the Governor's appreciation of the work and requesting the Corps to continue its service.

One of the most valuable sections of this excellent institution is the school of sick nurses, now under the charge of Miss Helen E. Fraser, of Toronto, a graduate of the Bellevue Hospital Nurses' School. Thirty-seven nurses have graduated at the Doshisha Hospital, and with regard to their capacities Miss Fraser writes:—

In have frequently been asked the question: "How do the Japanese compare with the American women as regards efficiency in the nursing profession?" I can only say that I was surprised to find how favourably they compared with them. Of course there are differences among them, just as there are among nurses at home; and at present many of them come from among the more lowly walks in life and are not educated women, although a certain amount of education in the way of reading, etc., is necessary for admission to the mission. But we remember that the first nursing training schools were first started in America, and how it is only within recent years that better educated women have been turning their attention to nursing as a profession; and so we hope gradually to raise the standard here. This need in general education is even now met by the curriculum, those nurses most deficient receiving special instruction in reading and writing in the Chinese character, so that at the end of two years they are much more proficient than when they come to us. The students also receive much more didactic instruction than is usually given in American training schools, thus supplementing the practical training which is necessarily limited in a small hospital. And in one respect they have an advantage over the nurses in most of the schools at home in that a thorough religious training is combined with that of nursing. There is a very strong Christian influence in the school, and although most of those who apply for admission are professing Christians, we have received some who are not, and so far none have left without accepting Christianity. As a rule I have found the nurses bright and intelligent, and very eager to learn. They are also deft with their fingers, and quick to imitate anything they have seen. As far as I have been able to observe, their services are very acceptable to the patients. More than once I have been told by our patients who had been in other hospitals and who spoke from experience, what a difference there was between our nurses and the ordinary Japanese nurse; how much more kindly they were treated by the nurses here, and how much more thoughtful and sympathetic they were; and as they are known as Christian nurses, they may thus, even though unconsciously, bring glory to the cause of Christ, by the contrast of their conduct with that of others.

Instruction is given to the nurses free of charge, but they support themselves, or are supported by friends, while in the school, thirty-six dollars, silver, being sufficient to support a nurse for a year. At present we have twenty pupils. We are disposed to think that the eulogistic patients referred to by Miss Fraser were just a little too complimentary; for although we entertain no doubt that the training of nurses by the Doshisha is on a par with the admirable work done by that mission in every branch, our own experience of the nurses trained in Tokyo hospitals makes us doubt very much whether they really show the inferiority mentioned by the Osaka patients. Certainly we cannot conceive nurses more helpful, cheerful, kindly and competent than they show themselves. In cases of severe illness, where the sufferer cannot be removed to hospital, these nurses are absolutely invaluable. The only trouble is that their num-

bers are very limited, and one can never be sure that an application to a hospital will find a nurse available.

At the conclusion of the Report we find the following interesting medical note:—

Koch's tuberculin, of which so much was expected when preparing our last report, I have abandoned in the treatment of pulmonary phthisis, the results in some cases showing it to possess, even when used with the utmost care and in small doses, alarming capabilities for harm. Some of our cases, steadily growing worse under its influence, began to improve when the tuberculin was abandoned and a different line of treatment pursued. During the year, as previously, I have practiced, in some cases with gratifying results, intra-pulmonary injections, the long needle made especially for this purpose conveying the medicine directly to the pulmonary cavity. The object aimed at, both by injection and by treatment, has been to favour fibrous hardening of diseased lung tissue. I have recently, in the case of a cavity communicating with the bronchus, alternated these injections with the new germicide, the peroxide hydrogen, with encouraging result. About 25 per cent of all the deaths in Japan are due to tuberculous disease.

The treatment of Sakkei (Epidemic Multiple Nephritis) has continued satisfactory during the last year as to merit notice in this report. Not a case of death from this disease has occurred in my practice now for five years, though, during this time, our large Doshisha College has passed through two epidemics (one severe) of this affection, and cases have been brought into the hospital in the last stages of the disease ("shōshin" commencing heart paralysis) and from which the Japanese physicians predicted certain death. The treatment pursued is, in general, soda salicylate combined with spirits, ether, nitrate, and potash acetate if the kidneys are inactive, with strophanthine if the heart is weak, and with sodium bromide if laboured breathing and rapid heart beat show that "shōshin" is beginning. With these remedies, and with the avoidance of rice from the dietary, and with a change in certain chronic cases, from the plain to a modern style of diet, I now approach the treatment of Sakkei confident of success.

I am not aware that this combination of treatment, with the prominence given to sodium bromide in "shōshin" is employed by others than myself and a few of my medical friends to whom I have spoken of my experience. I therefore give it notice, in this Report.

THE "KAISHIN-TO'S" POLITICAL TOURISTS.

THE country is to have a feast of political lectures during the next four months. We have explained how the Radicals and National Unionists have chosen members to proceed to the various localities, and we now read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the *Kaishin-to* are also making arrangements to stamp the land. The various prefectures of the Kwanto are to be visited by Messrs. Kato Masanosuke and Asaka Katsutaka; the northern districts, as well as Ishikawa, Toyama and Niigata, by Messrs. Shimada Saburo and Hatano Denzaburo; Tokushima and Hyogo by Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Minoura Katsuto; the prefectures of Tohoku by Messrs. Hatoyama Kazuo and Ogawa Michizo; and other important localities by Messrs. Inugai Ki, Koizuka Ryo and Tanaka Shozo. The political education of the rustics should proceed apace under such able tuition.

PATENT RIGHTS IN JAPAN.

WE publish elsewhere a full translation of the judgments and pleadings in certain cases brought by British and German inventors to compel the Japanese Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to grant them patents under the Japanese Patents Regulations. Over and over again during the past three years the hopelessness of any foreigners attempting to obtain these rights in Japan, and the reasons which induce the Japanese Government to abstain from taking the steps necessarily preliminary to extending the provisions of its Patent Laws to foreigners, have been explained in these columns. The difficulty is another of the many inconveniences to be placed to the score of extraterritorial jurisdiction. But despite our explanations, and despite the very easily comprehended character of the question, an idea still lingers in some minds that it ought to be possible for foreigners to patent their inventions in Japan, and Messrs. Siemens and Halske have expended some money in an attempt to establish the idea. Considering that Mr. Mond's case had been carried, twelve months previously, through all the possible stages of trial, and that the Supreme Court finally endorsed the judgments of the lower tribunals against Mr. Mond, it seems that the application of Messrs. Siemens and Halske need never have been presented. But the Counsel for the inventors apparently thought it worth while to test once more the cardinal question whether, in the absence of any express provision to the contrary, foreigners are not entitled to enjoy the same privilege as Japanese under the Patent Laws of this country. We never had any doubt on the subject ourselves, and we believe that foreign legal opinion is equally clear. At all events we know of one instance which occurred in 1890. A British

firm wrote to an English barrister in Japan, asking him to apply for a patent for a certain invention, and enclosing a thousand dollars to pay costs. The barrister, after looking into the subject, concluded that the application must be unsuccessful and returned the thousand dollars. Messrs. Mond, Siemens and Halske, however, chose to put the matter to final tests, and while regretting their failure, we may be permitted to hope that their experience will save other people from similarly fruitless trouble and expenditure. In this hope we publish the full pleadings and judgments, though, in effect, it should suffice to note that the decision of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce bears out our frequently stated proposition, namely, that without special international arrangement the provisions of the Japanese Patent Laws cannot be extended to foreign subjects or citizens.

JOSHI GAKUIN.

At three o'clock, Friday afternoon, July 1st, in the new chapel at 33, Kami Ni-Bancho, Tokyo, the programme, as appended below, was opened by a chorus of twenty-five girls, efficiently trained by the music teacher, Miss Murray. While the entire programme reflected great credit on the faithfulness and ability of the teachers, two or three items deserve special mention and two or three features of the exercises are worthy of note. It was somewhat novel to hear all the choruses rendered by so many young voices, without accompaniment from any musical instrument. The reading of the essays in the Japanese language was certainly inspiring and hopeful. The rapid falsetto tone, with its peculiarly monotonous nasal characteristics, usually heard in the reading of Japanese in public, is fast passing away. It is no longer necessarily a sign of great scholarship to use such an unnatural monotone. The English essay by Miss Sumi Mochizuki was considered by many the climax of the programme. The young lady's paper,—"Causes of Failure"—filled with good, practical thought, was read in a perfectly self-possessed manner, with a clear voice, distinct enunciation, and earnestness most commendable. The exhibition of practical work under the industrial system, which is now taught regularly to all the classes, was highly appreciated by the visitors. The third storey was well filled with useful and valuable garments of every description, but not one was for sale—all belonged to the scholars respectively who had made them. The graduates numbered six from the Academic department, one as a Kindergarten teacher, three from the Special Japanese and five from the Collegiate English and Japanese departments. Dr. William Imbrie had been happily chosen to deliver a brief address to the graduates. His fifteen minutes talk to the young ladies was full of valuable and suggestive bristling thought:—

PROGRAMME.	
Chorus.—The Heavens are telling.....	Haydn.
PRAYER.	
Japanese Essay.....	Miss Yamaguchi.
Essay.....	Miss Mochizuki.
Piano Solo.—Opus. 49. No. 3.....	Beethoven.
Japanese Essay.....	Miss Okada.
Japanese Essay.....	Sumi Tsuboi.
Chorus.—Blessing, Power, Glory.....	Spohr.
Essay.....	Causes of Failure.
Japanese Essay.....	Sumi Mochizuki.
Piano Duet.—Les Pêcheurs de Perles.....	Raff.
Essay.....	Balance Wheels.
Japanese Essay.....	Miss Takiguchi.
Chorus.—The Huntmaster.....	Kücken.
* Farewell song.....	
* This song was composed by Miss Mika Takiguchi—one of the graduating class—in Japanese and sung to ancient Japanese music.	
Address to the Graduates.....	Rev. Wm. Imbrie, D.D.
Chorus.—Thou wilt keep Him.....	Lesson.
Benediction.	

MARINE PRODUCTS.

It is stated that the Estimates for next year will include a sum of 120,000 yen for the development of enterprises in connection with Marine products. The Peers, at the instance of Mr. Murata Tamotsu, presented a Representation to the Government last session, urging the

necessity of encouraging such enterprises, and investigations conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce indicate the above sum as a suitable appropriation for the first year. The object chiefly contemplated is the encouragement of deep-sea fishing. It is expected that subsidies will be granted to the Marine Products Association and to similar bodies throughout the empire, and that the industry will receive a considerable impetus from a little aid prudently given.

THE "AJIYA" AND ITS HEROES.

THE *Ajiya*, which, among other things, poses as a teacher of morality, deprecates the tendency of Japan's present public men to sacrifice national good to personal ambition. Every statesman prides himself on the skill with which he plays one party against another, and makes or mars political combinations to suit his own purpose. Few are willing to subserve personal interests to the cause of the country. Yet patriots of that stamp are not entirely wanting. Our contemporary is pleased to be able to pick out the names of five statesmen who belong to the category. They are Count Katsu, Count Soyeyima, Count Sasaki, Viscount Torio, and Viscount Tani. Whether these happily distinguished noblemen are capable of assuming the reins of Government, our contemporary does not pretend to know. Indeed, it rather doubts their capacity in that direction. But their disinterested devotion to the public good, and their singular sincerity of purpose, deservedly mark them out, in the *Ajiya's* opinion, as the most hopeful and healthy political factors in Japan, to-day. The Tokyo periodical reviews at some length, the character and position of each of these five men, beginning with Viscount Tani. At the time of the great Salsuma Rebellion the Viscount's name first began to be known. He succeeded in successfully checking the northward progress of the rebels, owing doubtless in a large measure to the natural strength of the Castle of Kumamoto which his forces occupied; to the absence of effective artillery in the rebel camp, and to the presence in his army of able officers, Viscount Kabayama, the present Minister of the Navy, being one of them. But a great deal must also be ascribed to the qualities of the General himself. He enjoyed the respect and confidence of all under his command. The purity of his character is strongly illustrated by the fact that, when several years afterwards he was leader of the Nationalists of Tosa, the numerous wrong deeds of the latter were never in any respect laid to his charge. His singleness of purpose and his public spirit are abundantly proved, not only by the manner in which, after recommending the radical reform of certain abuses, he left the Ito Cabinet, but also by his action in connection with the question of Treaty Revision. He now wields vast influence in the House of Peers. Men say that he is deficient in the art of statecraft; but our contemporary entertains doubts as to the correctness of that view. He cannot, however, be altogether acquitted of the charge of sometimes aiming at theatrical effect. But, all things considered, he must be counted an eminently virtuous man in an age like the present.

Viscount Torio is specially distinguished for the versatility of his intellect. He never showed much capacity in active warfare; but he exercised considerable influence in the Department of War during the early years of its existence. He studied Buddhism, and soon mastered the fundamental principles of that religion, in a manner that astonished the professional exponents of the faith. Similarly his proficiency in Chinese and classical Japanese is said to be wonderful, considering the comparatively small attention given by him to the study of those subjects. Free from dissimulation of all kinds, straightforward and fearless, he has many enemies, but he attaches not the smallest moment to the idle talk of the public about his doings, as he has unbounded confidence in the purity of his motives. He seldom shows strong dislike of others and is ever ready to hold out his hand to his worst traducers. The very keen-

ness of his intellect, combined with his egotism, honest and sincere though that be, disqualifies him as a successful leader of men.

Count Sasaki is less known than either of the two Viscounts. It is not understood that he has ever rendered conspicuous service to the State. But that he is a man of no ordinary capacity is apparent from the fact that the *Meiji-kai*, an association for the dissemination of the principles of patriotism and Shintoism, originally created by him, is steadily growing in influence and power. It is reported that, on one occasion, having received a commission to put down a political disturbance, he solemnly performed with his family the ceremony of *misu-sakasuki*, (exchange of cups of water), which the *samurai* of former days were always in the habit of doing on the eve of a campaign. The act signified his determination to die should he fail to accomplish his mission. He was entirely successful. Combining high moral courage with perfect fairness of mind, if there is any man who has no enemy, that man is Count Sasaki. His nature is conservative and unambitious; and, though patriotic in the highest degree, he does not covet positions of great responsibility.

Count Soyeyima was originally a Chinese scholar (*jusha*), but he was not one of the ordinary class of *jusha*. A certain grandeur and dignity of style observable in the Imperial messages in the early years of the *Meiji* era are attributed to his powerful pen. Though a scholar, his views about warfare are valued by veteran soldiers. His mental vision is wide, and he is at any time competent to grasp the remote bearings of a national question. Often he indulges in large language, but people never seem disposed to ridicule his sayings. He lacks, however, the capacity of carrying out details, and is prone to be eccentric in his conduct. A firm believer in the possibility of communion with the deities of the country, as Hikohohomimi-no-Mikoto, Kanko, and so forth, he gets the credit of being sincere in his belief.

Count Katsu was a retainer of the Shogun. At the time of the Restoration he succeeded by courageous conduct in rescuing the House of Tokugawa from utter destruction. Subsequently he was for a short time Minister of State for the Navy, but he soon retired from office. The public always refused, however, to regard him as a private individual. He is fond of conversation, and very often astonishes his listeners with witty sayings. Though somewhat stricken in years, he is still strong and active, spending his time in writing books. Above all he is distinguished by magnanimity. Among his visitors are men of all sorts and conditions of life, officials, party politicians, conservative malcontents, and so forth, but he listens and is listened to by all with frankness and friendship. "The presence of a man of such weighty character is of great importance in an age like the present, when folks are becoming more and more unsteady," opines the critical *Ajiya*. Was there ever an era that did not seem degraded in the eyes of those growing old in it?

THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE.

TELEGRAPHIC news received on Monday in Tokyo announces that Mr. J. W. Foster has been appointed to succeed Mr. Blaine as Secretary of State. Mr. Foster has served as United States Representative in several capitals and has distinguished himself in connection with work of special treaty making. It was at one time expected that he might come to Tokyo as Mr. Swift's successor, but either the claims of home politics were too strong, or the idea, at one time entertained, that American trade with Japan might be greatly promoted by diplomatic efforts was abandoned.

JAPANESE AND FOREIGN PAINTING.

SEVERAL of the Japanese newspapers—the *Nippon*, the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Hochi*, and the *Yomiuri*—have created a sensation by publishing singular statements about the foreign school of

painting in Japan. Three years ago this school was regularly organized under the presidency of men like Viscount Enomoto and Mr. Watanabe Koki. We do not mean that a school actually exists in the ordinary sense of the word. A society only has been formed under the name of *Meiji Bijutsu-kai*. From the first its members seem to have laboured under a sense of unpopularity and opposition. Their periodical exhibitions showed steady progress, some of the pictures being of more than average merit. But the Japanese student of Western pictorial art has a terribly up-hill road to travel. He finds scarcely any patrons among his own countrymen. Elaborately framed oil and water colours are entirely out of place in a Japanese house. Their hope of finding a market in this country is about as rasy as would be the hope for Leighton or Tadema in London did he paint upon long strips of silk with ivory-tipped *finu* and brocade borders. Moreover, the conditions of life in the houses of Japanese artists are not suited for the production of such pictures, and the painters are entirely excluded from access to the great galleries where the Western student acquires his best education. But despite these difficulties steady progress has been made, and much resolution is shown. In connection with the Chicago World's Fair the artists resolved to make a strenuous effort, and to send pictures to the value of seventy thousand *yen*. But this design has now been abandoned, and it is in connection with its abandonment that the sensation has been created. For the newspapers referred to state that the artists came to this resolve in consequence of the determined opposition encountered by their school at the hands of conservative Japanese. The motive of the opposition is represented as nothing less than a desire to exterminate Western pictorial art altogether in Japan, by closing the places where instruction is given in it, withholding all recognition from its products at domestic exhibitions, and placing every possible obstacle in the path of its pursuit. According to reports published by the above journals, especially the *Nippon*, some artists of the Western school, at a recent meeting held in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, alleged that Mr. Kuki, Director-General of the Imperial Museum, had expressed a resolve to do everything in his power for the destruction of their art and for the revival of the pure Japanese style, and that this declaration of hostility, coming from such an influential quarter, was one of their reasons for resolving to send no pictures to Chicago. Mr. Kuki, however, has addressed to the *Nippon* the following letter:—

SIR,—In the miscellaneous items of your issue of to day, I find a paragraph to the effect that at a meeting held by artists in oils at the Imperial Hotel, I was charged with having delivered a lecture urging the abolition of oil painting, and that the oil-painters, being much angered in consequence, determined to abandon their intention of sending pictures to the Chicago World's Fair. There is not the slightest foundation for the assertion that I delivered such a lecture. Not only have I delivered no lecture since last year on the subject of fine art, but also I have never expressed myself in favour of abolishing the school of oil-painting. I greatly regret that the artists in oils should have decided upon a policy of abstention in consequence of such a false rumour. I shall be much obliged if you will publish this contradiction.

With reference to the above letter, the *Nippon* wonders what proof the artists in oils will be able to furnish of their allegation, and adds that, if they can furnish no proof, they will occupy the unpleasant position of having committed suicide under a silly delusion.

THE NATIONAL UNION.

THE *Kokkai* writes thus:—

"The members of the so-called Anti Popular Party organized a Club during the last session of the Diet under the name of the *Chuo Koshu-kai*, their object being to provide means of communicating their policy to other political bodies. Sometimes they held meetings, but the arrangement proved by no means convenient, so that some of the members proposed to establish permanent political or social associations after the adjournment of the House. This proposition obtained considerable support. Thus on the 20th ultimo, Messrs.

Watanabe, Tsuda, Sone, and some others assembled at the Imperial Hotel, and conferred about the nature of the new association. Mr. Kataoka and others were opposed to the idea of organizing a non political association. They claimed that the time is not suited to such vague methods of conducting political affairs, and contended that a publicly acknowledged political association ought to be established, consisting of all the elements opposed to the *Min-to*. Some of the elder members, however, traversed Mr. Kataoka's argument on the ground that things are not yet ripe for the organization of an association on such a scale. It was ultimately agreed to form a non political club, the members of which should exchange their knowledge and experience for the welfare of the country, and by watching the course of events, create a new political party. It was decided to name the club the Kokumin Kyokai (National Union), and to hold a general meeting on the 1st of November next, when a resolution should be finally adopted as to making the club political or otherwise. Curiously enough Messrs. Suyematsu Kencho, Inouye Kakugoro, and other most distinguished members of the Anti-Popular Party, are not included in the list of the club. It is said that Count Ito, father-in-law of Mr. Suyematsu, was originally in favour of establishing such an association, but that afterwards he became decidedly opposed to it, and consequently his son-in-law refrains from joining it. As for Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, he has found favour with Counts Matsugata, Goto, and Viscount Takashima: in fact he is their tool. But these members of the Cabinet are far from pleased with the step taken by Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa in resigning their seats in the Privy Council to place themselves at the head of the National Union. Therefore Mr. Inouye abstains from joining the Union, acting by confidential advice. These rumours sound natural, but there are other reasons which prevent Messrs. Suyematsu and Inouye from becoming members of the Union. Mr. Suyematsu is not a man to lend his name hastily to any new enterprise, unless he is firmly persuaded that the project will last. Moreover, he does not like to be used by others as a tool, or to have his merits obscured by the shadow of a leader. Hence he is patiently waiting to see the result of the new enterprise, and to determine the proper time for him to join it. Mr. Inouye, again, is a man who dislikes to join any affair started by others, and since he has been favourably treated by Count Matsugata and other members of the Cabinet, there is no necessity for him to serve Count Saigo or Viscount Shinagawa against his own inclinations. Moreover, he does not like to work under Messrs. Watanabe, Sone, and others whom he regards as his inferiors politically. Thus these two men and some others are now watching the issue of the undertaking, but as the policy followed by the members of the National Union does not differ from that of either Mr. Suyematsu or Mr. Inouye, all these personal feelings will be merged soon in the interests of the country, and the politicians now standing aloof will throw in their lot with the Union. Messrs. Kataoka, Ushiba, and others, who are engaged in commerce, will not be able to join the Union, as such an act might injure their firms. They will therefore stand outside the union and support it. There is a rumour that the Union intends to engage in a political campaign soon, but the story is quite unfounded. When the promoters assembled at the Imperial Hotel, Mr. Sone said that if it should be decided to organize an association the members must determine a settled policy before separating. For unless a definite policy be known to every one, each might deliver lectures or make speeches out of his own head, and the result would be contradictions calculated to rouse the suspicions of the people. He then presented a statement of the motives of the association, but expressly explained that it was not to be regarded as the policy of the association. In fact, the members intend to wait until the general meeting in November, when it will be decided whether the association shall be political or not, and its policy will be definitely settled. Till then they will not take any decisive step. Some trouble has been experienced. Many of the influential members are by no means inclined to support the present Government through thick and thin; they intend to attack official measures of which they disapprove, as they do not wish to be slaves of the clan statement. What will become of the association after the general meeting next November, it is impossible to predict now.

The *Hochi Shimbun* also has some interesting, but of course partial, remarks on the same subject:—

It is a well known fact that Mr. Watanabe Koki has been visiting members of the House of Peers, and begging them to join the Popular Union. He

points out that the Union is not established for the protection of clan government, or solely to support the Cabinet. In fact he is so pusillanimous that he does not venture to state the real object of the association. It is, however, reported that he has presented a document, written by himself, to every member of the Upper House visited by him, together with a copy of the statement of the Union's motives. The following is a translation of the document:—"The existence of a State involves that of the people forming it, and there never yet has been a case where the people were wealthy and tranquil while the State was neither prosperous nor peaceful. A State and its people are practically a unit in respect of prosperity and power. According, however, to the time and its circumstances, the distribution of wealth among the people and the degree of their tranquillity differ more or less. The polity of the Japanese empire is without peer. Forty millions of people are ruled by a Sovereign belonging to a race of monarchs whose lineal succession has remained unbroken for ages. The national manners and customs have been transmitted similarly. In short the Japanese are one family, pure and simple. It is grossly erroneous to compare us with foreigners who have formed States either by uniting peoples of different origins or by usurping neighbouring territories, the manners and customs of which are different in every case. The duty of people living under such a polity as ours is to govern the country by the united power of the high and the low. Our Imperial Constitution suits our polity. It was freely granted to us by Our Sovereign for the purpose of uniting all classes, preserving our peace with foreign countries, extending national prestige abroad, and promoting the welfare and tranquillity of the people. Our system cannot for a moment be compared with that existing in foreign States where the Prince was distinct from his people, and the people struggled to acquire for themselves a portion of the administrative power, peace being at last restored by effecting a compromise. Every loyal subject of this empire ought to regard the August Imperial Sovereign as his master and father, and, in obedience to the Constitution, should work harmoniously together at home, and for the increase of the national prestige abroad, so as to preserve our independence. If each individual seeks to enforce his own opinion, and by borrowing strange ideas based on the manners and customs of foreign lands, involve the people in political disputes, he will bring upon his country slights from abroad, and will stir up sedition at home. Such a conduct is not the duty of any subject of this empire. The empire having long remained in a secluded corner of the Orient, our civilization is not well developed. Occidental countries evolved their arts and their experience amid the friction of competition and contest. Thus, in respect of national defences, of agriculture, of industries, and of commerce, in short of everything which constitutes the wealth and power of a nation, they have reached a higher standard than us. It behoves us, therefore, to work with harmony and vigour so as to secure these various advantages and thus bridge over the interval by which we have fallen short of the world's progress during the last many hundreds of years. There devolves upon us the grave responsibility of equipping the nation to compete with countries already so far advanced. In foreign States, the evil of excessive individual competition in politics and in industries has been already recognised and abandoned. The principle of individualism, if carried too far in practice, interferes with administrative control, on the one hand, and, on the other, acts injuriously to public interest and tranquillity. In fact such a principle may bring total destruction upon the country. Whether in politics or in commerce, it is necessary to pursue the principle of combining small bodies to form large ones, in which the people of the country are co-operators. By this means only can individual welfare and national prosperity be safely compassed. In obedience to the above reasons we argue in favour of preserving one central administrative control, side by side with the self-government of individuals and the organization of political bodies. By making the defences of the country so strong that no possibility of attack shall present itself, peace and happiness will be secured to the people. We are in favour of encouraging and protecting the enterprises of the people, so that their wealth may be increased. We are in favour of promoting education and sanitary works as national enterprises, and extending them to every part of the Empire. We regard foreign trade and emigration as undertakings urgently necessary for the people, and we are therefore in favour of affording every convenience for their prosecution by due encouragement and protection. We believe that all facilities of communication, as posts, telegraphs, maritime transport, and railways, are vital to the public interest, and we are

in favour of promoting them. Further, agricultural, industrial, and commercial enterprises all contribute to the general prosperity. Therefore, if private strength be insufficient for organizing or extending such works, we are in favour of granting subsidies either from the State or from corporate bodies. We are also in favour of recovering our tariff and judicial autonomy, so that all privileges enjoyed by foreigners shall be regulated entirely by the laws of the land, unless specially arranged by treaty. In accordance with the above principles, we seek to organize the affairs of the country, and develop the wealth of its people. At the same time we would preserve the manners and customs of the nation and increase the spirit of independence. Thus the abuses of favouring the people of certain provinces in preference to others will be uprooted, and by the equal representation of the people in the Diet, the impartial working of administrative machinery will be secured. Further, while reducing taxes, equalizing their incidence, and simplifying the method of their collection, we must not hesitate to grant the necessary expenses for the uses of the nation. Administrative expenditures ought to be economised in order to devote larger sums to works of public benefit, but, on the other hand, the people also must avoid incurring needless outlay. Then the wealth of the nation will naturally increase, and the happiness of its people be assured. It is our desire, in accordance with these principles, to encourage the people to form a strong union to improve the politics and strengthen the finance of the country. We trust that those who approve the above plan will assist us, as is the duty of the people of this Empire.

(Signed) WATANABE KOKI.

THE OSAKA WATER WORKS.

In our paragraph of last issue on the Osaka Waterworks we remarked that Major-General Palmer's original design had been somewhat modified by the late Mr. Nojiri, Chief Engineer to the Osaka Fu, "the reason of the modification being that, after much difficulty, the Military Authorities were persuaded to give permission for a high-level reservoir to be constructed on the Castle Hill." To prevent any misconception on this subject, it may be well to add that the advantage of the Castle site for a service-reservoir, was first recognised and urged by General Palmer at the time of preparing the design, but that, as he was officially assured that the acquisition of the site for such a purpose was hopeless, his desire had to be abandoned. The recent cession of the site, therefore, is merely a tardy acquiescence in his urgent representations of five years ago, and the revision ensuing from it is in no sense an improvement on his original conception.

THE "PEKING"-"FUSHUN" COLLISION CASE.

THIS arbitration case, after a week's hearing before Mr. Hannen in Shanghai, was concluded on the 30th ult., when a decision was delivered entirely in favour of the *Peking*, the result being determined mainly on the observation of the regulations for preventing collisions at sea, there being little or no conflict in the evidence heard. The steamer *Peking* was on a voyage from Shanghai to Hongkong and Canton, and her captain anchored at about 4.30 p.m. on the 6th May last somewhere to the southward of Elliot Island, about 80 miles from Shanghai, in consequence of a fog having come on which made the navigation dangerous. While the *Peking* lay at anchor, her bell, a large one, was kept ringing. Half an hour after she had anchored, whistling was heard, and ultimately the steamer *Fushun* was seen. She was coming at considerable speed straight for the *Peking*, and there was no time to do anything to avoid a collision. The *Fushun* struck the *Peking* a right-angle blow nearly amidships; there was just time for the officers and crew of the *Peking* to scramble over the bows of the *Fushun* before the *Peking* sank. The *Fushun*'s stern was crushed in, but she got safely up to Shanghai. The owners of the two steamers, the one German and the other Chinese, agreed to leave the question of the liability for the loss consequent on the collision to the arbitration of the Chief Judge of the British Supreme Court, Mr. Hannen. The *N.-C. Daily News*, in referring to the fact that the master of the sunken vessel stuck close to the regulations, says:—"A good

deal of surprise has been expressed that a number of men should be found to say that they would have used their whistle if they had been in Captain Schultz' position, and it is a very good thing that Mr. Hannen has put his foot down firmly on this question. It would greatly increase the risks of navigation on this coast, if it were understood that the regulations for preventing collisions at sea might be neglected with impunity. They may not be perfect; Mr. Hannen indeed said, "I think this case has shown plainly that the regulations are not as good as they might be," but they are binding on all sailors until they are altered, and it would be a very dangerous thing if any one were to be excused from obeying them, because they are not perfect. Mr. Thomas Gray, in his *Observations*, warns the sailor "that if in 'fog, mist, or falling snow, he uses the fog-whistle and horn to make any other sound-signals than those specially named in Article 12, and if a collision follows, he may be held to blame for departing from the Regulations; and if so, the collision may be held to be due to his wrongful act of default." Captain Schultz rang his bell, and thus adhered to Article 12, and Mr. Hannen has quite rightly found that no blame attaches to him for the unfortunate collision by which his steamer was sunk. In the sympathy the Arbitrator expressed for Captain Crowd everyone who knows him will concur; but it would have been disastrous if he had been exonerated in the present instance."

THE STEWART BILL.

THE history of the Stewart Bill and its exact provisions are probably not familiar to many of our readers. The Bill was introduced into the Senate by Senator Stewart, of Nevada, in December, 1891, under the title of "A Bill to provide for the free coinage of gold and silver bullion and for other purposes." It provided that the unit of value in the United States should be a dollar of $412\frac{1}{2}$ grains of silver, or of $28\frac{1}{8}$ grains of standard gold; and that any owner of gold or silver bullion might deposit it, in sums of not less than \$100, in any United States Mint, to be coined into standard dollars without charge, and that the Treasury should be authorized to issue gold and silver certificates therefor. The Bill was placed on the Calendar in February, 1892, with an adverse report from the Senate Committee on Finance. Public opinion then regarded the fate of the Bill as sealed, but on May 26th the Senate, by 28 (16 Democrats, 10 Republicans, and 2 Alliance Senators) against 20 (17 Republicans and 3 Democrats), voted to take up the Bill, and it has now been passed by a slender majority of four. It has still to go before the House of Representatives, however, and in the unlikely event of the latter's passing it, the President's veto would doubtless be interposed. If the Bill became law, its effect would be to make 15.37 the gold and silver ratio in the United States, whereas the real ratio at present is nearly 20.

THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting of the Evangelical Association came to a close on Saturday evening, the 2nd of July, after a busy session of four full days. The occasion was marked by the deep interest taken in all the institutions and various departments of work. Some important measures were taken which will no doubt have a great influence in shaping the future work and success of the Mission. One applicant was recommended for licence to preach, one was voted his recommendation to deacon's orders and one to elder's orders. The body was composed of 9 elders, 3 deacons, six probationers, 1 local deacon, and 4 local probationers, a total of twenty-three. Three young men made application for admission into the Theological Seminary and were unanimously recommended. The number of students will therefore be 13 during the coming year. Several changes were made in regard to some of the fields of labour, transferring preaching places from one to another charge, and some new points were recommended to be taken up during the coming year. The statistics show a moderate increase in membership, the total

number being 488. Itinerant preachers 18, deaths 4, expelled 30, moved away 50, newly received 130, adults baptized 79, contributions for church work yen 575.17, for benevolent purposes yen 187.81. Sunday schools 29, scholars 590, applicants for baptism 111. A monthly paper, the *Fukui no Tsukai*, devoted to the interests of the mission, will be undertaken during the coming year, and will be supported for a time by the home Board of Missions. A moderate attempt at the publications of evangelical tracts will also be made. A unanimous motion was carried requesting the Senior Bishop, J. J. Escher, to come to Japan next year and organize the work into a regular Annual Conference. The authorization for this step was given by the General Conference of the church which met in Indianapolis, Ind., U.S.A., last October. The Sunday Services were well attended and over two hundred yen was collected and subscribed for mission work. Fitting and strong resolutions were passed upon the subjects of education, temperance, and Sunday schools. A proposition to improve the course of study in the Seminary was submitted, and recommended for consideration to the faculty of the school. The outlook for the coming year is very hopeful, and each member hopes that the success of this year may be increased an hundred-fold in the next.

THE MITSU BISHI SAVINGS BANK.

It seems worth while again to note that the 119th National Bank has opened a Savings Bank. This Branch pays $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest on deposits ranging from 5 to 1,000 yen. Money deposited may be withdrawn at any time. One of the conditions is that deposits and withdrawals shall not be made by substitutes. The owner of the money entrusted to the Bank is furnished with a pass book, in which all deposits and withdrawals are made. Nothing less than 5 yen can be either deposited or withdrawn. The high rate of interest has, it is said, induced a large number of Japanese to entrust their savings to the Bank. This, perhaps, accounts for the fact that it has not been considered necessary to advertise the new branch in foreign newspapers.

THE TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS AND TREATY REVISION.

THE *Fiji Shimpō*, in a recent issue, discusses a line of policy, *vis-à-vis* foreigners, which has always found advocates in and out of Government ranks. Exasperated at the slowness of the negotiations on Treaty Revision and their meagre result, certain Japanese politicians have, from time to time, urged the Government to treat foreigners in a less courteous and considerate manner than has hitherto been customary. The disadvantages of the present system are not sufficiently realised by foreigners, say these controversialists, on account of the lenient manner in which they are treated by the Government. Let this liberal policy be abandoned. Let nothing be conceded to foreigners that is not stipulated for in the letter of the Treaties. Pursue this plan till foreigners begin to realise the unpleasantness of the situation, and they will no longer regard Treaty Revision with the listlessness they now show. Whether the Government would be justified in following such a policy the *Fiji* is not prepared to say. But of one thing it is certain, namely, that the adoption of any such methods as those recommended would exercise a most baneful influence on the minds of the nation at large. Harsh treatment of a foreigner by the Government would be interpreted by the people to mean that he was not a *persona grata* to the Authorities, and it is not to be supposed that distinctions drawn by officials would be drawn by the people. The severity of the Government would be surpassed by that of the people. The Government would make the foreigner's yoke heavy, but the people would make it heavier; the Government would chastise with whips, but the nation would resort to scorpions. And what would be the result of such treatment, asks the *Fiji*, on that large number of foreigners who come to Japan without knowing anything about the character of her people? It would prejudice them against the

race, and they would return to their native lands and spread such reports about the incivilities they had met with in this country that the effecting of Treaty Revision would be out of the question. The present reluctance of foreigners to come under Japanese jurisdiction is solely owing to the fact that they distrust the Japanese; and this distrust is founded on ignorance. At present, mutual ignorance of each other's ways characterises the mass of foreigners and Japanese alike, as is abundantly illustrated by things of common occurrence. To show how, while this ignorance exists, acts prompted by the best of motives are misinterpreted, the *Fiji* may allude to the fact that the naming of a steamer *The Empress of Japan* by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was considered by some Japanese to be a gross insult to the nation, they not being familiar with this method of showing honour. Nothing but mutual knowledge can engender mutual respect, and the attainment of such knowledge would be impossible were encouragement given to the commission of unfriendly acts by the people. The *Fiji* is not concerned about the course the Government may pursue, but it lays stress on the importance of the nation at large adopting a friendly and conciliatory attitude to foreigners, and reminds its readers that upon their way of treating the numerous foreign visitors who come to these shores will depend the opinion of foreigners generally as to the qualifications of Japan to be admitted to the comity of Western nations.

There is no denying that certain officials have, on and off, recommended the adoption of the line of policy to which the *Fiji* refers, and occasionally measures have been taken which, by some foreign observers, have been cited as a proof of the regard in which the policy is held. But we are of opinion that no Japanese Cabinet has ever seriously thought of resorting to such extreme measures. It has always been recognised that the step would most certainly defeat its own end. At the present time, with a decided reaction against foreign methods and institutions, were the Government to take the field against foreigners there is no saying what the issue might be. The *Fiji* is quite right in affirming that the present temper of the nation would lead it to interpret firmness of Government policy as an indication of absolute aversion to foreigners, and in that case it is easy to see how, in the name of loyalty, the greatest outrages on foreign life and property might be committed at any time. Despite the boasted influence of the new competitors for administrative power, there is no denying that the feelings and the conduct of the mass of the Japanese is greatly guided by the policy of the men who have held the reins of Government ever since the beginning of the *Meiji* era. This fact is well known to men in power, and accounts in part for the extreme caution with which they have acted in all matters that concern foreigners. The cry for a more stringent policy *vis-à-vis* foreigners comes from the conservative section of the nation, and is taken up by hot-blooded youths to whom any measures are welcome that are calculated to cause commotion and that promise opportunities of earning distinction. Very probably increased advocacy of the policy referred to, noticeable in some quarters, accounts for the serious manner in which the *Fiji* discusses the question.

MARRIAGE OF H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU.

ON Wednesday the fashionable quarter of Tokyo presented an animated scene owing to the wedding of His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu Yorihito, which took place at his residence in Nagatacho. The Prince recently returned from a long stay—seven years we believe—in Europe. He served for some time in the navies of England and France, and acquired to perfection the carriage and bearing of a naval officer. Possessing a fine physique, a handsome face, dressing invariably in faultless Bond-street fashion, and driving a stylish equipage with all the skill of a finished whip, his Imperial Highness represents the most advanced type of young Japan. The

bride was Lady Yaye, daughter of Marquis Yamouchi Yodo, formerly feudal chief of Tosa, one of the most powerful clans in Japan. The wedding ceremony followed the orthodox Japanese custom, the bride being accompanied at 10 a.m. to the house of the bridegroom by H.E. the Minister of State for the Imperial Household and Viscountess Hijikata, who, acting in the capacity of *Nakodo*, had arranged the preliminaries. The bridal carriage, on its way from Hakozaki-cho, was escorted by a troop of Imperial Body-guards and a number of Police Inspectors. Lady Yaye, we read in the vernacular press, was dressed in white silk with a long train, and carried a bouquet of rare flowers, while the Prince wore naval uniform. The room for the ceremony—which, as many of our readers are doubtless aware, takes the form of exchanging wine-cups—was brilliantly decorated. After the ceremony the bride retired to change her costume, and presently re-appeared in a travelling dress of white silk with delicate purple embroidery, the Prince, in the meanwhile, having exchanged his naval uniform for an evening-dress suit. At noon the wedding breakfast was served, Viscountess Hijikata, Mr. Takasaki, the Poet, and Mrs. Takasaki, and Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary in the Imperial Household, and Mrs. Nagasaki, being among the guests. At 1.30 p.m., Viscount Ayanokoji, an Imperial Chamberlain, arrived on behalf of the Emperor to congratulate the new married couple and to present to them some wedding gifts; and half an hour later two Chamberlains, one from the Empress and the other from the Prince Imperial, also arrived with wedding presents. Shortly afterwards the bride and bridegroom drove to the Palace, and were received in audience by the Emperor and Empress. Thence they proceeded to the Akasaka Palace, to visit the Empress Dowager; and on the way back they called at the residence of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi in Kioicho, where Prince Komatsu presented the bride to his mother, the Princess Oriko. At 7.30 p.m. they repaired to the residence of Prince Komatsu (senior) at Surugadai, where all the Imperial Princes and Princesses were invited to celebrate the union. It is stated that the bride and bridegroom propose to entertain their Japanese and foreign friends in October, when the weather becomes cool.

THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO.

We have already noted the existence of some excitement in Tokyo about the rumoured removal of Governor Tomita. The subject was brought up at the City Assembly's Meeting last Tuesday, when Mr. Kiriha Sutezo introduced a motion for the election of five to investigate the matter. He said that, according to the Law of the Special Municipal Organization, the Governor is also Head of the City (*Shicho*), and in that capacity the City Councillors have a right to elect him. His removal by the mere fiat of the Administration without reference to the City Assembly would be a violation of that right, and as the rumours generally circulated with respect to Governor Tomita's removal had not been contradicted by the authorities, the Assembly should take some steps. The motion was supported by Mr. Nakamura Yasuke, who made the point that since cure had never been found possible in these cases, prevention must be resorted to. Hitherto, on the occasion of good Governors being removed from their prefectures, the people had often petitioned the Government against the step. But such petitions had always been presented after the actual issue of the order of removal, and in no instance had they been successful. He therefore urged the advisability of anticipating the Government's action. Another advocate of the motion was Mr. Ogawa Michizo, who, however, advised the more thorough course of opening direct communication with the Authorities. The other side of the question was set forth by Mr. Izawa Shugo, who reminded the Assembly that the appointment and dismissal of officials are specially included by the Constitution among the Imperial Prerogatives, and that, consequently, the Assembly had no business to interfere

as proposed. Mr. Kojima moved as an amendment that the discussion of the subject be postponed, and a majority voted in that sense. It seems to us that the Assembly's injudicious advocacy is likely to do more harm than good to Governor Tomita.

TRAGEDY IN CHINA TOWN.

ABOUT two o'clock on Thursday afternoon, the particular portion of the Settlement of Yokohama, known as China-town, and about which hangs an air of general disorderliness and ruffianism, was startled by hearing the quick sharp cracks of revolver firing proceeding from the direction of No. 124. Immediately afterwards a man named Jacob Carstens, a ne'er-do-well, disowned by all the Consulates, was seen running from the house with a revolver in his hand. A British Marine, who was passing, seeing the desperate condition of the man, knocked him down, and three Japanese Policemen rushed up to the spot. Carstens, however, rose to his feet, and shooting wildly, wounded all of the constables, one in the face and back of the neck, the others in the legs. He then turned his weapon upon himself, inflicting a wound in his own leg, from which he swooned. In this condition he was easily arrested. By this time an entrance had been effected at the house, No. 124, and it was soon discovered that it had been the scene of a most deliberate murder. Carstens, it appears, had that morning been liberated from gaol, having been incarcerated by the Japanese police for five days. He seems to have imagined that a man named Beatty was the cause of his imprisonment, so immediately upon quitting the gaol he went in search of him with a bull-dog six-chambered revolver. He found his victim lying down on a bed at 124, and, after a few high words had passed between them, he raised his revolver and shot the prostrate man five times in the head and neck, one bullet penetrating to the brain. Having accomplished this work of vengeance, Carstens left the house in search of a man named Valentine, but, fortunately for the latter individual, he was interrupted as before mentioned. Upon making enquiries this morning it was ascertained that Carstens had recovered consciousness, while the wounds of the policemen had been examined and found to be very severe. Constable Murakami Seitaro was shot in the mouth, and the ball passed through his shoulder. Constable Masuda Shichigoro was struck on the left thigh, and the ball passed right through. Constable Sunaga Keijiro is also wounded on the left thigh.

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A jury was at once empanelled at the British Court-house, before James Tramp, Esq., Coroner, which consisted of Messrs. H. W. Lea, foreman, A. Rogers, and K. F. Crawford. The evidence of Dr. Wheeler was taken, who deposed to the nature and character of the fatal wounds received by the murdered man. The Court then adjourned till 9 o'clock this morning.

A FINANCIAL OPERATION.

THE great Burnay sale of port wine, which began on the 24th inst., says the *London and China Express* of May 27th, has been an event of general interest in London this week. Ten thousand pipes of port wine have been publicly sold by Messrs. Southard at the London Wool Exchange; and as a pipe contains from 115 to 119 gallons, the whole quantity is not far short of a million and a quarter gallons. It is not, however, in the mere quantity of wine brought together that the interest of this sale lies. The unique thing is, that it has all been offered for immediate public sale by a single firm. The history of the transaction presents some curious and interesting points. Count Burnay is at the head of an important financial firm in Lisbon. He has nothing directly to do with the wine trade, nor is he a merchant; but he owes the privilege of mining silver. Now, silver is very cheap at present, as most people know, and the profit on coining is large; but it has to be bought with gold, which is extremely dear in Portugal, owing to the high rate of exchange. An English sovereign is worth about 27s. there,

so that the loss on the gold more than counterbalances the gain on the silver. Under these circumstances, Count Burnay hit upon an ingenious plan for buying gold in London by a great sale of port wine there, whereby two birds would be killed with one stone. His firm would avoid the loss involved by the rate of exchange, and his country would benefit by a big stroke of trade. Accordingly he approached Messrs. Southard, who soon grasped the merits of the scheme, though somewhat taken aback at first by its unprecedented magnitude. Fortunately they were just in the right position to carry it out. A member of the firm, familiar with the wine districts of the Douro, went out at once to arrange the selection and purchase of the wine. The wine has all been paid for in Portugal in paper currency; and the pecuniary advantage of selling it in London for gold, under the circumstances just explained, is so great as to permit of its being disposed of even at an actual loss. The bottom of the whole business is the currency question: it is not so much a mercantile transaction as a financial operation.

THE SHIPWRECK AID SOCIETY.

ON the 3rd of November, 1889, the Japanese Shipwreck Aid Society (*Sunan Aisai-Kai*) was formally organized, that day being chosen because the Prince Imperial, Yoshihito, was then declared Heir to the Throne. The rules and general organization of the Society were based upon those of a similar association in Russia, which had elicited Count Kuroda's admiration on the occasion of his recent tour in Europe. H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takahito is now President of the Society, and its Chairman and Councillors are Marquis Nabeshima, Viscount Fujinami, and Messrs. Kimotsuke Kaneyuki, Kiyoura Keigo, Fukaya Yasusada, Maruyama Sakura, and Yoshikawa Taijiro. The *Tokyo Shimpō* says that since the Society's formation it has succoured over 90 vessels in distress, rescued more than 300 mariners, and saved about 100,000 yen worth of property. Apparently the Russian authorities have conceived an interest in the Society, for they have applied through the Japanese Representative in St. Petersburg for a detailed account of the situations of the Society's stations, its income, the nature of the boats used by it, and other matters. A reply is now in course of preparation.

COUNT INOUE.

IN a day or two, writes the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 7th inst., Count Yamagata, who is now enjoying the fresh sea-breezes at Oiso, and Count Ito, who is by the side of his sick mother at Odawara, and Count Kuroda, who passes his time fishing in Shinagawa Bay, will again assemble at Count Matsukata's, for Count Inouye has at last started to come to the capital from Yamaguchi, and has already left Kobe by the *Saikyo Maru*. His re-appearance is desired not only by the Camera statesmen but also by the forty millions of this empire. About the time when Count Inouye reaches Yokohama, Count Ito will come to the capital from Odawara and Count Yamagata from Oiso, and Count Kuroda also will exchange his fishing rod for the affairs of his country. Whether Count Oyama will come is a question. We believe that Count Inouye desired to stand aloof entirely from the present complications, but the time and its circumstances have compelled him to join the Camera conference. What is abundantly clear is that when consulted in the public interests he does not disregard the summons, as was shown by his action in the Oiso affair and on the occasion of the failure of Treaty Revision negotiations. The approaching conference of Camera statesmen is not a sign of unsettled troubles, but is an earnest of progress towards the conclusion of the present political crisis.

THE OSAKA ARSENAL'S CONTRACTS.

WE are glad to see that the virtual monopoly hitherto enjoyed by German and French contractors in respect of the Osaka Arsenal's purchases abroad has been at length broken in favour of an English firm. So far as we are

aware, the only order placed by the Arsenal in England during recent years was one for gun-carriage material, and the result was not considered satisfactory, owing to the fact that whereas the metre system is followed at the Arsenal, absolutely exact metrical sections of bar iron are not procurable in England, where the standard is in feet and inches. There did not appear to be any valid reason, however, why England should not supply the steel hoops used at the Arsenal for shrinking over the guns manufactured there. These hoops come to Japan completely finished on their inner surface, and, after being shrunk on the guns, their exterior is finished in Japan. One difficulty in England's way was that Japan had no inspector in Great Britain. All material of this character has to be inspected during manufacture, and whereas duly appointed Japanese inspectors were available in Germany and France, no provision of the kind had been made in England. Nevertheless, British firms tendered, we believe, more than once for the supply of steel hoops, but were not able to compete with German prices. Now, however, Messrs. Vickers, Low and Company of Sheffield have obtained a contract for \$90,000 worth of hoops, at prices some fifteen per cent. lower than the German tender. Moreover, an inspector has been appointed in England. The same firm has obtained an order for \$40,000 worth of gun-carriage material.

ANOTHER STEAMER ON SHOR

ANOTHER steamer, this time a vessel owned by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, the *Hsinsheng*, has been run on shore, and will probably become a total wreck. A passenger on board the vessel sends the following account of the accident to the *Shanghai Mercury*:—"The steamer *Hsinsheng* of the C.M. S.N. Co., which left Shanghai at 9 a.m. on the Friday, 24th June, met with a mishap at 3 a.m. on Sunday, the 26th. Heavy fogs were encountered during most of the voyage, and in one of these the vessel struck the rocks, a few rods north of Alceste Island. The boats were at once manned, and as the sea was quite smooth the six foreign passengers and 150 natives, with most of their luggage, were soon safely landed at a little cave on the rocky island close by. About noon the *Feima* was sighted en route to Chefoo, and shortly afterwards she picked up the passengers. The cargo is said to be a valuable one, and it, as well as the ship herself, suffered heavily. It is doubtful if she will ever come off.

MURDER IN YOKOHAMA.

ON Wednesday morning a woman, aged nineteen years, was discovered strangled in the Public Garden, Settlement, opposite the Washington Market. The remains were taken to the Settlement Police Station. A man was also found drowned in the Creek near Minato Bridge the same morning, these two fatal events having originated from the same cause. The discoveries of the police go to prove that the girl found strangled was the daughter of a farmer named Sato, living at Hagiwara-mura in the Nakashima District of Aichi Prefecture; her name was Ume. The man, Kato Yasujiro, aged twenty-two years, who was found drowned, belonged to the same village. The couple eloped from their native place during last April, and settled in Yokohama, since which time they have resided together at a tailor's house in Shichome, Onoyecho. Their means were soon exhausted, and poverty at last separated them from one another, the girl obtaining a situation as waitress in an ice shop at Furocho, only a day before the fatal affair. It seems that Kato strangled the girl with an apron, and then proceeding to the Creek committed suicide by plunging in. His *geta* were discovered near the remains of the unfortunate girl.

THE "OMI MARU."

THE *Omi Maru*, Captain F. Devenish, a steamer belonging to the Japan Mail Steamship Company, which left here on Sunday last for Otaru, via ports of call, is ashore near Yeisan-saki, a locality presenting great perils of navigation

during the fogs that prevail at this time of year. There are good hopes of getting her off if the weather continues fine, as the damage is confined to one compartment forward. The *Tagonoura Maru* was at once despatched from Hakodate to bring off the passengers and render assistance, and the *Kumamoto Maru* left Yokohama on Wednesday at 3 p.m. with a salvage party and all necessary appliances. Everything, of course, depends on the weather. So far as can be ascertained, the injuries thus far received by the ship are not of a character to suggest any serious difficulty in getting her afloat, but she lies in a very exposed position, and unless the sea remains tolerably calm, her fate may soon be sealed.

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We have learned nothing more about the prospects of getting the *Omi Maru* off the rocks. A Japanese gunboat, the *Amaki Kan*, and the Japan Mail Steamship Company's *Tagonoura Maru*, endeavoured to tow her off on Wednesday, but the attempt could scarcely have been considered very hopeful, as the *Tagonoura Maru* is a small steamer of only some seven or eight hundred tons. The arrival of the *Kumamoto Maru* on the scene ought to furnish sufficient power, and doubtless the question of saving the vessel will be determined finally in a very few days. Much, as we have already said, depends on the weather, and fortunately telegraphic news received yesterday announces calm water and every appearance of continued fineness. The injury being confined to one compartment forward, it seems probable that by lightening the ship and getting her down by the stern, the operation of floating may be accomplished.

BARON R. VON BIEGELEBEN.

H.E. BARON R. VON BIEGELEBEN, who for nearly four years has represented Austria-Hungary at the Japanese Court, left this country on leave of absence on Sunday. Up to the last moment the exact time of the Baron's departure had not been published, despite of numerous inquiries, and it thus resulted that no demonstration of farewell could be made in the case of one of the most popular Ministers who have ever served in Tokyo. He was accompanied to the steamship *City of Peking* by his colleagues of the Corps Diplomatique and by those of his countrymen who had been able to assure themselves of the time of his leaving. It is the universal hope that this able and much liked Minister may soon return to Japan, and that his health, which of late has not been very robust, may be entirely restored by the trip to Europe.

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS.

THIS company, which is about to visit Yokohama, has had some difficulty in obtaining a "pitch," but we understand from the agent that a place will be ready for them by the time they arrive here. The *N.-C. Daily News* thus refers to the last performance in Shanghai:—"The largest audience ever collected together under one roof in Shanghai met at Harmston's Circus on Thursday to say good-bye to this popular company, and especially for the benefit of Mr. George Harmston. The programme was a very good one and was very well executed, the Feeley family being a good attraction, and only equalled by the jumping contest for a handsome silver claret jug, between gentlemen riders mounted on Australian horses from Mr. Harmston's stud. Mr. Sampson, on Bangalore, was the fortunate winner. No company has ever done better in Shanghai than this Circus, and there is a general hope that it will return here."

THE METAL MARKET.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co., in their last Report, referring to metals, say:—"The continuance of the Durham miners' strike has caused large withdrawals of pig iron from public stores at Glasgow, and this has kept up the price of warrants there, fluctuation during the month having been unimportant. At Middlesbrough also the withdrawals from the public stores have been very heavy, especially during the last week, and there has been an advance there of about

1s. 6d. per ton in prices of warrants, and of about 2s. 9d. in prices of hematite, during the last few days. At Middlesbrough there is a better demand from abroad, shipments are good, and a short supply of iron is now distinctly noticeable. The manufactured iron trade in the Midlands is showing a little improvement, and prices are steady. The reports as to the reduction of output have caused copper to advance, but it is now easier. Tin has advanced about £4 10s. per ton during the month, and is strong. Spelter has advanced a little, but is easy. Lead also has advanced and is steady."

ACCIDENT AT THE INNAI MINE.

AN accident involving very serious loss of life is reported from the Innai Mine in Akita Prefecture. No accurate particulars are yet to hand, but from what has been telegraphed we gather that, owing to the recent heavy rains, water suddenly burst into one of the shafts, causing the death of over sixty miners who were caught by the flood, and hemmed in before any aid could be rendered. The Innai Mine is the property of Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, who purchased it some years ago from the Government for 75,000 yen. It is situated near the town of Ginzan-machi (silver-mine town) in the Okutsu district of Akita Prefecture, and is about 740 feet above the sea level. During the past three centuries silver, a small quantity of gold, and some lead have been found at the place, the silver ore containing 2½ per cent. of silver and 1 per cent. of lead.

CLERICAL STAGE-ACTORS.

THIS is in many respects a land of surprises. We have had *soshō* actors, and now, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*, we are to have reverend priests figuring on the stage. A priest called Tanaka, belonging to the Shingon Sect, has announced that from the 31st prox. a series of stage performances, designed to illustrate the chief events in the life of the patron saint of the Sect, Kōbodaishi, will be given at the Fukurokuza, Akasaka. Some 20 priests will take part in the play. The *Hochi* praises the ingenuity of the scheme. It will no doubt result in filling the coffers of its promoters, as the novelty of the proceedings will attract crowds. As to the propriety of the new departure, the Japanese religious devotee holds very different views from most Westerners: though it is a question whether some of the ceremonies performed by the Greek Church, for instance, differ essentially from other forms of theatrical representation.

YOKOHAMA SEAMEN'S MISSION.

THE social entertainment given on Thursday at the Seamen's Mission passed off in a highly satisfactory manner, and about 150 sailors and their friends were present. All seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves, and joined heartily in the frequent applause which greeted each lady and gentleman who contributed to their entertainment. The night was warm, but with the aid of a liberal supply of aerated waters no great inconvenience was experienced. On such occasions during the summer season the need of a good punkah to keep the air moving is felt. Who, asks the Chaplain, will supply the need?

MR. L. G. EATON WOOLLEY.

Says the *Bedfordshire Standard*:—"At the Levée held by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen on May 12th, Mr. L. G. Eaton Woolley was presented by Major Lamorock Flower. Mr. Eaton Woolley is an old Bedford Grammar boy, and the eldest son of Mrs. W. A. Woolley, a lady well known in Bedford, and late of Japan. Mr. Eaton Woolley is a most promising young fellow, and deserves the honour just conferred upon him. He is a member of a very old family, and a relative of his held an official appointment at Buckingham Palace for over thirty years. Mr. L. G. Eaton Woolley expects shortly to proceed to Japan.

THE CABINET.

It was expected that permanent holders of the portfolios of Home Affairs and of Justice would be announced in the early days of the present month, but the present programme is to defer a

Original from

decision until Count Inouye can be consulted as to the policy of the Cabinet. The Count has been telegraphically requested to return to the capital for the purpose of taking part in a conference, and has signified his compliance. It is believed that he set out from Mitajiri in Yamaguchi on the 4th instant. In that event his arrival in Tokyo may be looked for about the 8th, and the appointment of the new Ministers of Home Affairs and of Justice would doubtless take place about the middle of the month.

SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The Summer Commencement Exercises at the School of the Morning Star, in Tokyo, came off on Thursday afternoon in the presence of S. G. Mgr. Osoul, Archbishop of Tokyo, the French Chargé d'Affaires, and a large number of visitors, both Japanese and foreign. The boys, as usual, afforded manifest proof of the unsparing pains and intelligent care devoted to their education. Moreover, they all looked healthy and happy, and the number of prizes won by them showed how successfully industry is encouraged by the system pursued at this excellent school, which now includes among its students the sons of many of the leading foreign and Japanese residents of Japan. The following is the programme of exercises:—

Chœur d'ouverture.—Célébration, chers amis.....par Ackermann.
Alfred, a drama by Alkin (adapted)..... E. Hall.
Gubba, a Former's Father..... B. Dithlefsen.
Gaudelin, Gubba's Father..... J. Dabier.
Ell, an Officer of Alfred..... R. van der Heyden.
Sonatine dusek (Op. 70, No. 4)..... J. Mason.
Scene aus Wilhelm Tell.....
Kaisers von Österreich..... I. Murakami.
Rudi der Fischer..... Ch. Rishow.
Jenni der Fischerknabe..... A. Dewette.
Wilhelm Tell..... A. Dewette.
L'Orchestre du "Père Krakkele" (charge comique)..... E. Yuzo.
Extraits de l'opéra "Héroïsme" par Ch. Goussod.
Monsieur Baclin, avocat.....per Brueya et Palaprat.
Monsieur Guillaume, drapier..... H. Brinkley.
Aucun, berger de Guillaume..... P. Paternostro.
Bartolin, Juge du village..... Ch. Eymard.
Chœur des Soldats de l'opéra "Faust" pas Goussod, arrangé pour piano par Brinkley Richards..... Olive Hall.
Chûshin Kagami..... Y. Ozawa.
zer Toneyaku..... N. Yamamoto.
se Toneyaku..... K. Kofuji.
zer Dohin..... K. Ogata.
se Dohin..... H. Hamao.
Rônin Oishi Kuranosuke..... E. Yuzo.
Rondo de Mazas quatuor.....
ser violon—A. Dewette, M. Hayashi, F. Ribeiro.
Ch. Eymard, P. Paternostro.
se violon—A. Poque, H. Brinkley, D. Weed.
Ch. du Bousquet, A. Laferrerie, G. Nez-Vignetti.
Violoncelle—J. Enoye.—Piano—Olive Hall.
Chœur: Le Pays, Pas redoublé par Violet.
DISTRIBUTION DES PRIZ.

KIM-OK-KUM.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Kokkai* both publish sensational rumours about the Korean refugee Kim-ok-Kun, who has now enjoyed the privilege of asylum for several years in Japan, where he is known as Iwata Shusaku. About four years ago it was asserted that the Korean Government had endeavoured to have Kim assassinated in Japan, and this story is now resuscitated. Our contemporaries allege that when Messrs. Ogawa and Omiwa recently brought some Korean students to study in Japan, they were accompanied by an official who was under secret orders to compass the death of Kim. This official is represented as a man of resources. Penmanship is his great forte, and he is said to be travelling towards the capital, via the Tokaido, paying his expenses by writing ideographs for scrolls and so forth. His arrival in Tokyo is expected soon. This man's mission was preceded by a similar attempt in March last, when two Koreans, coming to Japan, exhibited a document from the authorities in Seoul authorizing them to kill Kim, and endeavoured to procure assistance from certain Japanese. Unsuccessful in their effort, they returned to Korea about a month back, and were severely punished for their failure. The same journals allege that the Korean Government's reasons for desiring to make away with Kim-ok-Kun are that the Tai-won-Kun has memorialized the Throne urging the necessity of getting rid of the notorious plotter, and that rumours have been busily circulated of late to the effect that Kim is planning an invasion of Korea, at the head of a large body of *soshi* belonging to the Genyo-sha, and in conjunction with Mr. Toyama Mitsuru, the leader of that association. They add that, in reply to tele-

graphic queries, General Le Gendre, Korean Commissioner in Japan, has assured the Soul Authorities of the baselessness of these rumours, but apparently the latter are still anxious to have Kim assassinated. We (*Japan Mail*) do not place the smallest credence in these extraordinary tales.

THE BIG DIAMOND.

No inconsiderable sensation was created at the early part of last month by an item in some of the Japanese papers, which stated that a certain Mr. Takabayashi of Kuwana, in Ise, had found himself the possessor of a very large diamond, excelling in size the world renowned Koh-i-nor. The *Jiji Shimpō* now says that the stone was lately examined at Osaka by Mr. Kyochi, a mineralogist of the Mining Bureau, who has pronounced it to be a topaz, such as are discovered from time to time in the hills of Ise.

A BIG PIECE OF CORAL.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a certain fisherman of Tomiye in the Goto Islands has fished up a piece of coral exceptionally large. Since coral was discovered in the seas adjoining the Gotos, from twenty to thirty thousand yen worth has been obtained yearly. The specimen in question has been brought to Osaka. It weighs two *kwan* (16½ lbs.), and is in the form of a tree, measuring about a foot round the root and having more than two feet spread of bough. The value is estimated at a thousand yen.

THEFT OF A DOCUMENT BY A LAWYER.

An attorney named Yano Teikichi, a member of the Tokyo Lawyers' Association, while conducting a case for the Makarazu Company (Yokohama) appropriated a document worth \$150. Legal proceedings were instituted by the employer, Yano being accused of theft. The case was given in favour of the defendant in the Tokyo Provincial Court, but on being carried to the Court of Appeal by the Public Prosecutor, Yano was convicted of theft and sentenced to 5 months' minor imprisonment and 6 months' police surveillance.

ADVENT OF A RUSSIAN PRINCE.

SEVERAL Japanese journals recently stated that the Grand Duke George, second son of the Emperor of Russia, would visit this country in June of 1893. The Tokyo News Agency corrects the statement, and says that the Grand Duke whose visit may be expected next year is H.I.H. Alexander, fifth son the Grand Duke Michael, and consequently cousin of the Czar. The Grand Duke Alexander, who is now in his 27th year, is serving in the Russian Navy.

POACHERS.

The *Tokyo Shimpō* says that news has been received of the presence of a foreign poaching vessel in the vicinity of Oshima, off the Izu coast. The ship is said to be American, and it is understood that she has on board some Japanese acting in the capacity of pilots and general assistants. The *Tokachiho Kan* was despatched from Yokosuka on the 29th ultimo to look after the intruder.

VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO.

VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO has for some time been suffering from an attack of typhoid fever. Happily the disease was not of an acute character, and the Viscountess' numerous foreign friends will learn with pleasure that she is now out of danger and progressing satisfactorily towards recovery.

PASSPORTS.

THE News Agency reports that the number of passports issued by the Foreign Office for travel in the interior from January 1st of this year to the 5th instant is 2,950, many of which included two or more persons—a husband, wife, and family. Thus the number of tourists up to the present has probably been at least 3,500.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK.

We understand that a private telegram received in Yokohama speaks of the resuscitation of the New Oriental Bank as assured. It is sincerely to be trusted that this intelligence may prove correct.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political situation remains uncertain. We stated in our last weekly summary that the Ministers of State had been requested to assemble in full force on the 30th ultimo. That meeting did not take place, however. It appears that the conference of the Camera Statesmen on the preceding day resulted in an unexpected development, which for the moment precluded all ideas of a speedy solution of the problem, and which consequently compelled indefinite postponement of the appointed Cabinet meeting. What that new development was we are not in a position to state. Indeed, the whole vernacular press is entirely in the dark as to the nature and results of the recent conferences of the *Kuromaku Saishō*. It is reported that even the Ministers of State were not let into the secrets of these conferences. But it is generally believed by the metropolitan papers that the difference of opinion between Count Ito and Count Yamagata, which at one time seemed capable of accommodation, suddenly became so radical that the Premier, Count Matsukata, thought it prudent to ask Count Inouye to return to the capital by all means, in order to lay the matter before him for consideration. How much, if any, truth there is in this report, we cannot say; but it is certain that Count Inouye, notwithstanding his open avowal of resolve not to have anything to do with the present Ministerial question, has yielded to the solicitation of his friend Count Matsukata. He set out from Yamaguchi with the intention of reaching the capital either on Thursday evening or Friday morning. Upon his arrival, the conferences of the Camera Statesmen were to be resumed, and something definite will be known in the course of the coming week.

The press of all parties shows great impatience at the delay in settling the present Ministerial question. The spectacle of a few apparently irresponsible statesmen holding conferences over the destiny of a Cabinet, the members of which, with the single exception of the Premier, are not even allowed to ask information about the conferences, is too much for the metropolitan papers to pass without sarcastic comments on the singular patience of the Ministers of State. The *Fumiuri Shimbun* recommends them to reject altogether the interference of the Camera Statesmen; or, if they are unable to do so, to admit the latter into the Cabinet. The *Hochi Shimbun*, on the one hand, recommends the *kuromaku* statesmen to desist from all interference with affairs which lie entirely beyond the limit of their responsibility; and at the same time reminds the members of the Cabinet of the ignominy of tamely submitting to the dictation of outsiders, whosoever they may be. Even the *Chaya Shimbun*, which is regarded as a most thorough going supporter of the present Cabinet, does not hesitate to urge upon the Ministers of State the importance of asserting their independence of the statesmen behind the curtain.

Count Inouye is considered by the Tokyo papers to possess the casting vote in the settlement of the Ministerial question. His present position is compared with that occupied by Count Yamagata in 1889, when the latter's arrival home from a Western tour decided the fate of the Treaty problem, then agitating the minds of the people. The points now at issue not being accurately known, it is difficult to say in what respect Count Inouye's appearance on the scene will affect the situation. The *Hochi Shimbun*, however, is disposed to believe that Count Inouye is in favour of a moderate and constitutional course of policy. At all events, he will not, our contemporary thinks, give countenance to any policy which, under a constitutional guise, aims at the preservation of a despotic system of Government. He is expected by the *Kaishin-to* organ to be capable of solving the problem in a masterly fashion, and is requested to establish a general rule that the

Camera Statesmen shall henceforth altogether desist from interfering with politics. The *Kokumin Shimbun* also believes in the great ability of Count Inouye. It states that there are open to him three courses of action; first, to form a Cabinet in company with Count Ito, Mr. Mutsu, Viscount Nomura, and others of the same group; secondly, to divide the statesmen in the Government into the two distinct parties of those advocating a militant policy and those favouring a constitutional policy; and thirdly, to content himself with a time-serving device.

* * *

The situation evidently perplexes everybody. All are equally at a loss to see how the transition from an Imperialistic form of government to government by party can be effected in a smooth and natural manner. The *Fiji Shimpō* is firmly convinced that sooner or later government by party is sure to be carried out in this country. To make the transition as smooth as possible, our contemporary advises the leading statesmen on the Government side to renounce their peerages and become members of the House of Representatives. The difficulties of the situation are owing to indiscriminate opposition by the majority in that House to the Government. Lack of gravity and mature consideration characterizes the conduct of these members of the Lower House. If the leading statesmen on the Government side took seats in the House, their presence, in the our contemporary's opinion, would exercise a very salutary influence upon the younger politicians of the Opposition. Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa having cast in their lot with the National Union, are called upon to take the initiative and resign their peerages. While, on the one hand, offering this advice to the statesmen in the Government and to those connected with it, the *Fiji*, on the other, recommends the young politicians of the Opposition to be more prudent and dignified in their conduct toward the Government. They are reminded that the day is not far distant when they will be called upon to take seats in the Cabinet. On every occasion of a change of Cabinet in recent years, it has been observable that new and young elements were admitted. The process will go on steadily until young officials in the Government who are now on a level with the junior leaders of the Opposition, will come to the front ranks. When that stage of progress has been reached, it will become unavoidable to give Ministerial portfolios to the Opposition leaders, and the consummation is not very far distant. In view of the approaching crisis in their political career, the Opposition politicians are advised to conduct themselves so as to win the confidence of the nation.

* * *

The *Kokumin Kyokai* (National Union) continues to loom up large in the journalistic vista. The Opposition papers persist in condemning the Union as a party pledged to support Clan Government, or more correctly Government by the two clans of Sasshu and Choshu. Neither Count Saigo nor Viscount Shinagawa, say these critics, is specially fitted to be a party leader: their connection with the National Union is a proof that their qualification consists in being representatives of Sasshu and Choshu respectively. Such a party is declared to be incompatible with the progressive atmosphere of the present day. Another point that has evoked adverse comment is the circumstance that the Union has not issued any manifesto. Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa both declared that they approve the aim and purpose of the Union; but what that aim and purpose are, the public is left entirely in the dark. The Opposition press thinks it very strange that the leaders of the new party should hesitate to declare their programme. One of the *Kaishin-to* organs, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, is silly enough to advise the Cabinet to let the public distinctly understand the nature of the relations which it intends to maintain with the National Union. If the Cabinet has no connection with the Union, let the fact be distinctly known, says the *Yomiuri*; if, on the contrary, the Cabinet contemplates maintaining intimate relations with the new

party, nothing can be more injurious than to attempt to conceal the intention. The evil results of leaving the public in a doubtful frame of mind on this point, are declared to have been illustrated by the case of the *Rikken Tetsui-to* (Constitutional Imperialist party) which was formed some years ago by Messrs. Maruyama Sakura, Fukuchi Genichiro, and Mizuno Torajiro. That association was regarded as a Government party, but the undefined attitude of the Government cooled the ardour of many who would otherwise have gladly joined. The consequence was that the party soon died a natural death, without having induced any applications for admission to its ranks. In order to avert such a calamitous result, the Government is slyly advised to define its connection with the National Union. Among the independent section of the metropolitan papers there seems to be some doubt as to the permanence of friendly relations between the Union and the Government. The *Fiji Shimpō* entertains such a doubt. It thinks that both the Government and the Union will be disappointed, if they believe in the permanence of their friendly relations, supposing such relations to exist between them. There might be permanence if the members of the Union were content to be mere instruments of those in power; but such submissive conduct cannot be expected from them. Neither will the Government consent to be dictated to by the Union. Thus it is quite probable, nay almost unavoidable, that the Government and the Union will quarrel, and in that case the Government will be compelled either to drive the Union into the camp of the Opposition or to admit its leaders to Ministerial positions. On the whole, the *Kokumin Kyokai* seems to be regarded by the majority of the metropolitan papers with doubt and suspicion.

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Much anxiety is felt by the vernacular press at the delay of the Cabinet in advising the Emperor to sanction the law for the postponement of the date on which the new Codes go into operation. As already noticed in these columns, there was at one time a rumour that the Cabinet contemplated disregarding the vote of the Diet and carrying out the new Codes from the originally appointed date, namely from the 1st of January next. This rumour, however, was rejected by the press as being extremely improbable. But there being no indication that the Cabinet is at all concerned to advise the Emperor to sanction the postponement of the Codes, it is again anxiously inquired by papers of all sections what the Government intends to do. For our own part, we have not the slightest doubt that the matter will receive the attention of the Government immediately after the present Ministerial crisis has been settled. But papers like the *Nippon* and others urge that the Ministerial question can have nothing to do with the matter of the Codes. The latter, they declare, has a vital bearing upon the interests of the whole people, and the Cabinet is bound to give its earliest attention to the settlement of the problem one way or other. As to the question whether the Cabinet ought to advise the Emperor or sanction the postponement of the operation of the Codes, it is claimed that no warrant exists for withholding sanction, for whereas injurious effects cannot result from postponement, their immediate operation would have a most pernicious influence upon the natural development of the nation—a tolerably bold method of begging the whole question. That the Codes have no connection with the question of Treaty Revision, is falsely alleged by these journals to have been openly admitted by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and they then proceed to ask whether postponement can effect the peace of the country, or whether it would be incompatible with the general policy of the Cabinet. These queries the *Nippon*, more confident than conscientious, does not hesitate to answer in the negative. What reason is there then, it asks, to insist on the operation of the Codes, in the face of the united opposition of the Diet and of public opinion. Even the *Tokyo Shimpō* strongly urges upon the Cabinet the importance of speedily advising the

Emperor to sanction the Bill for postponement. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not seem to doubt the Cabinet's intention to agree to the Bill. It discusses the constitution of the Commission which will be charged with the revision of the Codes, and devotes much space to reviewing the history of codification in Germany and Italy, as well as to defining the course which should be followed in this country. There are, in fact, a thousand cooks, and the Codes will fare ill in their hands.

* * *

The Columbian Exposition continues to occupy journalistic attention. The *Kokkai* recently advised those of its countrymen who can write English to compile a history of the country, and send it to the Exposition—a delightful notion. It now recommends the despatch of a large number of scientific experts to study the secret of the industrial prosperity of Occidental countries. The Japanese are backward in the application of science to practical purposes. The World's Fair at Chicago will be a unique opportunity to examine the various scientific appliances of the West. There ought, says the *Kokkai*, to be ample funds to send a band of properly qualified scientific experts. The *Hochi Shimbun* urges upon manufacturers the importance of paying a visit to the Fair. A project is entertained by some intending visitors to the Exposition to combine and hire a steamer to carry them across the Pacific. If there be a sufficient number, the expense of the whole trip, supposing it to occupy two months, are stated to be from two to three hundred yen in all. Manufacturers are advised to join these persons, and the authorities are requested to afford every facility.

* * *

In connection with the Columbian Exposition, some excitement has been caused by the singular conduct on the part of the painters in oils. In a body they cancelled their application to send pictures to Chicago, alleging that there is no hope of their works receiving fair treatment from the Japanese authorities connected with the Exposition. Mr. Kuki, Vice-President of the Temporary Bureau of Exposition, is accused of having let fall some unguarded language about the school of Western painting in Japan. But whatever may have been the proximate cause of this unexpected move on the part of the students of oil painting, there is no doubt that the relations between the Japanese and foreign schools of art are extremely strained. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* deeply regrets such a state of things. It entirely agrees with Mr. Kuki as to the importance of developing the original Japanese characteristics of art; but it fails to see any reason why full toleration and even encouragement should not be extended to the Western school also. Free development of all schools of art, side by side, will be conducive to the final production of a truly nationalistic school.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* exposes in strong terms the absurdity of the position taken by the opponents of mixed residence. These persons do not pretend to deny the ability of their country to take her position as an independent State among the Powers of the World. But, asks our contemporary, is it not tantamount to a confession of inferiority to declare that the Japanese are unfit for direct competition with European and American races? Some people also think that tariff autonomy can be easily recovered without any concession on the part of Japan. The *Nichi Nichi* exposes the absurdity of this sort of reasoning. Russia and the United States of America are the only countries where tariff is regulated by home legislation. In all other states rates of customs duties form the subject of international convention. This general rule must be observed by Japan; and there is little probability of European Powers agreeing to any one-sided scheme of Revision. Mixed residence and recovery of national rights must go hand in hand. The time, says our contemporary, has long passed when it was possible and advantageous to shut out foreigners from the interior of the country.

Original from

BLAINE'S DEFEAT.

NOTHING could have been more unexpected than the sequel of BLAINE'S attempt to obtain the nomination at Minneapolis. When the intelligence reached this country that the Secretary of State had resigned, and that he was about to enter the Presidential contest, one opinion alone prevailed, namely, that he would be nominated by acclamation. The contingency of failure was dismissed without a second thought. Mr. BLAINE possesses gifts of the highest order. He is probably one of the greatest orators in the world, and his power of winning friends has been translated by many writers into the expressive formula that his personal magnetism is unparalleled. The terms in which his name was presented to the Convention by Senator WOLCOTT seem to embody the true sentiments of many of his countrymen :—

Years of struggle in the public service have left their impress upon him, but he still stands, to us who love him, the embodiment of all that is brightest and best in American statesmanship. And, mellowed and brightened by the creeping hours of time, we thank God he is still able and equipped to give the people of these States an administration which shall not only protect our citizens but, looking beyond the confines of our borders, shall embrace the well being of all Americans. And so, Mr. Chairman, in the hour when victory is at hand, we turn to the intrepid leader who so shaped this party's policy as to lift it above the danger of further defeat, and to those of us who belong to the younger element of the party, who are not content to follow and yet are not able to lead, and who ask only to hear their share of the burden and heat of the day, he stands our ideal, our inspiration. His name is engraved on all our hearts in living letters that shall never fade—brave, true-hearted, great. There is not one Republican who will not follow where he leads with loving faith, and we trust that providence will long spare him to the populace, whose grateful homage he has earned and whose affectionate devotion he possesses. We pledge our unfaltering, loyal support to James G. Blaine.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, on the other hand, is a simple, honest-hearted gentleman ; a man not so richly gifted as BLAINE, but possessing the invaluable faculty of avoiding mistakes, and possessing also courage to be guided by the dictates of unselfish patriotism. Mr. DEPEW, than whom no orator can be more rhetorical when he pleases, contented himself with this pithy summary of HARRISON'S claims in presenting his name to the Convention :—

By the grand record of a wise and popular administration, by the strength gained in frequent contact with the people in his wonderfully versatile and felicitous speech, by the claims of a pure life in public and in the simplicity of his typical American home, I nominate Benjamin Harrison.

Yet, in the actual struggle between these two men, HARRISON obtained 535 votes against BLAINE'S 182. The defeat was as signal as it had been unlooked for. And, even with the facts before us, it is not easy to interpret them confidently. The truth appears to be that BLAINE'S supporters consisted chiefly of the so-called "Party Bosses" and of politicians hostile to Harrison for personal reasons. Whether the "Plumed Knight" would have obtained a more respectable following had he entered the field earlier, is a question that will doubtless be variously answered. But

the moral of the Minneapolis story, as told by the American press, seems to be that BLAINE committed the great mistake of lending his name to political agitators who sought only to conjure with it for their own ends. PLATT, FILBEY, QUAY, CLARKSON and so forth do not represent the best element of the Republican Party. It is doubtful whether they ever honestly desired to secure BLAINE'S nomination. What they did unquestionably desire was to prevent HARRISON'S nomination, and in pursuance of that object they were ready to vote for any one who possessed a chance of being elected. They did not care for the triumph of the Republican Party but only for the defeat of HARRISON. Their respect for Mr. BLAINE is well illustrated by the fact that after placing him in nomination and thus exposing him to the peril of defeat, they deserted him in the fight, and transferred their allegiance to MCKINLEY, in the vain hope of preventing any nomination on the first roll-call. In a word, they simply made a catspaw of BLAINE, and the result is that a man who yesterday stood below none in the esteem of his country, is to-day hopelessly discredited as the central figure in an utter fiasco. We are not Americans, but we may plead the privilege of close relationship to be candid, and to say that, although BLAINE'S record and endowments may have entitled him to the Presidency, the Republican Party has obeyed a wiser and worthier instinct in choosing HARRISON. Somebody once said of BLAINE, "We honour him for the sake of the enemies he has made." It may be said now of the Delegates at Minneapolis that they rejected BLAINE because of the friends who supported him. The Republicans wanted the strongest man they could get, and a man representing the best traditions of American statesmanship. They did not want a man supported chiefly by "Party Bosses" and "sore-headed politicians" discontented about the division of the spoils. It was a stupendous blunder on BLAINE'S part to accept the aid of such persons and to rely on it solely. A great career ends in a sorry episode. We believed in BLAINE, and should have welcomed his success, despite the widely held idea that he has not hesitated to make political capital out of his country's foreign relations. But when we analyse the backing he obtained at Minneapolis, we can only be pleased at his failure.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

IT cannot surprise anyone that there should be an appearance of perplexity at present in both official and political circles in Japan. The machinery of constitutional government is so new that some trouble in working it is inevitable. Many of the elements which contribute to its smooth operation, and which, in other countries, precede its existence, have still

to be created in Japan. We ourselves believe that a satisfactory result will ultimately be achieved, but the state of affairs in the interval is disquieting. Within the Government and among the Camera Statesmen there are evidently two views. One party favours the adoption of an unflinching attitude towards the Diet ; the other would make every possible concession and employ every possible means of conciliation within the strict limits of the Constitution. Gradually the balance appears to be swaying towards the former policy. Its supporters argue that, in the first place, to employ conciliation at present might be taken as an indication of weakness. Conciliation can be successful only when the other side is in a mood to be conciliated, and it is very doubtful whether such a mood yet exists. Certainly it does not exist among the *Kaishin-to*, whatever may be the case with the *Fiyu-to*. Those who have followed the writings of the vernacular press since the struggle between the Government and the Opposition entered an acute phase, will remember that independent journals have consistently urged the wisdom of an unflinching attitude on both sides. These impartial onlookers think that the time has not come for compromise, and that it cannot come until the Opposition learns to appreciate the hopelessness of expecting complete victory. Such a view is strengthened by the general consideration that it is always easy to make concessions, but scarcely ever possible to recall them when once made. Moreover, the advocates of a strong policy have another argument in their favour. They can point to the indisputable fact that no army was ever rallied to a standard of compromise. The most noteworthy feature about the composition of the last Diet, during the session just ended, was that it included the acknowledged embryo of a Government party. There was a semblance of a Government Party in the first session, but it became entirely invertebrate after the Budget compromise, and when the second session opened, only one member in the whole House of Representatives ventured to openly declare himself a pro-Government man. Things could scarcely be otherwise. So long as it was uncertain whether the Government would hold the fort, no one felt any strong inclination to stand in the breach. Dissolution materially changed the complexion of affairs. Politicians saw that the Cabinet was in earnest, and when the Diet re-assembled, there were found in the Lower House some ninety members who, though not openly organized as a Government party, did not hesitate to vote consistently with the Government and to identify themselves with official measures. That was a very substantial gain. Let Government by party be ever so distant, it is beyond question that, so soon as a constitutional polity is adopted, the Cabinet should spare no pains to obtain support in the Diet. The head of a house may be unwilling to

concede to the members of his household the power of dismissing him from office and choosing his successor, but at the same time he will endeavour to contrive that his management of affairs shall not be censured by a majority of the family. Japanese Ministers of State are determined to uphold the EMPEROR'S constitutional prerogative of appointing and dismissing the heads of the Administration, without interference or dictation from the Diet or from any other body in the State. But at the same time it is their bounden duty to avert the unsightly and dangerous condition of perpetual disagreement between the Cabinet and the majority in the House of Representatives. That can be achieved only by organizing a Government party, and a party cannot be organized on a nebulous platform of compromise and concession. The strong measure of dissolution created the nucleus of a pro-official party, and the resolute attitude of the Government throughout the third session has so far strengthened the Cabinet's supporters that now at length they have formed themselves into an organized association. To adopt a conciliatory policy at this juncture towards the Opposition would certainly deprive the new association of verve and cohesion, and might possibly estrange it altogether. Besides, there is no assurance that such a policy would disarm the Opposition. On the contrary, as we have noted above, independent Japanese thinkers maintain that the Opposition will never lower its hands until it finds itself confronted by forces that render its complete success hopeless. To try the experiment of conciliation now would be to catch neither the bee nor the wasp, as the Japanese proverb puts it. Yet the situation is sufficiently difficult to demand long and deliberate thought on the part of those responsible for dealing with it. We ourselves have not the least faith in half measures under the circumstances. The experience of the past three sessions seems to place one fact beyond all doubt, namely, that by a resolute and unflinching attitude only can the Government hope for organized support in the Diet.

THE STEWART BILL.

THE news received on the 5th inst. by telegram that the Senate has passed the Stewart Bill reads very strangely in the context of the journalistic comments evoked when, on May 26th, the Senate, by a narrow majority of 28 to 20 in a House not half filled, voted to take up the Bill. The Republican newspapers denounced the measure in unqualified terms. They called it a deliberate attempt to pass a law compelling every creditor to accept 67 cents in silver as equal to 100 cents in gold, and they predicted that when the Bill came up for final discussion, it would be ignominiously rejected. "There is not,"

wrote one newspaper, "a bare possibility of the enactment of a free coinage law this session, no matter what the maniacs may say. Neither of the great parties dares to make itself responsible for the certain derangement of the finances that would ensue from such an enactment. The Presidency is a great prize no doubt, but there is a price too great to pay for it, and free silver is too great a price. Great as the price may be, it would not purchase the boon. The masses are wiser than the leaders this time, and a great deal more honest, and they will not back the demand to compel the Government to pay thirty per cent. more than the market price, even for silver bullion." This is pretty confident writing, yet the Bill has passed. A curious point is that the silver men in Washington had said that they entertained no expectation of passing it until after the two National Conventions had been held, and now, while the news of the Democratic Convention's result is still fresh, intelligence comes that the Bill has passed. Evidently the silver men gauged their times and seasons pretty accurately, and knew what they were about a great deal better than the press imagined. But between the passing of the Bill by the Senate and its becoming law, there is a considerable interval. It may pass the House, but we can predict with tolerable certainty that President HARRISON will veto it, and that the nation will thus obtain a square and direct issue in the Presidential campaign on what some journals justly call "the gravest and most far-reaching of public questions." The amendment added by the Senate is significant. All the silver bullion now lying in the vaults of the Treasury is to be coined. We cannot say exactly what that bullion now represents. But at the beginning of May the Secretary of the Treasury, in response to questions propounded by the Senate as to the operation of the Silver Law of July, 1890, said that the Treasury notes issued in payment for silver bullion purchased under that Act up to April 27th, amounted to \$92,852,000, and as there was already a considerable quantity of the white metal in the vaults when the Law came into force, we may fairly assume that the silver bullion now in the Treasury aggregates not less than 100 million dollars. On the other hand, the estimated stock of silver coin in the United States on January 1st, 1891, was 465 million dollars, and the quantity coined during the preceding year had been 40 millions approximately, so that this proviso adopted by the Senate means an immediate coinage of silver $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as great as the usual annual coinage, and means an addition of 22 per cent. to the stock of silver coin in the country. Such operations take one's breath away. What on earth the Treasury is to do with a hundred million silver dollars when they are coined, we cannot con-

ceive. Equally incomprehensible is the notion of America attempting to rehabilitate silver by steps of the nature taken by her during the past two years, or rather since the enactment of the Bland Bill. Without going so far as to adopt the language of an American journal which describes the Stewart Bill as "the most gigantic swindle ever proposed in the Congress of the United States," we certainly cannot consider it anything but a piece of the wildest legislation ever endorsed by sober-minded men. If it became law, the world would witness another of those disastrous financial disturbances that followed the operation of the Act of 1890. What commerce wants is something like a stable and natural ratio between gold and silver. These attempts to force the latter to a fictitious and unobtainable value only aggravate the evil from which international trade is suffering so acutely.

BAD TIMES.

WE doubt whether in the memory of any foreign resident the East has ever been visited by a time of such financial embarrassment as the present. The depreciation in all local stocks during the past twelve months represents a great sum, and there is a feeling in the air that the crisis has not yet passed. Some hold the United States responsible for the whole trouble, averring that the extraordinary silver legislation of the Washington Government in 1890 fatally disturbed exchanges, and produced a fever of speculation the consequences of which are worse than anything that preceded. It is impossible to believe this. One might as well allege that the faulty treatment of a disease by a particular college of physicians was responsible for the origin of the malady. The disease in this case existed long before America undertook to apply to it an evil palliative. Its seeds were sown when Great Britain demonetized silver, and the maturity of the harvest was assured when Germany followed suit. Trade between silver-using and gold-using countries during the past ten years, above all during the past five, has been simply gambling, and the banks, which, in the long run, have to take the major part of the risk, are bound to suffer most. In the East it may truly be said that the majority of the firms engaged in commerce are carried by the banks. Thus the failure of a bank means a great deal more than direct monetary loss to its shareholders and depositors. It means also the temporary, if not permanent, crippling of the numerous *clientelle* who rely on the bank's aid to continue their business. The most disheartening feature of the situation is that, so far as concerns silver, no prospect of any immediate relief is discernible. The approaching International Conference offers no element of hope. Europe has not yet

suffered sufficiently to be ready for bold measures. The United States' financiers probably have it in their power to force the situation by temporarily abandoning the white metal to its fate, throwing their huge stocks of silver on the market, and absorbing all the gold they can obtain. The result would be a state of affairs so embarrassing for Europe that her consent to rehabilitate silver must follow speedily. But the process would involve a heavy loss for the United States in the interim. Perhaps it is too much to expect that she should voluntarily face such a loss, though her present policy of plunging her head deeper and deeper into a sea of silver eminently unfits her to take the lead in devising measures to stem the tide of depreciation. And if America is not prepared to enter this heroic route for the sake of reaching the goal more speedily, England has at least equal cause for reluctance to re-monetise silver. The investments of British subjects in foreign countries are enormous. They are entitled to receive the interest and recover the principal of these investments in gold, and their feeling is that to consent to an international agreement, placing silver on the same footing with gold, would be to deliberately reduce the value of the nation's investments. Englishmen have not yet fully realized that by persisting in monometallism they are shutting themselves out of nearly all avenues of profitable investment, and condemning themselves to be content with the most insignificant returns on their capital. Neither have they yet fully realized what the Manchester Chamber of Commerce recently declared, namely, "that the unsatisfactory conditions of trade which have existed for so long without there being any prospect of alleviation in the future, are largely caused by circumstances connected with the frequent and violent fluctuations in exchange with India." Further processes of suffering have to be endured before the truth is forced home. It may even be feared that the abortive result of the approaching Conference will still farther postpone the time of salvation, by rendering the nations reluctant to approach the subject again.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

AINU DIVINATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In one of the Ainu villages in which I have spent many months, one of the men, with whom I am well acquainted, was one day very angry at having lost a paper dollar. He had a strong suspicion that a particular young woman, his daughter in fact, who was married and lived next door, had stolen the money. He accordingly accused her of the deed. But as she refused to confess, and stoutly and persistently denied the charge, her father proceeded to perform what the Ainu call by the various names of, *Niwok ki marapto*, "The ceremony of discovery"; *Shitumbi*

marapto, "The ceremony of the fox"; or *Kema koshue guru marapto*, "The ceremony of the light-footed person," the fox being so called on account of the rapidity with which it can get out of one's way.

This "ceremony of the fox" is a sort of divination by means of which the guilt or innocence of an accused person is supposed to be established, and is very closely allied to trial by ordeal. In the present case, however, though the person was brought in guilty, and implicit faith was placed in the decision, there appears to have been a mistake, for shortly afterwards the dollar was found; but it was quite against the father's dignity to tell his daughter so. I verily believe that he was angry to find out that his divination had played him false.

Every married Ainu keeps one foxes skull, carefully decorated with willow shavings, stowed away among his treasures in the eastern or sacred end of his hut. With this he divines, should he have lost anything or should something have gone wrong in any other way with him. In such a case he takes the skull from its corner and, after having prayed over it and told it all his troubles, asks it to make known to him the cause. Should the spirit of the skull be favourable, it will show him the whole matter in a dream.

The ceremony concerning which I am now speaking was conducted as follows:—The accused person was brought into the hut of her father and made to sit in front of him. He then produced his foxes skull, prayed before it, told it of his loss and asked it to favour him by answering truly. He next separated the lower jaw from the rest of the skull. The top part of the skull, which is called *sapa num*, was reverently put on one side, and the jaw placed upon his head, teeth upwards. He then gently lent forward so as to allow the jaw to gradually slip to the floor. As it fell with the teeth to the ground his daughter was thereby proved guilty; but should it have fallen with the teeth upwards she would have been declared innocent. The person proved guilty was called *Ko-niwok guru*, "the person pointed out" or discovered.

Should it have happened, however, that the loser of the money had no suspicion as to the thief, he would have tied a long piece of string to the skull, and, having gathered up the string in a bunch in his hand, would have caused an assembly of likely people each to take one piece of the string and all pull together. He who took the piece immediately attached to the skull would have been the person "pointed out" as the culprit.

It is needless to add that the Ainu have implicit confidence in this curious ceremony, though it does play them false sometimes. I should also remark that many Ainu men, when going on a long journey, reverently carry a fox skull among their luggage; with this they divine, and determine which way to take or which of two things should be done next.

Yours, etc.

JNO. BATCHELOR.

JAPANESE PHILOLOGY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Inasmuch as it appears that the "last word" has been written, in English, for instruction in the Japanese language, I beg to suggest that some experienced capable scholar bend his energies to the compilation and arrangement of a scientific exposition of the philology of the language, and its relations to linguistic cognates. An example of this kind of work may be seen in Boltz's Russian Grammar (*Lehrbuch der Russischen Sprache, Von Dr. August Boltz, Berlin, 1886*). In the theoretical part of this excellent instruction book, words are analysed into primitive elements, their representatives in other languages are given (only partially—recent discoveries have furnished more widely spread examples). The same element is shown in many different verbal and syntactic situations. For instance: *orok* (lesson); *ryāchi* (speech—compare our word "orator"); *ryāka* (river) are from the same root meaning "the flowing," as of a stream; compare "fluency," stream of words," etc. This is a simple example of Dr. Boltz's thorough work.

Besides the usual practical lessons, the volume contains a thorough, concise scientific tableau of the Russian language in the *Grammatische Uebersicht*, where we learn that many ancient terms are now represented by a simple letter only, while cognate tongues often show more complete forms. Certain terminals and individual letters signify classes of objects and of ideas. Such treatment of the word *sei* (Japanese), with its many kindred meanings, might perhaps, serve as a type after which to model philologic analysis in elucidation. Of course, due regard must be had for the great difference in the morphologic genius of languages.

A work of this sort in Japanese (and Korean?) seems now especially desirable since we have come to know of its linguistic connection with the speech of the ancient Tartars, Mongols, Semites, and

the (hitherto so called) Indo European languages—of which illustrations may be found in *The China Review*, and in other recent publications in *ra*. These results have been largely due to the labours of special and general philologic scholars in the Far East.

Very respectfully,

F. B. STEPHENSON.

Nagasaki, Japan, June 27th, 1892.

THE EXCURSION TRAINS TO NIKKO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As considerable misapprehension seems to exist among the public about these trains, I hand you herewith a translation of a circular sent a few days ago to the different officers of the Government by the Nippon Railway Company for distribution among the official classes. From the circular it will be seen that these trains are not excursion trains in the general sense known abroad, as the invitations are addressed to some particular class and not to the general public. On the occasion of running of a similar train on the 2nd inst. the sending of invitations was limited to large mercantile establishments; and this time it is to officials. They therefore are more of the type of excursion trains on Sunday for schools, &c., which are frequently run in England and elsewhere and from which the general public are excluded.

Whether this will eventually lead to the establishment of regular excursion trains available for the public generally it is not yet possible to predict. But the facts will probably remove some of the misapprehensions I have noticed. As to the limiting of the number of excursionists to 400, this may have been necessitated by the want of an extra supply of rolling stock. This is a busy season for railway traffic, and I learn that the completion of extensions to Aomori on the Nippon Railway has been pushed on quicker than expected, and that the Company's rolling stock has not been able to keep pace with the requirements of increased mileage; they may not therefore yet be sufficiently equipped to guarantee the carriage of an unlimited number of excursionists.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

THOS. NOSEGAY.

We beg to announce that we propose to run a second Excursion Train to Nikko, for the convenience of those who desire to visit the place, on Sun day the 10th instant. Intending excursionists are requested to peruse the following conditions, and avail themselves of the train should they desire to do so.

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT OF THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY.

July 2nd, 1892.

—As the proposed excursion train will be run provided three hundred applications are received. Intending excursionists are therefore requested to send in their applications to our Traffic Department by the 7th instant.

As accommodation will be provided for four hundred passengers, only, all applications received after that number have been filed up will have to be declined.

2.—Notices will be sent to each of the applicants, or to bodies of applicants in due time as to circumstances favoring or otherwise the running of the train.

3.—To afford the means of taking a pleasure trip is the main object in running the proposed train, and on the present occasion, the issue of these invitations will be confined to official circles, and the mingling of different classes among excursionists will thereby be avoided. There will be no distinction of charges—1st, 2nd, and 3rd—in the train. The fare between Ueno and Nikko and back will be yen 2.50 for adults and yen 1.50 for children between the ages of four and twelve. No special arrangements will be made for those who may bring in one party a number of friends or relatives.

4.—The train will consist of second and third-class carriages.

5.—It is proposed to start the train from Ueno at 5 a.m. and it will arrive at Nikko at 9.30; return train to start from Nikko at 6 p.m. and to arrive at Ueno at 10.10.

6.—About nine hours will be by this arrangement be at the disposal of the excursionists, within which time the temples as well as Utsunomiya, Kiriyu, &c., may be visited.

7.—One of the objects in running this train is to enable excursionists to get back to Tokyo within the day. However, for the convenience of those who may desire to stop at Nikko, return tickets will be made available for five days. These tickets when used on ordinary trains will be considered as third-class; and those desiring to ride in classes above the third will have to pay the difference.

8.—Other conditions being favourable and unless heavy rain should fall the train will be run without fail, on the appointed morning.

LAUNCH AT YOKOSUKA.

There was every indication early on Thursday morning that the day would be one of exceptional warmth and brilliance, and the prognostications then very confidently given utterance to were not belied in any way whatsoever. These circumstances were peculiarly propitious to the Naval authorities at Yokosuka, for yesterday was the time appointed for the launching by his Majesty the Emperor of the new cruiser, *Akitsu Kan*, just finished building at the Imperial Dockyard. The pageant was naturally taken great advantage of by most of the holiday loving middle-class residents of the district, and the morning trains from Yokohama and Tokyo, and intermediate stations

were heavily freighted with pleasure-seekers. The 10.25 train from Yokohama carried down most of the principal officers of the day, and immediately upon its arrival at Yokosuka the guard of honour, consisting of two detachments of the 1st Division of Infantry and a naval brigade, were ordered to fall in and line the road to the duckyard, in readiness for the arrival of the Emperor. The soldiers were in full marching order, and the "tars" were lightly but suitably equipped, but both services bore the heat and dust good temperedly and appeared little fatigued at the close of the wearying proceedings. Near the station entrance were also massed the children of the national schools, in charge of their various teachers, and very pretty they looked with their bright, expectant faces.

Shortly after twelve o'clock the Imperial train drew alongside the platform and a salute was fired. Its echoes had hardly died away when the voices of the children were heard chanting the National Anthem. The Emperor, who was accompanied by his Grand Chamberlain Marquis Tokudaiji, entered a brougham, and was driven off in the direction of the Duckyard. He was preceded by a mounted escort, while a second brougham containing Viscount Kabayama, Minister for the Navy, and other Ministers of State followed, the rear being brought up by mounted police. At the entrance to the Duckyard a large evergreen arch was erected and near this stood the trumpeters, clad in scarlet and gold, who were deputed to receive His Majesty at the gates. The various high naval officials in Government employ were also grouped around, in full uniform. His Majesty, immediately upon arrival, proceeded to a specially prepared salon and rested, during which time the last touches were bestowed upon the new cruiser. She is built after the Armstrong pattern, and is a fully-armed cruiser, capable of a speed of 19 knots per hour. The *Hashidate Kan*, which was built at this duckyard and launched last year is her sister-ship. Her lines, even when upon the stocks, were remarkably fine, her designers putting as much grace into her as a modern warship is capable of showing or receiving. The dimensions, as given officially, are as follows:—length, 91.700 m.; beam, 13.144 m.; draft, 5.624 m.; displacement in tons 3,150. She has twin-screw propellers driven by 4 horizontal cylindrical engines. When completely fitted she will carry twelve guns of the quick-firing type, and will have two fighting tops; her ram is rather short, but sufficiently powerful to be able to give a good account of itself should the contingency ever arise for its employment. The war-ships awaiting her advent in the placid waters of the lovely little harbour of Yokosuka were the *Fuso Kan*, *Tsukushi Kan*, *Riojo Kan*, *Fingei Kan*, *Chobin Kan*, *Atago Kan*, *Chiyoda Kan*, *Musashi Kan*, *Itsukushima Kan*, and the *Hashidate Kan*, who had all "dressed ship" in her honour. The *Akitsu Kan* is of course only a shell at present, her armament and other fittings not being yet on board, but she was gallily bedizened in flags, while a wreath of evergreen and red flowers was draped around her. At the bows was suspended a large paper cage in which were confined some pigeons, and at the stern floated the Japanese Naval flag—the sun with rays on a white ground.

Patently the vast crowds waited in the broiling sunshine—only a fortunate few gaining admittance by invitation to the reserved enclosures—for nearly two hours, and their numbers increased every minute. At a quarter past two o'clock a fanfare of trumpets announced the approach of the Emperor, attended by his Ministers of State and the following visitors:—The Emperor was accompanied by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Viscount Nishiyotsutsuji, Chamberlain; and Mr. Hironishi, Assistant Chamberlain. Among the guests were their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa, Kitashirakawa, and Kanin, Count Matsukata, Prime Minister; Viscount Kabayama, Minister of State; and Vice-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister for the Navy; Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household; and several high officials of the War and the Naval Departments. His Majesty walked to the pavilion erected at the bows of the vessel, taking his seat in the centre and having Viscount Kabayama on his right. Other officials around the dais were:—the Captain-Superintendent of the Yokosuka Admiralty Yard; the Director of Shipbuilding; the Harbour Master; the Chief of the Staff; the Chief of the Staff of the Admiralty; the Master of Ceremonies to His Majesty, and Captain Ingles, R.N. His Majesty having signified his readiness, one by one the shores were knocked away, and then the big vessel seemed to pause for a second; then slowly and steadily she began to move, and with calm deliberation slipped from her stocks into the shining sea. There was not the slightest

hitch anywhere and as the bows reached the sea the pigeons were liberated and flew off to tell of the baptism of Japan's latest war-vessel to the authorities at Tokyo. A loud outburst of clapping and steam whistle blowing followed, so loud in fact as to drown the fanfare of the trumpeters who were announcing the departure of the Emperor. His Majesty returned to Tokyo by special train a few minutes after three o'clock, a salvo from the infantry being discharged as the train steamed out of the station. Immediately upon the departure of the Emperor a cold collation was served to visitors, over the big engine shops, the naval band discoursing, meanwhile, a stirring selection of music, among the first pieces being the old but very popular "Nancy Lee," a tune dear to the hearts of all that go down to the sea in ships.

The assemblage of such a large concourse of people at the tiny station of Yokosuka considerably embarrassed the railway folks towards the middle of the afternoon, and the last trains were over an hour and a half late in getting into Yokohama.

"THE GLORIOUS FOURTH."

The Fourth of July was duly honoured in Yokohama on Monday, every loyal citizen of the Great Republic doing his level best to celebrate it in one form or another, socially, convivially, or pyrotechnically—in fact twelve o'clock had scarcely ceased chiming at Sunday midnight when the first crackers and rockets were discharged. The Settlement hung out a profuse supply of bunting, nearly every national flag being represented, but the Stars and Stripes naturally predominated. Few of the retail stores were closed but the Banks and chief hotels held holiday. It was rather a pity that no American warship was in harbour, but perhaps we deserved the respite from naval saluting, for during the last few weeks we have had enough and to spare of this noisy form of marine etiquette. During the day the usual congratulatory visits took place, the fine weather of the morning and early afternoon greatly facilitating them, and in the evening an *al fresco* fête took place on the Bund, from the Grand Hotel to the French consulate. At the latter place an ice-cream carnival was held for the benefit of the Jizenkai hospital and this was largely patronized. A fine display of fireworks was discharged from barges anchored in the bay, nearly opposite the Grand Hotel, the showers which fell between four and five o'clock only damping the set pieces slightly. The hotel itself was gallily decorated with strings and festoons of coloured lanterns, while a band discoursed gay music upon the verandah, attracting a large concourse of people. On the Bluff, in the evening, the most prettily decorated house, externally, was the American naval hospital, which was wreathed in many lanterns of varied shades and shapes.

During the afternoon a keenly contested game of cricket took place between teams—twelve aside—of H.M.S. Fleet and the Yokohama Cricket Club, somewhat higher scoring prevailing than has been the rule of late. The Fleet went in first and compiled a total of 114 before being all dismissed, de Robeck contributing a well played 23 and Philipps 41, de Robeck, being third man out and Philipps tenth. The Club at the start put in Burn and Williams, but the first-named was given l.b.w. before he had had a chance to score. Edwards took his place and 67 was telegraphed before Hewicz found his wickets. Dodds then joined Williams and had added a useful 7 when Adair bowled him clean. Williams was the next to retire, being caught by Moggeridge off de Robeck, but the Fleet's score had by this time been passed with 3 runs to spare. Watson and Duff carried the total to 172 before they were separated, Duff remaining till 193 was reached, to which he had contributed 64 by careful play interspersed with some free hits. Barton Layard, and Dickinson added 11, 12, and 6 respectively, and then the game ceased, the Club having still two wickets unplayed. Score.

H.M.S. FLEET.

Mr. J. N. de Robeck, c. 29
Mr. B. Burn, b. 10
Mr. B. Walters, l.b.w., b. 0
Watson, c. 10
Captain Adair, c. Duff, b. 0
Mr. B. Burn, c. 10
Mr. H. Hewicz, b. Abbey, c. 4
Mr. C. Moore, c. Layard, b. 0
Mr. B. Burn, c. 10
Mr. P. Philipps, b. Edwards, c. 4
Mr. G. Lane, c. Watson, b. 0
Abbey, c. 10
Mr. C. Allenby, c. Williams, c. 12
Mr. B. Curry, b. Edwards, c. 0
Mr. A. L. Cay, b. Edwards, c. 0
Mr. Moggeridge, b. Watson, c. 3
Mr. Swearing not out, c. 1
Byes 12, leg byes 4, n.b. 2, 37

THE CLUB.

Mr. Williams, c. Moggeridge, c. 50
Mr. B. Burn, l.b.w., b. de Robeck, c. 0
Mr. Edwards, b. Hewicz, c. 17
Mr. Dodds, b. Adair, c. 7
Mr. Duff, c. de Robeck, b. 0
Mr. Watson, c. Layard, b. 11
wicz, c. 15
Mr. Barton, c. de Robeck, b. 0
Curry, c. 12
Mr. Layard, run out, c. 12
Mr. Dickinson, c. Moore, b. 0
de Robeck, c. 0
Mr. Nash, did not bat, c. 0
Mr. Abbey, c. 0
Mr. McCullum not out, c. 0
Byes 14, leg byes 4, n.b. 2, 30

MRS. PATTON'S THIRD EXHIBITION.

The third annual exhibition of Mrs. E. S. Patton's pupils was given on Tuesday evening, having been unavoidably postponed from two previously arranged dates, in the Public Hall, Bluff, before a large assembly of residents. The entertainment was of high merit, surpassing perhaps the efforts of previous occasions, each little performer having gained in some particular of voice, grace, or action. By special request, the Cantata, "Queen I love you's five o'clock tea," was repeated with even greater aplomb than on the last occasion, the soloists displaying a closer acquaintance with their parts, while the choruses were more reliant and in better tune, familiarity having also brought ease in execution. Mrs. Patton accompanied upon the piano, Mr. E. Beart essayed the rôle of conductor.

But by far the most enjoyable part of the evening was that devoted to calisthenics and dancing. The audience sat around the hall in a ring, the floor having been raised to a level, and in the centre the lads and lasses went through their varied and pleasing exercises. The elementary and advanced classes having satisfactorily disposed of the movements of the musical drill, a waltz was given by all, and "La Varsoviana" which followed on was taken by the advanced class alone. The Lancers disposed of, the "Minuet de la Cour," was daintily footed by Miss Boelmer and Master Charlesworth, both being dressed in the mode which prevailed when "George the First was King." A recall was demanded and the young exultants bowed their thanks. A walking polka immediately preceded the Wreath Dance, one of the prettiest things of the whole evening. The Parisian Quadrilles were nicely danced, but the next item, "La Krakovienne" almost drove it out of recollection so charmingly sedate and natural were the two wee mites who went through this quaint dance of ancient Hungary, clad in the national costume for gala days. The Spanish dance which concluded the second part of the proceedings was taken from Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "Les Gondoliers" and its effect was considerably heightened by the Andalusian dresses of the performers. In addition to the fancy dresses already mentioned were some of the reign of Edwards the Fourth and Sixth, while Uncle Sam and Bunty Prince Charlie were also represented.

Mrs. Patton, in distributing the prizes to her painstaking and deserving pupils, announced that it was her intention, upon her return from Australia, to institute annual musical competitions, both for the vocal and instrumental, practical and theoretical, branches of the art. Some more dances followed this pleasing function, and the hands of the clock were closely approaching the hour of midnight when the strains of "God Save the Queen," announced the termination of the entertainment. Below are given the prize list and programme:—

PRIZE LIST.

DANCING.

DEPORTMENT:—Ladylike—Miss Daisy Roth; Gentlemanship—Master George Russell. Extra prize, Miss Gladys Smedley. 2nd prizes Master Mendelsohn and Master Robin Roth.

DANCING (new pupils):—1st Miss Helen Holmes, Miss Dorothy James and Master Louis Stornebrink; 2nd Miss Bertie Mendelsohn, Miss Beryl Dodds, Miss Abbey, and Miss Eugenie Joubin, Masters Abbey and Gibbs.

CALISTHENICS:—Miss Joubin.

GOOD CONDUCT AND ATTENTION:—Miss Gertrude Mendelsohn, Miss Meiklejohn, Miss Marian Russell, Miss Lottie Walker, and Miss Jennie Walker.

SPECIAL PRIZES IN DANCING:—Master Chester Poole, Master John Walker, Misses Carrie Cook, Allcock and Rebecca Stornebrink.

MUSIC.

PREMIER PRIZE:—Master Thayer Lindsley.

SPECIAL SUBJECT (not including pianoforte):—Miss Emily Jarman.

GENERAL MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE (in class):—Miss Minnie Schwabe.

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE (youngest pupil):—Miss Maya Lindsley.

SPECIAL PRIZE (neat writing and rapid improvement):—Master Mendelsohn.

PIANOFORTE-PLAYING:—1st Miss Watson, 2nd Miss H. Watson.

MARKING AND RAPID IMPROVEMENT (in piano-forte and theory):—Miss Evelyn

STEADY IMPROVEMENT (in Pianoforte)—Miss Bravay.

STEADY IMPROVEMENT (in singing and Pianoforte) Miss Annie Walker.

SPECIAL (interest in theoretical work and neat writing)—Master Mendelson.

SPECIAL (marked improvement and attention):—Master Wilson Walker, Master Harry Cook, and Master Shorlef Jensen.

SPECIAL IN TONIC SOL-FA:—Miss Douville and Miss Diack.

CANTATA.

"Queen I love you Five o'Clock Tea."

CHORUSES.

"Queen I love you" with recitations. Miss Violet Brent.

"Tea-leaf the Comfort" with Chinese Song. Master Wilfred Smith.

"Staff of Life" with *Frise*.—The Wheat—Misses J. Loomis, E. James, and C. Sarvent. The Flour—Misses M. and N. Schwabe, and E. Jarmain. The Bread—Misses E. Batavus, M. Watt, and M. Stornebrink.

"Sweet Cream" with Song. Miss Christina Carat.

"The Sugar Cane" with Song. Master G. Wheeler and Master W. Carst.

"Dresden the Dainty" with Song. Miss Mabel Vanum.

Choruses by the Members of the Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Choral Society.

Monical Director and Accompanist. Mrs. E. S. Patton. Conductor. Mr. E. Beart.

Exhibition of Callisthenics. 1st, Elementary Classes, and, Advanced Class.

La Yaroslava. Mrs. Patton's Advanced Class.

Minuet de La Cour. Miss Boehmer and Master Charlesworth.

By the Misses A. Carst, N. Johnstone, Alcock, H. Holmes, J. and E. Jubin, M. and N. Schwabe, M. Stornebrink, E. Batavus, M. Watt, M. Moss, L. Douville, A. Boehmer, A. Diack, A. Walker, and Miss Rebecca Stornebrink.

La Krakovienne, by Miss Rebecca and Master Louis Stornebrink.

Military Schottische.

Spanish Dance.

From Gilbert Sullivan's Opera "Les Gondoliers."

By the Miss M. Stornebrink, E. Batavus, A. Diack, L. Douville, M. Moss, M. Schwabe, N. Schwabe, and E. Jubin, and the Masters J. Walker, W. Johnstone, W. Carst, and J. Charlesworth.

Distribution of Prizes.

Dances.

1.—La Melange.

2.—Wai 2.

3.—Singing Lancers.

4.—Polka.

5.—Highland Schottische.

6.—Sir Roger de Coverley.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, June 9th.

The American *Shokonsai* was celebrated in the usual patriotic way by processions, orations, and decoration of the grave of the brave dead. President Harrison was the orator of the day at Rochester, N.Y., where a magnificent soldiers' monument was unveiled. In this city a large number of persons took advantage of the holiday to visit the World's Fair grounds; and many more would have done likewise if it had not rained in the afternoon. Your correspondent enjoyed an evening local celebration, in which the most interesting feature was the singing by and with Dr. George F. Root of some of the famous war melodies which he himself composed. It was really an inspiring sight to see the white-haired old gentleman, mounted on a chair, leading, with all the vim and enthusiasm of youth, the singing of his "Battle Cry of Freedom." In all the schools of the country there are special "Decoration Day" exercises.

The leading article in the May number of *The Christian Review* is upon "Charity in Japan."

Miss Mary Allen West, one of the editors of the *Union Signal*, has been chosen Superintendent of the World's W.C.T.U. School of Methods, and will visit the Sandwich Islands and Japan to teach and train workers in the temperance causes.

Miss Charlotte M. Yonge, the famous author, has given \$10,000 for building a missionary college at Auckland, New Zealand.

At the recent anniversary of the American Baptist Missionary Union in Philadelphia, Rev. A. H. Bennett, of Yokohama, was one of the speakers. In the discussion of a resolution condemning the Chinese Exclusion Act strong language was used in denunciation of that un-Christian act. Sunday, June 26th, was set apart as a "centenary day." An appeal was made to raise, during this current centennial year of missions, a special fund of \$1,000,000, apportioned as follows:—Churches, \$400,000; Sunday Schools, \$150,000; individuals, \$200,000; and women's societies, \$250,000. On the spot \$45,000 were pledged.

The Presbyterian General Assembly finished its labours without a trial of Dr. Briggs for heresy. His case was remanded to the New York Presbytery with instructions to try him "on the merits of the charges as originally made."

The Pope has given his *tolerant* protest to the so-called Faribault-Stillwater educational plan of

Archbishop Ireland. This scheme, tried in Stillwater and Faribault, Minnesota, is the placing of parochial schools under the control of the State on condition that at certain hours of the day Catholic teachers may appear as instructors for sectarian ends.

The Pope, by the way, has also made public his intention of making a special exhibit at the World's Fair, and has applied for space.

A Chicago woman, named Mrs. Elizabeth G. Kelly, has given \$50,000 for a "women's home" in connection with the University of Chicago.

The reciprocity treaty between Austria and the United States has been signed at Washington, so that Austrian sugar, molasses, and skins will enter the United States free of duty, and the United States gets "favoured nation treatment."

Gen. Eppa Hunton has been appointed to succeed the late Sen. Barbour, of Virginia, until the Legislature elects some one to fill out the unexpired time. Gen. Hunton served four terms in the Lower House, and was a member of the Tilden-Hayes Commission.

By the time this letter is printed, you will know the result of the Democratic National Convention. It is useless, therefore, to say anything about the probabilities, except that Cleveland is strongly in the lead. His New York friends, who are rabid anti-Hill men, held their State Convention at Syracuse on May 31st. It was largely made up of young men and representatives from the country districts; and it represented the respectable element of the New York Democracy. David B. Hill's political methods, especially his "snap" convention of Feb. 22nd, were vigorously denounced. A full contesting delegation was chosen to be sent to the Chicago Convention. Hill has only the Nevada delegation outside of his own State, and can not be nominated. Whether he can defeat Cleveland, you already know.

We have as yet had no spring worth mentioning. During the entire month of May there were not more than five or six absolutely fair days, and there were twenty-one rainy days, with four or five "half and half." We are now anticipating a jump into the midst of hot weather.

The June number of *The Magazine of American History* contains an interesting contribution by Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D., on "Relations between the United States and Japan." It consists of the translation of an article by Mr. Tokutomi in the *Kokumin-no Tomo*; and presents "a stimulating conspectus of both American and Japanese history and their mutual relations." Dr. Griffis is also a "reviewer" for *The New World* quarterly journal of religion, ethics, and theology. The June number, the second issue, contains an article by N. Kishimoto on "How I Came Into Christianity."

Oil City, Titusville and other places in the oil regions of Pennsylvania were visited June 5 by an appalling disaster which caused the loss of perhaps 200 lives and several million dollars of property. A cloudburst produced a raging flood, which carried away a number of oil tanks. In some way the oil caught fire, and added the horrors of conflagration. The details, for which I cannot to-day find space, are terrible and appalling, and remind us all of the Johnstown calamity.

The topic of the day is, of course, the Republican Convention now in session at Minneapolis. You were probably apprised by cable of the tremendous sensation of June 4th, when Blaine sent in his resignation to the President. This was, of course, interpreted to mean that he had cut loose from the administration, in order that he might be free to enter the lists for the Presidential nomination against Harrison. The opponents of the President were naturally elated, and began to push the Blaine "boom"; the Harrison men were at first disheartened, but soon rallied; the Democrats were delighted over the prospects of a bitter contest which might eventually help them. The Independents were generally disgusted with Blaine for allowing himself, after having once written a letter of declination, to be allured into a rupture with President Harrison through the efforts of disappointed politicians like Platt, Quay and Clarkson. Many of Blaine's old and tried friends, like Depew, accepted his letter as final, and heartily supported Harrison as deserving of a renomination. The managers of the present Blaine campaign represent chiefly the disreputable, or "spoils" element of the party. It is a well-known fact, that Clarkson resigned his position under the administration because he was not allowed to turn out Democratic postmasters fast enough to suit him; and that Quay and Platt are mad at the President, because he did not give them a monopoly of the Pennsylvania and New York patronage.

The first contest between the Blaine and the Harrison forces was in the National Committee over the position of Temporary Chairman. It

might have gone almost unanimously to McKinley, but he declined. The Harrison men then suggested Senator Cullum of this State; the Blaine men put up J. Sloat Fassett, of New York. The latter won by a vote of 26 to 21.

There was a slight lull in the conflict during the evening of June 6th, when the Exposition Hall, in which the Convention is meeting, was dedicated. The orator was Channcey M. Depew, who delivered a great speech in praise of the record of the Republican party. His allusions to the two great rivals of the day, and to possible "dark horses," were greeted with applause.

It was about half past twelve o'clock of Tuesday, June 7, when Chairman Clarkson, of the National Committee, called the Tenth Republican National Convention to order, and asked Rev. William Bush, Chancellor of the University of Dakota, to offer prayer. Then he introduced Temporary Chairman Fassett, who was greeted with tremendous applause, and who delivered an able and impartial opening address. After his speech ex-speaker Reed was called out and made a brief effort. The persons selected by the National Committee as Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Reading Clerks and Official Stenographers, were then chosen to fill those places during the temporary organization. On a motion the roll-call of States and Territories was begun; and the chairman of each delegation announced its representative on each of the following committees: permanent organization, rules and order of business, credentials and resolutions. The convention then adjourned till 11 o'clock the next morning to give these committees an opportunity to meet.

The committee on permanent organization most easily completed its work. It unanimously elected McKinley as Permanent Chairman, and confirmed the minor temporary officers in their appointments also as permanent officers.

The committee on rules and order of business adopted the rules and orders which usually prevail in these conventions.

As the reports of the other two committees presented debatable matters, they will be considered in connection with the discussion thereof in convention.

Tuesday evening there was a great mass meeting of 10,000 people in Convention Hall under the auspices of the State League of Republican Clubs. The orators were Thurston, of Nebraska, and How, of Michigan.

Wednesday's session was also brief. After Bishop Whipple, of Minnesota, had offered prayer, and Temporary Chairman Fassett had accepted a new gavel from Nebraska, Hon. William McKinley, Jr., of Ohio, was introduced as Permanent Chairman, and made a brief but pointed address. The committee on rules and order of business made its report which was adopted; but the committees on resolutions and on credentials asked for more time and were granted their request. After the roll of States the names of the members of the new National Committee was given, a little routine business was transacted, and the Convention adjourned. The Blaine forces had proven strong enough in committee to carry out their plan of delay, which was their only hope.

The Convention re-assembled Thursday (this) morning at 11 o'clock; but, as the committee on credentials was not ready to report, it adjourned till 8 o'clock this evening, when the committee expects to be able to report. The evening session will surely be taken up with the question of credentials: it is just barely possible that a ballot may be taken to-morrow, but it is more probable, that the first vote will not be taken till Saturday. I am sorry to stop at this interesting point, a la serial story style, and write "to be continued in our next;" but I must mail this letter to-night to catch the steamer.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., June 7th.

Boston is again up in arms and much exercised in mind, so wrought up and disquieted that it has not probably slept well of nights for a week or more. The town is shocked almost as much (not quite) as when an unwashed foreigner bathed in the frog pond. It is a case of "depraved presumption" whatever that may be, and insolent, insufferable advertising. It is simply shocking! The case stands thus: Boston is now erecting a new public library building. On the façade of the structure are three granite tablets, on one of which is chiselled the names, Moses, Cicero, Kalidasa, Isocrates, Milton; on the second, Wren, Herick, Irving, Titian, Erasmus, and on the third, Mozart, Euclid, Eschylus, Dante. As a paper has ob-

served, this is "a most incongruous mixing up," but that is not what disturbs "all Boston." The reader may see that the initial letters of the names on the first tablet spell "McKim," those on the second, "White," and the third, "Mead." Well, McKim, White, & Mead is the firm of architects that made the plans of the building and have charge of its construction. As an advertising dodge this beats anything on record. The tablets have been in place some time, but not till last week did Boston bring her spectacles to bear upon them with sufficient accuracy to discover the astonishing fact now made public. The trustees of the library met immediately, and ordered the names and the advertising acoustic to be chiselled off the tablets, and Moses and the rest of them will be arranged without regard to Messrs. McKim, White and Mead. 'Twas a very trying time for cultured Boston. But everything pales in interest before the National Republican Convention, held to-day in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The whole country is looking toward Minneapolis and listening for any sound that may come. A convention of either party has never been held under like circumstances, or under circumstances so interesting to all.

In nearly every letter sent by your correspondent, has been some reference to James G. Blaine as a possible presidential candidate, and the circumstances warranted it, for no man, not even the President, has been more prominent one way or another than the Secretary of State. To recapitulate a little. Blaine was defeated in the election for President eight years ago. The circumstances of the election were such that Blaine had the sympathy of the people. Probably, if another election could have been held a month later, he would have been elected. But that was supposed to be the end of Blaine as a presidential candidate. Four years ago Blaine's name came up again. He was travelling in Scotland with Andrew Carnegie. His friends desired him to be a candidate, but he declined, and sent a letter refusing to have his name used at the convention. Again, it was supposed that James G. Blaine was retired for good, but President Harrison appointed Blaine as his Secretary of State. From that day to this Blaine's "boom" has been on the march, going quietly up and down (not so quietly all the time) the country, appearing here and there at opportunities, when and where there was the slightest possibility of adding to itself. And it added as subsequent events proved. A year or more ago, the question came up good and strong. "Will Blaine try his presidential fortunes again?" Blaine at last responded with a letter to the effect that his presidential aspirations had taken wings, and that he desired to spend the rest of his life in comparative quiet. Again was he laid on the shelf, for at first, the latter was accepted as final, and the fact also that he had dropped out of the race. But the letter appeared to fire the "boomers" for Blaine with new zeal, strange as it may seem, and up till to-day the name of Blaine has been as prominent as that of Harrison for the presidency. Within the last week the interest and excitement in these matters has been at fever heat. The delegates to the convention, and they were on the ground last week, are practically divided into two camps—the Blaine camp and the Harrison camp, and things waxed hot in no time. To crown all, on Saturday, June 4, Blaine resigned as Secretary of State, and his resignation was accepted by President Harrison—all done within an hour. When the delegates at Minneapolis, the Blaine "boomers," heard this, Minneapolis was not large enough to hold them, they overflowed into St. Paul. Although Blaine, within a week, has said, according to report, that he would not be candidate, yet his friends accepted his resignation to mean that he has prepared the way for nomination and will accept it, if he gets it. The Blaine men claim that their candidate will be nominated on the first ballot, and, of course, the Harrison supporters say the same of their candidate. The time is hot, weatherwise and otherwise. Your correspondent will not be able, probably, to send the result of the convention, as only seven days intervene between this time and the sailing of the steamer from San Francisco. California is "solid" for Blaine. Reason enough, he was the author of the first Chinese Restriction Bill. They love anybody out there who tramples on a Chinaman. Minneapolis, the place of holding the convention, has been favoured by a wonderful growth. Twenty years ago only a little village was clustered around the Falls of St. Anthony. Now there is a city there with 2,000,000 inhabitants. Six thousand buildings have been built in a single year, at a cost of ten to fifteen million dollars. The convention meets in the Minneapolis Industrial Exhibition building, in which 30,000 persons may find shelter. The auditory seats twelve thousand persons. Some of the largest hotels in the country are in Minneapolis, some capable of entertaining five hundred to twelve hundred guests.

On the heels of one disaster (I do not refer to the convention) follows another. A cyclone has carried away a Texas town and dropped it down in another place. The buildings were swept away and a number of persons killed. The treeless prairie is the play ground of cyclones and tornadoes, the "swooping terrors" of the plains. Another disaster reported this morning, draws the attention of the country to Oil City, Pennsylvania. The flooded streams brought damage enough, but nothing compared to what followed. About noon on the 6th of June, yesterday, the city was startled by two explosions. The leaking gasoline, escaping from a storing tank had been set on fire by a passing locomotive. The gasoline on fire, began to flow into the river, and the river became a river of fire. A mass of flame shot up into the air a hundred feet, communicating with everything in its course; soon a large part of the city was in ashes. The report comes that two hundred lives were lost—caught in the flood, the fiery flood. Titusville suffered also from the water, and then from the burning oil borne on its surface. It is a fearful disaster. Flood is bad enough, but a flood of oil on fire is infinitely worse. The damage to property, at this time, is beyond estimate.

The United States Senate has made an appropriation for the World's Fair on the condition that the Fair is not open on Sundays. That settles the Sunday question with respect to opening or closing the Fair on Sundays. That matter disposed of, the question of selling liquor will receive attention, and has been already introduced into Congress. There will be liquor enough (there is anytime) in Chicago, within easy reason of the men who are always thirsty, without selling it on the fair grounds. The anti-liquor force is on its mettle, and will probably carry the day.

There are "cranks" and "curiosities" still roaming at large. An Episcopal minister in New York proposes a startling plan for checking the saloons. He would kill the saloons with the saloon. Hear him talk: "Business men of the churches can open saloons and run them profitably. I do not mean to give away the beer, but to sell it at good prices, with a profit. I wish I had the money with which to demonstrate that this is the only successful way to deal with this problem. Would I sell whiskey in these saloons? No, I don't think I would, but I would sell beer and light wines, coffee, and chocolate. What is more I would have them open on Sundays during the proper hours." This is delightful. Think of the business men of a church, such as Deacon A. and Deacon B., and Deacon C. opening saloons for the sale of beer and light wines and "running" them on Sundays. If there be no missionaries at home who can attend to this man, let some in foreign lands come home and pitch their tents in this man's front yard.

Our flag has been treated with indignity in Montreal by members of the Canadian militia. They were reprimanded by the proper officers and an apology was made to the United States. 'Twas done none too quickly. After shaking Italy and Chili out of their boots, diplomatically speaking, little monarchies and bigger colonies may well think twice before they trample upon us. As a matter of fact, however, Americans are not disposed to boast much over the Italian episode or the Chilean embroglio.

PATENT RIGHTS IN JAPAN.

The following translations from official records possess great interest for foreigners seeking patent rights within the Empire of Japan:—On the 20th May, 1891, Masujima Rokuichiro, acting as attorney for Ludwig Mond, of Wilmington Hall, Norwich, England, applied for patent rights for an invention for preparing nickel. Mr. Mutsu, then Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, refused the application. A suit was accordingly entered against the Minister for his refusal of the patent, but the case was dismissed on the ground of the plaintiff possessing no legal right to bring the suit. Plaintiff appealed and was again non-suited, the Court finding that the appeal was unreasonable. The case then went to the Supreme Court but with the same result. Messrs. Siemens and Halske subsequently applied for similar privileges, through their attorney Mr. Masujima Rokuichiro, for their machine for obtaining electric analysis of copper, spelter, and zinc, and the extraction of other metals by the same process, but Mr. Kono Togama, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, refused the application.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.—A new invention for preparing nickel, manufacturing articles, and plating other metals with it. The above was invented by myself, the process of which is shown in the appended document. As I firmly believe it does

not violate the Patent Regulations, I beg to apply for a grant of letters patent for 15 years.

(Signed) MASUJIMA ROKUICHIRO,
21, Hiyoshicho, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo. Representative of Ludwig Mond, Wilmington Hall, Norwich, England.

(Dated) 20th May, 1891.

To His Excellency Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING THE APPLICATION.

In presenting an application for a patent of a new invention for preparing nickel, manufacturing articles and plating other metals with it, I represent Ludwig Mond, a British subject, as shown in a copy of his power of attorney presented herewith with its translation. If the patent for the same be granted, the said Ludwig Mond will obey all the rules and regulations relating to Patents promulgated by the Government of Japan, as if he were a subject of Japan; and in the exercise of the rights of the patent he, the said Ludwig Mond, will abandon all the special rights enjoyed by foreign subjects in the Empire; and his pledge, of whatever kind, may be made by me, in accordance with your order. Whatever I do as his representative, he will ratify afterwards without fail.

(Signed) MASUJIMA ROKUICHIRO,
Representative of Ludwig Mond.

(Dated) 20th May, 1891.

To His Excellency Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

THE MINISTER'S REPLY.

The application cannot be granted.

(Signed) MUTSU MUNEMITSU,

Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce

(Dated) 28th May, 1891.

A suit was then instituted against Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, for his Refusal of Patent rights to the Applicant.

The defendant requested the Appeal Court to approve the decision of the Local Court and dismiss the suit.

The Court of Appeal delivered the following judgment in the presence of Iwano Shimpei, Public Prosecutor:—The appeal of the plaintiff is considered unreasonable, therefore it is dismissed in accordance with the Art. 424 of Civil Procedure.

The principal points stated by the plaintiff were as follow:—1. The plaintiff invented a process for preparing nickel, etc., and has already obtained a patent for it in every country in Europe and America, in accordance with law. 2. The plaintiff applied to the defendant for a patent for 15 years, on the 20th May, 1891, in accordance with the laws of Japan. 3. The defendant, on the 28th May, 1891, notified that the application was not granted. 4. Since the Patent Regulations of Japan do not prohibit any one from enjoying the protection of patent rights for new inventions, it was illegal on the part of the defendant to refuse to grant such an application as that filed by the plaintiff. For the foregoing reasons the plaintiff requests the Court to make the defendant grant the application, the costs of the Court to be defrayed by the defendant.

The defendant, in his reply, requested the Court to dismiss the case for the following reasons:—1. As it is within the right of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to grant or refuse an application for a patent, the plaintiff has no title to bring a legal suit on such account. 2. In accordance with Arts. II. and XXVI. of the Organization of the Law Courts, a Local Court has a right to adjudicate civil cases, but any matters relating to the Administration do not come within its control.

The Tokyo Local Court delivered the following judgment in the suit in the presence of Odachi Koretaka, Public Prosecutor:—The suit of the plaintiff is rejected for the following reasons:—If by any illegal act of an administrative official the right of an individual be violated, the injured may, according to the circumstances, bring a legal suit against such administrative official, but one whose rights are not injured cannot bring any action. In the present case, the defendant's action in refusing to grant an application for a patent was not illegal, as it was within his right to grant or refuse such an application. Further, the plaintiff can acquire a right to appear in this Court only after the application is granted. Therefore, it is not competent for the plaintiff to bring a suit against the defendant for the purpose of compelling him to grant such an application. As it is the common usage not to allow the costs in a dispute between English and Japanese, the Court will not make any decision on that point.

From the above it appears that on the 4th June, 1891, Ludwig Mond, the plaintiff, brought an action against the defendant in the Local Court upon the latter's refusing to grant an application for a patent through the British Consul, in which the plaintiff requested the Court to make the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce grant the application, the costs to be defrayed by the defendant. The Chief Judge in that case was Judge Ichiji Misusada. On the 10th July, 1891, the Local Court delivered judgment, dismissing the case on the ground that the plaintiff possessed no right to bring a legal suit there. The reason assigned by the Court was that it is within the right of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to grant or refuse such application; and before such an application is granted the plaintiff acquires no right to bring any legal suit.

FIRST APPEAL.

The plaintiff was not satisfied with the decision of the Local Court and appealed against it to the Appeal Court on the following grounds:—(a) In the present case the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce ought to act in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Regulations. (b) As the plaintiff is entitled to apply for a patent, in the same way as Japanese subjects, he has a right to bring a legal action in any judicial court. (c) In the absence of express prohibition by the laws of the country, any subject of a Treaty Power has a right to enjoy the same privileges as are granted to all Japanese. (d) The plea of the defendant does not come under the 1st and 2nd clauses of Art. 206 of the Code of Civil Procedure. For these reasons the plaintiff requested the Court of Appeal to make the defendant grant his application, and to reverse the decision of the Local Court.

The principal points stated by counsel for plaintiff in the appeal case were, that the plaintiff invented a method of preparing nickel, etc., and had already obtained letters patent in all the countries in Europe and America. On the 20th May 1891, the plaintiff applied for a patent for 15 years to the defendant in accordance with the laws of Japan; but on the 28th May, 1891, the defendant notified that the application could not be granted. But according to the Patent Regulations no one is prohibited from enjoying patent rights. It was therefore a violation of the laws of the country to refuse to grant such an application. The principal points of plaintiff's dissatisfaction with the lower Court's decision were:—(a) In the present case the defendant ought to act in accordance with the provisions of the Patent Regulations. (b) As the plaintiff has a right to apply for the grant of a patent, the plaintiff has also a right to institute an action in any judicial court. (c) If there is no express prohibition, any subject of a Treaty Power ought to enjoy the same privileges that are granted to Japanese subjects. (d) The defence does not come under the provisions of the 1st and 2nd clauses of Art. 206 of the Code of Civil Procedure. For, in accordance with the Law of the Constitution of the Courts in Japan, it is expressly provided that except in cases coming under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Court, an action against an administrative official ought to be entertained by a Judicial Court; there is nothing to the contrary in any of the laws of the country.

The defendant's Counsel argued that, as the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce might, within his administrative right, refuse or grant such application, the plaintiff had no title to institute a legal action on the ground of the Minister's refusal. The Local Court, besides, had no power to receive such an application, as is expressly stated in Arts. 2 and 26 of the Organization of the Law Courts. In fact, the point at issue was whether matters relating to administrative functions could come under the jurisdiction of a judicial court or not.

The Appeal Court in its judgment said:—To grant or refuse an application for patent is within the competence the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; therefore, it goes without saying, that it is within his power as an administrative official. Though Art. 61 of the Constitution provides that "no suit at law, which relates to rights alleged to have been infringed by the illegal measures of administrative authorities, and which shall come within the competency of the Court of Administrative litigation specially established by law, shall be taken cognizance of by a Court of Law," it does not mean that every suit, not specially provided for by law, comes under the jurisdiction of judicial courts. For in the 2nd clause of Art. 57 of the same Constitution, it is expressly provided that the Organization of Law Courts shall be determined by law; and Art. 2 of the Organization of Law Courts provides that in an ordinary court, civil and criminal cases may be decided. The term "civil" referred to in the above signifies matters concern-

ing the rights of individuals only, and it certainly does not include any matter relating to the discharge of administrative functions by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, within his own administrative competence. Therefore, in a case like the present, whether plaintiff be a Japanese or a foreign subject, he cannot bring an action in the judicial court. Thus, by the 1st clause of Art. 206 of the Code of Civil Procedure, it is decided that the plaintiff had no right to bring the action.

SECOND APPEAL.

The case then went before the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge for the suit being Mr. Imamura Nobuyuki.

The appellant pleaded: (a) that by the Patents Regulations the appellant possesses the right to receive a patent for his invention. But the Judgment of the Appeal Court was delivered without any explanation on this point. (b) The appellant again pleaded that, in accordance with the laws of the country, any foreign subject of a Treaty Power may enjoy the same privileges as Japanese subjects, except those which are expressly denied to foreigners by law. (c) As the Judgment of the Appeal Court did not touch on these points, the said Judgment could not, in the opinion of the appellant, be regarded as a complete decision in the premises.

For all these reasons the appellant now begged to appeal to the Supreme Court, and prayed the latter to annul the former Judgment, to appoint a Court where a correct Judgment might be obtained, and to grant all the necessary remedies in the premises.

The Judgment of the Supreme Court ran as follows:—The case is dismissed for the following reasons: The first point pleaded by the appellant is that though the Appeal Court held that in accordance with the Patents Regulations any persons might enjoy the privilege granted by them, yet it decided that civil cases, tried in any ordinary judicial court, can relate only to remedies for injury to private rights. The provisions in the Patent Regulations point out the method of obtaining patents for any new invention, and therefore it is plain that they do not relate to a public right. It is within the boundary of private rights to apply for patents according to the provisions of the Patents Regulations; and the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce is commissioned to grant patents to any one within the limit of the provisions of the Regulations; and he is not permitted to deprive or deny that right according to his individual consideration. Whatever may be the result of the application, any one applying for the rights has to obey the provisions and observe the processes of applying determined by the Patent Regulations. Therefore, the appellant argues, the declaration of the Court of Appeal to the effect that the present suit ought not to be brought in any ordinary Court of justice, amounted to a disregard of the pleading of the appellant and to a misinterpretation of the nature of the rights conferred by the Patents Regulations. Now it is true that according to the Patents Regulations, patent rights may be granted to any person who either invents any new and useful article, or improves such, and he thus is enabled to protect his rights. But the same Regulations provide that the right of granting or refusing the patent is vested in the hands of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; therefore it is plain that such a matter does not come under the jurisdiction of an ordinary Court of Justice after the manner of civil cases, as provided in Art. 2 of the Organization of Law Courts. The Judgment of the Appeal Court declared that civil cases, tried in any Court of Justice, are to obtain remedies for injury of the private rights of individuals only; therefore neither a Japanese nor a foreigner can bring such a case as that under consideration in any of the Courts of Justice. Such was the Judgment, and since the principal point in the pleadings was rejected by it, there was no disregard of the pleadings, and therefore it cannot be counted an illegal decision. On this point the appellant cannot appeal. The second reason assigned by the appellant is that the appellant considers that the laws of the country confer the rights enjoyed by all Japanese subjects upon any subject of a Treaty Power; except rights which are specially denied to the latter. Therefore, the appellant, being a British subject, ought not to be denied his right. The respondent, however, prevented the exercise of that right by the appellant. The Appeal Court in its Judgment says that such a private right does not belong to the appellant. As regards this point, the Supreme Court rejects the reasoning of the appellant, as his definition cannot be established. The third and fourth reasons pleaded by the appellant cannot be decided until the dispute is settled as to whether the appellant has a right to apply for a patent for his invention in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Regulations or not. The appellant

pleads that the decision of the Appeal Court was imperfect, and that the act of the defendant was not in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Regulations. Such an argument cannot be established, for the reasons stated in the answer to the first and the second contentions of appellant. The fifth reason pleaded by the appellant is, that if the point that any one has a right to apply for a patent, and to obtain the proper protection in accordance with the Patent Regulations, be indisputable, the appellant also has the same right. The question relating to the injury done to the appellant by the defendant by refusing to grant a patent for the former's invention, therefore, becomes a proper question in the present suit. According to the judgment delivered in the Supreme Court in the 24th year of Meiji, the right of the appellant belongs to the category of private rights of individuals, and comes under the jurisdiction of an ordinary Court of Justice. The right of granting or refusing a patent, however, belongs to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and, as explained in the 1st clause, does not fall within the purview of Civil Procedure. The 1st clause of Art. 206 of the Code of Civil Procedure is applicable to a case like the present one, which does not come under the control of any Court of Justice. Thus there is no defect in the decision of the Court of Appeal; and the present appeal is therefore dismissed.

SEIMENS AND HALSKE.

PATENT APPLICATION.—A process for the electrical extraction of copper, spelter, and zinc from mineral ores, and the extraction of other metals by the same process, by means of improved machinery. As the above machine is invented by the applicants, and I believe it does not violate the Patents Regulations, I request the Government to grant a patent for the same for 15 years.

(Signed) MASUJIMA ROKUICHIRO,

Representative for Seimens and Halske, inventors.

(Dated) June 7th, 1892.

To His Excellency Mr. Kono Togama,
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

In presenting an application for a patent for an invention for extracting copper, spelter, and zinc and valuable metals from mineral ores by the process of electrical analysis, and for improved machinery for the same purpose, I represent Seimens and Halske, Germany, as shown in a copy of their power of attorney, presented herewith, with its translation. If the patent for the same be granted, the said Seimens and Halske will obey all the rules and regulations relating to patents, promulgated by the Japanese Government, as if they were subjects of Japan; and in the exercise of the rights of patent they, the said Seimens and Halske, will abandon all the special rights enjoyed by foreign subjects in the Empire; and any pledge, of whatever kind, will be made by them in accordance with your Excellency's order. Whatever I undertake, as their representative, they will ratify afterwards without fail.

(Signed) MASUJIMA ROKUICHIRO,

Representative of Seimens and Halske.

(Dated) 7th July, 1892.

To His Excellency Mr. Kono Togama,
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

As the Patents Regulations of the Empire of Japan are not applicable to foreign subjects, the application cannot be granted.

(Signed) KONO TOGAMA,

Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

(Dated) 18th July, 1892.

IN THE YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

Before Judge Ono and Assistant Judges.

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA KEN.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

(CONTINUED.)

The hearing of the above case was resumed on the 14th April, in the Yokohama Chihō Saiban-sho, Mr. Mitsubishi, for defendant, and Mr. Okamura, for plaintiffs, were the Counsel engaged. The examination of Mr. Middleton was continued.

Counsel for Plaintiffs.—When was witness absent from Yokohama?

Witness—Last year.
Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signs the kerosene delivering orders for your firm?
Witness—Edwards.
Counsel for Plaintiffs—No other person than Edwards?

Witness—White, an Englishman, sometimes signs them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Can any European sign them if he is an employé in the office, or can any outsider sign if he is an European?

Witness—Except those employed in the office no one is, as a matter of course, allowed to sign any document, and those employed are allowed only when commissioned to do so.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What sort of agreement do you make if any outsider is given the power to sign?

Witness—There is no settled form. We make a verbal contract when such a service is required.

Counsel for Defendant—Are those Chinese, Ki-ching, Akew, Alai, and others in Yokohama now?

Witness—As I only returned to Yokohama yesterday, I do not know. But I don't think they are in our employ now.

Counsel for Defendant—Don't you ever allow Chinamen to draw out any contract between you and the Japanese?

Witness—We never allow them to sign any document, whether the agreement is concluded with Europeans or Japanese.

Counsel for Defendant—I believe you have said that you generally make verbal contracts with European outsiders when you give them authority to sign for the firm. But by what method do you commission your employes? And how do you notify it to the public?

Witness—A circular is distributed, and sometimes we advertise the fact in the newspapers.

Counsel for Defendant—When you say newspapers, do you mean the vernacular press as well as European publications? And when you distribute the circulars, do you send it to your customers as well as to the Kencho and the warehouse?

Witness—It is not always advertised in the papers, so I cannot answer your question directly. I believe the circular is not sent to the Kencho or the warehouse.

Counsel for Defendant—When did you discover the loss of the kerosene oil for which the present suit is brought?

Witness—I think it was in January, when I was in England.

Counsel for Defendant—I want to know by what process kerosene cases are imported and deposited?

Witness—I don't know the process, as the business is always managed by our clerks.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you preserve the receipts given by the warehouse officials for the deposited kerosene cases?

Witness—They are kept by our principal manager who is authorized to keep them?

Counsel for Defendant—Is that manager authorized to keep them?

Witness—Yes. He is the same person who has been authorized to sign the kerosene delivery orders.

Counsel for Defendant—This (producing a delivery order) is one of the delivery orders your firm presented. Do you think it is genuine?

Witness—I certainly think it is genuine, but it can easily be identified if the original writer were to see it.

Counsel for Defendant—What do you think of the stamp on it?

Witness—It matters not, so long as the signature is genuine. It is a genuine order.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you use any particular stamp in your firm?

Witness—That I don't know.

The Judge—Why do you not know?

Witness—The stamp of the firm changes sometimes.

The Judge—Even if it is changed, do you always use it?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Defendant—How is that stamp kept?

Witness—There is no person appointed to specially take care of it. It is always kept in the office.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Our word for stamp is so vague, what better term can we use?

The Judge—Then use the English word "stamp."

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Was the witness in Yokohama during September 1888 to February 1891?

Witness—I went back to my country about three years ago.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who was the chief manager in your office while you were in Yokohama?

Witness—Mr. Gnom, my senior partner.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Have you ever signed kerosene delivery orders?

Witness—Never.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I have completed my examination of this witness, but I must request the Court to summon Edwards, Michel, and another person as witnesses.

The Judge—What do you wish to question them about?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I wish them to appear as witnesses, in order to ascertain the usage of commercial houses in Yokohama, and they are, I think, absolutely necessary.

The Judge—Are your proposed questions similar to those you have asked to-day?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. It is necessary to get as many witnesses as possible for the purpose of ascertaining the commercial usages of the port. I suppose the Kencho will call a large number of witnesses also.

The Judge—Whom does the defendant intend to call as his witnesses?

Counsel for Defendant—I intend to call Kuwabara, Abe, Masuda, Muchizuki, and Wada—all Japanese.

The Judge—I think Edwards is necessary to the case, so he may be called some other day, but the other witnesses, mentioned by both counsel, do not seem necessary, so you will not be allowed to call them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I wish to ask the Court to determine a further request. Those delivery orders issued by the plaintiff are most important evidence in the present suit, as well as the applications for deposit presented by us. They are all in the hands of the defendant. I request the Court to order the defendant to produce them. My application was refused by the Court at the last sitting, on the ground that the request was made according to the provisions of Art. 333 of the Code of Civil Procedure. But, in accordance with Art. 339 of the Code, it is expressly provided that, if the Court so determines, any important fact may be proved by producing a certain document, and if such document is acknowledged by any party to an action to be in his possession, and if the application is made in proper form, the Court may order the possessor of the document to produce the same. In the present suit the defendant acknowledges that he has possession of necessary documents, and therefore, by the provision of the Art. 339, the plaintiffs now request the Court to order the production of those documents.

Counsel for Defendant—No complete set of such documents is preserved in the Kencho. Besides, since the plaintiffs have all the necessary books, there is no need of the defendant producing those documents, therefore I refuse to comply with the request.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The defendant has no right to refuse, since those documents are in his possession. I therefore request the Court once more to order him to produce them.

The Judge (to the plaintiff)—The defendant has stated that the documents are incomplete. Do you mean to ask him to collect them?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Oh, no; the ones still in existence suffice.

The Judge—Do you request the production of them by the defendant in accordance with Art. 336 of the Code, where the obligations of parties to a suit are expressly provided?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Even if the defendant has no obligation, if the Court considers the production of the documents necessary, I think, the defendant must produce them.

The Judge—Counsel for Plaintiffs asks the Court to order the defendant to produce certain documents, according to the provisions of Art. 339, but the same provisions ought not to be taken separately, as they refer to the foregoing Article, No. 336. That is to say, the term document used in Art. 339 means only a document considered necessary to be produced by the defendant. Since the documents in this case are deemed unnecessary by the Court, the request of the plaintiffs cannot be granted.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—One of the clauses in Art. 336 expressly provides that if one of the parties demand the production of certain documents of the other, that other party is under an obligation to produce them. Now the documents I wish produced are most important to the present suit, so I think I have a right to demand them.

The Judge—The documents mentioned in Art. 336 are those which the defendant has an obligation to produce. In the present case, however, the documents in question have already become waste and void, by the completing of the required transactions. Therefore it is not necessary to produce them. For instance, a document was handed from A to B for receiving a certain quantity of rice on deposit. When A delivers the rice back to B the document becomes a waste sheet of paper. There is no provision in the Code which compels A to reproduce such a document. Therefore your request cannot be granted.

Counsel for Plaintiff—I will abandon my request.

The Judge—Then the Court will adjourn. The Court rose at 6.20 p.m.

THE MURDER OF ROBERT BEATTY.

INQUEST.

The inquest into the circumstances surrounding the death of Robert Beatty, of No. 124, Settlement, which occurred on Thursday afternoon in his room, and who was found with four several revolver shot wounds in his body, was resumed at 9 o'clock on Friday morning at the British Court before James Troup, Esq., Coroner, and Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. A. Rogers, and Mr. R. F. Crawford, jurors.

Okabe Tokichi, cautioned, deposed—I am an oil seller, living at No. 124, Settlement. I saw the shooting yesterday. About half-past one o'clock I was standing before the house where the man was shot; my house is opposite to it, and I could see through the windows and doorway. I was 20 feet off at the time and could see right into the room. I saw deceased hold up his right arm, and the little man, now in custody, shot him there. The deceased had held up his arm to cover his face. After the first shot was fired deceased fell to the ground and then four more shots were fired at him. I only saw the shots fired, what took place before I do not know. I have seen the man who fired the shots before, but I do not know his name, or where he lived, or what he did for a living. I merely know his face.

To Mr. Lea—I saw the man who fired the shots coming along the road by No. 124. I heard a wordy quarrel and then the shots were fired. I saw the short man leave the house and go elsewhere.

To the Coroner—I afterwards heard five more shots fired.

Mr. Lea inquired whether witness would be able to identify the man if brought before him.

The Coroner said that witness had stated that he knew the man's face.

Mr. Lea—Yes, but perhaps he might say afterwards that he does not know the man.

Okoshi Kenjiro, an employé of the cook at No. 238, cautioned, said—I was at No. 124, on business yesterday, about half-past two o'clock. I saw a foreigner with a revolver in his hand walking in front of the compound. I next noticed a man-of-war's man take hold of this foreigner about the body, but the man shook himself free and fired a shot, which I think struck the man-of-war's man on the shoulder. Some policemen came running up, one of them stumbled and fell, and the man with the revolver fired at him, wounding him in the leg. Another policeman tried to seize hold of the foreigner and both fell to the ground. The foreigner continued firing his revolver,—five shots in all. While the man was on the ground I took the revolver from him and handed it over to the police on the spot. There were other policemen there beside the ones I have mentioned. There were no special marks on the revolver. I don't remember having seen the man before, but I think I could recognize him if I saw him a second time.

To Mr. Lea—I did not hear any firing before I saw the man walking outside No. 124. The man was finally arrested by the police. I saw him arrested and went to the police station with the man and the constables. The man was taken to the station in a *jirikisha*.

To the Coroner—I did not see any clock at the police station, but I believe it was past three o'clock when I got there. I am sure it was about half-past two o'clock when I heard the shots fired. I left the house of my employer at two o'clock, and walked along leisurely. When I was taking the revolver from the man it went off.

Sawa Kenichiro, cautioned, deposed—I was on duty near a restaurant at the Maita bashi when I received information of a disturbance at No. 124. This was about half-past one or twenty minutes to two. I ran along, having first beckoned to another policeman to follow me. When I got to the corner of a plot where some timber was lying I was met by a policeman named Hachio. I looked down the street and saw a foreigner aiming at some one and firing. When we got closer the man aimed at us, but a Japanese behind him called out and warned us. I was informed that the man had killed another with his pistol and had reloaded it. As there were only two of us and as we did not think we could manage the foreigner ourselves we sent a *kurumaya* off to the police station to ask for assistance. The man with the revolver ran from No. 106 to No. 81. There are three grog shops there, and the man entered the middle one of them. He was only in the place a few minutes, and upon coming out entered No. 136. While we were following the man he prevented us from getting close by aiming his revolver at us. He stayed in No. 136 only for a minute or so, when he came out, he threatened us again. Then he went back again to No. 124 and we followed him. Some other policemen had by this time arrived. The foreigner went into No. 124,

but what happened inside I do not know, as he was only in it a few minutes. He next walked through the compound and entered the gate keeper's house. No. 124 is a collection of small houses. When the foreigner came out he saw me standing in the roadway and immediately pointed the revolver at me. I fell back, and the foreigner went on to No. 106 again. Here an English man-of-war's man clasped the man round the arms from behind, and the man fired at him. A policeman then ran up and seized the man, and another shot was fired. I saw blood coming out of the mouth of the policeman and he fell to the ground. We all tried to arrest the man, and several shots were fired; I saw the man pointing his revolver at another policeman who had fallen to the ground and this man was also wounded. We finally secured the man and took him to the Settlement Police Station. I do not know the man at all. The man threatened every one who came near him.

Mr. Lea—Was the man sober?

The Coroner—You must understand, gentlemen, that no person is on trial, therefore it does not matter whether he was drunk or sober. You are here to inquire into the question as to how the man died, or came by his death. No doubt at the close of the enquiry I shall take occasion to point out to you whether you will have to state and make a presentment whether the man was drunk or sober, sane or insane, but that is a question which you have not to inquire now and does not really concern you at present.

Witness—The man was perfectly calm and collected.

Marcellien Horace Gomez, sworn, said—I am a clerk in the New Oriental Bank. I knew Robert Beatty by sight, having seen him many times. He has been living at No. 124 for some time. I live at No. 114. I did not see the man named Jacob, the little man, shoot Beatty, but I saw him shoot the man-of-war's man and the policeman. It was a little after half-past one when I noticed a crowd opposite 124, round the gate of the alley. While I was looking they scattered, and I saw the man Jacob come out. He had a revolver in his hand, and I noticed that his coat was spattered with blood. I asked Jacob what was the matter, as I knew him, and he replied, "Don't trouble me," and shook his revolver in front of me. I left him, but followed. The first house he went to, after leaving the compound, was a house on No. 106 occupied by Ned Valentine. He went inside in search of Ned Valentine; I saw him go as far as the kitchen. I did not hear him say anything while in the house. When he came out, he went up Hommura-road and entered several of the saloons. He stayed but a few seconds in either. I followed him as far as No. 81, and after entering two or three saloons there, he came back the same way. I saw him enter No. 124 again, but what he did inside I could see or hear. He came out again. There were two foreigners standing outside the gate of the compound. He spoke to them. They were the captain of the schooner *Saipan*, John McGinnis, and a man called "French Joe." I am not aware of his right name. I went up to them and I heard him say that he had killed one man and was looking for another. This other man was Ned Valentine. He said: "I am looking for this nigger Ned." I understood that Valentine was the man he meant. He did not say whom he had killed, but I knew to whom he referred. I entered Beatty's house and saw him lying dead. When Jacobs had told us that he was looking for the nigger Ned, he added: "I will kill him and then shoot myself or give myself up." I saw him walking along the street with a crowd of policemen behind him. When anyone attempted to get close to him, he pointed his revolver at them and said "Go away." At last I saw an English man-of-war's man take off his straw hat and shoes and make a rush upon Jacob from behind. He struck Jacob a blow on the head which staggered him, but Jacob recovered and turning round fired at the man-of-war's man. Then I saw the crowd rush up, and what followed was blocked out of sight, but I heard several shots fired. After this I went up close and saw Jacob laying senseless on the ground, blood flowing from his head; the policemen put him into a *fintrisha* and took him away. That was the last I saw of him. I used to call him Fred. He was known by that name. I have never heard anyone call him Jacob before to day. Jacob was lately a runner for the Oriental Hotel—Haefker's hotel.

To Mr. Lea—I knew the man by the name of Fred only. I did not know his surname. I did not see the policeman shot.

To Mr. Rogers—I went to No. 124 after Jacob had been taken away by the police.

To the Coroner—That would be close on to half-past two, or a quarter past to half past two.

The Coroner—What did you see at No. 124?

Witness—There was a crowd round Beatty's

house. I saw Beatty's body lying in a pool of blood in his house, near the door-step.

To Mr. Lea—I do not know what became of McGinnis and "French Joe." I saw no more of them after "Fred" had spoken to them.

To the Coroner—Jacob is a small man, light and thin; light hair. I did not see the man-of-war's man seize Jacob.

John Otis, formerly of the Royal Oak Restaurant, now living at No. 114, Creekside, sworn, said—I saw Robert Beatty shot yesterday. I was next door to Robert Beatty's house, at my friend's house. I was sitting on a chair in the verandah, drinking ice water and sugar. I saw Jacob Carstens come along—they call him Fred—and he asked me: "Otis, where is Barronel?" I said, "Poor fellow, it is no use bothering him, he has been working all night." Meantime he was looking at Beatty's house. Barronel is the watchman at the Club Hotel. I went indoors but noticed, through the planking of the closed door, that Fred was walking up and down the compound. Then I heard him say: "I will go and finish him, I have lost my employment through him." He still walked up and down, like one crazy. In his left hand he carried a bundle while in his right he grasped a revolver, with his finger on the trigger. He next went into his own room, but came back quickly, and next I saw him enter Beatty's room. "Fred" has a room at No. 124. While he was in it this time a woman tried to take the revolver from him, but he struck her in the stomach and she ran away. I was still looking through the planking of the door, and noticed him coming across my friend's house. I hid, and his mother-in-law called out: "Otis is gone," and Carstens said to the Japanese women standing about "Go away." Finding Beatty's door open, Carstens, walked straight into the room, and I heard a shot fired. I came out of the house and went into the alley way, getting into a Chinese man's house. There I could see everything. Beatty tried to run away, but Carstens fired at him again and again. Beatty fell to the floor dead. There were five shots fired. I called out to a woman "Beatty's shot," she asked me who had shot him and I said, "Fred has." The remark Carstens made after he had shot Beatty was, "I have finished one, and now I will go and finish two more, Nigger Ned and Brown." Brown is the policeman. I went home and informed my wife of the occurrence. I did not follow Carstens into the street.

To Mr. Lea—I saw the first shot fired through the crack in then door, and then I opened the door. Beatty was lying in bed at this time, and I heard him coughing, as he struggled up.

To Mr. Rogers—The first shot struck the wall, and I saw the mark on the wall afterwards. I did not see the plaster break away.

To the Coroner—The second shot struck Beatty down. I could see this better, as I was then in the alley-way. Beatty was trying to run out of the room, and the shot was fired just as he rose up. I can't say what part of his body was struck.

To Mr. Crawford—I don't think I could recognize the revolver, but it is a brand new one. This I know because he had shook it in my face.

To the Coroner—I think it is a 37 bull-dog. I picked up a cap and a cartridge which were on the floor.

To Mr. Lea—Jacob Carstens was in the room during the whole time that he was firing the five shots. Barronel lives on the same compound with Beatty.

To the Coroner—Barronel's room is between Carstens' and Beatty's. Before Carstens went to the Japanese Court he told me that if he lost his case he would go and shoot Beatty. This was about the 7th of June.

Otsuki Seigosuki, Superintendent of police at the Settlement Police Station, deposed—I was present at the affray near No. 124 yesterday. I know the man who was shooting. His name, I was told afterwards, is Carstens. I received the revolver from Okashi Kenjiro, who himself had taken the revolver from Carstens. I received the revolver in the street. The one produced is the weapon I received.

The Coroner (to the Jury)—There is further evidence to be obtained if you wish it, that is if you have not made up your minds upon any point. The evidence of the man McGinnis is to be obtained if you so desire.

Mr. Lea—I think you might sum up now, sir.

The Coroner, in summing up, said that the jury had but three things to consider, and they were the time, place, and method by which Robert Beatty came by his death. The body had been identified by Dr. Wheeler and others. The evidence of Doctor Wheeler pointed out that the shot which entered the head under the lobe of the left ear, at the angle of the lower jaw, and penetrated through the neck was, in his opinion, sufficient to cause death. The evidence of the oil-seller in regard to the firing of the shots was very clear.

That witness stated that he could see right into the room through the window. Now we must compare this with Otis' statement. Otis did not see the first shot very distinctly, and he said that he could not tell precisely where it struck, but the oil seller said that the first shot struck the deceased on the arm. The Japanese witness, I think, therefore, makes that point more clear. In regard to the number of shots fired, both agree that there were four other shots after the first was discharged—five in all. The witnesses Otis and Gomez testified that they both knew the man who fired the revolver by the name of "Fred," while the former said that "Fred" was the name which Jacob Carstens went by among them, but that he knew him by his proper name, while the last witness has ascertained that this man was named Jacob Carstens. The first witness to-day described the man with the revolver as being a short, light man. The evidence of Otis goes to prove that there had been ill feeling between the men for some time, and that Carstens had expressed the intention of shooting Beatty; the evidence therefore, is more than circumstantial, it is direct. We have the conversation which took place between Carstens and McGinnis at the compound gate, and you have heard the police tell how the man was followed, after having left 124 until he was finally carried away under arrest. The revolver has been brought before you, and has just been identified as the weapon which was used. I think it would be quite unnecessary for me to go into fuller particulars as the evidence must be quite fresh in your minds. There is another point which I would draw your attention to, and that is, that you will have to say in your finding the nature of the crime which has been committed. There is, as you know, a distinction drawn between murder and manslaughter. Murder is stated where evidence of malice aforethought, a deliberate intention of hurting another even to slaying him, is clearly shown. Where this intention is absent, and although the slaying takes place, but it is clearly shown that it was unintentional, then the crime is accounted the lesser one of manslaughter. You must take this into consideration in determining your verdict, and you are also required to name the man. You must remember that no man is before you for trial, that no charge is laid against anyone here, and that therefore your verdict amounts to nothing more than preferring a charge, which may, however, afterwards prove the basis for proceedings in trial. I will now leave the matter entirely in your hands, gentlemen.

The jury did not retire and after a fifteen minute's consultation in their box,

Mr. Lea rose and said—I speak in the name of my fellow jurors. We have agreed and come to a decision in this sad business, would we be out of order in passing up our finding to you, sir, for revision of technicalities in the wording before we sign it?

The Coroner (after reading) I see no objection to the wording.

Mr. Lea—This then, is the finding of the jury in the case:—"We find that the deceased, Robert Beatty, of No. 124, Settlement, Yokohama, met his death between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock on the 7th day of July, 1892, by means of a bullet, or bullets, discharged from a revolver in the hands of one, Robert Carstens, against whom we bring a verdict of wilful murder," signed, etc.

The Court rose about a quarter to one o'clock, after Coroner had thanked the jurors for their services.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 3rd.

In the American University boat race Yale beat Harvard.

The U.S. Senate has voted the bill, promoted by Stewart, for the free coinage of silver, adding a proviso requiring the coinage of all silver bullion now lying in the vaults of the Treasury.

London, July 4th.

Six Tories, five Unionists, and three Liberals have been returned to Parliament unopposed.

The inter-University Cricket Match has been played, Oxford beating Cambridge by five wickets.

London, July 5th.

The election returns, so far, are:—Tories, 83; Unionists, 10; Liberals, 58. The Tories thus gain 8, the Unionists 1, and the Liberals 18.

The Court has confirmed the Order for winding up the New Oriental Bank Corporation.

London, July 6th.

Further election returns are:—Tories, 123; Unionists, 19; Liberals, 97. The Tory gain is now ten, the Unionist four, and the Liberal twenty-nine.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, June 20th.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone in a recent speech charged the Government with raising religious issues and denied that the Protestants of Ulster were solidly opposed to Home Rule. He also denied that Home Rule would lead to an established Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. The power of the priests, Mr. Gladstone said, was due to the people's lack of legitimate freedom.

London June 21st.

The opposition party in Ulster has issued a manifesto in reply to the convention held at Belfast denying that Ulster is entirely Unionist or that there is danger of civil war.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W.E.W.—We hope to continue the Chess column after the close of the competition.

NEPTUNE.—Quite at sea again. The Black Kt at Q Kt 5 moves to Q B 3, and where is the mate?

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 24.

WHITE.

1—R to Kt 3
2—Q, R, or Kt mates accordingly.

BLACK.

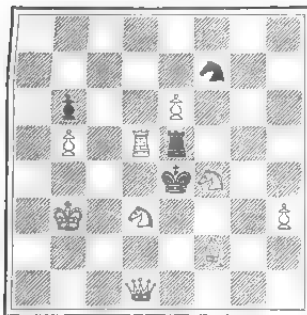
1—Anything.

Correct solutions received from Scacchi, W.H.S., Diganima, Omega, J.D., and Ed. B.

PROBLEM No. 26.

BY T. TAVERNER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

In April an interesting event came off at the British Chess Club in the form of a quintangular match between the five strongest players who were staying in England at that time. Young Lasker followed up his success at the British Chess Association tournament by carrying off first honours with a score of 6½ wins, Blackburne coming second with 6 points, Mason third with 4 points, Gunsberg fourth with 2½ points, and Bird last with only 1 win against Gunsberg. The leader's score was made up of two wins against Blackburne, two draws against Mason, a win and a draw against Gunsberg, and two wins against Bird. A match was afterwards arranged between Lasker and Blackburne, to be commenced about 16th May, at the British Chess Club. The match is for seven games up, draws not counting, and the stakes £50 a-side. The following is one of the games played in the quintangular match. We take it with notes from the *British Chess Magazine*:-

FOUR KNIGHTS GAME.

NOTES BY W. WAYTE.

WHITE.

Lasker.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to KB 3
3—Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 5
5—P to Q 3
6—P to KR 3
7—B to K 3
8—P to KR 4
9—B to R 4

BLACK.

Blackburne.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to QB 3
3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3
5—B to K 2
6—Castles
7—Kt to K sq
8—P to QR 3
9—B to R 3

The common-place P-Q Kt 4, followed by Kt-Q R 4 and taking of the B, is probably better.

10—Kt to K 2

11—Kt to Kt 3

12—P to B 3

13—B to Kt 3

14—B to R 6

15—Q to K 2

16—B x B

17—Castles (K R)

Perhaps unexpected by his formidable opponent; but White soon shows that he has well weighed the consequences.

18—K R to B sq.

After this excellent move the exchange of Knights is practically forced, and White gets the K P into line with the rest.

19—P x P

20—Kt x Kt

21—P to B 4

22—P to K 5

To stop at all hazards P-B 3; but the fatal weakness in the position of the two Rooks soon betrays itself.

23—R to K sq.

24—Q to B 3

25—Q x B

Dangerous, but we will find a satisfactory move for Black at this point.

26—P x P en pass.

27—Q to Kt 2

28—R to K 7!

Kt-K sq. equally fails to save the Kt.

29—R to K sq.

30—Q x R

31—P to B 5

32—R x Kt

33—Q to Kt 2

34—K x Q

35—P x R

36—P x P

37—K to B 3

38—P x P

39—K to K 3

The moves of the Pawns will soon be exhausted; Black must then play K-R sq. and be mated in two moves.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 15th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, July 13th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 10th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 12th.
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, July 13th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 22nd.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Monday, July 25th.

* *Gaile* left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 25th. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on June 27th. ‡ *Oceanic* (with English mail) left Hongkong on July 7th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 12th.
For Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, July 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 16th.
For Europe via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, July 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 23rd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 28th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

<i>St. Frances</i> , American ship, 1,810, Wilbur, 3rd July.—New York 27th February, Oil.—China & Japan Trading Co.	
<i>Verona</i> , British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 3rd July.—Hongkong 25th June, Nagasaki 29th, and Kobe 2nd July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.	
<i>Benlarig</i> , British steamer, 1,454, E. Le Boutellier, 4th July.—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.	
<i>Nagato Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 4th July.—Otaru and ports 30th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.	
<i>Oopack</i> , British steamer, 1,730, Davies, 6th July.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.	
<i>Bengloe</i> , British steamer, 1,183, Farquhar, 6th July.—Hongkong 29th June, Sugar.—Cornes & Co.	
<i>Natal</i> , French steamer, 4,038, Bevilacqua, 7th July.—Marseilles 29th May, Hongkong 30th June, Shanghai 3rd July, and Kobe 6th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.	

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 7th July.—Kobe 6th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 8th July.—Newchwang via ports 13th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 8th July.—Shanghai and ports 1st July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Cummin, 8th July.—New York via ports 1st May, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain J. J. Heugh, 8th July.—Hongkong via ports 30th June.

DEPARTURES.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Jaeger, 3rd July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Eveis & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. M. Cavalry, 3rd July.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 3rd July.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Chaboud, 3rd July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 3rd July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 5th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Musashi Kan (9), Japanese corvette, Captain S. Hidaka, 6th July.—Yokosuka.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 6th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hisey, 6th July.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chih Yuen (5), Chinese cruiser, Captain Tang Shi Chang, 8th July.—Nagasaki.

Wei Yuen (4), Chinese cruiser, Captain Ling Yea Keli, 8th July.—Nagasaki.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,454, E. Boutillier, 9th July.—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,730, Davies, 9th July.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 9th July.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Broadrick and one Chinese woman in cabin. From Nagasaki: Rev. and Mrs. Fuller, 3 children, and amah, and Mr. W. B. Nata in cabin. From Kobe: Messrs. Winstanley, D. H. Clark, and Ah Fong in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Messrs. K. Oaki, H. Kawase, H. Matsuta, and J. Nonaka in cabin; 24 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. B. Iwata, Mr. Warner, Major J. H. Jule, Dr. Banatvala, Mr. C. L. Giffard, Madame Rolland, Messrs. John Lewis, Bouquet, O. Vinals, and J. E. Nesbitt in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. H. D. James in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 46 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Count Imoye, Mr. and Mrs. Kaneko, Mrs. and Miss Kaneko, Misses Kurihara, Rothwiler, Russell, A. L. Benig, L. Seeds, and G. Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. G. Warnecke, Captain Fujita, Messrs. W. H. Divine, H. Rumschattel, Tojo, T. F. da Silva, R. Yezoye, and J. W. Lee in cabin; Messrs. Uchiyaki, Fujimoto, and Ko Min Shing in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen, Messrs. Stanley Mylius, G. H. Johnstone, and R. W. H. Woodburne in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Mr. J. Wallace, Captain W. G. Hunter, Messrs. L. R. James, S. Gibson, Min King Hin and native servant, A. J. Coleman, Wm. Roberts, A. R. Ramsey, and W. Hendry in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. W. R. Gardiner, Baron von Biegeleben and valet, Messrs. H. Harms, Geo. S. Folsom, K. Pulteney, L. R. Wilkinson, Geo. W. Middleton, W. J. P. Marling, H. D. Cohen, C. L. Knoler, Mrs. C. S. Bell, Major and Mrs. Levi Chase, Miss Lillian M. Cullen, Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Walker and 3 children, Madame M. de Lemasche, and Miss Montague Fordham, T. Sugi-

yama, Chas. Cramie, P. Nygard, T. V. O'Brien, and Wm. Harvey in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. C. D. Moss, A. Rizzetti, Albert François, Dr. Michant, Messrs. O. F. Stonor and servant, Junbo Kotoru, and Hayashi Kamesaburo in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Umedahida, M. Harada, Mrs. J. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Morota and 5 children, Commander and Mrs. F. W. Dickson, Paymaster and Mrs. Peterson, Commander Cardley, U.S.N., Lieut. McIntosh, Messrs. C. Bryner, C. Whitton, Gentoku, H. E. Bray, H. Cleveland, Warmacke, and F. Danckmeyer in cabin; Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Shigata, Messrs. Nagai, P. Swainson, Kataoka, J. Camon, and one Japanese in second class, and 91 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. J. Fielding, H. D. Phillips, J. Allen, and Ah Yee and child in cabin; 4 Europeans in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	PER AMERICAN	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES	TOT. L.
Shanghai	497	462	—	959
Hongkong	175	2,368	2,432	4,975
Yokohama	3,552	1,483	6,136	11,171
Hongkong	76	—	—	76
Total	4,300	4,313	8,568	17,181

	PER AMERICAN	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES	TOT. L.
Shanghai	10	—	—	10
Hongkong	—	170	—	170
Yokohama	1	319	—	320
Total	11	489	—	500

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 197 bales; Waste Silk for France, 71 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$157,400.00.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France, 172 bales; Waste Silk, 116 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th July at noon; had light E. to S.E. winds and fine weather throughout the passage; passed Rock Island at 2:45 p.m. on the 7th. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th July at 9:50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Corner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 1st July at 3:35 p.m.; had moderate S. and S.E. winds to Nagasaki, arriving the 3rd at 5:55 a.m. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m.; had light S.E. winds and cloudy weather to Shimonoeki, arriving the 4th at 6:20 a.m. Left Shimonoeki the same day at 11:10 a.m.; had light variable winds and hazy weather to the Northern Passage; at 7 p.m. passed 3 Japanese men-of-war bound to the westward; from Northern Passage to Kobe gentle E. winds and fine weather, arriving the 5th at 8:10 a.m. Left Kobe the 7th at noon; had light S.E. winds to Siwo-misaki at 8:00; passed a sailing ship bound to Kobe; from Oshima to Rock Island light easterly winds and fine weather; thence to port light S.W. winds and weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 8th July at 3:40 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A fortnight's dry hot weather has done much to improve the agricultural prospects of the country, concerning which very ominous opinions were being expressed a short time ago, and as the price of Rice has declined considerably in consequence, it may be accepted as a favourably augury. The planting of the New Crop has been accomplished satisfactorily, and country people are likely soon to give serious attention to their supplies of Goods for the Autumn trade. Already there are indications of more doing in Yarns, at improved prices, in sympathy with the advance established by the Native Spinning Mills, and as supplies are moderate, the market rules strong in sellers' favour. For Piece Goods there are considerable enquiries, but at low prices, and it is very evident that with a continuance of low sterling exchange it is only a question of waiting a little for higher prices to be paid, as supplies are likely to be below the average; on the whole, prospects promise well. Good prices are ruling for both Silk and Tea and the trade finance of Japan is healthier than a year ago. Sterling Exchange is now quoted 2/10½ Bank on demand. Sales for the week comprise 1,325 bales

English Yarn, 103 bales Bunnays, 2,250 pieces glb. Shirtings, 480 pieces T-Cloths, 4,000 pieces Victoria Lawns, 150 pieces Velvets, and 750 pieces Italian Cloths.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—84 in, 34 yds, 30 inches	1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—64 in, 34 yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.50
T. Cloth—74 in, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.30 to 1.55
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sattens—Black, 32 inches	1.10 to 1.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	5.60 to 6.60
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.70
Feather-lace, 12 yards, 45 inches	1.15 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.5 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3.18, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENIS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches best	0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.28
Medium	0.24 to 0.31
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Common	0.18 to 0.20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.47 to 0.52
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Hankets—Scarlet and Green, 41 to 44 in, per lb	0.15 to 0.47

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
No. 16/24, Ordinary	21.50 to 26.50
No. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
No. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
No. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.25
No. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
No. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	31.75 to 35.00
No. 38/42, Good to Best	32.75 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 20s, Bombay	60.00 to 73.00
No. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 12s, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

MARKETS.

Very quiet market. Desultory buyers enquire for some stray odds and ends now and then, but in general dealers make the customary excuse of hot weather for their inactivity. Quotations nominally unchanged, with next to no business.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.25 to 1.30

KROSENE.

Market practically unchanged and firm. Country dealers are expected to be in the field again, as usual after the present month, and, as arrivals are scarce at the moment, holders are strong and prices have an upward tendency.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.64 to 1.65
Comet	1.57 to 1.60
Deros	1.52 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52

SUGAR.

Market has hardened still further, and buyers apparently have been anxious to secure some goods before prices advance yet more. Our quotations of last week are well maintained, and some business has been done both in White and Brown.

	PER POUND.
Brown Talao	\$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.40 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 1st instant, since when settlements on this market amount to 425 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 80 piculs; Filatures, 174 piculs; Re-reels, 126 piculs; Kakeda, 34 piculs; Oshu, 11 piculs. In addition to this, direct export has been about 25 piculs, making the total business for the week equal to 450 piculs.

Supplies are now beginning to come in a little more freely, attracted by the high prices recently paid, and holders are very anxious to push the market still higher. They have been assisted in their endeavours by one or two foreign houses who

have not hesitated to pay very high prices for a few purchases, especially in *Filatures*. There is also some inclination for local speculation, operators being tempted to make purchases by the conflicting accounts of the European crop. Some recent cables assure us that it will be as much as 20 per cent. less than last year, but it does not seem at all certain that the true result is as yet properly ascertained.

A few sample *Cocoons* have been brought down from *Shinshu* province and these appear to be excellent specimens, so that we should have some good silk from that province in a few days' time. As before mentioned, many silks are coming in from *Shinshu* factories, but these are all reeled from *Koshu*, *Foshu*, *Bushu*, *Hida*, or *Omari* *Cocoons*, and can in no wise claim to be considered *Shinshu* silks.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Oxus* and the U.S. mail steamer *City of Peking*, both leaving port on the morning of the 3rd instant. The former took 197 bales for France and the latter carried 320 bales for the New York trade. There departures bring the present export figures up to 540 piculs, against 696 piculs last year and 488 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Some activity in the Lyons market has caused a little movement here. Several parcels of new *Hachofu* have brought \$445 and \$450 per picul; one parcel of new *Mobashi* was settled at \$170; some old *Shinshu* have been done at the same price, with a little worse quality at \$160. New silks are now held for some advance in sympathy with *Filatures* and *Re-reels*.

Filatures.—Business goes on to some extent in the so-called *Shinshu* brands, \$715 being reported paid for one or two small lots. Some large parcels were settled at \$710, and holders now ask \$720 for the same things. Some good quality genuine *Koshu* *Filatures* are on the market, but are held for prices which at the moment do not admit of business.

Re-reels.—These are also held for a smart advance, and in some cases sellers have succeeded in getting what they want. One parcel of so-called No. 1 *Foshu*, but running very full in size, was weighed up at \$645, and for the next arrivals holders ask \$660 per picul. *Bushu* *Re-reels* have arrived, but so far have given rise to no transactions. As a rule, they are eased and full sized, preventing no very great temptation to buyers.

Kakeda.—Several large parcels of old silk have been taken off the market for shipment to Europe. The price of this old stuff remains unchanged, and some of the lots are reported to be going forward on consignment. The purchases made were on the basis of \$500 for common silk, *Okama* chop.

Oshu.—One parcel of coarse *Sendai* taken for France at \$466, and nothing further has been done in this department.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK).

Hanks—No. 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Foshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Foshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	\$710 to 720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakeda—Extra	—
Kakeda—No. 1	—
Kakeda—No. 1	—
Kakeda—No. 2	—
Kakeda—No. 2	—
Kakeda—No. 3	—
Kakeda—No. 3	—
Kakeda—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 8th July, 1892:—

	Shanghai 1890	1891	1892	1890	1891	1892
Europe	197	153	164			
America	320	526	288			
Total	517	679	452			
	540	696	488			
Settlements and Direct	450	575	325			
Export from 1st July	1,800	1,900	2,625			
Stock, 8th July	2,250	2,475	2,950			

WASTE SILK.

The market has not yet opened, and this week has given rise to no transactions, if we except a few piculs of medium to common *Mawata*, old fibre, which brought from \$160 to \$130 per picul, according to grade; the last named lot will in all probability find its way to Bombay by the out-going English mail.

There are two or three small offerings of new *Foshu Noshi* in the place, but these have given rise to no purchases. Buyers say that the quality is very inferior and they do not want it, while holders seem inclined to be rather stubborn about the price, on the basis of our last week's quotation.

Since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Oxus* has left port with 71 bales common *Kibiso* for Marseilles. These, of course, are old fibre and are packed very heavy, weighing as much as 342 piculs. From the table below, it will be seen that the present export is 342 piculs, against 89 piculs last year and 508 piculs at the same date in 1890.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Medium	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Huslu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Jushi, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Jushi, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-ito—Jushi, Ordinary	—	—	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—	—	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—	—	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Seconds	—	—	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair	—	—	—
Kibiso—Jushi, Midding to Common	—	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—	—	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—	—	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—	—	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 8th July, 1892:—

	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Waste Silk	342	89	508
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
Settlements and Direct	342	89	508
Export from 1st July	25	32	135
Stock, 8th July	3,500	2,300	4,615
Available supplies to date	3,515	2,312	4,750

Exchange has dropped rather smartly the last two days in sympathy with lower prices for Silver in London. We quote bills as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3/72; 6m/s. fcs. 3/74.

Estimated Silk Stock, 8th July, 1892:—

	RAIL.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	210	—	20	—
Filatures	536	—	1,950	—
Re-reels	790	—	1,310	—
Kakeda	—	—	100	—
Josu	176	—	120	—
Taysam Kinds	—	—	—	—
Total piculs	1,800	—	3,500	—

TEA.

Some buyers are apparently inclined to hold off a bit, while others are busy filling their orders. Prices for good Teas are strong, they being less plentiful as the season progresses, and second crop leaf dominates the market. Settlements to date are about 150,000 piculs, against 165,000 last year, export to date being 12½ million pounds or practically the same as last season.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$11 to 33
Choice	28 to 30
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	13 to 14
Common	11 to 12

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has further declined during the week, though the downward tendency seems to be arrested for the moment.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/11
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3/63
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	3/75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1½ % dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	71
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	71
Silver	39½

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowl butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout World. May 1st, 1890.

"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"

KILLS
{ BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
MOSQUITOES.

HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,

but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS in FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that packages of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins and Bottles only.

March 26, 1890.

FOR SALE,
THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:

SORACHI AND FORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:
No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukij Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD!



TRADE MARK.

May 14th, 1892.

ALWAYS ASK FOR

MILKMAID
CONDENSED MILK

GUARANTEED

BEST QUALITY, BEST VALUE.

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

WANTED, an Agent in any part of Japan, to buy or procure CRANES and other Live Stock for Export to England. Must have a slight knowledge of Natural History and give reference as to Capabilities, &c. For Particulars, &c., apply EDWARD MARSHALL, Marlow, Bucks, England.

July 20th, 1892.

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FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL L'POOL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1886.

ENGLISH MANUFACTURED
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RICHMOND
CAVENDISH CO.,
LIMITED,
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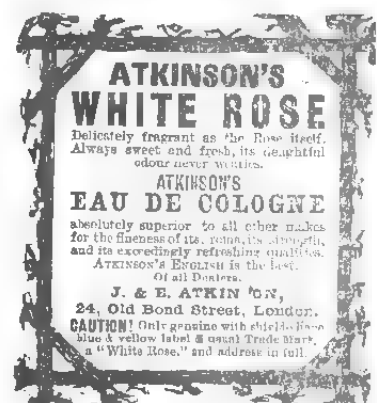
SPECIAL BRANDS:—

"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
"Richmond Smoking Mixture."
Superfine Bird's Eye.
"Golden Brown" Fine Cut.
Bright & Black Plug Cavendish!

IN ALL USUAL SIZES.

PRICE LISTS IN APPLICATION.

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Contractors to the British Admiralty, Foreign Governments, Leading Steamship Companies, & Yacht Owners in all parts of the World.



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Fitted with KINGDON'S PATENT MACHINERY (of which we are sole makers) are far superior to any others. The chief advantages are:—

1. Wonderful Economy of Fuel.
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We build Steam Launches of every description, from the smallest size suitable for carrying on yachts of 40 tons and upwards. We also build small light Draft Paddle Boats, Tugs, Stern Wheel Paddle Steamers, and Boats in Frames &c., &c. We supply sets of Machinery separately. We are also sole makers of the

KINGDON PATENT LIGHT PORTABLE ENGINE

Stock sizes, 14 to 6 H.P. Burns less fuel, and gives three times the power, weight for weight, of any other engine. Awarded First Prize by Royal Agricultural Society England, 1890, in competition open to all makers. Illustrated Catalogue in English, French, or Spanish. Send for Copy to

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May 7th, 1892.



The Original BRISTOL BIRD'S EYE, of highest quality, for Pipe and Cigarette.

Feb. 20, 1892.

1y.

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INDIAN CIGARETTES

Asthmatic people who suffer from Oppression in breathing, stifling sensations, Hoarseness, and Loss of voice, Nervous coughs, Laryngitis, Colds, with Wheezing, Bronchitis, Insomnia, Catarrhal affections, and difficulty in Expectoration, are promptly relieved by these Cigarettes.

GRIMAULT & CO., Paris, Sold by all Chemists.

GRIMAULT'S Matico Capsules AND INJECTION

Renowned Physicians prescribe Grimault's Matico as the most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of Acute and Chronic Discharges. These Capsules, unlike Copalba, have not the inconvenience of producing Nausea.

MATICO INJECTION is used in recent AND MATICO CAPSULES in the more chronic cases

GRIMAULT & CO., Paris. Sold by all Chemists.



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SCREW STEAMERS WITH SPEEDS RANGING UP TO 30 MILES AN HOUR.

PADDLE STEAMERS WITH DRAFT RANGING DOWN TO 6 INCHES OF WATER

Stern Wheel Steamers with very shallow draft especially suitable for river navigation.

MACHINERY CONSTRUCTED FOR BOATS BUILT ABROAD.

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Builders of the Stern Wheel Steamers used by the British Government for the Nile Expedition.



"THE REAL CUP O' KINDNESS."

Perfect blendings of the Choicest Brandy of the Highest Classes of Fine Old Whiskies in their Native Purity, as produced in Scotland, absolutely untempered with.

MATURED IN SHERRY CASKS.

A LUXURY IN PURE SCOTCH WHISKIES.

The letters BOS are the Name, Brand, and Registered Trade Mark of this Matchless OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

BOS

*** Gold Capsule.

** Blue "

* Green "

Exquisite blendings, possessing a flavour so rare, a character so novel and so entirely their own, that they may fairly claim the very first place among high-class stimulants. Clever judges pronounce them unique and unequalled.

BOS Whiskies are remarkable for their "delicious individuality of flavour," mellowness and softness on the palate.—"A very Nectar," in marked contrast to ordinary blended Whiskies, which are more or less dominated by one or other of the Whiskies used in blending.

BOS is sold in square white bottles, labelled and capped, the quality being notified by a small label on each bottle. The Proprietors are skilled blenders of Scotch Whiskies, but in all the experience of their Firm, extending nearly over the present century, they have never been able to accomplish anything so fully complying with the most exacting tests, as is now presented in these special blends of BOS.

Correspondence invited from Firms who desire to handle our Whiskies.

PEASE, SON. & CO., LEITH, SCOTLAND.

English Addresses—LONDON & DARLINGTON,—DURHAM. Established 1808.

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And see that each Jar bears Baron Liebig's Signature in Blue Ink across the Label.

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Cookery Books Post Free on Application to the Company.

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FINEST AND CHEAPEST
MEAT-FLAVOURING
STOCK FOR SOUPS,
MADE DISHES AND SAUCES.

Invaluable for India as
an Efficient Tonic in all
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Keeps good in the hottest
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length of time.

Sold wholesale by COCKING & Co., Yokohama. Cookery Books on Application to office of this paper.
June 14th, 1891.

DINNEFORD'S

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Biliary Affections.



MAGNESIA

Sold throughout the World.
N.B.—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel; the safest and most gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sickness of Pregnancy.

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 3.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 16TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可通書信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 16TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE vacancies in the Cabinet have not yet been filled.

THE Emperor visited the residence of Marquis Nabeshima last Saturday.

THE "Morning-glory" gardens at Iriya, Tokyo, will be opened to the public on the 13th inst.

A STORM of typhoon character visited the south and west of Japan on the 11th instant and following days.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, Superintendent of the Decoration Board, has been decorated by the King of the Belgians.

MR. KONO has been appointed Minister for Home Affairs, and Viscount Sano Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

THE dividend of the Osaka Godowns Company for the past six months is estimated at the rate of 15 per cent. per share per annum.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Kane and Tsune proceeded to Nikko on the 11th inst. starting from the Uyeno Railway station at 8.50 a.m.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Kane and Tsune were received in audience by Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress on the 8th inst.

MR. M. W. E. DE BUNSEN, British *Chargé d'Affaires*, and Mr. Spring-Rice, Secretary of the British Legation, proceeded to Karuizawa on the 11th instant.

THE Conference of the Camera statesmen, which the public had looked forward to with so much interest, has resulted in a resolve to leave the present Cabinet undisturbed. It is understood, however, that the connection between the Cabinet Ministers and the Camera statesmen has been entirely severed.

interest, has resulted in a resolve to leave the present Cabinet undisturbed. It is understood, however, that the connection between the Cabinet Ministers and the Camera statesmen has been entirely severed.

DURING last month gold and silver coins were struck in the Osaka Mint to the following amounts:—Gold 5-yen pieces yen 119,095 and silver 1-yen pieces yen 1,370,000.

THE total receipts of the Kyushu Railway Company during last month amounted to yen 30,215.74, of which yen 24,198.12 was obtained by the sale of tickets, and yen 6,017.62 in the shape of freight.

THE dividend of the Miye Cotton Spinning Company for the first half of this year has been declared at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum; that of the Oji Paper Mills at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

THE shareholders of the Hankai Railway Company held a general meeting on the 8th inst., and resolved to raise a loan of 75,000 yen, at 7 per cent. interest per annum, in order to lay down a double line on the Section between Naniwa and Sumiyoshi.

THE report and accounts of the Yokohama Saving Bank for the half-year show that the total receipts amounted to 5,695,335 yen, of which 2,750,000 yen was declared as a dividend for the half-year, and 1,277,062 yen was set apart as a reserve, 1,668,293 yen being written off to the new account.

THE shareholders of the Omi Railway Company, at a general meeting held lately, elected Messrs. Yubita Mojuro, Tamura Hanjuro, Ozawa Tahei, Beniki Tokugoro, and Hiraoka Kyuzayemou to take charge of the construction of the proposed new line of the Company. The estimated cost is placed at 100,000 yen.

THE receipts of Mr. Hiranuma's bank in Yokohama during the past half-year were 81,068,756 yen, of which 16,213,761 yen was appropriated as a reserve, 23,000,000 yen as reward to officers, 8,106,587 yen office expenses, and 3,748,130 yen were carried forward to the next account, 30,000,000 yen being declared as a dividend at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

THE report and accounts of the Tone River Shipping Company, Tokyo, read by Director Inaba Shusaku and adopted at the half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Company held on 8th inst., show that the total receipts during the first half of this year amounted to yen 15,498,731, of which, after deducting yen 2,572,615 for miscellaneous expenses, yen 12,880,000 was declared as a dividend for the half-year at the rate of four per cent. and a half per annum.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Hirano Cotton Spinning Company, Osaka, was held on the 7th inst. The receipts during the first half of this year were yen 71,017,529, of which yen 3,500,000 was set apart for the expenses of establishing the Company, yen 9,200,000 was added to the reserve fund, with yen 20,000,000 as a special reserve, yen 6,880,000 as remuneration to officers, and yen 30,000,000 as a dividend for the half-year to be declared at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, yen 1,437,529 being carried forward to the next account.

THE total receipts of the Naniwa Cotton Spinning Company, Osaka, during the past half-year amounted to 52,631,677 yen, of which, after deducting sums for miscellaneous expenses and remuneration to officers, 5,180,657 yen was set

apart as a reserve, while 1,007,139 yen was carried forward to the next account, 30,000,000 yen being declared as a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. The dividend of the Amagasaki Cotton Spinning Company for the same period has been declared at the rate of 17 per cent. per annum. The gross revenues of the Hirano Cotton Spinning Company amounted to 68,819,000 yen, of which 25,000,000 yen was added to the reserve fund, and 1,437,529 yen was carried forward to the new account, the dividend for the half-year being declared at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum.

THE EMPRESS, attended by Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master, and Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty, and several Ladies in Waiting, visited the residence of Marquis Nabeshima at Nagatacho last Sunday afternoon, leaving the Palace at half-past one o'clock. The Imperial Party arrived at the house at two o'clock, and was at once conducted to a salon where Her Majesty gave audience to the Princesses of the Imperial Blood, the Marquis, the Marchioness, and members of the Nabeshima family. Afterwards the Empress witnessed a very interesting performance of the *No* dance given by the leading experts of the art in the capital. A display of fencing followed; among the performances were bouts between Miss Okuda Tama and Mr. Miyake Sadayuki, armed respectively with a long halberd and sword, and a contest between Miss Okuda Tama, who was armed with a halberd, and Mr. Okubo Chikayoshi, with a *kusarigama*, or sickle having a long chain attached to the handle. At six o'clock Her Majesty dined with Their Imperial Highnesses Princess Arisugawa (senior and junior), Kitashirakawa, Kanin, Countess Matsukata, Countess Goto, Marchioness Mayeda, Princess Tokugawa, Marchioness Hosokawa, Countess Abe, Viscountess Nabeshima, Marchioness Adachi, Madame Matsudaira, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Madame Muro-machi, Countess Kuroda, Viscountess Kagawa, and Madame Hanabusa. After dinner there was a display of *san kyoku* music, which was followed by dancing by a party of Kwaryu-ren, in which the Lady Ito, second daughter of the Marquis, took part. Legerdemain by Choryusai closed the entertainment, and the Empress left for the Palace at twenty minutes to eleven o'clock.

THE Import trade remains much as last reported, and prices are well maintained. Yarns have been in fair request as regards English spinnings, while Bombays are quite nominal. The principal item in demand in Piece-goods has been glib. Shirtings, which have been sold at slightly easier rates; and in Woollens, Italian Cloth has been most enquired for at about recent rates, though other descriptions of Woollen goods have not been moved in large quantities. Nothing to report in Metals. No change to note in Kerosene, the market being steady and firm. The Sugar trade continues in a healthy condition, and though Takao Brown is slightly easier, the market has been cleared of other Brown sorts, and prices for Whites of all descriptions are steady and firm. The Silk trade is not yet large, and none of the very best new fibre has yet arrived. Prices are high, and appear like keeping up, though rates will doubtless be affected one way or the other when positive statements are received in regard to the crop in Europe. The small business done in Waste Silk has been in old stock. The Tea trade is active and prices are firm, and shipments to date, without including what the *Oceanic* took this morning, amount to fourteen million pounds. Exchange is low and shifty.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO MARQUIS NABESHIMA.

ON Saturday the 9th instant, at 1.15 p.m., the Emperor, accompanied by Prince Iwakura and other notables, proceeded to the residence of Marquis Nabeshima, in Nagatacho. His Majesty was received by the Marquis at the outer gate of the enclosure and conducted to a salon in the upper storey of the new building, where he gave audience to the Marquis, the Marchioness, and several members of the family. The vernacular press says a feature of the furniture in this room was a colossal pair of celadon vases of Hizen porcelain—Hizen is the province which originally constituted the fief of the Nabeshima family—over eight feet in height, and that all the decorations and furniture of the room were of the most beautiful description. From ten minutes past two o'clock until half-past four, the Emperor witnessed a display of fencing. Some of the performances in this line are said to have been particularly interesting; for example, a contest between Messrs. Matsui and Hori, armed respectively with sword and carbine and sword-bayonet; a bout between several men and the celebrated female fencer Okuda Tamako, who, with a long halberd, proved herself an almost invincible adversary, and a tussle after the *Jufutsu* style between Tobori Takisaburo and Yashuyama, the latter being tumbled about like a ball by the renowned *Jufutsu-ka*. After the fencing, wrestling took place, and his Majesty is said to have been particularly pleased with the prowess of Nishi-no-umi, who threw Ogi-no-hama and his four pupils with as much ease as though these strong men had been only "rice-dumplings," and with the not less remarkable performance of the favourite champion Konishiki, who grappled with Yashuyama and five other athletes, one after another as fast as they could come on. At half-past seven dinner was served, and again we read descriptions of the magnificent gold lacquer of the dining-room ceiling and the gorgeousness of the furniture and apparatus. Those who had the honour of dining with the Emperor were their Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa (Taruhito), Komatsu, Fushimi, Kitashirakawa, Kanin and Kuni, their Excellencies Count Matsukata, Count Goto, Viscount Yenamoto, Viscount Takashima, Count Oki, Mr. Kono, and Viscount Kabayama, and a number of other high dignitaries. At half-past eight there was a performance of legerdemain, and this was succeeded by *Koshaku*. The Emperor showed his appreciation of the efforts made to entertain him by remaining until midnight.

A JAPANESE DEAKIN.

A VERNACULAR newspaper publishes a note intended to be highly complimentary to Mr. Ikeda, a well known Kyoto dealer in objects of art. It says that Mr. Ikeda is noted for his enterprise. Not content with having fine stores in Kyoto and Kobe, he follows wealthy foreign collectors even to Osaka, Yokohama, and Tokyo, as he did last year in the case of Prince George, and altogether displays so much industry and ability that he has been called a "Japanese Deakin," the latter gentlemen being noted among foreigners for enterprise and cleverness. The vernacular journal concludes its paragraph thus:—"We do not know whether Mr. Ikeda will be content merely to have suggested such a parallel, but we trust that he will push a step farther, and make his way to foreign markets, so that the people of the West may say, not 'Japan has her Deakin,' but 'Japan has her Ikeda.'"

It is pleasant to see that the merits of two enterprising men are thus acknowledged, though we have very grave doubts whether the juxtaposition of Mr. Deakin's name with that of Mr. Ikeda will be particularly flattering to the former, who, if report speaks truly, owes as much to his integrity and fair dealing as to his shrewdness and energy. However, since it is always the duty of magnanimous folks to believe in the steady progress of reformation, we shall not pursue this phase of the subject any

farther, so far as Mr. Ikeda is concerned. But the opportunity should not be suffered to pass without a word of warning to Japanese dealers in Kyoto, Kobe, Yokohama, and Tokyo who lay themselves out to exploit the unfortunate tourist. We can assure these men that they are doing permanent injury to Japanese commerce and Japanese reputation. They look for their chief source of profit in deliberate deception. Some of the best artistic talent of the nation is employed by them to counterfeit ancient works of art for the purpose of throwing dust in the eyes of long-pursed amateurs. Among these simulations many possess high merit for their own sakes, and if honestly offered as products of modern Japanese skill, they would have the effect not only of attracting custom but also of proving that the Japan of to-day is technically on as high a level as was the Japan of any era. But when they are falsely represented to be antique specimens, and when their vendors do not hesitate to declare that nothing of the kind is producible by modern experts, days of very evil reckoning are prepared for the country, on the one hand, and fatal injustice is done to Japan's art ability, on the other. Little by little the rascality and chicanery of these unscrupulous dealers will come to light, with the inevitable result that tourists who now spend large sums of money in Japan and take pleasure in the operation, will become distrustful and disgusted, and will either shrink altogether from buying, or treat every Japanese dealer as a man unworthy of the smallest credence. We do not pretend that Japanese are the only sinners. But it rests chiefly with them to mend their ways, and the sooner they set about doing so, the better for their own reputation and pockets.

THE CHINESE AND CHICAGO.

MR. DE GUERVILLE, who recently had the honour of delivering a lecture illustrated with spectroscopic views before the Emperor and Empress of Japan, seems to have met with considerable success in China also, though ill-health prevented him from carrying out to the full his programme in that country. Received with much cordiality by the Viceroy Li, he repeated his lecture before that statesman, who appeared to take a keen interest in the views of the cities of the West, and in all matters relating to the Great Republic. The Viceroy has always enjoyed the reputation of exceptional liberality, and certainly his conduct at the present juncture justifies this estimate. A man of less magnanimity would have little patience with a nation which treats his countrymen as the Americans now treat the Chinese, but despite these unpleasant incidents the Viceroy still retains his friendship for Americans, as is evidenced by the fact that the tutor of his children is an American, and that one of his most trusted employés belongs to the same nationality. It remains to be seen, however, whether even his magnanimity will be sufficient to overcome China's reluctance to contribute to the World's Fair at Chicago. Mr. de Guerville seems to have worked hard and with much tact in that cause. The Chinese Government has never taken any direct share in foreign exhibitions, so far as we know. But, on the other hand, it has not placed any obstacles in the way of private enterprise, and as a consequence China has always been fairly well represented on any important occasion. To-day, however, there has been so much talk of active reprisals on China's part—the banishment of all American citizens from her territories, and other extreme measures—that Chinese merchants are naturally doubtful whether, in contributing to the World's Fair, they may not be acting directly contrary to the wishes of their Government. Mr. de Guerville, we believe, has cleverly met this difficulty by suggesting that, under certain conditions, the Chinese Government should remit the export duties on goods going to Chicago. Such an act would of course prove conclusively that the Authorities are in favour of every exercise of private enterprise for the purpose of contriving an adequate representation of Chinese industries at the World's Fair. But it is plain that an

absolutely essential condition is the admission of Chinese merchants into the States during the progress of the Fair. Men cannot be expected to send their goods to Chicago unless they are at liberty to go there themselves and attend to the arrangement and sale of the articles. This could be very easily managed by means of passports granted, in the first instance, by the Chinese Government and endorsed by the American Representative in Peking. But unless the State Department in Washington consents to this or some corresponding arrangement, there can be no question of China's concurrence in the World's Fair. Mr. de Guerville's visit seems to have produced a very good impression, and if it be supplemented by a little practical liberality in Washington, there is no reason why China should not make a very good display at Chicago.

THE KOREAN QUESTION.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* thinks that the best thing to do with Korea is to place it under the acknowledged protection of the principal European and Asiatic Powers interested in its territorial integrity. After alluding to the report of the attempted blowing up of the Tai-won-Kun's palace, the Tokyo periodical calls the attention of the Koreans to the necessity of making up their minds, once for all, as to the course of their future policy. Left to itself, without any exterior support, the Korean Kingdom is sure to fall an easy prey to some aggressive Power. The *Kokumin* even believes with Mr. Oishi Masami that, Korea being already utterly disorganized, the question is not whether, but when, she is destined to fall. Her people are ignorant and idle. They pay about seven or eight hundred thousand *yen* in taxes, but not more than one-thirtieth part of that sum ever reaches the national Treasury. In a word, the people as well as the Government are on the verge of bankruptcy, the only persons benefited by the taxes being the fortunate officials who belong to the faction that happens to be influential at Court. Under such circumstances the *Kokumin* deems it idle to hope that the Koreans will be able to help themselves. Their independence is altogether out of the question. They ought to feel thankful if they are able to escape the calamity of utter bankruptcy. Their position does not warrant them in hoping for anything better than that, and to compass it, the best, perhaps the only, course is to place the peninsular kingdom publicly under protection as above stated. At present Korea exists by the assistance and support of three countries, Japan, Russia, and China. The *Kokumin* would like to have some other European Powers enter the arena, and take a share in watching over the safety of the little State. Protection need not involve coercion: the protecting Powers should allow the Kingdom full liberty in the management of its domestic affairs. The Koreans have no sentiments of high-spirited patriotism; they would be only too glad to place themselves under the protection of foreign Powers.

THE PRESERVATION OF TEMPLES.

THE *Fiji Shimpō*, in a leading article on the above subject, deplors the fact that so little is done to preserve such specimens of Japanese architecture and art as the ravages of fire and natural decay have left. Though Japan possesses natural scenery sufficiently attractive to tempt foreign travellers, it is to her art that she must look for the adequate representation of the distinctive genius of her people. The iconoclastic spirit which prevailed at the commencement of the *Meiji* era is answerable for the destruction by fire of some splendid monuments of antiquity, and the various anti-Buddhist influences of after years have all combined to reduce temples to the lamentable state of dilapidation in which so many of them are now found. Since the whole nation is interested in the preservation of temples, the expense, our contemporaries think, might well be borne by the State. But if this is not feasible, then the *Fiji* is in favour of resorting to the system of lotteries, which yielded such good results in the Tokugawa days. Though lotteries are now illegal, there is no reason why the law against them should

not be rescinded if it can be shown that they serve a good purpose. Lotteries were condemned because of the bad uses to which they were put in this country, but no one pretends that they do not serve good purposes when rightly controlled. Such is the *Fiji's* idea.

POLICY NOT PERSONS.

THERE are many candidates, said the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* before the recent conference, for the important portfolio of Home Affairs, Mr. Shirane standing first on the list, Viscount Nomura second, Mr. Kono third, Viscount Tani fourth, and Mr. Kuki fifth. A certain far-seeing man remarks, however, that it is not a time to discuss the question of who should succeed to the vacant office, but rather to determine the future policy of the Government. Unless a definite course of policy is settled in the first place, the new Minister may be found in disagreement with his colleagues of the Cabinet, and disputes may again arise. To talk of candidates at this juncture is like employing carpenters and bricklayers before a plan of the proposed edifice has been prepared by an architect. The pending conference of Camera statesmen is to determine, not the holders of portfolios, but the policy of the Government.

It is plain that Count Inouye was the arbiter of the situation when the conference met. He occupied the position held by Count Yamagata a few years ago, with this important difference, that whereas Count Yamagata consented to become Minister President, Count Inouye would not agree to accept any office at the present juncture except on conditions which the Cabinet found too irksome.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

It is satisfactory to see that despite the mishaps of the past eighteen months the Electric Light Company of Tokyo is in a fairly flourishing condition. The burning of the Diet buildings threatened at one time to seriously injure the credit of the Company, and just when the evil effects of the catastrophe were beginning to disappear, the great fire at Kanda inflicted a heavy loss by destroying the company's offices and plant in that quarter of the capital. Nevertheless the accounts submitted to the last general meeting of shareholders show that the net earnings of the company during 1891 were 25,837.824 yen, and that it was possible to declare a dividend of 5 per cent. on the capital of the Company. The following are the figures given by the *Shogyo Shimpō* :

	YEN.
Net Profit during the year	25,837.824
Carried over from last account	3,972.347
Total	29,810.171
Replacing of plant destroyed by fire	5,294.537
Reconstruction of Kanda Offices	2,174.843
Reserve for wear and tear (5 per cent. of profits)	1,120.000
Expenses of establishing company (10 per cent.)	2,240.000
Reward to Officers (10 per cent.)	2,240.000
Dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum	16,713.000
Balance carried to next account	27.891

Total..... 29,810.171
It appears from the above that the Company was able to utilize the shell of its brick buildings in Kanda after the conflagration. Still a considerable loss must have been entailed by the suspension of operations in that quarter of the city during several months. The electric light has found great favour in Japan. Its cleanliness and coolness are strong recommendations to the Japanese, and one is surprised to observe how largely it is used, even in the shops of the pettiest tradesmen.

THE EMPEROR AT COUNT GOTO'S.

THE *Nichi Nichi* tells a pretty little story of an incident that occurred during the Emperor's visit to Count Goto. Among the Count's most favourite belongings is an alcove ornament in the form of a badger drumming on its paunch. The animal's face is said to wear a particularly comical expression of silly satisfaction, which

attracted his Majesty's attention. It appears to be the custom, on the occasion of these Imperial visits to private houses, for the Emperor to carry away some trifling souvenir in token that he desires to recall a pleasant afternoon, and we need scarcely presume that the Sovereign's host counts himself particularly honoured by such an act. The Emperor in this instance desired to have the inane badger, and on the wish being intimated to Count Goto, the latter expressed the greatest satisfaction, but begged to be allowed to have a box prepared for the badger. "I don't want any box," said the Emperor, "but only this comical creature," and he thereupon transported the badger with his own hands to his carriage. Altogether the Emperor seems to have enjoyed himself thoroughly at Count Goto's, for it appears that, contrary to the reports originally published, and entirely contrary to the usual custom, his Majesty remained at the Count's until nearly midnight.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for May, showing the foreign trade of Japan for the month :—

	1891.	1892.
Exports.....	6,493,465.080	7,198,007.890
Imports.....	4,843,208.750	7,252,540.580
Total exports and imports	14,450,548.470	14,450,548.470
Excess of exports	1,650,256.330	1,650,256.330
Exports.....	166,537.359	166,537.359
Imports.....	294,374.173	294,374.173
Miscellaneous.....	12,092.614	12,092.614

Total..... 473,004.145
TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	2,851,954.990	847,337.850	3,699,292.840
Great Britain	532,151.850	1,917,410.740	2,449,562.590
France	1,325,390.700	491,703.510	1,817,094.210
Hongkong	1,400,414.130	455,080.990	1,855,495.120
China	359,841.840	1,038,140.300	1,397,982.140
British India	104,797.710	1,181,181.800	1,285,979.510
Germany	83,210.800	478,787.040	561,997.840
Korea	134,880.550	280,834.980	415,715.530
Russia	77,745.040	158,470.070	236,215.110
Belgium	3,344.780	19,009.810	22,354.590
Australia	60,608.690	55,139.780	115,748.470
Italy	70,376.650	4,534.490	74,911.140
Canada & other British	66,247.660	1,703.230	67,950.890
Switzerland	4,040.000	58,444.200	62,484.200
Philippine Islands	3,800.790	30,309.040	34,109.830
Holland	3,770.500	1,815.710	5,586.210
Austria	4,741.700	679.300	5,421.000
Spain	—	2,871.060	2,871.060
Peru	—	1,082.710	1,082.710
Sweden & Norway	—	787.360	787.360
Turkey	526.090	97.000	623.090
Hawaii	529.750	—	529.750
Portugal	—	380.660	380.660
Denmark	—	12.000	12.000
Other Countries	97,392.160	159,812.310	257,204.470

Total..... 7,650,697.360 7,252,540.580 14,903,237.940

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	4,480,487.600	3,381,144.900	7,861,632.500
Osaka	2,577,403.300	3,111,584.410	5,688,987.710
Kobe	2,191,510.310	506,708.510	2,698,218.820
Nagasaki	260,904.430	900,070.210	1,160,974.640
Hakodate	60,380.730	19,080	60,399.810
Niigata	4,350.260	217.50	4,567.760
Shimonoseki	60,707.600	75,918.180	136,625.780
Hokkaido	107,353.090	107,353.090	214,706.180
Hakata	193.700	14,916.180	15,110.880
Karatsu	9,281.000	—	9,281.000
Kochinotsu	74,814.000	—	74,814.000
Idzumi	4,273.110	7,512.270	11,785.380
Shikimi	2,465.470	1,581.380	4,046.850
Saigai	1,400.330	2,687.810	4,088.140
Otaru	8,910.000	—	8,910.000

Specie and Bullion { Exports..... 1,508,384.280
{ Imports..... 7,321,486.110

Total..... 28,291,874.980

Excess of exports..... 186,002.180

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

	Exports	Imports
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
By Japanese Merchants	1,059,143.940	1,720,767.110
Imported by Government	—	172,422.210

THE "KWANTO-KAI."

JAPANESE political parties are like clouds in a windy sky: perpetual disintegration and regrouping are their normal condition. Just when the Radicals seemed to be developing something like strong cohesion, just when some leaven of congruity appeared to be permeating their motley mass, a big section breaks away under the leadership of Mr. Oi Kentaro and other vehement politicians, and pitches an opposing camp on its own account. At first it was imagined that this *Kwantō* coterie might be contented to play a sectional part, working along lines

of its own choosing in minor matters, but throwing in its strength with the bulk of the Party in all vital crises. We entertained no such anticipation ourselves, having been always persuaded that Mr. Oi Kentaro's ambition was about as large as that disposition is made, and that his purpose was simply to become a dictator himself. Our expectation is now fulfilled, for the leaders of the *Kwantō-Kai* have resolved to organize a big political party called the *Toyo Jiyu-to*, or Eastern Radicals, in which shall be included men from all parts of the empire who share the views of the *Kwantō-Kai's* leaders. We do not know precisely what those views may be, but it will probably be very near the truth to say that Mr. Oi Kentaro seeks to attract to his standard all men of radical persuasion who think that things are moving too slowly, and who advocate forcing the Government's hand by manoeuvres more emphatic than mere votes in the Diet. Already a number of politicians in Ibaraki and Tochigi Prefectures have signified their adhesion to the new programme, and it has been decided to hold the first general meeting of the *Toyo Jiyu-to* next September in Tochigi, and to have the inaugural ceremony of the party in Tokyo the following month. From one point of view it is well that this ring of extremists should be thrown off by the Radical body. The nucleus that remains may perhaps fall into a steadier pace, and since it is scarcely possible that two sections of a party can fight against each other yet work in effective union against a common foe, the Government may enjoy comparative peace while its opponents squabble. But, on the other hand, these incidents tend to postpone still farther the possibility of Government by party. With the Opposition split up into the *Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Toyo Jiyu-to*, while a fourth party, the *Kokumin Kyo-kai*, stands by not pledged to support anyone in particular, it is plain that the country does not yet possess a political association competent to assume the responsibilities of administration.

JAPANESE SILK.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes as follows on the subject of silk:—"Among our staples of export silk receives official protection and inspection, and the consequence is that sericulturists have made great efforts in the direction of improvement. The results are striking. In 1886 the export amounted to only 19,544,637 yen, but in 1888 it rose to 28,345,646 yen, being an increase of nearly ten million yen within 3 years. Last year, the quantity exported was 95,000 bales, the money value of which amounted to 40 million yen approximately. On the other hand, the Government has not yet formed any definite policy with regard to the protection of silk manufactures, and the persons engaged in that industry have consequently shown so little energy that small progress has been made since the Restoration. In 1867 the export of silk piece-goods amounted to only 512 yen; in 1868 it fell to 6 yen, and until 1878 it did not exceed 2,200 yen annually. In 1886 for the first time some signs of real activity became apparent, the export then reaching to 61,235 yen, and since that time the figures have been as follow :—

1886	61,235 yen
1887	135,224 yen
1888	258,033 yen
1889	623,450 yen
1890	1,107,881 yen
1891	1,763,715 yen

Thus, without protection and despite comparative want of enterprise, the industry has grown to considerable dimensions. During March and April of the present year, the foreign merchants were unable to fill up their orders owing to scarcity of supplies, and the consequence was that 100 *me* ($\frac{3}{8}$ lb.) of the goods, a quantity which under ordinary circumstances would be purchasable at about 5.50 yen, rose to 6.50 yen and upwards. Still the demand could not be satisfied, and commissions had to be left unexecuted. In June the price fell again, and the export is once more proceeding briskly. The quantity sent abroad from January to May, a period of 5 months, was over 1,300,000 yen.

Original from

Habutay is the principal article of export, and the United States are Japan's best customer, despite the customs impost of 50 per cent. England and France have also begun since last year to take considerable quantities, and as there are no high import duties in their case, there ought to be a good market for the article if the manufacturing processes be improved. Australia, too, will probably become a customer. What steps should be taken hereafter with regard to this industry in order to make it a strong source of national wealth?"

CHRIST CHURCH BAZAAR.

MRS. IRWINE, having now made up the accounts of the Bazaar held on June 29th, desires to express her sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the success of her undertaking, and to inform them that the gross receipts amounted to \$1,337.40, and the expenses to \$82.64, leaving a balance of \$1,254.76, which has been handed to John Rickett, Esq., Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of Christ Church, from whom she has received a very kind reply, saying that the much-needed improvements will be commenced at once. Mrs. Irwine's especial thanks are due to the Ladies of the Congregation for their work at the Parsonage and at home during the past six months, and she further gratefully acknowledges gifts of working-materials, paintings, and finished pieces of work from them and from other friends. Her thanks are also accorded to the Ladies who presided with so much patience, energy, and skill at the Stalls, and to those who assisted them; to Admiral the Hon. Sir E. R. Freemantle, K.C.B., C.M.G., Captain McQuhae, R.N., and the Officers of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, for the use of their excellent Band; to the Yokohama United Club and to the Cricket Club for the loan of a tent and other matters; to Messrs. Arthur & Bond for the loan of some fine screens and wall-pictures; to the Club Hotel for the use of crockery and glass; to Arthur Brent, Esq., for "Aunt Sally," and to the men of H.M.S. *Pallas* for their untiring exertions at the game. Mrs. Irwine cordially thanks the *Japan Herald*, *Gazette*, *Mail*, and *Advertiser* for kind reductions in their rates for advertising and printing, the Directors of the Public Hall for their obliging and moderate terms, Mr. Louis Boehler for some beautiful flowers, and Messrs. Jno. W. Hall and Eyton and Pratt for generous gifts of refreshments. For many other evidences of good will and kindly feeling in connection with the Bazaar, too numerous to specify, Mrs. Irwine can only repeat her most grateful thanks.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

We observe that the second general meeting of the Japan Society was fixed for Thursday afternoon, 23rd June, in the Hall of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, and that the first annual dinner was to take place the same evening in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, the President, H.E. Viscount Kawase in the Chair. It was also announced that the third meeting of the first session was to be held in the Hall of the Society of Arts on June 15th, Professor W. Anderson in the Chair, when Mrs. Ernest Hart was to read a paper on "Some Japanese Industrial Art Workers." From the returns issued on the 1st of June, it appears that the membership of the Society had risen to 207, of whom 7 were honorary members.

THE ELECTIONS.

REUTER'S telegrams about the elections in Great Britain are evidently based on the former representation of the constituencies referred to. Thus, when he says, for example, that the Tories have gained 13, the Unionists 6, and the Liberals 43, he doubtless means that thirteen seats and six seats formerly held by Liberals have been captured by Tories and Unionists respectively, while 43 seats formerly held by Unionists and Tories have been captured by Liberals. According to this calculation, the figures hitherto telegraphed give the Liberals a net gain not sufficient to constitute a working majority. Mr. Gladstone's followers must progress at a much greater pace if they are to return to power. In

a minority of 76 at the close of the session, they have to win 38 seats in order to tie with their opponents; while to have a majority of 30 they must win 53 seats. It is questionable whether Mr. Gladstone would undertake to form a Cabinet with a majority of only 30, yet the returns thus far published do not suggest that he can reasonably hope for even so inconclusive a following as that.

The telegrams about the Elections in England become more perplexing than ever. Reuter's message, dated the 11th instant, said that the Liberals had gained 50, and that the press anticipated a small but scarcely a working majority for Mr. Gladstone. One naturally assumes that when a gain of 50 is spoken of, a net gain is meant, especially since a net gain of 50 seats by the Gladstonians would signify a majority of 24 in the House of Commons, assuming that all the Irish Liberal members enrolled themselves solidly under the Old Man's flag. But at this stage comes another telegram, dated the 12th inst., which tells us that the net Liberal gain is only 25. There is a difficulty, however, about this last message; namely, that it represents the Liberals as being in a worse condition than they were on the 10th instant. The four latest telegrams are as follow:—

London, July 9th.

The election returns show that the Tories have gained 13, the Unionists 6, and the Liberals 43.

London, July 10th.

The Tories have gained thirteen, Unionists seven, and Liberals forty-eight.

London, July 11th.

The election returns show that the Liberals have gained 50, and that the position of the Tories and Unionists is unchanged. The Press anticipate that Mr. Gladstone will obtain a small, though scarcely a working majority, including Irishmen and labour members, the allegiance of some of whom is doubtful.

London, July 12th.

The election returns show the Tory gain to be fourteen, the Unionist gain seven, and the Liberal gain forty-six.

Which of these are we to accept as correct? On the 10th we are told that the Gladstonians had a net gain of 28; on the 11th, a gain of 50; and on the 12th, a net gain of 25. It will be observed, however, that the telegram of the 11th speaks of the Tory and Unionist position as "unchanged;" in other words, they had gained no more seats than the 20 which stood to their credit on the 10th. Making that hypothesis, the telegrams since the 9th will be interpreted thus:—

Net gain of Gladstonians on the 9th	24
Net gain of Gladstonians on the 10th	28
Net gain of Gladstonians on the 11th	30
Net gain of Gladstonians on the 12th	25

The last telegram thus becomes the most puzzling, since it does not tally with any of the others. We strongly suspect that some mistake has been made in transmitting the numbers, and as there can obviously be no mistake about the Tory and Unionist returns, the doubt attaches to the Liberal number. If it were 56 instead of 46, the net Gladstonian gain would be 35, and the telegrams would all read in regular and logical sequence.

A net gain of 35 would not yet put the Gladstonians in a majority. They were 76 to the bad when Parliament was dissolved, so that they must win 38 seats from their opponents before they begin to count a majority. And that, too, is on the hypothesis that all the Irish Nationalists vote with them. The Nationalists in the old House were made up of 55 McCarthyites and 31 Redmondites. Will these two factions, fighting now desperately at the polls, join hands with Mr. Gladstone in the new House? We greatly doubt it. Everything seems to point to the probability that the Liberals will find themselves in a majority altogether too small and precarious to attempt any drastic measure of Home Rule.

A NEW LIGHT ON BUDDHISM.

WE are curious to see what the great disciples of Buddhism will say by way of reply to Mr.

G. H. Pember who, in a recently published work, undertakes to demonstrate that the creed of Shaka is nothing more or less than the creed of the Devil. This bold author sets out by analysing Theosophy. Here is what he asserts about it, in brief compass:—"The evidence that fallen angels have conversed with man, and 'told him secrets of the world unknown,' is ample enough. Whence arose the legend of the great Titan, who, in defiance of Zeus, expounded the civilizing arts to men, taught them medicine, astronomy, and divination, and stole fire for them from heaven? Or, again, is there no basis for the catalogue, contained in the mysterious book of Enoch, of arts which the Nephilim are said to have introduced among men; no reflection of truth in the appeal of Michael and his companions when they say: 'See what Azrael has done; how he has taught all wickedness on earth, and has revealed the secrets of the world which were prepared in the heavens?' If, then, the ancient philosopher drew his earliest information from such a source, and since Theosophy claims to have inherited all the occult sciences of the Ancient Mysteries, we do not deny their facts, but ascribe their powers to the supernatural enemies of Jehovah, whose personality they indeed deny, degrading the Son at the same time to the level of an ordinary Mahatma. Theosophy as a system is subversive of all our hopes, a cold, inexorable fatalism, which knows no God of Mercy, no Son of His love; but demands that every sin and stain be burnt out of us by ages of pain and trouble, by a succession of hundreds of earth-lives, many of them spent in the most extreme misery. There is little doubt that the culmination of the Mysteries was the worship of Satan himself; and, when the feelings of reverence and godliness still retained by the human race have been sufficiently submerged by the flood of demon influence which is now being poured upon us from the air, the world will be invited to join the league to reject God and His Anointed, and to worship Anti-christ and that old serpent called the Devil and Satan, who will give him his power."

From Theosophy Mr. Pember passes to Buddhism, the doctrines of which he regards as esoterically identical with those of Theosophy. "In both systems he sees Satan's plan of salvation, communicated probably by the Nephilim, and preserved in the esoteric teachings of the Rishis, the Brahmins, and the Buddhists of the East, and in the Mysteries of the West. And the plan is that, without God or Saviour, men must wear away their own sins, and, as soon as they have done so, will become Gods."

THE SOUL AFFAIR.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Fiji Shimpō*, writing from Sōul, gives some particulars of the recent incident at the house of the Tai-won-kun. At about 9.30 p.m. on June 15th, he writes, a loud explosion was heard in the direction of the Tai-won-kun's residence, and several officials proceeded thither to make inquiries, but being assured by the gate-porter that nothing had happened, they withdrew. Subsequently, however, it transpired that the Prince had given a dinner that evening to several friends, and all the household partook freely of wine. The Tai-won-kun himself, being somewhat fatigued, went to bed at a little after nine, and it is presumed that during the confusion of the guests' departure some one carried in the powder which subsequently exploded. Shortly after the Prince had retired a loud noise was heard in or near his room, and the servants, rushing thither, found that a part of the building had been completely wrecked. Unable at first to see the Prince, they supposed that he had been killed, but presently he emerged unhurt from the ruins, and gave orders that the rest of the house should be searched. Examination revealed that boxes containing about 13 or 14 lbs. of gunpowder each had been placed in the heating flues under the Prince's bed-room, study, and reception-chamber. These rooms practically constitute the Prince's regular dwelling-place, so it is plain that by exploding the three boxes simultaneously, the plotters expected to kill

the Tai-won-kun without fail. The boxes under the bed-room and reception-room did actually explode, but that under the study failed, the fuse having been damped by rain which was falling heavily. The correspondent goes on to say that the Prince at once reported the particulars to the King, but that neither the latter nor the Queen-Dowager took any notice or sent any message of condolence. Various conjectures are said to be current, some laying the attempt to the charge of the Ming Family, whose representatives are now in power, and others being wild enough to accuse the Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuan. The Ming Family, on their side, allege that the thing was a plot designed to injure their reputation. At all events the facts were kept secret for nine days. It was only on the 24th of June that information reached the Chinese Legation, and the Japanese Minister was informed two days later.

FISHING IN JAPAN.

MORE than one angler in Yokohama has been planning an outing which would include a few days' fishing at Sapporo, since the greater part of the journey can be made by rail, but whatever the fishing there might have been like years ago, it is certain now that it is entirely spoiled—for the time at least. Not beyond recovery, though, for the cause is one that can easily be removed; and the day may come when the Authorities will have their eyes opened to the fact that tons of the people's food are being annually destroyed, because certain mill-owners are permitted to foul the river with the refuse from their works, and thus kill the fish. There is probably no more acrid, pungent, and malodorous substance in the world after it has undergone decomposition than the outer skin of the flax plant, which has to be removed to obtain the fibre of commerce, and it is this matter, it appears, that is turned into the river at Sapporo, to the utter destruction of the fish below the works. Mines, mills, and chemical works in England used, in certain places years ago, to destroy all the fish, but this has been put a stop to, and those responsible are now made to carry off the poisonous matter by conduits. In one case, where a beautiful trout stream was utterly depleted by reason of the quantity of mundic turned into it from a mine, the owners were foolish enough to contest the case, but the result was that they had to cut an aqueduct to the sea—some ten miles. This little river, which was full of trout before the mines were opened—expert fly-fishers could always get two or three dozen before breakfast—had not a living thing in it a year after the mundic came down, but rapidly recovered its former condition after being re-stocked with a few fish from another stream; and many similar instances are on record. It would be a very simple matter to divert the mill poison at Sapporo, but it is hardly likely anything will be done until the Authorities interfere. A correspondent, writing from Sapporo, who being a past master with rod and reel and an enthusiastic follower of the gentle craft, dilates in strong terms upon the condition of the river now, compared with what he has known it in years gone by, says:—"Only nine salmon have we taken (two rods); and well I remember the day when fifteen fine fish fell to me, each of which gave from 20 to 40 minutes' hard and exciting work to land." It would almost seem that the Authorities are not aware of the damage being done, because our correspondent says:—"At one point you see the Government spending money on the up-keep of a breeding station, while lower down you see a flax-mill turning out its filthy poison and upsetting the Government's good intentions." The value of this river, from an angler's view, may be gathered from the fact that, beside salmon, it contains a large species of trout. The writer says:—"A big river trout, called 'Ito,' remains, and every now and then causes you to think you have a salmon. I caught one weighing 10 lb., and G. when he was here got one of 16 lb. Tradition says that some of these fish run six and even nine feet long, but these big fellows are always in the other river." Our correspondent, however, like all true disciples of Old Izaak, is something of

a philosopher, for though evidently much disappointed with the fishing, he is moved to admiration by his immediate surroundings, and says:—"The place and the climate are certainly lovely, and to see oaks and elms, daisies and meadows, and orchards of apples and pears, rather than paddy fields and clumps of bamboo, makes up for some of our disappointments." Referring to the river scenery, he says:—"The contemplation of the big rocks, deep pools, and bounding rapids of the river, backed up by grassy glades, with forest-covered mountains for a background, made me wish to become their owner." The fishing of the future in these parts, I think, will have to be done at some of the rivers round Volcano Bay, or between Mororan and Tomakomai. But then it will only be fishing—there will be no meadows or orchards—and on many a rainy day one will have to be shut up on the mats, peeping out between the *amado* and praying for fine weather."

* * *

Viewing the rivers and lakes in Japan for the first time a new comer naturally jumps to the conclusion that the country is a fisherman's paradise. Hundreds of small streams, which in the British Isles would contain a goodly number of trout, here breed nothing but sticklebacks and *dojo*, while in the big rivers of Central and Southern Japan only two species, generally speaking, of salmonidae are found—the *ai* and the *yama-me*, neither of which are often taken with English flies. These fish are caught by Japanese with what may be termed a fly—it is used in a similar manner to an artificial fly, but is really an imitation of the *ari* (ant). These are made at Kyoto, and are tied on white horse hair, which in this climate becomes rotten very quickly, and even when fresh is a ticklish means of landing a fish that weighs more than a few ounces. Then the hooks are made with soft iron without barb, and, if the horse-hair stands, the hook often breaks or the fish slips off while being lifted out of the stream. North of Tokyo, however, there are plenty of the salmon family in both rivers and lakes, but they are generally not sporting fish. There are bridges over the upper Tonegawa, and rivers running into it, where one may stand and see dozens of fine salmon in the pools below; and may tickle their noses with a fly or a spoon without exciting the smallest desire on the part of the fish to become the occupant of the creel. There is the Nakagawa at Mito, where with nets the fishermen annually take hundreds of splendid salmon, but the angler may whip the water all day, trying every fly in his book, without getting a rise, nor can these fish be tempted with either of the many forms of spinning bait now in vogue. The lake at Shimo-no-Suwa contains a large number of silver char marked with rows of brilliant scarlet spots—a strong, handsome, game-looking fish—but no one has ever been known to take one with the fly, and spinning is a dead failure on account of the number of weeds growing in the shallow parts as well as of loose ones floating in the deep water. It is from this lake that the Tenri-gawa flows. In the upper part of this river there are plenty of *sabi-ai*, a beautiful fish, five or six times bigger than its congener of the mountain streams, that rises freely to the Kyoto *ari mushi* above referred to, but will not look at the smallest specimen of black or red palmer, coachman, black gnat, or several other English flies tried on the stream. The Kyoto hook and horse-hair are entirely inadequate for this strong fish, which fights bravely. Spinning in the lakes is dull work, and the quantity of fish killed is generally small compared with the time. Then the great depth of water—you must fish deep—necessitates a lot of lead, which dulls the touch, and by the time the fish is wound up to the surface he is nearly drowned and has very little fight left in him, he is ever so big. The best catch ever made at Chusenji was that by Colonel Hooper, a gentleman on his way home from India, who captured 33 salmon and *masu* in three days, the total weight of which was considerably over 100 lb. Colonel Hooper used nothing but the *dojo*,

spinning, and fished deep and fine. Fish are mostly taken at Chusenji now with a spinner—a combination of feathers and bright metal—which is a modification of an American bait called the "Columbian." Two fish were taken one day this year at Chusenji by the same rod which weighed 15 lb. each. There are thousands of fine fish in Hakone Lake, but no one has yet found a method of hooking them,—flies, spoons, minnows, *dojo*, and other lures all failing to attract. A salmon weighing 19½ lb. was taken there a few weeks ago with a night line, but the theory of the Hakone men is that the big fish, preying upon the thousands of young trout and salmon fry put into the lake, are too well fed to take any notice of artificial baits. There can be little doubt that climate has something to do with the lack of sporting qualities in the fish of Central Japan, and as very little is known of the rivers and lakes of the northern part of the main island, it may yet turn out that good fly fishing is to be found in that region. That the fish are there is certain—both salmon and trout, the latter running very large. But few men can often get away from business for several days together, whereas if a creel of trout could be captured by taking a trip of a couple of hours by rail, there are many men who, though they may not have wetted a line for years, have not forgotten the art of casting, and would gladly leave the haunts of business for a quiet day by a river where the speckled beauties were plentiful. There are good streams within a couple of hours of Yokohama, but the fish are not. Could they not be put there?

* * *

The above question is easily answered. Of all the contrivances of man, there is perhaps nothing so simple as a fish hatchery. A strong stand of timber, a few shallow boxes of rough wood, and two or three piculs of washed sand, gravel, and pebbles, with a bamboo pipe to carry running water, are all that is necessary to hatch out thousands of salmon or trout ova, or the eggs of any other fish. It would be of little use stocking a river with Japanese varieties, seeing that the sporting proclivities of the fish of the country are almost entirely dormant, but spawn properly prepared can be obtained from abroad and at small cost. One of the best fish for the purpose is the rainbow trout of America, a breed that has been turned into many fresh localities and always succeeded well. This fish runs large, rises freely, and fights desperately when hooked—in fact it is acknowledged to be one of the gamest of the game fishes of American waters. A few men formed into a club could carry out a scheme of fish-breeding to stock a river at very little trouble and expense, but it would doubtless be urged that as soon as the Japanese discovered the existence of fine fish in a river they would be captured in nets. There is a river, however, within two hours of Yokohama that could not be netted for a good many miles of its course, even now, and the best and deepest pools could soon be rendered proof against nets of any description, the ordinary casting net of the Japanese being absolutely useless. They might lime the river, but nothing short of a ton to every hundred yards would be effectual, and that game would not be worth the candle. If Japanese were anglers in the same sense that foreigners are, a strong society might be formed and fishing rights be obtained and protected, but the Yokohama Fish-breeding and Angling Association can only now be regarded as an institution of the far-off future.

KYOTO.

THE merchants and manufacturers of Kyoto are evidently resolved to make a resolute effort for celebrating the eleventh centenary of the erection of their city into the capital of Japan. It was in 794 that the Emperor Kwammu chose Uda, a suburb of Kyoto, as the site for his new palace, calling the city Heian-jo, a name that never came into general use. The last Japanese Industrial Exhibition was held in 1890, and as these exhibitions are supposed to be organized once every four years,

1894, or the eleventh centenary of Kyoto's becoming the capital, will be the regular time for the next. The Kyoto folks think that, under the circumstances, the Exhibition should be held in their city, and a number of the merchants and manufacturers have formed themselves into an association called the *Kyoto Shoko-domei-kai*, for the purpose of pushing three objects, first the celebration of the centenary on a fitting scale; secondly, the holding of the Industrial Exhibition in the city, and thirdly, the building of a railway from Kyoto to Maizuru, which latter place is said to possess the best harbour on the west coast of Japan, and was chosen as the site of a new naval depot two years ago. The *Shoko-domei-kai* has organized itself after the usual fashion, with committees and so forth, and with all the necessary rules as to meetings, expenses, &c. Its members are manifestly in earnest, but we doubt whether it will be possible, or whether indeed it would be advisable, to hold an industrial exhibition in 1894, the year after the World's Fair at Chicago.

THE EFFECTS OF THE OPENING OF THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY ON CHINA AND JAPAN.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Yiji Shimpu*, a resident of Vladivostok, in a letter on the above subject, contends that neither China nor Japan will benefit commercially by the opening of the new route to Europe, the reason being that no time will be saved by sending goods by this line. The following are the figures given by this correspondent:—The distance from Vladivostok to St. Petersburg is 6,500 miles, and the distance from Vancouver to Montreal, 3,050 miles, which occupies 7 days and 7 nights. Allowing for the slow rate at which Russian trains travel and the bad state of some parts of the track, the journey from Vladivostok to St. Petersburg will take 20 days. Further, allowing 3 days for travelling from Tokyo to Vladivostok and 4 days for the journey from St. Petersburg to London, the whole trip, even supposing there are no delays, would occupy 27 days. But the ships now running between Japan and Canada can do their 500 miles a day and the Russian railway is not likely to exceed 400 miles; hence it is not to be anticipated that traffic will be diverted from the Canadian route by the opening of the Siberian line. Moreover, in another few years the Nicaraguan canal will be open, which will render Eastern ships still more independent of the Siberian route. It has also to be borne in mind that under the pressure of competition there is every prospect of the voyage to Europe, via the Suez Canal, being shortened by 10 (ten) days or even more. In that case the choice will be between the two sea routes. The risk of delay and damage to goods on the Russian lines has also to be taken into consideration. According to the *Yiji's* correspondent, the benefits to be derived from the new line will be such as Russia only will feel. It will enable her to transport men and arms to the East with a rapidity hitherto unattained. This and not the development of foreign commerce is, according to this writer, Russia's chief object in pushing on the completion of the line.

TRAVELS IN CHINA.

We take this from the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—

M. Paul Boell, correspondent in China of *Le Temps*, has just completed a notable journey. He started last year from Shanghai for Chungking, and travelled from thence, alone except for his Chinese servant, through Szechuen and Kweichow to Kweiyang. From Kweiyang he proceeded to Yunnan, and from Yunnan to Minghao, ultimately reaching Mengtsu, whence he entered Tonkin and travelled south to Haiphong, at which point his journey terminated. M. Boell, who travelled in Chinese costume, was never molested during the whole course of his travels, but found the populace in Szechuen very strongly anti-foreign and much excited over the demonstrations that had been got up against the missionaries in the cities along the Yangtze. In Kweichow and Yunnan he found the peasantry very friendly and well disposed, and the mandarins in the latter province especially treated him with great courtesy and consideration. He declares Szechuen to be a great and rich province with which a vast trade might be developed, the people being more cultivated and better off than those of most of the other provinces. Yunnan M. Boell considers to be extraordinarily fruitful in minerals. The copper mines are simply wonderful, fabulously rich

and most easily worked. There are also productive coal mines and gold, silver, and tin mines. In the hands of a Western Power, Yunnan would soon be a great centre of activity and population instead of, as at present, having great stretches of country untitled and unpopulated. When on his way up the Yangtze last year to Chungking, M. Boell stopped for a short time at Hankow and visited the Viceroy's (Chang Chih-tung's) ironworks at Hanyang, which he says were then far advanced towards completion. The iron ore with which the works will be supplied comes from a mines about thirty miles distant now being connected with Hanyang by a light railway. M. Boell is of opinion that the ore is good, and ought to make good railway iron. He also visited the extensive Cotton Spinning Mills established by the Viceroy at Wuchang. After arrival at Haiphong the traveller made a tour through Tonkin and Annam, visiting Hue, which he describes as curious and interesting but squalid for even an Oriental capital, all the city outside the royal and official precincts being very mean and poverty-stricken. He is very favourably impressed with the prospects of Tonkin, which only wants capital to develop it into a highly prosperous country. He paid a visit to the Hongay Mines and was much astonished and pleased with what he saw there. The vastness of the coal deposits and the extensive works undertaken show with what faith and enterprise the mines are being exploited. M. Boell, who arrived here on the 22nd inst. from Haiphong, will after a short stay here and in Canton, go north to again visit Peking.

ENTERTAINMENT.

THE "Snowflake Minstrel" troupe of H.M.S. *Pallas* provided a very diverting entertainment at the Public Hall, Bluff, on Monday evening, which seemed greatly to delight the large audience which assembled. The whole affair went with a nautical swing from start to finish, but the second half of the programme was slightly more popular than the preceding, though the character song: "I'm not its father," might with advantage have been left out or substituted by another,—what suits a smoking concert to a nicely may not always prove acceptable at a public gathering where ladies constitute a portion of the assembly. Lieut. Allenby received a long and enthusiastic recall for his character song "A coster," and in response he gave the plaintive jingle, which has for chorus the touching words:—

Teacher, teacher,
Why am I so 'appy, 'appy, 'appy,
In my Sunday school?

The pathetic reference to the weekly and yearly putting by of "dollars and tin" for the conversion of the "little heathen," somehow or other striking a responsive chord in the breasts of most of those present—if one might venture to judge by the amount of applause which greeted the line. The pharmaceutical stump speech of A. Shaw was rather funny too, but the "patter" of the corner men needed a little more galvanizing into modern life. Programme:—

1ST PART.
OPENING CHORUS.
Coloured Girl..... W. Lloyd.
When you and I were Young, Maggie..... E. Wall.
The Brook Side..... J. Merritt.
The Fisherman and his Child..... H. Spencely.
Sentimental Bonnie o'er the Ocean..... E. Larcome.
Some Day I'll wander back again..... H. Stevens.
When I took our Nance to Church..... D. Murphy.
Funny Little Nigger..... A. Shaw.
2ND PART.
Stump Speech..... A. Shaw.
Character Song—A Coster..... Lieutenant Allenby, R.N.
Character Song—'I'm not its Father..... H. Spencely.
Step Dance..... W. Lloyd.
Powder Monkey Jim..... E. Wall.
Mr. G. H. Hawkins, R.N., Master of Ceremonies.
God Save the Queen.

GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

THE Graduation Ceremony took place at the Imperial University on Sunday, the 10th instant at 9 a.m. We are unable to say why Sunday should have been chosen for such a purpose, for although no character of sacredness attaches, or can be expected to attach, to the day in Japanese eyes, it is nevertheless the recognised holiday at all educational institutions, and one is puzzled to understand why the precedent should be set of holding the graduation ceremony on a day of rest. However, there were doubtless strong reasons for this unusual departure. His Imperial Highness the Prince Imperial was present, but the number of visitors was not large, probably owing to the great heat. Short addresses were delivered by the President of the University and the Minister of State for Education, and one of the graduates replied with cor-

responding briefness. The following list shows the number of graduates in each College; the names we publish elsewhere:—

COLLEGE OF LAW.
General Law and Jurisprudence—1st Department 26; 2nd Department 25; 3rd Department 10. Total, 61.
Political Science 9.
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.
Medicine 31, and Pharmacy 2. Total, 33.
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.
Civil Engineering, 7; Mechanical Engineering, 1; Naval Architecture, 1; Naval Engineering, 1; Electrical Engineering, 4; Architecture, 5; Applied Chemistry, 1; Mining and Metallurgy, 5. Total, 25.
COLLEGE OF LITERATURE.
Philosophy, 2; Japanese Language and Literature, 1; History, 1. Total, 4.
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.
Mathematics, 1; Astronomy, 1; Physics, 2; Chemistry, 1; Zoology, 1; Botany, 1; Geology, 1. Total, 9.
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.
Agriculture, 23; Forestry, 26; Veterinary Medicine, 11. Total, 60.
Grand Total, 201.

OSAKA.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"There is very little stirring at present in this city, most of the foreigners having left for the cool retreats in the hills. Those remaining find it exceedingly warm. Sequah, the great healer, has appeared in the streets, and seems to attract as much attention here as in Kobe. A kind of revival has been organised by some religious body, and a procession is met in the highways bearing red-cross lanterns, and frequent halts are made at convenient places for singing and preaching. The foreigners remaining in the Settlement on the 4th of July, who were interested in the observation of that day, organized a picnic to the sea side (Suma), and spent a very pleasant day there. The Congregational Annual Meeting is now in session at Kobe, and the annual meeting of the Methodists will open on the 20th instant. Bishop Key is expected on the next Canadian steamer, which may perhaps arrive at Yokohama before these notes reach the Mail.

TEA IN KOBE.

SINCE the commencement of the tea season until the beginning of June, says the *Choya Shimbun*, the inferior grades of tea, sent from Shikoku and Kiushiu to Kobe found no purchasers, and even the best kind fell to the low figure of 9 yen per picul. But from the middle of June a gradual rise of price took place. Tea for which only 9 yen could be obtained at the end of May, fetched over 12 yen in June, and the best grades of Yamato and Yamashiro, which were quoted last year at about 17 yen, now sell for 23 yen per picul. Again, Chikugo leaf which, at the end of May, could be had for 11.50 to 12 yen per picul, has risen to 14 or 14.50 yen. In fact, the state of the tea market this year is contrary to all expectation. Such prices have not been seen for 13 years. Moreover, a report dated the 1st instant says that the supply at Kobe does not exceed 4,000 catties, and that, in view of this small quantity, there is no reason to expect a fall in price.

THE DERBY.

OUR telegram giving the result of the Derby stated that the odds against Sir Hugo, the winner, were 40 to 1. This of course would be at the post. The following list shows that the Duke of Bradford's colt was at 50 to 1 in town on the morning of the race:—

6 to 4 agst. La Fliche (t & o)	30 to 1 agst. St. Angelo (t & o)
8 to 1 — Bonavista (t & o)	35 to 1 — Persimmon (t & o)
10 to 1 — Ruell's	50 to 1 — Hatfield (t)
100 to 1 — St. Damien (t & o)	50 to 1 — Sir Hugo (t)
12 to 1 — Thessalon (t & o)	60 to 1 — Gallopas (t & o)
150 to 1 — Lanthorn (t & o)	60 to 1 — Lucanature (t & o)
150 to 1 — El Diablo (t & o)	500 to 1 — Rust (o)

Referring to the time, the Special Commissioner of the *Sportsman* says:—"The official time for the Derby is given as 2min. 44sec., but I am confident that I erred, if at all, in making the time too long, as I started the watch a trifle too quickly. The watch in question had been recently tested, and I shall always believe that Sir Hugo won the Derby in 2min. 42½sec., or even less time." If Sir Hugo won the Derby in 2.42½, he is the first horse that ever did so, at least since the

official time was first taken in 1846. There is nothing on the record lower than 2.43, this being the time of Kettle drum in 1861, Blair Athol in 1864, Merry Hampton in 1887, and Ayrshire in 1888. Blue Gown (1868) did it in 2.43½, and Kisber (1876) in 2.44, the time officially returned for Sir Hugo. There are light courses and heavy courses, but a general view of Derby time during the forty odd years it has been officially taken shows that it is gradually being reduced.

A SILLY PERSON.

A CERTAIN Mr. Arthur H. Smith has published a volume containing forty essays bearing upon the characteristics of the Chinese race. We have not seen the volume. Our notion is that Mr. Smith will endeavour to limit its circulation to remote districts of Europe, for if it comes out here where the Chinese are known, he will be laughed at as heartily as he deserves. His silly facetiæ cannot even aspire to be caricatures of the people whom he so grossly misrepresents. The man is evidently an ignorant prig who does not hesitate to base monstrously ridiculous generalizations on his own equally monstrous ignorance. We take from a London journal the following reference to his volume:—

John Chinaman is the most credulous of mortals, as Mr. Smith shows us by one or two examples:—

It is by no means uncommon to meet with scholars whose talent, gauged by competitive examination, has been adjudged to be "flourishing," inquire in all sincerity if in your honourable country there is also a sun and a moon. We have seen a popular audience gathered by the roadside to gaze at the foreigners, entirely satisfied with the information that in Western lands the plants are the same as in China, except that they have the peculiarity of always growing with the roots in the air and the fruits in the soil. The announcement attracted no more interest than statistics as to the depth of the sea or the distances of Venus. When the British troops occupied North China, the Chinese soldiers for the first time saw foreign ladies mounted on the backs of ponies. The singular appearance gave rise to the tale—doubtless implicitly believed to this day—that there is a variety of Occidental women with but one leg! A country woman expressed the opinion that the remarkable whiteness of foreign children is due to the practice of their mothers of licking them every day, as cats do their kittens! Foreign newspapers, containing cartoons intended to be humorous, are very ill-adapted to circulation in China. An intelligent Mahomedan inquired of a foreign physician in China as to people with wings who live in trees. On investigation, it turned out that his ideas were based upon pictures which he had seen on a match-box!

In the readiness with which he misunderstands the most simple statements the Chinaman is without a rival. Mr. Smith gives some entertaining instances, of which the following is one:—

It is often very difficult for an ordinary Chinese mind—as a current American colloquialism apparently derived from the use of horse-cats phrases it—to "catch on." A foreigner who was spending a short time in the capital met a drove of camels, among which was a baby camel. Turning to the driver of the cart, who had been for many years in the employ of foreigners, he said, "When you come back to the house, tell my little boy to come out and look at this little camel as he has never seen one, and it will amuse him very much." After a considerable lapse of time, during which the idea was undergoing slow fermentation, the carter replied thoughtfully, "If you should buy the camel, you could not raise it—it would be sure to die!"

His ideas, too, move very slowly. Neither his body nor his brain is ever in a hurry, and nothing surprises him so much as an idea:—

His mind is like a rusty old smooth-bore cannon, mounted on an old decrepit carriage, which requires much hauling about before it can be pointed at anything, and then it is sure to miss fire. Thus when a person is asked a simple question, such as, "How old are you?" he gazes vacantly at the questioner and answers in return, "I?" To which you respond, "Yes, you." To this he replies with a summoning up of his mental energies for the shock. "How old?" "Yes, how old?" Once more adjusting the focus, he inquires, "How old am I?" "Yes," you say, "how old are you?" "Fifty-eight," he replies, with accuracy of aim, his piece being now in working order. In like manner, if any one knocks on the gate at night, and the keeper inquires, "Who is it?" the invariable reply will be, "I," regardless of the fact that no "I" can pierce a closed door.

You must not ask too many questions in China. If you do you will only make yourself miserable:—

A prominent example of intellectual turbidity is the prevalent habit of announcing as a reason for a fact the fact itself. "Why do you not put salt into bread-cakes?" you ask of a Chinese cook. "We do not put salt into bread-cakes," is the explanation. "How is it that with so much and such beautiful ice in your city,

none of it is stored up for winter?" "No, we do not store up ice for winter in our city." If the Latin poet who observed, "Happy is he who is able to know the reasons of things," had lived in China, he might have modified his poetry so as to read, "Unhappy is the man who essays to find out the reasons of things."

The Chinaman, as everybody knows, has no nerves—happy child of nature that he is!—and he seems rather to enjoy visitations which would polish off the outer barbarian with punctuality and despatch. Says Mr. Smith:—

It is not alone when he sleeps that an Occidental requires quiet, but most of all when he is sick. Then, if never before, he demands freedom from the annoyance of needless noises. Friends, nurses, physicians, all conspire to ensure this necessary condition for recovery. And if recovery is beyond hope, then more than ever is the sufferer allowed to be in as great peace as circumstances admit. Nothing in the habits of the Chinese presents a greater contrast to those of Westerners than the behaviour of the Chinese to one another in cases of sickness. The notification of the event is a signal for all varieties of raids upon the patient, from every quarter, in numbers proportioned to the gravity of the disease. Quiet is not for a moment to be thought of, and, strange to say, no one appears to desire it. The bustle attendant upon the arrival and departure of so many guests, the work of entertaining them, the wailings of those who fear that a death is soon to take place, and especially the pandemonium made by priests, priestesses, and others, to drive away the malignant spirit, constitute an environment from which death would be to most Europeans a happy escape.

STRANGE SOCIETIES.

SOME of the modes of getting rid of ennui devised by the Japanese are quaint. Not long ago there existed a society called the *Shojo Kai*, or the Orang-outang Society,* the members of which were all required to have gained a reputation for consuming large quantities of *saki*. The powers of candidates for admission to the ranks of these wine-bibbers were tested, to see whether they came up to the required standard. The President, Vice-President, and officers of the society were all chosen according to capacity shown at drinking bouts periodically held. A few months ago, we read of a Small-pox Society, which at first we took to be a Society for the prevention or cure of small-pox, but which we afterwards discovered to be a body that undertook to award prizes to those that were more deeply marked with small-pox than any other persons who had suffered from the disease. We now read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that a Society exists called the *Shorin-kai*, which meets for the purpose of pronouncing opinions on the personal attractions of the members' mistresses, the latter being required to attend the meeting.

* The orang-outang is supposed to be able to consume a large quantity of *saki*. The term is also applied to a wine-loving insect.

THE MAXIM AUTOMATIC GUN.

The *Times* contains the following notice of the remarkable performance of the Maxim Automatic Gun, showing that a weapon of extraordinary utility has come into the service:—

In the course of the recent Easter manoeuvres by order of Colonel J. D. C. Farrell, commanding the battalion, a portion of the cyclist section of the 3d Volunteer Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment, with a 450 Maxim automatic gun, marched from Woolwich Arsenal to Cowshot Camp, Brookwood. The gun was drawn on its own carriage by two cyclists mounted on two 14-lb. military safety cycles linked together. No change was made in the gun detachment, the same two men working the traction cycles the whole way. Five cyclists, under the command of Captain J. J. Murphy, formed an escort for the gun. The party started from Woolwich at 9 a.m. on April 14, and marched, via Croydon, Epsom, Cobham, and Brookwood, to Cowshot Camp, arriving at 6 p.m. Five halts were made, amounting in the aggregate to two hours. The distance covered was 45 miles, at an average rate of 6½ miles per hour. The roads were heavy from the recent rains.

On the Saturday and Monday following some preliminary firing with the gun at an ordinary target was gone through, the gun being dragged by one man only over 1½ mile of the roughest ground on the National Rifle Association's ranges. On Monday afternoon experiments in indirect firing, which were very satisfactory, were made under the direction of Captain V. B. Fanshawe, Adjutant of the battalion. A position was taken up in a hollow, like a small crater, on some high ground. The gun, completely hidden from view from the front, and partially so from both flanks, was then placed in such a manner that when laid on the supposed hostile position the trajectory just cleared the intervening high ground.

The proper direction was obtained by laying the gun on a point dressed in the required direction. The effect of the fire was reported by officers on the look out on both flanks. At a distance of over 1,200 yards all the shots fell on the hostile position, striking the screens and the ground on which they were placed. The effect of the fire was distinctly visible to the look-outs in consequence of the sand thrown up. The fire was by single shots and rapid firing. In the latter case bullets at the rate of 650 per minute were

discharged, and caused a cloud of sand and dust to rise over the front of the butts. The gun and its detachment were so completely hidden in the hollow ground that the markers were unable to discover, by smoke or otherwise, whence the fire was coming. The whole of the ground in front and flank of the gun was invisible to the firer beyond about 60 yards.

These results were the more remarkable, because they were obtained and the position fixed upon on the spur of the moment without any previous careful survey or measurement of the ground having been made. The exact position was determined readily, owing to the peculiar construction of the gun, which rendered that operation somewhat simple.

Since the experiment was carried out, the ground over which the gun fired has been surveyed and a section drawn by Mr. Kentish Moore, A.M.I.C.E., of Victoria-street, Westminster. On page 3 of his report he says:—"It will be seen that the gun was firing at 1,100 yards range (1204 yards exactly); that the gun lay in a hollow; that in front of the gun was a rise in the ground over which the gun fired. Assuming 13 in. to be the height above the ground of the gun muzzle, then the latter stood 8½ ft. below the ridge and 17 ft. from it." He also says:—"It is impossible to see the gunners at a less height than 70 ft. vertically above the butts."

Thus the gun and gunners are absolutely screened (by the ridge fired over) from observation at the butts. In front, from 45 deg. to the right to about 70 deg. on the left of the line of fire, the position is (throughout this angle) invisible."

AN ACTION FOR LIBEL.

PEOPLE who bring actions for libel must consider beforehand whether their own utterances may not be recalled to their disadvantage in the witness-box. Mr. Michael Davitt is a case in point. He recently brought an action against the *Evening Herald*, claiming £1,000 damages for an alleged libel, but when examined by Mr. MacLaughlin, Q.C., whom he requested not to bully him, he admitted that he had called the Lord Mayor of Dublin a "blathering idiot," and Lord Mayor Kennedy a "right honourable cur." He also accepted the responsibility of saying of Mr. Parnell that "his honour was a by-word, his mendacity boundless, and his infamy measureless," and he maintained that all this was "politically true." Despite these evidences of Mr. Davitt's love of free speech, the Jury awarded him £20 damages, or one-fiftieth part of his demand, against the *Evening Herald*.

FOREIGN POACHERS AND SMOUGGLERS.

INTELLIGENCE having been lately received to the effect that foreign vessels were trespassing off the Kii and Rikuzen coasts, a Japanese man-of-war was sent out to search for them, but it has returned without discovering any trace of the offenders. It is now reported that clandestine proceedings of a similar character are being carried on at places which are designedly left unindicated by the press. Under the pretence of obtaining wood and water, vessels land parties and undertake transactions of buying and selling with the people of the locality, the objects of traffic being whale's flesh and otter's skins. Further, under plea of sickness, the men stop in the villagers' houses, and indulge in various immorality, sometimes absconding without paying their scores. With respect to all this we find the usual formula recorded, namely, "the authorities are adopting strict measures to check the abuse," and doubtless the usual abortive result will soon be announced. It seems strange that if such practices are really resorted to, the local police cannot lay hand on the offenders. If any of the foreign residents attempts to travel beyond Treaty Limits without a passport he is soon apprehended, but, according to the above report, men from foreign ships find no difficulty in evading the law.

FOREIGNERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE *Spectator* writes:—"A vague idea is current everywhere that the proportion of foreigners in the United States is very large, but few people are aware of the precise figures. The Census Bureau has now reported that in the great block of populous territory covered by New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, containing 12,700,800 people, 2,724,000, or more than one person in five are foreign-born, and a third of them cannot speak English. This, moreover, does not represent the whole truth, for in New York State only 42 per cent. of the whole population are native whites; in New Jersey, only 48½ per cent.; and in Pennsylvania, only 61½ per cent. This is as if in the United Kingdom we had six millions of foreigners, and twenty millions who were born of foreign parents. We

should find it difficult to assimilate such numbers, more particularly if the number of native-born children to each pair were sinking, as it is in the Union. Throughout the Union, the number of persons per family has declined steadily from 5.55 in 1850, to 4.93 in 1890, and this in spite of an increase among the Negroes of the South. In one typical State, Maine, the average has declined from 5.64 in 1850, to 4.40 in 1890. These figures will greatly intensify the growing desire in the Union to check white immigration, and it will ultimately become as intense as the desire to prohibit the arrival of Chinese."

"A POISON-SELLING FOREIGNER."

UNDER the above title "Sequah" gets a very bad send-off from the *Kokkai* and the *Fomiori Shimbun*. Both papers write as follows:—"An American drug-seller, by name Sequah, came recently to this country and disposed of a quantity of medicine at Nagasaki. The striking character of his advertisements, and the singularly rapid effects produced by his treatment brought him in great sums daily, and it is expected that he will soon arrive in Yokohama. He employs drugs of great strength, as morphine for the treatment of rheumatism, toothache and so forth, and is successful for a time. But the benefit is short-lived. Not only does the malady return soon, but the constitution of the patient is greatly injured. It is said that the authorities are watching the matter closely."

We wonder where our two contemporaries obtained this information. Sequah had not previously been written of in such terms, and some of the stories told to us by eye-witnesses of his proceedings indicate that the relief afforded by his methods is in many cases very remarkable. But of course a peripatetic Galen, who sets at naught all the traditions of orthodox practitioners, must expect to be severely criticized.

DISSECTED BODIES.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that the medical faculty attached to the Imperial University is most scrupulous as to the method of treating the bodies which have been used for teaching anatomy. The parts which have been dissected are carefully joined and the bodies when buried are located in groups of 100 or 1,000. Over every 100 bodies a short service is held. When the graves have reached a thousand a more elaborate ceremony takes place, which is attended by the professors and students of the University. One of these ceremonies, will, it is stated, be held in September next. This method of dealing with the dead, though well according with the usual punctiliousness of the Japanese in such matters, is no doubt an essential condition of obtaining bodies for dissection in Japan. Medical students have so largely increased of late years that the corpses of unknown and unclaimed persons must be altogether inadequate to meet the growing demand for dissecting material.

ADVERTISING LOTTERY TICKETS IN JAPANESE PAPERS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Yiji Shimpō* asserts that foreign lottery tickets are offered for sale to Japanese by Mr. Hess, of Tsukiji, Tokyo, and adds that these tickets are advertised in Japanese newspapers. The writer questions the legality of such proceedings, and contends that since the law does not allow Japanese subjects to gamble, it certainly does not sanction the publication of information inciting them to take part in the gambling transactions of foreigners. The correspondent seems to overlook the fact that in a recent law case, relating to this subject, it was decided that the purchase of foreign lottery tickets by a Japanese was not illegal. Such being the case, we fail to see what illegality there can be in a Japanese paper informing the Japanese public where such tickets are to be had.

COMMENCEMENT.

THE Commencement Exercises at the Tokyo Jo-gakwan went off very successfully on the 9th

instant. The school recently passed under the control, as foreign instructress, of Miss Ranken, a considerable change in its courses and general system being made at the same time. Saturday's exercises were the first under the new régime. There was a good attendance of visitors, and the children showed gratifying proficiency in their parts. Bishop Bickersteth gave an address at the conclusion, and said, among other things, that he had been much struck by the good accent of the Japanese pupils in pronouncing English, a statement that must have proved very satisfactory to teachers and scholars alike. The following is the programme:—

PROGRAMME.

Japanese Song (Kimigayo).	Vi Hijikata.
Address by	Mr. Tomita.
Answer by	Mr. Kanda.
Diplomas.	Class.
Address by	Miss Goto.
Song "Swinging"	Miss Goto.
Recitation "A through the Land" (Tennyson)	Miss Goto.
Japanese Composition	Miss Goto.
Piano solo	Miss Iwakura.
Recitation	Miss Iwakura.
Japanese Composition	Miss Iwakura.
Duet	Miss Iwakura and Miss James.
Song "Summer"	Miss Iwakura.
Recitation	Miss Iwakura.
Japanese Composition	Miss Iwakura.
Piano solo	Miss Iwakura.
Recitation	Miss Iwakura.
Japanese Composition	Miss Iwakura.
Song "Ever joyous"	Miss Iwakura.
Recitation	Miss Iwakura.
Japanese Composition	Miss Iwakura.
Duet	Miss Iwakura and Miss Iwakura.
Reading	Miss Iwakura.
Japanese Reading	Miss Iwakura.
Song "My pretty maid"	Miss Iwakura and Class.

THE TOKYO ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

THE Commencement Exercises of the Tokyo Academy of Music took place on the 9th instant, at 3 p.m. It was an excellent performance. Marked improvement is discernible in the singing and playing of the pupils of the Academy, and it is evident that success, for some time doubtful, is about to attend the efforts to introduce Western music into Japan. The following is the programme:—

PROGRAMME.

1. Satsumagata (Cape-life)
2. Sonata for Violin with Piano. Words by M. Torii.
3. Serenade for Piano
4. Chorus with Piano, Entitled mit mir
5. Takro no Tsuki
6. Mensshidori (Zigennerlied)
7. Koto with Violin. Shiki no Tomo.
8. Address by Dr. H. Murakami, Director of the Academy.
9. Delivery of the Diplomas.
10. Address by His Excellency Count Oki, Minister of State for Education.
11. Farewell Address by Miss Tachibana, the Representative of the Graduates.
12. Chorus: Kokubetsu (Parewell)
13. Address by Professor K. Suyematsu.
14. Violin-Concerto I. and II. Parts
15. Koto-Music: Yochigishiki
16. Koto—Misses Koda, Asso, Harada, Uchida, Uyehara, and Mr. Yamase.
17. Kokyu—Mr. Yamamuro.
18. Piano for 6 hands: a. March from the "Ruins of Athens"
19. Wedding March
20. Miss Tachibana, Miss Nakamura, Graduates, Miss Asso.
21. Violins: Japanese popular Songs, Harmonized and arranged by R. Dittich.
22. a. Jizaki Uta (Workmen Song).
23. b. Ryu Kyo-Bushi (Dance Song).
24. c. Medeta (Wedding Song).
25. Three-part female Chorus with Piano.
26. Sotsugyoshiki no Uta (Tandied)
27. Words by A. Nakamura.

THE INNAI MINE.

LATER accounts show that the catastrophe at the Innai silver mine in Akita Prefecture was not of such a serious character as the first telegram announced. It is now stated that the trouble arose from a flood in the Ginzan River, not from an irruption of water into one of the shafts of the mine. The Ginzan river flows through Ginzan-machi, a little town at the mouth of the mine. On the 4th instant at 5 a.m. rain began to descend in torrents, and four hours later the river was in a state of boiling flood, its waters inundating the houses of the miners and flowing into the mine. Lumps of ore weighing over a hundred pounds, mining tools and all kinds of debris were carried away by the raging current, and nine of the miners—not over sixty as originally stated—are supposed to have lost their lives, their whereabouts not having been yet discovered. From the extreme suddenness and great

volume of the flood in the river—a phenomenon evidently not ascribable to the rain which fell at Ginzan-machi—it would seem that a water-spout must have burst in the mountains near the source of the river. At all events the calamity, whether in respect of loss of life or injury to the mine, is not by any means as severe as was at first imagined.

PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL ABROAD.

We read in the vernacular press that the number of passports granted by the Foreign Office to Japanese subjects, during the first six months of the present year, for travel abroad, was 690, the applicants being divided as follow:—For America, 182 (including 4 women); for England, 14 (including 3 women); for France, 186; for Germany, 17 (including 2 women); for Russia, 32 (including 5 women); for Belgium, 1; for Holland, 1; for China, 11 (including 1 woman); for Hawaii, 37 (including 1 woman); for Austria, 1; for Siam, 1; for Korea, 76 (including 22 women); for Hongkong, 3; for Canada, 2; for Bangkok, 33; for Mexico, 1; for the South seas, 3; for the Philippines, 5 (including 1 woman); and for the rest of the world, 13. In addition to the above, passports were granted by the Local Authorities, during the first three months of the year, to the number of 2,477, among the applicants being 235 women.

SUICIDE OF A NAVAL OFFICER.

A SAD affair occurred on board H.M.'s surveying ship *Penguin* yesterday morning at about 7.30 o'clock, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 4th inst., when Lieutenant Arthur G. Cawston shot himself while in his bunk in his cabin, and died almost immediately. He had shown symptoms of a disturbed mind for some little time past, but nobody thought much of it. He was an excellent and very able officer, and a genial companion, and was very much liked on board his ship. He had been with Captain Moore in the *Rambler* which preceded the *Penguin* on surveying duty. At the Naval Court of Enquiry which was held yesterday morning, the finding was that the deceased had shot himself while in a state of temporary insanity. He was accorded a funeral with naval honours, and the procession started from the Foochow Road jetty at 6.30 p.m. It included a firing party of 100 men, under the command of Lieutenant Talbot of the *Caroline*, some 30 other seamen and marines, and about 50 officers from the men-of-war of various nations in harbour. Mr. Hodges conducted the service at the cemetery.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA'S HORSE.

SOME little time ago an announcement in a French paper stated that Major Fukushima's horse had died at Moscow. The report was contradicted in Japan, but news has now been received to the effect that the horse's legs were strained by the journey over the partly melted snow between St. Petersburg and Moscow, and that at the latter place inflammation settled in the hoofs, and the animal had to be rested and treated for 12 days. After this the Major made a start, but he had not gone far before the complaint of the animal returned, and he was obliged to go back to Moscow and purchase another horse. Hence the horse spoken of as being well in the communication which we published a few days ago, was evidently the Russian horse purchased at Moscow. Whether the English horse is dead or alive is not known. The latest intelligence received announces that Major Fukushima reached Perm on June 26th.

CLERICAL STAGE-ACTORS.

THIS is in many respects a land of surprises. We have had *soshi* actors, and now, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*, we are to have reverend priests figuring on the stage. A priest called Tanaka, belonging to the Shingon Sect, has announced that from the 31st prox. a series of stage performances, designed to illustrate the chief events in the life of the patron saint of the Sect, Kobodaishi, will be given at the Fukurokuza, Akasaka. Some 20 priests will take part in the play. The *Hochi* praises the ingenuity of the scheme. It will no doubt result in filling

the coffers of its promoters, as the novelty of the proceedings will attract crowds. As to the propriety of the new departure, the Japanese religious devotee holds very different views from most Westerners: though it is a question whether some of the ceremonies performed by the Greek Church, for instance, differ essentially from other forms of theatrical representation.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL FETE.

THE tricolour of *la belle France* fluttered bravely in the hot midsummer breezes on Thursday, being flown from nearly every flag-staff and bamboo pole in the Settlement and Bluff, while the private residences and business premises of French citizens broke out in gorgeous array with bunting, evergreens, and lanterns, arranged in pleasing devices in honour of the ever memorable "14 Juillet." The French cruiser *Lion*, at present in port, saluted at noonday, and was answered right loyally by the German flagship *Liesic*, which had arrived a few hours previously. During the day the French Consulate was the centre of entertainment to its nationals, but as evening drew on the old French camp on Yato-zaka became the general rendezvous, the French community having issued invitations to all other residents in the port to a *fête champêtre*, which, needless to say, were greatly availed of. Most of the Consuls in residence were present and took a lively interest in the gathering. The spacious grounds of the old camp were brilliantly lighted up by thousands of blue, white, and red lanterns. In the centre was pitched a dancing floor, under a canopy hung round with the flags of all nations, and many couples disported themselves thereon, during the course of the evening, to the strains of the Tokyo City band, under the leadership of Signor Rossetti. Refreshments were served on the ground by Mons. Maraur of the Oriental Hotel. In the harbour the French mail steamer *Natal* (Messageries Maritimes) was festooned with strings of lanterns of the three national colours, while the *Lion* hung out lanterns all along her hammock-nettings. The Grand Hotel was generously lighted up with the same graceful form of illumination, as were also the French Consulate on the Bluff, Messrs. Bing, Adé and Campredon, Merians, Oppenheimer, and most other French houses in the Settlement. The private residence of the last named, on the Bund, presented an exceptionally pretty appearance in the manner of its ornamentation. In addition to the display of fireworks at the *fête champêtre*, a plentiful supply was discharged at private houses and grounds during the whole evening, causing immense fun for the crowds of Japanese, who had dutifully turned out to see the "French no Matsuri."

THE NEW CALEDONIAN JAPANESE EMIGRANTS.

By intelligence received from New Caledonia it appears that there was no foundation for the recent reports of ill-treatment of Japanese coolies, but that *beri-beri* had broken out among them. There were some 350 Japanese suffering from this disease. Mention is made of the kindness with which the *kakke* patients were treated in the hospital, some 600 *latami* having been specially ordered from Japan for use in the wards. It is stated that the coolies in New Caledonia are treated with greater consideration than is shown to those in Hawaii. The outbreak of *kakke* is attributed to the high temperature and change of climate, and it is anticipated that in two months or so the new settlers will be acclimatized and recover. The men sent to New Caledonia are said to be older than is desirable in the case of emigrants to southern climes.

MUSIC.

We commend Mr. R. P. Rider's description of music to the educators of this country:—

Music is an independent, intricate, competent, and universal language. It has its grammar, laws of phrasing, forming clauses, and rounding periods; it has its rules of position, agreement, government, and progression; its principles controlling climaxes, repetitions, and other rhetorical figures; nor is it wanting in idiom, as we shall realize when we compare Oriental and Western systems, ancient and modern, or note the peculiarities of the different Western schools. It has also its mannerisms or provincialisms, so that a

tyro may readily know whether he is listening to a Scotch, an Irish, an Italian, or a German melody. As an organized and veritable language it manifests its strength in its ability to express thought, portray feeling, and arouse emotion. In all these it is the superior of verbal utterance. The eagle of intellectuality, it soars into those regions of exalted thought which verbal formula cannot penetrate; and where logic would droop on weary wing, it beats the pulseless ether of abstract thought, with confident buoyant pinion.

Added to this potent comprehensiveness as a language, music, in its physical feature, involves mathematical relations and complexities; the acoustic principles of resonance, vibrations, and concords; the subtler influences of overtones and interferences. In the mechanical appliances, by means of which its multi-form relations are represented to the eye, and in the construction of, and giving temperament to, the instruments through which its harmonies are presented to the ear, some of the most intricate problems of the higher mathematics find their solution.

Further, in the physics of music, discrepancies between harmony—the latest and richest development of the science—and melody, the original science of song, exist. These discrepancies are irreconcilable with the theory of absolute pitch, as generally accepted by scientific musicians in former times. The science of music among the ancients and among the Orientals to-day is merely the science of melodies; while the Western theories involve the richer and much more complicated system of harmonies, and the concession we have to make to this more comprehensive system is a compromise, resulting in a scientific imperfection allied to that apparent imperfection in the movements of the heavenly bodies which causes the procession of the equinoxes. This principle of the shifting keynote, which unsettles the theory of absolute pitch, is as yet undreamed of by many, apprehended by few only, thoroughly comprehended, perhaps, by none.

The study of music is equal to the study of literature and language as a means of intellectual growth, superior to the study of mathematics, and in no way inferior to the study of the natural sciences. It is more available and adaptable than the study of psychology, because, while calling forth the intellectual powers, it engages the emotions and assures the condition necessary to the best development of thought, viz., genuine enjoyment of the means employed.

It strengthens the memory; call reason into lively play; favours habits of exact thought; inspires the imagination; ennobles the perceptive faculty; facilitates physical expression; arouses the emotional nature; cultivates the æsthetic principle; gives breadth of mental comprehension. In all these things, music stands in the front rank of the sciences, if indeed, it does not lead them all. Can any science do more as a factor in intellectual growth to develop the many-sided nature of the man intellectual?

COUNT OKUMA'S CRITICISMS.

AMONG those who have had opportunities of estimating Count Okuma's capacities there exists but one opinion, namely, that Japan possesses few, if any, statesmen of more brilliant ability and self-reliant courage. With much interest, therefore, do we turn to a column of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which professes to give the gist of some opinions recently expressed by the *Kaishin-to* leader with regard to the prominent men of the *Meiji* era. Very probably the authenticity of the criticisms will be subsequently denied, but it is scarcely possible that they should be altogether baseless, though their absolute accuracy may be apocryphal. With regard to Count Matsukata, Count Okuma is represented as placing colourlessness among his most prominent traits. The present Premier, he says, is simply an executor of vicarious policies. He reflects with fidelity the methods of the Camera Statesmen, but produces no image of his own. Count Okuma also expresses astonishment that the Minister President did not resign in view of the hostile attitude of the Diet, and says that no administrative progress can be made so long as the Cabinet does not enjoy the confidence of the people's representatives. But we imagine that few will be found to admit the justice of this estimate of Count Matsukata, who has undoubtedly established his title to a very different verdict since he became Minister President.

As for Count Inouye, the *Kaishin-to* leader declares inability either to believe the report that the Count has been asked to take the leadership of the Cabinet at this juncture, or to conclude that he would consent to take it if asked. "In the event of his joining the Cabinet, he would assuredly insist on certain conditions. I cannot consider Count Inouye a great statesman. On the whole, he combines caution in some directions with much general boldness, and he

possesses capacity to achieve great things. But this daring disposition may lead him to do correspondingly great mischief. If the bold Inouye be allied with the prudent Ito, there is nothing from which the pair need shrink. Whenever the empire is confronted by serious trouble, Count Inouye will show his ability by settling it. But the unscrupulous hero of a disordered age is not necessarily an able statesman in a peaceful era. His daring disposition may often involve trouble, and his natural genius cannot entirely supply his want of erudition. On the other hand, if he accepted office, he would not cling to it in the face of all opposition. Did he consent to enter the Cabinet, he might be bold enough to bring in Viscount Torio, Marquis Saionji, or some other men of varied complexion. The Popular Party would be delighted to have such a formidable foe."

Passing to Count Ito, the *Kaishin-to* leader is represented as saying:—"Among the statesmen of the present era Count Ito stands first. But he is a very shrewd man. He will not join the Cabinet now. The secret of statesmanship is patience. Nothing is so bad as to be in a hurry. Count Ito knows that well. Viscount Shinagawa, though honest, is easily excited; that is why a man like Fujita Ichiro can deceive him by clever ruses. Honesty is a fine quality, but honesty alone will not make a statesman or a politician. I am sorry for Shinagawa, but his own excitability is to blame. As for Count Saigo, he is to be pitied. He has been dragged upon the political stage, not by Viscount Shinagawa alone, but by those who remember the language used by the Count in the last general election, and who now hold him to his words. When he came to visit me last year I gave him some counsel:—'Count, you have left the Government now. Take care that you are not captured by noxious worms. If you act like a crafty fox who has gone through many experiences, it is well. But great care will be needed to keep you out of trouble.' My apprehension has now been verified."

THEFT OF WOMEN'S SASHES.

SOME fifty years ago it used to be very common for Japanese women to loose the greater part of their girdles while standing in a crowd. Following the general tendency to revive long forgotten customs, certain thieves, it is stated, have of late taken to sash-cutting. The effect to on-lookers is very funny. A fair damsel who has been priding herself on the propriety and gracefulness of her costume, is suddenly reduced to a most inexcusable state of dishabille in the open streets, for the *obi* occupies a most important rank in Japanese female costume. This mode of annoying female passengers in the streets, bad as it is, is preferable to the face-stabbing which we reported a month or two ago. On the whole, the annals of Japanese crime must be pronounced insignificant when compared with the records with which our home-papers abound.

THE NATIONAL UNION AND THE FIVE PARTIES.

OPPOSED to the so-called Popular Party are five associations in the provinces, known as the *Genyosha* of Fukuoka, *Dosei-kai* of Saga, the *Yuishinsha* of Ichikawa, the *Aikoku-koshinsha* of Aichi, and the *Kiuyukai* of Niigata. For some unexplained reasons these five associations did not at first throw in their lot with the National Union, but the Tokyo News Agency now reports that a coalition is likely to be effected shortly, the principal men of the five associations having signified their intention of joining the National Unionists.

The Government's critics profess to think that it is acting inconsistently because, while declaring that the Cabinet Ministers are ultimately responsible to the Sovereign alone, and will accept no mandate from the Diet, efforts are nevertheless made to secure the support of a party in the House of Representatives. It should scarcely be necessary to point out the extravagance of such a contention. No sane Ministers of State are so reckless as to openly defy parliamentary opinion. They may decline to accept

their dismissal at the hands of the people's representatives, but they are none the less under an obligation to organize their fellow-thinkers, and to adopt every legitimate means of preventing collisions which tend to precipitate changes for which they do not believe the country to be prepared. It would be wanton rashness to abandon to one side all the advantages resulting from combination, discipline, and organization. The Government also must organize its supporters, and endeavour to make constitutional institutions work smoothly by securing a majority in the Diet. That is the mere *abc* of politics under a representative system, whether party Government be accepted or tabooed.

Reading recent correspondence from Japan in a Shanghai journal, we observe that the writer speaks with evident pleasure of this country's gradual approximation to the English system of Government by party. Ought that to be really regarded as a subject of congratulation on Japan's account? Even were there no other cause for doubt, the things now happening in Great Britain might suggest reasons for hesitation. During the past six years England has been governed by statesmen, concerning whose administration of home and foreign affairs there can be but one verdict—it has been eminently successful. If it rested with the Sovereign to retain these men in power, they would assuredly remain in power. But the country has become accustomed to a change of parties at the end of a long term of years, and so the constituencies veer round and vote for giving an innings to the picturesque old man who heads the Liberal party. If any one can honestly allege that the best interests of the empire are consulted by that kind of thing, we shall be surprised. Japan had better think long and seriously before she commits herself irrevocably to government by party.

THE VACANT PORTFOLIOS.

ON Thursday evening, at a late hour, two of the vacant portfolios were allotted. Mr. Kono, hitherto Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, becomes Minister of State for Home Affairs, and Viscount Sano, hitherto a Privy Councillor, becomes Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. The post of Minister of Justice is also held by Mr. Kono, but that, of course, is only a temporary measure. We shall not be surprised if this last portfolio ultimately goes to Mr. Inouye Ki.

Of Mr. Kono we need not say much, our readers being already well acquainted with him in his capacity of Minister for Agriculture and Commerce. He appears to have played a very important part in the recent political complications, and doubtless the important position now assigned to him is the reward of these exertions. Viscount Sano has been a member of the Privy Council since the organization of that body. During the past fifteen years his name has been constantly before the public in connection with movements for the encouragement of Art and the development of Art manufactures, and his appointment to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the eve of the Chicago World's Fair will commend itself to many minds. He belongs to the former Hizen clan, and his admission to the Cabinet will disarm a certain section of the opposition hitherto encountered by the Government within the ranks of officialdom. The Viscount is well on in years, and though still capable of active work, is by no means so strong as he was before the fracture of his leg, a few years ago, by a fall from his carriage. These appointments confirm the impression that the policy of the Cabinet is to be directed henceforth solely by Count Matsukata.

THE PHILIPPE CASE.

MR. PHILIPPE'S second offence against the Japanese Tobacco Regulations was tried before the Yokohama Local Court, as has been already related in these columns, and ended in

an acquittal, the Court adhering to the view maintained by it on a previous occasion, namely that the subject of a non-treaty Power is not entitled to carry on any business in Japan, and that, consequently, he cannot be punished for failing to take out a Japanese business license. It will doubtless be remembered that when this verdict was originally delivered by the Court, the Public Prosecutor appealed against it, but failed to reach the Appeal Court owing to a blunder on the part of a clerk. The second offence, however, having been declared by the same tribunal to be unpunishable, for the same reason, the case was duly carried to the Appeal Court, and a judgment has now been rendered by the latter, upsetting the finding of the lower tribunal, and imposing upon Philippe the penalties provided by the Regulations. In short, the Appeal Court has ruled that Japan is now open to all strangers; that no treaty is required for coming to reside and do business here, and that the only condition which strangers have to accept is, the obligation of observing Japanese laws and regulations. It would be interesting to know, under these circumstances, what restrictions are imposed, and how they are imposed, on the enjoyment by an alien of all the privileges attaching to Japanese nationality in Japan. If a treaty is not required for residing or doing business in Japan, and if the subject of a non-Treaty Power is punishable by Japanese tribunals for neglecting to observe Japanese laws, why should he not enjoy all the privileges of a Japanese subject? How is the line of demarcation drawn, and where?

WILD CRITICISM.

REFERRING to the remarks of a certain local English newspaper, published in Japan, respecting the decoration lately received by Sir Edwin Arnold, as reproduced in these columns, the *Jiji* has fallen into an amusing error. "In writing on things which occur in distant countries" says the *Jiji*, "mistakes are not easily avoided. That very loosely conducted newspapers are to be found in country districts in England is evident from remarks which have been recently made respecting Sir Edwin Arnold's decoration. That any country should seek to increase its reputation by employing a foreign poet is one of the wildest notions we have ever met with." The *Jiji* is evidently not aware of the fact that the writer referred to resides in Kobe, and that trustworthy sources of information are open to him.

CHOU-HAN.

It has apparently been found impossible to bring home to Chou-han the various charges preferred against him of publishing and disseminating anti-Christian literature. Their Excellencies Chang, Governor-General of the two Hu, and Chang-hsi, Governor of Hupei, being instructed by the Tsung-li-Yamen to make full inquiries into the matter, reported as follows—We take the translation from the columns of the *Shanghai Mercury*—

Chou-han published formerly, under the name of Pao Shau-tang (Benevolent Institute) books, exhorting people to be good, and the bookseller Teng Mao-hua confessed during examination, that within the Little West Gate he had kept a book stall, in which Chou-han was no partner, or assistant. But he was well acquainted with Chou-han; last year he had been staying with him for a few days, and then left the city (the provincial capital) again. During his stay he had frequently been talking in a confused, wild and incoherent manner, as if crazy. Chou-han's books had been printed by Chen Chu-te, and the late Tseng Hui-wen. Chen Chu-te stated that he had a xylographic shop, for the cutting of characters and plates these many years, and he had formerly prepared a number of works for Chou-han, as:—"Exhortation to the Officials and Gentry;" "Advice to Foundling Houses," and others' when the plates were ready, Chou-han took them away, and did the printing himself. In his business he had several assistants, unable to understand the contents of the characters they were cutting. It was business routine to charge for the number of characters cut; their contents were not enquired into; therefore, he could not remember whether the plates for the works in question had been prepared in his establishment or not. Wu Tung-hai, an employe of the late Tseng Hui-wen, said he could not remember whether the books in question had been printed in their office. The nephew of Chou-han, Chou Te-chih; his cousin, Chou Kin-yi; Tang Liao-nan, a policeman, and Huang Shu-chin, one of Chou-han's neighbours, gave corroborative evidence. Chou-han believes and trusts in ghosts and geni, and styles himself T'ieh Tao-jen "the man of iron fortitude," and has full confidence in the oracle of Fuh-chi. It has been impossible therefore, so far, to prove who is the author of the various

books, pamphlets, poems, and pictures. It was necessary to discover the whereabouts of the plates used, on purpose to destroy them, that the intention of the Government might be carried out to maintain friendly relations with Foreign Powers. Therefore, rewards were offered for the delivery of the plates, payable when handed over, and to allay the fear and suspicion of the people no questions were to be asked.

After some delay the following plates were delivered, amongst others:—*Kuei chiao hai su* (Death of the devilish belief), *Sa shou wen chang* (Hand-hurting essays), *Chi tien chu* (Attack on the Catholic religion), *Shieh Kuei Ko* (Devil annihilation song), *Tien chu hsteh chiao* (The false sect, called the Catholic religion).

In all twenty-five plates were delivered, used for thirty-one tracts and pictures. Most of them had been made useless already, showing that the proprietors had become afraid, and intended not to publish any more foul literature. Chou Te-chih, Chou-han's nephew, was repeatedly interrogated, but always insisted that his uncle was leading an untitled life, and had left home with his whole family.

Chen Chu-te added to his former statement that, when in his establishment a plate was ready, it was taken away, and it was paid for according to the number of characters. In the books kept by his firm sometimes the name of the party who ordered a plate is marked down, and sometimes it is not; the employes change frequently, it is consequently impossible for him to have an idea whether the plates had been cut in his establishment or not.

The Commissioners then once more urged the local authorities to thoroughly search the provincial capital again, and make sure what had become of Chou-han. Secret enquiries proved that his speeches had become still more confused of late, and that there could be no doubt the man must be demented; if he met anybody, he commenced cursing and swearing, but nobody had ever heard that he had published any anti-Christian literature.

Under these circumstances it would be hopeless to ex-amine Chou-han himself, and since all his relatives and friends make the same statements, these latter ought to be sufficient to allow of forming an opinion.

The preaching of the Christian religion is guaranteed by treaties. It is in every Chinaman's option to become a Christian or not, no foreigner can force him. If the Missionaries should commit irregularities or breaches of the treaties, then complaints against them must be lodged with the foreign officials concerned and see justice done. It is utterly forbidden to set false rumours afloat, and to excite the multitude to riots.

Concerning the infamous criminals, who have abused Chou-han's name, in publishing under its cover libellous literature, and forging public documents and private letters, the strictest orders have been given to find the culprits and bring them to justice.

MISS ANNA DICKINSON.

WHAT women can achieve as politicians is illustrated by the case of Miss Anna Dickinson. The *New York Herald* says of this lady:—"She was for years not only the foremost woman of the country. Hers was a name to conjure with, for her surpassing eloquence carried an audience as a millstream carries chips. These Republicans professed to be proud of her genius. They were glad to kiss the hem of her garment, and her services were considered cheap at any price. As the queen of the platform she held undisputed sway everywhere, and they crowded about her as their bright particular star." In 1888, the Republican leaders engaged Miss Dickinson for thirty days, she, on her side, undertaking to deliver addresses in support of Mr. Harrison's candidature, and they, on theirs, promising her \$125 per diem, together with a contingent sum of \$1,250 in the event of Harrison's election. But for some unexplained reason Messrs. Quay and Clarkson, Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of Harrison's Committee, concluded that Miss Dickinson's addresses were injuring the Republican cause. They therefore cancelled the remaining appointments, but paid her in full for 30 days. Three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars was not a bad stipend for three weeks work. Miss Dickinson, however, concluded that she was entitled also to the \$1,250 promised if Harrison were elected, and as she didn't get it, she instituted legal proceedings. At the trial some correspondence from Mr. Clarkson was submitted. On August 18th, 1888, he wrote:—

I shall use my influence to urge the Committee to engage your services, and at Christian rates.

I can never forget our conversation of yesterday. I shall always be proud of the hour or two of your company. You do not need friendship, and it would seem out of propriety for me to talk of such a thing. But I have always admired you much, and so heartily appreciated your great works and many good qualities that I would like to be worthy of your friendship; would like also a chance some day to show how sincere I am in it. It will take time for the American people to know how grateful they ought to be to you.

In a missive dated August 28th, he had this to say:—

I do understand that it is not all dollars and cents with you, and I want you to know that I fully understand and appreciate it. It makes my own heart ache to know the world has repaid you with ingratitude, and worse, when you deserved everything fair and generous that it could give.

God bless you always.

On October 11th he sent a touching communication to Miss Dickinson's sister, in which he said:—

Dear Miss Dickinson—I like to call you dear Miss Dickinson because you love Anna so much, and I like everybody who loves her.

Besides, I have always heard good reports of you on your own account.

I have to go early in the morning, at 7, if General Dudley is well enough for me to leave. I must go to raise money, for we are poor and bankrupt, and must have something, and rich old Boston is stingily hanging on to the money it ought to give to us.

I wonder she [Anna] has been able to bear the wear and tear of the hard campaign she has made. She must not risk too much hereafter. She is too precious for that. She has done nobly, and we are all her debtors.

My candid regards to all in your home and my special regards to the divine little mother—whom Miss Anna has taught us all to love. If your sister is not well enough to bear it, keep her at home until she is really able for hard work. The power she is throwing into her speeches must drain her strength greatly. Let her up and make her strong before you send her out again.

Concerning these interesting epistles the *New York Evening Post* says:—"There have been differences of opinion in the past as to whether the J. of the signature of J. S. Clarkson, of the National Republican Committee, stood for John or James. Now that his official communications to Anna Dickinson have been made public to charm and move the world, we think there will be general consensus of opinion that the initial should henceforth stand for Jennie. There is a distinct feminine quality about the letters, which, coming from a great practical politician in the midst of a fierce Presidential campaign, makes them the most remarkable effusions of their kind in all political literature. What a sad commentary it is upon human nature that the man who could thus pour forth his soul in private correspondence should subsequently refuse to keep the bargain he had made with the woman he had professed such deep solicitude for, and should go into Court and escape full payment by pleading an old statute forbidding the use of money to influence votes!"

THE NEW CABINET MINISTERS.

THE Tokyo News Agency has a good deal to tell about the new appointments to Cabinet portfolios. On the 12th instant, it says, reports were circulated that the future occupants of the vacant posts of Ministers of Home Affairs and Justice had been determined, and that Count Matsukata had addressed the Emperor on the subject. But the statement was premature, for though the Cabinet agreed on that day to recommend the nomination of Viscount Sano and Mr. Inouye Ki, doubts existed as to whether the latter would accept a portfolio. The following day, another conference was held, but no definite decision was arrived at. It appeared that while Mr. Kono was not unwilling to accept the portfolio of Home Affairs, he required certain conditions which would necessitate more or less modification of the Government's policy. Hence some ministers were in favour of giving the portfolio of Justice to Mr. Inouye Ki and that of Home Affairs to Count Oki, since between the latter and the Vice-Minister, Mr. Shirane, as well as the local Governors, there would be no disagreement. But Count Oki showed no disposition to accept the proposed position, declaring himself, on the contrary, quite ready to resign if his remaining at the Department of Education caused any inconvenience. Moreover, it was alleged that the majority of the officials in the Department of Justice regarded Mr. Kono as the best man to settle the troubles now existing in that section of the Administration. The Conference, therefore, ended abortively, the various Ministers going about their business, and Count Matsukata proceeding to the Palace to report results to the Emperor. On the morning of the 14th, the Ministers reassembled at the Cabinet, and the discussion was resumed. Mr. Kono restated the conditions on which he was prepared to accept the portfolio of Home Affairs, and after these had been considered, Count Matsukata had audience of the Emperor, returning to the Cabinet at 3.20 p.m. Mr. Inouye Ki also visited the Cabinet, and had a brief conversation with the Minister President. At 4.50 the Conference closed, and at 7 o'clock Count Matsukata again proceeded to the Palace.

Thither Mr. Kono and Viscount Sano were summoned at 8.30 p.m., and duly nominated by the Sovereign to preside over the Departments of Home Affairs and Agriculture and Commerce, respectively. Mr. Inouye Ki is said to have declined the portfolio of Justice on the plea of feeble health. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes a rumour that Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, will be transferred to the Privy Council, his successor being Mr. Kitagaki, now Governor of Kyoto.

In the *Kokkai* we find a statement that the National Unionists are by no means pleased at the appointment of Mr. Kono to the Home Office, since they believe that he has some relations with the Popular Party. But their remonstrances have not affected the result.

PORTUGUESE JURISDICTION IN JAPAN.

THE following Imperial Ordinance was published in an extra of the *Official Gazette* on the 14th instant:—

We hereby give our sanction to the Ordinance allocating the stipulations concerning Consular jurisdiction contained in the Treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government, and order the same to be promulgated.

(H.I.M.'s Sign Manual)
(Great Seal.)

(Dated) The 14th day of the 7th month, the 25th year of Meiji.

(Counter-signed) The Minister President of State.
The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Minister of State for Justice.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 64.

The stipulations concerning Consular jurisdiction, which are contained in the Treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government on the 17th day of the 6th month, the 1st year of Man-yen (1860), shall henceforth cease to be in force.

We understand that the Portuguese residents of Yokohama, or at any rate a portion of them, rendered uneasy by rumours that the above action was contemplated by the Japanese Government, held a meeting on the 14th instant, and decided to address a telegram to Macao, promising to follow it by a memorial. It is to be regretted that this action was not taken sooner. The die is cast now, and neither telegrams nor memorials can alter accomplished facts.

SILVER COINS.

SOME little time ago, the Department of Finance referred to the Bankers' Association the question of abolishing 50 *sen* and 5 *sen* silver pieces. The Association, has, we observe, recommended that both coins be dispensed with, the former owing to its bulkiness and the latter on account of its smallness. The abolition of 50 *sen* notes has been also suggested, on the ground that the circulation of paper money of this value, in the absence of coins, is deemed undesirable from a financial point of view. These recommendations, it is stated, will be adopted by the Department of Finance. Certain members of the Bankers' Association proposed that the American custom of issuing 25 cent coins be followed, and that 20 *sen* pieces be withdrawn. But this proposition has not met with general support, owing to the fact that to carry out such a change would prove a great expense to the nation, without bringing any corresponding advantage.

COTTON SPINNING IN JAPAN.

We take the following from the *Board of Trade Journal*:—

IX.—COTTON SPINNING IN JAPAN.

The Secretary of the French Legation at Tokyo, in a recent report to his Government, gives the following particulars of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan.

Cotton-spinning dates only in Japan from 1848, and was then limited to the provinces governed by the Princes of Satsuma. This branch of industry remained stationary for many years, when, towards the commencement of the twelfth year of Meiji (1879) the Government, recognising the advantages which its development presented for the future of the country, ordered in Europe machines on a new model, which it distributed in certain provinces and districts of the Empire. Notwithstanding these official arrangements few factories were established up to recent years, and

the yarn manufactured according to ancient methods, although superior to 16 "suzi" (three ds), sufficed to satisfy the limited demand of the market under the general name of "Japanese cotton yarn."

In 1881-82 (11th and 12th years of Meiji) several companies undertook the establishment of new workshops. The number of bobbins, which, in 1884, amounted only to 35,000 in all, reaches at the present time 380,000, and the capital devoted to the spinning of cotton amounts to 10,000,000 piastres. At first, this large extension of production resulted in burdening the market with yarn specially intended for native consumption, and the necessity of producing a yarn of superior quality, capable of competing with similar articles of foreign origin, requires great economy and care on the part of the Japanese manufacturers. Owing to the strenuous efforts put forth collectively by them, owing to the spirit of solidarity which holds them together, owing also to the sacrifices they imposed on themselves by sending, in 1889, a special agent to the Indies whose mission was to study thoroughly the art of cotton spinning, the Japanese producers finally reaped the fruit of their perseverance, and have had the satisfaction of seeing the imports of cotton yarns, which previously were growing larger, gradually diminish in recent years. It is worthy of note that the estimated value of this article, one of the most important of foreign imports, reached in three years (from 1888 to 1890 inclusively) more than 12 million *yen* (the *yen* is equivalent to about 3s.). This figure shows that if the efforts of the Japanese have been crowned with success, a final victory has not yet been achieved, and that the native spinning industry must be careful to preserve and increase the advantages which have been obtained during the last 10 years.

The 20,000 workmen employed, the 10,000,000 piastres at disposal, and the 380,000 bobbins give this industry a preponderating place in the national production, and will probably enable it very soon, not only to completely meet the wants of the country and to dispose with the imports of foreign yarns, but also to seek markets in China and Korea.

The imports of cotton yarns into Japan during the years comprised between 1882 and 1890 were as follows:—1882, 252,007 piculs; 1883, 266,406 piculs; 1884, 211,867 piculs; 1885, 213,973 piculs; 1886, 246,303 piculs; 1887, 332,985 piculs; 1888, 474,396 piculs; 1889, 428,109 piculs; 1890, 319,083 piculs. The estimated value of the imports in 1882 was 7,815,356 *yen*, and in 1890, 9,928,362 *yen*. The imports for 1891, the results for which have just been published, indicate a value of no more 5,589,289 *yen*.

X.—STATE METALLURGICAL WORKS IN JAPAN.

A correspondent of the *Economiste Français*, writing from Tokyo, says that the Japanese Government have for a long time had the intention of establishing in the country its own works to supply the needs of the army and navy. According to a report recently made by the commission, composed of engineers of the different ministries (Marine, War, Commerce, and Agriculture), which has been empowered to examine and report upon this scheme, the annual consumption of iron for the army and navy will be 3,000 tons. But according to the evidence given before the said commission, the general consumption, both for the army and navy and private industries, will assume larger proportions from one year to another, and it is estimated that it will reach 7,000 to 8,000 tons for establishments of the two first. Little profit will, it is anticipated, be derived from the Imperial works, as probably only sufficient will be made to just cover the general working expenses.

This will appear evident if comparison be made between the price of unwrought iron and the expenses which must be incurred to transform it in Japan into rolled iron. Thus, rolled iron purchased on the London market at present costs the Japanese about 64 *yen* per ton. With regard to the price of iron manufactured in Japan, it may be urged that the unwrought iron costs about 30 *yen* per ton, to which should be added 50 *yen* for expenses of manufacture, and further 12 *yen* for the workmen's wages, which shows that made in the country would cost at least 92 *yen* per ton. It appears from the foregoing that Japanese would derive more gain from rolled iron coming from foreign markets than from that produced at home.

It must, however, be taken into consideration that the price of 64 *yen* given is that of iron of common quality. Now, according to the requirements for the time being, it frequently happens that for iron 100,200, and even 300 *yen* per ton has to be paid. It follows that for the good qualities a saving would be effected by the Japanese works, because the expenses of manufacture must be the same as for common iron.

In the second place it must not be forgotten that by the commencement of this new industry in Japan a new branch of labour will be opened up to the workmen. This point is of some importance in view of the development of the national resources, and with an increased production of 80,000 tons of iron per annum, the country will be endowed with industries of the greatest importance for the well-being of a nation. It is with this object that the Government has decided to establish these metallurgical works, and that it has recently demanded a vote of 2,500,000 *yen* from the Chamber of Deputies. The plea on which the Government looks for support by the vote of the legislative body gives the following reasons:—

"The consumption of iron for the army and navy has been for the 23d year of Meiji (1890), 3,000 tons, but this figure will be further increased by 3,000 tons,

when the arsenal of the two Admiralties of Kuré and Sasého are constructed, and the works of naval construction doubled in the yard of the naval arsenal at Yokosuka. Again, 700 to 800 tons per annum may be counted on for the manufacture of arms and different engines of war. This would give a total annual consumption of 8,000 tons for the Government arsenals."

The Government will proceed to found these new works in the following manner:—In the first year, that is in 1892, it will purchase the land and engage the foreign engineers who are to be entrusted with the management of the establishment. During the second year, the works themselves will be constructed and the machinery fixed there, and, finally, in the third year (1893), the manufacture of iron will be commenced. The sum to be expended on this enterprise will be divided as follows:—Of the sum of 2,250,000 yen, the total amount of the expenditure, 1,750,000 yen will be devoted to the purchase of land, to expenses for the construction of buildings, to the engagement of engineers and foreign workmen and the purchase of the necessary machinery and materials. Lastly, the remaining 500,000 yen will be used as a manufacture fund (purchase of ore, &c.).

BANKRUPTCY OF THE HAKUBUNSHA.

We regret to learn that the well known publishing firm of Tokyo, the Hakubunsha, has fallen into financial difficulties, and that an attachment has been granted against its property. The Hakubunsha has shown remarkable enterprise during the past few years; too much enterprise indeed, for it has undertaken the publication of works for which no considerable circulation could be expected. Several foreigners, some of whose works have been brought out there, are interested in the firm. The expense of publishing these works was borne by the authors, but as the sale was to some extent managed by the Hakubunsha, it is possible that the authors may suffer some loss by the bankruptcy. For some time there has been a kind of mania for publishing all kinds of books in Tokyo, and firms exercising so little judgment as the Hakubunsha were bound to suffer loss.

LANDSLIP IN TOKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

From the Miyoshi district of Tokushima Prefecture a serious landslip is reported. It seems to have been caused by the heavy rains in the second half of last month. At about 4 p.m. on the 1st instant, a loud noise was heard in the hills near Sansho, and this was accompanied by a landslip measuring 260 yards in length by 120 in width. The shrine of Kibune was completely buried, as were three houses in its vicinity. It is not stated, however, that any loss of life occurred. The course of the river Iani having been choked by the falling earth, inundations are feared, and the people of the place are said to be so much disturbed that there is talk of their moving to some other locality.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

A SPECIAL meeting was held at the Club Hotel on Wednesday, when the members gave a complimentary dinner to their President, Mr. J. T. Griffin, who recently returned from a trip to Europe. Fourteen sat down to dinner, the chair being taken by Mr. G. Sale, who in a few well chosen words, proposed the President's health, which was enthusiastically drunk. Mr. Griffin suitably responded, narrating his chess-adventures en route. The absence from unavoidable causes of Messrs. C. H. Hinton, who had been specially invited, J. T. Meikle and H. L. Fardel, prize-winners in the recent tournament, and W. B. Mason, was much regretted. After dinner the members paired off and engaged in their favourite pastime till a late hour.

WATANABE'S PICTURES IN LONDON.

SOME time ago certain prominent art amateurs in London conceived the idea of getting together a sufficient number of modern Japanese paintings to hold an exhibition in London. The execution of the project was attended by many difficulties, for though it is easy to find any number of inferior Japanese pictures, it is not by any means easy to find examples sufficiently good to be counted representative of the leading artists of the day. Twenty excellent paintings were collected after a considerable interval, chiefly from the brush of Mr. Watanabe Seitei, and these having been afterwards supplemented by about forty others, the whole were

recently displayed in New Bond Street. The *St. James's Gazette* thus refers to the display:—

An unusual amount of interest attaches to the exhibition now on view at Mr. Larkin's Gallery, 28, New Bond-street. A Japanese artist of no small repute in his own country is represented by upwards of sixty drawings of much artistic merit. He uses quite a different box of paints from any with which our English water-colour painters are familiar, and an instance may be quoted in the case of ink, of which a very effective use is made. The painter, Watanabe Seitei by name, has a sense of colour which shows him to be a true artist. The subjects are very slight, and are treated with the greatest economy of paint; but they will never fail to please any one with an artist's eye. In the same rooms at the Japanese Gallery there are a number of Mr. John Varley's oils and water-colours painted last year in Japan. There is a remarkable similarity of effect in Mr. Varley's oil-paintings (which are all on panel) and his water colour drawings, and a visitor might at first have some difficulty in distinguishing between them. For our part, we have little hesitation in expressing our preference for the panels, which unquestionably show great skill and intelligence. Mr. Varley's name has now been for some time past associated with his Japanese work, and we should have liked to devote more space to an inquiry into his methods and results. What we now see of his work quite confirms the favourable opinions which were expressed last summer of a much smaller collection at Mr. Larkin's Gallery. The catalogue of his pictures contains a pleasant and appreciative notice of them by Sir Edwin Arnold, who refers to Japan as "The Land of Gentle Manners and Fantastic Arts."

CORAL.

THE industry of collecting coral in the Bays of Kashiwajima and Muroto-zaki off the coast of Tosa used to be a prosperous affair, says the Tokyo News Agency, but has fallen off of late. Last year, according to returns compiled in the Kochi Prefectural offices, the quantity of coral collected was 54 *kwan* 83 *momme* (446lbs.), the value of which was 8,672 yen. The most prized variety was peach colour, which sold for 20 yen per 100 *me* (5/6th of a lb. avoird.), the same quantity of red being worth only 8 yen, and of white 1 yen. This Tosa coral illustrates the exacting character of Japanese taste. Though very little inferior to imported coral, it does not command a fiftieth part of the latter's value in the market. In fact no self-respecting lady will wear a hair-pin of Tosa *sangoju*, if she can procure foreign coral, and a mere nuance in the tint of abraded of the latter will double its value in her eyes.

KAWAI KURATARO.

KAWAI KURATARO has been sentenced in the Tokyo Provincial Court (the section for Major Offences) to six years' imprisonment with hard labour. The sentence was increased by two years owing to a discovery, lately made, that in addition to other frauds Kawai had forged two agreements, one between himself and Viscount Doi, and another between himself and Prince Tokugawa. Among his associates the two who were convicted of crime were Tsubata Shuei, sentenced to 20 months imprisonment and 10 months' police surveillance, and Doi Toshiharu, sentenced to six months' imprisonment, six months' police surveillance and to pay a fine of 10 yen.

THE GAMBLING CASE.

THE Disciplinary Tribunal organized to try a charge of gambling brought against the President of the Supreme Court and six Justices of the same, has now delivered judgment, to the effect that no evidence whatever has been adduced to prove that the accused Judges were guilty of playing cards for money, and that, consequently, there has been no offence against the law. Quite a number of witnesses were examined by the Court, among them being several danseuses and keepers of restaurants, but the whole affair has ended in a fiasco, as we fully anticipated. It should never have been allowed to go forward for trial, in our opinion.

JAPANESE MISCELLANEOUS STORE AT CHICAGO.

AN idea was conceived that profitable results might be obtained by opening a store for the sale of miscellaneous Japanese manufactures in connection with the Chicago World's Fair, but the project does not find favour in Japan owing, it is said, to the heavy expenses that would be incurred. The estimate is that if ten thousand dollars worth of goods are to be sent, a capital

of thirty thousand dollars would be required. We read that a conference is to be held at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the 10th instant, to settle the final fate of the project.

THE ANTIQUITIES IN THE "SHOSO-IN."

THE Imperial Household Department publishes a notice in the *Official Gazette* that the antiquities preserved in the Imperial store-house (*Shoso-in*) at Nara will be put out for the purpose of being aired, from the 1st to the 31st of August, and that permission to see them will be granted on due application. In the case of foreign employes the application must be made through their respective Departments or employers, and in the case of other foreigners leave must be sought through their Ministers. Applications have to be sent in by the 25th of this month.

FAREWELL DINNER TO DR. BAEZ.

WE learn that the members of the Tokyo Club propose to entertain Dr. E. Baelz at a farewell dinner in the Rokumeikan on the 20th instant. Dr. Baelz has such a multitude of friends that some may possibly fail to be reached by the form of notice usual in these cases, especially as the season does not encourage club-going. We therefore employ our columns to suggest that members desiring to be present should use all expedition in intimating their intention to the Secretary of the Club.

NAGASAKI.

THE old Custom House at Megasaki, says the *Rising Sun*, a rotten and dilapidated building erected some seventeen years ago at considerable expense, is now being demolished, just in time to save it from collapsing, having been replaced by a very handsome and substantial building on the opposite side of the road. A new examining shed is, we understand, to be erected on the site of the old Custom House, as the present shed has long been found inadequate to the requirements of the port.

NICARAGUA.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* says that Nicaragua has approached Japan with the object of concluding a treaty of commerce and amity. There has never hitherto been any intercourse between Nicaragua and Japan. It is therefore believed that the purpose of the treaty would be merely to secure Japanese immigrants to assist in developing the Central American Republic. No objections, however, present themselves on Japan's side, and the negotiations, according to our contemporary, are likely to be soon undertaken.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BOURSE.

THE Pro and Anti-Bourse parties have for many months past been engaged in active warfare. We now read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that a compromise has been arrived at, and that the Government has decided not to abolish the hitherto existing Rice Exchange and Stock Exchange, but to establish a Bourse for the sale of other articles. The rules already drawn up will be modified so as to suit the old and new Exchanges.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

THE Manager of the Bank writes on Tuesday:—"I beg to inform you that I have to-day received a telegram from London stating that reconstruction of this Bank is probable."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Ministerial problem has entered a new phase. The Cabinet has been found positively disinclined to deliver the reins of Government into the hands of the Camera Statesmen on the basis proposed by the latter. Henceforth there are no longer to be any statesmen behind the curtain, and for good or for evil the Cabinet will have to shape its own course without any interference from outsiders. When Count Matsukata accepted the Premiership last year, he did so, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* points out,

only on condition that he should always have the benefit of the friendly advice and support of the elder statesmen. Under those circumstances, the Premier always on important occasions consulted Count Ito and others, who thus came to be openly regarded as the real possessors of power. This abnormal state of things at last culminated in the strange scene of a few outsiders deliberating on the destiny of the Ministry at the request of the Minister President. It was at one time extremely probable that a new Cabinet would be formed by the statesmen of the first order, with Count Ito as Minister President. But the Ministers in power, who had meanwhile been called various names by the press for their singular "patience" and "meekness," at last asserted their independence, and are now apparently quite determined to pursue a strong course of policy towards the Opposition. As to the filling up of the vacancies various reports were circulated, but finally the portfolio of Home Affairs fell to Mr. Kono, and that of Agriculture and Commerce to Viscount Sano, the portfolio of Justice remaining still to be allotted.

The press does not seem to regard the present Cabinet as likely to last long. But all papers without distinction of party are glad that the Ministers have distinctly severed their equivocal relations with the elder statesmen. In this respect, the repeated conferences of the Camera Statesmen, though leading to no positive result, have been productive of a most important negative issue. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regrets that it has not been possible for the statesmen of the first order to return to power, and calls upon the present Ministers to allot the vacant portfolios as quickly as possible. In a few days, says our contemporary, the public will be able to see whether Count Matsukata is prepared, as he once declared, to march forward even over the bodies of his opponents, or whether he is an irresolute and weak statesman. The *Hainichi Shimbun* criticizes the conduct of Count Matsukata on the present occasion as being impolite towards the Camera Statesmen, whose counsel he most earnestly solicited, but whose advice when given he has not hesitated to reject unceremoniously. But our contemporary at the same time congratulates the Cabinet on its severance of connection with the Camera Statesmen. The *Kaishin-to* organ sincerely hopes that the spirit of independence shown by the Ministers of State on the present occasion may be enduring. The *Fiji Shimpō* also congratulates the Cabinet on its new career of independence, for, says that journal, the Cabinet's curse has been, not the Diet, but the statesmen who stood behind the curtain. At the same time, the *Fiji* thinks it very strange that the elder statesmen, whose advice has been so rudely rejected, do not show any signs of dissatisfaction at the treatment they have received from their juniors. Two explanations occur to our contemporary. The first is that the elder statesmen are perfectly satisfied with the present arrangement because there is a tacit understanding that they are to come into power very soon. The second that they know they can easily get into office whenever they please.

A few papers, like the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Hochi Shimbun*, believe, or pretend to believe, the rumour that the present Cabinet has decided to pursue a *chōsen* policy, that is, a policy of keeping independent of all political parties. These papers are very much excited over the rumour, and vehemently denounce the folly of pursuing such a retrogressive policy. For our own part, we fear that our worthy contemporaries are tilting against a windmill.

In certain quarters it is seriously believed that the so-called "strong party" in the Government aims at the maintenance of power even at the point of the bayonet. Count Yamagata is regarded as the leader of this section, and high spirited officers in the Army and Navy are said to be its principal supporters. Among these persons, some, it is rumoured, have been

rash enough to remark that, under certain circumstances, it may become necessary to suspend the operation of the Constitution. What is very strange is that the *Kokumin Kyokai* (National Union) is regarded as a tool by which this militant policy is to be carried out. Absurd as all this appears to the sober minded observer, it is none the less true that there are men who seriously believe in the existence of such a party or movement in official ranks. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* ridicules the silliness of attaching faith to the possibility of such a bold course at the present time. It is not indeed absolutely out of the question to maintain despotic or military sway in a constitutional or even republican country. But such things are abnormal, and only within reach of men like Cæsar, Cromwell, or Napoleon. Is there such a man in Japan now? Count Yamagata has a splendid war record, but he is deficient in some of the qualifications of a statesman. Count Ito is shrewd and able, but he has no military achievement to strike the imagination of the people. Similar remarks apply to Count Inouye and Count Kuroda. Who else, asks the *Nichi Nichi* is competent to undertake so daring a course of policy? Viscount Shinagawa's speech at the meeting of the National Union and that of Mr. Oi at the meeting of the *Kwantō-kai* are generally regarded as savouring more of a militant spirit than of anything else. But a militant policy must be carried out, not by mere words, but by solid action.

The Gambling Case has been finished so far as the legal side of the question is concerned, the accused Judges being acquitted, not on the ground of insufficiency of evidence, but on the ground of entire absence of evidence. The vernacular papers, which at first strongly called for the sacrifice of these Judges at the shrine of public morality, now turn round upon their accusers and severely criticize the latter's rashness in causing such intense public excitement without any proof to establish the accusation. It is not to be understood that the vernacular papers regret the escape of the Judges from the clutches of the law. On the contrary, they are glad that Chief Justice Kojima and the others, all of whom enjoy a high reputation for professional capacity and general integrity of character, have been able to establish their innocence. The papers fear, however, that the matter will not end here, and that its effect will be to embitter still more the already strained relations between the two rival sections in the Department of Justice. The *Choya Shimbun* advises all the parties concerned to bury the present incident in oblivion. The *Kokkai* recommends Chief Justice Kojima not to be betrayed into the unmanly course of retaliating upon his accusers. The *Hochi Shimbun* calls upon the accusers to resign their office; for it believes that the present case, being essentially different from an ordinary legal proceeding, those responsible for its inception are morally bound to abide by the consequences of their action.

The point that has attracted widest attention in connection with the judgment delivered in this case, is the circumstance that the examination of danseuses and restaurant keepers conducted at the Metropolitan Police Office was declared by the Judges of the Disciplinary Court not to have been in accordance with law. It follows that the Metropolitan Police Office has been guilty of a breach of the Constitution, for the Constitution guarantees that "no Japanese subject shall be arrested, detained, tried, or punished, unless according to law." The papers call upon the Government to take proper steps in respect of this unconstitutional action of the police functionaries.

The rivalry between the Western and the Japanese schools of painting has awakened wide spread interest among the journalists of the capital. The students of the Western style of

painting are severely criticized by the press for their rash and precipitate conduct. Not only have they withdrawn their application for sending pictures to the Chicago Exposition, but they are making much noise to arouse the attention of the public. They do not hesitate to attribute ignoble motives to the patrons of the Japanese style of painting. The *Kokkai* condemns their conduct as mean and contemptible. They are, in our contemporary's opinion, like the degenerate priests of the Sodo sect who have been servile enough to ask for the help of the laity in settling the internal troubles of their order. The Western school of painting is still in its infancy in this country, and if its students fail to find support and patronage, the blame is to be laid on the imperfections of their own works. On the other hand, the artists of the modern Japanese school, though falling very much short of the great masters of the old, are, comparatively speaking, far above the level of their petulant rivals. The latter are advised to be independent and self-helping. Another journal, the *Nippon*, is of opinion that the policy of the Government with regard to pictorial art ought to be to give all possible protection to the Japanese school of painting so as to promote its further development, and to let alone the Western school so that it may attain free growth. Our contemporary thinks it a duty which each nation owes to humanity to develop and perfect its own peculiar style of painting. On the other hand, the *Nippon* recognizes the importance of receiving healthy stimulus from contact with alien schools of art; and in this respect the introduction of the Western style of painting cannot fail to contribute to perfecting the national art of Japan. There are some painters of the Japanese school who entertain the erroneous idea that the students of the Western school are deadly enemies of their art. These prejudiced painters of the Japanese school, on the one hand, and the conceited students of the western school, on the other, who, ignoring the faults of their own work, show themselves ready to grumble and complain, are equally admonished to behave with more consideration and dignity.

The *Fiji Shimpō* joins the general cry for the adoption of a strong policy by Japan toward the Korean Kingdom. The recent attempt to blow up the residence of the Tai-won-kun does not seem to have led to any disturbance. But our contemporary is convinced that the peninsular kingdom, like a latent volcano, may at any moment burst forth into eruption. The Japanese Government must substitute continual alertness for its present mood of indifference. Should Japanese interests suffer in the sequel of a disturbance in Korea, the Government may try to lay the blame on the shoulders of the Opposition politicians who persistently reject the appropriations for the defence of the country. But such a plea would be of little avail, for it is sure that, whatever may have been the conduct of the Opposition, the nation will hold the Government responsible for any disaster abroad. Therefore the Government is recommended to give up its lukewarm attitude toward Korea.

With regard to the revocation of the privileges of extraterritoriality in the case of the Portuguese residents, the vernacular press applauds the step which the authorities have decided to take. Such a step, say the papers, is only just and proper.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* recommends the Government to conclude a treaty of amity and commerce with the Republic of Nicaragua, in response to the latter's rumoured proposals. The canal now in process of construction across that country is destined to confer immeasurable benefits upon Japan, if the latter be only careful to take advantage of it. Such being the case, our contemporary exhorts the Government to open friendly relations with Nicaragua, especially as the proposed treaty is reported to be on the basis of perfect equality.

THE CONFERENCE OF STATESMEN.

IT would seem that the great Conference of Statesmen inside and outside the Government—the Conference of four Ministers President and five Counts—has ended in a resolve to leave matters undisturbed. The Conference met at Count MATSUKATA'S Mita residence on Sunday, the Camera Statesmen being Counts ITO, KURODA, INOUE, YAMAGATA, and OYAMA. From 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. the deliberations are said to have lasted. The topic of discussion was not the mere nomination of Ministers to hold the vacant portfolios: that would not have required any such protracted consideration. What the Conference met to consider was whether there should be a complete re-construction of the Cabinet, so as to place statesmen of the first class at the head of the various Departments, or whether the portfolios should be left with their present holders, some of whom are not counted the strongest men at the service of the State. The exact character of the Conference's deliberations is not known, but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alleges that none of the Camera Statesmen was willing to return to power at present, except on conditions which the Cabinet found difficulty in accepting. Finally Count MATSUKATA declared his readiness to pursue the policy hitherto followed by him, in the face of all obstacles, and the Camera Statesmen, on their side, announced that they considered it absolutely necessary that the Cabinet should henceforth be wholly independent, in obedience to which view they purpose hereafter to refrain from offering any advice. The *Nichi Nichi* congratulates the Cabinet on this issue, believing that the country will be better satisfied to see the statesmen in power acting entirely according to the guidance of their own judgment and accepting the full responsibilities of their position. At the same time, our contemporary regrets that the day has not yet come for organizing a really strong Cabinet. It applauds Count MATSUKATA'S courage as well as the self-effacement of the Camera Statesmen. The latter, having concluded their business, are quick to leave the Capital. Count YAMAGATA has gone to Oiso; Count OYAMA to Numazu; Count INOUE, will start immediately for Nikko or Hakone, and Count Ito has returned to Odawara.

It must remain more or less matter of conjecture what were the exact points upon which an irreconcilable difference of opinion was found to exist between the present Cabinet and the statesmen behind the curtain. But enough has been ascertained to show that, speaking broadly, the Camera Statesmen, led by Counts ITO and INOUE, are persuaded that the time has not come for the Government to ally itself with any political party, and that the only course adapted to the true interests of the State is for the Government to

stand entirely aloof, in obedience to the spirit of the Constitution, leaving the various parties to attain stability or lapse into disintegration by processes quite independent of official relationship. To follow this policy would involve severance of all connection, direct or indirect, with the newly organized *Kokumin Kyokai*, and apparently those in power cannot reconcile themselves at once to that course. It is further rumoured that another essential condition of the return of the Camera Statesmen to power would have been a charge of policy at the Home Office, involving the removal of Vice-Minister SHIRANE as well as of several Governors who made themselves conspicuous by excessive zeal during the recent general elections. Count MATSUKATA, himself a perfectly upright and patriotic man, would probably have accepted these conditions readily enough, but it is said that some of his colleagues were determined not to hand over the Administration on such a basis, and the Camera Statesmen, on their side, having no desire to assume office, but, on the contrary, having consented to consider that contingency merely out of deference to repeated requests, were very well content to leave things as they are for the present. If this review of the situation be correct—and we are disposed to think that, in the main, it is trustworthy—the newly organized National Union must be counted a potent factor in the political incidents of the time. For the rest, most people will be disposed to endorse the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* eulogy of Count MATSUKATA'S courage and loyalty to his colleagues.

CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS.

MR. F. H. BALFOUR signifies very strong disagreement with us in respect of the Rev. A. H. SMITH'S "Chinese Characteristics." Mr. BALFOUR considers that gentleman better fitted than any other foreigner in China to discuss the character of the Chinese, and speaks in emphatic terms of his great literary ability. We must at once confess to a want of full information about Mr. SMITH. At the time of writing the unfavourable comments to which Mr. BALFOUR takes exception, we knew Mr. SMITH only through the extracts republished from his volume by the *St. James's Gazette*, and did not identify him as the author of the essays which originally appeared in the columns of the *North China Daily News*. Some of those essays we have read, and undoubtedly their perusal afforded us infinite pleasure, for, as Mr. BALFOUR truly says, they show wonderful shrewdness, wit, and literary art. But they were not published over Mr. SMITH'S name by our Shanghai contemporary, and the plain fact is that the name of their author has only now become known to us. Mr. BALFOUR will see, if he refers to our comments, that we prefaced them

by avowing that we had not seen Mr. SMITH'S book. In fact we wrote of a Mr. SMITH to whom the *St. James's Gazette* alone had introduced us. And if we are to judge Mr. SMITH'S book by the light of the London journal's extracts, we cannot but speak of it in terms of strong condemnation. Let us briefly recapitulate the "characteristics" which it ascribes to the Chinese. First, "John Chinaman is the most credulous of mortals;" secondly, "he is without a rival in readiness to misunderstand the most simple statements;" thirdly, "it is often very difficult for an ordinary Chinese to catch on;" fourthly, "his ideas move very slowly," and "nothing surprises him so much as an idea;" fifthly, "his mind is like a rusty old smooth-bore cannon, mounted on an old decrepit carriage, which requires much hauling about before it can be pointed at anything, and then it is sure to miss fire;" sixthly, he is the victim of "intellectual turbidity;" and seventhly, "he has no nerves." Now here are seven important generalizations, all, with the exception of the last perhaps, exceedingly unfavourable to the Chinese. On what kind of evidence are they based? We tabulate the conclusions and the premises:

PREMISES.

Scholars have been known to enquire whether there are a sun and a moon in Europe. A Chinese audience, gathered by the roadside, has been apparently satisfied with the information that plants grow upside down in Europe.

The first appearance of foreign ladies riding side saddle gave rise to a tale that there is a variety of Occidental woman with only one leg.

A country woman once expressed the opinion that foreign children are white because their mothers lick them.

CONCLUSIONS.

John Chinaman is the most credulous of mortals.

A cart driver, being desired to call the attention of his master's little boy to a baby camel among a drove, replied:—"If you should buy the camel you could not raise it—it would be sure to die."

A Chinaman, if asked how old he is, does not reply immediately.

A Chinaman, when he knocks at a gate, invariably answers the query "who is there?" by "I."

A Chinese cook, if asked why he does not put salt into bread-cakes, answers "we do not put salt into bread-cakes."

The Chinaman is without a rival in readiness to misunderstand the simplest questions. The Chinaman finds difficulty in "catching on."

Nothing surprises a Chinaman so much as an idea.

A Chinaman's mind is like a rusty old smooth-bore cannon mounted on an old decrepit carriage.

A Chinaman is the victim of intellectual turbidity.

When we read such reasoning as the above, we can form only one conclusion, namely, that Mr. SMITH, instead of studying Chinese character honestly and carefully, has merely sought opportunities to air his own smartness and facetiae. Nothing is so easy as to turn things into ridicule. The lacunæ in one's own powers of observation may be readily filled up with suggestions and inferences which sound very smart and are often diverting, but which in reality convert the pretended portrait into a monstrous caricature. The Chinaman, if interpreted by the light of the above extracts, becomes a ludicrous and contemptible kind of person; a fit

subject for feeble jokes and shallow wit. But, in point of fact—and here we are confident that Mr. BALFOUR will bear us out—the individual Chinaman is about as bright, helpful, practical, and sensible a specimen of humanity as can be found in any country. To those who cannot look beyond the narrow horizon of their own scanty experiences and who judge everything by their own egotistical standards, there may be many “strange” elements in the Chinaman’s character. But it is very sure that the Chinaman finds just as much to marvel at in the character of the Occidental. We think it infinitely to be regretted that men undertaking to interpret the character of any people, should substitute shallow facetiae for logical induction, and build up sweeping generalizations on fragments of isolated fact. Such writers are, in our opinion, the most effectual obstacles to the growth of mutual understanding, and to the development of international friendliness.

PORTUGAL AND HER JURISDICTION IN JAPAN.

IT is impossible to conceive a more striking example of the beam in one’s own eye and the mote in one’s neighbour’s, than is furnished, on the one hand, by the complaints of certain foreign critics against Japanese jurisdiction, and on the other, by the provision which certain foreign Powers make for the judicial control of their own subjects in Japan. Against the notion of entrusting foreigners to the jurisdiction of Japanese Criminal Courts it is persistently alleged that, though the Japanese Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure represent, with some minor exceptions, a very excellent body of laws, certainly good enough to warrant their extension to foreigners residing in Japan, yet the Magistrates and Judges administering the Codes, though they have received a legal education and though they have satisfied tests designed to ensure competence, have not had sufficient training and experience to justify foreign confidence. Yet, while this pretext is solemnly iterated and re-iterated with every semblance of grave conviction, we have before our eyes the spectacle of Western Powers entrusting judicial functions in Japan to men absolutely without legal education of any kind, and moreover engrossed in commercial affairs which constitute the business of their lives. There is only one expression applicable to such a contrast: it is supremely ridiculous. If it could be honestly claimed and proved that European merchants are gilded by heaven with some special judicial faculty, and are consequently competent to sit on the bench and administer laws with which they have no manner of expert acquaintance, then we might condone the monstrous farce of a trader, without any preliminary training whatever, passing from his count-

ing-house to the seat of justice to assume legal charge of the persons of his nationals and of the property of every one bringing suit against them. It does not matter how many or how few there may be of such wholly unqualified magistrates. Neither does it matter how many or how few may be the resulting miscarriages of justice. The fact is what we have to deal with, and certainly it is a sufficiently startling fact. Japan has frequently complained about it, and has pointed out, with manifest truth, that Foreign Powers which claim for their nationals exemption from her jurisdiction, are bound by every principle of justice and good faith, not to speak of the constructive obligation imposed on them by the treaties, to provide an efficient substitute for that jurisdiction. She has hitherto limited herself to protests, however, being more or less debarred by her own past tolerance from insisting upon a change in the case of minor Powers which have neglected their treaty obligation in this respect. But a case has now arisen of such flagrancy that some action more effective than mere protest has been deemed necessary. Portugal has always been a conspicuous offender in the matter of jurisdiction. At the outset the functions which by treaty she had constructively pledged herself to discharge were entrusted to merchant Consuls, whose competence did not extend beyond that of a committing magistrate, subordinate to the tribunals in Macao. In other words, when an offence was charged or a claim preferred against a Portuguese subject in Japan, the Consul could only hold a preliminary examination, and then refer to Macao for instructions. In the sequel of protests made by Japan at the first Treaty Revision Conference in 1882, a Portuguese Consul-General was appointed in Tokyo. But though this constituted a marked improvement in the sense that now, for the first time, did Portugal possess in Japan an official competent to render judicial decisions, it was, in truth, only a very partial improvement, for the Consul-General’s jurisdiction did not extend beyond the district of Tokyo, where he was stationed; cases occurring at the outposts had still to be referred to Macao, after preliminary investigation. A flagrant miscarriage of justice at Nagasaki in 1886, owing to this exceedingly defective arrangement, resulted in a change by which the Consulate-General in Tokyo took the place of the Macao Court, and became the tribunal of reference for all cases occurring throughout Japan. But the Portuguese Government, impelled by motives of economy, recently resolved to remove this Consul-General, their only paid official in Japan, and his removal was not supplemented by arrangements even for reverting to the inadequate and already condemned system which had prevailed before his appointment. The Japanese Government protested strongly. Though not disposed,

as we have said, to insist upon a change in the case of Powers which, from the beginning, have been content to entrust, and have continued to entrust, judicial functions to Merchant Consuls, Japan is emphatically and justly opposed to the inauguration, at this eleventh hour, of a system of judicial *laissez aller*. The Constitution imposes upon the Government certain clear obligations towards the people of this empire with respect to the protection of life and property and the preservation of peace and good order. The Government, if it delegates a portion of those obligations to a Foreign Power, is not thereby absolved from the duty of seeing that they are efficiently discharged, neither can failure in such a matter be condoned by pleading neglect on the part of any foreign Power. It is the Constitutional duty of the Ruler of Japan to provide means for obviating all neglect of functions lying so close to the root of sound administration. Therefore Japan protested strongly against Portugal’s *lache*. But Portugal took no notice of the protest. Whether the authorities at Lishon regarded the whole matter as too trivial to deserve attention, or whether they were engrossed by other affairs, it is certain not only that they left Japan’s remonstrances unnoticed, but that they did not even think it worth while to convey to the Government in Tokyo the intimations usual in case of the removal of an official charged with diplomatic as well as Consular duties. In the face of this indifference or neglect, Japan doubtless felt constrained to adopt a decisive course. She intimated to the Portuguese Government that inasmuch as Portugal, by failing to make any provision for the judicial control of her subjects in Japan, had abrogated the powers of jurisdiction extended to her by treaty, all Portuguese nationals within the limits of the Japanese empire, should, after a certain date, be considered judicable by Japanese tribunals. Portugal had ample time to avert this contingency. She might have intimated that the necessary arrangements would be made independently, or that the judicial functions in question would be delegated to duly qualified Consular Authorities of some other Power. But she preferred to maintain her silence of indifference or neglect. Finally, being again officially approached on the eve of the date originally named by Japan, she merely replied that an answer should be given in due time. Such a method of conducting international relations cannot be considered either courteous or practical. If the officials at the Portuguese Foreign Office regarded Japan’s intimation as an empty menace, they were mistaken. If they counted the affair too unimportant to attract speedy attention, they will perhaps find less difficulty in reconciling themselves to its issue. Japan has not proceeded with any unbecoming haste. Having

allowed a considerable interval to elapse after the fixed date, she now formally proclaims that Portugal has practically abrogated the powers of jurisdiction extended to her by treaty within Japanese territory, and that, henceforth, Portuguese subjects in this empire shall be judicable by Japanese tribunals. Portugal may cry out, but she has only herself to blame. If she cannot afford to discharge the international obligations which she has deliberately assumed by treaty, then she forfeits her title to enjoy the privileges conferred by treaty. Her position in Japan has thus become distinctly peculiar. She has in this country about 140 subjects, who henceforth forfeit the one privilege that constitutes a kind of equivalent for the restrictions imposed upon foreign trade and travel. We can be tolerably sure that the Japanese Government will not re-surrender the jurisdiction now assumed. Portuguese subjects in this empire have finally passed under Japanese jurisdiction, and in exchange for the valued privilege of being tried by their own tribunals, they obtain nothing whatever. With Portugal's pecuniary embarrassments we can sympathise, but it is difficult to find any excuse for the carelessness and neglect of treaty obligations shown by her in this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SEAMEN LEFT BEHIND AT HAKODATE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 2nd a correspondent accuses me of "great injustice" towards the Captain of the *W. H. Meyer*. Well, if helping to feed the men while ashore here, and subscribing to pay their passage to Yokohama, means injustice to the Captain, then I admit the claim.

Mr. Henson says:—"The four men left behind here were deserters from the vessel."—that's his opinion not mine. Again he says:—"the Master did all possible to get them back, after waiting two days for the Police to bring in the men, without result, the master," &c. Surely this is too utterly absurd, when Mr. Henson knows or ought to know, "that neither he nor the captain notified, either verbally or in writing, the Police that the men were wanted. He also knows that the Captain must give a written description of the men to the Inspector of Police before they can be called deserters; all the information the Police got about the matter was from a butcher, who told the Police he had seen four sailors walking on the Kameda road. I myself saw the Captain, within a hundred yards of the men, but it is really too good to say the ship was kept waiting two days for the Police to do what they were not notified about. There is no injustice in this, I suppose.

Hoping you will excuse me for troubling you with this matter.

Yours truly,

OLD SAILOR.

Hakodate, 4th July.

THE BISHOP OF DURHAM AND POSITIVISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The part played by Dr. Westcott in bringing the late strikes in Durham to an end, has naturally attracted a good deal of public attention; for such intervention is by no means common amongst the ranks of the clergy; and the instances in which, when exercised, it has been successful, are rarer still.

How to reconcile the contending claims of capital and labour, is one of the most difficult as well as most urgent of the problems of our time, and many are the plans for solving it that have been,

and continue to be, propounded. One much-favoured proposal is, by co-operation amongst the workmen to get rid of the capitalist class altogether; some more moderate reformers advocate profit sharing as the specific; there are others, like Mr. Alfred Russell Wallace, who would relieve the labourers by nationalizing the land, or like Mr. Henry George by throwing the burden of taxation entirely on the landowners; whilst a still more numerous class, represented by such writers as Mr. Edward Bellamy, the Fabian Society, etc., place their hopes in one or another form of State Socialism. However great the diversity of these multifarious schemes, there is one feature common to them all: they agree in seeking to remedy industrial anarchy by purely material means, economical, legislative, or political.

There is, however, in the field an entirely different school of thought, which views these recurring conflicts between labour and capital as but the outward material symptoms of an inward spiritual malady; a malady which admits, therefore, of only a moral cure. This school demonstrates that wealth is a social product and ought to be devoted to social ends, that the capitalist is as indispensable as the workman; that both are social functionaries, living by the work of others, and therefore bound in return to work for others. Confining legislation to the protection of rights, it would rely for the enforcement of social duties solely on public opinion, directed by a new scientific priesthood, or body of philosophic teachers, whose authority would rest solely on their competence to demonstrate the truths of science in general, and more particularly of their own special sciences—Sociology and Morals. Such, in necessarily bald and meagre outline, is the Positive solution of the industrial problem. As a deduction from the scientific analysis of human nature, and of the structure of the social organism, it proves that the proper remedy for industrial wrong-doing is to get at the conscience, whether of the capitalist or the workman; and that, to be effective, it must be systematically applied by an organized body of teachers; or in other words, by a new spiritual power.

What chance in the struggle for popular acceptance this latter or spiritual doctrine has of overcoming its materialist rivals is a point on which opinions may well differ. The lively editor of *The Review of Reviews* has lately assured his readers, in his confident oracular manner, that Positivism is as antiquated as the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas. On the other hand, acuter critics than Mr. Stead have found the defect of Comte's teaching to lie in rather the opposite direction, that of being too far in advance of its time. Be that, however, as it may; the point I wish to bring out is, that the method of procedure by which the Durham strikes have been so happily terminated is essentially that which was enunciated by Comte over a generation ago as the proper or scientific method; and which has many a time since been scoffed at as impractical, chimerical, Popish, antiquated, and all the rest of it.

But, it may be objected, may not this correspondence between the action of the English prelate and the theory of the French philosopher be a mere fortuitous coincidence? Is there any warrant for obtruding the mention of Positivism in connection with Dr. Westcott's name in this matter? I venture to think that there is. Some of his published writings show that the Bishop has studied Comte's great religious work, the "Positive Polity." Nay, it is even rumoured that he has had the candour and the courage to acknowledge some obligation to it for spiritual benefit. Surely, then, it is not an entirely groundless assumption that the suggestion and the success of his recent mediation are to some extent attributable to his knowledge of the luminous teaching of the Founder of the Religion of Humanity.

Yours faithfully,

J. C. H.

Hakodate, July 4th, 1892.

TO THE "X." CLASS OF CRITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—If such effusions as the letter of your correspondent "X."—no doubt a "Reverend"—are allowed to appear in your columns, such a letter as will make the cheeks of every Japanese burn with indignation, if there is a man left amongst them to whom the honour of his mother, wife, or sister is dear, and I trust the honour of Japanese men has not been buried with the sword of the samurai, I can only come to the conclusion that your intention is to give such correspondents rope enough to hang themselves with. I trust you will permit me to protest against "X.'s" calumnies in terms as strong as those which these "Brother Hankyards" and "Chadbands" use between themselves, and against others, in their so-called "religious" discussions. Apostles

of love, peace, and charity that covers a multitude of sins, do these call themselves who thus traduce defenceless, patient, self-denying women? Do they call themselves servants of God and followers of Christ? The very names of God, Christ, and religion are prostituted in their slanderous mouths; there is not one amongst them man enough, Christian enough, to utter a single word of protest. But others have protested in your journal; I have protested; I do so again. This time I shall send my protest all over Japan and all over the world wherever the English tongue is spoken, the tongue of honest and honourable men, that was never meant to be prostituted to such uses as those to which "X." puts it. For never, during the ten years that I have lived in this country, have I seen such falsehoods in print as this anonymous slanderer of Japanese women has uttered. I have a right and the duty to defend them, for what happiness has fallen to my lot is due to one of them. Let there be any mistake let me reproduce what the "Reverend" "X," whose identity is but thinly veiled, has to say. It is as follows:—

The perfect woman-wife of Japan must be a something to which the very knowledge or perception of purity or honour is unknown: a chattel, a mere bit of goods in her owner's hands, she is passed from father to so-called husband, or from one to another without her own will; without her own cognisance, she is called upon to sacrifice, at the bidding of another, her very crown and privilege of womanhood; she is to make herself that which for ever blots out all prospect of true womanliness; which debases those who demand and those who allow, and by that act she is to win the honour due to filial piety; *filial*—what sense of fatherhood or sonhood or daughterhood exists in such a nation? Has that maiden ever known the meaning of the word "mother"? Is she ever to know of it in her own life? I ask every honest Japanese to refute me if he can. I ask every one of that noble-hearted minority which has realised a happier standard, whether that result was not found by breaking, and only by breaking, with Japanese custom and tradition.

To the majority of Japanese women then, the wives and daughters of the peer and the peasant alike, to the same women, then, whose womanly virtues and noble qualities of heart and mind have so often and so justly been extolled in the same columns in which they are now so grossly slandered by an "X," the very knowledge or perception of honour and purity is unknown? Verily it is impossible adequately to reply to such villenous of the pen. Assuming, however, for argument's sake, that a community were infested with a loathsome disease, would it be the place of a physician, pure in mind and honest of purpose, to drag his patients on a platform and exhibit their sores to the world! One consequence would be that he would be spurned by his patients, and another that the honourable members of his profession would strike him off the rolls. But the medical quack finds it necessary to blow his trumpet in the market, and administer his nostrums to unwilling or but half-willing victims on a platform, in view of an open-mouthed crowd, and the religious quack, the more dangerous of the two, does the same. The difference is that there is no one to strike him off the rolls. But, says "X," there is "noble-hearted minority which has realized a happier standard," to be sure, under his guidance. What a shallow artifice this is! The object is to meet any one who may be man enough to stand up for the defence of his mother, wife, or sister, with the reply that he, of course, belongs to "the noble-hearted minority" and that what was said was not meant to apply to him, but to his neighbour and his family. But his neighbour is his friend. Oh, well then, it does not apply to his neighbour either, but to his neighbour's neighbour, to another street, to another city, to another province, to anyone in fact not within sight or hearing, or anyhow not unpleasantly near. But, Sir, I and others whose sentiments I express, understand all this thoroughly.

"X." must have been writing under some strong sense of personal injury or disappointment, for otherwise he could have scarcely allowed his bias to carry him so far as to call upon all honest Japanese to refute, if they can, that to their mothers, wives, and sisters, honour and purity are unknown, that they have not and cannot have any conception of the closest family ties, unless, I suppose, they acknowledged the "Reverend" "X." as their shepherd. It seems they do not, and the irate "Reverend" pays them out in print. Now I, in turn, ask every Japanese, honest or dishonest, no matter, as long as he is a man: Will Japanese, nobles and commoners,—for "X." expects none, except a mysterious "noble-hearted minority"—permit him, from an ambush on their own soil, to spit into the faces of their wives and mothers without opening their mouths in their defence? If they do, the sooner they make beasts of burden of themselves between the shafts of a *jinriki*.

sha, whom any one may abuse and drive about for ten cents, the better; if they do, let them no longer call themselves men, or claim the respect due to men; if they let the women of Japan take their place, whilst the men nurse children and use the broom. What an outcry there was in the Isoda case, by the Japanese press, in defence of a woman whose conduct in the matter was, to say the least, doubtful. What precautions are there not taken to prevent frail Japanese women from leaving the country, for fear that they might abroad lead lives that would reflect discredit upon Japan. But in Japan, in the country that is so anxious for the reputation of her daughters in foreign lands, any one may call them all that is vile, deny them every womanly virtue, and yet no Japanese will say the slanderer nay. What must the world, reading these calumnies but not knowing them to be such, think of Japan, if they go forth unchallenged. Must not the natural conclusion be, that the husbands and sons of such women are equally deficient in honour and virtue, and could the correctness of such a conclusion be denied? What, on the other hand, must we think of men, who, under the cloak of religion, cajole the Japanese authorities into letting them live outside of settlement limits, on the pretext of teaching all that is good, noble, and useful, and who then hunt in the gutters and cesspools of society for plague-spots, and proclaim with clappings of hands and rejoicings that they have found them—found them, ay, in places where anyone, whose prurient tendencies and low tastes prompt him to such resorts, is sure to find what he seeks, in Japan and in any other country. Were there a telescope to carry so far, "X." would not be satisfied until he discovered plague-spots in the moon and the stars, for a man must have an object in life. But is that the "work"—a much abused term—he and his like were sent to do in Japan, and is that all that Japan has to expect of them? A drop of milk, a drop of honey, and a drop of poison. I shall not hesitate to employ whatever gift of speech I possess for the purpose of exposing these traducers. Finally, I beg to thank my Tokyo and Yokohama friends for the approval which they have expressed, unsolicited, of a previous letter of mine in your journal on a similar subject. Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the courtesy of your columns, and most sincerely hoping that I may never have to address you again on a similar topic,

I am, yours very truly, F. SHROEDER.
Tokyo, July 5th, 1892.

[Our correspondent is mistaken as to "X's" identity: the latter is neither a missionary nor a Reverend.—Ed. J.W.M.]

YOKOHAMA HARBOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It certainly is fair that warships should menace a foe—but it is very unfair that they should come into the port of a friendly Power and be a menace to the shipping of that port. This, practically, is the case in Yokohama. The breakwater, now in rapid course of construction, has confined the channel, or fairway, for ingress or egress: and warships with great persistency anchor almost immediately inside of the breakwater, and as they foul the fairway it makes navigation doubly dangerous. They are also surrounded by a large number of sampans, moored about half a ship's length off them, which adds to the danger.

I have ventilated this grievance, which would result in an evil if a serious accident were to occur, hoping that some remedy may be applied. It seems that a remedy could easily be found by appointing a "Harbour Master," one who would inaugurate some system in the berthing of war and other ships. Such a step would be greatly appreciated by all Master Mariners frequenting the port.

With all respect, I venture to hope that this appeal may meet with some consideration at the hands of those who may have the power to alter the existing state of affairs, and that something may be done before evil happens.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RENNIE TIPPLE,
Master, Steamer *Sendai Maru*.
July 10th, 1892.

"A SILLY PERSON."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of to-day you speak of "a certain Mr. Arthur H. Smith," author of "Chinese Characteristics," as "evidently an ignorant prig, who does not hesitate to base monstrously ridiculous generalizations on his own equally monstrous ignorance."

I wish to say that if I were asked to name the

man, *par excellence*, who, in my humble judgment, understands the Chinese better than any other man I can think of, I should unhesitatingly name the Rev. Arthur H. Smith of Tientsin. I consider Mr. Smith the very highest authority upon the subject; he has lived for many years in the interior, and devoted himself to the study of the Chinese character as no other man, to my knowledge, has ever done. He is well known to English readers in China as one of the shrewdest and wittiest of writers—a man to whom we are all grateful for much keen enjoyment, as well as for the encouragement he has afforded to those who could otherwise have taken but a languid interest in the strange people among whom they dwell.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
FREDERIC H. BALFOUR.
Tokio, July 13th, 1892.

A MISTAKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Thanking you for the insertion of my letter to the "X." class of critics, I beg to apologise to whom it may concern for mistaking him to be a Reverend and missionary. The style of "X's" letter scarcely left room for any other conclusion, especially as it bore a strong resemblance to a similar letter that appeared some time ago, so that I and five or six others were under the same impression with regard to it—an impression I am sincerely glad to know was an erroneous one, and I shall take the first opportunity that offers to make the *amende honorable*, in addition to this apology, which I trust will be accepted in view of the strong and unwarranted provocation given.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,
F. SHROEDER.
Tokyo, July 13th, 1892.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY GRADUATION CEREMONY.

The presentation of diplomas to graduates of the Imperial University took place on Sunday in the Engineering College. Professor Kato, President of the University, and Count Oki, Minister of State for Education, delivered addresses during the proceedings, which were replied to by one of the graduates on behalf of his fellows. H.I.H. the Crown Prince was present during the ceremony. The following is the list of graduates:—

COLLEGE OF LAW.

FIRST LAW SECTION.

Mizuno Rentaro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Aoki Kikuo, shizoku, Nara Prefecture.
Yamaza Yenjiro, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Kuzu Kanzo, shizoku, Iwate Prefecture.
Masaki Naohiko, heimin, Osaka.
Hirano Kentaro, shizoku, Okayama Prefecture.
Hiraoka Teitaro, heimin, Hyogo Prefecture.
Nakamura Takezo, heimin, Tokyo.
Kugo Genichiro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Fukuwara Ryojiro, shizoku, Miye Prefecture.
Fuwa Hikomaro, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Matsumura Toshio, heimin, Osaka.
Yokoyama Kotaro, shizoku, Saitama Prefecture.
Kasai Shinichi, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.
Hida Yojiro, heimin, Oita Prefecture.
Yamazaki Tetsuzo, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Umeura Teimei, shizoku, Tokyo.
Hirabayashi Yojiro, heimin, Tokyo.
Takane Toramatsu, heimin, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Nozoye Juichi, shizoku, Nagasaki Prefecture.
Karasumaru Mitsunori, peer, Tokyo.
Shiraishi Motojiro, heimin, Miyagi Prefecture.
Siwa Shoichi, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Kuda Saishu, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.
Kizato Kesao, heimin, Kumamoto Prefecture.
Okita Toranosuke, shizoku, Gifu Prefecture.

SECOND LAW SECTION.

Iwatsuki Reijiro, shizoku, Shimane Prefecture.
Iriye Yoshiyuki, heimin, Tochigi Prefecture.
Okamura Shi, shizoku, Ibaraki Prefecture.
Kajiyama Yentaro, heimin, Hiroshima Prefecture.
Mausuoka Yoshiimasa, shizoku, Tokyo.
Asami Rintaro, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Mine Hachiro, shizoku, Miyagi Prefecture.
Mayezawa Nariyoshi, heimin, Tokyo.
Yamaga Jirokichi, shizoku, Hiroshima Prefecture.
Date Mineichiro, heimin, Yamagata Prefecture.
Oda Yosozo, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.
Kado Tsunemaru, heimin, Miye Prefecture.
Tejima Heijiro, shizoku, Hiroshima Prefecture.
Tsutsumi Sadajiro, heimin, Ibaraki Prefecture.
Ogawa Heikichi, heimin, Hokkaido.
Fujinami Motoo, shizoku, Oita Prefecture.
Sampei Tamotsu, heimin, Tokyo.
Arai Kentaro, shizoku, Niigata Prefecture.

Miyako Keizaburo, shizoku, Ibaraki Prefecture.
Zen Shojiro, shizoku, Osaka.
Yamanaka Kenkichi, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Hadano Kenzo, heimin, Hiroshima Prefecture.
Tsuzumi Rennosuke, shizoku, Tokyo.
Yokumori Ryata, heimin, Okayama Prefecture.
Tsuiji Hideharu, shizoku, Tokyo.

THIRD LAW SECTION.

Ikedo Juzaburo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Yamamoto Hiji, shizoku, Ehime Prefecture.
Nakao Tamotsu, heimin, Miyazaki Prefecture.
Koboshi Shosaku, shizoku, Tokyo.
Inouye Hisoka, shizoku, Chiba Prefecture.
Saigo Masakichi, heimin, Tokyo.
Iomi Teitaro, shizoku, Ehime Prefecture.
Noda Isamu, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Hayashi Ryntaro, shizoku, Wakayama Prefecture.
Murai Juiro, shizoku, Kumamoto Prefecture.

POLITICAL SCIENCE SECTION.

Inaba Kinichiro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Kudo Yutei, shizoku, Iwate Prefecture.
Akiba Shinzaburo, shizoku, Miyagi Prefecture.
Iwao Tatsumi, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Kumagai Kiichiro, heimin, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Ito Shutaro, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Matsumoto Teizaburo, heimin, Ehime Prefecture.
Tsuneoka Kennosuke, shizoku, Osaka.
Wakimoto Nabematsu, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

Miyake Soku, shizoku, Tokushima Prefecture.
Tanaka Nayataro, shizoku, Tokyo.
Nakahara Teiyei, heimin, Yamagata Prefecture.
Umebara Junichi, heimin, Osaka.
Kako Toji, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.
Momose Genkei, heimin, Hyogo Prefecture.
Kuribara Yunosuke, heimin, Saitama Prefecture.
Ito Sukehiko, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Tsuda Tokuyuki, heimin, Miye Prefecture.
Sasakura Yezaburo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Sase Ushihachi, heimin, Tokyo.
Furokawa Ichijiro, heimin, Tokushima Prefecture.
Watanabe Rai, shizoku, Tokyo.
Kodo Yojo, heimin, Kanagawa Prefecture.
Nakanishi Kametaro, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.
Tamura Mitsunaki, shizoku, Shizuoka Prefecture.
Izumi Tetsutaro, heimin, Tokyo.
Kojima Hisashi, shizoku, Okayama Prefecture.
Nakagawa Juzen, shizoku, Hyogo Prefecture.
Asahina Shinzo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Suzuki Shinchi, shizoku, Niigata Prefecture.
Hondo Tsunejiro, shizoku, Iwate Prefecture.
Ando Keiji, shizoku, Tokyo.
Noda Choko, shizoku, Hokkaido.
Omura Kukataro, heimin, Shiga Prefecture.
Nagamatsu Shonosuke, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Mamibayashi Genshin, heimin, Nagano Prefecture.

Katakura Keiyo, heimin, Miyagi Prefecture.
Kumasaka Yanoji, heimin, Niigata Prefecture.
Tada Satou, shizoku, Tokyo.
Akinaga Kaitaro, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.
Wake Toshiaki, shizoku, Okayama Prefecture.
Kojima Takazato, heimin, Fukuoka Prefecture.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.

SECTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING.

Hattori Shikajiro, heimin, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Ando Mitsutaro, shizoku, Ehime Prefecture.
Noda Rokuji, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.
Nai Kyusuke, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
Hori Sannosuke, shizoku, Hokkaido.
Ogi Hiroshi, shizoku, Kagoshima Prefecture.
Yasuda Fujimaro, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

SECTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.

Sakuma Tsunataro, heimin, Nara Prefecture.

SECTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.

Kato Chido, shizoku, Nagano Prefecture.
Hyuga Shosaku, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

SECTION OF ELECTRICITY.

Nakahara Iwazaburo, shizoku, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

Otake Senjiro, heimin, Gifu Prefecture.
Watatsu Yotaro, shizoku, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Kajura Juzo, shizoku, Tottori Prefecture.

SECTION OF ARCHITECTURE.

Ito Chuta, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.
Yamashita Keiji, shizoku, Kagoshima Prefecture.

SECTION OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY.

Mamizu Hideo, shizoku, Tokyo.
Kawaai Ikuji, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

Tajima Tanezo, heimin, Tokyo.

Kondo Ajiro, heimin, Gifu Prefecture.

SECTION OF MINING AND METALLURGY.
Komura Koroku, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.
Hattori Susumu, shizoku, Hyogo Prefecture.
Imazumi Kaichiro, heimin, Gumma Prefecture.
Yamaguchi Toshikatsu, shizoku, Saitama Prefecture.

Imazumi Soemon, shizoku, Miyagi Prefecture.

COLLEGE OF LITERATURE.

SECTION OF PHILOSOPHY.

Tachibana Senzaburo, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Sonoda Shukei, heimin, Wakayama Prefecture.

SECTION OF JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Yoshida Yaichi, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

SECTION OF HISTORY.

Urai Koichiro, shizoku, Tokyo.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

SECTION OF MATHEMATICS.

Matsui Kisaburo, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

SECTION OF ASTRONOMY.

Kimura Yei, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

SECTION OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

Mizushima Kyutaro, heimin, Hokkaido.

Nakamura Kiyoji, heimin, Tokyo.

SECTION OF CHEMISTRY.

Taiko Yukichi, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

SECTION OF ZOOLOGY.

Fujita Reishin, heimin, Tokyo.

SECTION OF BOTANY.

Fujii Kenjiro, shizoku, Ishikawa Prefecture.

SECTION OF GEOLOGY.

Yamagami Manjiro, heimin, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

FIRST SECTION.

Miyahara Tadamasu, shizoku, Nagano Prefecture.

Kagayama Tatsushiro, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Kikuchi Kumajiro, heimin, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Kano Tatsuo, heimin, Tokyo.

Kusakabe Junzo, shizoku, Tokyo.

Seki Toyotaro, shizoku, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Suge Saito, shizoku, Kumamoto Prefecture.

Nakamura Kanae, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Obata Kenkichi, heimin, Kanagawa Prefecture.

Haruna Gonzo, shizoku, Saitama Prefecture.

Shigematsu Tatsuchi, shizoku, Ehime Prefecture.

Suge Saito, shizoku, Kumamoto Prefecture.

Komatsu Shigeo, shizoku, Wakayama Prefecture.

Abe Tokukichiro, heimin, Akita Prefecture.

Hara Ki, heimin, Hokkaido.

Yoshikawa Suketaru, shizoku, Hokkaido.

Takeda Soshichiro, heimin, Okayama Prefecture.

Iida Kozo, heimin, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Suzuki Takitaro, shizoku, Tokyo.

Ishiwatari Shigetane, heimin, Kanagawa Prefecture.

Ema Teijiro, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Ono Hikotaro, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

SECOND SECTION.

Machida Sakukichi, shizoku, Kagoshima Prefecture.

Naoki Ichisuke, shizoku, Chiba Prefecture.

Miyake Kenkichi, shizoku, Niigata Prefecture.

SECTION OF FORESTRY.

Sato Gingoro, shizoku, Miyagi Prefecture.

Idani Tamezo, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Kimura Masao, shizoku, Wakayama Prefecture.

Kotoda Hikoji, shizoku, Nagasaki Prefecture.

Moriyama Tanetaro, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.

Shibata Yoshio, heimin, Shiga Prefecture.

Katsumata Shigeyasu, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Mayeda Yozuru, heimin, Shiga Prefecture.

Mochizuki Tsune, heimin, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

Tanaka Yutaro, heimin, Nagano Prefecture.

Hachinohe Michiro, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.

Uchiyama Fusakichi, heimin, Kanagawa Prefecture.

Suzuki Kano, heimin, Miyagi Prefecture.

Kazama Gengo, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Yamaguchi Shinobu, shizoku, Nagasaki Prefecture.

Nishida Mataji, heimin, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Miki Ryutaro, shizoku, Gumma Prefecture.

Nakamura Goro, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.

Sasaki Wasaku, heimin, Aomori Prefecture.

Shiozawa Ren, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Hara Itokichi, heimin, Nagano Prefecture.

Hirota Shioyui, shizoku, Tokyo.

Fukuda Sukasaburo, shizoku, Shimane Prefecture.

Inouye Shokei, shizoku, Yamagata Prefecture.

Ainra Teijiro, shizoku, Saga Prefecture.

VETERINARY SECTION.

Muto Kiichiro, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Hamaguchi Tsurumatsu, heimin, Miyagi Prefecture.

Kaji Teijiro, shizoku, Tokyo.

Uchimura Hyozo, shizoku, Tokushima Prefecture.

Kobayashi Shoichi, shizoku, Gumma Prefecture.

Yamaguchi Teijiro, heimin, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Aoyama Tetsunosuke, shizoku, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Yasu Zunosuke, shizoku, Tokyo.

Saito Kinpei, shizoku, Fukuoka Prefecture.

Kato Yozaburo, heimin, Miyagi Prefecture.

Minamisawa Kwanosuke, shizoku, Nagano Prefecture.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The distribution of prizes to the scholars attending the Victoria Public School took place in the School House, Bluff, on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a large assembly of parents and friends. H.B.M. Consul, James Troup, Esq., occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. A. J. Wilkin (hon. sec.) Mr. Stone, Mr. Hinton, late head master, etc.

The CHAIRMAN in opening the proceedings remarked that in his school days the presentation of prizes to successful scholars only took place once a year; he therefore congratulated the boys of the Victoria school upon living in better times, for it was only a short time since he had had the pleasure of being present at a similar ceremony in that school. He would have several things to say to them later on, but would defer his speech until Mr. Fardel, their head-master, had presented his report on the working of the school for the two-thirds of the year just past.—(Applause.)

Mr. FARDEL said he would first ask the company to welcome among them again Mr. and Mrs. Hinton, who had just come back to Yokohama for a short visit.—(Loud applause.) He was sure they were all glad to see them both again. When the applause had ceased, the speaker proceeded to read out the position which each lad occupied in the school, which was regulated by the number of marks each obtained in class. It was as follows:—1st class: Allcock, mi, 625; Poole, ma, 591; Sargent, 416. 2nd class: Braess, 646; Poole, mi, 542; Pohl, ma, 537; Wheeler, ma, 493; Russell, 475; Allcock, ma, 454; Wheeler, mi, 431; Loomis, 429; Mendleson, 395; Carst, 318. Smith, Cooper, Sakamoto, and Takashima. The maximum marks were 700. Next term the classes would be as follows:—1st class: Allcock, mi, and Poole, ma. 2nd class: Braess; Poole, mi; Pohl, ma; Wheeler, ma; Russell; Allcock, ma; Wheeler, mi; Loomis; Mendleson and Carst. 3rd class: Smith, Cooper, Sakamoto, and Takashima. They were losing this year, he was sorry to say, three of their best boys, Sakamoto, Anderson, and Drummond. They were all leaving to enter business, and he wished them every success. Next term some of the older boys would also be leaving, they were Sargent, who was, he knew, going home, Cooper, and another. It would not perhaps be a loss to the school, however, as owing to various causes these lads required special teaching and this took away attention from the other lads. He hoped next term to be able to engage a third teacher, the necessity for whom was now more and more apparent. He had been promised several subscriptions of \$25 each, from various friends of the school, and if he could secure 16 permanent subscriptions of \$25 each he should be able to engage this third teacher; the school would be greatly benefited if this addition was made to its staff. Mr. Fardel next referred to his hopes of making a fourth division in the school, but this would require a fourth teacher, so he was afraid that he could not achieve this yet awhile. It was, however, necessary, as now a days there were so many standards of education which boys were required to acquire in the course of their school curriculum. The speaker then went on to remark upon the many obstacles which were placed in the way of teachers in this place. They were told that they must do as the East does, and that things could not be helped. But it was very hard to put up with, and he warned parents and friends that they were not dealing fairly with the boys in giving them so many subjects to learn outside school. Not only were boys kept away from school by parties, but they were also kept away from the school sports on various pretexts of having music or dancing or other outside lessons to attend to; but by so doing a most important part of a school training was neglected, and the benefit of such gymnastic exercises was not obtained by the boys as it should be. Again such outside work, or as he termed it, obstacles, seriously interfered with the discipline of the school. The boys could not be expected to be proficient in the proper and practical subjects taught at school if they were overburdened with outside work. He saw that such things, too, interfered with the efficient discipline of the school. He would illustrate it in this way. Supposing a boy to be backward in English or other important lesson, and he did not do it properly during school hours, it often happened that he could not be kept in to finish it properly because he had some music lesson or some dancing class to go off too. Well, the punishment was put off for two, perhaps three days, and then it would slip his mind that a lad should be kept in; well, the result would be that that lad would get off scot free. He sincerely hoped that some of these difficulties should be removed. He could assure them that it would be all the better for the school if they were. He intended next term to give each lad a mark book in which the marks gained during the

week would be entered. This book would be taken home on Monday and brought back, signed by the parents, on Tuesday. This would enable parents to see what work was being done by their sons and what progress each was making. Referring to the subject of public oral examinations, Mr. Fardel said that several parents had expressed a desire that they should be instituted in the school, and he had promised that it should be done. But parents must remember that they would not be able to discover many signs of decided mental progress at such examinations, although the teachers knew from week to week, month to month, term to term, what progress each was making. To his mind these public examinations were more show, but there was one advantage they possessed, and that was, they gave greater assurance to the lads, they enabled them to speak out more freely, and express their opinions on various subjects better when before their elders.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, upon rising again, said that they had heard from Mr. Fardel of their definite losses and their prospective losses, but he understood that their numbers were fully kept up, and he must congratulate the school upon it. He hoped the numbers attending would grow yet larger; as it was, he must congratulate the teachers upon the spirit of general progress and improvement manifest in the school. He had had an opportunity of observing one or two classes in examination, and he regretted that undue circumstances, over which he had no control, had prevented him from not seeing more of the boys and their examinations. With regard to what he had seen while in the school, he had a few remarks to make, especially as to the examination. He had particularly observed that the boys generally showed a practical interest in their work, while a high rate of progress characterised the various classes. Of course this did not apply to every case, every boy did not exhibit the same amount of interest in his subject, but speaking generally the senior and junior divisions displayed a pleasing animation in what they were doing. From what he saw of the examination, the quickness and interest of the boys evidenced the careful training to which they were one and all subjected. During the mental arithmetic examination some faces showed that the brains behind them were working cloudily, but others were remarkably bright. He had had an opportunity of seeing their handwriting, and he thought that it compared most favourably with and that he had seen at home. He had seen specimens of their handwriting, but had not seen the copy books of the juniors, but what he saw pleased him greatly. Handwriting, though such a common and necessary subject, was sadly neglected in their schools and sufficient attention was not bestowed upon it, but here he was glad to see it received its due attention and with most happy results. He had also had an opportunity of examining the analysis of an English sentence—parsing he would call it. This, he was sorry to say, was not quite as successful as the handwriting. This was a pity. Our English literature was well worth the boys' study, especially of those to whom it was their mother tongue. The progress made in it by those to whom it was only a school-subject, showed that its difficulties were not insuperable. He hoped that those who had taken it up as a school subject and those to whom it was their mother tongue would continue in its study until their labours were crowned with success. He did not think that there were any other subjects which he wished to call to their notice, but would again congratulate them upon the success they had already achieved. One thing would not be out of its proper sphere if he referred to it in this place. Mr. Fardel had alluded to obstacles which were placed in the way of teachers, interfering with the proper work of the school and also with its discipline. He might say that that he was entirely in sympathy with everything Mr. Fardel had said on the subject. He had experienced it with his own boys. The only way out of the difficulty—the only practical way out—was to make these ornamental subjects take a second place. We must allow the serious subjects taught at school to have preference of place, and to come first. They must take precedence of music or dancing. If no other course were open, these things could be taught during the winter months only, for the rest of the scholastic year they must be put away altogether. The serious work of the school must come before all these purely ornamental things. He was a great advocate of training children in all of these things—music especially—but when it came to the point of interfering with the serious training for after life then they ought to be made to take a smaller share of the scholar's time and attention. They must not be allowed to interfere with the serious training work of the school. Having alluded to the prizes which he would shortly distribute, the chairman said that it was impossible for every boy to gain one, but that

should only serve to stir them up to fresh exertions. Referring to the movement for providing an additional teacher in the school, the speaker said that he had not been aware of it until Mr. Fardel had mentioned it that day. Perhaps some member of the Committee would like to have something to say about the matter later on. The desirability of providing another assistant was apparent, and he trusted that there would be no difficulty in obtaining funds by which the school might obtain another teacher. Another matter too, was with regard to the religious instruction provided in the Victoria Public School. The Rev. Mr. Freese, who had lately come to Yokohama, had promised to give religious instruction to all those boys whose parents desired them to receive such instruction. He was sure that the thanks of the friends and committee of the school were due to Mr. Freese for so kindly coming forward to gratuitously place such religious instruction at their disposal.—(Applause.) Having again congratulated the boys upon winning such handsome tributes of their school work, the Chairman said that prize winning at school acted as a stimulus, not only to achieving success in school, but also to striving to win prizes in the race of life.—(Applause.) To the non-winners the ceremony that day should act as a stimulus to pull up and attempt to get one next year. He had known a boy who kept a marking table of boys who were in front of him at school—just as they marked off the days before the holidays so this boy marked off all the schoolfellows whom he had picked up and passed; having beaten one, he worked till he has passed the next,—that was the meaning of this giving of prizes—it was the preliminary training for fitting them to take their proper places in the world.—(Loud applause.)

The Chairman then presented the prizes as follows, accompanying each with a suitable remark:

PRIZE LIST.

ALLCOCK	PRIZES.
mi.—I. Class, Mathematics.	Life of Nelson.
1. Class, French.	Cities of the World.
1. Class, Science.	The Magic Glasses.
Poole mi.—II. Class, Mathematics.	Mammals.
Poole ma.—I. Class, History.	History of Scotland.
Russell—1. Class, Grammar and History.	10000 Wonders.
Pohl—II. Class, History.	Urania.
Loomis—II. Class, French.	Famous Explorers.
Brace—1. Class, Geography.	United States Pictures.
Pohl ma.—1. Class, Composition.	Time and Tide.
Sakamoto—1. Class, Drawing.	The Fishes.
Wheeler mi.—1. Class, Latin.	Given to Wheeler mi.
Poole mi.	True Tales.
Wheeler ma.—and Prize in II. Class, Arithmetic.	Spinning Tops.

LOWER DIVISION.

Ozawa—Geography.	The Great Lone Land.
Johnstone—Composition.	Wild Life.
Auster—Composition.	The Dash to Khartoum.
Watt—Arithmetic.	Poetry Book.
Smedley—Science.	The Blue Fairy Tale Book.
Pohl—Science.	Snap Bubbles.
Drummond—Arithmetic.	Biography of a Locomotive.
Walker ma.—Geometry.	Rambles in the New World.
Booth—History.	The Black Arrow.
Russell—Grammar.	Stories from the Bible.
Watt—Drawing.	Stories from the Bible.
Sale—Reading.	The Odyssey.

CERTIFICATES.

Ozawa.	Arithmetic, Geography, Geometry.
Siu Wong.	and Grammar.
Kuhn.	and Arithmetic.
Watt.	Drawing, Arithmetic, Grammar.
Carot mi.	and Geometry, Grammar.
Helm.	Nestness.
Booth.	1st Reading.
R. Walker.	General Application.
Brent.	1st Recitation.
Russell.	1st History (Exam.), and Arith.
Poole ma.	and French and Arith.; Geogr. Euclid.
Brace.	and Geogr. and Grammar (Exam.).
Loomis and Pohl.	and Science (Exam.).
Wheeler ma.	and Composition and Dictation (Term).
Allcock ma.	and French and General Application.

The scripture examination papers were still under consideration by Bishop Bickersteth, so the two prizes for the subject were held over.

The CHAIRMAN said that the boys were now looking forward to spending the holidays either in the hills or upon the sea shore. He hoped that when they returned to school they would take for their motto to strive and do better still, to apply themselves to their studies and to aspire to higher things in whatever branch of work they might be engaged. Mr. Hinton, he was glad to say, was amongst them that afternoon. They would doubtless like to hear a few words from him.—(Applause.)

Mr. HINTON said he was very pleased to have accorded him the opportunity of speaking to his old pupils that day. There were signs of a healthy living companionship running through the whole of the classes in the school, which he was glad to see. Looking at the names in the prize list, he was rather astonished to see how the prize winners lived up to and justified their names. A Watt and a Smedley had taken prizes for science; a Booth had taken honours for elocution. Some people might say there was a trifling aberration in the principle of a Loomis taking the geographical prize, but such people lived a hundred years before their time and no doubt one day we shall see an Allcock appearing as a great mathematician, while a Poole will be an equally great historian.—(Laughter.) He had lately been living in a quiet, secluded country

place, where it would seem that deep thoughts were among the chief incidentals, and he had come to them that afternoon intending to tell them some things that were good and high, but when he looked round at their bright faces and earnest application to study he found that it was not in solitude that the virtues are developed which are a special point in the training of a big school, and which brought out to their full capacity and to their true development those qualities which were demanded of every lad when he stepped from the school into the world. School life and training developed in the lads those qualities which went to make them the worthiest members of society. Turning to the remarks made by Mr. Fardel upon the obstacles in the path of every teacher, Mr. Hinton said that there was no doubt that these things did encroach upon the domain of the different studies at school. He knew he should be striking a vexed note by saying so. Schoolmasters were apt to be immersed in their work, and were not pleased when such things prevented them from doing justice to their pupils. He hoped that a compromise would be effected in this case. Schoolmasters were not very wise perhaps or absolute, still he hoped that concessions would be made for their own sakes. He expressed again the pleasure it always gave him to meet scholars of the Victoria Public School, either on the hills or amid the temple groves of Nikko, for their faces were always bright and attractive. He was sure that if children did not come into existence for 10 years, a great blank would be left in life, for children lead a life which is quite independent of and unknown by grown-up people. They brought a good deal of the vivacity of life with them, and it was through their agency that genial feelings were created among people living in a small community like ours. And this good feeling was very evident in their school, where the lads formed friendships which would be intimately continued in after life. The speaker concluded by again thanking the company for the kind reception to himself and Mrs. Hinton.

Mr. W. B. WALTER, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Troup for presiding, said that the Chairman had made many remarks that afternoon that would be of great benefit to the boys and their parents too, which would also conduce to the progress and extension of the school. He had by his presence at the examination been able to see more into the working of the school than many of its committee had ever been able to accomplish. His (the Chairman's) visit to the examination, he felt sure, would be of great utility.—(Applause.)

Mr. TROUP, in reply, said that his only regret was that he did not see more of the boys than he had done.

Mr. STONE proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fardel and Mr. Fenton for their services, which was carried with acclamation.

Cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Troup, the masters, and the holidays, concluded the proceedings.

REVIEW.

The History of David Grieve. By Mrs. HUMPHRY WARD. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

It is an opinion very generally held by readers of fiction that sequels are always failures. The book before us is not, of course, a sequel to "Robert Elsmere" in the ordinary sense; at the same time, as has been elsewhere remarked, Mrs. Ward, in writing it, must have been conscious that she was herself her own most formidable rival. For to have been the author of a preternaturally successful work is a very serious handicap upon any writer who makes fresh ventures. He is expected to improve upon his former effort; he has himself provided a high and severe standard by which his second book will inevitably be judged; he suffers under the possession of a reputation which must be written up to, unless he can resign himself to being regarded as the mere comet of a season, a writer who has exhausted his stock of talent in a single paroxysm. And this was the position accepted by Mrs. Ward when she published "David Grieve." Of course there was a rush for the book as soon as ever it was out, and it speedily passed through half-a-dozen editions; then came the cool breath of dispassionate and somewhat disparaging criticism, and the verdict to day is that it shows a marked falling-off from "Robert Elsmere." The plain fact is that people expected something better than "Robert Elsmere," and they are rather reasonably disappointed. There can be little doubt that if the order of publication had been reversed, precisely the same criticism would have been made—to the opposite effect—and "Robert Elsmere" denounced as decidedly inferior to "David Grieve."

The question, after all, is very much one of taste. Personally, we consider "David Grieve" one of the most disagreeable books we have ever read. This is not intended as a condemnation, still less

as a reflection upon the excellent style and shrewd insight and admirable delineation of character which distinguish it throughout. The book is full of sterling merit, and represents a remarkable amount of labour and finished workmanship. And yet the general effect upon the mind is one of almost unrelieved depression. In the first place, Mrs. Ward does not seem to possess the faintest possible sense of humour. There is scarcely a gleam of humour from one end of the book to the other; all is matter-of-fact, solid prose, and a book made up of this sort of prose cannot but be a somewhat prosy book. In the second place, many, if not most, of the characters, are almost incredibly disagreeable. Take David's sister, for instance; the girl Louie. The first portion of the story is devoted to the lives of these two children on a Yorkshire moor, and we insensibly look for something to remind us of the immortal Tom and Maggie. But we soon discover our mistake, and the sympathetic receptivity of mind with which we begin reading is speedily changed for a mood of impatient disgust. Louie is simply a child-fiend, without a redeeming quality. She is perverse, deceitful, spiteful, selfish, and mean, with the temper of a demon. She never says a word or does a deed, the whole book through, which does not make one long to box her ears. Indeed, as she grows up she exhibits such revolting depravity and ingratitude as would have justified any doctor in pronouncing her insane, and we frankly admit our inability to sympathise with the sufferings of a young and struggling man who had it in his power to rid himself of such an incubus and didn't do it. On the contrary, David behaved towards her in the exasperatingly idiotic way characteristic of your true prig-hero, giving her the whole of his father's legacy (to which she had no claim), allowing himself to be fleeced and plucked and insulted right and left, and even exposing his wife to the mad fury of the virago in his own house. Nor are the uncle and aunt who bring the children up a particularly pleasant pair. The woman is a harsh and tyrannical scold, who embezzles the children's money and never even by chance lets drop a word that is not a threat or a term of abuse; the man is a poor weak-minded creature, in moral terror of his wife, who has not sufficient pluck to prevent the orphans from being either maltreated or robbed. Now all this may be very "powerful," as the phrase goes; but it all makes very disagreeable reading. One longs for a little sunshine to relieve the persistent gloom; a kindly word, a humorous incident, a patch of light and colour. The absence of such an alleviation is, to our thinking, a decided artistic blunder, and it is one that is continued to the very end of the book.

When David and Louie grow up they go to Paris. In a very short time David elopes with Miss Bashkirtseff—here introduced under the name of Elise Delaunay—who is for ever raving about art, and fame, and ambition. Her master-passion is, in fact, vanity pure and simple, and she soon gets tired of David. Her method of ridding herself of her adoring incubus is certainly original. She is sketching trees in Fontainebleau, and sends David a hot dusty walk of eight miles to buy her some more cobalt; and when the poor wretch returns she has disappeared. We are not sure whether Mrs. Ward intends us to admire Miss Bashkirtseff-Delaunay, so need not say more about her. Meanwhile, Louie goes to the bad more promptly even than David. She becomes the mistress of a disreputable brute named Montjoie, whom David has to bribe with a very handsome sum of money to make her "an honest woman," and the last state of her is considerably worse than the first.

The remainder of the story can be told in a few words. David thrives as a bookseller and publisher, marries an insignificant chit for whom he cares not a rush, but who has forced herself upon him against his will, and settles down into decorous family life. The irruption into his respectable house of the appalling Louie is humorous enough, though we don't believe that Mrs. Ward saw the humour of it herself one bit. Eventually, however, Louie is good enough to cut her throat, when "the cold snowlight" shines upon "the life-stream dripping among the folds of her red-and-black dress;" Mrs. David Grieve dies very unpleasantly of cancer in the face, and the widower does not "allow himself to sink for long into the languor of memory and grief." What actually became of him we are not told. He certainly ought to have married Dora. She was the Ritualistic daughter of a crazy restaurant-keeper; she had been in love with David for years, and yet she had proposed to him on behalf of the insignificant but equally lovesick Lucy; so that certainly she ought to have been consoled at last. Perhaps she was; who knows?

F. H. B.

CRICKET.

THE FLEET V. THE CLUB.

Glorious cricket weather favoured the match between the Fleet and the Club on Saturday, and from the number of ships in harbour it was thought that the visitors might possibly be able to bring a team into the field that would take all the talent of the Club to beat. The latter got together a very strong team, which, as the Fleet went in first and were all out for 70, had little difficulty in winning on the first innings, for at the fall of the fourth wicket 84 showed upon the board, and the innings closed for 129. Edwards, W., who has not played much lately, was top scorer with 32, and, bowling for his side, is credited with 6 wickets. Duff, who in recent matches has been somewhat unfortunate, showed his old form and added 22 to the score, and several others got double figures. The Fleet in the second innings made 98, of which 40 were contributed by de Robeck before Edwards sent him back. Following are the scores:—

FLEET.		SECOND INNINGS.	
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lieut. de Robeck, b. Edwards	17	b. Edwards	40
Mr. Watson, c. Williams, b. Burn	0	1.b.w., b. Edwards	14
Mr. Taylor, c. Brenner, b. Burn	20	st. Dickenson, b. Burn	19
Lieut. Moore, run out	1	b. Edwards	0
Dr. Hiewicz, c. Edwards, b. Burn	2	1.b.w., b. Edwards	2
Mr. Leatham, c. Burn, b. Edwards	22	2. Morris, b. Edwards	3
Lieut. Thursby, c. and b. Watson	0	c. Brenner, b. Morris	2
Lieut. Phillips, R.M.A., not out	3	b. Edwards	0
Lieut. Sheffield, b. Edwards	1	b. Burn, b. Morris	5
Commander Hough, b. Edwards	0	st. Dickenson, b. Morris	1
Lieut. da Costa, b. Edwards	x	not out	4
b. 3, 1.b. 4	7	b. 2, 1.b. 2	4
			98

BOWLING ANALYSIS.		B. R. M.O. W.	
Burn	50	25	2
Edwards	73	25	4
Watson	25	13	0
			139

CLUB.		B. R. M.O. W.	
Mr. Williams, c. Phillips, b. Taylor	18		
Mr. Crawford, c. Hough, b. Taylor	15		
Mr. Brenner, c. Leatham, b. Hiewicz	10		
Mr. W. Edwards, c. de Robeck, b. Taylor	38		
Mr. Duff, c. Moore, b. Hiewicz	22		
Mr. E. Morris, run out	5		
Mr. Dickenson, 1.b.w., b. Hiewicz	3		
Mr. Layard, b. Sheffield	13		
Mr. Watson, c. Hough, b. Sheffield	4		
Mr. Burn, not out	5		
Mr. Barton, c. Taylor, b. Sheffield	0		
b. 1, 1.b. 3, w. 1	5		
			139

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

B. R. M.O. W. N.B.	
Taylor	95
Hiewicz	65
Sheffield	47
Da Costa	20

LETTER FROM CHINA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, July 7th.

A case having a very important bearing on the shipping trade of this and other ports in China has just been decided by Mr. N. J. Hannen, Chief Justice, sitting as arbitrator, viz., the *Peking-Fushun* collision case. For convenience sake the owners of the *Peking* were made plaintiffs in the case, and either side was represented by counsel. A great deal of evidence was taken, and the case lasted much longer than was expected, as it commenced on the 23rd June and was not concluded till the 30th. The facts are very simple. On the 6th May last the *Peking* was proceeding on a voyage from the Yangtze to Hongkong and Canton, laden with grain, and off Elliot Island, some miles from this port, met with such foggy weather that at 4.30 p.m. the Captain thought it advisable to anchor. The ship's bell was rung continuously, and all on board appear to have been on the look-out, knowing that they were anchored in a narrow channel directly in the track of vessels bound up and down. About half-an-hour after anchoring the sound of a steamer's whistle was heard at short intervals, and in a few minutes the bow of the *Fushun* appeared out of the fog, bearing directly on to the *Peking*. Those on board the former vessel, having the wind in her favour, did not hear the *Peking's* bell until too late, nor was the *Peking* herself seen until the *Fushun* was almost on the top of her, and it was then too late to avoid a collision, which resulted in the *Peking* being sunk at her anchor in a few minutes; whilst the *Fushun* was seriously damaged. Fortunately, no lives were lost, owing to the coolness and judgment displayed by Captain Croad of the *Fushun*, who kept his steamer rammed into the *Peking* until all on board the latter vessel had scrambled on board the *Fushun*. For the defence it was argued that had the Captain of

the *Peking* blown his whistle the collision would have been avoided, and it is in evidence that immediately after the accident occurred Captain Croad remarked to the Captain of the *Peking*, "Schultz, one blast of your whistle would have stopped my engines." It was proved that the *Fushun* was going over seven knots an hour, which speed the tide then running increased to ten knots. Now with these simple facts in evidence it would be imagined that the case could be decided without delay, and that no great difference of opinion as to the responsibility for the accident would exist. The arbitrator certainly had no doubt, for he declined to hear the Counsel for the plaintiffs' summing up, and immediately after the Counsel for the defence had concluded, the arbitrator gave his decision entirely in favour of the *Peking*. But the difference of opinion among nautical men as to which vessel was in the right exists now perhaps more violently than ever. Many urge that Captain Schultz was wrong in not blowing his whistle while at anchor, and as many more declare that he would have been entirely wrong had he followed such a course, and a great amount of wrangling and ill feeling has been created in consequence. One side says the Maritime Regulations forbid the blowing of a whistle when a steamer is at anchor, and the other side assert that though the Regulations order that the bell must be rung by a vessel anchored in a fog, they do not explicitly state that a captain must not blow his whistle. It is the old story:—

'Tis strange what difference there should be
'Twixt Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

But Mr. Hannen had no doubt at all. He very pertinently remarked that though the case had shown that the Regulations are not as good as they might be, still the opinion at home was that so long as the Regulations exist the whistle should not be used by a steamer at anchor, and in his judgment he pointed out, when dealing with this side of the defence, that the owners of the *Peking* could not be deprived of their right because the captain did not do a thing which some people might consider in itself a misdemeanour. And Mr. Hannen was very strong on the question of speed at which the *Fushun* was running in a fog, as, according to Article 13, a vessel under the circumstances is bound to proceed at a moderate speed, and when it was proved that the *Fushun* was running to knots at the time, it was clear that she was to blame, and that it was an act which most competent men would have avoided doing. Much sympathy is generally felt for Captain Croad, who has been many years in command of steamers belonging to the China Merchants', and who is looked upon as a cautious and capable commander. It is not yet known how much this case will cost the Company, but the damages are bound to be very high.

Misfortunes never come singly, and the China Merchants' have met with another very serious loss in the wreck of their new steamer, the *Hsinsheng*, on the north-east of Alceste Island, off the Shanghai coast on the morning of the 26th June. This accident occurred during a fog, a strong current having taken the steamer out of the course her captain thought he was steering. The *Hsinsheng* ran with such force on a reef of rocks that the steamers which went to her assistance could do nothing to get her off. When the vessel struck, she heeled over to starboard and took in a quantity of water. Fortunately the weather was calm, and all her passengers were safely landed, with the exception of one native child who was drowned by the in-rushing water. The *Hsinsheng* is jammed hard on the reef, and has 8 feet of water under her bow, and deep water under her stern, so that moving off would be dangerous, if possible. The *Poochi* has been sent from here with pumping gear, but the latest advices give no hope of the steamer being saved. The *Hsinsheng* has proved a most useful vessel to the Company, as she is a large and economical cargo carrier, so that her loss at this season of cut-throat opposition will be felt severely. The coast about the two Shanghai Promontories has been fatal to many steamers owing to the dense fogs that so often prevail, and will continue to be dangerous so long as Captains are driven to hug the shore with the purpose of making a quick passage.

The steamer *Glengyle* has been on shore on the Yangtze for ten days, and resisted all attempts to tow her off, but the rising water floated her just when two steam tugs were about to be despatched from this port to her assistance.

Shanghai is not now so pleasant a place of residence for foreigners since the natives have taken to driving about the roads. Hundreds of vehicles of all descriptions are brought into requisition, and in the summer time the natives drive about, throughout the night, being glad to get out of their stuffy and hot residences no doubt. To add to the discomfort and danger of foreigners,

the native drivers are reckless in the extreme, and accidents are frequent. The Municipal Council have striven hard, through the police, to check furious driving, and for long had to contend against the unwillingness of the Mixed Court Magistrate to punish this offence, but have succeeded at last in prevailing on him to punish offenders. It cannot be denied that many foreigners are also offenders in this respect, and the Council have issued instructions to the police to make no distinction between the furious driving of foreign and native owned vehicles; the consequence is that the malno of a carriage belonging to a well-known bill broker was lately summoned, and was fined \$3 though his master tried in vain to exonerate his servant. It is understood that the police are on the look out for other foreign offenders in this respect, and will strictly enforce the Municipal Regulations.

The local Steamship Companies' combination has fallen through, and they are now running in competition one more. This means loss to the shareholders, and a lowering of rates of freight which will only benefit native shippers and merchants. Perhaps passage rates will be reduced for foreign passengers, and this is much needed, for the coast passage charges are excessively high. To the honour of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha it should be said that they alone have steadily supplied first-class passengers with a maximum of comfort at a minimum of cost, so that they have earned—and I hope received—the grateful support of the travelling public.

Our cricketers have been hard at work whenever opportunity occurred, and our first eleven take every opportunity of practising the game, as later on the Hongkong eleven will pay us another visit, and our crack cricketers wish to be in the best condition to meet their southern opponents.

It is a crying disgrace to justice that the man Frame, who shot and killed a coloured man two months ago, still remains in the American Consular jail untried, on the absurd excuse that the U.S. Government provide no means for drawing up an indictment against him. This should bring the blush of shame to every American citizen resident in China!

Our evening paper lately took the *Japan Gazette* to task for extracting matter from its columns without acknowledgment, but the complaint does not come well from a journal which has boldly published as leaders, articles taken from Indian papers, without the slightest acknowledgment.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, June 20th.

The Republican National Convention, on the day after I mailed my last letter, brought its session to a sudden and unexpected close. Thursday evening, June 9th, both the Blaine and the Harrison forces held caucuses which clearly revealed the weakness of the former and the strength of the latter. The Harrison men were elated to find that they had a clear majority which could not be stamped by any sensational tactics; the Blaine men were discouraged to find themselves in a minority, and decided to abandon their plan of attempting to delay a vote. Accordingly, Friday morning, after prayer by Rev. Wagland Hoyt, D.D., a Baptist clergyman of Minneapolis, the report of the committee on credentials (in most cases favourable to Harrison) was unanimously adopted. After an address by Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, the Chairman of the Woman's Republican Association, the roll of States was called to present candidates. The first State to respond was Colorado, through Senator Wolcott, who in an eloquent speech named Blaine. When Indiana was called the venerable "Dick" Thompson, ex-Surgeon of the Navy, presented Harrison. New York seconded both nominations, Chauncy M. Depew for Harrison, and ex-Sen. Warner Miller for Blaine. A few other minor speeches were made as seconds to both nominations. After Sen. Wolcott completed his speech in favour of Blaine, the latter's friends devoted themselves for 29 minutes to a demonstration; and after Depew's speech Harrison's friends spent 21 minutes in the same manner.

When the balloting began it was evident that the anti-Harrison forces, either by mistake or by design, had divided. Probably it was a strategic move to keep Blaine in the field for the purpose of holding some delegates, whose first choice was Blaine, but who, with Blaine out of the race, would vote for Harrison. It was also a shrewd game to throw votes to McKinley, and thus draw off Harrison men in the Ohio delegation. The only hope lay in keeping Harrison from a majority on the first ballot, and then resisting the opposition on McKinley. But, as you know, the wily trick failed; for Harrison had 65 majority over all, as follows:—

Original from

State.	Total.	Hari-son.	McKin-ley.	Reed.	Lin-coln.
Alaska	2	1	1	—	—
Alabama	22	15	7	—	—
Arkansas	16	11	5	—	—
California	18	8	9	1	—
Colorado	8	—	8	—	—
Connecticut	12	4	—	8	—
Delaware	6	4	2	—	—
Florida	8	—	8	—	—
Georgia	26	26	—	—	—
Illinois	48	34	14	—	—
Indiana	30	30	—	—	—
Iowa	26	20	5	1	—
Kansas	20	21	—	9	—
Kentucky	26	23	3	—	—
Louisiana	16	8	8	—	—
Maine	18	—	18	—	—
Maryland	16	14	—	2	—
Massachusetts	30	18	12	—	—
Michigan	36	1	35	—	—
Minnesota	18	8	9	1	—
Mississippi	28	13	15	—	—
Missouri	34	28	6	—	—
Nebraska	16	15	1	—	—
Nevada	8	—	8	—	—
New Hampshire	8	4	4	—	—
New Jersey	20	18	2	—	—
New York	72	27	35	10	—
North Carolina	22	27	—	—	—
Ohio	46	3	43	—	—
Oregon	8	1	7	—	—
Pennsylvania	64	19	3	42	—
Rhode Island	8	5	3	—	—
South Carolina	18	13	5	—	—
Tennessee	24	17	7	—	—
Texas	36	28	8	—	—
Vermont	8	8	—	—	—
Virginia	24	9	15	—	—
West Virginia	12	12	—	—	—
Wisconsin	24	19	5	—	—
South Dakota	8	8	—	—	—
North Dakota	6	1	5	—	—
Montana	6	1	5	—	—
Washington	8	1	7	—	—
Idaho	6	—	6	—	—
Wyoming	6	4	2	—	—
Arizona	6	1	5	—	—
New Mexico	6	6	—	—	—
Oklahoma	2	2	—	—	—
Dist. of Columbia	2	2	—	—	—
Utah	2	2	—	—	—
Indian Territory	2	1	1	—	—
Alaska	2	—	2	—	—
Total	904	558	346	182	4

Necessary for choice, 453.

Ohio's one vote for Harrison was cast by McKinley himself.

At the evening session, after Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*, and Thomas B. Reed, ex-Speaker House of Representatives, had been presented as candidates for Vice-President, the latter's name was withdrawn, and the former was nominated by acclamation. Then, after the usual votes of thanks to the city, the press, the officers, etc., the convention adjourned.

The platform which was adopted on Thursday evening without any contest contains nothing specially striking. It, of course, re-affirms "the American doctrine of protection," but only once mentions the McKinley Bill, and then speaks of it as "The tariff act of 1890"; favours bimetallism; declares for a free ballot and a fair count; contains platitudes and glittering generalities on civil service reform, temperance, and miscellaneous topics; upholds the importance of the Nicaragua Canal; favours pensions; strongly recommends the World's Columbian Exposition; and closes by commending "the able, patriotic, and thoroughly American administration of President Harrison."

President Harrison has certainly won a signal triumph in gaining a renomination against the opposition of such shrewd and wily politicians as Platt, Quay, and Clarkson. James G. Blaine, misled by these schemers, made a great mistake, and was "humbled to the dust by a vote which proclaimed the close of his political life." The Republican party deserves credit in being swayed by the people rather than by the politicians, and in having nominated its strongest candidates. From the comments of the press, I make three quotations which represent three different standpoints. The *Des Moines (Iowa) Register*, a rabid Blaine paper, says:—"President Harrison's administration has been one of the strongest and cleanest in the history of the Republican party." The *New York Times*, a leading Mugwump paper, says:—"President Harrison deserved a renomination at the hands of his party. He is an upright and self-respecting man. He has been a good President." Henry Watterson, in the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, thus expresses a Democratic opinion:—"Beyond any question, the President is the strongest candidate the Republicans could have put in the field."

The Democratic hosts have already gathered here in immense numbers for the National Convention which opens its session to-morrow. The hotel corridors are crowded with delegates and visitors excitedly discussing the merits of Cleveland, Hill, Gorman, Gray, Carlisle, Bois, and numerous dark horses. Many of the business houses are decorated with flags and bunting; and the windows of Democratic houses exhibit the pictures of favourite candidates. Badges of all kinds and descriptions are prominently displayed, and are enriching the peddlers thereof. Documents and circulars are being freely scattered about. Cleve-

land is still in the lead; but his opponents are active, and will make a warm fight.

According to R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade:—"Hot weather and hot politics together have affected business at many points, but there is, nevertheless, improvement both in actual trade and in prospects." The crop outlook is better.

The Minneapolis mills have again beaten the record on flour output. During the week ending June 11th they ground out 214,930 barrels, or daily 35,821 barrels. The heaviest previous output was 208,930 barrels for the week ending Oct. 31st, 1891.

Still the rainy season continues, and floods and storms are rampant. We have almost been having a genuine *nyubai*, but without the plums; and we have had in various localities wind storms of different degrees of severity, even approaching cyclones and typhoons. This city and vicinity suffered from a disastrous blow which forcibly reminded us of the *taifu*. The storm came up suddenly one afternoon, and raged through the night. A large party of pupils of the Preparatory Department of the North-western University, Evanston, were taking an excursion on the lake just after their closing exercises, and had a narrow escape from death by drowning. Among the number was a Frank Takizo Takasugi, of Hiroaki. He was a speaker on "Christian Work in Japan" at the graduating exercises.

The Parisian School of Languages of this city contains in its faculty for a Summer School a "Mr. E. Choyow, Professor of Japan."

The University of Chicago continues to be prospered. It has lately received \$500,000 each from Mr. S. B. Cobb and Mr. M. A. Ryerson, and \$50,000 from Mrs. N. S. Foster for a woman's hall. It has now secured \$800,000 of the \$1,000,000 needed for buildings.

The Scudder trial has again been postponed, as neither the prosecution nor the defence was ready.

Rev. W. E. Griffiths, D.D., is preparing a volume on Japan for Houghton, Mifflin and Co.'s "Riverside Library for Young Folks." He will take a summer trip to the Netherlands and the eastern counties of England, presumably to delve more deeply into the subject of the Dutch elements in our civilization.

The bill granting an American register to the Pacific Mail Steamship *China* has been favourably reported to the House of Representatives by the Committee on Merchant Marine.

Col. L. L. Polk, President of the Farmers' Alliance of the United States, died recently.

Emmons Blaine, the second son of the ex-Secretary of State, died suddenly in this city, day before yesterday, of blood poisoning induced by bowel troubles. He has not been well since his return from Minneapolis; but he was not considered dangerously sick until a few hours before his death. His indefatigable efforts at the Republican Convention with the accompanying nervous strain, and the bitter disappointment over his father's defeat, undoubtedly caused his sudden demise. It does seem as if within the past two or three years James G. Blaine had been compelled to pass through an unusual series of troubles. First came the death of Walker Blaine, his eldest and favourite son; then the untimely demise of his daughter, Mrs. Coppinger; then the divorce suit against his youngest son, James G. Blaine, Jun.; also Mr. Blaine's own serious illness; and now, so soon after his defeat, comes the death of his oldest surviving son. The American people can have nothing but the deepest sympathy for the man who, having been led to political humiliation by selfish "bosses," must now drink again the bitter cup of bereavement. Mr. Blaine and part of his family are expected here this afternoon or evening to attend the funeral which takes place to-morrow. It is greatly feared that this sudden and terrible bereavement will seriously affect Mr. Blaine's condition.

Death has recently taken away a well-known character, Father Mollinger, whose wonderful cures have attracted a great deal of attention. It is estimated, that 50,000 patients were treated by him during his career. He had many successes which seemed really miraculous; but he did not claim to be infallible, and met with a large number of failures. He differed from other faith-healers "in that he made use of a scientific knowledge of medicine to supplement his blessings, his holy water and his sacred relics." After all "Christian Science" and "Faith Cure" are not so infallible as "Science Cure" and "Christian Faith." But Father Mollinger succeeded in amassing a fortune valued at \$3,000,000.

This is the season when the "sweet girl graduate" blossoms out numerously!

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., June 17th.

This is the anniversary day of the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is a holiday, and the militia from different parts of the state and the citizens celebrate the defeat of the British one hundred and seventeen years ago. We have grown some since that time, and if we could crush Great Britain then, Zounds! what might we do now!

We are having warm weather now of the regular kind, and we have had "two hot days," June 13th and 14th, when the mercury put on its long boots and climbed quickly to the 100 mark. 'Twas a scorching time, and in the middle of the day business appeared to be practically suspended. Many sunstrokes throughout New England have been reported.

The true Bostonian wherever he may be, will be shocked to hear that it is proposed to build a new city hall in the Public Garden—proposed even in a meeting of the City Government—to blot out our tulip beds and pleasure pond for a mere utilitarian, prosaic structure of iron and stone. But it is believed that there is no possibility of disturbing the Public Garden, although in this day of Democratic and Irish rule, there is "no knowing what a day may bring forth," but the Garden will be defended to the last extremity.

The Republican National Convention at Minneapolis renominated President Harrison for the presidency. In the last letter I wrote that Blaine had resigned the office of the Secretary of State, and that this move was accepted as an evidence of his intention to be a candidate, and he was a candidate. Before the convention proceeded to ballot, the reader of the newspapers might suppose that there was little doubt of Blaine's nomination, and that Harrison had no chance at all. But all that Blaine hue and cry was only buncombe and blarney. Harrison was nominated on the first ballot. Necessary for choice, 453; Harrison, 553; Blaine, 182; McKinley, 182; Reed, 4; Lincoln, 1. Blaine was in this city at the time and sent the following letter to the associated press:—"The resolution, energy, and persistence which mark the proceedings of the convention at Minneapolis will, if turned against the common foe, win the election in November. All minor differences should be merged in the common duty of every Republican to do all in his power to elect the ticket this day nominated by the Republican convention.—James G. Blaine."

Morton, the present Vice-President of the United States, was left off the ticket, and Whitelaw Reid was nominated for Vice-President. It is reported that Morton feels the slight keenly, as he was dropped without his "knowledge or consent." He ought to be able to see that he would be no help to the ticket. The only recommendation he ever had for the place was his wealth. The Vice-President of the United States is the presiding officer of the United States Senate, and for some time after election, Morton was incapable of filling the office, and although he afterwards presided, it is not too much to say that he had no head for the business. He was the poorest, the most lightly equipped presiding officer of the Senate that the country has seen. He was conscious of his lack of ability and was absent often from his place of duty. He was not prepared for that kind of work by education or experience. The nominee for the next term, Whitelaw Reid, is one of the ablest men in this country. He is the editor and proprietor of the New York *Tribune*. He has just returned from France where he was the American Minister—the most brilliant diplomat the United States ever sent to any country.

Now the nominations are made, the next thing is to elect the candidates. The great issue with the Republicans is protection—protection of industries and protection of the labourer. The old arguments will be brought out, polished up, and set forth for the admiration of the people. We shall hear again the old cry about pauper labour that without protection our labourers will be reduced to the condition of the pauper labourers of Europe. Land of Goshen, some of the labourers are near it now. When men are obliged to support families on less than a dollar a day, and pay for food two or three times what it cost in England or on the continent, it is natural to remark: "How beautifully does protection protect the labouring man!"

The Democratic National Convention meets in Chicago next week, and then the two parties may measure swords and pitch in. The probability is, according to the party organs, that Ex-President Cleveland will be the choice of the convention, but some of the leaders of the party are in doubt. There is likely to be a hot fight for and against him, for he has enemies as well as friends. No other candidate, however, is in the field. Hill, the

New York demagogue, has no chance, and no one supposed he would have any. He has the audacity to say that if he is given the second place on the ticket, he will retire from the field as presidential candidate. Very kind of him! He will be retired without the formality of consulting him. Dave Hill of New York is a great curiosity, but he is a little late in life to do the most good by way of example. If Barnum, the great show man, were living, he would attempt, doubtless, to add Dave Hill, properly caged and muzzled, to the attractions of his circus, "the greatest show on earth."

While we are sweltering with the heat-mercury in the nineties in the shade, on the sixth of June there was a snow storm and a "raging blizzard" in South Dakota. There was even loss of life, so sudden did the storm arise and fall upon the people. It is unprecedented, and the "savants" are trying to find out what may be the cause. At Deadwood, the snow fell for ten hours and the wind blew with great velocity. The snow lay on the ground six to twelve inches deep, and the mercury fell below the freezing point. There is reported great loss of stock and growing crops. The storm was general throughout the State. Nothing like it has ever occurred before in the balmy month of June in the Great North-west.

The fire in Oil City and Titusville, Pennsylvania, reported in the last letter, extended two miles along the river and laid waste buildings, manufactories, and dwellings throughout the whole distance. The loss in property is two million of dollars and one hundred lives were lost.

The country is now informed in advance that the Russian harvest will be a failure—even worse than last year. It is supposed that timely notice is thus given to philanthropic Americans that they may get ready promptly their cargoes of wheat, corn, and bacon and send them on in time. And they will do it. A little thing like supporting the Russian peasantry will not inconvenience us a bit. No matter if it does give Russia a chance to spend a little more money on guns. Lord, what would the world do without us!

The city people are now moving to the sea shore or to the mountains. Those who are obliged to work for a living, or have no money, say that home is the best place. Warm weather has "struck in" early, and the hotel keepers on the shore and in the mountains are chuckling and hugging themselves. The exodus is great and continuous. Travellers abroad were never so numerous. Indeed, there are not steamers enough to accommodate all who want to go in June. The rush abroad grows bigger every year. When a man may go to England and back for \$60; around the world for \$600; to Alaska for \$200, to Japan and back for \$400, and a thousand other places at prices equally low, he is not likely to remain at home if he have the money and no business cares.

A ladies' wardrobe on the shore where they live on style, small talk, weak tea and toast, consists of twelve gingham gowns, two white and blue flannel suits, two white gowns, three China silks, two grenadines, a white crepe, a black jetted tulle, twelve hats, for general use and then one for every gown, parasols, gloves, shoes to match every suit, and so forth. This is a very modest outfit compared with some. At the big watering places it would be simply "dreadful" to appear twice in succession in the same gown. As some of the ladies appear in two or three different dresses a day, the inference is that a good deal of time must be given to dressing. The man—the man of sense—puts on a woollen shirt and goes into the Maine woods to sleep on hemlock boughs, to fish, and to eat and sleep and to see no one. Forsooth, then he rests.

The appropriation of \$50,000 additional by the British government for the expenses of representation at the World's Fair, making \$300,000 in all, shows that she has increased interest in the Exhibition.

The style of ladies' dresses demands that about a foot of it shall drag behind. The poor initiate the rich, and it is a common sight to see a negro woman or an Irish servant girl sweeping the streets with her dress. But the end is not far off. The papers denounce, and young men have formed societies to "boycott" all ladies who are in the street-sweeping business, and refuse to escort or attend in any way all ladies who are "victims of the unhealthy and filthy habit." This is a reform that is now "up."

"New York merchants" have contributed \$300,000 to "boom" Cleveland at the Convention at Chicago. An administration paper asks: "How much of the amount is given by American citizens?"

IN THE YOKOHAMA LOCAL COURT.

Before Judge Ono and Assistant Judges.
TUESDAY, May 10th, 1892.

MOURILYAN HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA KEN.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

The Court resumed its sitting at 10 a.m.

The Judge—We shall examine the witnesses called by plaintiffs first.

Mr. Edwards, of Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., accordingly took his stand in the witness-box.

The Judge—The interpreter of the Court is prevented from attending to-day, but I think the parties concerned might translate the statements respectively.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I don't think such an arrangement will do. Nagai Hisataro, who interpreted for us before, is in Court now, may he not be appointed to act as interpreter?

The Judge—Very well. As the interpreter was sworn last time the process need not be repeated to-day. (To witness)—Are you a member of Mourilyan Heimann & Co?

Witness—Yes, I am a clerk in that firm.

The Judge—Are you an employé of the firm?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What duty do you discharge in your office?

Witness—I am now engaged in the tea department. That is to say, I attend to all matters relating to tea, etc.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—You are not connected with the kerosene oil department then?

Witness—Not now. But I used to be engaged in it. I used to communicate with the Customs, and make the necessary arrangements for depositing the oil cases. That is to say, I wrote the applications for deposit and signed delivery orders, as well as received payments for oil sold, etc.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What were the duties of the Chinese in the office? Were they similar to yours?

Witness—Oh, no. The Chinese filled up the delivery orders and I signed them, and when any transaction was concluded they delivered the article, and brought the money to me. I then sent that money to the bank. The Chinamen always brought a memorandum, on which the amount of money so deposited was mentioned, and to this I signed my name.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Do any of those Chinese sign any application, delivery order, or other document, as representing the firm?

Witness—Of course not.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—How many Chinese had you engaged in the kerosene oil department—what are their names?

Witness—There are four of them. Akew was engaged in shipping, Aking and Kiching were compradores, and Alai a shroff, but the last was sometimes engaged in outdoor work.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Do you remember the *Hilaria*, *Enos Soule*, *Abba S. Hart*, *Eclipse*, *Anglo-American*, *Atterton*, and *Calyso* bringing kerosene oil from 1888 to 1891?

Witness—Yes.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who signed those delivery orders?

Witness—So far as I can remember, I signed them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Out of all those cases of kerosene are there any for which the firm has not received payment?

Witness—On the 12th or 14th November, I don't quite remember which day it was, we first discovered that we had not received payment for some of the cases.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Who went to the Kencho to investigate the matter?

Witness—The first day my brother went, but on the following day I went with him, and copied out the amounts of kerosene oil which had been delivered. To this I added some remarks which I thought might be useful.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Are these the documents which you copied in the Kencho? (Counsel showed witness a memorandum containing certain numbers of oil cases delivered on certain dates.)

Witness—I certainly think it is, as it is my own handwriting.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were there any documents at the Kencho which were signed in pencil or without any stamp of the firm?

Witness—Yes, I think there were some.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were the original delivery orders in the Kencho?

Witness—Yes. An official in the Kencho gave me permission to copy them out.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—You said that you always signed those delivery orders, but why is it that some are signed by Chinese only?

Witness—I signed and handed all the delivery orders to the Chinaman, but I suppose he tore up mine, and substituted others with his own signature attached. As they are made out in pencil, I am sure he must have written them at the Store-house.

Counsel for Defendant—I wish to ask witness about the method of keeping the stamp of the firm, as well as about the documents.

The Judge—Very well, do so.

Counsel for Defendant—By what process were you commissioned to sign those documents?

Witness—It is the custom of our firm to commission one person to do so, by verbal contract. It was my duty to sign different kinds of documents, and I was commissioned to do so with the approval of the chiefs in the office.

Counsel for Defendant—Was such power given to you every time separately?

Witness—No. I was commissioned to discharge that duty once, and I continued to do so.

Counsel for Defendant—When such a commission was given, was the fact notified to the Kencho and to the public, or was it advertised in the newspapers? When were you commissioned, and do you still hold that power?

Witness—As it was not considered necessary to publicly notify such a thing, we did not advertise the fact to the Kencho. If the Kencho does not know or recognize my signature it is their duty to ascertain whether I am the properly authorised person to sign such orders. When a person is commissioned to sign his name in any way for a firm, the fact is generally advertised, for he must be known to every customer in the different ports.

The Judge—Do you mean that it was advertised?

Witness—I had then no power to sign the name of the firm, so I always signed my own name.

Counsel for Defendant—In short, do you mean that you were only verbally commissioned to sign documents, and therefore, you did not think it was necessary to notify either the Kencho or the public?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—What the witness means is that there is a distinction between some persons empowered to sign documents and others, and that there are only a few among the employés of the firm who are authorised to sign *per pro*.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you recognize this stamp and the signature?

Witness—The signature seems to be my own, and the stamp looks very similar to that which we use in the office, but I cannot say for certain whether this is genuine or not.

Counsel for Defendant—Are these genuine delivery orders?—(producing two delivery orders; one signed by Pigott and the other by Paterson.)

Witness—I cannot say whether the stamp is genuine, but as these signatures are very like those of Pigott's and Paterson's, I believe they are genuine orders.

Counsel for Defendant—What do those men do in the office?

Witness—Pigott was one of the principal clerks in the office like myself, but he was then engaged in the tea department, but I suppose he signed the order when I was not in the office. Paterson was an accountant.

Counsel for Defendant—Were those two men also authorized to sign such documents, and are their commissions still continuing?

Witness—I suppose they were commissioned by a similar process to my own. In 1888 I was a principal clerk and used to sign those documents.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you recognize the stamp and signatures on these? (Counsel produced some delivery orders signed by Chinamen.)

Witness—I know the names of these Chinamen, but as they were not empowered to sign any document so I cannot recognize them as genuine. As for the stamp, though it is very like the one in the office, any one could get a duplicate made, so I cannot say whether it is genuine.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The stamp of the office can be used by any one.

Counsel for Defendant—How is the stamp of the firm kept?

Witness—Although it is called an office stamp it is of no importance. It is used instead of writing, for the firm's name is long and it saves time to stamp it. Therefore we do not take any special care of it.

Counsel for Defendant—I only asked you where it is kept.

Witness—Nowhere particularly. Sometimes it is on the table, at other times in the shop.

Counsel for Defendant—You said that when business is done with Japanese some Chinaman in your office receives the money, but who arranges the transaction?

Witness—Cruckshank in our office is commissioned to transact such business.

Counsel for Defendant—When the money is received by a Chinaman he takes it to the bank, but when it is received who gives a receipt for the

original from

Witness—We don't give any receipt, but we hand the purchaser a delivery order instead.

Counsel for Defendant—How were the receipts for deposited kerosene oil kept? And when a delivery order was given to a Chinaman, with a receipt, by what method was he superintended?

Witness—When the receipts from the Kencho are brought in we put them into a large bag, which is kept in a safe.

The Judge—What responsibility is attached to the man who keeps these receipts?

Witness—No one is held responsible. The bag is kept in the office.

The Judge—Then it is not kept by a person duly appointed for the purpose?

Witness—No. Except that I have charge of the key of that safe.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you always give those receipts to Chinamen every time a transaction is made?

Witness—When any portion of the deposited oil is required, a Chinese brings a delivery order and asks for my signature. I sign it, and at the same time give him the receipt for deposit.

The Judge—If the quantity of oil mentioned in the receipt was to be delivered in several lots was the receipt returned every time a portion was deducted, or was the receipt handed in once for all, on the first occasion.

Witness—We don't receive it back. It is kept in the hands of a Chinaman till all the oil is delivered.

Counsel for Defendant—In delivering deposited oil cases the official at the warehouse always states, on the receipts, on what day so many cases of oil are delivered, signed for, and stamped by him. Did not witness inquire whether the amount delivered was correct on every occasion?

Witness—No. For unless there is a delivery order signed by us, no oil can be delivered on a receipt given by the warehouse official, therefore we never thought of losing any of the oil by not examining the receipt every time.

Counsel for Defendant—It is a rule of the warehouse to receive kerosene oil and keep it for a year; after that time, if the depositor wishes it to continue in bond for any longer period, he has to make a new application for deposit. Were you aware of this?

Witness—Yes. We have always done so.

Counsel for Defendant—You said that you copied out some of the delivery orders which were signed by Chinese. There are many other kinds of delivery orders; did you not notice them then?

Witness—Except those I copied out I did not see one.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Were you the only person, or one of three, who was commissioned to sign delivery orders?

Witness—Of course I was not the only person. When I was away some one else undertook that duty.

The Judge—Were the other two persons commissioned to sign delivery orders always, or was their authority only exercised temporarily?

Witness—We were all commissioned to sign.

The Judge—Did you not say just now that you alone were authorised to sign?

Witness—No, I did not say that. I was questioned about myself alone, so I thought it sufficient to answer about and for myself.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Is there more than one stamp of the firm in your office?

Witness—That I cannot say for certain.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I suppose you mean there may be more than one in the office?

Witness—Quite so. There may be several.

Counsel for Defendant—Have Pigott and the other the same powers as yourself?

Witness—I can only answer questions concerning myself; I cannot tell what sort of commission they received, but I suppose they were authorized in the same manner as myself.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you think then that the authorization of Pigott and another was not communicated to the Kencho or to the public at large?

Witness—I suppose it was not.

The Court then adjourned.

The Court resumed its sitting in the afternoon of the 16th May.

The Judge—I thoroughly understand the plaintiffs' complaint of the wrongful delivery of kerosene oil, but I don't understand how often such kerosene is alleged to have been wrongfully delivered.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The total amount we demand now was wrongfully delivered.

The Judge—But do you know how often and on what dates such cases were so delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We do know them.

The Judge—Do you know on what certain dates certain cases of oil were delivered, and to whom?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No. But we know that the whole was wrongfully delivered.

The Judge—Such an answer will not do. Do you know when they were delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The number is so great—

The Judge—But among these cases some must have been delivered properly, while others, you say, were delivered wrongfully; a clear distinction ought to be made.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Those cases mentioned in the list were wrongfully delivered and they are not the whole, but as we are unable to definitely ascertain or trace the other cases we only demand indemnity for those whose numbers were copied out. Will you look at the list?—(Counsel handed a list to the Judge.)—You will see there the dates, the number of cases, and the signatures attached to the delivery orders. The cases were not delivered at once but in small quantities.

The Judge—Do you mean that the wrongful deliveries were those which were made on the orders signed by Chinese only?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. Those which were delivered on orders carrying the signatures of Chinese who possessed no authority to so sign.

Counsel for Defendant—The number of cases mentioned in the list, presented by Counsel for plaintiffs, is incorrect.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The Chinese used evidently to practise deceit. The firm always handed the Chinese proper delivery orders which were evidently torn up by the Chinamen, who then prepared new orders signed by themselves.

Counsel for Defendant—Is there any order on which a signature alone is written without any demand for delivery?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Out of the cases shown in this list the plaintiffs demand compensation for those on account of which they received no payment.

Counsel for Defendant—Then may I consider that the number of cases mentioned in the list has no relation to the number said to have been wrongfully delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs (receiving back the list and examining it)—The list includes the wrongfully delivered cases also. But we do not regard it as complete.

The Assistant Judge—I understand that a certain number of cases were deposited, but do you know when they were wrongfully delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The dates may be ascertained by reference to the books in the plaintiffs' office. But the actual dates of the transactions are known to the defendant, as all the necessary documents are in the Kencho.

The Assistant Judge—Don't you know, then, which cases were wrongfully delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Those which were released on orders signed by Chinese only. As all the necessary documents relating to the present suit are in the hands of the defendant in the Kencho, we are only able to make an approximate estimate.

The Assistant Judge—Can you give the Court the dates upon which those Chinese received goods?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—By the books of the firm such dates can be ascertained.

The Assistant Judge—Do you think you can tell the exact dates from the books?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The proper delivery orders were torn up by these Chinese, and they prepared new orders for themselves the dates therefore may not correspond. I will send for the books now, however, if the Court will wait for a few minutes? I think I heard just now that there were some delivery orders on which the number of cases alone was written in pencil, without any stamp of the firm or signature. Is that true?

Counsel for Defendant—There are a few on which the name of the firm is alone written without any signature. But they are only a few out of several thousands.

The Assistant Judge—Do you mean to ask whether these orders were presented by the Chinese?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

Counsel for Defendant—Before speaking of what quantity of oil was demanded in the orders made out in pencil, I wish to state that though it is called pencil-writing the pencil used was different from an ordinary one. It is, I believe, called a "copying pencil." Thus it is unlike any ordinary ink, it does not rub off, so it is commonly regarded as equal to ink.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In the delivery orders presented by the Chinese the name of the ship was not filled in, but in accordance with the forms the ship's name ought to be carefully filled in. Did not the Kencho take any notice of which lot the depositor asked delivery of?

Counsel for Defendant—Properly the name of the ship ought to be filled in, but when a delivery order is brought it is always accompanied by a receipt given to the depositor, on which all the necessary information, such as the name of the ship and on what day she arrived, is mentioned; therefore we never raise any difficulty if these particulars are omitted on a delivery order.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Among the delivery orders, besides those written with a copying pencil, are there not some written by an ordinary pencil, and some actually corrected afterwards by erasing the first written numeral? Did not the Kencho take notice of this?

Counsel for Defendants—There are no orders of that description.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Are there many delivery orders on which neither the stamp of the firm nor the name of the firm is printed or written?

The Judge—Do you mean to ask whether there are any delivery orders on which the name of the receiver alone is signed without any mark or sign to show that he represents the firm?

Counsel for Plaintiff—Yes.

Counsel for Defendants—There are one or two of that kind.

The Judge—Are they signed by Chinese?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Assistant Judge—Is that a question in dispute.

Counsel for Defendant—No. I only answered the question asked by Counsel for Plaintiffs, that is all.

The Assistant Judge—Defendant must not misunderstand any questions asked by plaintiffs. The plaintiffs seem not to know when those kerosene oil cases were delivered.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—1,220 cases of kerosene oil, part of the number of cases imported by the *Anglo-American* on the 12th July, 1890, were delivered by presenting a delivery order which bore neither the name of the firm nor the signature of any person. I wish to point that out to you.

The Judge—Wait a moment. The pleading of Counsel for Plaintiffs is not quite clear. He alleges that many cases of kerosene oil were wrongfully delivered, but we have not yet settled whether there was any wrongful delivery of oil or not.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I call it wrongful delivery, because the Kencho delivered the goods to men who were not authorised to receive them. We are not able to answer when and how many cases of oil were delivered on such occasions until the whole of the documents, &c., are carefully examined.

The Judge—Yes, such things must be ascertained first.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The Chinese whom I have sent for the books will appear shortly.

The Court adjourned for a short time, but when it resumed it was ordered to be further adjourned till the 18th May.

The Court rose at 2.10 p.m.

May 18th, 1892.

The Court resumed at 10.55 a.m., on the 18th May.

The Judge—Do the plaintiffs know which particular cases were delivered erroneously?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—This document, (presenting a document to the Judge), marked No. 5, will show all the wrong deliveries.

The Judge—Are these all?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. They were copied out at the Kencho. But the number of cases mentioned is still insufficient, as the plaintiffs did not know exactly the full amount of oil delivered, but we feel sure that there are quite 1,407 cases still to be accounted for.

The Judge—Do you mean that 1,407 cases of oil were delivered over and above the amount mentioned in these documents?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Judge—Cannot you give an approximate amount of the whole of the oil delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No.

The Judge—Do you know from what date these alleged wrongful deliveries extend?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We have ascertained that they extended up to November last.

The Judge—Do you know at what time they commenced?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—From 1890 to November of last year. But among the orders in the Kencho we found one from which the firm's name has been erased, while the name of the ship is not mentioned. Thus we are unable to account for 1,407 cases. We therefore request the Court to ask defendant whether the dates mentioned in the list are correct?

The Judge (to Defendant)—Are these dates all correct?

Counsel for Defendant—Before answering I wish to put a question or two. Counsel for Plaintiffs just now said that the total number of cases lost was not contained in document No. 5, i.e. that there are some further cases missing—is that not so?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—1,407 cases are missing, over and above the quantity mentioned in that document.

The Judge—I do not quite understand you. Do you mean that the document does not contain the

dates and numbers relating to the forty thousand cases declared to be lost?

Counsel for Defendant—I have examined the document which was handed to me yesterday, and I find that it totals up to about 130,000 cases. Even if the erased order is deducted from the amount, the total will not come any where near the number now stated by plaintiffs to be lost.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—If the number of cases imported by those three ships are added together, you will find that the grand total amounts to the number mentioned in the document handed to you. It is out of these 130,000 cases that the 40,000 were wrongfully delivered.

The Judge—Which lots were so delivered, do you know?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We do not know the exact lots, for there were over forty thousand cases wrongfully delivered.

The Judge—But can't you tell by the marks and numbers which lots were erroneously delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No.

Counsel for Defendant—It is very inconvenient that you do not know which lots were wrongfully delivered, for some of course were properly delivered. Does Counsel for Plaintiffs know how much oil was properly delivered?

The Judge—What quantity of oil do the plaintiffs now demand?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—That can be ascertained by the account book.

The Judge—How?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In the end of the account book every lot is recorded separately.

The Judge—Do you mean this account book? (The one lying on the Judge's desk.)

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. At the bottom of the list are recorded the number of cases for which the firm received payment: indemnity for those is, therefore, not demanded.

The Judge—But this list does not say to which lots the oil and cases belonged?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No. That cannot be ascertained. What we demand is a certain portion of cases imported by the three ships mentioned, which cases were wrongfully delivered; for these alone we demand indemnity.

The Judge—Then we cannot ascertain the exact number?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We only demand compensation for those which are not paid for.

The Judge—How did you get the money for the others then?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The money was brought to the office by the Chinese, who said that that amount of oil was sold.

The Judge—But how did the Chinese obtain delivery of those cases?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The Chinese altered the delivery orders given them by the firm; a portion of the oil which was sold was paid and accounted for, the other portion was not, and as it is not in the Kencho's warehouse it has been stolen by the Chinese.

Counsel for Defendant—Then the demand of the plaintiffs is not brought on account of wrongful delivery, but for those portions of oil which the Chinese in your employ sold, but did not bring in the money for. Is it not so?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—It is not so. Among the wrongfully delivered goods were some which have been paid and accounted for, but we do not demand compensation for them.

Counsel for Defendant—I can now answer the question which Counsel for Plaintiffs asked just now. In comparing document No. 5 with the books in the possession of defendant I find the numbers differ very greatly; therefore I must ask plaintiffs to point out which lots or quantities of oil were found to be short.

The Judge—Which do you mean, the number of cases alleged to be lost or the dates of their delivery?

Counsel for Defendant—Both the number of cases and the dates of their delivery.

The Judge—How about the signatures?

Counsel for Defendant—As soon as goods are delivered the delivery orders become waste-paper, but I cannot say for certain. I believe the signatures were correct so far as I have examined them.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Then which numbers and dates are incorrect in document No. 5?

The Judge (to counsel for defendant)—Can you answer the question?

Counsel for Defendant—The question as to the accuracy or inaccuracy of the document presented by plaintiffs cannot be answered just now, but if the Court permits I could, on a future date, cite quite a number of instances of inaccuracy and give comparisons.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Then may I request you to answer the questions relating to the former document, and not those based on the one presented to-day?

Counsel for Defendant—I have no obligation to answer any such questions.

The Judge—Do you mean that you don't acknowledge them at all?

Counsel for Defendant—No.

The Judge—I wish to ask another question of counsel for plaintiffs. The document No. 5 mentions some 130,000 cases, but out of them you demand indemnity for 7,373 cases only. It that last number included in the former demand?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Judge—But how about the other thousand odd cases?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Document No. 5, mentions some cases in which the name to the ship was omitted, but whether these were deposited by plaintiffs or not cannot now be ascertained; and we could not include them in the list of lost cases for compensation. If, therefore, that number is subtracted from the original total the two accounts will correspond.

The Judge—What I asked was whether the other thousand or so cases are included in document No. 5 or not?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—They are included in it, therefore the number is greater than the former document. No, no. I mean to say that the number is less than the former document.

The Judge—Do you mean less than the number you deposited at the Kencho.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Quite so. If the erased numbers are included the total will be greater, but not otherwise. I cannot say whether the other thousand or so cases were delivered, for I have no duplicate copy with me here.

The Judge—Then they are not included in document No. 5?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We know that they were imported by those three ships, but when and in what quantities they were deposited is uncertain. In short, all the cases mentioned in document No. 5 were wrongfully delivered, and if we had not received money for some of them we should ask for an indemnity for the whole. We cannot say for which particular lots we received payment, but we do not demand any indemnity in those cases.

Counsel for Defendant—Do you mean that every case imported by the *Anglo-American* and the other two ships, was wrongfully delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes; everyone of them. But we received payment for some of them, therefore we ask no indemnity for such quantities.

Counsel for Defendant—The names of the ships are the *Anglo-American*, the *Milverton*, and the *Calypto*. Do you mean that all the cases imported by those ships were wrongfully delivered?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Assistant Judge—Were there only three ships?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Assistant Judge—But I thought you said seven ships before?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes, there are seven ships, but the present suit only concerns those three ships.

The Assistant Judge—Then what about the other ships, besides the *Anglo-American*, *Milverton*, and *Calypto*?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Document No. 5 mentions only those cases of kerosene oil imported by these three ships. We, are however, not able to tell the exact dates on which the oil was delivered.

The Assistant Judge—Can't you tell how many cases were imported by the *Anglo-American*?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The number of cases imported by the *Anglo-American* mentioned in that document is greater than the actual number, but the total number imported by the three ships is correct. That is to say there were 128,385 cases in all.

The Assistant Judge—Since the number of cases mentioned in the account-book is included in document No. 5, I fail to see how there can be any more cases about which you cannot give clear evidence.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—That document was copied from papers in the Kencho, and there may be some other papers of a similar kind in the Kencho which we did not have access to. As we do not possess all the necessary documents we cannot tell the exact total number of cases missing. But if that number is subtracted from the total we shall be found short of the remainder.

The Judge—If you cannot tell what amount was lost out of the cases imported by the *Anglo-American*, how can you tell that these particular 1,400 cases belonged to the lot imported by that ship? Yet you seem to have stated it for certainty in the account.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We only demand indemnity for the actual loss.

The Judge—That's all right; but it seems to me that there are more cases alleged to be lost in the account-book than are mentioned in document No. 5.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No, no, it is not so.

The Judge—But I see there are some thousand cases alleged to be lost in addition to the number contained in document No. 5. Do you mean you received payment for that quantity?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No. The total number of cases imported is 130,000 odd, and that total is quite correct, but the document presented this time contains details of the loss of some thousand cases more than the one held in possession by the Kencho, but we cannot bring evidence to prove this.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

EARTHQUAKE PHENOMENA IN JAPAN.

The following is an epitome of the twelfth report on Earthquake Phenomena in Japan:—

TO THE COMMITTEE PRESENTING THE REPORT, VIZ:—THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD KELVIN, MR. R. ETHERIDGE, PROF. JOHN PERRY, DR. HENRY WOODWARD, PROF. THOMAS GRAY.

GENTLEMEN,—Owing to the dissolution of the Seismological Society, in the Transactions of which detailed accounts of work relating to Seismological investigations carried out in Japan have for the most part been published, the Report for this year is somewhat longer than usual. For this reason the Report itself has been forwarded directly to the Secretary of the British Association, whilst the following outline of its contents has been drawn up for the consideration of the Committee.

I have the honour to remain Gentlemen, yours respectfully,
JOHN MILNE.
(Secretary of the above Committee.)

1.—THE GRAY MILNE SEISMOGRAPH.

The seismograph constructed in 1883—the expense of which was partly defrayed by the British Association—has during the last year given diagrams and records of Earthquakes, from number 1106 to number 1241.

2.—REPORT ON EARTHQUAKES FELT IN JAPAN IN 1888 AND 1889.

In 1888 the number of Earthquakes recorded in Japan was 630, and the total land area shaken was 970,800 sq. miles. In 1889, the number of Earthquakes was 930, and the area shaken 1,048,200 sq. miles. On Feb. 5th 1888 an Earthquake shook 57,600 sq. miles. Some account is given of Earthquakes which preceded the eruption of Bandaisan, when within 10 minutes, 28 sq. miles of a fertile valley were buried from 30 to 100 feet deep beneath a sea of earth and boulders. Everybody in the district perished. The damming up of the valley has formed a lake $\frac{3}{4}$ miles long.

On July 28th, 1889, an Earthquake took place in the Southern island; 20 were killed and 74 wounded. All these Earthquakes have been classified with regard to hours, days, months, seasons, &c. They are also grouped according to intensity, direction, &c. It is clear that the vast amount of material which comes in yearly from the 700 observing stations is capable of being analysed by methods other than those given. The Government Staff is insufficient to carry out more than their usual routine work. To carry it out privately requires access to documents, and funds. The nature of new researches which might be made is indicated in the Report. At any moment all this valuable material bearing on Seismology accumulated in Japan and of which there is no copy, may be lost by fire.

3.—EARTH PULSATIONS.

So far as the writer is aware, no attempt has been made to determine the character of the movements, common to all countries, usually called Earth Tremors. By using exceedingly light conical pendulums (made from a needle and a silk fibre)—the pointer being replaced by a small mirror reflecting a ray of light—the writer is inclined to the view that the Earth motions producing movements in this form of apparatus are not elastic vibrations, such as might be produced by the beating of a steam hammer, but that they are long wave, or undulations like the swell on an ocean. During the time that these pulsations are continuing it is noticed that they have a definite direction. They are most frequent when the place of observation is crossed by a steep barometric gradient, whether there is wind or whether it is fine. The possible relationship of these movements to the escape of Fire Damp, the swinging of pendulums, is discussed, etc. The records of these phenomena have been photographed, and examples of them accompany the Report.

4.—THE OVERTURNING AND FRACTURING OF COLUMNS, WALLS, ETC.

By continuing experiments on the overturning of columns when subjected to earthquake like motion, we can now state with confidence the acceleration required to overturn any given column by its own inertia. In the experiments on fractur-

ing, all the brick columns and walls snapped at their base. The form of column which, when moved back and forth by an Earthquake, will offer an equal resistance at all horizontal sections to the effects of its own inertia has been determined.

In ordinary engineering practice the cross-section of piers is practically uniform from the base upwards—short piers near a river bank have the same cross-section as long piers in the centre of the river, &c. A large series of piers for bridges now being built in Japan have been designed in accordance with the rules resulting from our experiments on fracturing.

5.—THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE OF OCT. 28TH 1891.

9,960 people were killed, 128,750 dwelling houses were totally destroyed, and in a few seconds Japan lost the equivalent of perhaps 30 millions dollars. About twelve million dollars have already been poured into the district for repairs and relief. The movement reached Berlin at the rate of 9,800 feet per sec. At Tokyo 150 miles from the origin, the ground moved in long flat waves, which tilted the water in ponds and caused seismographs to act as angle measurers. These waves had a velocity of about eight feet per second. A few chimneys fell.

The origin was the formation of a fault, which can be traced for 40 or 50 miles along the surface. Some 3,000 shocks have been recorded since the first great shock. Mountain slopes have been stripped by land-slips, valleys are dammed up, and lakes have been formed. Valleys have been compressed so that farms have decreased in area.

One curious phenomenon, observed by Mr. F. Omori was the movement of bodies like gate posts by a series of jumps, each jump being from one to four feet, 400 miles of river banks were shaken down or deeply crevassed. Mud volcanoes formed, railway lines and bridges twisted and distorted. Foundations of bridges in one case were shifted 19 feet.

Some thousands of calculations respecting accelerations to produce fracturing and overturning have been made. Records of seismographs have been examined and the velocity of gravity and of elastic waves have been computed. The origin was in a non-volcanic district, but where elevation was in process. Earthquakes seldom come from volcanoes, but they occur in volcanic countries where secular movements are in progress or where mountains are in process of formation.

A photographic record, taken at each end of a water level several miles in length, and if possible at right angles to an axis of elevation, might give measurements of slow tilting and throw light on a possible relationship between earthquakes and these movements, &c. Such an experiment might cost £500.

Earthquake and Volcanic effects will, if possible, be illustrated by some very large photographs kindly lent by Prof. W. K. Burton.

Before the end of this year, with the assistance of subscribers, I shall publish a Seismological Journal which will be uniform in character with the Transactions of the Seismological Society.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 8th.

Further election returns are:—Tories, 140; Unionists, 19; Liberals, 112; Parnellite, 1; Anti-Parnellites, 2. The Tories have gained eleven and the Unionists four.

The Chartered Mercantile Bank notifies probable losses of £65,000 through the failure of a Bombay firm, otherwise the losses since the accounts were published are unimportant.

London, July 9th.

The election returns show that the Tories have gained 13, the Unionists 6, and the Liberals 43.

London, July 10th.

The Tories have gained thirteen, Unionists seven, and Liberals forty-eight.

London, July 11th.

The election returns show that the Liberals have gained 50, and that the position of the Tories and Unionists is unchanged. The Press anticipate that Mr. Gladstone will obtain a small, though scarcely a working majority, including Irishmen and labour members the allegiance of some of whom is doubtful.

London, July 12th.

The election returns show the Tory gain to be fourteen, the Unionist gain seven, and the Liberal gain forty-six.

London, July 13th.

The election returns now are:—Tories, 228;

Unionists, 40; Liberals, 215; Parnellites, 7; Anti-Parnellites, 42. Mr. Gladstone was re-elected by a majority of 700.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

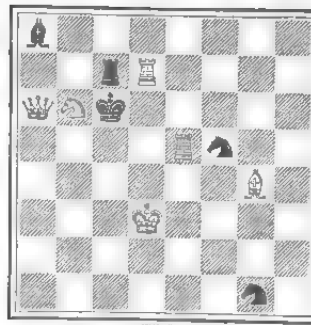
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 25.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q B to K B 6 1—K x Kt
2—R to Q B 4 2—K x R
3—K B to K 6 mate if 2—K to Q 3

Correct solutions received from Scacchi, W.H.S., O. Balk, Ed. B., Omega, J.D., and J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 27.

By S. LOYD.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The members of the Yokohama Chess Club had a most enjoyable reunion on Wednesday evening at the Club Hotel, the occasion being a dinner in honour of their much-esteemed President, Mr. John T. Griffin, who has recently returned from a visit to Europe and America. A goodly number of members assembled, though some who had sent in their names as subscribers were prevented from attending, the original date of the dinner, June 28th, having been abandoned in consequence of the lamented death of Mr. J. Honigsberger, which took place on the 26th.

After dinner it had been intended to distribute the prizes in last season's handicap tournament, but unfortunately both Mr. Meikle and Mr. Fardel were unavoidably absent, and that part of the programme had therefore to be dropped. The final score of the leading players is as follows:—

	WON.	LOST	DRAWN
J. T. Meikle (II.)	20	4	—
H. L. Fardel (III.)	18	4	—
O. Balk (I.)	17	7	—
E. Batavus (II.)	17	7	—

Mr. Meikle's losses were made up as follows:—One each against Fardel, Ekstrand (IV.), Fox (IV.) and Unite (V.). Mr. Fardel lost one each against Meikle, Merian (III.), Fox (IV.) and von Heimer, sen. (IV.), drew against Helm (V.) and left one game against Unite (V.) unplayed. Mr. Balk lost two each against Meikle and Fardel, and one each against Merian (III.), Ekstrand (IV.) and Hodges (V.). Mr. Batavus lost two each against Balk, Meikle, and Fardel, and one against Ekstrand.

The following is one of the two games played between Messrs. Balk and Batavus:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—Kt to Q B 3
2—P to Q B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to K 4
4—Q to K 2	4—Kt x ■
5—Q x Kt	5—P to K 4
6—Kt to B 3	6—P to Q 4
7—P x P	7—B to Q 3
8—Castles.	8—Castles.
9—P to Q 4	9—P x P
10—Q x P	10—K to R sq.
11—B to Kt 5	11—Q to K sq.
12—B x Kt	12—R x B
13—Kt to Q 2	13—R to B 5
14—Q R to K sq.	14—Q to Kt 3
15—Q R to K 4	15—B to K R 6
16—P to Kt 3	16—Q R to K B sq.
17—R x R	17—R x R
18—Q x R P	18—P to Kt 3
19—R to K sq.	19—P to R 3
20—Kt to K 5	20—B x Kt
21—R ■ B	21—Q to B 7
22—Q to R 6	22—Q to Q 8 ch.
23—Kt to B sq.	23—Q to B 6
24—Kt to K 3	24—Q x P ch.
25—K to R sq.	25—Q to K 8 ch.
26—Kt to ■ sq.	26—R x Kt ch.
27—Resigns.	

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 22nd.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.*
From America... per P. M. Co.		Monday, July 25th.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Saturday, July 16th.‡
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, July 17th.§
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 22nd.||
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, July 23rd.
From America... per O. & O. Co.		Thursday, Aug. 11th.

* Ancon left Hongkong on July 8th. † China left San Francisco on July 9th. ‡ Morning left Hongkong on July 14th. § Empress of India left Hongkong on July 9th. ¶ Salasie (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 17th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, July 18th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Monday, July 18th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki...	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 19th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, July 23rd.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Thursday, July 28th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Guy Mannering, British steamer, 1,829, Ford, 9th July.—Middlesboro' via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Aglais, German steamer, 1,668, Christiansen, 10th July.—Hamburg via Hongkong 4th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 10th July.—Vancouver, B.C., 27th June, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,892, Norman, 10th July.—Kobe 9th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 12th July.—Hongkong 7th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 14th July.—San Francisco via Honolulu 25th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Leipzig (14), German flag ship, Captain Roetger, 14th July.—Hongkong via ports.
Mascotte, British steamer, 2,017, Jas. Ross, 14th July.—Hongkong via ports 1st July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 14th July.—Penang via China and Japan ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain J. J. Heugh, 15th July.—Cruise.
Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, Harrison, 16th July.—Guam, Cobra.—Captain.

DEPARTURES.

Benglo, British steamer, 1,183, Farquhar, 9th July.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar.—Cornes & Co.
Triomphante (12), French flag ship, Captain De la Noe, 9th July.—Hakodate.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 11th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Stokes, 12th July.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Imperieuse (10), flag ship, Captain McQuhae, 14th July.—Hakodate.
Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Captain Chas. H. Adair, 14th July.—Hakodate.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 14th July.—Hakodate.
Pallas (20), cruiser, Captain Angus MacLeod, 14th July.—Hakodate.
Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain J. J. Heugh, 14th July.—Hakodate and Otari.
Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. H. Henderson, 14th July.—Hakodate.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 15th July.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Lion (4), French gunboat, Captain Papaix, 15th July.—Hakodate and Otari.
Aglais, German steamer, 1,668, Christiansen, 16th July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,892, Norman, 16th July.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Norma, British schooner, 52, J. Kernan, 16th July.—Sealing Cruise, Sealing Gear.—Captain.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 16th July.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Aglaia*, from Hamburg:—
Mr. M. Mumm and Miss Lili in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Dalaconval, Rev. H. G. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jewitt, Dr. Thornecroft, Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse, Mr. W. C. Wheeling, Mrs. P. A. Shaw, Mrs. Cavendish, Commander Fleet, Lieut. Boothby, Mrs. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Rawie, Colonel and Mrs. Bass, Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Lefferts, Rev. Dr. Conkling, Mr. B. P. Conkling, Miss Conkling, Dr. W. T. Helmuth, Mrs. Helmuth, and Rev. Dr. Vincent in cabin; Messrs. J. and W. Narvel, Mr. Jewitt's amah, Dr. Arnold, Mr. A. Gee, and Mr. G. F. Draper in second class, and 5 passengers in steerage. For Shanghai: Mr. G. A. Bruton, Rev. J. S. Key, and Mr. N. Symons in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. J. Edgar and Master Edgar in second class. For Hongkong: Colonel E. D. Judd, Mr. Leckie, Mrs. England, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Levy in cabin; Mr. E. Roe in second class, and 75 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—
Mr. G. C. Greenhill, Miss Ethel Hawkins, Captain Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. R. Fraser-Smith, and Mr. R. Ogilvie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Adalbert Jankovich, Mr. Theodore Wores, Mrs. Mary Louise Barroll, Mr. Henry Barroll, Miss Zaides Rogers, Mr. Eugene Clarke, Rev. K. Masuco, Mr. Y. Ninomiya, Miss A. M. Colby, Bishop A. F. Mallatien, Mr. W. E. Mallatien, Rev. Daniels, Mrs. R. Hara, Mr. W. G. Hay, Miss J. H. Hay, and Miss M. D. Hay in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. A. Murison and Rev. Wm. L. Hornsby in cabin.

Per British steamer *Mascotte*, from Hongkong via ports:—86 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Pathani*, from Penang via ports:—Mr. Brown in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Little, Rev. and Mrs. O. H. Gulick, Miss Gulick, Mrs. J. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Hata, Mrs. Fitzhugh, Mr. Rethers, 2 children, and amah, Messrs. H. Sylva, J. Blohm, McGregor Grant, W. Beall, A. Tison, J. Strauss, A. Meier, M. Smith, W. J. Whymack, D. S. Browne, S. Strouton, C. B. Hicks, Y. Sano, Rev. Herbert Moore, Rev. B. Buxton, and Capt. J. M. James in cabin; Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Ota, Mr. and Miss Ota, Messrs. Ota, Wm. Haviland, J. Rissmer, Jas. C. Grant, and H. N. Read in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—
Lieut. P. Helps, Mrs. A. Langley, Messrs. D. M. Clark, R. Fraser-Smith, C. Klink and native servant, and M. I. Benenko in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$30,000.00.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

T.B.A.			
SHANGHAI	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	TOTAL
1,172	634	3,066	4,866
Hyogo	820	1,680	2,500
Yokohama	6,320	712	1,850
Hongkong	203	—	203
Amoy	41	1,061	540
Total	7,736	3,227	7,130

S.I.L.K.			
SHANGHAI	NEW YORK	BARTFORD	TOTAL
—	12	—	12
Hongkong	—	390	390
Yokohama	—	110	110
Total	—	512	512

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 7th July at 3.8 p.m.; had fresh to strong head winds the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th July at 9.17 p.m. Passage, 5 days, 4 hours, and 27 minutes.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 25th June at 3.45 p.m.; had light easterly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Honolulu the 2nd July at 6.33 a.m. and left the same day at 7 p.m.; had light variable winds and smooth sea to the 10th; thence to port light southerly winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th July at 4.04 a.m. Passage, 17 days, 6 hours, and 24 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has not been much change in the Market during the past week; business in Yarns has con-

tinued to be the chief feature, and dealers have availed themselves of lots offering to arrive without advancing prices any further, though the market remains firm for all counts; Bombays do not seem to be much wanted at present, and quotations are almost nominal. Grey Goods have had very little attention, the few sales of glb. Shirtings at easier rates being all the business reported, and sellers generally are holding for higher prices; for Velvets there has been a moderate demand, but most other Fancy Cottons have been dull of Sale, and excepting a small business in Italian Cloths there has been little doing in Woollens of any description. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10 3/4 Bank on demand. Sales for the week comprise 1,000 bales English Vain, 5,000 pieces glb. Shirtings, 500 pieces Washed Shirtings, 500 pieces White Shirtings, 1,000 pieces Prints, 1,500 pieces Victoria Lawns, 110 pieces Silk-faced Satins, and 1,000 pieces Italian Cloths.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—44h, 38 1/2 yds, 35 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—40h, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.50
P. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 33 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.30 to 1.55
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 33 inches	1.50 to 2.00
PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 48 inches	5.60 to 6.60
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffeta Lawns, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.15 to 0.25
PER PIECE.	
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 1/2, 34/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches neat	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.28
Medium	0.21 to 0.24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.21 to 0.24
Common	0.18 to 0.20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.17
Cloths—Piques, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.47 to 0.54
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2, per lb	0.15 to 0.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/4, Ordinary	\$1.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.15 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
No. 32, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 12, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
PER HALL.	
No. 205, Bombay	60.00 to 73.00
No. 165, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Nothing fresh to be said. Prices nominally without change; but absolutely nothing doing, what with Bon festival and the usual hot weather excuses.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	12.85 to 12.90
Flat Bars, 6 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

No change; market steady and firm. No fresh arrivals during the week, either in American or Russian, but total stock in the Nakamura Godowns is about 625,000 cases of all kinds.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	—
Comel	\$1.57 1/2 to 1.60
Devoe	1.52 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52 1/2

SUGAR.

Demand for Takao has fallen off, and prices are nominally a fraction off from the quotations of last week. Other Browns have met a good demand at firm rates, and the market is practically cleared of these kinds. White, unchanged market, quiet but firm under a steady demand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.40 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 8th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 445 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 106 piculs; *Filatures* 223 piculs; *Reveels*, 91 piculs; *Kakeda*, 15 piculs; *Oshu*, 10 piculs. These has been no direct export this week, so that the total business amounts to the above named 445 piculs.

Curiously enough, the chief business of the season so far seems to have been done for Europe, where consumers are apparently able to pay good prices. Just now the perplexity about the Italian crop still continues, estimates by cable varying from "Same as last year" to "20% less than last year." It seems probable that the exact outturn will not be definitely known before the end of this month. The local speculation mentioned in our last seems to have died away, and all business done during the week is apparently for legitimate export. While writing, buyers for the United States have entered the market to some extent, a few houses apparently being obliged to make some shipments by the outgoing at steamer.

No real *Shinshu* silks have as yet appeared, and all the business done has been in the same class of silks mentioned last week.

Quality generally is not at present satisfactory; *Koshu* *Filatures* are good, but *Re-reels*, both from *Joshu* and *Bushu*, still leave much to be desired, particularly in regularity of size and colour, some of the well-known marks especially exhibiting failings in these respects.

There has been only one shipping opportunity during the week, the English mail steamer *Verona*, which left port on the 9th instant, taking 172 bales for Europe. This departure brings the present export figures up to 716 piculs, against 1,489 piculs last year and 974 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—A large business for the time of year, over 100 piculs being settled of old and new staple. Ordinary *Maibashi* *Hanks*, new crop, have brought \$495, with new *Hachofu* at \$475. Further arrivals are held for an advance, holders asserting that the quality is now much improved. This remains to be seen. It is certain that the first supplies were not very desirable. Some old *Shinshu* *Hanks* have again been done at prices ranging from \$500 to \$460, according to quality.

Filatures.—High prices have been paid for some fine sizes, small lots, \$720 being realized for ordinary *Bishu* silks, 10/12 den. In kinds suitable for America, irregular prices have been paid; so-called *Shinshu* have realized \$715 and \$712 1/2; one parcel of *Koshu* *Yajima* is said to have been settled at \$695, while other silks of equal quality but less-known brands have been done at \$670.

Re-reels.—There has been some business in these at what are comparatively cheap prices, *Joshu* of various brands being purchased at prices ranging from \$650 to \$620. These, as a rule, run rather full size; and for anything regular in size and colour buyers are willing to pay a good figure.

Kakeda.—Some more parcels of old silk have been negotiated for Europe, and the first small lots of new *Kakeda*, amounting to about two piculs, have been taken for the same destination. The prices mentioned for this new staple are:—*Flower Girl* chop, \$610; *Tiger*, \$590; *Deer*, \$550. Present supplies are so small that no estimate of quality can be given, but it is expected that we shall have good silks from this province during the present season.

Oshu.—One parcel of the old *Hamatsuki* settled at \$500, and this is the only transaction so far. No arrivals of new produce at present.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	\$490 to 500
Hanks—No. 3	475 to 485
Hanks—No. 34	460 to 470
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 14	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 24	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 34	—

Kakedas—No. 4	—	—	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—	—	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	—	—	—
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	—	—	—
Sodai—No. 24	—	—	—
Export Raw Silk Tables to 15th July, 1892:—			
Season 1891-1892.	1891-92.	1890-91.	
Europe	369	217	234
America	320	1,212	715
Total	689	1,429	949
Settlements and Direct	716	1,489	974
Export from 1st July	900	1,250	800
Stock, 15th July	2,150	2,250	3,500
Available supplies to date	3,050	3,500	4,300

WASTE SILK.

Some little business has been done in old fibre, amounting altogether to 86 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi*, 25 piculs; *Kibiso*, 11 piculs; *Mawata*, 48 piculs; *Neri*, 2 piculs.

A picul or so of new *Filature Noshi* has been taken as a sample, price \$112, but the quality is ordinary and forms no basis for quotations. Nothing done in *Yoshu Noshi* as yet, the market being in the same condition as reported last week.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Verona* taking 348 piculs for Europe and the steamer *Energia* carrying 49 piculs *Mawata* for New York. These departures bring the present export up to 739 piculs, against 103 piculs last year and 535 piculs to the same date in the previous season.

The old fibre *Mawata* shipped to New York is chiefly medium to fair quality, at about \$160 per picul.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Coccons—Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Filature, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Filature, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Filature, Medium	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Oshu, Good to Best	\$110	to 130	—
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Medium	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Basha, Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Jushu, Best	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Jushu, Good	—	—	—
Noshi-to—Jushu, Ordinary	Nom.	\$95	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—	—	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—	—	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	—	—
Kibiso—Jushu, Good to Fair	—	—	—
Kibiso—Jushu, Middling to Common	—	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—	—	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—	—	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—	—	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 15th July, 1892:—

	Season 1892-93. PIECES.	1891-92. PIECES.	1890-91. PIECES.
Waste Silk	739	103	535
Pierced Coccons.....	—	—	—
	739	103	535
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July	PIECES. 110	PIECES. 50	PIECES. 250
Stock, 15th July	3,800	2,550	4,950
Available supplies to date	3,910	2,600	5,200

Exchange has risen in the interval, but has again dropped rather smartly the last two days in sympathy with lower prices for Silver in London. We quote bills as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.72; 6m/s. fcs. 3.74.

Estimated Silk Stock, 15th July, 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	170	Coccons	20
Filatures	840	Noshi-to	2,200
Re-reels	880	Kibiso	1,400
Kakeda	96	Mawata	50
Oshu	164	Sundries	130
Taysam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	2,150	Total piculs	3,800

TEA.

Market active and prices firm at last week's quotations. Plenty of second crop leaf in the market, and there seems no lack of buyers for it. Settlements to date 170,000 piculs against 180,000 last year. Shipments (not including *Oceanic*, which left port this morning) 14 million pounds against 16 millions to same date last season.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$11 to 33
Choice	28 to 30
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	13 to 14
Common	11 to 12

EXCHANGE.

Exchange remains very low, and shows small stability at the rates below:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/11
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 8 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3.72
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	12 ½/16
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	12 ½/16
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	99½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71½
Silver	39½

BOARDING HOUSE
FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"
"KEATING'S POWDER"

KILLS
BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
MOSQUITOES.

HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,

but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS in FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THE PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that packages of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins and Bottles only.

March 26, 1892.

FOR SALE,
THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:
SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:
No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukij Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD!



TRADE MARK.

May 14th, 1892.

ALWAYS ASK FOR

MILKMAID
CONDENSED MILK

GUARANTEED

BEST QUALITY, BEST VALUE.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
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THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout World. May 28, 1892.

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CAVENDISH CO.,
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SPECIAL BRANDS:—

"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
"Richmond Smoking Mixture."
Superfine Bird's Eye.
"Golden Brown" Fine Cut.
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No. 4.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 23RD, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
司部資信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 23RD, 1892.

VISCOUNT INOUE, President of the Railway Bureau, left the capital on the 16th instant and returned on the 21st.

THE Authorities granted on the 12th inst. the application for the establishment of a Commercial Chamber in Shizuoka.

MARQUIS NABESHIMA, Superintendent of the Boards of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household, proceeded to Nikko on the 19th inst.

THE third excursion train to Nikko, which left Utsunomiya on Saturday morning, carried more than six hundred and fifty visitors to the famous temple city.

THE total population of Tokyo at the end of last year was 1,217,309, showing an increase of 75,358 as compared with 1,141,951 of the previous year.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Berlin received by the Government, announces that Viscount Aoki, Japanese Minister to Germany, has arrived there.

THE Railway Bureau, hitherto under the charge of the Home Minister, has been transferred to the control of the Minister of State for Communications.

THE receipts of the Tokyo Godowns Company during the first half of this year were yen 9,179,496, and a dividend has been declared at the rate of 11 per cent. per annum.

THE income of the Twentieth National Bank during the half-year, with the sum brought over from last account, amounted to yen 35,049,184, of this total yen 15,000,000 was appropriated for

dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, and yen 10,000,000 was set apart to be added to the reserve fund, yen 49,184 being carried to the new account.

MR. WATANABE, Chief of the Hokkaido Administration, has been appointed Vice-Minister of State for Home Affairs, and various changes of local Governors have been made.

DURING the severe thunderstorm in Osaka on the afternoon of the 14th inst. an iron chimney (about 120 feet in height) in the enclosure of the Osaka Arsenal was damaged.

THE dividends of the Cotton Spinning Companies at Settsu and Yokkaichi for the past half-year have been declared at the rates of 20 per cent. and 15 per cent. per annum respectively.

A FIRE broke out on the 11th inst. at 10.30 a.m. in a house at Nishikigi-mura in the Shikazuno District of Akita Prefecture, and before the flames could be subdued 69 buildings were destroyed.

THE foreign trade of Sōul, Korea, during April last amounted to yen 21,900.03, of which yen 19,051.32 (Japanese goods, yen 7,956.09, and foreign, yen 11,095.25) represented imports, and yen 2,848.03 exports.

H.I.H. KITASHIRAKAWA YOSHIE returned to the capital on the 16th inst. from the Narashi Plain, and Their Imperial Highnesses Princess and Princess Komatsu (junior) arrived in Tokyo from Odawara the following day.

THE gallery of a theatre at Isezakicho, Yokohama, where circus performances are now being held, fell down while more than fifty persons were upon it, on the night of the 16th inst. Several youths were more or less severely hurt.

H.E. THE BELGIAN Minister, Mr. G. Neyt, and Mr. Cargill G. Knott, late British Employé of the Imperial University, have been decorated by the Emperor with the First Class Order of the Rising Sun, and the Fourth Class of the same Order respectively.

THE net profits of the Third National Bank, during the same period, were yen 59,192.892, of which yen 5,000,000 was set apart as a reserve, and yen 41,192.892 carried forward to the next account, yen 50,000,000 being declared as dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Rice Exchange was held on the 15th inst., at which about 100 gentlemen were present. The total income during the half year was yen 57,924.589, of which, after deducting sums for miscellaneous payments, yen 26,519.155 was left as a net profit. Of this sum yen 2,651,000 was set apart as rewards to officers, yen 700,000 to be added to the reserve fund, yen 3,573,000 as a special reserve, and yen 14,500,000 as a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, yen 120,474 being carried forward to the next account.

THE Empress visited the Noble's School for Girls on the 18th inst., leaving the Palace at half-past 8 o'clock a.m. The Imperial Party was composed of several officials of the Imperial Household and Ladies in Waiting, and arrived at the school at 9 o'clock, where a large number of distinguished guests, instructors, and scholars in the institution had assembled to receive it. The Empress was at once conducted to an upper salon where the report of the school for the past year was presented by President Nishimura for the inspection of Her Majesty, who afterwards attended the graduation ceremony.

The proceedings commenced with the singing of "Kougosaki" and "Mizu wa usuruwa" (words composed by the Empress), by the students. A quartette on Japanese musical instruments by Mr. Sano Sadataka and Ladies Arimura Namiko, Yonetsu Tetsuko, and Hirasu Yeiko followed. Lady Kujo Noriko having given a performance upon the organ, the certificates were presented by the President, who also delivered a short address. This was replied to by Lady Oshima Yukiko, on behalf of all the other graduates. The proceedings concluded with a further display of vocal and instrumental music, both foreign and Japanese. Her Majesty then inspected the rooms which had been decorated with paintings, needlework, and various other objects, the work of both teachers and students, and appeared greatly pleased at the evident improvement exhibited by all. The Imperial Party left for the Palace at 11 o'clock. Amongst the guests were Their Imperial Highnesses Princess Komatsu (junior), and Princess Kitashirakawa, the Minister of State for the Imperial Household, and Viscountess Hijikata, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Countess Matsukata, the Grand Master of Services to H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager and Viscountess Sugi, Marquis Hosokawa, Mr. Hosokawa, President of the Higher Female Normal School; Mr. Irokawa, a Councillor of the Educational Department, and Mr. Nagasaki, a Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household.

As is customary during the week of the Midsummer Bon, there has been less done in Imports, and the sales of Yarns have been smaller than for some weeks past. There has been a fair demand for Shirtings, however, and at late rates 10,000 pieces g/b. have been taken; other Cotton goods have not been in so much request, and Woollens have been almost neglected. Prices are nominal in the Metal market, where buyers are not numerous, and holders, through higher home prices and lower exchange, are not pushing. The Kerosene trade is healthy, deliveries good, and holders firm. The business in Sugar is only moderate, White sorts being most in demand, but prices are well maintained. The Silk market has been active, and at full rates over 1,000 piculs have passed the scales. Real Shinshu Silks now come in, and the quality of Filatures has been pronounced good, but Kakedas, though fair in quality and colour, are irregular in size—a failing constantly complained of. Though both American and Canadian mail steamers carried silk, by far the larger portion of the shipments have been for Europe. In regard to the Italian crop, it was definitely stated in an English Silk Circular received by the French mail that less seed had been put down this season in Italy, which would point to a diminished out-turn as a certainty, to say nothing of the health of the *kaiho* and the condition of the elements in regard to crop production. The same authority also states in distinct terms that the stock in Europe is low, that silk is in fashion, and the requirements of manufacturers are likely to be considerable, all of which circumstances point to a favourable season for Japanese producers. There has been a little more done in Waste Silk, but the business put through has been mostly in old fibre, what has passed in new not having been sufficient to make quotations. Notwithstanding that certain buyers are at the moment holding aloof, there has been considerable activity in the Tea trade. There is an ample stock of second crop leaf, and a reduction may be looked for if the present attitude of some buyers is maintained. Exchange this week declined another point, but is firm at quotations.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. HIRANUMA AND HIS EMPLOYEES.

It will be remembered by some of our readers that in March, 1891, an announcement appeared in the vernacular papers, and was reproduced by us, to the effect that Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, the well-known coal merchant and money-lender of Yokohama, had been defrauded of the sum of 90,000 yen by the forgery of one of his employes named Kawai Kurataro. Kawai was arrested some six months subsequently to the discovery of his fraud and, after protracted preliminary inquiries, was tried before the Tokyo Provincial Court early this month. The trial has caused considerable sensation on account of the facts which it has been the means of eliciting relative to the methods by which Mr. Hiranuma has made his large fortune. For many years it has been rumoured that no man in Japan was so hated by noblemen as Hiranuma Senzo, on account of the treatment they had received from him, but not until now have incontrovertible proofs of the unscrupulous nature of the measures devised by the great Yokohama usurer been furnished to the public. The whole tone of the speech of the Public Procurator (Mr. Odate), delivered on the 6th instant before the Tokyo Provincial Court, was one of regret that while the employe is punished his employer should escape the clutches of the law. The speech, as reported in several of the papers, refers to Mr. Hiranuma as the father of exorbitant usurers (*kori kashi no oyaji*) and denounces his methods as devoid of all moral rectitude. Among the *ipsissima verba* of the Procurator were the following:—"Hiranuma naru mono wa tokugi mo nani mo omowazaru, horitsu ni yotte hito wo kurushime, kasoku wo seibatsu sen to suru Nihon murui hito no kori-kashi nari." "This Hiranuma is a man who has no regard for morality or anything else, whose one desire is to injure noblemen. His is a wicked and exorbitant usurer whose match is not to be found in Japan." The gist of the Procurator's speech we now proceed to give. The charges proved against Kawai are 16 in number, the gravest being the forging of the seals of Viscount Doi and Prince Tokugawa Yoshinori for the purpose of obtaining money amounting to nearly 100,000 yen from Mr. Hiranuma. Kawai's dishonest transactions extended over a period of two years, commencing in January, 1889, and ending early in 1891. In order that the Court may understand how the dishonesty of which Kawai is accused came to be perpetrated, it is necessary to state that he was in the employ of a man the one ambition of whose life is the crushing of Japan's noblemen, and who in attaining this end is unscrupulous as to the methods employed so long as he can avoid the violation of the letter of the law. Kawai having been originally an active member of the Geographical Society, and as such on terms of intimacy with many noblemen, was used as a tool of Mr. Hiranuma for the furtherance of the above mentioned ends. He was ordered by his master to take measures for inducing the noblemen, whose seals were forged, to borrow money from Mr. Hiranuma. In a letter which has been produced in court addressed by Mr. Hiranuma to Kawai, the latter is exhorted to stir up (*undosuru*) a certain Prince and a certain Viscount in order to induce them to contract a loan. The reference was to Prince Tokugawa and to Viscount Doi. Were Mr. Hiranuma's methods honest, no such term as *undosuru* would be applied to the effecting of a loan. The two noblemen in question were not the only ones marked out for Mr. Hiranuma's attacks. Already he had ruined Marquis Satake and he was now planning the downfall of Marquis Asano and of another member of the Tokugawa family. Mr. Hiranuma has been credited with saying, "The money which noblemen have won by the sword I will take from them by the law." The usurer's daily transactions abundantly showed that it was no idle report which attributed these words to him. Had his policy been other than it was, the forgery of which Kawai was accused and of which he was guilty would never have been effected. Kawai was stimu-

lated by the knowledge that his master was unscrupulous as to methods so long as he himself (Hiranuma) was not rendered liable. Kawai had become conversant with the method of conducting shady money transactions in Hiranuma's employ. Instead of making his master the gainer, he makes him the loser. The case put in a nutshell may be stated thus: one of a band of rogues (*waru-mono*) had been convicted of forgery. An entry in Kawai's diary shows that the writer felt considerable glee in turning his weapons against his master. The entry referred to reads thus:—"I am overcome with joy at the thought that my plot for the collecting of the money has succeeded." The cause of this joy was evidently the defeat of Kawai's associates. Thus far the Public Procurator. The contention of Kawai was that Mr. Hiranuma only objected to the forgery because he himself, and not the noblemen, became its victim. The transaction was all of a piece with his master's crooked ways of ruining noblemen. Kawai was one of a set of gamblers, and if he had played his cards well and won a great sum, and did not hand it over to his master, there was not much fault to be found with him.

Kawai is a son of one of the chief retainers of Viscount Doi, and his forgery and subsequent appropriation of Hiranuma's money are connected with this relationship in an interesting manner. When exhorted by Hiranuma to lay a trap for his lord, he thought the affair over, and being overcome with a sense of shame at having consented to act in such a disloyal manner to the benefactor of his ancestors, he there and then determined that he should make the Yokohama usurer pay dear for his effrontery in planning the ruin of Viscount Doi. Kawai stated at the trial that he was quite prepared to suffer the penalty of his crime, but he thought that strict justice demanded that the man on whose behalf he had been working against noblemen in general should take his share of the punishment to be meted out. He and Hiranuma were in the same boat. The only objection that Hiranuma had to offer to the transactions of his employe was that he, the employer, was the sufferer; as to the perpetration of fraud, concerning that Hiranuma had no scruples.

Judgment in the above case was to have been delivered on the 9th instant, and the parties concerned assembled to hear it on that day. They were informed that evidence had been furnished showing that Kawai had been guilty of perpetrating still more heinous forgery than that already under the consideration of the court, and that he would consequently be committed for trial on major crimes.

The objectionable methods of usurers referred to by the Public Procurator, are, briefly stated, the extortion of exorbitant interest, the enforcement of the payment of a number of heavy fees, denominated *tesuryo* in Japanese, the subtraction of a large part of the interest due in advance, the preparation of mortgage documents and other agreements in such a manner that even a day's delay in the payment of interest or the fulfilment of an agreement, though the delay may be entirely unavoidable, places the property at once at the disposal of the mortgagee, and in many cases the exaction of bribes of several thousand yen from the intending borrower, especially when it is known that he is in urgent need of money. The practice of such usurers as Hiranuma is to make promises by the hundred in conversation, but never to commit anything to writing which might be quoted against them in a Court of Law. Never undertaking any complicated transactions without legal advice, and always instructing their lawyers to elaborate means for extorting money from their customers, without rendering themselves liable to legal punishment, they are able to carry on their cruel business from year to year and, like Mr. Hiranuma, amass a large fortune without suffering any inconvenience from the effects of their immorality. We are hardly surprised that the Public Procurator, in the case which

we have reported, felt it his duty to allude to the manner in which men bent on evil can defy the law, and to point out that such methods as those adopted by Mr. Hiranuma are scandalous and enough to ruin a man's reputation, even though they cannot be proved criminal. The Japanese public will rejoice at the exposure that has been made, and one cannot but feel glad that in Japan, as elsewhere, public opinion is showing its power to remedy evils with which no laws can cope.

THE NEW CABINET MINISTERS.

The Tokyo News Agency has a good deal to tell about the new appointments to Cabinet portfolios. On the 12th instant, it says, reports were circulated that the future occupants of the vacant posts of Ministers of Home Affairs and Justice had been determined, and that Count Matsukata had addressed the Emperor on the subject. But the statement was premature, for though the Cabinet agreed on that day to recommend the nomination of Viscount Sano and Mr. Inouye Ki, doubts existed as to whether the latter would accept a portfolio. The following day, another conference was held, but no definite decision was arrived at. It appeared that while Mr. Kono was not unwilling to accept the portfolio of Home Affairs, he required certain conditions which would necessitate more or less modification of the Government's policy. Hence some ministers were in favour of giving the portfolio of Justice to Mr. Inouye Ki and that of Home Affairs to Count Oki, since between the latter and the Vice-Minister, Mr. Shirane, as well as the local Governors, there would be no disagreement. But Count Oki showed no disposition to accept the proposed position, declaring himself, on the contrary, quite ready to resign if his remaining at the Department of Education caused any inconvenience. Moreover, it was alleged that the majority of the officials in the Department of Justice regarded Mr. Kono as the best man to settle the troubles now existing in that section of the Administration. The Conference, therefore, ended abortively, the various Ministers going about their business, and Count Matsukata proceeding to the Palace to report results to the Emperor. On the morning of the 14th, the Ministers reassembled at the Cabinet, and the discussion was resumed. Mr. Kono restated the conditions on which he was prepared to accept the portfolio of Home Affairs, and after these had been considered, Count Matsukata had audience of the Emperor, returning to the Cabinet at 3.20 p.m. Mr. Inouye Ki also visited the Cabinet, and had a brief conversation with the Minister President. At 4.50 the Conference closed, and at 7 o'clock Count Matsukata again proceeded to the Palace. Thither Mr. Kono and Viscount Sano were summoned at 8.30 p.m., and duly nominated by the Sovereign to preside over the Departments of Home Affairs and Agriculture and Commerce, respectively. Mr. Inouye Ki is said to have declined the portfolio of Justice on the plea of feeble health. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a rumour that Mr. Shirane, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, will be transferred to the Privy Council, his successor being Mr. Kitagaki, now Governor of Kyoto.

In the *Kokkai* we find a statement that the National Unionists are by no means pleased at the appointment of Mr. Kono to the Home Office, since they believe that he has some relations with the Popular Party. But their remonstrances have not affected the result.

MUSIC FOR BOYS.

We wonder whether the head-master of the Victoria Jubilee School and H.B.M.'s Consul, when they agreed in regarding music as a kind of ornamental superfluity in the education of boys, had considered a phase of the question that seems generally to escape the attention of critics. Music, though in rare cases it may become the means of enabling a lad to earn his bread, cannot be regarded as an essential accomplishment, or placed, in that respect, on a par with such things as arithmetic, spelling, and book-keeping. But music is one of the best moral safeguards with which a youth can be

Original from

furnished. To be a musician, however mediocre, means to prefer the society of the drawing-room to that of the casino; means, in short, a general elevation of the plane of a youth's pastimes and pursuits. We believe that any one reviewing his own experience of men and things will acknowledge the truth of this proposition. The rough and ready educational canons of former times—times not many decades removed from the present—excluded music from the educational curriculum of boys' schools, and relegated it to the place which it now seems to occupy in the estimation of Mr. Troup and Mr. Fardel. But if we were asked to make deliberate choice of a means—not necessarily effectual of course, but assuredly helpful—of guaranteeing a lad against wandering into dissipated and vicious paths, and of keeping him in a pure social atmosphere, we should certainly say, "teach him music." Dancing is, perhaps, a horse of another colour, but as to music we venture to hope that the exigencies referred to by Mr. Fardel and recognised by Mr. Troup may never become prohibitive in the case of the Jubilee School.

PORTUGUESE JURISDICTION IN JAPAN.

THE following Imperial Ordinance was published in an extra of the *Official Gazette* on the 14th instant:—

We hereby give Our sanction to the Ordinance abrogating the stipulations concerning Consular jurisdiction contained in the Treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government, and order the same to be promulgated.

(H.I.M.'s Sign-Manual)
(Great Seal.)

(Dated) The 14th day of the 7th month, the 25th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) The Minister President of State.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Minister of State for Justice.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 64.

The stipulations concerning Consular jurisdiction, which are contained in the Treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government on the 17th day of the 6th month, the 1st year of Man-yan (1860), shall henceforth cease to be in force.

We understand that the Portuguese residents of Yokohama, or at any rate a portion of them, rendered uneasy by rumours that the above action was contemplated by the Japanese Government, held a meeting on the 14th instant, and decided to address a telegram to Macao, promising to follow it by a memorial. It is to be regretted that this action was not taken sooner. The die is cast now, and neither telegrams nor memorials can alter accomplished facts.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MEDICAL DEGREES.

In an article on the above subject, the *Fiji Shimpō* contends that the desire to give an impetus to the study of the Chinese system of medicine has its origin in the extreme difficulty of the present Government examinations for medical students. The *Fiji* furnishes statistics showing the number of candidates who passed the last examination, and draws its own deductions therefrom. The details given are quoted from this year's report. The examinations for ordinary medical students are held at the Government Medical Hall in Atagoshita-Machi, Tokyo. The examinations in the theory of medicine held this year extended over 26 days; that on medical practice over 11 days. The examinations, it is to be understood, were not held on successive days. They began in April and finished in June. Prior to obtaining a degree each student has to pass two examinations, denominated First and Second. The candidates who sent in applications to be allowed to compete at the first examination numbered 1,548. Of these 424 excused themselves from appearing on the appointed days; 83 retired before the examination was finished, and 932 were plucked. The number who passed was thus reduced to 109. For the second examination the number of candidates was 1,163. Of these 294 did not appear; 32 retired before the examination was over, and 710 were plucked. Thus the number who passed was 129.

So it will be seen that in the first examination only about 10 per cent. of the number of applicants passed and in the second about 15 per cent.

The candidates for the Dentistry Examination amounted to 85, 19 of whom did not appear, 57 were plucked, and 9 passed. Such examinations are held all over the country, continues the *Fiji*, hence the number of medical students who, after spending years in training, find no means of gaining a livelihood is enormous. The Government seems to glory in this state of affairs. It cites the fewness of successful candidates as a proof of the loftiness of its standard, and argues that it is infinitely better for the country to have a limited number of thoroughly able men than a crowd of mere quacks. Our contemporary says that there is another side to the question. Is it essential, it asks, that the standard should be equally high for all doctors? Would it not be feasible to allow men who have not attained the highest standard to practice in country places? Can the majority of people, asks the *Fiji*, afford to pay the fees charged by the high class doctors whom the Government are turning out? And is not the difficulty of passing the examinations enough to deter all but the most gifted from becoming candidates for medical degrees? It is the feeling that the needs of the country call for a lower standard to be adopted in certain cases, at any rate for some years to come, which induces members of the Diet and others to regard with favour the attempt to revive the study of Chinese medicine. This fact, contends the *Fiji*, it is the duty of the Government to recognise and deal with. Some modification of the present system is, our contemporary thinks, demanded.

It seems to us that where, as in the case of medical men, knowledge or ignorance is a matter of life or death, the standard of examination for degrees cannot, within certain limits, be too high. But might not the demand for medical men in country districts be met by creating assistant doctors with the proviso that they would be required to pass a final examination for a medical degree after a given period? The *Fiji* is of opinion that country districts are ill supplied with medical men. Our own impression is that such is not the case; but granted that it be so, we quite agree with our contemporary in thinking that the evil can be remedied without resorting to the measure proposed in the Diet—the resuscitation of an obsolete system of medicine.

THE FAILURE OF THE HAKUBUNSHA.

FURTHER particulars relating to the failure of the Hakubunsha have appeared in the vernacular papers. It appears that the business of the firm has been wholly in the hands of Mr. Nagao and his relations. The reverses which have terminated in bankruptcy originated in a fire that destroyed a large amount of property in 1889. New buildings were erected at considerable cost, and in 1890 a loan of 20,000 yen was granted by the Mitsui Bank. Interest on the money was paid up to last autumn. The Bank allowed the matter to stand over till April last, when they attached the property of the firm. It is stated, that in anticipation of the action of the bank, three days before the attachment took place, Mr. Nagao sold or pretended to sell certain printing presses and other property valued at 10,000 yen to two friends, and that he gave out that the machines had been originally lent to him by their purchasers. It was this proceeding, it is said, which led the bank to take prompt measures to secure themselves against loss. The real or bogus purchasers deny the right of the Mitsui Bank to attach such of the property as is claimed by them, and have taken legal proceedings against the Bank. The case is to be tried on the 19th instant. It is presumable that the bank's loan was granted on the whole of the property of the firm, and that consequently Mr. Nagao had no right to part with a portion of the security without the bank's permission. Messrs. Amenomiya Keijiro, Hayashi Chokuyo, and others have been doing their best to save the firm from bank-

ruptcy. But their efforts have proved abortive. Their intercession accounts for the tardiness of the action of the bank. The *Fiji Shimpō* speaks of the firm as "one of the parents of modern booksellers," and alludes to the extensiveness of its business in years past. It has enjoyed no small amount of government patronage, in the form of orders for large quantities of books, and in supplying schools with textbooks it has long been a formidable rival of Maruya and other firms. Foreigners who have from time to time had transactions with the Hakubunsha complain of the slovenly manner in which business was carried on. So that, if report be true, it is not misfortune alone, but this combined with mismanagement which has landed the concern in bankruptcy. When two or three days ago the news of the failure of the firm was circulated, some 300 persons who had entrusted books to the Hakubunsha applied to the bank for permission to remove their property. It is stated that in the case of Mr. J. H. Gubbins' Dictionary the bank recognised the right of the author to claim the copies in possession of the firm.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

MR. SHIRANE, Vice-Minister of Education, has resigned, and his resignation having been accepted, he is gazetted to the post of a Court Councillor. It seems to be generally thought that Mr. Shirane is not an ideal subordinate. A man of exceptional resolution and self-reliance, he prefers to mould others rather than to bend to them. These are valuable qualities in an era when want of back-bone appears to be a blemish of officialdom, and it is reasonable to predict that the retiring Vice-Minister will hereafter play an important part in the Administration. But they are qualities which may easily create embarrassments when too freely exhibited in a subordinate position. His transfer to an inactive post will of course be interpreted as a sign that a less uncompromising policy is to be adopted at the Home Office, but we must await the sequel of the event before coming to any conclusion on that point.

The *Nippon* alleges that Mr. Inouye Ki's refusal, on the grounds of ill health, to accept the portfolio of Justice, must be regarded as temporary only. Mr. Inouye suffers much from illness, but that fact alone would not induce him to stand aloof. Another difficulty which restrains him more effectually is that two questions of great intricacy await immediate solution in the Department of Justice; namely, the enforcement or postponement of the Civil and Commercial Codes, and the Gambling Affair. Mr. Inouye is an advocate, and a very strong advocate, of postponing the Codes, whereas the officials of the Department of Justice, almost without exception, are in favour of putting them into operation at the fixed date. Again, although the legal aspect of the Gambling Affair has been settled, the moral problem has still to be dealt with, and its solution is by no means an easy matter. We infer from the *Nippon's* writing that Mr. Inouye is averse to touching the Gambling trouble, and it is therefore likely that he will not accept the portfolio of Justice until the above outstanding difficulties have been disposed of.

Mr. Kitagaki Kunimichi, hitherto Governor of Kyoto, has been appointed Vice-Minister of Home Affairs. The connection between Mr. Kitagaki and Mr. Kono, the new Minister of Home Affairs, has been close all through their official careers, and they will doubtless work together harmoniously at the Home Office.

Mr. Kono's appointment to the Home Office has given rise to a number of rumours, all dealing, more or less, with the supposition that the nomination involves a change of policy in the sense of concessions by the Government to the Opposition. A representative of the News Agency waited upon Mr. Kono to ascertain the truth of these stories, but, as may easily be conceived, the new Minister was disposed to ridicule rather than to confirm the various conjectures. The press credited him, Original from

he said, with the design of rescinding the *Nan-jorei* (Newspaper, Public Meetings, and Peace Preservation Regulations) and of endorsing the demands of the Opposition. If he had not openly contradicted these assertions, it was not because they embodied any truth, but because he thought it of little use to resort to the hacknied formula of denial. Time would make everything clear. In the meanwhile he pointed out that he had been just as much a member of the Cabinet in his capacity of Minister of Agriculture and Commerce as he would be in his capacity of Minister of Home Affairs. In his former office he had acted not on his own individual judgment, but in conformity with the opinion of the Cabinet, and in his new capacity he would act similarly. Alluding to the Gambling Affair, he said that it was a matter for the law to settle and that the Administration could not interfere; with regard to the charge that the police had behaved illegally in their manner of collecting evidence, he said that he had not discovered any violation of the law. Beyond this somewhat meagre information his Excellency prudently did not travel.

THE "OMI MARU."

THE Japan Mail Steamship Company's *Omi Maru* sailed on the 16th from Hakodate to Nagasaki where she will be docked and thoroughly repaired after her late mishap. On examination in Hakodate it was found that the chief seat of injury was in her forward compartment, where both shells of her double bottom had been pierced by the rocks. The damage extended to the next compartment also, but there one shell only had been penetrated. The affair certainly ended most happily, and the Company is to be congratulated on recovering a fine ship which at one time seemed lost beyond hope. After all, the cheers that went up from the crews of the *Omi* and *Mitoku* when the latter succeeded in dragging the former from her perilous perch were not extravagant, seeing that the successful pull meant a haul of a quarter of million dollars. The *Omi* has had a somewhat chequered career. After the Korean imbroglio of 1884 when proceeding to Chemulpho with Count Inouye, who went as Ambassador from Japan, she struck a sunken rock and tore a hole, over a hundred feet long, in the outer shell of her double bottom. The extent of the injury was not suspected, however, and Count Inouye sent her back at once from Korea to carry to Kobe Mr. W. G. Aston, then British Consul-General in Korea, whose health was in a most precarious condition. The *Omi*'s escape on that occasion was scarcely less remarkable than the recovery of Mr. Aston.

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE GAMBLING CASE.

THE acquittal of the incriminated Judges might have been expected to put an end to the much-talked-of gambling affair, but such is not the case. The incident has entered another phase which the vernacular press seems disposed to magnify to a sensational degree. The Judges were tried by a tribunal—a disciplinary court—specially organized for the purpose. The initial proceedings, however, were conducted according to the ordinary routine; that is to say, a preliminary examination was made by the Metropolitan Police at the instance of the Chief Public Prosecutor. For the purposes of this examination eighteen witnesses, including restaurant-keepers, danseuses, and others, are said to have been summoned to the Police Court at 9 a.m. one day and detained there until 11 a.m. the following day. The testimony obtained from these witnesses was committed to writing and subsequently submitted to the Disciplinary Court, but that tribunal refused to admit it, and even went so far as to include in its judgment a ruling that the testimony was inadmissible having been illegally obtained. Exactly in what the illegality consisted the seven Judges did not explain, but there can be no question that their ruling casts a great slur upon the methods of the Police Court, and it is with reference to this fact that the press has so much to say. Naturally the detention of witnesses over a whole night con-

stitutes a chief topic of comment. We have ere now heard rumours that such procedure is occasionally resorted to by the police, but this is the first instance actually brought under our notice. The Japanese newspapers do not, indeed, seem to question the right of a magistrate to detain witnesses in cases where a criminal charge has been definitely preferred against some one, but they allege that in this case no charge had been formulated or suit instituted; that the witnesses were not sworn, and that they were not prisoners since no warrant for their detention was issued. Hence they claim that the Constitution was directly violated by the procedure of the police, for the 23rd Article provides that "No Japanese subject shall be arrested, detained, tried, or punished unless according to law." It is difficult to avoid this conclusion, and there appears to be a probability that the ruling of the Disciplinary Court may give rise to an interesting complication. For our own part we cannot but express astonishment that it should be possible under any circumstances to detain a witness over-night at a Police Court. The Code of Criminal Procedure provides ample means of securing the attendance of a witness at any time, and though it is very conceivable that the ends of justice may be defeated by allowing witnesses who have been already examined to communicate with witnesses awaiting examination, we doubt whether that contingency would not be preferable to the possible abuses of empowering the police to hold witnesses in custody. In the gambling case the witnesses themselves, or at any rate the majority of them, were suspected of being parties to a breach of the law, but it is plain that if their detention is to be referred to that suspicion, they ought to have been duly arraigned. We do not profess to understand the affair, but will watch its developments with interest.

A NEW POET.

It would seem that England has a new Poet, Mr. W. E. Henley—"a genuine poet" the reviewers call him. He published, some time ago, a "Book of Verses," and this has now been followed by "The Song of the Sword," which establishes his title to the proud title of "a genuine poet." We take two extracts from one of the reviews:—

Through street and square, through square and street,
Each with his home-grown quality of dark
And violated silence, loud and fleet,
Waylaid by a merry ghost at every lamp,
The hansom wheels and plunges. Hark, O hark,
Sweet, how the old mare's bit and chain
Ring back a rough refrain
Upon the marked and cheerful tramp
Of her four shoes! Here is the Park,
And O the languid midsummer wafts adust,
The tired midsummer blooms!
O the mysterious distances, the glooms
Romantic, the august
And solemn shapes! At night this City of Trees
Turns to a trust vague and strange
And monstrous Majesties.

Out of the poisonous East,
Over a continent of blight,
Like a maleficent influence released
From the most squalid cellarage of hell,
The Wind-Fiend, the abominable—
The hangman wind that tortures temper and light—
Comes slouching, sullen and obscene,
Hard on the skirts of the embittered night:
And in a cloud unclear
Of excremental humours, roused to strife
By the operation of some ruinous change
Wherever his evil mandates run and range
Into a dire intensity of life.
A craftsman at his bench, he settles down
To the grim job of throttling London Town.

THE "SEMMON GAKKO."

THE flourishing college (*Semmon Gakko*), established by Count Okuma in the Waseda suburb of Tokyo, held its graduation ceremony last Saturday. Professor Hatoyama is now President of the College, and its condition appears to be very flourishing. A large number of persons were present at Saturday's ceremony, including Count and Countess Okuma, Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister of State for Education, Mr. Kato, President of the Imperial University, Professors Toyama, Kikuchi, and Yatabe, Messrs. Nakamura, Inukai, Kato, and many members of the Diet, the visitors numbering in all about four hundred. Professor Hatoyama delivered a speech, which was replied to by one of the

graduates, and after the distribution of prizes Professor Kato and Mr. Kishi Kosaburo also delivered addresses. The numbers of graduates in the various branches were as follow:—

POLITICAL SCIENCE.	
Japanese branch, 44.	English branch, 19.
LAW.	
Japanese branch, 22.	English branch, 5
ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE.	
Japanese branch, 27.	English branch, 8.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE.	
Special course, 23.	Additional course, 15.

After the ceremony Count and Countess Okuma entertained the guests at their charming residence adjoining the College.

WOLSELEY ON GORDON.

LORD WOLSELEY has been imparting "remini-scences" to an interviewer of the *Strand Magazine*. Among other things we find this:—"Gordon left London on the 18th of January, 1884; he started from my house, and when he left he said, 'I pray for three people every night of my life, and you are one of them.' When Gordon went to Kartoum he went for God. I think Charley Gordon was one of the two great heroes I have known in my life. I have met abler men, but none so sincere. He was full of courage and determination, honest in everything he did or ever thought of, and totally indifferent to wealth. His departure for the Soudan took place late in the afternoon. There he stood, in a tall silk hat and frock coat. I offered to send him anything he wanted. 'Don't want anything,' he said. 'But you've got no clothes!' 'I'll go as I am!' he said, and he meant it. I asked him if he had any cash. 'No,' was his calm reply. 'When I left Brussels I had to borrow £25 from the King to pay my hotel bill with.' 'Very well,' I said; 'I'll try and get you some, and meet you at the railway station with it.' I went round to the various clubs and got £300 in gold. I gave the money to Colonel Stewart, who went with him; Gordon wasn't to be trusted with it. A week or so passed by, when I had a letter from Stewart. He said, 'You remember the £300 you gave me? When we arrived at Port Said a great crowd came out to cheer Gordon. Amongst them was an old sheikh to whom Gordon was much attached, and who had become poor and blind. Gordon got the money and gave the whole of it to him!'

A CHINESE BISMARK.

A GENTLEMAN with a long bow has been given an opportunity to shoot in the columns of the *Folkeblad*. Here is what he says:—

Li Hung Chang, Chancellor of the Chinese Empire is another Bismarck. For twenty years and more this man has guided the Chinese ship of State, and kept it sailing in a definite direction and to a certain goal. "Once upon a time," begins the tale and also the life of Li Hung Chang, there was a poor wood-cutter, called, I think, Chang or Chen. His family home was in Chee-chow, a miserably small city in the province Nganwhi. The woodcutter had two sons, Han and Hung. After his death, his widow married a literary man in better circumstances. He educated his stepsons, and they passed their examinations at twenty and adopted the stepfather's family name Li. To-day Li Han Chang is Viceroy in Canton, and Li Hung Chang's word is law to about one-fourth of the people of the earth. "The height of a tower," says a Chinese proverb, "may be measured by its shadow, and a great man by the number of his enemies." As true as this is the fact, that the poor woodcutter's son is China's greatest man, for in the last twenty or thirty years, his shadow has fallen upon every event of any consequence in China. The China which Europe knows is Li Hung Chang's China. His enemies are countless. The majority of his countrymen do not understand him. They look upon his far-sighted politics as treachery against the old traditions, and the foreigners in China, the English in particular, hate him because he has crossed their plans by contending that "China is for the Chinese," and not for English capital and domination.

When he left the Hanlin University, an institution for the education of Chinese State officials, the T'ai-ping rebellion was just begun. Li joined the army of the Imperial General-in-Chief, and was made secretary to Ts'ing Kuo-lan. In 1861 he was made Governor of the province Kiangsu. As such he came in contact with the foreign barbarians. His capital Soochow, was, at that time, in the hands of the rebels, but with the second capital, Shanghai, as a basis of operations, by the help of the Ever-Victorious Army, he drove the rebels out of his province, and gave the mortal wound to the rebellion. In 1864 he and Gordon stormed Soochow. On this occasion Li executed five rebel generals

whom Gordon had promised to spare. Gordon grew furious, and threatened to join the rebels. The Englishman, however, swallowed his wrath, and admitted later that the civil war would probably have lasted many years more but for that execution. Li got now the title of "the Emperor's Junior Protector." He assisted next in taking Nanking, and ended that terrible rebellion which was caused largely by England's opium-trade and the missionaries. After the war, Li proved his talents of organization and administration, and from 1866 he is universally known and admired, and is the Vice-Regent of the two provinces Kiangsi and Ki-angsu. The year 1870 gave Li an opportunity to create for himself a position entirely unknown in the thousands of years of Chinese history. In that year the massacre of French nuns took place in Tientsin, and the Imperial Government was threatened with a new visit of the Western Powers. In despair called upon Li, and he made for himself a position for which the Chinese language had no term—Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chancellor of the Empire. He treated with the foreign Ministers, averted war, and since then has ruled China, not for his own aggrandisement, but for China's real good. He claimed *China for the Chinese*, and says, "in order to keep the barbarians out, we must fight them with their own arms." He began the creation of a navy, and since 1885, the Tonquin war, he has bought armoured vessels and added ironclads in great numbers. He set the English Captain, Lang, at the head of the navy, and kept him there until 1889, when he dismissed him, seeing too much English influence in the navy. Since then the English Government has forbidden English officers to serve in the Chinese navy. He has established arsenals and built docks, and organized a naval cadet-academy in Tientsin, all "to fight the barbarians with the arms of the barbarians." Li is to this day the only Chinaman who understands China's position according to treaties with the foreign Powers. He has always been faithful to the ruling Manchu dynasty.

Li Hung Chang has not only paid attention to China's armaments and defences against foreign encroachments, but he knows what uses China might derive from Western science and industry. Three railroads are now running from Tientsin. The city is lighted by electricity. European and American physicians serve in the navy. Promising young men are sent to foreign universities, and his two sons have European teachers. He is not a friend of the foreigner, though his own ignorant countrymen think he is, because they do not understand his views. He is an Asiatic Jew. One side of his face is turned inquisitively towards the future; the other turns, in melancholy towards the glorious past and the deeds of his forefathers. From the point of view of ancient history, he looks upon Western civilization as an ephemeral appearance, subject to all social and political influences, while China can and will stand for thousands of years. He recently passed his 70th year. His abstemious life and his strict regimen will sustain him for a long time to come. It is for that reason that it would be hasty to judge the man's work by what he has done. One thing is sure, the poor woodcutter's son fill a most remarkable page in China's history.

This writer has managed to bring together about as many falsehoods as a couple of columns will hold. There are 9 of them. It is a falsehood to say that the Viceroy Li's father was a wood-cutter. He was, in point of fact, an official occupying a high position in Peking. It is a falsehood to say that he had only two sons, for he had six, of whom only two now survive. It is a falsehood to say that his widow married a literary man in good circumstances, for she never married again. It is a falsehood to say that the foreigners in China, especially the English, hate the Viceroy Li. In truth they like and respect him more than any man in the empire. It is a falsehood to say that Gordon threatened to join the rebels or that he admitted that the civil war would have lasted many years longer but for the massacre at Sochow. It is a falsehood to say that the Taiping rebellion was caused largely by England's opium trade and the missionaries. It is a falsehood to say that the Viceroy dismissed Captain Lang. It is a falsehood to say that Captain Lang was removed because there appeared to be too much English influence in the Chinese Navy. And it is a falsehood to say that three railways are running from Tientsin. Altogether we must give to this writer in the *Folkblad* the credit of being one of the most untruthful essayists that ever found his way into print.

* His Senior Protector is Heaven.

THE PENAL CODE.

The *Hochi Shimbun* is responsible for a statement to the effect that certain parties are agitating for a radical revision of the Penal Code, so as to bring it into conformity with German law. A Bill on the subject was to have been discussed

in the last Diet. But this Bill originated with the French school of lawyers, hence we presume that the alterations proposed were of a comparatively trivial nature. The Code has been in operation many years, and from all accounts is working well, and we quite agree with the *Hochi* in thinking that it is most undesirable that, like the Civil and Commercial Codes, Penal Laws should become the battlefield for rival schools of lawyers. There is, it seems to us, no surer way of undermining that respect for law with which the Japanese people are highly endowed, than by advocating perpetual revision in the way certain professionals are wont to do. We sincerely trust that the Penal Code is not about to be dragged into the arena of controversy.

THE "TOKYO SHIMPO."

A SENSATION has been caused in the world of vernacular journalism by the sudden decease of the *Tokyo Shimpō*. Started a few months before the promulgation of the Constitution, the *Tokyo Shimpō* had not completed its fourth year of existence when this fate overtook it. Its editor, Mr. Asahina Chisen, a man of great talent and wide knowledge. The force and skill of his writings were universally acknowledged. Under his direction the *Tokyo Shimpō* gave powerful support to the Government, at times, however, adopting independent and even hostile views. The paper wielded wide influence and had gradually attained a large circulation, the number of copies printed daily exceeding ten thousand. But it has now suddenly come to an end, and the curious point is that, although Mr. Asahina himself writes its epitaph, he refrains from any attempt to take the public into his confidence. His reasons for bringing the paper to an end are personal, he says, but he does not even outline them, being content to frame them in a very pretty setting of farewell and hope. The paper, he writes, has had a brief life, but he trusts and thinks that the opinions it has educated will not be of brief existence, but will become the germ of a permanent and lusty growth. For himself he announces that his adieux are only temporary, and that he looks to place himself ere long in rapport with the public once more. What he means, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* undertakes to explain. It asserts that Mr. Asahina is about to employ his powerful pen in the cause of the *Kenkiu-kai* section of the House of Peers, of which Viscount Tani is leader, and a prominent spirit is Mr. Kioura Keigo, formerly Chief of the Police Bureau, who has always been an intimate friend of Mr. Asahina. It is rumoured, in another quarter, that the retiring editor contemplates joining the staff of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, but the *Yomiuri* opines that such a step could be only temporary.

THE PRODUCTION OF SILVER.

We take the following interesting note from the *Chicago Herald*—

Mint Director Leech has transmitted to Congress his report on the production of gold and silver during the calendar year 1891. The product of the mines of the United States, according to Mr. Leech, was 1,604,840 fine ounces of gold of the value of \$33,175,000, and 58,330,000 fine ounces of silver of the coinage value of \$75,416,595 and the commercial value of \$57,630,040. The increase over 1890 was \$330,000 gold and 1,830,000 fine ounces of silver. Mr. Leech reports that the world's production last year was \$124,229,000 gold and \$139,175,000 silver. The latter figure is presumably the coinage value of the silver at our mint. The gold product last year was nearly \$5,000,000 greater than in 1890 and the silver product about 8,000,000 fine ounces greater, or \$10,343,000 coinage value.

The statistics of the world's production are of special importance in their relation to the question of international bimetalism. Going back to 1873, or about the time when Germany adopted the gold standard, we find that from that time until 1882 the product of gold exceeded that of silver in coinage value at our mint, while since that time the coinage value of silver has exceeded that of gold. During the nine years from 1873 to 1881, both inclusive, the gold product was \$939,650,000 and the silver product \$791,100,000, giving a gold excess of \$148,550,000, or 18.77 per cent. During the last ten years the product of gold has been \$1,092,139,500, and of silver \$1,302,217,000, giving a silver excess of \$210,077,500, or 19.23 per cent. For the whole period of nineteen years the total product of gold was \$1,909,560,500 and of silver \$1,154,142,000,

giving a silver excess of \$44,581,500, or only 2.33 per cent. There is surely nothing in these statistics of supply which can serve to account for a decline in the commercial gold value of silver from about \$1.30 per ounce in 1873 to 87 cents per ounce at the present time, or a decline of more than 33 per cent. Far greater changes in the relative supply of the metals have been attended by only very slight changes in their relative value.

From 1801 to 1830 the production of silver by weight was forty one times as great as the production of gold. Statistics are not at hand for the period from 1831 to 1848, but in 1849 the product of silver was twenty-three and a half times that of gold. Since there were no very important discoveries of either metal from 1831 to 1848 we may safely assume that during the forty-nine years from 1801 to 1849 the product of silver was thirty times as great as that of gold. Then, with the discoveries of gold in California and Australia, came a great change, and in the thirty-six years from 1849 to 1874 the world produced only about seven times as much silver as gold. Yet, notwithstanding this great change in relative production, the changes in relative value were very slight, not exceeding 2 or 3 per cent. The conclusion is irresistible that a change of less than 2½ per cent in relative production since 1873 cannot account for a change of 33 per cent in relative value.

We have to look for the cause of the change in value not in the supply but in the demand. Germany discarded silver and adopted the gold standard, and the Scandinavian States followed the example. Here, and not in our legislation of 1873, began the value divergence. The divergence was greatly increased when France and the other States of the Latin Union closed their mints against coinage for depositors, and it has been still further increased by the shifting of some other countries to the gold standard. Now, in view of the slight variation in value consequent upon a very great change in relative production from 1849 to 1874, as compared with the previous half century, and of the small change in relative production during the last nineteen years, it would seem to be a reasonable conclusion that a restoration of the old demand by reopening the mints of the Latin Union and the creation of a new demand by opening the mints of England, Germany and the United States to the coinage of silver on private account would suffice not only to restore, but to maintain, the value relation which varied so little for more than seventy years under widely variant conditions of supply. In short, it seems a reasonable conclusion that international bimetalism can be made a success.

It is interesting to observe that the writer of the above refers to Germany's action in 1873 as the prime cause of the decreased demand for silver. The London *Times* apparently adopts a similar view, for, in a recent article on the panic caused in India by an unexpected fall in the gold value of the rupee, the great journal writes:—

"That the position is very serious and, in some aspects, disastrous, is beyond dispute, but how the Government can come to the rescue is by no means so clear. The Government of India finds itself saddled with a currency that is the sport of circumstances over which it has no control. From the demonetization of silver by Germany in 1873 to the American Bland bill in 1892, the Government of India has had to stand by helpless, and see its currency the plaything of foreign legislation and of the shifting policy of distant governments whose financial interests are always independent of, and sometimes antagonistic to, its own."

But in point of fact England herself is primarily responsible. It was England that first took the step of demonetizing silver. Her example was not followed by other Powers for several years, but, nevertheless, the blame rests on her shoulders originally.

DUST.

It is commonly said by physicians that Tokyo is a most unhealthy city on account of the dust which perpetually drifts about the streets, and that the completion of the long-talked-of water works would make a marked difference in the sanitary conditions of the city. To show what is signified by failure to deal with the dust nuisance, we quote the following from an exchange:—"That the dust of the street is often dangerously charged with disease germs has been demonstrated by scientists. Candies, fruits, and cakes exposed to the air in the streets often convey disease to unwary purchasers. The dried sputa of consumptives is blown about in the air, and the germs of many diseases which we seek to avoid by keeping our houses clean, and by careful selection of food, assail us in the streets of our cities. It is related by a medical journal recently, that while Professor Schnirer was at work in his laboratory at Weichselbaum,

he sent for some grapes with which to refresh himself. The fruit brought to him had been kept for some time outside a door in a basket, while on the neighbouring street consumptive patients passed to and from the clinic, or class where students were taught. The fruit being dusty, he had it washed. On looking at the water in which it had been washed he reflected that it probably contained tubercle, and by way of experiment injected the water into guinea-pigs, which died in from seven to eight weeks from tuberculous disease. Every precaution was taken to prevent other sources of the infection, and the cause of the tuberculosis in the guinea-pigs was beyond doubt the dust on the grapes. Doubtless disease germs, other than those of tubercle, are sometimes conveyed to the human body by means of fruit and other food which are so commonly exposed in all cities to the dust of the streets."

THE TANKO RAILWAY SHARES.

RECENTLY, when Professor Mayet was employing a large space in our columns to prove that the shareholders of the Tanko Railway Company were the most fortunate individuals within the four seas, and while the shareholders themselves were rubbing their eyes and wondering why, with such an El Dorado in their possession, the blind public would not purchase their shares even at par, a certain Japanese statesman is reported to have said that it was a pity that Professor Mayet did not have a few lacs of dollars to invest, because the Government would be hokked to give him all kinds of concessions in Hokkaido, on the same terms as those obtained by the Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha. The Company, however, is now confronted by slightly improved prospects, for its 50 yen shares have begun to move upwards, and instead of standing at 45, the quotation of last month, they find purchasers at 52.30 yen. There are, of course, all kinds of conjectures about this unexpected turn of affairs. One set of analysts—we quote from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*—affirm that though the Government guarantees interest of 5 per cent. on the Company's capital, there are huge losses in store for the concern, and the present ascent of its scrip is altogether fictitious, the result of "bulling." Others declare that no speculators in Japan are strong enough to move 120,000 shares, valued at 6½ million yen, and that the improved state of the market is a true reflection of the Company's affairs, which are now beginning to recover proper credit after the recent series of disastrous rumours consequent on the dismissal of Mr. Hori, the President, the refusal of the Bank of Japan to accept the shares as security on anything like favourable terms, and the despatch of officials to examine the books. Another view is that the shares are only repeating an old experience. In 1889, when only 1 yen was paid up, they were quoted at 6 yen. In the following year the 15 yen share fell to 12.30 yen. Then it rose to 22 or 23 yen. Again in September and October of 1890, the 35 yen share touched 40 yen. Finally, the 50 yen share fell, this spring, to 45 yen, and has now risen 16 per cent. In a word, the shares are subject to vicissitudes, and will very likely go up to 56 yen on the present occasion. But with what difficulty do investors persuade themselves that the supposed splendour of the Company's position has any reality about it! The Fifteenth Bank alone exhibits faith, for its acquisition of the shares seems to be the true cause of their upward tendency.

MESSRS. BARING BROTHERS AND THEIR INFLUENCE.

"It is an open question still," say the *Mexican Financier*, "whether the intervention of the Bank of England in the affairs of the house of Baring Brothers, eighteen months ago, was, on the whole, a wise act. Without doubt the Bank prevented a tremendous financial catastrophe, but as in some diseases it is better to let them have their due and natural course rather than attempt to break them up, so, in this matter of the Barings, it might have been well to let the storm burst and do its worst. Shrewd English bankers are beginning to doubt if the Bank did, after all, really help matters greatly.

Some go so far as to maintain that the disaster which was averted in November, 1890, was only postponed. We find that excellent observer, Mr. Harold Frederic, writing to the *New York Times*:—"The ever-recurring stress of liquidation grows more harassing each time. There is scarcely a big banking house in London not loaded up with heavily-depreciated securities, for which there is no market whatever, the holding of which makes them poorer and poorer. This shrinking cannot represent a total of less than \$200,000,000 inside the City of London, and, as the necessities of liquidation press, the failures cannot much longer be postponed." The terrific blow which was dealt the entire world of business by the collapse of the Barings, a disaster due to the most wanton and insensate folly, will be recalled in future years as a proof of the unwisdom of trusting too implicitly in the prestige of the oldest and most conservative banking houses when once they abandon legitimate business for wild speculation. People thought that if the Barings went into Argentine enterprises it was because the banking house had good reasons for its course, that, in short, the Barings knew what they were about. It turned out that any curbstone broker might have done no worse, had he been invited by the Barings to manage their business!"

WATANABE'S PICTURES IN LONDON.

SOME time ago certain prominent art amateurs in London conceived the idea of getting together a sufficient number of modern Japanese paintings to hold an exhibition in London. The execution of the project was attended by many difficulties, for though it is easy to find any number of inferior Japanese pictures, it is not by any means easy to find examples sufficiently good to be counted representative of the leading artists of the day. Twenty excellent paintings were collected after a considerable interval, chiefly from the brush of Mr. Watanabe Seitei, and these having been afterwards supplemented by about forty others, the whole were recently displayed in New Bond Street. The *St. James's Gazette* thus refers to the display:—

An unusual amount of interest attaches to the exhibition now on view at Mr. Larkin's Gallery, 28, New Bond-street. A Japanese artist of no small repute in his own country is represented by upwards of sixty drawings of much artistic merit. He uses quite a different box of paints from any with which our English water-colour painters are familiar, and an instance may be quoted in the case of ink, of which a very effective use is made. The painter Watanabe Seitei by name, has a sense of colour which shows him to be a true artist. The subjects are very slight, and are treated with the greatest economy of paint; but they will never fail to please any one with an artist's eye. In the same rooms at the Japanese Gallery there are a number of Mr. John Varley's oils and water-colours painted last year in Japan. There is a remarkable similarity of effect in Mr. Varley's oil-paintings (which are all on panel) and his water colour drawings, and a visitor might at first have some difficulty in distinguishing between them. For our part, we have little hesitation in expressing our preference for the panels, which unquestionably show great skill and intelligence. Mr. Varley's name has now been for some time past associated with his Japanese work, and we should have liked to devote more space to an inquiry into his methods and results. What we now see of his work quite confirms the favourable opinions which were expressed last summer of a much smaller collection at Mr. Larkin's Gallery. The catalogue of his pictures contains a pleasant and appreciative notice of them by Sir Edwin Arnold, who refers to Japan as "The Land of Gentle Manners and Fantastic Arts."

THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK.

THE Manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank has kindly given us, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 11th inst., the following few particulars about the fraud on the Bank in Bombay, by which the amount mentioned by Reuter has been lost. The name of the defaulting firm is Bays, Craig & Co., a well known shipping, exporting, and importing house, whose reputation was previously high, and who had been constituents of the Bank for years. When the firm stopped payment towards the end of last month it was thought that the sum the Bank would lose would have been only about half the amount now named. The discovery of the larger amount must have been made quite suddenly, and though the blow is a nasty one in the present days of depression, it need have no serious con-

sequences. We note from the last published accounts, 2nd April 1892, the Reserve Fund of the Bank stood at £125,000, on the 31st December, the total capital, taken at the low rate of exchange, being £619,779, gold. The last quotation of the shares in London was £8-10.

THE PORTUGUESE IN KOBE.

THE *Kobe Herald* contains the following notice:

A meeting of the Portuguese residents here was held yesterday (17th inst.) at the residence of Mr. F. Guterres to consider the advisability of dispatching a telegram to His Ex. the Minister Plenipotentiary, Senhor Boija, accredited as Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Japan, regarding the Ordinance promulgated by the Japanese Government on the 15th inst., nullifying certain clauses of the Portuguese-Japanese treaty, and by virtue of which the Consular judicial rights of Portuguese residents in Japan is annulled. Mr. F. Guterres presided, and there were present Messrs. N. Guterres, F. da Roza, R. A. Renedios, F. Remedios, A. Guterres, S. J. Diniz, A. Rozario, F. X. Souza, F. A. Jesus, J. Ritchie, and A. J. Souza who acted as Secretary to the meeting. The Chairman having explained the object of the meeting, said that there was no doubt whatever that if they were placed under Japanese jurisdiction, under the letter of Japan's laws, they will be well cared for—but that, unhappily, the time has not yet come for the Japanese to have control over them. Proof of the competency of Japanese Judges to exercise jurisdiction over aliens was still gravely questioned. The meeting deprecated the absence of Mr. V. E. Braga, the Portuguese Vice-Consul, in Kobe—and although explanations were given by the Chairman, a vote of censure was recorded and unanimously carried. Having taken the sense of the meeting, it was decided to forward a telegram to the Governor of Macao asking His Excellency for immediate protection; and it was agreed to forward a memorial, together with the minutes of the meeting in due course, praying for the appointment of a competent Consul-General to the Court of Japan.

Of course the Portuguese residents are quite right to agitate for the recovery of a privilege, the loss of which, without any *quid pro quo*, is a great misfortune. But we fear that they are only wasting their time and their money in compiling and despatching telegrams to Macao. Portuguese jurisdiction in Japan is gone for ever. There can never again be a Consul-General, a Consul, or a Vice-Consul exercising judicial functions, and to pray for the appointment of such an official is idle.

THE GROWTH AND CHANGES OF THE BRITISH MERCANTILE MARINE.

At the March meeting of the Royal Statistical Society an interesting paper was read by Mr. John Glover on the "Tonnage Statistics of the Decade 1880-90," in continuation of similar papers for the three previous decades, completing a statistical and historical account of British maritime progress since the repeal of the Navigation Laws. It was, said Mr. Glover, a truly remarkable story, showing how, by the introduction of iron in the construction and of steam in the propulsion of ships, Great Britain first recovered the position she was losing through the competition of the cheaper wooden ships of the Scandinavian nations and North America, and then so far out-distanced all our competitors that their sea-going tonnage combined does not equal ours. The tonnage of goods to be carried inwards and outwards, estimated at 53 million tons in 1880, grew to 76½ million tons in 1890, an increase of no less than 44 per cent. The entries and clearances grew from 133 million tons in 1880 to 164 million tons in 1890. In spite of a large increase in the tonnage of foreign vessels in our trade the proportion decreased. The decline in this proportion has been continuous since 1869, when the impetus given by the repeal of the Navigation Laws reached its maximum force: the proportion was 79.58 in 1860; 46.13 in 1870; 42.05 in 1880, and in 1890 fell to 37.63. Norway kept the first place among foreign flags in our trade for the last three decades, followed by Germany, Holland, Denmark, and France, in the order stated. The fears begotten by the system of bounties adopted by France in 1881 proved groundless. The French flag had the fifth place in 1880, and fell to the sixth in 1890 in our ports. More of the

foreign trade of France, however, is done by the French flag than before the bounty system was adopted, though it is still true that more of the French foreign trade was done by British than by French ships. The foreign trade of the United States was done 22.1 per cent. by the United States flag, 52.8 per cent. by the British flag, and all other flags together 25.1 per cent. It is often a puzzle how Great Britain seems constantly to import a much larger value than she exports. The earnings of our fleet form one large item of the explanation. Freight—to the country by which it is earned,—becomes an export and import value, as much as if the same number of men were employed in manufactories on shore instead of carrying machines aloft. Computing the 1890 figures on the basis adopted some time ago by Mr. Giffen, of the Board of Trade, Mr. Glover stated that it is equal to 90 millions sterling, part of which, representing outward business, would swell the value of exports, while the remainder, representing inward business, would decrease the value of imports, and so bring the values nearer together.

Mr. Glover pointed out that steel has more rapidly superseded iron in the construction of ships than iron superseded wood. The production of new vessels in 1880 exceeded that of any previous year. The production of new vessels during the decade exceeded $7\frac{1}{2}$ million tons. Part of the latter would be for foreign nations, no doubt, but how the British mercantile fleet has been renewed can be imagined by the fact that the total on the register in 1890 was under 8 million tons. The rate at which the old and obsolete vessels have been got rid of, is shown by the fact that 1,000 sailing vessels and 300 steamers were removed from the register during each year of the last decade. In one year the removals reached 1,849—a respectable fleet in itself. Mr. Glover said that the loss of life at sea is diminishing, wrecks are fewer, and the traffic is safer. The only qualification on this point is that collisions are still too frequent. Mr. Glover that the law and the regulations on this subject have failed, and that there should be an inquiry with a view to improvement.

The trade through the Suez Canal has undergone great expansion. In 1880 the tonnage was 3 millions; in 1890 it had become nearly 7 millions. The company's revenue in 1880 was under 40 million francs, in 1890 it was nearly 70 million francs, and in 1891 85 million francs. The proportion of British tonnage using the canal in 1890 was 77.37 per cent. of the whole. The next State was Germany 7.12 per cent., followed by France with 5.31 per cent., and Holland with 3.61 per cent. The transit has been much improved and the time shortened since the controversy between the shipowners and the company, and the addition of seven English directors to the board of management. Mr. Glover concludes that the losses entailed by the attempts to pierce the Isthmus of Panama, and the smaller but serious losses involved in other canal and dock schemes at home, make it certain that this century will not see the Panama Canal opened.

Mr. Glover concludes his paper by some observations on the important part which shipping now occupies in feeding the United Kingdom. He said that by far the most important aspect from which this tonnage question can be regarded is its intimate connection with the supplies of food. The facts are so difficult to grasp, so little known, that so long as the ordinary Englishman finds bread and meat on his table, he is content to know that the one comes from the butcher, and the other from the baker, and makes as little further enquiry as an ancient Hebrew would have made as to the supplies of manna in the wilderness. But the degree of his dependence on food brought over sea is constantly increasing. It is not merely that the population is larger than it was fifty years ago, but also that the larger population—in spite of all allegations to the contrary now and then made—is so much better off, has so much more to spend, eats so much more, and drinks

so much more, besides wearing more and better clothes and living in better houses. The limited area of the British islands cannot supply half the present inhabitants at their present rate of consumption. Two-thirds of their daily bread is dependent on sea carriage, but it is carried in ships so easily and cheaply that the consumers generally are quite unconscious of the fact. In 1890 the imported value of five articles—corn (of all kinds), meat, butter, cheese, and eggs—was equal to £2,000,000 per week. To put other nations under tribute for the supply of wants to this vast extent, and to be able to pay for the supplies, Mr. Glover called the miracle of modern commerce. The increased work required of the British flag is largely consequent on these demands for foreign food. It is noteworthy also that some of our nearest European neighbours are following our example in this matter. Their heavy duties on the import of foreign corn have not been able to keep it out, though they have kept the prices, to consumers in France and Germany, at an elevation above the English prices, measured exactly by their import duties. Fortunately the teeming population of the British Islands has suffered no such disadvantage. Free Trade policy has thus benefited mankind everywhere, by stimulating production and cheapening the cost of human subsistence, while the reduction in the cost of sea carriage has made supplies from the more distant sources so freely available as practically to place the surplus food of the world at the disposal of the European populations. Sir Robert Peel had an idea that the freight from America would be too dear to enable American grown wheat to compete seriously with English. In a famous Cabinet memorandum which he presented to his colleagues before the repeal of the Corn Laws, he assured them that no quantity of wheat could probably be delivered from the United States at a less cost than 25s. a quarter. Against this prediction, the fact may be put, that in one year during the last decade—viz., in 1887, with the average price of wheat at 32s. 6d., British ships carried from the United States to the United Kingdom 8 million quarters. To such a degree have the steamer, the railway, and the telegraph changed the conditions of this question, and falsified the prediction on which Sir Robert Peel obtained the assent of his Cabinet to his great measure.

It can hardly be denied that the change from being a self-supporting nation, as Great Britain was fifty years ago, to being absolutely dependent on foreign growers and open sea communications for two-thirds of its daily bread, forces into British policy a new factor of the first magnitude. It is not the balance of power in Europe which concerns her now, but how her people are to be fed. Other nations are in quite different circumstances. In addressing the German Parliament, in December last, General Von Caprivi made the following significant observations, in defending the continuance of the German corn duties:—"The corn laws were necessary for the protection of German agriculture, although it is certain that they have not had the effect expected from them. It is nevertheless certain that their existence prevents an agricultural crisis, of which it would be impossible to overrate the evil consequences. A parallel with English conditions is not possible. . . . The chief reason, however, for the necessity for the maintenance of agriculture is exclusively a question of State. I am convinced that such a cultivation of grain is indispensable to us as will, in cases of need, suffice to feed our ever increasing population in time of war, and that the State which cannot exist from its own agricultural produce, is on the downward path." Fortunately, the English and German conditions are not parallel, otherwise Great Britain should not only be on the downward path, but already near to the bottom, and of this there are no signs. On the other hand, we must not ignore the fact—a fact that has never hitherto existed in the history of the human race—that 38 millions of human beings living on a group of islands depend on sea communication for two-thirds of their daily

bread! Is it too much to expect that these islanders, their Parliament, and their statesmen, and even their philanthropists should appreciate the fleet by which they are fed, in a degree second only to that other fleet by which their shores and empires are defended? Is it too much to say that these are the considerations by which English policy—fiscal and foreign alike—ought to be mainly governed?

"MARRIAGE IN JAPAN."

DISSERTATIONS ON "Marriage in Japan" are numerous, and of varied nature. It is seldom that two writers agree as to proceedings and ceremony. The soft brown eyes, the fair skin, and the elaborate dress of the pretty ladies in this Island Empire are evidently captivating, and every one versed in Oriental lore has a special liking for the custom that makes twain one. Here are a few spicy lines from an American Journal of wide circulation:—"A Japanese wedding in high life is a pretty ceremony. Though no vows are spoken, nor has the church nor religion any part in it, the rite is, nevertheless, solemn and impressive. There are ten bridesmaids gayly attired in costumes of the 'Japs.' Two at a time enter from opposite directions, and salaam each to the other until the entire party has passed in, each kneeling opposite her companion. The parents of the bride and groom now enter, those of the groom at the left and those of the bride at the right, and are seated near the bridesmaids on either side. The bride, attired in a snowy, filmy dress, and closely veiled, now appears leaning on the arm of her affianced, while the bridesmaids salaam. The go-between assists the bride to a seat by her parents, and the groom to one near his. Tea is then served by the go-between, three cups being given the parents of the bride and groom and to the happy couple. Each of the bridesmaids receives one cup. The go-between joins the hands of the bride and groom, and the latter leads his bride to the front and whispers in her ear a promise of faithfulness. The bride whispers in return and they exchange seats to show the union of the two families. A simple repast is now served, and the bridal party disperses, the bride and groom leaving first, then their parents, and lastly the bridesmaids, salaaming as they go. The go-between is generally a friend of the groom. In courtship she settles the question and arranges and assists in the marriage ceremony. It is a pretty scene, but the absence of the kiss, the ring, and the invocation of God mars it for those who are accustomed to the Christian rites." The author of the above was certainly fortunate in witnessing such a pleasant ceremony, and has a very pleasant way of telling it. But we are bound to say that very few people have ever seen all that he or she apparently saw.

MR. A. B. DE GUERVILLE.

As Mr. A. B. de Guerville has left Japan, and as more than one notice of his doings while in Japan appeared in the columns of this journal, we think it necessary to note an extraordinary misapprehension concerning him which is published by the *Japan Gazette*, and which, if left uncontradicted, may do him great injury. The *Japan Gazette's* paragraph is as follows:—

By every mail we receive most wonderful accounts of the Exhibition which is to be held next year in the United States, telling how Germany is doing this, Scandinavia doing that, etc., but how much of these glowing accounts are we to believe when the following is unblushingly told us?

"A. B. de Guerville, who was commissioned to go around the world and give illustrated lectures on the Exposition, has written from Japan that so great is the interest in the Fair that he rarely fails to talk to full houses. He was cordially received by the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and delivered his lecture before the Court. The Emperor expressed enthusiasm and delight over the magnificence of the Exposition buildings, which were shown by fine screen views during the lecture."

We distinctly remember Mr. de Guerville's name being on one of the Yokohama Hotel lists, but to our knowledge he never did anything more than other "World's Fair" Commissioners have done, who have drifted this way under the influence of an all round trip, paid for by some one else. He did not even preach! sermon, as some have done

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as a sort of conscience vent, and we need hardly say that no one has given any illustrated lectures before their Imperial Majesties. It is these fraudulent pieces of news which have justly won for America's press the harsh criticism of all nationalities. A little appeal to the long bow is allowable in certain classes of journals whose general tone repudiates their contents being taken too seriously, but a deliberate lie indulged in for the sake of being a lie is unpardonable in any journal, and we regret to say the trick is very generally indulged in by the American papers which we chance to see.

Now it is a fact that Mr. de Guerville had the honour of delivering a lecture before the Emperor and Empress of Japan in the Palace, and of exhibiting a number of stereoscopic views of the Chicago World's Fair as well as of many of the most noted buildings in the great cities of the United States and Europe, the lantern used for the purpose being kindly lent by the Rev. Dr. Eby who, with Professor Burton, managed the stereoscopic display. A full account of the affair was given in these columns at the time, and in commenting on it we congratulated Mr. de Guerville on the great success achieved by him in this country, for, so far as we know, no similar display had ever been made in the presence of the Emperor. When, therefore, the *Japan Gazette* accuses the American Journal of "a deliberate lie indulged in for the sake of being a lie," it is expedient, in the interests of truth, to re-state the facts.

SILVER COINS.

SOME little time ago, the Department of Finance referred to the Bankers' Association the question of abolishing 50 *sen* and 5 *sen* silver pieces. The Association, has, we observe, recommended that both coins be dispensed with, the former owing to its bulkiness and the latter on account of its smallness. The abolition of 50 *sen* notes has been also suggested, on the ground that the circulation of paper money of this value, in the absence of coins, is deemed undesirable from a financial point of view. These recommendations, it is stated, will be adopted by the Department of Finance. Certain members of the Bankers' Association proposed that the American custom of issuing 25 cent. coins be followed, and that 20 *sen* pieces be withdrawn. But this proposition has not met with general support, owing to the fact that to carry out such a change would prove a great expense to the nation, without bringing any corresponding advantage.

MINISTERS' PRIVATE RESIDENCES.

A QUANT notion is circulated by the Tokyo News Agency; especially quaint coming from such a quarter. It is that the Imperial visit to Count Goto's residence at Shinagawa may possibly prelude the sale of that beautiful place. The reason assigned for this singular hypothesis is that Count Okuma's place in Idemachi, Count Yamagata's place in Fujimicho, Count Ito's place in Takanawa, and Count Inouye's place in Azabu, were all sold subsequently to the Emperor's visit to them. Of course it is not suggested that any connection existed between the Emperor's visits and such sales, but merely that a coincidence so frequent in the past may probably be repeated in the future. The example would be more forcible in the case of Count Inouye's place had not the sale been separated by six years from the Emperor's visit.

THE NEW VICE-MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS.

MR. KITAGAKI, formerly Governor of Kyoto, who was gazetted to the post of Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, has handed in his resignation. The reason openly assigned by him for this singular step is that he suffers from an affection of the heart which of late has become somewhat aggravated, and that he consequently shrinks from accepting a post which involves such arduous duties as that of Vice-Minister of Home Affairs. But the *Fiji Shimpō* assigns a different explanation. According to that journal, Mr. Kitagaki belongs to the *Yakki-gumi* of officialdom. There is a so-called *Yakki-gumi*, or "desperate coterie," in each political camp at the present time, and the allegation is that Mr. Kitagaki resided in Tokyo during the last session of the Diet, and worked hand-in-

glove with Mr. Shirane against the Opposition, bringing every possible pressure to bear upon the Cabinet in the cause of the *Kyoko-shugi* (strong policy). Hence he finds it out of the question now to take Mr. Shirane's place under a Minister whose policy is understood to be of a much more moderate character.

* * *

Report is very busy with Viscount Torio's name as the probable recipient of the portfolio of Justice. The Tokyo News Agency speaks of the appointment as almost assured. We are not certain that such a choice might not be very wise. The state of affairs existing in the Department of Justice is believed to be extremely unsatisfactory. There are said to be three parties, all more or less hostile to one another, the Yamada Party, the Oki Party, and the Tanaka Party. An entirely independent man like Viscount Torio, whose lofty character commands universal respect among the Japanese, is perhaps the very official to restore harmony and order.

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

FROM time to time the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children publishes reports, the details of which are appalling. The last report for the year 1891-92 shows that 7,291 cases of real cruelty were discovered by the Society, and that their victims were about nineteen thousand children. Of these instances the worst, numbering 1,115, were made the subject of prosecutions by the Society, and 1,042 convictions were obtained. As to the nature of the inhuman brutality practised, the following extract gives a terrible idea:—

Punishing a child by putting pins into its nostrils; putting lighted matches up to; biting a child's wrist till a wound was made, and then burning the wound with lighted matches; burning the hands of a boy of six with matches; biting, till they bled, the limbs of a seven-months' old baby; forcing bone ring of feeding bottle up and down the throat of a three-months' old baby till it bled; throwing a little girl of two years, ill with bronchitis, out of its bed-room window, breaking its bones, and ending its life; breaking a two-year-old baby's limbs in three places, both arms and a thigh, leaving them untended, when it moaned in its pain, irritably taking it up from its cradle by the broken arms, shaking it by them, and throwing it down again; leaving a baby unlifted out of its cradle for weeks, till toothpicks grew around the child out of the rottenness; leaving another to lie for days and nights on a mattress alive with maggots; keeping the stumps of little amputated legs sore, to have the child, with its little face puckered up in pain, excite pity; tying a rope round a boy of six, dipping him into canal, leaving him immersed till exhausted, bringing him up, recovering him, and putting him in again, repeating the misery time after time; shutting up for hours in dark closet a two-year-old child; tightly binding the arms together of a three-year-old child, and doing the same and ending its life; keeping a child always in cool cellars till its flesh became green; knocking down with the fist a dying boy; driving out the first teeth of a baby with the fist; cooping up a child for months in a room without conveniences, punishing it for "filthiness the floor," for food throwing "leavings of plates" on to it, "as you would throw them to fowls;" scourging a child till it is a mass of bruises, then breaking its little jaw in two; tying cords tightly round little thumbs, then tying them, with extended arms, to the foot of a bedstead, then beating it with a thorn-bush.

JOURNALISTIC PIRACY.

AN interesting and exceptional case came to an end in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on June 2nd. *The Times* appeared as plaintiff, and the *St. James's Gazette* as defendant, the prime cause of complaint being that the latter journal had copied from the former considerable portions of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's letter "In sight of Monadnock," for which *The Times* had paid and in which it possessed copyright. In the course of the proceedings the plaintiff's counsel showed that the copy of the *St. James's Gazette* in which Rudyard Kipling's letter was published, contained also no less than 22 different paragraphs copied from *The Times*, the source being acknowledged in 7 cases only, and it appeared that this wholesale appropriation had been the habit of the *St. James's Gazette* for 12 years. A portion of the judgment delivered by Mr. Justice North is so interesting that we quote it verbatim from *The Times*' report:—

It is said that there is no copyright in news, but there is or may be in the particular form of language or modes of expression by which information is conveyed, and not less so because the information may be with respect to the current events of the day. The defendants have copied from *The Times* without knowing and without probably thinking whether what they

have taken was the subject of copyright or not. So far as the plaintiffs are not proprietors of the copyright in the matters thus copied, they have not any legal ground of complaint. But with respect to the passages numbered 5, 7, and 14 the plaintiffs are within the protection of the law; and, however small in importance these three particular passages may be in themselves, the line taken by the defendants renders the question one of importance to the plaintiffs, and they are entitled to ask for the decision of the Court.

With respect to the quality of the matter copied, the passages pirated are taken in their entirety for the very purpose for which they were used by *The Times*—namely, to convey intelligence or information to the readers of the paper. It is not a case of the selection of a part or quotation, or an extract. The defendants cannot justify what has been called the literary larceny of a book or chapter of an author by showing that there are many other books or chapters by the same author from which they have not taken anything. In *Carey v. Louman* (1 East, p. 358) an old itinerant by Pittison had been republished by the plaintiff with some corrections and additions of his own, and it was held that there the plaintiff was entitled to sue in respect of such corrections and additions, though there was not any copyright in the bulk of the work. In *Sweet v. Benning* (16 Common Bench, page 59) the head notes only of certain law reports were taken, and in *The Trade Auxiliary Company v. The Middlebrough Protection Association* (40 Ch. D., 244) it was held that the appropriation by one paper of a very small part of the contents of another ought to be restrained by injunction, and that was affirmed by the Court of Appeal. So, too, in the later case before me in the same volume.

The principal ground upon which the defendants attempt to justify what has been done is the alleged existence of a well-recognized general custom—a universal mutual understanding of journalists, a tacit convention to which *The Times* was a party—that one paper may copy from another without asking permission, and that the consent of the proprietors of the paper copied from may be taken for granted if four conditions are observed.

The first of those conditions is that the source from which the quotation or information is taken should be duly acknowledged; and in connexion with this I may say that several of the defendant's witnesses state that it is an advantage to one newspaper to have extracts from it quoted by another if the source from which they come is also stated. This may be so in some cases; but I doubt whether any jury would believe that it was an advantage to *The Times* to have its articles or paragraphs copied by the *St. James's Gazette*; and I do not myself believe it. But, however this may be, if the alleged condition was observed, only seven out of 22 passages taken refer to *The Times* as the source of information, and not one of the paragraphs numbered 5, 7, or 14 does so. As to those, therefore, the very first of the four conditions upon which the justification is said to rest fails the defendants.

Further than this, even a strict compliance with such conditions would not amount to a legal excuse at all. A man cannot justify the taking of what he has no right to take by stating whence he has taken it, though he may thereby avoid the additional dishonesty of passing off as the product of his own labour what really is cribbed from another.

In *Pike v. Nicholas* (5 Ch. Ap.) the learned Judge, Vice-Chancellor James, says (p. 260):—"The plaintiff has a right to say that no one is to be permitted, whether with or without acknowledgment, to take a material and substantial portion of his work, of his argument, his illustrations, his authorities, for the purpose of making or improving a rival publication." See also *Campbell v. Scott* (11 Simons, 31) and *Scott v. Stanford* (L. Rep., 3 Eq., 718).

The second condition put forward as a thing to be required is that the paper copying and the paper copied must not be direct rivals or competitors, as, for instance, two evening newspapers in the same town; but when it is remembered that the second editions of *The Times* are published later than, and may be forestalled by, the earlier edition of the *St. James's Gazette*, and that *The Times* also publishes the evening *Mail* on three nights in the week, and also a weekly edition, and that the *St. James's Gazette* also publishes the *St. James's Budget* weekly, it is obvious that there is not that absence of direct competition between them which the condition in question treats as essential. In this very case the purchase was made on May 12 of a copy of the *St. James's Budget* of April 14 containing many paragraphs taken from *The Times* of the previous day, including that numbered 5.

The third condition alleged to be prescribed by the custom of journalism as allowing one paper to copy from another, is that the paper copied from has at some time itself taken matter from the other, thereby implying—it is suggested—that these two papers have agreed to an interchange of literary matter. And in support of this argument the defendants have succeeded in hunting up two occasions in the course of 12 years in which *The Times* is said to have copied, without leave, parts of articles from the defendants. One of these occasions was in 1890, after the report of the Parnell Commission, when *The Times* quoted extracts from the leading articles of numerous London and provincial papers, showing how very large and influential a portion of the Press supported the views they had advocated, and in favour of which the Commission had reported. The essential feature of this

was that the names of such paper should be put prominently forward; and I should have thought that the papers quoted would all have preferred to have their views stated in their own language rather than by way of paraphrase or summary, which *The Times* might unquestionably have done. The other case was the publication of a summary of the report of the German doctors relating to the illness of the Emperor Frederick, which occurred four years ago, and the exact explanation of which is not now forthcoming. The defendants do not allege that they have any copy right in either of those articles, and, even if the facts had been exactly as they suggest, I do not see what legal ground they have for complaint. But, assuming that *The Times* had been entirely in the wrong on those two special occasions, it is idle to say that they afford any evidence whatever of an agreement that the *St. James's Gazette* might appropriate the contents of *The Times* for all times and to any extent; and it is especially idle to rely, as Mr. Low does in paragraph 5 of his first affidavit, upon these two occasions in 1885 and 1890 as the foundation of a belief on his part that the defendants might copy from *The Times* as they pleased, when he also admits that this systematic copying commenced when the *St. James's Gazette* was established in 1880 and has been continued on a large scale and uninterruptedly ever since.

The attempt to show that *The Times* agreed to this journalistic practice of copying, from the fact of its having taken extracts from other papers than the *St. James's Gazette*, is a ludicrous failure; for *The Times* has shown that in 13 out of 16 instances adduced by the defendants the explanation is complete, most of them being cases in which the matter was inserted in *The Times* at the express request of the other papers, specially communicated to them in order that they might insert it; and the few others are trivial matters, doubtless susceptible of easy explanation at the time.

With respect, therefore, to three of these four conditions, the existence of which the defendants say justifies them in believing they had a right to copy from *The Times*, their case breaks down altogether.

But even if all the alleged conditions had been complete, what the defendants have done with respect to articles or paragraphs in which *The Times* has copyright is wholly incapable of justification in point of law. The plea of the existence of such custom, or habit, or practice of copying as is set up can no more be supported when challenged than the highwayman's plea of the custom of Hounslow-heath. It has often been relied upon as a defence in such cases, but always has been repudiated by the Courts. In one of the early cases, *Wyatt v. Barnard* (3 Ves. and B. 771), the defendant relied on "the usual practice" among publishers of magazines to take articles from each other; but Lord Eldon pointed out that such a custom could not control the law. In the most recent case I recollect, *Maxwell v. Somerton* (22 W. R. 313), where the general custom of provincial papers to make such extracts from other papers was relied on, Vice-Chancellor Bacon said that the injunction must go against the defendants, as they had done acts of which the plaintiff could legally complain. Lawful use for reviewing was right, but unauthorized copying of whole articles was illegal, and the custom of trade which had been alleged was no justification for breach of law.

The defendant's counsel also made a point that the paragraphs 5 and 14 were only stated in *The Times* to be from "Our Correspondent," whereas some other paragraphs in *The Times* were said to be from "Our Own Correspondent." Similarly paragraph numbered 7 from the United States was in *The Times* only signed "Dalziel," while other articles in *The Times* from Australia were signed "Dalze (*The Times* Special)," and it was said that there was a difference in the form of expression, and the paragraphs said to be from "Our Own Correspondent" and *The Times* Special Correspondent were respected, and not taken. There is no distinction whatever between these phrases of which I can take notice, as none of the witnesses for the defendants suggest that there is in fact any difference or distinction in meaning between them; and I am satisfied they would have done so if there had been anything in the point. And there is a further answer to the argument—namely, that it is inconsistent with the real facts of the case, for the defendants took matter signed as "Our Own Correspondent." For instance, N. 6, extracted from the Paris article of *The Times*, did bear that signature.

The result is that the defendant is entirely wrong. With regard to Mr. Rudyard Kipling's article, the interlocutory order must be continued. With regard to the other paragraphs, I do not think any order necessary. Their interest has passed away, and they will not be repeated. It has not been shown that any damages resulted to *The Times* from the illegal appropriation of this article, and I do not think it necessary to observe the form of giving nominal damages.

THE CODES.

We read in the *Kokkai* that the Cabinet has finally decided to advise the Emperor not to give his consent to the Bill for postponing the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes. According to the Constitution, the Emperor's veto is not necessarily exercised in a positive manner. The provision is that when his Majesty sanctions a Bill which has passed the Diet,

the Bill must be promulgated before the next session of the Diet. *Per contra*, if the Imperial consent be withheld, then nothing need be done except to keep silence: the measure is not promulgated, and the Imperial sanction is thereby understood to be withheld. Such is the course likely, it is said, to be adopted with respect to the Codes. Meanwhile, in the interval between the present time and the opening of the next session of the Diet, a Committee of revision will be appointed to revise the section of the Civil Code relating to the law of persons and of inheritance. The remainder of the Code and the Commercial Code will be put into operation at the originally fixed time, namely, January 1st, 1893, while as for the law of persons and of inheritance, it is expected that the revision will be completed within a year. Count Oki is said to be averse to any revision, but Viscount Yenomoto endorses the above plan, since postponement on such a limited scale would not affect injuriously the prospects of Treaty Revision. The *Kokkai* adds that the composition of the Committee of Revision will probably be promulgated within a week.

THE TRAIN AND ITS GATHERED TREASURES.

"This hard world," says the *St. James's Budget*, "is full of compensations. The long trains which ladies just now insist on whisking about, despite every male person's loudly expressed abhorrence of them, are ruining the crossing-sweeping trade. Why should you give a penny to a man at a crossing when you have already provided your wife and daughters with costly machinery for the express purpose of sweeping that very crossing? They do sweep it, and all the other crossings and footpaths, and the crossing-sweepers are wasting in despair. But let them be of good cheer. Their opportunity is at hand. According to a dread letter in the *Standard*, the London pavements are in warm weather well supplied with certain little insects of a roundish flatish nature and of a rufous-like hue. We hardly like to mention it; but the metonym of these creatures, so deeply interesting to man, is emblazoned upon the proudest page of Burke and Debreit. Like the Parliament-men, they work by night, with very similar effects, only more so; and when they come out on the sunny footpath for an airing they are swept up by the ladies' trains. Given the run of my lady's wardrobe, they speedily make themselves free of her chamber: and the end is lamentation, and heavy eyes at breakfast, and much cold cream. The wise crossing-sweeper will at once hire himself out as an insecticide."

MR. ARAI SHOGO.

MR. ARAI SHOGO's expulsion from the ranks of the *Kwanto-kai* is doubtless fresh in the minds of our readers. Nothing could well have been more incisive than the terms employed by the party in severing its connection with a member who occupied almost as important a place as Mr. Oi Kentaro, the acknowledged leader. In language conspicuously laconic, Mr. Arai was told to go his way, being at the same time directed to divine the reason himself. Yet now, to our utter bewilderment, the *Kwanto-kai* has opened its arms once more to its distinguished member, and bids him return to his old love. We translated the communication conveying the sentence of expulsion, and we do the same for the letter of re-habilitation:—

SIR,—We congratulate you heartily on your good health. Last month some disagreement occurred between you and the *Kwanto-kai*, and the action of certain members gave rise to much suspicion. We therefore elected a committee of twelve to investigate the affair, and we now find that the rumours then current were fabricated by some low intrigues, purely for malicious purposes. We therefore withdraw our previous intimation severing connection with you, and beg to express the hope that you will join with us in the noble campaign to promote the policy of our association. We remain, &c.,

(Signed) Manager of the "KWANTO KAI."

This is as polite and distinct as the previous document was brusque and sententious. But why on earth did not the *Kwanto-kai* appoint

a committee of investigation at the outset, instead of firing precipitate bomb-shells at Mr. Arai's head and then begging his forgiveness?

But it seems that Mr. Arai's barque is not yet destined to ride in smooth water. The above letter was indited in the sequel of investigations held by a Committee, the members of which came to the conclusion that certain charges preferred against Mr. Arai were baseless. This conclusion, however, was not deemed satisfactory by all the members of the *Kwanto-kai*. Some of them objected, and demanded that another meeting be held to discuss the matter. A meeting was accordingly summoned for the 18th instant, but in the meanwhile the following letter reached the managers from Mr. Arai:—

GENTLEMEN—Certain baseless rumours were recently circulated about me with the object of injuring my reputation, but as I had done nothing to be ashamed of, I took no notice of the stories. Your Association, however, has taken the trouble to investigate the matter, and your just judgment has established my innocence. Nevertheless, I learn that some of your members still express doubts. It would pain me greatly did my personal affairs retard the progress of your Association. Such a result would be contrary to my earnest purpose, which is to sacrifice my individual interests in the country's cause. Hence I deem it best to resign at once my membership of the *Kwanto-kai*, a course calculated, I believe, to strengthen the union of the other members. Trusting that my resignation will be accepted, I am, &c.,

(Signed) ARAI SHOGO.

The Committee agreed to accept Mr. Arai's resignation and communicated the fact to him. But when the members assembled on the 18th and were informed that Mr. Arai having resigned, no further occasion existed to investigate his conduct, some very pointed objections were raised. It was claimed that, although the resignation had been accepted, inasmuch as its presentation had been preceded by the resolve to hold a meeting, the latter ought to proceed with its inquiries and discussion. Mr. Arai was roundly accused of cowardice in resigning so as to shirk an investigation, and some went so far as to assert that his action amounted to an insult to the Association. But the Committee remained firm, and refused to reconsider their decision.

The same day the youthful section of the *Kwanto-kai* held a meeting on their own account, and passed a resolution condemning Mr. Arai, which they communicated to him in the following letter:—

SIR,—The *Kwanto Sonen-kai* has passed the following resolution which we beg to communicate to you:—Arai Shogo has hitherto been our political associate, but in obedience to the principles of liberty and virtue we are compelled to separate from him. Therefore the members of this Association declare that they will no longer hold friendly relations with Arai Shogo.

More disagreeable still for the unfortunate Mr. Arai is a communication made by one. Shokudo Sonjin, to the *Fuyu*, the writer declaring himself ready to accept the full responsibility of his statements. He says that he was originally one of those who regretted Mr. Arai's resignation, but that reflection has filled him with doubt about the eminent Radical's integrity, whom he no longer regards as the prisoner sentenced for the Korean affair and the leader almost as renowned as Oi Kentaro. Then this correspondent proceeds to propound some queries:—Why did Mr. Arai often secretly meet Mr. Takahashi, a police inspector, at the *Tsuru-ya*, during the second session of the Diet? How, despite his well known poverty, did he manage to maintain three mistresses in Tokyo and Utsunomiya? How did he repay his debt to Mr. Hoshi Toru? How did he contrive to live in a luxurious manner from the time of the opening of the second session? Where did he obtain the sum of a thousand yen which he lent to the pro-official party at the time of the election of Prefectural Councillors in Tohigi? He alleged that he obtained the money from Messrs. Saito Keiji

and Imura Tozaburo, but Saito is as poor as a rat, and Imura had no reason to lend money to Arai. "A dark cloud rests on Mr. Arai, and he is no longer his former self." Of each and every one of this catalogue of disagreeable accusations, Mr. Arai has published an emphatic denial. Whom will the public believe?

* * *

We do not know the truth about Mr. Arai Shogo. We only recall him as the voluble Radical who poured forth his opinions about Treaty Revision in the first session of the Diet as copiously and smoothly as rain flows down a vertical board—to use a Japanese expression—and who sought to make things as unpleasant as he could for Viscount Aoki. But we have related these incidents of his recent career because they furnish an interesting illustration of what is involved for a Japanese in the word "turn-coat." Mr. Arai may not, in truth, be emulating the mighty mere that reflects images of which the petty puddle remains oblivious, but he gets the discredit of exemplifying that euphemistic simile, and we now see what is signified by discredit of such a kind in Japan.

THE "NIPPON SHUPPIN RENGOKAI."

UNDER the above title, which signifies "Union of Japanese Exhibitors," the merchants and manufacturers of Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Aichi, and Ishikawa, who contemplate taking part in the Chicago Exhibition, have organized an association, having its head office at the Traders' Hall (*Boyeiki-Kai-Kan*), in Honcho, Ichome, Yokohama, with a branch office in Chicago. Their object is to facilitate the despatch and arrangement of exhibits, and to economise expenditure by sending commissioners and by combination. Each section—apparently local—of the Union may be represented by two commissioners at the Exhibition, who will look after the sale of articles, but the commissioners of one section may discharge this function on behalf of another. Twenty per cent. of the value of exhibits is to be collected to meet the expenses of the Union—a liberal levy, we think—in view of the fact that each section will have to defray independently the cost of packing, shipment, and freight of goods; the cost of preparing all documents connected with them; the travelling and hotel expenses of the commissioners and also of the store-keepers in the Exhibition. In fact the 20 per cent. is to be spent in a very free-handed manner, namely, three-fifths of it to be devoted to the expenses of the Union and two-fifths to go to the Commissioners.

A MILITANT POLICY.

IN certain quarters it is seriously believed that a party within the Government meditates the carrying out of a strong and militant policy against the Opposition. The projectors of this policy, whoever they may be, are represented as claiming that they would be justified in holding at the point of the bayonet what they have obtained virtually as the prize of war. It is not to be understood that any idea of a *coup d'état* is attributed to these persons; nor do they intend—so says rumour—to revive the despotic government of by-gone days. In purpose and in fact they seek to rule in strict accordance with the provisions of the Constitution; but, in order to keep the reins of power in the hands of those who took part in the Restoration, they aim at establishing such a personal hold upon the officers and men in the Army and the Navy as shall preclude altogether the possibility of any outsiders forming a Ministry capable of exercising effective control over the fighting men of the Empire. The result of such a policy would indeed be most fatal to the healthy and peaceful progress of politics in Japan. For our own part, we entirely agree with the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* in thinking that there is not the slightest ground for apprehending a serious attempt to carry out such a programme. But, in point of fact, several well-balanced journals are disposed to give full credit to the rumour. The *Asiya* (Asia), for instance, thinks it worth while to discuss the subject in the most conspicuous part of its editorial columns. It acknowledges

that at certain important crises in a nation's career there may be some advantage in calling to the head of the State a man having a glorious war record, since martial renown operates upon the mass of people much as mesmerism does upon nervous subjects. But, continues the *Asiya*, what shall be said of a certain vain individual, who, though a soldier, can lay claim to no distinguished services, and yet not only prides himself upon being a great warrior but also on the strength of that conceit aspires to exercise absolute sway in the political world? How time-serving and contemptible are the tactics which he employs for the consummation of his great object! Just conceive the idea of forming the shadow of a political party! How can one help," cries out the *Asiya*, "spitting in the face of such a despicable person?" Our contemporary prudently refrains from giving the name of the particular personage whom it has in mind; but it furnishes hints quite sufficient to enable a careful reader to discover, without much difficulty, the object of its invective. The article is accompanied by a portrait of the Duke of Wellington; whose face, if our memory does not fail us, was recently stated by our contemporary to bear a remote resemblance to that of General Count Yamagata. Count Yamagata, by the way, is believed to be the real leader of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. The English warrior's complete failure as a statesman is held up by way of warning to "the man that resembles the Duke in features, but has nothing else in common with the great warrior." This is political satire with a vengeance.

THE "MIYAKO SHIMBUN."

ON the eve of the opening of the first session of the Diet, a substantial brick building was run up, with wonderful rapidity, in the neighbourhood of the Rokumeikan, in Tokyo. People supposed at first that it was an official edifice, connected, in some way or other, with the organization of the new system of stenographic reporting in the Houses. But the building ultimately proved to be a newspaper office. An extensive plant of machinery was soon erected, including a press driven by steam, and thenceforward, at all hours of the day and night, the rattle of rollers and the bustle of ideographic type-setting imparted an air of perpetual activity and prosperity to the place. This *Miyako Shimbun*, as the paper was called, with all its plant, buildings and goodwill is now reported to have been sold to Mr. Kusumoto Masataka for the small sum of twenty-five thousand yen. Mr. Kusumoto is a prominent member of the Radicals. He belongs to the so-called *Yakki-gumi*, or "desperate coterie," of that party. He was elected for the first Diet, but suffered defeat at the hands of a pro-official candidate who contested one of the Tokyo districts with him in the last general election. An advocate of extreme measures, Mr. Kusumoto is not satisfied with the comparative moderation of the *Jiyu-to* under Count Itagaki. He therefore seeks to score a few aces off his own bat, and by way of preliminary he has apparently purchased the *Miyako Shimbun* to ventilate his views. It appears to us that the tendency to disintegration is asserting itself more powerfully than ever among the Opposition. After a few more lurid rings like the *Kwantō-kai* and the *Kusumoto-ka* have been shaken off into space, the nucleus will be found sufficiently consistent and its pace sufficiently sober to admit of even such an improbable contingency as association with the Government.

* * *

Since the above was in type the proprietors of the *Miyako Shimbun* have publicly denied that it has changed hands. Mr. Kusumoto is said, therefore, to be looking elsewhere.

DISTURBANCES IN CHINA TOWN.

Two disturbances, which at first threatened to assume large proportions, occurred in Chinatown on Wednesday. The first arose, under the following circumstances, between 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon. A Japanese woman named Watanabe Wakai was walking through Owaricho with an infant strapped to her back. A constable noticing that the child was destitute

of any clothing ordered the woman to take it in doors or else put some clothes around it. This she refused to do, stating that her master, a Chinaman, had given strict orders that the child should not be dressed, owing to the heat of the day. As the constable insisted in his demand a small crowd gathered, and among them the woman's master. Without giving any warning the Chinaman struck the Japanese policeman heavily across the face, drawing blood, at the same time calling out to his compatriots to come up. They responded instantly to the call, and for some time the constable had a warm time of it; the arrival of relief from the Settlement Police Station finally allowed him to get away from the Chinese mob, who were howling around him, nearly a hundred strong. Between 11 and 12 o'clock in the evening, two foreigners attempted to enter the Chinese temple, where dancing and other performances were proceeding in honour of the Chinese Emperor's birthday. This was resented by the Chinese, who commenced to pummel and bustle the Europeans most unmercifully. Some police who went to their assistance were at first driven back, but finally order was restored and the Europeans got away.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes the following Ordinance:—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby authorize the suspension of the circulation of the notes of the Thirty-third National Bank, Tokyo, and order the same to be duly promulgated. [Imperial Sign Manual.] &c.

(Countersigned) Minister of State for Finance.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 65.

The circulation of the notes of the Thirty-third National Bank of Tokyo is hereby suspended.

Notification No. 35 of the Department of Finance. With reference to the payment of the notes of the Thirty-third National Bank of Tokyo, the circulation of which was suspended by Imperial Ordinance No. 65 of the present year, it is hereby notified that the duty of paying the notes has been entrusted to the Bank of Japan, and that the notes must be presented for payment before the 19th day of the 7th month of the 28th year of Meiji (19th July, 1895.) The Government will not hold itself responsible for the payment of the Bank's notes after that date.

(Signed) Minister of State for Finance.

It will be remembered that the Thirty-third Bank became the object of sinister rumours some months ago, and that the Government immediately ordered its transactions to be suspended and an official scrutiny to be made into its affairs. The result of the examination showed that the Bank had spent the greater part, if not the whole, of the reserve which the law directs that each National Bank shall keep to secure its note issues. Hence the above decisive step has been taken. This is the first instance of the kind, if we remember rightly.

THE AMERICAN RICE CROP.

THE outlook is most encouraging, say Dan Talmage's Sons, in their Rice Crop Bulletin for June, and, judging from reports received, there is likely to be a very large crop, by far exceeding any previously made. It is well, however, to bear in mind that the seed is under ground, or at most in some instances just rising above it, and that contingencies might arise which would cause the "flower of promise" to eventuate in a harvest of disappointment. An old cynical proverb suggests that "the unexpected always happens." This we hope will prove to be the exceptional year. Advices respecting the rice crop are surprising beyond degree. Promises of last month have been fully redeemed and greatly exceeded. The acreage already in assures the largest crop ever grown in the United States, and, under ordinary favourable conditions, the outcome will be sufficient to meet home requirements and furnish some fractional amount for export. The culture has been widely taken up by cotton planters who are free and independent in monetary resources, and wherever bankers and merchants, who furnish the

latter, are of any progressive disposition. Every department, financial, commercial, and agricultural, seems to have wakened up to the fact (1) that the making of investments, based on the outcome of a single crop, partakes too much of reckless gaming—the risking of one's all on the cast of the die; (2) that safety and prosperity can only be assured by a diversity of crops; (3) that rice is among the best of crops, safer than either cotton, sugar, or tobacco, and, taking the range of the past five years, will realize in dollars and cents double that of any other grain. So far as we can learn, little has been done in Arkansas or in the upper half of Alabama and Mississippi. The temperature needed, supply of moisture, and duration of season warrant a crop on any mean level in the States just mentioned, as high as the Tennessee line, and on the same parallel nearly over to the Indian Territory—hence we still look for reports in addition to those already in hand. The missing localities are at most not likely to engage in experimental culture this year, and the outcome is unimportant as bearing on the general crop. Detailed reports note that the crop in the Carolinas and Georgia are doing finely, having fully recovered from the delay incidental to the cold weather and drought of April and May. In Louisiana there has been a phenomenal extension of crop, and its yield will be double that of all other States combined. Florida, Alabama and Mississippi report satisfactory progress. The former leads, and by artesian wells has insured a full supply of moisture, and will make a crop spite the season. Labour is reported as ample at nearly all points. Seeding is practically over along the Atlantic Coast, but will continue in the extreme South until mid-July. Total acreage planted or prepared, 272,250 acres. Estimated yield, 9,750,000 bushels—treble the amount grown prior to, and double that of any year since, the war.

CHINESE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

There are about twenty thousand Chinese in San Francisco, and among that number some two to three thousand are said to belong to various "high-binder" societies and to the low criminal classes. For the effective restraint of these rascals American methods of police and justice seem to be quite inadequate, and the consequence is that murders and other serious crimes, though of frequent occurrence, generally go unpunished. The *San Francisco Chronicle* says that the better classes of Chinese are tired of so much unrestrained lawlessness and would be glad to have their own Consuls entrusted with jurisdiction, in which case the thugs would find short shrift. Of course the United States Authorities will not agree to anything of the kind, especially when "an intelligent and well educated Christian Chinaman" gives to the *Chronicle's* reporter the following information as to how the Chinese Consul would manage matters:—

"I am sure that he would take a dozen of them out to a cemetery and decapitate them every week or two, or send them home to China for execution," said the intelligent little man. "We would all be glad to see it done, but as it is the Consul-General is powerless to do anything."

He knew just how things would be handled if Chinese procedure could only be applied. According to the principles of Chinese government the whole local Chinese community would be responsible for the behavior of its members. If a Chinese shot another, every Chinese would be interested in promptly apprehending the murderer and turning him over to the authorities. If he escaped, and the police could not find him very readily, a lot of the man's friends, and everybody else whose incarceration might be effective, would be calmly locked up in the consular prison until the culprit was produced. If a confession were wanted from the man, and he refused to tell what was wanted, he would probably be strung up by the thumbs or toes and given a hundred or so lashes, or otherwise tortured until he came to terms. There would be little delay about the loss of his head, and perhaps the execution of accomplices. A highbinder society would only last a day or two with this sort of thing to reverse it. In place of a general shielding and defence of criminals there would be a general hustling to get them.

FORMOSA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Amoy Gazette*, writes:—Since I last wrote, the war between the Chinese and Aborigines has broken out afresh and the country on the border has been quite depopulated of its quiet and peaceful inhabitants. From what I can gather from native sources, the commencement of the recent out-

break was the killing of a friendly native by a Chinaman, who in return for his plucky deed received the sum of \$100 from the Governor. The weather over here at the moment is very hot, the thermometer going up in the middle of the day to 97° and 98°. The railway seems practically "bust up;" trains run now by fits and starts. The engines have been worked so much that unless new ones are shortly forthcoming the trains will cease running altogether. Keelung at the present moment is a splendid health resort, the air there being purer than is to be got down here at Hobé. The new fort on the hill has just been completed, and I believe is very formidable. Mr. Victor Valazie and a party came over here in the *Formosa*, to see about giving a balloon ascent. He will not go up I hear unless he is guaranteed a certain sum. The natives up at Twaütia are dying off wholesale from cholera, so I am given to understand by a well-to-do native.

STABILITY OF OPINION.

DESPITE the interest of the subject, we do not propose to discuss in detail the remarkable arguments advanced by our local contemporaries on the subject of Japan's action towards Portugal. In our leading columns we have explained, as far as appears necessary, the most important misconception that appears to prevail. But in order to show the singular confusion of ideas that exists in one quarter at any rate, we quote the following:—

Japan Gazette, July 9th.
While we regret the position Portuguese subjects may find themselves in if Japan is able to carry out her intentions, we must certainly support her right to refuse to recognize Merchant-Consuls, as if the Treaty is worth observing at all, it is worth observing properly, and any Treaty Power failing to conform to the customary usages enacted of Treaties cannot justly complain if deprived of the privileges which that Treaty originally conferred upon its nationals.

Japan Gazette, July 16th.
Of course we do not blame Japan for endeavouring, where possible, to do away with Merchant-Consuls, but her measures can only justly be persuasive; she cannot demand as a right that men of any special qualifications whatever be appointed. Those countries who can afford to keep Legations and official Consuls, naturally for their own satisfaction do so, and all are wise who stretch a point in this direction; but it is purely optional, and the step just taken by Japan is a most arbitrary one, and one usually resorted to by Powers determined upon setting a disputed question at the point of the bayonet or stopping further diplomatic relations altogether.

NOBLES OCCUPYING OFFICIAL POSITIONS.

FROM statistics quoted by the *Yiji Shimpō* we gather that the number of peers occupying official positions is largely on the increase. On the 10th instant the total number given in official records was 112, distributed as follows:—Princes, 4; Marquises, 8; Counts, 28; Viscounts, 64; and Barons, 15. There is little doubt, we think, that the interest taken in public affairs by the nobility has been considerably augmented since the establishment of the House of Peers. The future position of titled personages depends very much on their adapting themselves to the altered state of the country. We are glad to observe various signs of activity among the rising generation. The peers evidently do not intend to be left behind in the race in which the nation is now engaged.

THE RADICALS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

No little excitement has been caused in political circles by the publication of a paragraph emanating from the Tokyo News Agency to the effect that a distinct probability exists of an agreement between the Cabinet and the Radicals, and that an understanding on the subject has already been come to by influential men on both sides. The Radical organ (*Yiyu*) is conspicuously disturbed about the story and denounces it as "a scandalous fabrication." It declares that some low intriguers have been endeavouring to sever the tie between the National Unionists and the Government and to introduce dissension into the ranks of the Radicals. The members of the *Yiyu-to*, it goes on to say, are quite indifferent who holds the reins of government. They only inquire whether the Administration is acting in such a manner as the people of the country can approve. They cannot give their support to the Government until the latter ceases to be a clan Government and becomes a Popular Government, and when that change is effected, the *Kaishin-to* also will doubtless be ready to abandon its attitude of hos-

tility. But the *Yiyu* is careful not to explain what it means by Popular Government. Content with pretty phrases, it refrains from telling its readers that the bugbear of clan Government can be removed only by admitting the Radicals themselves to power. When all their opposition is winnowed down, the one solid grain left is that they desire the Cabinet to accept its mandate from the majority of the House of Representatives; in other words, from themselves and the *Kaishin-to*. Thus their announcement that they are ready to support the Government so soon on it ceases to be a clan Government and becomes a Popular one, means nothing more or less than that they promise to support themselves when the control of State affairs is entrusted to them. We do not say this by way of reproach. Such an aim is perfectly legitimate, though opinions may differ greatly as to the prudence of thrusting it into the political foreground at this early stage of parliamentary institutions in Japan.

Passing to the question of the *Kwantō-kai's* secession, the Radical organ denies the suggestion that Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers were driven out in consequence of a secret agreement between the *Yiyu-to* and the Government to which they could not be parties. They left, says the *Yiyu*, of their own free will, and their exit was due to "an unspeakably painful reason with which the public is well acquainted." But we can assure the *Yiyu* that we ourselves, as an item of the public, have no conception what that "unspeakably painful reason may be." We have examined everything written on the subject by the vernacular press and have carefully read the secession manifesto of the *Kwantō-kai* themselves, but truly the whole thing remains as mysterious as ever. If we were asked to say why the *Kwantō-kai* broke away, our answer must be that the pace of the Radical Party was not hot enough for Mr. Oi and his friends. They want to rush to extremes at once, and the bulk of the Radicals are not prepared to follow them. One of the most singular features of Japanese politics is the mystery apparently enveloping events that elsewhere would stand out in a clear atmosphere. This state of affairs is certainly not due to any studied reticence on the part of politicians themselves. It is due, we believe, to a much simpler fact, namely, that the issues at stake are still too nebulous to permit frank explanation. We more than doubt whether the members of the *Kwantō-kai* are themselves quite clear as to what they want, or what course they intend to pursue.

Another rumour circulated is that the *Yiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* can no longer work in couples, and that their separation is inevitable. This story the *Yiyu* describes as a device of the Choshu statesmen to promote the disagreement which they desire. It declares the union of the two parties in opposition to be firmer than ever.

The *Nippon* and the *Nichi Nichi*, on the other hand, are disposed to believe the rumours as to an understanding between the Radicals and the Government. The former expresses the opinion that some of the statements may be more or less true, and that if folks read them carefully and dispassionately they will discover what portions are trustworthy and which of the present Cabinet Ministers has been instrumental in concluding the arrangement. As for the *Kaishin-to* organs, some of them strongly deny the Tokyo News Agency's allegations, while others hold their peace.

The most curious incident of the affair is that the News Agency has addressed to all the newspaper offices with which it communicates the following letter:—"We beg to express our regrets and convey an apology for sending the paragraphs entitled 'the Government and the *Yiyu-to*' and 'the *Yiyu-to* and *Kwantō-kai*.' They were communicated to us originally by a correspondent, but subsequent investigation has shown that they were entirely fabricated by him."

Original from

bori-cho, Nichome, Tokyo, and that the general meeting is to be in October. One point, however, may be referred to, namely, that no one belonging to a political party is to be an ordinary member of the Association, but, if he desire to join, must be content to do so as a special member. This restriction must reduce the regular membership to a very small number if the intention be strictly enforced.

SILK IN MEXICO.

THE *Moniteur des Soies* says that Mexico is well adapted to the culture of the mulberry and to the rearing of the silkworm, owing to its excellent climatic conditions. The idea of cultivating the silkworm first originated in the minds of some Spanish monks, who had visited the extreme East, and found, on returning to Mexico, that it was as suitable to this industry as China itself, and they planted mulberry trees in considerable numbers. After a time these plantations were neglected, until M. Chambon, a Frenchman from the Ardèche, assisted by the Mexican Government, took them in hand. The greatest advantage that the Mexican silk grower has over his Chinese and European rivals is due to the complete renewal of his mulberry plantations; for, in this country, the trees are young, well selected, and spaced out in lands costing only a nominal sum. In addition, the Mexican grower having everything to learn, only devotes himself to the modern scientific aspect of the question, and is not hampered by tradition or routine. The proximity of the United States is an inducement to Mexico to become a silk-producing country, as unbleached silk is admitted free into the United States, while European tissues are practically excluded. The rapidity with which the industry of silk weaving in the United States is developing, coincident with the almost complete failure of sericulture, opens a vast field to the Mexican grower.

SILK.

MESSRS. DURANT AND Co.'s Circular thus refers to the new silk crops:—Since the public sales our market has been extremely quiet. All attention is now turned to the production of the new crops, of which, so far, the reports are fairly satisfactory; although the quantity of seed laid down in Italy is said to be considerably less than last year. The export of White Silk from Shanghai is generally estimated at 60,000 bales, and the Japan crop is expected to be about the same as last year. But seldom has a campaign opened with stocks of the raw material on the Continent so much reduced, and considering the present extremely low range of prices, coupled with a very large Continental and American consumption, it seems as though the new season should be profitable both to the importer and consumer.

THE "SOSHI" AND HIRANUMA.

THERE is a detachment of *soshi* whose self-imposed titles are the *Seigi-ha*, "Righteous Section," and the *Tenchu-gumi*, "The Divine Executors Band." The latter title was frequently adopted in feudal days by men who felt called upon to avenge some great wrong. The ease with which powers of attorney are obtained from heaven in this country is astonishing. There is an old Chinese saying, long current in Japan:—*Ten ni kuchi nashi hito wo motte iwashimuru*. "Heaven has no voice of its own. It speaks by means of men." This adage embodies a very convenient doctrine for those who are anxious to invest their actions with a dignity to which they have no kind of genuine title. A case in point is reported in the *Kokkai Shimbun*. The *Seigi-ha soshi* have just addressed a very solemn epistle to Hiranuma, his son, Hachitaro, and his household, of which we furnish a translation:—"We are men whose duty it is to tread the paths of justice, to destroy what is false and establish what is right. For a series of years you, father and son, have been acting in a wicked manner to the Imperial subjects who are our brethren, and to the noblemen who guard the throne of His Imperial Majesty. Take notice, that in the name of the community whose rights you have infringed, and as a punishment for the acts of cruelty and

injustice in which you have taken delight, within ten days from this time we shall kill you in Heaven's stead. There will be no regret, either in Heaven or on earth, that the heads of such villains as you are severed from your bodies. This punishment you have brought on yourselves. To this end we consign you.

Dated, July 17th, 1892.

Signed and Sealed with the Blood of the Members of the Righteous Section of Japanese Imperial Soshi.

* * *

On the principle that the dog that barks seldom bites, we should say that the authors of the threat, had they meant business, would not have given publicity to their plot before its execution. It is stated that Mr. Hiranuma, in consequence of the strong public feeling against him, has decided to retire from business altogether. It is further asserted that the Public Procurator's speech, reported in these columns some days ago, has had the effect of alienating a large number of Mr. Hiranuma's business friends from him, so that it looks as though his retirement was not altogether voluntary.

DEATH OF DR. SCUDDER.

A TELEGRAM in a San Francisco paper announces the death of Dr. Scudder, as follows:—"Dr. Henry Martin Scudder, the physician, charged with murdering his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Dunton, in order that his wife might inherit her property, died at an early hour in the morning from an overdose of morphine, supposed to have been taken with suicidal intention. He had been allowed small doses of morphine to induce sleep, and it is supposed he saved them until he had enough to produce death. Nothing in his demeanour during the evening indicated any intention to end his existence, as he seemed more cheerful and talkative than usual. The murder created a sensation in the city, owing to the prominence of both of the parties. Mr. Dunton was the wife of the venerable Editor Dunton of the *Spirit of the Turf*, and Dr. Scudder was the son of the well-known clergyman of that name."

THE HONGKONG REGIMENT.

In the course of a "Chat about the Hongkong Regiment," says the *Singapore Free Press*, Major Barrow, the Commandant, said of the composition of the corps:—

It is entirely a Mussulman Regiment. That is to say, the men are all followers of the Prophet. But there is a great difference between them and the Sikhs of the artillery here. The Sikhs are Hindoos, and in many respects there is considerable variance between the two classes. They will not eat together or intermarry. Then again, a Mussulman abhors the flesh of the pig; the Sikh would think it sacrilege to eat beef. Again the Mussulman is not allowed to drink spirituous liquors; the Sikh objects to tobacco. So you see that though from the same country they are really, in many respects, two different classes of people. The regiment consists of two companies of Pathans and six companies of Punjabi or Hindustani Mussulmans. The Pathans are, as many of you know, practically the same as the Afghans. They speak the same language; they belong to the same race, and they have nearly all the same customs; the only distinction is that these particular Pathans belong to tribes which inhabit British territory. The Punjab Mussulmans are mostly from the Himalayas or Salt Range. The Salt Range lies south of Rawul Pindi and is the great source of the salt supply for all India. They are, as a rule, entirely illiterate, and I do not suppose to per cent. can read and write. When recruited they are as a rule taken straight from the plough, and have never seen any really big town. I will give you a few examples of their ignorance. When I told one of my native officers that we would be fourteen days on board the ship, he said, "Well, I suppose we shall tie up every night to the bank." This officer I may tell you formed his ideas of a ship from the big boats he had seen on the Indus, and a sea he seemed to imagine was something like a very broad river. Again, when we were going into Bombay the train ran straight into dock, and as we had had a very hot night in the train the moment the men were let loose numbers of them rushed down the steps to the sea and began to drink. I need hardly say they soon stopped this attempt to quench their thirst. Of course, it must be explained that none of the men had ever seen the sea before.

QUELFPART.

A DISAGREEABLE item of intelligence is reported from Quelpart in the columns of the *Kokkai*. Some Koreans are said to have invited three Japanese to a feast, and having plied them with liquor until they were stupid, set upon them with swords and stabbed two of them to death, inflicting severe wounds on the third. The

murderers were quickly arrested, and strong representations were made by the Japanese Consul. It is added that much excitement exists among the Japanese at Ninsen. Certainly it is much to be desired that the question of Japanese fishing in Korean waters were placed on a clear and satisfactory basis, for these frequent troubles among fishermen may at any moment involve embarrassing results.

AN ERRANT FOREIGNER.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that a Canadian, whose name, according to the *Kana* translation, seems to be Henry Tobant, started the other day from Yokohama to proceed overland to Kobe without a passport. He took the railway for guide, but whether he walked throughout or rode part of the way, we are not informed. At any rate when he came to Washizu station in Shizuoka Prefecture, he was arrested and sent back to Yokohama under escort. Probably the unfortunate man never conceived the necessity of having a passport. One does not generally think of asking official permission to go to a place whither a railway runs.

COLLISION IN THE BITTER LAKES.

LLOYD'S Agent at Suez, says the *London and China Express*, telegraphs, under date of June 4, 5.40 p.m., as follows:—"British steamer *Crown of Arragon*, bound from Barry Dock to Singapore, has been in collision with German steamer *Tritos*, from Odessa, in Section Great Bitter Lakes, Suez Canal. The latter sank a few minutes after the collision. The former has nine plates bent in, bows holed, stem badly damaged, and peak full of water. The holds, however, are all right." The *Tritos* is a steamer of 1,679 gross tonnage, built in 1882 at Flensburg, where she is owned.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE "NEW YORK HERALD."

ACCORDING to the *Hochi Shimbun*, a certain Mr. Newman, a correspondent of the *New York Herald*, has amused the readers of that journal by relating an incident which occurred during his visit to Yokohama, or which he dreamt of on his way to San Francisco. According to this enlightened globe-trotter, an American and a German doctor of Yokohama have been realising large sums of money by operating on Japanese eyes to make them resemble those of Europeans. "Though," says the *Hochi*, "such stories are written for the sake of the amusement they afford, they contain a moral which we Japanese would do well to heed."

THE RAILWAY BUREAU.

AN Imperial Ordinance has been issued transferring the Railway Bureau from the Home Department to the Department of Communications. This seems a natural step. No branch of the public service has been better managed or has achieved more notable results than the Railway Bureau, and its transfer to the Department of Communications adds considerably to the importance of that Department.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 16th inst. were as follow:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVES AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.		YEN.	
Notes issued.....	104,875,216	Gold coin and bullion.....	22,720,300
		Silver coin and bullion.....	42,833,260
		Public loan Bonds.....	14,500,000
		Treasury Bills.....	—
		Government Bills.....	22,000,000
		Other securities.....	—
		Commercial Bills.....	8,741,756
	104,875,216		104,875,216

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 4,172,902 is in the treasury of the Bank, yen 17,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 83,702,314 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase yen 63,226 as compared with yen 83,639,088 at the end of the previous week.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the

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16th inst. as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Day	Gold Coin. (Per 100 Yen.)	Pound Sterling (Per 100 Yen.)
11th.....	141.000	A.M. 6.9565
12th.....	141.000	A.M. 6.9374
13th.....	140.500	A.M. 6.9565
14th.....	141.000	A.M. 6.9818
15th.....	141.500	A.M. 6.9818
16th.....	141.500	A.M. 6.9818
Averages.....	141.083	6.9650

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 0.583 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase of yen 0.0315 as compared with the previous week.

VISCOUNT SANO AND FORESTRY.

THE new Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, Viscount Sano, evidently proposes to address special attention to the question of forestry. In a speech delivered to the Woods and Forests officials of the Department, he has dwelt with much insistence on the necessity of protecting and providing for the increase of the timber of the country. Incidentally he mentions that some years ago—doubtless when he was himself at the head of the Department of Finance—Professor Dr. Wagner was sent throughout the empire to examine the state of the forests, and on his return he reported that Japan was many times less richly equipped in this respect than Germany. Thenceforth the policy of the Government has been to encourage afforestation. We venture to think, however, that the measures adopted have not yet been largely successful. By way of illustration, Viscount Sano's attention may be directed to a letter which lately appeared in the correspondence columns of this journal, drawing attention to the fact that the valley of the Watarase River is being gradually stripped of all its timber, and that the effects of the destruction are likely to be disastrous.

THE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE.

OWING to the death of the Countess Li, wife of the Viceroy and mother by adoption of H.E. Lord Li, Chinese Representative in Tokyo, it has become necessary for the latter to retire from official life during the prescribed term of mourning. Every one knows how unbending are the Chinese laws of mourning. The period of mourning for a parent is nominally three years, but in practice only twenty-seven months, during which time officials have to resign their appointments and retire from public life. Lord Li was so unfortunate last year as to lose his mother, but by a special decree from the Throne the period of his retirement was abridged to 100 days. It becomes necessary for him now again to return to China, and we can scarcely hope to see him back in Japan. It is understood, however, that his Excellency's valuable services will not be lost to his country, as the all powerful Viceroy has made arrangements for him to discharge the duties of Private Secretary at the Viceroyalty. Lord Li will be succeeded in Japan by the same gentleman who acted as his *remplacant* during his absence last year. His departure from this country will be sincerely regretted, for no Chinese Representative has ever succeeded in making himself so popular with all nationalities. Under any circumstances, however, it could not have been hoped that he would remain in Tokyo beyond the shortest period of diplomatic service, for promotion must wait on a man of his abilities.

FAREWELL DINNER TO DR. BAEZ.

ON Wednesday evening the members of the Tokyo Club entertained Dr. E. Baelz at dinner at the Rokumeikan, in view of his approaching departure for Europe on a year's leave. About fifty sat down to dinner, the chair being taken by Mr. von Walhausen, the German Chargé d'Affaires. During dinner the Naval Band played. Several Japanese were present, Dr. Baelz being not less popular among the Japanese than among foreigners, and doubtless the attendance would have been twice as large had not so many of the Tokyo residents been absent

in the hills. The toast of the evening was proposed by Dr. E. Divers, F.R.S., who said:—

Mr. Denison, our worthy Vice President, having been called away just before dinner, leaving Mr. von Walhausen to take the chair, I have been asked to propose the health of our guest Dr. Baelz. I have consented because it is to me a great honour as well as a great pleasure to give the toast, but in this unexpected position I am unprepared to say much where so much could well be said. I am sure, however, that you will allow that a speech can to-night be easily dispensed with, since Dr. Baelz has been so long among us, is so well known, and so warmly regarded by all of us and by so many others throughout the country. For many years senior foreign physician in the Medical School of the University, he has helped to train thousands of medical practitioners, and no teacher, most certainly, is held in more respect and affectionate regard by past pupils than Dr. Baelz. Throughout all the time, too, of his stay in this country he has been actively and successfully investigating medicine, more particularly in relation to Japan, and is now well known in Europe by the work he has done. I have ventured to introduce these remarks upon his professional career, because what they refer to is not likely to be familiar to many of you. For the rest we all know what a good, kind fellow he is, and can assure him of the warmth of our affection for him. Besides, in his extensive practice as a physician he comes at times to hold our lives in his hands, and we know we can then trust him thoroughly to pull us through. Gentleman, let us drink the health of Dr. Baelz, wishing him a pleasant time at home and expressing the hope that he will have a happy return to us next year.—(Applause.)

Dr. Baelz, who on rising received an ovation, said:—

EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN—I cannot sufficiently thank you for your kindness in assembling here to-night in such numbers, despite the great heat, to say good-bye to me, and for the cordiality with which you have driven my health. Were this really a farewell meeting, were I about to take my final departure from a country where I have made so many good friends and spent so many happy years, it would be to me a sad occasion indeed. But I am glad now to be able to recall without pain all the kindness and consideration I have received at your hands and the pleasant times we have had together, because I can look forward to renewing these delightful experiences, and can say farewell with the comforting assurance that this chain of friendship will draw me back to you soon, and that I may count on adding some more links to it in our renewed fellowship. My return cannot be too soon for me, I assure you, and I thank you heartily for the delightful experience you have given me this evening, an experience which I shall always treasure as one of the greatest honours and happiest memories of my life.—(Loud applause.)

"Auld Lang Syne" was then sung, Messrs. Milne and Macmillan leading, and the party rose at 10 p.m.

NICARAGUA AND JAPAN.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that the preliminaries for concluding a treaty of amity and commerce between Nicaragua and Japan have progressed materially, the draft treaty having been prepared some two or three days and submitted by H.E. Viscount Enomoto to the Cabinet on the 22nd instant. The treaty is said to be virtually the same as that concluded with Mexico by Count Okuma, that is to say, a treaty which contains no extraterritorial clauses nor imposes any restrictions on the trade, travel, and residence of Nicaraguan citizens in Japan. The draft, when approved by the Cabinet, is to be forwarded to the Japanese Representative in Washington, who is empowered to negotiate with the Nicaraguan Government. The present expectation is that ratifications will be exchanged by about November, and that the treaty will go into operation from next March.

THE RAILWAY BUREAU.

FOR some time, says the *Kokkai*, there has been talk of transferring the Railway Bureau from the control of the Home Office to that of the Department of Communications. Count Goto and Mr. Kono busied themselves particularly to bring about the change, believing it to be in the interests of the public service, and considering, also, that the natural place for the Railway

Bureau is in the Department of Communications. Now that Mr. Kono has become Minister of Home Affairs, the consummation of the project has been greatly facilitated, and the *Kokkai* expects that it will be officially announced in a few days.

A NEW METHOD OF BETTING.

EVERYONE, says "Atlas," in the *World*, whose feelings are not swayed by the pull of their pockets must be glad that so good a sportsman as Lord Bradford has at last won the Blue Ribbon of the Turf. Unluckily for his friends and relations, knowledge of his over-sanguine nature made them pay no heed to the "chance" he spoke of, and fifty to one was obtainable about Sir Hugo on the course. Mr. Toole won 500*l.* over the horse, which he selected as being "at the longest price"!

MATCHES.

THE Tokyo News Agency, publishes a statement received from the Japanese Consul at Tientsin to the effect that the total quantity of matches imported into that place during 1891 was 515,136 (?) gross, valued at 482,964 yen. Only a portion of these were Japanese, but the Consul is of opinion that if greater care were exercised by the Japanese manufacturers they might ultimately monopolise the whole trade. At present Japanese matches are sold more cheaply than Austrian, but the latter appear to be counted of better quality.

THE "MIYAKO SHIMBUN."

It is announced that Mr. Inamo Noboru, Manager of the *Miyako Shimbun*, resigns his position, and that Mr. Yamanaka, head of the staff, is to be replaced by Mr. Nozawa Toshimoto. But no change of policy is admitted in connection with these events. Whether the alteration of *personnel* explains or confirms the rumours recently circulated about the paper, it is difficult to say.

LOCAL GOVERNORS.

THE following changes in the staff of local Governors are announced:—

NAME.	NEW POST.	FORMER POST.
Mr. Narabara Shigeru.....	Governor of Okinawa.....	Court Councillor.
Mr. Maruoka Kanji.....	Governor of Kochi.....	Governor of Okinawa.
Mr. Saisho Hirotake.....	Governor of Tottori.....	Governor of Kochi.
Mr. Nishimura Ryokichi.....	Resigns.....	Governor of Tottori.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

THE Ministerial problem occupies much space in the columns of the vernacular press. The crisis is not yet over apparently. Since preparing our last weekly summary, things have taken an unexpected turn. When the Camera Statesmen dispersed, upon discovering that their conditions were unacceptable to the Cabinet, it was universally believed that henceforth the so-called strong party in the Government, supported by the *Kokumin Kyokai*, would gain an uncontested ascendancy in the deliberations of the Ministry. Such a view of the situation was quite natural at the time, considering that the breaking up of the *Kuromaku* conference had been principally due to the opposition of Viscount Takashima, and others usually included among the leaders of the strong party. But before the lapse of a few days, a complete change took place in the aspect of affairs. Instead of the expected ascendancy of the strong party, the Cabinet is now, if we may believe the papers, almost entirely in the hands of the moderate party led by Count Goto and Mr. Kono. How such a sudden change has taken place, it is at present impossible to know with certainty. But according to rumour, everything is ascribed to a daring and adroit manoeuvre of Count Goto. While the Camera Statesmen, so runs the story, were deliberating about the Ministerial question, Count Goto kept very quiet, leaving it for others to oppose the interference of their elders. But when

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it was known that the *Kuromaku* conference had been for ever broken up, he at once called on Count Matsukata and succeeded in extracting certain pledges from the Premier as to the course of policy to be adopted in the future. From that moment the Minister of Communications felt his ground secure, and at once set himself to carry out his plan by getting Mr. Kono, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, transferred to the Home Office, and Viscount Sano, Privy Councillor, appointed to the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. Under such circumstances, Mr. Shirane's continuance in the Home Office was of course out of the question. Great things are rumoured about Count Goto. His object is alleged to be, not merely to oust the so-called strong party in the Government, but to deal a final blow to clan influence. Others say that his aim is to crush the power of the Choshu statesmen. Indeed, we have now the strange spectacle of a Cabinet in which there is no Choshu element. Mr. Shirane wielded no inconsiderable amount of influence in the Cabinet, but he is gone, and there only remains General Okazawa, Vice-Minister of War, to represent Choshu. He is of little consequence, however, from a political point of view. Whatever may be the object of Count Goto, there seems to be little doubt that at present he is the most powerful member of the Cabinet. It is stated that Viscount Takashima, Minister of War; Viscount Kabayama, Minister of the Navy; and Count Oki, Minister of Education, are far from being satisfied with the turn which things have taken, and that of late they do not attend Cabinet meetings. It is thus feared that a serious split may take place in the Cabinet.

Under the circumstances, thoughtful observers are inclined to doubt the stability of the Cabinet. It is even rumoured that a very important change may take place before the opening of the coming session of the Diet. The *Fiji Shimpō*, undoubtedly a great authority in these matters, repeats its observation that the present arrangement is only temporary, and that a change of Cabinet may take place even before the end of the present year. Our contemporary is convinced that the elder statesmen are only watching a favourable opportunity for organizing a coalition Ministry, composed of all the great statesmen who co-operated in the Restoration, not even excepting Count Okuma and Count Itagaki. Before surrendering the Government, which they all took part in establishing, into the hands of their juniors, the elder statesmen will, in the *Fiji's* opinion, come together once more to make common cause against the aspiring youngsters.

The Opposition journals, especially those of the *Kaishin-to*, seem to think that the Ministry has determined to follow an entirely new policy towards the Opposition. It is even stated by some of these papers that the Government has agreed to adopt the programme of the Opposition. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* finds it difficult to agree with such a view of the case. But the manner in which our contemporary writes plainly indicates that its purpose is, not so much to expose the absurdity of the allegations of the Opposition papers, as to draw the attention of the Cabinet Ministers to the importance of a firm and consistent policy on their part.

There is a significant article in the *Fiji*, over the signature of Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, entitled "On the Present Cabinet." The distinguished writer deplores that nowadays the whole attention of the Cabinet Ministers is engrossed by the policy to be pursued toward the Diet. No other subject seems ever to engage the serious thoughts of Ministers. In a sense this state of things is gratifying to the pride of the Diet; but nothing can be more deplorable from the national point of view. The Government has duties to perform which are of vastly greater importance than the management of the Diet.

Among the questions demanding the Cabinet's attention may be mentioned the development of industry, encouragement of navigation and trade, setting in order the Military and Naval administration, completion of the defences of the country, and so forth. But none is of more urgent importance than the question of Treaty Revision. The Treaty Revision Committee appointed by the Government does not seem to have made any progress with its investigations. Mr. Hoshi admits that the Revision of the Treaties is an extremely difficult matter; but he does not think it impossible to accomplish it if the Government be strong enough to obtain the support of the nation. There is also the Korean question inviting immediate attention. A great deal depends upon the manner in which the Government at this important juncture shapes its policy towards the Balkan peninsula of the East. Not only are administrative affairs at a standstill, but the Government's policy on grave national questions is undecided. Is such a Government, asks the writer, capable of undertaking the difficult task of Treaty Revision and of dealing with the Korean question? Mr. Hoshi hopes that these observations of his may be duly considered by those now in power.

Great excitement has been caused, as already noticed, by the rumour of an alliance between the Government and the Radical party. The nature of the quarrel from which this report came led the majority of the metropolitan papers to attach importance to it; for the Tokyo News Agency, whence the story emanated, is generally supposed to be under the control of the Cabinet, or at least of a certain section of it. Not only has the assertion been flatly denied by the Radical organ, but it has also been withdrawn by the News Agency itself. Other papers, however, refuse to dismiss it so easily. Three hypotheses are advanced; first, that the rumour was fabricated by "the cunning Choshu statesmen" to sow seeds of dissension in the camp of the Opposition; secondly, that it originated with certain members of the Cabinet who are not at all pleased with the ascendancy which Count Goto and Mr. Kono have obtained in the Government; and thirdly, that it is in the main true. The first two opinions are confined to the Opposition organs, while the third is generally advanced by the independent section of the press. It is believed by the latter that there exists some sort of understanding between an influential Minister of State (needless to say that Count Goto is referred to) and leading members of the *Fiyu-to*. The new programme which the Radicals are about to make public is expected to be much more moderate than their existing one; while, on the other hand, the Cabinet is reported to be meditating a conciliatory policy towards the *Fiyu-to*. It is quite possible that some of the Tosa members of the Radical party, who are supposed to be not unfriendly to Count Goto, may, upon certain conditions, take office; but it is incredible that the *Fiyu-to*, as a party, will become an open ally of the Government. The *Nichi Nichi* insists that, whatever may be the truth about the reported alliance between the Government and the Radical party, it is a fact that the recent conduct of both is calculated to arouse public suspicion and doubt. Our contemporary earnestly hopes that Ministers of State will take prompt measures to effectually dispel the gathering mist of popular perplexity.

Mr. Kono's appointment to the Home Office was at first greeted with delight by the Opposition papers, especially the *Kaishin-to* organs. The Home Office has long been regarded as the head-quarters of clan influence, and especially of Choshu elements. The Opposition papers welcomed the new Minister of Home Affairs as the only man who could be expected to introduce a thorough change into his Department, and to effectually break up the species of political league which half a dozen influential Governors are believed to maintain for the preservation of Clan Government.

He was in particular entreated to meet out due punishment to local authorities who had impaired the rights and interests of the people by actively interfering in the last general elections. The *Mainichi Shimbun* was even sanguine enough to expect him to remedy all the evils alleged to prevail in the Government. It is scarcely necessary to remark that the expectations of these papers have little chance of being gratified. It is already observable that the Progressionist organs feel no small amount of chagrin on finding that their high hopes are not likely to be realized. One of them, the *Hochi Shimbun*, cries out, almost in as many words, that after all Mr. Kono is not independent enough to free himself from the benumbing effect of his environment. The event which has so suddenly chilled the ardour of fond expectancy on the part of these papers is the recent change of posts between a few local Governors. "What we demand," they say "is not a mere interchange of posts, but the positive punishment of objectionable local authorities." The Opposition journals infer that the object of Mr. Kono's transfer to the Home Office was merely to try to conciliate the Popular Party by means of the usual childish policy of patch work (*biko* 補綴).

As to the abrogation of Consular jurisdiction in the case of Portuguese residents, we stated in our last weekly summary that the vernacular press had unanimously approved the justice and propriety of the course taken by the Japanese Government. Several articles have since been published, and we find that all the papers advise the Government to stand firmly by the position it has taken, and never to yield to Portugal, whatever pressure she may bring for the recovery of the lost privilege. The press avails itself of the present opportunity to urge upon the Cabinet the importance of speedily proceeding with the task of Treaty Revision. If the Government adopts a strong policy for the recovery of the national rights, it may count upon the effective support of the nation. Several papers also devote space to exposing the absurdity of the views that have been ventilated on this subject in the columns of certain foreign local journals. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* article on this subject deserves special notice.

The *Kokkai* has a somewhat peculiar historical essay on Portugal. It is a lamentable coincidence, says our contemporary, that the year which has witnessed such a signal manifestation of Portugal's impotence should happen to be the four hundredth anniversary of the allotment, by Pope Alexander VI., of all the non-Christian lands in the eastern hemisphere to the arms of mighty Portugal. It is also strange that the country which first carried the seeds of European civilization to this Empire should be the first to lose her prestige. Such a fall in a Kingdom's fortunes cannot be viewed without pain. Portugal's policy, says our contemporary, has been to avoid contact with any Power stronger than herself and to direct her energy against weaker nations. This, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, is the cause of her decline. Not that the Portuguese individually lack great qualities; on the contrary, they possess such qualities in plenty. Their high aspirations of former days are shown by Camoens' "Os Lusíadas." Good lessons may be learned from Portugal's history; and our contemporary recommends the Authorities to show equal courage and decision in dealing with stronger Powers.

The vernacular press continues to bestow much attention upon the Korean question. The papers urge the Government to adopt a decided policy towards the peninsular Kingdom. The *Fiji Shimpō* writes on the subject at considerable length, recommending the Government to shape an active policy, and thus divert into a foreign channel the nation's energy, now being wasted in useless struggle of internal politics. Our contemporary enters into so many details that it may be desirable to give its article fuller notice from

THE ELECTIONS.

IN the Parliament of the United Kingdom there are :—

English members	465
Welsh members	30
Scotch members	72
Irish members	103

Total 670

The division of these, according to parties, on the eve of the general elections now in progress, was as follows :—

English, Welsh, Scotch. Totals.			
Conservatives and Liberal Unionists	323...	5...	28 ... 356
Gladstonians	142...	25...	44 ... 211
	465	30	72 567

Ireland.	
Conservatives	17
Parnellites	31
Anti-Parnellites.	55

Total 103

Now our latest returns, as telegraphed by Reuter, are :—

Conservatives	228	} 268
Unionists	40	
Gladstonians	215	} 257
Anti-Parnellites	42	
Parnellites	7	

532

Hence there are 138 constituencies still to be heard from. What are these constituencies? Probably the majority of them are Irish and Scotch. It will be observed that the Liberal Unionists have succeeded in carrying only 40 seats against 64 which they held at the time of the dissolution: the great loss has been on their side, which looks as though the constituencies had rebelled against CHAMBERLAIN and HARTINGTON'S desertion of their old leader. Setting aside these questions, however, it seems to us that the undetermined constituencies are probably divided thus :—

Scotland	72
Ireland	39
England and Wales	27

And of these it may be anticipated that Ireland will give the Gladstonians 37, Scotland will give 44, and England and Wales will give 15. Thus the final result would be :

Conservatives and Liberal Unionists	310
Gladstonians and Irish Nationalists	360

But in this calculation we include the whole of the Irish Nationalists among Mr. GLADSTONE'S followers, whereas it is possible that REDMOND'S Section may vote with the Conservatives. Apparently that section is not likely to carry more than 10 or 12 constituencies. Even supposing, therefore, that they join the Conservative camp, GLADSTONE would still have a majority of from 26 to 30. We can scarcely conceive, however, that when the House of Commons divides on the question of Home Rule, any Irish Nationalist, be he Parnellite or anti-Parnellite, will venture to vote against GLADSTONE. Hence the picturesque old man—and we strongly suspect that the romance connected with his age and courageous perseverance has had more influence upon many voters than any political reasoning—will find himself at the head of a party out-numbering its opponents by 40 or 50. Of course under such circumstances

he will attempt to carry Home Rule, and the chances of his success are at least as great as the chances of his failure. It is not easy to decipher exactly what his Home Rule programme is, but we read it to be something of this kind :—first, a Parliament and a Cabinet in Dublin; secondly, the Customs, Army and Navy, and Viceroyalty permanently under Imperial control; thirdly, the Constabulary temporarily—say for 5 or 7 years—under Imperial control, and then placed under the Dublin Authorities; fourthly, the Judiciary, Magistrates, and local government under the Irish Parliament; and fifthly, a certain number of Irishmen—say 40 or 50—sitting in the House at Westminster to discuss and vote on Imperial (not English, Scotch, or Irish) questions. We should then see TIM HEALY either Prime Minister or Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Probably he would prefer the latter, as he would doubtless become a peer of the realm, and die as staunch a Conservative as they make them. But we might also see Ulster take the field. Those thirty thousand men that sang the Covenanters' Hymn and "God Save the Queen" are terribly in earnest. Nothing was more impressive about their proceedings than the quiet self-contained speech of the leader of the Orangemen. A dog that bites does not bark, and we know what the bite of the Orangemen means. Thirty thousand of them would march through Ireland from end to end, just walking over the Ribbonmen and Parnellites, unless the red-coats interfered. From that kind of "battle, murder, and sudden death" we may well pray "Good Lord deliver us." And it is all for the sake of giving the Grand Old Man another chance before he gets both of his feet into the grave. Party Government is a charming institution. From that, too, we are inclined to pray "Good Lord deliver us!"

THE HYOGO HOTEL CASE.

OF the extent to which faith in individuals is carried among foreign trading communities in the East, in other words, of the preponderating value that attaches to credit, a striking example is furnished by the Hotel case recently tried in H.B.M.'s Court for Hyogo and Osaka. Mr. W. JOHNSON lived in Kobe almost as long as the place had been open to foreign residence. During that time he was successful in business. He started the *Hyogo News*, and contrary to the general experience of foreign journals in Japan, the paper proved a money-making concern. He started the Hyogo Hotel, and that too seemed to be a lucrative affair. Above all, throughout the period—nearly a quarter of a century—covered by these ventures, he steered a perfectly straight course through all the devious paths of trade and traffic, so that, in 1891, he enjoyed the reputation of a successful business-man and the credit of a strictly honorable

dealer. A merchant with such a record behind him in the East can do what he pleases. He could command confidence and wield influence anywhere, but his power is especially great in the small foreign communities at the open ports of China and Japan, where everybody knows everybody, and where, in consequence, there exists a marked tendency to play the game of "follow my leader." In 1891 it occurred to JOHNSON that the Hyogo Hotel might be profitably converted into a joint stock enterprise. Yokohama had furnished examples with apparently happy results. He therefore approached the owner of the land on which the Hotel stood, and found him willing to sell for a sum which, if invested at 5 per cent., would produce approximately the revenue then derived from the land. This meant something like a hundred and thirty thousand dollars per acre, but the site was good and the sea-frontage valuable. Adding to the price of the land and buildings a certain sum for good-will, furniture, stock, and so forth, an aggregate of \$175,000 was reached, and JOHNSON proposed that this should represent the capital of the company. He prepared a prospectus declaring that the Hotel might be reasonably expected to pay 15 per cent. annually on the above capital, and without the least difficulty several of the leading merchants of Kobe associated themselves with the venture, agreed to purchase shares, and to lend their names as provisional directors. They made no scrutiny into the processes by which JOHNSON had reached his estimate of 15 per cent. Having perfect faith in his business capacity and integrity, they accepted the estimate without question, contenting themselves with a somewhat perfunctory inspection of the buildings, the furniture, and the stock. It is possible that these gentlemen were more or less influenced by collateral considerations: they may have detected an opportunity of extending their own business by supplying the Hotel's regular wants. That would have been fair enough in its way. But undoubtedly the main factor that moved them was faith in JOHNSON, while the public was equally influenced by faith in the names of these provisional directors. Thus the whole transaction was completed on a broad basis of confidence. After the lapse of a year, however, a disastrous discovery was made. It was found that a fatally weak link had existed in the chain of trust. The manager of the Hotel, JOHNSON'S employé, had deceived his master, and the Hotel, instead of producing a net monthly revenue of \$2,000—which it should have done in order to give a return of 15 per cent. on \$175,000—had been earning less than a twentieth of that amount during eleven months preceding the formation of the Company. The discovery seems to have astounded JOHNSON at least as much as it astounded any one else. He at once came forward, and

offered to manage the Hotel in the Company's interests for 5 years, guaranteeing a minimum of ten per cent. on the capital fund during that time, and offering sufficient security. This proposal the shareholders refused, and a week afterwards JOHNSON shot himself. Legal proceedings were then instituted against his estate by the Company, who claimed rescission of the deed of sale and other relief, on the plea that JOHNSON had wilfully misrepresented the value of the property when he offered it originally for sale. Now there is no doubt that JOHNSON'S estimate of the prospects of the Hotel was erroneous, and in determining his moral responsibility for the error, two questions at once present themselves: first, as to the hypothesis that he was himself deceived by his Manager, what object could have influenced the latter to render false returns of the earnings of the Hotel; secondly, is it reasonably conceivable that JOHNSON could have been so far misled as to imagine that an enterprise, which in reality brought him only \$88 a month, was furnishing an income of about \$2,000. As to the first question, there is a simple answer: the Manager, being paid according to the profits, had a direct interest in magnifying them. As to the second, the explanation appears to be that JOHNSON, being habitually careless about accounts, and having actually made large profits out of the Hotel in former years, may readily have accepted the statements of his Manager with reference to a period of a few months. The latter assumption disturbs the faith previously placed in JOHNSON'S business capacities, but it is proverbial that men who deserve trust are themselves trusting. On the other side of the account have to be set three items. First, JOHNSON sold the goodwill at a very moderate figure. Admitting that he believed the Hotel to be worth an income of from ten to twenty thousand dollars annually, he certainly gave no evidence of a grasping disposition in his method of capitalizing that income. Secondly, he took one-third of the stock himself, and never attempted to "unload," as he would have done in all probability had he been seeking to exploit the public. Thirdly, so soon as the deceit practised by his Manager was discovered, he came forward frankly and made an offer which proved his faith in the future of the Hotel, and his strong desire to do justice—an offer, the refusal of which must now be a bitter retrospect to the shareholders. Casting up the two sides of the account, and remembering the high character for integrity borne by JOHNSON during twenty-five years of active business life, it is impossible not to conclude that the balance is strongly in favour of his probity throughout. Still, if the Company chose to test this question in a Law Court, they were not without grounds for making the venture. But they went a great deal further. Not only did they charge JOHNSON

with deliberately deceiving them as to the earnings of the Hotel, but they also alleged against him that he had misrepresented the value of the land, the state of the buildings and the furniture, and the quality of the stock. This latter contention imparted an unfortunate complexion to the affair. The shrewdest folks may easily become victims of culpable negligence practised by one whom they trust in respect of information to which he alone has ready access. But when, eighteen months after effecting a purchase, practical men of business come into a Law Court and pray for relief from the consequences of their own negligence, the incident becomes comical. The land on which the Hotel stood, the buildings of which it consisted, the furniture with which it was equipped, and the stock with which it was supplied—all these things were open to be examined and assessed by the Company at the time of acquiring them. It is entirely unbusiness-like and absurd that their purchasers, eighteen months after acquiring them with open eyes, should complain that they had kept their eyes closed, and claim that they ought to be indemnified for not having duly exercised their powers of vision in their own interests. But the whole affair was in keeping: from the extreme of trusting JOHNSON implicitly, the Company passed to the opposite extreme of distrusting him *in toto*. The cold analysis of a skilled Judge and the conscientious verdict of an intelligent Jury combined to defeat the Company at every point, and to rehabilitate the memory of an unfortunate man, who, after a long career of untarnished honour, found nothing but a pistol bullet to save him from the companionship of intolerable disgrace. It must remain a subject of perpetual regret that JOHNSON'S straightforward and liberal offer of reparation was not accepted. Things might now have been very different.

BEQUESTS OF ART TREASURES.

THE Americans are a remarkably liberal and public-spirited people. Time and again one reads of valuable collections of works of art donated by wealthy collectors to Museums. Most of the new or old Museums in the great cities of the Republic appear to be engaged in filling their cases with objects of vertu, and most of the monied Americans seem to be occupied assisting the performance. But we are occasionally constrained to wonder what can be the object of the process. To furnish the museums with beautiful examples of art, will be the ready reply of most persons, and a satisfactory reply it is, doubtless, so far as it goes. We imagine, however, that the Museums aim at something more. We imagine that they desire to instruct as well as to attract the public. Such, at any rate, is the purpose kept in view by directors and curators of Museums in other parts of the world, and as one means

of achieving it, no pains are spared to establish the authenticity of the specimens displayed, to arrange them intelligently and to catalogue them correctly. In America, however, it seems to be a matter of indifference how far the public are misled by the contents of a museum, or how ridiculous the Museum's descriptions may appear in the eyes of people possessing any expert knowledge. A case in point is the Metropolitan Museum in New York. It is generally reported that this Museum possesses a quantity of exquisite and valuable specimens, and the press informs us that the rich assemblage has now been increased by the generosity of the late Mr. E. C. MOORE, who bequeathed to the Museum his collection of objects of vertu obtained from nearly all parts of the world. A leading New York journal prefaces its description of the collection with the following words:—

To be a collector of art objects which have an immediate as well as a historical and chronological value, implies that the collector must have a mind trained to a point of education in art matters to be able to distinguish at a glance the real from the bogus and determine instantly the value of the object, from all the different standpoints of chronology, history, advancement in the particular school from which the object springs, degree of civilization of the people from among whom the object is taken, and last, but not least important, the pecuniary value of the object itself, whatever it may be. Few collectors there are who possess all these attributes, as many with fine artistic temperaments will be found paying enormous prices for absolutely worthless articles, bogus imitations of the antique and attractive only for their flashy gaudiness or hideous grotesqueness.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Central Park is peculiarly fortunate in recently coming into possession of a priceless collection of art objects gathered from every portion of the globe by a man who possessed all the virtues of an infallible judgment as to the age, artistic worth, and commercial value of each article, without any of the shortcomings or faults which many collectors have.

After such an eulogy one is justified in expecting that the donated collection will contain nothing which is not authentic, and which does not satisfy the simple condition of being what its catalogue description represents it to be. But the accounts published by the press show a very different state of affairs. A flower vase of Kutani porcelain, the picture of which enables us to state with certainty that it was made within the past 15 years at the kiln of TAKENOUCHI KINSHO or MATSUMOTO SAHEI, is attributed to the seventeenth century, and this glaring error is supplemented by the still more absurd statement that "in the days when this pottery was made in Japan these vases were used in carrying water for the Shoguns, a bail being placed in the ear-rings." Then we have a picture of a jar "representing a fountain at which two women are drawing water." This is "supposed to antedate the sixteenth century," though it evidently belongs to the era of modern forgeries. Similar antiquity is assigned to a cup of Satsuma faience, the compiler of the catalogue being evidently ignorant of the elementary fact that no such faience was made in Satsuma before the seventeenth century. Reading on, we find the following:—

Undoubtedly the gem of all the pieces is an open work rose leaf jar about ten inches in height, decorated in gold, blue, and red glaze. This is finely traced with flowers, and has upon the open work of the jar a pheasant in full flight. This is the famous Inari ware of the sixteenth century, considered so valuable and esteemed so highly in Japan, and which is very rare in the present age.

It is a small matter that the "pheasant in full flight" is not a pheasant at all, but a crane.

Hōo, though the blunder illustrates the cataloguer's extreme ignorance of Oriental art motives. Much more startling is it to be told that such a jar dates from the sixteenth century, and that old Imari ware is very rare in the present age; the truth being that no specimens of the kind were produced in the sixteenth century, and that old Imari ware is the only fine porcelain in Japan which cannot yet be said to have become rare. But the crowning absurdity of the catalogue is reached when we are informed that "the Japanese collection contains several rare and valuable specimens of peach-blow ware, supposed to have been made in the sixteenth century." We find it perplexing to conceive ignorance so gross. There never was a specimen of peach-blow ware, or of anything resembling it, made in Japan until men like MAKUZU and TAKEMOTO set themselves, within the past five years, to produce partially successful imitations of this beautiful Chinese glaze. If any estimate of the genuineness of the rest of the MOORE collection may be deduced from these descriptions of the Japanese portion, the Metropolitan Museum must have an interesting and amusing group of shams exposed in its cases and on its shelves. The uses of such assemblages of specimens are not easy to apprehend. They serve chiefly to deceive the public by conveying a wholly false impression of the art they profess to illustrate.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

WITH respect to the question between Japan and Portugal, we observe the prevalence of a misapprehension fatal to anything like distinct understanding of the situation. It is again and again asserted that the question lies between merchant Consuls and professional Consuls, and by way of corollary to this false impression it is stated that Japan, to be consistent, must now proceed to take towards all Powers represented by trading Consuls the same step that she has taken towards Portugal. But the facts are very different. Portugal is held to have abrogated her treaty privileges, not because she employs merchant consuls, but because she does not employ any Consuls invested with proper judicial authority. Nobody has ever been found to defend the system of trading Consuls on its own merits. The only excuse offered for it is that minor Powers with small interests in Japan cannot be expected to incur the expense of maintaining salaried judicial officials. To such an argument the simple reply is that Powers so circumstanced ought to hand over their jurisdiction to the trained official Consuls of some of the Great States. There are numerous precedents for that course in Japan, and were it adopted by all the lesser Powers, the Japanese would be deprived of one very

grave cause of just dissatisfaction. But although complaining that merchant Consuls cannot be considered competent judicial officers, and that to entrust to them the exercise of the jurisdiction of which Japan has been deprived by the treaties is to neglect the constructive obligations imposed by those instruments, Japan has never insisted upon any practical application of this contention. Her procedure towards Portugal has not been based upon any such grounds. Had Portugal nominated, at the outset, merchant Consuls at the various ports, and invested them with the same degree of judicial authority possessed by the trading Consuls of other small Powers, Japan, doubtless, would have made no protest, nor taken any step such as she has now taken. But Portugal did nothing of the kind. The trading Consuls appointed by her after the conclusion of her treaty with Japan were not entrusted with judicial authority as are the trading Consuls of other States. Their functions did not extend beyond those of a committing magistrate. Before punishing a breach of the law or administering justice in a civil suit, they had to place themselves in communication with the Governor of Macao, from whom alone they could derive authority to exercise judicial functions for the purposes of any case. An attempt has been made to condone this singularly defective system by adducing the fact that the Supreme Court in Shanghai is the tribunal of appeal for cases tried before HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Court in Japan. It is astonishing that such confusion of ideas should exist. The British Court in Japan is fully equipped in every sense. It is competent to render direct decisions in all civil suits, and is invested with power to pronounce even capital sentences in criminal cases. That litigants desiring to appeal from its judgments must carry their pleadings to a tribunal separated from Japan by hundreds of miles of sea, is undoubtedly a hardship and a defect. But the difficulty is not to be mentioned in the same breath with the original Portuguese system, under which the course of justice had to be delayed altogether until reference could be made to an authority at a much greater distance from Japan than Lisbon is from London. Such a system was plainly open to the gravest objections, and Japan objected as long ago as 1882. This fact must not be forgotten. It must not be supposed that the manner of exercising Portuguese jurisdiction in Japan came under international discussion for the first time a few months ago. It came under international discussion in 1882, and Portugal then agreed to appoint a Consul-General in Tokyo. Even in carrying out this agreement, however, she failed to amend all the defects previously existing, for the Consul-General's jurisdiction was limited to the Tokyo district, and reference to Macao still continued to be a necessary preliminary to

the exercise of judicial functions by any of the trading Consuls at the other ports. A resulting miscarriage of justice in 1886 directed attention once more to the system, and in consequence of representations made by the Japanese Government, Portugal introduced certain reforms in 1887. Briefly stated, these reforms were that the trading Consuls at the ports were reduced to the status of Vice-Consuls; that the Consulate-General in Tokyo became the tribunal of reference and the enabling authority, instead of the Governor of Macao, and that the Consul-General was empowered, in cases of any gravity, to proceed to the place and conduct the trial *in loco*. Thus in 1887 for the first time Portugal organized in Japan a system of jurisdiction which, though it shared with the systems of some other minor Powers the grave defect of being administered by men without any legal qualifications, was at any rate nominally competent to secure the preservation of good order and to render justice between suitors. We must observe, too, that the establishment of this system having been the outcome of Japanese official representations, Portugal was under the obligation of not abolishing or radically altering it without due reference to Japan. Portugal, however, ignored not only this obligation, but also the obligation, constructively imposed on her by treaty, of providing an efficient substitute for the jurisdiction of which she had deprived Japan. She resolved upon the abolition of the Consulate-General in Tokyo; did not communicate her resolve in any way to Japan, and made no provision whatever to reconstitute the system of jurisdiction which, by this step, would be altogether dislocated. Japan protested, but her protests seem to have been treated with complete indifference. She saw that Portugal was about to upset all the judicial arrangements made, after official consultation, five years previously, and she necessarily objected. Finding, however, that her remonstrances received no attention, she finally announced that, in the absence of any machinery for the judicial control of Portuguese subjects in the Japanese empire, she herself should assume jurisdiction over them after a certain date. Portugal might have averted this result with the greatest ease. She had only to intimate that steps would be taken to reconstruct a proper system; or that the judicial control of her subjects should be entrusted to the competent Consuls of some other Power; or even that she desired delay. The matter was in her own hands. But she neglected it altogether, and when, on the eve of the date fixed, the Japanese Representative again invited the attention of the Foreign Office in Lisbon, the only notice he could obtain was that Portugal would answer in due time. It will be plain from this narrative of simple facts that Portugal has been deprived of her extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan, not because she en-

trusted its exercise to trading Consuls, but because, having removed the machinery which she had agreed to establish for the purpose, she neglected to provide any substitute, despite the strong remonstrances offered by Japan. Whatever may be asserted to the contrary by ill-informed writers, it is nevertheless a fact that, prior to the issue of Japan's recent Ordinance, there did not exist in this country, for the judicial control of Portuguese subjects, any arrangements that could be recognised as reasonably competent even when judged by the standard of Powers employing trading Consuls only. We do not imagine that any thinking person will be found to pretend that Japan should have folded her arms in the presence of such a flagrantly defective state of affairs. Prior to 1886 she could plead ignorance of the exact nature of the Portuguese system, but thenceforth she possessed the knowledge of experience, and it would have been deliberate self stultification for her to tacitly condone in 1892 an abuse which, in a less accentuated form, she had taken international steps to correct in 1886. Again we say that Portugal might have averted this unpleasant conjuncture with the greatest ease. One word from the Government at Lisbon prior to the 14th of July would have induced the Japanese Government to hold its hand. But Portugal apparently did not think the contingency worthy of a word, though it had cost the Japanese Government a good many despatches and telegrams. And, so far as we can ascertain, Portugal, recognising that the case has gone against her by deliberate default, now refrains from offering any remonstrance.

SHAKESPEARE IN GERMANY.

IF the glory of SHAKESPEARE was, during the Puritan period, temporarily eclipsed even in England, we need not be surprised to find that among the nations of the Continent he was for a long time considered a barbarous bard. This opinion was largely based on his violations of generally accepted rules, such as his mingling together of tragic and comic elements, and his disregard of the dramatic unities. With LESSING and WIELAND, SCHILLER, and GOETHE, Germany's classical period began, and with it began also a fuller appreciation of SHAKESPEARE'S genius. In this respect LESSING was the forerunner of a new era, while SCHILLER and GOETHE were not behind him in he esteem in which they held the Avont bard, though neither of them would permit German authors to be seized by Anglo-mania after both had so essentially contributed to free the literature of their country from the dominion of French models. The power of SHAKESPEARE'S genius was not to be underestimated. BYRON, for instance, fully recognised the necessity of guarding his literary

individuality against SHAKESPEARE'S overwhelming influence. How serious, even for a GOETHE, seemed the danger of a new god from beyond the channel being set up in place of the dethroned idols from the banks of the Seine, may be seen from the following very remarkable confession, words that are a greater tribute to the "Myriad-minded" than the most fulsome eulogy could possibly have been:—"SHAKESPEARE," says GOETHE, "in even too rich and powerful. A productive nature ought not to read more than one of his dramas in a year, if it would not be wrecked entirely. I did well to get rid of him by writing GOETZ and EGMONT; and BYRON did well by not having too much respect and admiration for him, but going his own way. How many excellent Germans have been ruined by him and CALDERON! SHAKESPEARE gives us golden apples in silver salvers. We get, indeed, the silver salvers by studying his works; but, unfortunately, we have only potatoes to put into them." For a long time the friends of SHAKESPEARE were without any organization in Germany, but in 1864, at the three hundredth anniversary of his birth, the German Shakespeare Society was founded under favourable auspices, and with the special countenance and support of the art-loving Grand-Duchess SOPHIA of Saxe-Weimar. This society has ever since been the centre of the admirers and students of the English bard, and possesses the finest SHAKESPEARE library in Germany. At its last annual meeting, held in Weimar as usual, it was announced that the German EMPEROR, the Prince-Regent of Bavaria, and the Grand-Duke of Baden had become members, and thus the society now numbers on its roll no less than twelve sovereigns and princes. Of its recently published popular edition of SHAKESPEARE'S works in German, no less than 17,000 copies have been already sold. The society's orator at its last meeting, Dr. KLUGE, of Jena, laid considerable stress on the copious vocabulary of SHAKESPEARE, whose works contain 20,000 different words, against only 9,000 of the Iliad and Odyssey, a fact chiefly due to SHAKESPEARE'S wonderfully detailed acquaintance with all the various phases of life, especially with hunting, for he gives above a hundred names of birds alone. His influence on the German language was also dwelt upon, and a list of German words derived from SHAKESPEARE'S works as translated by KLOPSTOCK and WIELAND was given.

TALK ABOUT THE "JIYU-TO."

MR. OI KENTARO'S section, the *Kwanto-Kai*, has the good fortune to attract a great deal of attention in its passage from the ranks of the *Jiyu-to* to independence. The latest explanation of the secession comes from the Tokyo News

Agency, which says that there is believed to be a deep reason for the step taken by the *Kwanto-Kai*. Mr. OI and his followers were practically at one with the *Jiyu-to* for all essential purposes, and the impulse on their part to secede, as well as on the part of the Radicals to promote their secession, did not originate with Count ITAGAKI, nor yet with the managers of the *Jiyu-to*, nor yet with the extremists outside the party, but with certain leading members of the *Jiyu-to*, who, having entered into private relations with some of the statesmen in power, saw the advisability of extruding the uncompromising element of the party. As to the nature of the agreement, the Agency says nothing, and indeed it has now withdrawn the story as baseless. But we cannot absolutely accept the withdrawal, and at any rate a very curious and important issue is involved in this rumour, supposing it to be credible. Close observers have from the first foretold that the course of Japanese politics must ultimately reach a point where a separation would occur among the statesmen of the *Meiji* era, one section allying themselves with the Opposition of the time, and the other joining hands with the nominal supporters of the Government. Not until that occurred, said these students of events, could any political party be regarded as possessing competence to assume the administration of State affairs at any moment. In other words, not until that occurred could the country claim to be equipped with political parties worthy the name. This prediction, always seeming to be well founded, appears now to be on the eve of fulfillment. The Radical Party has of late undergone a process of disintegration which may be regarded, not unreasonably, as the elimination of its most violent elements. Mr. OI KENTARO takes with him the "desperate coterie" (*yakhi-gumi*) and leaves behind him the men who, after the prorogation during the last session, consented to resume business quietly, and declined to follow the war-to-the-knife tactics of the *Kaishin-to*. Much more unlikely things have happened than would be an alliance between this purified *Jiyu-to* and some of the *Meiji* statesmen. But which *Meiji* statesmen? A line of demarcation seems to be gradually defining itself between those now in office and those out of office. It is becoming daily less difficult to conceive that men like Count ITO and his numerous supporters, might form themselves into a camp excluding a considerable section of the politicians who have hitherto worked with him. There is this perplexing element in the outlook, however, namely, that Count ITO, Count INOUE, and their friends are understood to be conservative in the sense of denying the country's fitness for party government, and advocating complete absence of connection between the Cabinet and any political party. Neither with the *Jiyu-to*, therefore, nor yet

with the *Kaishin-to*, nor yet with the *Koku-min-Kyokai* can we expect to see Count ITO openly allied. Given, on the one hand, divisions growing constantly more solid between political parties, and on the other, divisions seeming to develop themselves between the *Meiji* statesmen, we appear to possess elements out of which it ought to be possible to construct a result without much trouble. But for our own part we experience great difficulty in conceiving any issue consistent at once with these happenings and with the principles assigned to the leading statesmen of the era. It is, at all events, a situation full of interest, and its outcome, which cannot now be very distant, will throw much light on the probable working of representative institutions in Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"BLAINE'S DEFEAT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your editorial, entitled "Blaine's Defeat," in this week's *Mail*, you make the following statement:—"Somebody once said of Blaine, 'We honour him for the sake of the enemies he has made.'" I think you are somewhat in error in this statement. At the Democratic Convention held in 1884, in Chicago, at which Mr. Cleveland was nominated, language like the above was used, but it was applied to Mr. Cleveland and not to Mr. Blaine. I happened to be present at the time, and was impressed with the occurrence. It was as follows:—At the time General Bragg of Wisconsin had the platform and was seconding the nomination of Mr. Cleveland. Tammany Hall, under the leadership of Mr. Kelly, their Grand Sachem, assisted by several younger lights, Grady, Cochran, et al., had been bitterly opposing Mr. Cleveland, endeavouring in every way to prejudice his interests. Mr. Grady, a young New York lawyer, had just finished a speech in which he had bitterly denounced the New York Governor. He was followed by General Bragg, who was equally strong in his praises of him. Right in the midst of Gen. Bragg's speech Mr. Grady jumped to his feet and said: "But Mr. Cleveland has enemies," "Yes," replied the old soldier, without a moment's hesitation while pointing his finger at the Tammany Hall delegation, "and we love him for the enemies he has made." The application was obvious and the effect produced was tremendous. It was some while before the old hero could proceed with his speech.

I always couple the above incident in my mind with another that occurred at the Convention, probably the same day. It was as follows:—Gov. Abbot of New Jersey was on the floor making a speech, when some man in the gallery shouted out, "louder." The Governor courteously recognized the request and raised his voice; but again the man shouted out "louder," and again Governor Abbot responded to the request. But the man was not satisfied, for, for the third time, he cried out "louder." This time the speaker stopped, and, pointing his finger towards the man who had raised the cry, he said: "I believe that when the Apocalyptic Angel shall stand with one foot on sea and the other on land, and shall declare that time shall be no more, some damned fool from Chicago will cry out 'louder!'" It is hardly necessary to say that the disturber subsided.

Yours, &c.,
Kobe, July 11th, 1892.

"CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one interested in Chinese matters I read with regret, in your yesterday's issue, the paragraph headed "A Silly Person." Some remarks are there made upon, and a few extracts quoted from, a work which, although its title is not given, I take to be the "Chinese Characteristics," by the Rev. Arthur H. Smith. While admitting that you have not seen the volume in question, your article goes on to say:—"Our notion is that

Mr. Smith will endeavour to limit its circulation to remote districts of Europe, for if it comes out here where the Chinese are known, he will be laughed at as heartily as he deserves. His silly facetiae cannot even aspire to be caricatures of the people whom he so grossly misrepresents. The man is evidently an ignorant prig who does not hesitate to base monstrously ridiculous generalizations on his own equally monstrous ignorance."

I find it hard to believe that this well-known work has not yet penetrated to Japan, and that it has not been favourably received here by those who know the Chinese character. For in China—where it may be assumed the Chinese are as well known as they are in Japan—since the articles which were afterwards embodied in this book first appeared in the *North China Daily News*, Mr. Smith has been generally recognized as a high authority upon the Chinese national character, this book as the standard work on the subject. If my memory serves me right, a reference to the files of the now defunct *Chinese Times*, of some three years ago, will show that so high an authority on China as Mr. Alex. Michie asks that the valuable articles then appearing in his contemporary should be put before the public in book form. Mr. B. H. Chamberlain also—surely his opinion on this subject is of value—in "Things Japanese," under the heading of "Japanese People," does not hesitate to recommend "Chinese Characteristics" as reading to residents in Japan "by way both of likeness and of contrast."

I venture to hope, Mr. Editor, that a further study of this work, and a consideration for the authorities I have mentioned, will lead you to modify your dictum of yesterday.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

SINENSIS.

Tokyo, July 14th, 1892.

[We have already explained that our knowledge of Mr. Smith's book was derived entirely from the review in the *St. James's Budget*, a fact which we were careful to note by way of peace to our first comments. Having now procured the book itself, we find that the London journal's review was exceedingly misleading. One example will suffice. The *St. James's Budget* writes as though "intellectual turpitude" were included by Mr. Smith among the attributes of the Chinese race in general. So far this is from being a true reflection of Mr. Smith's view that he actually commences his chapter on "Intellectual turpitude" with the following words:—"In speaking of 'intellectual turpitude' as a Chinese characteristic, we do not wish to be understood as affirming it to be a peculiarity of the Chinese, or that all Chinese possess it. Taken as a whole, the Chinese people seem to be abundantly able to hold their own with any race now extant, and they certainly exhibit no weakness of the intellectual powers, nor any tendency to such a weakness." This is precisely what we ourselves claimed, and it was because Mr. Smith, as misrepresented by the London reviewer, seemed to base a charge of general intellectual turpitude on grounds absurdly slender, that we advanced one of our objections. The fact is, apparently, that the *St. James's Budget* did great injustice to Mr. Smith, and that we, accepting its review as fair and truthful, were betrayed into forming an erroneous impression of his work.—Ed. J.M.]

THE STYLE OF THE BEST LAWN TENNIS PLAYERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A description of the style of play at the Irish Championship Tournament will, I hope, be interesting to tennis players in Japan. The very best play is to be seen at Fitzwilliam Square, for the tournament attracts not only local players but also the strongest from England, and it has now come to be regarded as the most important annual event in the tennis world. An account of the various matches may be read in the *Field*, and I give merely a description of style.

The server stands near the middle, and not at the extremity, of the base line, and invariably serves overhand. Although the service is so swift that the striker-out stands on his base line, hardly any aces are scored directly off service. The racquet is held at the very end, and the ball is struck flatly—I mean that there is no screw. There is a great deal of volleying, and the beautiful placing necessitates a good deal of movement. There is no such thing as a rally in which each player stands on the base line and returns the ball to the feet of his opponent. Some players play much at the net, and in general, a player, having served a difficult ball or given a difficult return, will run forward to the net, especially if his adversary be back at the base line. Some of the most "killing" strokes were those of Stoker, a tall man, who standing at the net would smash the ball down and away with such violence that it would rebound to a height of several feet. But there was no more beautiful play than that of Renshaw, the final victor, who, while perhaps not making more wonderful strokes than others, was remarkable for his ease and grace, for his accurate judging of when to come forward to the net, and when to stand back, in fact for the skill with which he placed himself as well as the ball. When a player would be at the net, his opponent frequently attempted to return the ball high over his head. Sometimes a ball was quietly dropped over the net, instead of being driven with force.

Towards the close of the tournament the matches assumed a somewhat international character, Renshaw being pitted against Pim, and W. Baddeley against Stoker, in each case an Englishman against an Irishman. Renshaw and Stoker were victorious, then Renshaw beat Stoker, and then defeating Lewis, last year's champion, became champion for this year. In the double matches, when one served, his partner stood at the net, and in the ensuing play the players volleyed much, seldom standing much behind the service line.

There were also ladies' matches single and double, and though they played well enough to make short work of us out in Japan, their play was tame compared with the gentlemen's. Their placing was excellent, and some of their strokes were forcible, but their weak point was their slowness in moving about the court. Some of them served underhand. As for their dress, which ladies would like to hear about, I can only say that the favourite costume was a short dark skirt and white bodice, both simply and loosely made so as not to impede motion or breathing. The weather was on the whole favourable, and the square, like all city squares and parks now, was looking lovely with the lilacs, laburnums, and hawthorns in full bloom, and the lawn a perfect green.

One point in style I omitted to mention above, as those with whom I discussed the play did not agree about it, namely, when to strike the ball. It seemed to me that it was generally struck at the height of its bound, but others insisted that the player preferred to wait till it began to drop.

Hoping that you are now having plenty of jolly games,

I remain, yours very truly,

J. N. S.

Dublin, May 30th.

THE N. R. C. AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The racing members of the Nippon Race Club are anxiously awaiting the time when that august body, the committee, in the plenitude of its wisdom, will be ready to vouchsafe to them the skeleton programme for the autumn meeting. They have been waiting for it quite long enough, and not a little ill-feeling has been engendered by the fact that, in spite of members having taken the trouble to evolve programmes in the nature of suggestions, the committee is still apinely indifferent. Members are desirous of seeing a programme, however meagre in details it may be, in order to base their training upon it, and in view of the warring elements in the Club, it may be as well for the committee to take steps at once.

Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER.

July 21st, 1892.

CHRISTIAN INFERENCES AND DEDUCTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I should like to call your attention to an insinuation made by Mr. G. T. Smith in a letter appearing in your columns on the 23rd June, which, as it is to some extent a reflection upon yourself, seems to call for notice. He there remarks that, "any half-fledged student . . . could write such an article (as that written by 'Freethinker'), and by changing his *nom-de-plume* every few weeks, he could convey the impression that there are a number of men of education who hold such views among the readers of the *Mail*." How a half-fledged student can convey the impression of being a man of education, Mr. Smith, who is perhaps an authority, may be left to explain, but the insinuation evidently is that you, Sir, are in the habit of inserting letters from a correspondent who frequently changes his *nom-de-plume* in the course of the discussion. I remember that, a little more than two years ago, you rebuked in very severe terms a correspondent who, if I mistake not, was a missionary, for attempting this very *ruse*, remarking that only consideration for the cause represented by your correspondent prevented your making his name public. It therefore seems only just that you should definitely state that such a method of controversy is never permitted in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, or if no contradiction appears controversialists like Mr. G. T. Smith will assert that your silence proves the insinuation to be justified.

The more I read of Mr. Smith's arguments the more astonished I feel that any man possessing the most elementary code of morality can employ such unscrupulous methods of controversy. In his latest letter he returns to an observation which he had made previously, that Mr. Ingersoll "drinks and swears," and he gives this on the authority of

Original from

an "infidel" paper called *The Truth*, edited by a man named Bennett, who once, at least, says Mr. Smith, "stood in the criminal's dock, in New York City." Now I have already in a previous letter, to which Mr. Smith has discreetly refrained from replying, convicted that gentleman of employing the *suppressio veri, suggestio falsi* style of argument with regard to Thomas Paine, and if I am not mistaken it reappears again in his remarks concerning Mr. Ingersoll. First of all, is Mr. Smith quite sure there is now or has been within the last twenty years an "infidel" publication in New York named *The Truth*? Though an Englishman, I have some acquaintance with free-thought publications in the States, but cannot recall one with this title. Will Mr. Smith kindly give an exact reference to this publication and the number in which the remarkable statement he quotes appears? If he does not I shall enter into communication with Mr. Ingersoll, and he may be assured that the matter will not be allowed to rest. In passing, I should like to call attention to the way in which Mr. Smith refers to Mr. Ingersoll as a "criminal lawyer," in the hope, apparently, that the word "criminal" will, by careless people, be taken in the same sense as if it qualified "grocer" or "missionary." And with regard to Mr. Bennett's once standing in the "criminal" dock, will Mr. Smith kindly tell the readers of the *Japan Mail* whether he was not charged with exactly the same offence preferred against the founder of Christianity, namely, blasphemy against the prevailing religion? Mr. Smith has assailed the Japanese for being indifferent to Truth. I am afraid he is scarcely a judge. He seems to have but the most distant, and bowing acquaintance with the lady.

In a recent letter headed "A Disclaimer," the Rev. T. S. Tyng appears to think that there is no particular need of the Christian community publicly condemning such tactics as those employed by Messrs. Smith and Snodgrass in their attacks on so-called "infidels." I am sorry to hear it, even though in the end these methods assist in discrediting Christianity. One likes to be able to respect one's opponents whatever controversial differences may arise. The late Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, the well-known Secularist, took a much higher view of his responsibilities, and was most severe in condemnation of any conduct which was likely to bring discredit upon the party, either political or religious, to which he belonged. However, this is a matter which more closely concerns those who are within the pale of Christianity than those who are outside of it.

It is curious to notice that Mr. Tyng inclines to the belief that what is good in the lives of those who reject Christianity is owing to their Christian environment—an argument, by the way, which cuts the throat of that other argument, so frequently employed by missionaries, that Japanese Christians are, in consequence of their belief, better than Japanese Buddhists or Shintoists, for evidently the Christian in this country must be affected by his environment. But I can hardly believe Mr. Tyng is serious when he says that Christianity can show "great national communities, living under the influence of their principles, and by them impelled, in generation after generation, to charity and purity and peace," &c. Charity and purity and peace! Peace! with Christian Europe an armed camp and Christian America voting large sums in her turn for armaments! Purity! with the "Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon," with its loathsome revelations of life in the greatest Christian city in the world still fresh in the memory! Charity! with history showing the numberless sects of Christianity ever at each other's throats, and only united in hatred of the heretic! Truly Mr. Tyng's reading of history and knowledge of what goes on around him must be curiously confined. Civilization may be said to have commenced from the moment unbelief was born—from the time that men began to reason on what was right and wrong, instead of allowing the records of a semi-barbarous people to decide for them.

But Mr. Tyng has overlooked what seems a necessary corollary of his "environment" argument. If a Christian environment influences unbelievers for good, how is it that it has no correspondingly effect on bad believers? Mr. Tyng will scarcely assert that there are no unbelievers who act evilly, and yet he argues that unbelievers are quite probably influenced by an environment which has little apparent influence for good on many of those who most thoroughly believe. Christian controversialists seem driven to take up the most curious positions in defence of their creed. But Mr. Tyng is wise enough to see that to take up the position that an evil life necessarily reflects upon the creed of the evil liver might be a dangerous one. There have been too many instances recently of lapses from morality on the

part of prominent Christians, for such an argument to be quite safe.

What would Messrs. Snodgrass and Smith have said had Mrs. Montagu been an unbeliever instead of a sincere Christian? She acted up to her Bible, and, thoroughly believing that to "spare the rod" was to "spoil the child," treated her children with such severity that one of them died under her hand. Commenting on the matter the London *Daily Graphic* says that: "She seems to have been sincerely attached to her children, and her rigorous treatment of them appears to have been due rather to the austerity of her religious convictions than to any lack of motherly instinct." In other words, we have here an instance of what would occur if the teachings of Christianity were rigidly carried out. That, at least, substituting "infidelity" for Christianity, would have been the argument of Mr. Snodgrass had Mrs. Montagu been an unbeliever. In the early part of this year England was horrified by another case of systematic cruelty towards children—this time by a Protestant clergyman in Ireland, the Rev. S. G. Cotton, the scene of the children's martyrdom being the orphanage at Curragh. He also, it appeared, had construed too strictly the passages in the Bible advocating austerity towards children, and found himself the subject of a criminal trial in consequence. Curiously, but a short time before these cases a Bishop, presiding at a meeting of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children in Manchester, said he believed that in most of the cases of cruelty towards children taken up by the Society, the parents of the children held Secularist opinions. Called upon to confirm this, the Rev. Mr. Waugh, the secretary, stated that it was quite correct, thinking perhaps that the remark would not be reported. But it was, and for some time the columns of the Manchester papers were full of indignant letters of protest, in which Dr. Dunkley, the well-known "Verax" of the *Manchester Examiner*, took part. The report of the society was examined, and found to contain no such statement, and eventually the Bishop—I forget at the moment who it was—made a sort of apology, while the reverend secretary said nothing. The latest report of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children is again silent. It could hardly advance the falsehood again after the cases of Mrs. Montagu and the Rev. Mr. Cotton. Whatever opinion may be held of the Rev. Mr. Waugh, there is no need to accuse the Bishop of deliberately propagating falsehood. He simply took no trouble to ascertain that what in his opinion ought to be true was true—a mistake into which Christian controversialists too often fall.

What do Mr. Snodgrass and Mr. Smith think of the case of Mr. Hastings, one of the most religious members of the House of Commons, who was recently sentenced to a term of imprisonment for ruining two ladies by appropriating trust-moneys to his own use? And what of Captain Verney, another intensely religious member of the House of Commons? Captain Verney was in the habit of presiding at Social Purity meetings and religious meetings of the Exeter Hall type, and yet was not long since sentenced to a year's imprisonment for inveigling a young girl to Paris and endeavouring there to take advantage of her unprotected state, while it was proved at the trial that this was not by any means the first attempt this scoundrel had made at the abduction and ruin of English girls. Perhaps he thought that compared with the act commanded in Numbers, xxxi. 17-18, forming part of his standard of faith and morals, his action was a very venial and innocent one. But what would Mr. Smith and Mr. Snodgrass have said had he been a prominent unbeliever instead of a prominent Christian?

When, still more recently, the desk of Mr. Jaeger, the clerk who robbed Messrs. Rothschild of such a large sum of money, was opened, it was found to contain nothing but a Bible. What does Mr. Snodgrass infer from this? What would he have inferred had a free-thought publication been found therein? What does Mr. Snodgrass say to a suggestion that Mr. Jaeger had been studying that story in which the Israelites were commanded by Jehovah to "borrow" from the Egyptians "jewels of silver and jewels of gold" without the slightest intention of returning them? Deeming, too, who has lately been executed, he also, it appears, was a very religious man, and regularly attended church about the time he was busy burying his murdered wife and children under a layer of concrete. Up to the last the papers report that he diligently studied his Bible; perhaps he could not understand how it was that David, with all his murders, could be there held up as a pattern—"a man after God's own heart"—while in these latter degenerate days people get hanged for acting similarly. Perhaps he thought it a curious and contradictory world which could profess to use as a standard of faith and morals the imperfect teach-

ings and unsound ethics of a book long since outgrown.

At any rate, I commend these eminent Christians to the notice of Mr. Smith and Mr. Snodgrass, and they will find that the details of their lives are founded on far better authority than the libels on Thomas Paine by Bishop McIlvaine, who, as I am astonished to learn, is considered by Mr. Tyng "a very careful and fair-minded writer." I have not seen the book referred to, but if the extracts given by Mr. Snodgrass are fair samples of the Bishop's fair-minded and careful writing, it would be interesting to have a definition of what Mr. Tyng means by the words he uses. Mr. Tyng is quite mistaken in believing that "most of the counterbalancing evidence which has discredited Cheetham was not accessible" at the time (1831) Bishop McIlvaine wrote. Cheetham's book is, a recent writer has put it, "so gross in its aspersions, so patently malignant in its general drift, that no reader of average judgment, unless much swayed by prejudice, can well suppose it to be a true record;" but, more than this, its falsehoods were exposed almost as soon as the book appeared by contemporaries of Paine, and yet this "fair-minded writer," Bishop McIlvaine, repeats it all as if it had never been contradicted, as if one person living at the time the book was published had not secured damages for libel against its author, and as if the discredited falsehoods were proved facts. This notwithstanding, Mr. Tyng still speaks of him as "careful" and "fair-minded." Zeal for creed carries men to strange lengths.

Yours, &c.

July 17th, 1892.

[Correspondence by the same person using different names of plume and writing on the same subject has never been admitted to these columns.—Ed. J.M.]

SECLARIAN.

YOKOHAMA TOWAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The second annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Yokohama Towage Company, Limited, was held in the Chamber of Commerce on Friday week, Mr. O. Keil in the chair. There were also present Messrs. R. M. Varnum, J. Lindsley, T. M. Laffin, S. D. Hepburn, M. Andreis, T. L. Brower, G. Charlesworth, H. M. Arnold, and A. Weston.

Mr. BROWER was appointed minute clerk.

The CHAIRMAN said that he need not read aloud to them the notice calling the meeting, as they had all received it. He would do the same with the minutes of the last general meeting, which also would be within the recollection of those present, by so doing he should save time. He would feel obliged if some gentleman would propose the adoption of the minutes.

Mr. CHARLESWORTH—I propose their adoption. Mr. ARNOULD—I second them.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business before us, then, is the presentation of the Directors' report and balance sheet. These have been in your hands during the week for your study, and you are, I feel sure, fully acquainted with them. It is a matter for regret that the working of the company for the past year does not show a better result. The year before there were 58 tows, but only 42 last, while the average earnings have fallen from \$53 odd to \$43. The accounts are before you gentlemen for passing or approval. It is for you to decide whether you will pass them or not.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the year ending the 30th June, 1892, accompany this Report.

The business of the year under review cannot be called satisfactory, as against 58 tows in the previous year there have been but 42 tows in this year, and the average earnings per tow have decreased from \$53.58 in 1890-91 to \$43.88 in 1891-92, resulting in a loss of \$90.03 in the year's working.

The suspension of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited, has unfortunately locked up the \$687.52 deposited therein.

The tug-boat *Yokosuka Maru* has been put in thorough repair and is now in good working condition.

The Directors desire to express their thanks to Mr. Donald Fraser, who has kindly audited the Company's Accounts.

The term of service of the present Board of Directors expires, and, as they do not seek re-election, a new Board will have to be appointed.

Yokohama, 5th July, 1892.

R. M. VARNUM,
T. L. BROWER, } Directors.
O. KEIL,

YOKOHAMA TOWAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on June 30th, 1892.

Liabilities.	
Capital, 150 Shares at \$100	\$15,000.00
Balance, Profit	337.14
	\$15,337.14

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Assets.	
Tug Boat <i>Yokosuka Maru</i>	\$28,000.00
Deposit in New Oriental Bank Corporation	687.52
Cash with Secretary	249.62
	\$28,937.14
Profit and Loss Account—June 30th, 1892.	
To Wages	\$ 1,115.26
To Repairs	965.20
To Working Expenses	524.45
To General Expenses	246.00
To Balance, carried to new account	337.74
	\$ 2,498.05
By Balance carried forward July 1st, 1892.	627.37
By Towing (42 tows)	842.84
By Interest	20.04
By Share Transfer Fees	1.00
	\$ 2,498.05

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 30th June, 1892.

R. M. VARNUM,
T. L. BROWER,
O. Keil, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the company, and certify them to be correct.

Yokohama, July 5th, 1892.

D. FRASER, Auditor.

Mr. LINDSLEY—I will propose the adoption of the accounts and report.

Mr. ARNOULD—And I will second.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have a few remarks to make in addition to the report that has been presented by the Directors. You all know that during the entire year we have tried, 10 or 11 times, to dispose of the tug-boat *Yokosuka Maru*, but without success. We have tried to sell her in nearly every port of the East, from Tientsin to Amoy, from Tokyo to Nagasaki, but our endeavours have not proved fruitful. At the present time we are trying to dispose of the boat again, to some men who wish to obtain her. But it was only this week that we saw the intermediary between the vendors and buyers, and a definite arrangement—perhaps I am a little too far advanced in saying definite yet—but on Monday next we shall have an answer from them, and most probably a definite offer. I will read you the resolution passed at the last general meeting—"The Directors shall have power to sell the *Yokosuka Maru* at such a price as they think adequate without reference to a general meeting of shareholders." We had hoped to have disposed of the boat before this meeting, but as we have not accomplished our desire we must leave it to our successors to do for the general benefit of the company. The out-look for our business is difficult to foretell. It was spoken of most hopefully last year, especially after having had 58 tows, and it was then said that as every sailing ship would of necessity require towing in, our prospects were bright. But it has not turned out as predicted, indeed, the other day, a ship came in who was more in a position of towing the tug than the tug of towing her.—(Laughter.) In conclusion, I think the thanks of the company are due to various shareholders who have kindly given us valuable suggestions. Mr. Hepburn particularly, has come forward with some valuable suggestions, and on behalf of my co-directors I thank him. The suggestions were all acted upon as far as it was possible, although no profit was derived therefrom. There has been some misunderstanding between the shareholders and the Directors during the year, but these are all settled now, and all is again peace and quietness. I shall be glad to answer any questions that may be put to me. If there are no questions requiring answers, then the next business is to elect a new board of Directors. Will some one be good enough to make a proposition so that it can be put to the vote.

Mr. LINDSLEY—As the sale is pending, Mr. Chairman, I propose that the present Directors retain office until the matter is settled, or the boat disposed of in one way or another.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Lindsley, you are very kind, and your proposition is really a vote of confidence, but the Directors have made up their minds to resign, and resign they must. It will be better for the company to elect three new Directors—men who are conversant with the business, which we are not.

Mr. ARNOULD—I think that as we are to have an answer by Monday, the meeting had better adjourn until next week, or until the boat is sold. There is, I think, no necessity to elect a new directorate. I will put this as a proposition, as I think that to elect three new Directors will do no good.

The CHAIRMAN—It is easy enough to get three men—practical men—from among the shareholders.

Mr. HEPBURN—I will propose Messrs. Charlesworth, Arnould, and Captain Weston.

Captain WESTON—I must decline the honour.

Mr. BROWER—I propose Mr. T. M. Laffin.

Mr. LAFFIN—I must decline.

Mr. HEPBURN—I hope the secretary has noticed that I proposed Mr. Charlesworth?

Mr. BROWER—Oh yes.

Mr. CHARLESWORTH—I decline, but beg to propose Mr. Hepburn.

Mr. HEPBURN—But I can't serve.
Mr. ARNOULD—I still think, Mr. Chairman, that it would be best to adjourn.

Mr. LAFFIN—I will second your proposition.
The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Arnould has proposed and Mr. Laffin seconded that the meeting stand adjourned till some day next week, will you kindly signify your approval in the usual manner.

Mr. LINDSLEY—I propose as an amendment that the Directors be empowered to sell the boat.

Mr. ARNOULD—That is understood.

The CHAIRMAN—That proposition was made at the last general meeting and stands good.

Mr. LINDSLEY—Oh! then that is all right.

The motion for adjournment was then put and carried unanimously.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Limited, took place on Thursday afternoon, in the Chamber of Commerce, there being present Messrs. J. F. Lowder, Chairman, J. Rickett, O. Keil, A. T. Watson, C. Charlesworth (secretary), R. J. Kirby, G. A. Fraser, S. D. Hepburn, J. H. Curtis, Dr. Van der Heyden, and C. Guisanni.

The CHAIRMAN said in opening the proceedings that he did not think it necessary to wait the usual half hour in the hope of more shareholders putting in an appearance, as there were seven now present. He would therefore proceed to the business which was before the meeting, namely, the receiving of the report and accounts and the election of two directors in the place of those who had retired by rotation. He should refrain from reading to them the report and accounts as they had been in the hands of the shareholders for a week past, and doubtless all present were familiar with the figures, but he should take the opportunity of making the usual explanation which accompanies the Directors' report. It would be known to all present that the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works Company was the pioneer of the limited liability companies which had sprung up in Yokohama in recent years. During the four years that the company had been in existence, the Directors had always been enabled to present to the shareholders a most satisfactory report of the business done by it at the end of every twelvemonth. During those four years, too, the average dividend they had paid had been 10 per cent. But now, for the first time in its history, the Directors came before the shareholders almost empty handed, except for the interim dividend of 3 per cent. which they had paid last December, for the first six months of the year's working. The company was now in a position which of late, unfortunately, had been common to all companies and persons in the East. The universal depression in trade, which had amounted to an almost entire stagnation in business, was the cause of the falling off in their receipts for that year. They would be able to appreciate this more if he read to them the figures of this year and compared them with those of last. Their gross earnings this year had been \$63,876, against \$96,237 in 1891. This was a loss on the working account alone of \$30,000 odd, which really meant all their profits. The Directors could not blame themselves for this state of affairs—they did not blame their servants, as the losses they had incurred were entirely due to the depression in trade. They had done all they could, but they could not bring work into the Company's hands which did not offer itself. The Directors, however, had looked at the situation fairly and had done what could be done to retrieve their position, and this they found could only be effected by exercising the closest economy. They had set about it by reducing the expenditure in every way. Seeing how the business really stood, the Directors resolved, and he hoped it would meet with their approbation, to discontinue the Kobe branch. The Kobe branch had been in existence for four years, and for those four years it showed a loss of over \$4,000 per annum alone, from the time of its inception. By closing the Kobe branch, therefore, they would effect a saving of \$4,000 a year. The Directors also had seen their way to reducing the wages of the staff in Yokohama by about \$400 a month when we meet next time, therefore, we ought to be able to show figures accounting for a saving of between \$8,000 and \$9,000. You will see from this, that your Directors have been engaged in bettering the company's position, and that next year they hope to be able to present you with a more encouraging balance sheet. You will see from the report that we are indebted to our Bankers to the amount of \$77,809.01. This looks a large sum and is a very large sum, but there need be no fears entertained about it. Our buildings at Kobe are a very valuable

property indeed, and if the sale of them is not forced we hope to be able to realise, if not the full sum of our overdraft, at least a considerable amount of it. If the sale of property can be accomplished by degrees we hope to see our indebtedness to the Bank materially reduced. This was, he thought, all that he had to say, and if any questions were put to him he would do his best to reply to them, if there were no questions they would proceed to their other business.

ACCOUNTS.

The Directors beg to submit the annexed Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st May, 1892. They regret that owing to a considerable falling off in the amount of business for the year a loss is shown on working account of \$3,374.01, which, with the Interim Dividend of 3 per cent. paid for the half-year ending November 30th, 1891, shows as per Profit and Loss Account, a Debit Balance of \$7,124.01. This amount has been written off the Reserve Fund, leaving a balance at the credit of that account of \$10,225.99.

Kobe Branch—Since the beginning of the present year there has been very little business done, and prospects for the future not being at all encouraging, your Directors decided to close the Branch; this was done at the end of May.

Directors—In accordance with Article No. 74 of the Articles of the Association, Messrs. Lowder and Hepburn retire from the Board but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Messrs. O. Keil and D. Fraser retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

G. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

Yokohama, July 12th, 1892.

THE YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS LIMITED.

Balance Sheet—31st May, 1892.

Dr.	
To Capital 1,300 Shares @ \$100	\$130,000.00
To Reserve Fund	10,225.99
To New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited	77,809.01
To Wages for May, paid in June	592.60
To Rent for May, paid in June	25.00
To Directors' and Auditors' fees	600.00
	\$219,252.60

Cr.	
By Cash in hand, Yokohama and Kobe	98.34
By Property Account, Yokohama and Kobe	57,884.02
By Working Plant, Yokohama and Kobe	22,777.57
By Stock as per Inventories, Yokohama and Kobe	81,844.81
By Bills Receivable, Yokohama and Kobe	6,260.02
By Insurance, Unexpired Policies	591.62
	\$219,252.60

Profit and Loss Account—31st May, 1892.

Dr.	
To Bad and disputed Debts written off	\$ 365.53
To Directors' and Auditors' Fees	1,497.00
To Wages and Working Expenses	60,160.57
To Rents	392.45
To Depreciation of Plant, Tools, etc.	3,740.71
To Depreciation of Buildings	1,100.00
To Fire Insurance	1,112.00
To Interim Dividend 30th November, 1891, 1 1/2 on \$130,000	1,725.00
	\$ 72,353.25

June 1st, 1892.

Cr.	
By Balance brought forward from May 31st, 1891	\$ 1,185.77
By Transfer Fees	18.00
By Gross Earnings in the year ending May 31st, 1892	63,876.17
By Reserve Fund	7,274.01
	\$ 72,353.95

Reserve Account—May 31st, 1892.

Dr.	
To Profit and Loss	\$ 7,124.01
To Balance	10,225.99
	\$ 17,350.00

June 1st, 1892.

Cr.	
By Balance	\$ 17,350.00
	\$ 17,350.00

June 1st, 1892.

Cr.	
By Balance	\$ 10,225.99
	\$ 10,225.99

E. & O. E.

G. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers in the possession of the Company, and find them to be correct.

D. FRASER,
O. Keil, } Auditors.

Yokohama, July 6th, 1892.

The CHAIRMAN—I may add that the Directors are very well pleased with the prospects of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works. They had some little handicap to contend with at the beginning of their financial year, but this was now removed. They would remember that when the company started they had for manager, Mr. Kilday. But after a while he left their service, it being his intention to leave Japan. The Directors accordingly sent to an eminent engineering firm in Edinburgh, or Glasgow, he did not remember which, for a competent man to fill the post of manager. A man was sent out; he was fully qualified and competent, and the Directors were very well pleased with his ability, but he suffered from the disadvantage of not being familiar with the ways of the East. He was not sufficiently energetic and suffered also from not possessing a large circle of acquaintances, a requisite to such a business position. Well, he had been engaged for a year on trial, fortunately for the company, for at the expiration of that period it happened that Mr. Kilday expressed a wish to be taken back in their service as manager, and they re-engaged him.

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Under his *régime* the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works were giving every prospect of success.

Mr. J. A. FRASER—As no one deems it desirable to ask any questions, I will move that the report be adopted and the accounts passed.

Mr. WATSON—I will second.—Carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is the election of two directors. Mr. Hepburn and myself retire by rotation, but we offer ourselves for re-election, and as there are no other names substituted for ours, I think it would be in order to put our names to the vote and re-elect us.

Mr. J. RICKETT—I propose the re-election of the retiring Directors—Messrs. Lowder and Hepburn.

Mr. KIRBY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have great pleasure in moving the re-election of Messrs. O. Kiel and Donald Fraser as Auditors of the Company, and I have no doubt their election will be unanimous.

Mr. CURTIS—I second them.—Carried.

Mr. FRASER moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding and also for his explanation, and the meeting closed.

REVIEW.

Kiusei Saigai Ron (The Economic Struggle with Distress), by Dr. PAUL MAYET. Translated into Japanese by D. Aoyama.

THE nineteenth century is remarkable for two great political movements, which though logically separate and even inconsistent, are yet in many respects bound closely together. The first is the struggle for individual liberty, the other for greater equality, or, as judged by one of its chief manifestations, socialism. The former struggle, from the number of martyrs who have died and suffered in its cause, and also on account of its practical success, has long been deemed respectable; the latter, however, has but lately acquired that precious badge. But though delayed, this last and highest touch of middle-class morality has come with a rush, and at present even a prime minister can say that we are all socialists now-a-days. The most popular magazines, and some of the highest names in science and art, are associated with measures that from the old *laissez faire* point of view would be called socialistic. The old charge that any given political act was in conflict with the freedom of the individual and private property has no longer the power of killing; more evidence must now be produced to show why, in spite of the sacred character of individual liberty and free contract, a given measure is inexpedient.

Individual liberty and free contract are somewhat like the young man who starts out full of hope to make his fortune and startle his friends by his achievements: they have not quite fulfilled the promises of their early admirers. They have done wonders no doubt, as much of the material progress of this century is called upon to testify. But they have not given the mass of people more leisure, or the labouring classes as a whole a competence. And therefore students of political economy or of social science have met the complaints of the poorer classes half way, by proposing better measures for distributing and using the wealth of society than private property and free competition have brought about.

Dr. Mayet's work on the Struggle with Distress is an evidence of this new—if it can now be called new—tendency. The real nucleus of his present essay is indicated by the title, viz., the struggle which the great mass of people have with the contending forces against them. Especially the Japanese farmers, the patient, enduring hard-working class of Japan, the backbone of the nation, are in an unfavourable situation. Floods, typhoons, earthquakes, fires, high taxation, are their enemies, and they are not making headway against them as they ought. The increasing competition of the *Meiji* period has demanded qualities from the farmers which too often they do not possess. Private initiative and self-reliance in the midst of adversity are not sufficient to overcome the obstacles which are set against them, and between the tax-gatherer, and usurer, and the hostile forces of nature, not a few of the farmers are pushed to the wall. What are called the working classes, the farmers, the day labourers, the small shop-keepers, suffer in Japan from a variety of causes which have scarcely a parallel in any other civilized country. Is there any fundamental measure that will relieve these classes from their present position of risk and distress, and at the same time afford a secure basis for other reforms? To this question Dr. Mayet answers, Yes. The measure needed is a system of

national insurance against the various losses by fire, flood, typhoon, earthquake, etc. Such a system of insurance would on the one hand prevent the extreme poverty of individuals, on the other it would immensely benefit the industrial and farming classes by diminishing risk and strengthening credit, and would thus extend to them some of the advantages that the same classes in the nations of Europe and America enjoy.

Dr. Mayet begins his essay with the old text that misfortunes are often blessings in disguise. "Nearly all the present civilization of Japan," he says, "is owing to the wise use she has made of the calamities that have befallen her from time to time." It is to be expected that so accurate a student of Japanese history will not fail to give interesting examples of this statement. He points out the fact that fruit trees were planted by order of the government to prevent disasters from floods; barley and other grains were added to rice to escape the dangers of a single crop; colonization of sparsely settled districts was undertaken in consequence of local famines; the great Nakasendo, as well as other roads, was constructed after one of the great famines; artificial banks for rivers, storehouses for rice, the introduction of draught animals and a hundred other necessary measures of the old Japanese civilization can always be traced to the work of the Government after some great disaster. Thus one improvement followed another until Japan was enabled to shut up her ports for 250 years and yet not suffer radically from her seclusion. In this introductory chapter Dr. Mayet gives numberless illustrations of his first statement, that Japan owes nearly all her present prosperity as a nation to the success with which she encountered calamities.

What has been accomplished in the *Meiji* era? Much. There have been introduced into cultivation new kinds of vegetables, giving greater variety and certainty to the general crop; foreign breeds of horses and cattle have been imported; the Hokkaido has been settled to a hopeful extent; farmers have been freed from feudal burdens; the land tax has been reformed; agricultural and technical schools have been established; scientific surveys have been carried out; canals and rivers have been improved; railroads have been constructed; steamboats now run in all directions; besides we can mention such useful and indispensable factors of modern civilization as chambers of commerce, cheap post and telegraph, and many other innovations. All these reflect great honour on the *Meiji* period of Japan, but they do not, in Dr. Mayet's opinion, touch the core of the difficulties that Japan is suffering from.

Dr. Mayet gives the following as a very incomplete list of calamities during the *Meiji* era: Heavy crop failures in 1868, 1869, and partial failures in 1878, 1884, and 1889; destructive typhoons in the years 1835 and 1880; disastrous floods in the years 1885, 1886, and 1890; heavy fires in Tokyo in 1871, 1876, and 1881; a great eruption of Bandaisan in 1888, and lastly the terrible earthquake of last year. Besides these there have been three cholera epidemics, a rebellion, and a vast number of smaller calamities which, on the whole, affect the fortunes of a vast number of people. Since his essay was written there has been an extraordinarily destructive fire in Tokyo. Such fires are more than an economic loss; by their interruption of business, their destruction of all ordinary relations, and the opportunity they offer for pillaging, they may be said to constitute forces that work distinctly for barbarism.

The social disturbance wrought by these calamities—perennial floods, typhoons, earthquakes and fires—is not insignificant, it is enormous. Japan can never hope to be a country whose economic well-being is on a generous scale unless she finds some means of obviating these losses. Even at present many people live in a state of hopeless indebtedness, from which a life time of arduous labour cannot relieve them. Nor can any measure relieve them that does not establish credit firmly, and abolish the extraordinary risks on loans. Higher rates of interest prevail to-day in Japan than in any Western nation, partly at least because the risk is so great. The only measure that would meet all the requirements, diminishing risk, re-vivifying credit, abolishing extreme losses from natural calamities, and thus putting Japan on a commercial footing with foreign nations is a system of national insurance.

Are private activity and interest, to which so much is left in the West, sufficient to meet the wants of the case in Japan? To this question Dr. Mayet answers a decisive No. Charity and private interest cannot touch the greater calamities, and in the smaller ones they do not exert themselves. In the great fire of Tokyo in 1876, when more than 30,000 houses were burnt, the ridiculous sum of 2,932 *yen* was distributed. Another example is the late earthquake, when over 90,000 houses were totally destroyed and

over 33,000 partly so. Dr. Mayet enters into long and complicated calculations to show the utter insufficiency of private relief for this disaster; in comparison with the total loss and distress all private aid must always be insignificant. Nor is the present system of the so-called famine relief fund, at present the only large means of relief, adequate to meet the demands of the people. In the first place this fund can only be applied to extraordinary crop failures or others calamities, and not even then to compensate losses proportionally. It is in fact only a temporary expedient to alleviate the worst cases of distress, and does not meet the less severe, but constant losses from season to season, by flood, fire, typhoon, or earthquake. Local calamities which scarcely find a paragraph in the newspapers and are not known beyond the provincial boundaries, affect the fortunes of a very large number of people. Anyone who is intimately acquainted with Japanese life knows that there are hundreds of people affected year by year, whose property too often finds its way into the hands of the usurer or rich landowner.

One of the greatest benefits of a system of national insurance over the present haphazard system is not directly mentioned by Dr. Mayet, although he hints at it here and there. The present system can never be reduced to a mechanical rule, as it were; it will always cause political strife between parties and different districts of the country. We have an example of this in the last session of Parliament, where there were endless bickering and misunderstanding between the Government and Parliament as to the proper disposition of the relief funds for Aichi and Gifu. Nor can we ever hope that such contests will cease. Under the present system, where the relief is not adequate or proportional, there will always be a party of attack; the Government, no matter in whose hands it is, will suffer, and the victims of disaster will not be assisted, as they ought to be by the Government, in such a way as to avoid political difficulties. As an officer of the Government said to the writer on one occasion when the grants for the relief of the earthquake sufferers were under discussion: "It would be an immense gain both to the Government and the people if this whole system of relief could be reduced to a mechanical or business rule, in which there was no suspicion of favoritism, jobbery, or unfairness of any kind." Now Dr. Mayet's plan of national insurance is precisely such a system. Insurance is preëminently a matter of rule and business. All property is valued beforehand and the amount of damages is not difficult to fix, especially where over-valuations are not made. As we shall see, over-valuations are not a source of danger in national insurance as in the case of private companies, and therefore, the former is greatly to be preferred for fairness and security. We have no hesitation in saying that Dr. Mayet's plan, if successfully carried into practice, would work much more smoothly in a time of calamity than the present system and would be a great relief to the Government.

All insurance is based on the principle that losses, though they may be absolutely great, are relatively small in proportion to the whole mass of property insured. Thus let us take the case of earthquakes which are so striking a feature in the past history of Japan. To paraphrase Dr. Mayet. (1) "The destruction of houses by earthquakes is small in proportion to the whole number in Japan. The 120,000 houses destroyed in the earthquake of last year are only one sixty-fifth part of all the houses in the Empire. (2) Such calamities occur at comparatively rare intervals and thus the losses, spread over a number of years, could be met by a national earthquake insurance premium of a trivial amount."

These last remarks bring us face to face with the fundamental question of a national insurance system, viz., its cost to each household and the general method of its application. Dr. Mayet takes into consideration the various kinds of losses in order, their amount, and the necessary cost of each.

Fire is the greatest single source of loss to Japan, and yet, great as it is, it is only 30 per cent. of the total loss. Japan is probably unique among civilized nations in having so many and such heavy losses besides the one great cause of fire. Dr. Mayet takes the most available information as to the number of houses burnt:—"In the three years 1875-8 there were destroyed on an average by fire annually 30,910 houses, and in the eight years 1881-8 an annual average of 40,497. To guard against any under-estimate let us take the larger average; then the annual premium for every 100 *yen* of loss would be only 32½ *sen*."

Again, in the nineteenth century there have been 22 earthquakes, which Dr. Mayet divides into three groups: the first group contains 7 earthquakes in which 80,000 houses were destroyed on an average;

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second group, 7 earthquakes in which 5,000 houses were destroyed on an average; and the last group, 11 earthquakes in which 2,000 houses were destroyed on an average. Allowing for mistakes and discrepancies, we can safely estimate that in every ten years one house in every sixty-five houses is destroyed by earthquakes. To insure against this kind of risk there would be required only 15 *sen* and 4 *rin* premium for every 100 *yen* of property insured.

Scarcely a year passes without the destruction of several thousand houses by typhoons and floods. In this respect the number destroyed is very variable from year to year. A computation based on the years 1881-1886 brings the average number destroyed in this way to 32,260 houses, and based on the entire 24 years of *Meiji*, to 30,833 houses. For every 100 *yen* of property insured against this form of risk there would be required an average premium of 41 *sen* and 7 *rin*. Therefore, for every 100 *yen* of property insured against loss by fire, earthquake, typhoon, and flood there would be required a total average premium of 1 *yen* 9 *sen* and 5 *rin*; and the principal condition of making this system of insurance successful is that it should be adopted generally and at once over the length and breadth of the country.

In regard to reserve funds and the cost of managing this undertaking there would be no special difficulty. Some of the disasters like earthquake, would occur only at long intervals, during which the paid-in funds would draw compound interest; no particular provision for reserve would be necessary. To meet the cost of management there would, however, have to be an additional charge, which in Japan, where salaries are small, would not be heavy. A liberal estimate, Dr. Mayet thinks, is 25 *sen* per 100 *yen*. This would bring the total cost to 1 *yen* 34½ *sen* per 100 *yen*. His general conclusion is that every house in Japan could be insured against loss by fire, earthquake, storm, and flood at an average premium of 1 *yen* 34½ *sen* per 100 *yen* of property insured. In what way this system of insurance can be carried into practice and what its effect would be are best told in Dr. Mayet's own words.

"The quickest and most general extension of insurance is a law making it obligatory. The obligatory method is even at present adopted in the most civilized countries of the world, whenever they wish to carry out quickly a general system of insurance. In the last century fire insurance was compulsory in certain European countries, and compulsory insurance is still practised in parts of Europe. Why should not Japan adopt a system that was adopted in other States, such as Prussia, Austria, Saxony, Baden, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, France (Law submitted June 28th, 1890), and Italy.

"Without insurance no one is certain of his property. The insecurity could not be greater than if no police or armed force existed in a country beset by bands of robbers bent on plunder. It is questionable whether robbers would plunder so many thousands of houses as are yearly destroyed by fire, flood, and earthquake in Japan. The Japanese people would not endure roving bands of robbers, and they therefore cheerfully submit to the cost of police, justice, and prisons. Why, then, do they submit to a robbery of individuals by the acts of nature? Why is there not sufficient public spirit to protect the individual from ruin by dividing his loss with the whole community.

"Insurance is a prerequisite of the security of property, of secure mortgage and of cheap credit. Even in the large cities, where loanable capital is most abundant, the rate of interest on real property is high. According to the *Résumé Statistique*, Vol. IV., section 63, the rate in the large cities was as follows:—

Loans on real property.	Rate of monthly interest in Dec. 1887.		For the year.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Amounts 100 to 500 <i>yen</i> .	1.27	15.24	
Below 100 <i>yen</i>	1.45	17.40	

As most of the loans are made on houses, and as the rate in the country is much higher than in cities, we may put it that the average rate for mortgage loans is at least 18 per cent. Why is the rate so high? Because there is no insurance of houses and consequently no security. Every day may bring an earthquake, a flood, or a fire that may destroy the security of the creditor. If a system of insurance were established, house-mortgage banks could easily be founded and the rate of interest would in consequence quickly fall.

"And it is largely because this description of mortgage-loans prevails so extensively in Japan that a fall in the rate of interest is so important both to the borrower and to Japanese industry as a whole. The high rate of interest on mortgages is one of the great reasons why it is so high in

every other kind of loan. According to statistics we have the following facts:—

At the end of the year.	In	Loans on house- mortgage.	Number of ken omitted.	Average for the Empire at the same rate per ken.	
	<i>Fu.</i>	<i>Ken.</i>	<i>Yen.</i>		
1883	3	19	30,214,000	11	52,693,000
1884	3	19	40,818,000	1	47,790,000
1885	3	37	34,733,000	3	37,137,000
1886	5	23	25,294,000	17	41,617,000

From these figures, since there is a great reduction noticeable in a period of four years, one would be apt to draw a favourable conclusion. This would be a great mistake, however. Those who are familiar with the condition of the farming classes in Japan can tell a different story; they know that this falling off in the total amount of indebtedness is not due to repayment of the principal, but to failure of payment. The property mortgaged has but two often fallen into the hands of the creditor, and in this way thousands of once independent Japanese have become despoiled of their property; they have turned into wage-earners or have increased the crowd of *jimikisshamen* in the large cities. The total amount of property that has thus fallen into the hands of the creditors is a very large amount; according to the most available statistics, it was over 16 million *yen* in 1894, over 8 million *yen* in 1885, and over 10 million in 1886, or a total of over 35 million *yen* in three years. Instead therefore of a decrease in the total amount of indebtedness, we ought to look for an increase in the normal condition of things. Had the borrowers been able to extend their loans under favourable conditions, at lower rates of interest, the amount of their indebtedness, instead of decreasing at a ruinous cost, would have augmented at probably the same rate, and instead of 41,817,000 *yen* as the total amount we would have 77,318,000 *yen*, all employed in productive enterprises." This is not a fanciful picture as many can testify. There is plenty of evidence that a large number of hardworking, steady Japanese farmers have lost everything through inability to pay interest on loans contracted at usurious rates of interest. Indeed, well-informed Japanese writers assert that it is a regular policy pursued by certain money-lenders, to foreclose at a time of distress on the property of the mortgagor. The latter is ruined, while the former fattens on the spoils.

"If the Japanese people were aware that insurance is a means of assistance in time of distress, they would themselves establish it. The significance of insurance in the civilized nations of the West ought to be better understood. Insurance is one of the most important supports of the material existence of European and American people, both of the individual and society from the cottage to the palace, from the workshop of the village workman to the enormous factories and warehouses of commercial centres. Japan is still wanting in this outgrowth of civilization, in this moderator of distress, in this foundation of the common well-being. Her trade and industry suffer from usurious rates of interest from want of solid credit. The want of insurance is a national calamity. The climate of Japan is peculiarly subject to typhoons, to excessive rainfall, and to earthquakes. If this is so, the institutions of the country must adapt themselves to the natural conditions. Consequently it is a most superficial and untenable objection to a system of national insurance in Japan, to hold that Japan does not need what Europe does not as yet possess. What is meant by adaptation to the circumstances of Japan, if not this,—retaining and carrying into practice the core, the essential ideas, of Western civilization, though their outward form change? That the want of a system of insurance is a national calamity is proved to the thoughtful observer by daily experience, but to everybody with the greatest distinctness by the occurrence of such a stupendous and heart-rending disaster as the earthquake of the 28th of October of last year."

The remainder of Dr. Mayet's work is taken up with the practical application of a system of national insurance, the various details connected with rates, administration, etc. All these are most interesting, but too long for criticism. Dr. Mayet divides all houses into nine classes, the insurance premium rising slowly with the number of inhabitants in each town or city. Thus in Tokyo, where the danger from fire is greatest, the rate is naturally the highest, but in no case is the premium-rate higher than the rates of private insurance companies. As examples he gives the following:—

1. A village cottage with thatched roof, whose insurance value is 30 *yen* would have to pay an annual premium of 49 *sen* 2 *rin*.
2. A house in Hakodate (53,000 inhabitants) with tiled roof, appraised at 40 *yen* would pay annually 91 *sen* 6 *rin*.
3. A house in Yokohama (122,000 inhabitants) in the Japanese portion, with tiled roof, the walls

of wood, valued at 60 *yen*, would pay annually 1 *yen* 50 *sen*.

4. A house in Tokyo in the district of Kojimachi, with tiled roof and board walls, valued at 100 *yen*, would pay annually 2 *yen* 51 *sen*.

5. A *doso-bukuro* in Tokyo in the most dangerous part of the city, say in Nihombashi, valued at 1,000 *yen* would pay 2.03 per cent. premium or 20 *yen* 30 *sen* annually.

All of these premiums are less in amount, according to Dr. Mayet, than those of foreign fire insurance companies. But the latter would insure only against fire while the former, though less, would insure as well against earthquake, flood, typhoon, etc. But in order to give these low rates the insurance must be compulsory and national, that is, must not spend its resources in salaries for agents or in large dividends. The system must be worked for the benefit of the people.

If, however, there is a strong objection to a compulsory national insurance, for fear of injuring vested interests or for any other reason, a compromise could easily be arranged. It could be provided that the first half of the value of the house be insured compulsorily under the national insurance system, while the other half be left optional to the owner to be insured either in the government, or in private insurance companies. Such a compromise would in no way be a hindrance to the development of private insurance companies. On the contrary, as the compulsory national insurance system would educate the people to the idea of insurance, as they would then see its benefits brought before them, as a practical object lesson, there is reason to believe that private insurance would have a more rapid growth than ever. Moreover, private insurance would then necessarily be free from many of the disadvantages and imperfections usually accompanying it, as over-valuation would be impossible. It would therefore be profitable from every point of view to Japan to establish a system of national insurance.

Such, in rough outline, is the plan which Dr. Mayet offers to alleviate the distress which the Japanese people now have to endure. The system is radical and far-reaching, and, like all radical systems, there are many objections that can readily be brought against it. The most obvious objection is that this system would throw a burden upon certain people or districts out of proportion to the benefits derived from it. It will be said that the districts that suffer from flood, fire, or earthquake are more or less limited both in number and area, and the others cannot be expected to bear the losses of the suffering districts. Is it fair to demand by compulsion regular premiums from people whose property is not likely to be damaged by inundations, or fire, or earthquakes? Even a compulsory system of insurance must have the assent of the great masses of people; it must commend itself to the interests of all or nearly all; at this stage of civilization there can be no successful legislative measures which are objectionable to the people. Compulsory insurance therefore cannot be forced upon the Japanese people by a few statesmen who see the advantages that would follow to the whole commonwealth; the system must attract the self-interest of each individual or at least of the great majority of individuals of the entire country. Is this original and fundamental reform not likely to be opposed by the masses of property-holders because they would fail to see how they could be benefited?

This theoretical objection to Dr. Mayet's plan that the system would impose unequal burdens on different parts of the country and that consequently some people could derive greater benefits than others, is not altogether well founded. As he points out, no part of Japan is wholly free from liability to loss from some sort of damage. Earthquakes are wide-spread and hardly less destructive in one part than another; inundation and fire are equally diffused, and it is not likely that these disasters will cease to be less frequent or less wide-spread in the future than they have been in the past. Japan is peculiarly subject to a great variety of calamities, and corresponding measures must be taken to meet them. Moreover, the whole tendency of modern times is to mitigate the extremes of fortune and to strengthen the bonds of society by diffusing its wealth. Individualism and competition are too severe in their action and tend to separate the distance between rich and poor. They fail to attain their object. In Germany the Workmen's Insurance Act is evidence of the socializing tendency of the State; in England there are numerous evidences that the State interferes in private competition, and in the United States a large party are in favour of measures even more radical in this respect than a national insurance system. It is in harmony with the simplest dictates of morality and religion that such measures as tend to

the general good, to the fairer distribution of wealth, and to the amelioration of the condition of the masses of society should be promoted by every means in the power of society. In this respect the State is a most powerful agent for good. If Dr. Mayer's proposal to remedy the existing distress in Japan does not meet with a ready acceptance from the people and statesmen of Japan, at least one good reason may be given, namely that it is a little too far in advance of the times. The Doctor claims that the whole drift of modern legislation, nay civilization, is in favour of its acceptance, and that he must be blind to the signs of the times who refuses to listen to these great measures of social amelioration because they interfere with individual initiative or private competition.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

The ninth annual session of the Japan conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church convened in Goucher Hall Aoyama, Tokyo, on Thursday.

The regular conference examinations for the younger preachers were held on Wednesday, and the evening of that day was devoted to the conference sermon preached by one of the Japanese members.

The presiding officer for this year is Bishop W. F. Mallalien, D.D., who arrived on the steamer *Gaelic* just in time to reach Aoyama at the hour appointed for the opening session on Thursday morning.

The introductory services were succeeded by the administration of the Lord's Supper first by the Bishop to the presiding elders and then, Rev. J. H. Cowell taking charge, to all present who were thus willing to profess their faith in Christ.

The Bishop having addressed the conference with kindly words of greeting, the regular organization was completed by the election of Revs. I. H. Cowell and S. Kimura as secretaries, and the appointment of various committees. Rev. Dr. Daniells was introduced to the conference and invited to occupy a seat with the members. Most of the 64 members and probationers answered to their names at the roll call.

The Ladies of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society held the first session of their conference in the Hall of the Girl's School at 200 p.m. This conference has twenty-four members, not including the wives of missionaries who also attend.

Under the lead of Dr. Daniells, a daily Pentecostal service is held at 4.30 p.m. the first service was well attended and proved to be a season of spiritual profit to many. The leader has had wide experience as an evangelist and is a firm believer in the necessity of every Christian having constant and intimate communion with the Holy Spirit.

In the evening the Missionary sermon was preached by Rev. W. S. Worden, M.D. After the sermon there was a general discussion of Mission work.

Friday morning's session opened with the customary half hour prayer meeting, after which the regular business was taken up, the main feature of the morning's work being the reports of the presiding elders, of whom there are seven. Rev. J. W. Wadman's report gave an account of the work in the Aomori District which includes the northern end of the main island. The Hakodate District was represented by Rev. J. Wier. This district includes all the work of the Methodist Church in Hokkaido. Rev. I. H. Correll then reported from the Nagasaki district which includes all Kyushu. One interesting item in his report was an account of an evangelistic tour in the Loochoo Islands during which he baptized the first Christian convert to those islands on the 29th of last December. Rev. W. S. Worden reported the work of the Nagoya district, which covers the region devastated by the terrible earthquake of last October. That he could report progress in spite of such disaster was most encouraging. The Sendai District was reported by Rev. S. Matsumoto. All the reports so far indicate progress. The borders of the work are enlarging and its strength is increasing. There has been a special blessing of God on the workers in Kyushu, and it is earnestly hoped that its influence may spread until it reaches all parts of the Empire. The Pentecostal services every afternoon promise to be no small factor in helping forward the desired consummation in the Methodist Episcopal ranks.

At 2 p.m. the Ladies held their public anniversary. Condensed reports of their work were read in English and Japanese and short addresses were made by Revs. Cowell and Matsumoto.

The evening was devoted to an animated discussion of the topic, "The Christian Church in relation to Japanese Customs."

Saturday's session was opened with a most earnest prayer meeting. When business was taken up the reports of Districts were continued. Rev. C. Bishop reported for the Tokyo District in the place of Rev. J. Super, who is temporarily absent. The Yokohama District, which includes the mountain region of Shinjuku, was represented by Rev. G. F. Draper; this ended the roll of Districts. In connection with these reports the character of each fully ordained man is passed upon and if a pastor he reports the number of baptisms on his charge during the year and the missionary funds collected by him.

Rev. Y. Hiraiwa and Hon. S. Ehara, of the Imperial Dist., were introduced to the Conference as paternal delegates from the Methodist Church of Japan (Canadian Mission), Rev. Mr. Taft of the American Baptist Union was also introduced. Each of the above gentlemen gave a short but effective address of pleasant greeting and were responded to in appropriate terms by Rev. S. Matsumoto and Bishop Mallalien.

There was an adjourned session in the afternoon the main business of which was the hearing of the reports of examining committees. There were five candidates for admission into full membership and ordination as deacons. They had been on trial for at least two years and their examinations were favourable; being called forward they were addressed by the Bishop in an eminently practical talk, impressing upon them the importance of the step they were taking, the high privilege of being a minister of the gospel in the Methodist Episcopal Church and the need of being filled with love and perfectly consecrated to the Master's service.

The Pentecostal service proved again to be a time of spiritual refreshing. It was followed by a social, got up by the Japanese, but greatly enjoyed by all. In the evening a platform meeting was held, Rev. T. Otake and H. B. Johnson being the speakers.

Yesterday's (Sunday) services were of extraordinary interest. The Japanese have been holding five o'clock a.m. prayer meetings with great profit, but the first regular service on the programme was the Methodist modification of the *Agapé* of the primitive church—the Love feast. A large number of persons, both Japanese and foreign, bore clear witness to the truth of Christianity and knowledge of sins forgiven. This meeting alone would prove to any candid observer that the work of Christian missions in Japan is a grand success.

At ten a.m. Bishop Mallalien entered the pulpit and, taking for his text the words, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly," (John, 10: 10.) preached a plain, practical and very eloquent discourse on life. He expressed the hope that he might help to make this verse one of the spiritual treasures of those who heard him. He dwelt on the authenticity of John's Gospel and its great value as supplementary to the other Gospels. These are Christ's words. Notice the scope of His thought in the context where He speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd. It is not for the Jews alone but for "any man." I am glad he did not leave the Saxons out, nor the Africans, nor the Japanese. He would shepherd all the races. What a privilege to proclaim the Gospel to this congregation and feel that there are none here who may not be saved. Life is a short word but of great meaning, in fact indefinable. So are many other words. I asked a prominent electrician to define electricity. His reply was that if he had twenty years of life before him he would willingly give ten of them to be able to answer the question satisfactorily. In like manner the efforts of biologists to define life are vain. The most stupid of utterances is the saying that matter possesses all the potencies of life. It has not been proven. The only honest position of the unbeliever is that of the Agnostic. "I do not know." Consider two points. First—Life always comes from life. God being the original source. Second—Life has three characteristics. It always appropriates; always assimilates; always develops. Man assimilates in a three-fold way; mentally, physically, and spiritually; and it is what we assimilate, not what we appropriate merely, that gives us strength. The human race would not have been propagated without Christ's redemptive work for He says "I am come that they may have life." Notice the words "more abundantly." Even the physical life of Christian nations is better preserved than that of heathen nations. The Lord by His Gospel has given humanity an uplift, and has written over life's portals *plus ultra*. This is true intellectually also, many a ten-year-old child of the present Christian age has a broader range of vision than the heathen philosophers of old. Most especially is this true spiritually. The Christian has a knowledge unattainable by a heathen or American sinner. We know these great spiritual truths and

sometimes I think there is no man so happy as I am. I was perfectly conscious of Christ's presence here this morning, while I communed with Him and asked His help in presenting the word to you. This world does not end life; for God's people it is more abundant hereafter. God's plan was not death, as is proven by Enoch's example, who, walking with God stepped off—deathless, into the great beyond. When Christ calls, how earth and sea will thrill at his voice. Then will be complete the glorious victory over death; a more abundant physical life. Intellectually also we shall continue to develop. We have not reached the end of any thing in science. Our unfulfilled intellectual hopes will be fulfilled yonder. So also in spiritual life; we have the little rill here, and the great river of life yonder. Our spiritual growth will be unhindered there. I now have such visions of spiritual things as I never dreamed of in my early experience. What will the heavenly development be? We do not yet realize the power of this salvation.

These are a few broken thoughts from the powerful discourse which needed to be heard to be fully appreciated. Rev. I. H. Correll interpreted at the close, with great efficiency.

At 2 p.m. Rev. K. Miyama preached and the ordination services were held, there being one candidate, Rev. T. Beckwith for Elders', and five Japanese for Deacons' orders. The service led at 4.30 by Rev. Mr. Daniells showed no diminution of interest, but rather a marked increase in power.

The services of the day were closed by a most excellent sermon in the evening from Rev. Dr. Cochran, on the words, "And everything shall live whither the river cometh" (Ezek. 47: 9.) interpreted by Rev. S. Ogata. All felt that it had been a day of "good things," a veritable feast, and sincerely trusted that its influence may be permanent and deep in the hearts of many.

The session of Monday morning was largely occupied with routine work, important but hardly of general interest. The Revs. H. H. Lowrey, of the North China Mission of this Church, G. E. Dienst, of the Evangelical Association, and Eber Crammy, of the Canadian Methodist Mission, were introduced to the Conference. Mr. Lowrey gave a succinct account of the work in North China, reporting over 2,000 members in the churches connected with the Mission he represents. In spite of opposition and interruption of labours, on account of the late rebellion, there has been a constant growth.

Mr. T. Noda gave a short account of his efforts to spread the news of salvation from sin among the thousands that annually visit the popular summer resort of Oiso. He distributes large numbers of tracts and leaflets, and, through the kindness of Dr. Whitney, has borrowed a tent which he has pitched in the convenient locality near the sea shore, so that he may hold services where the people are most apt to be found. He asked for help in carrying on his meetings and for financial aid.

The Board of Church extension reported small collections during the year, but that it had been able to assist in the erection of two churches; the method being to loan small sums of money to aid such churches as are trying to build houses of worship, the sum to be repaid in ten annual installments without interest.

Twelve young men presented themselves as candidates for admission on trial, and were addressed by the Bishop, in a very pointed but kindly manner, concerning their need of a personal religious experience if they would lead and teach others.

At two o'clock p.m. the Temperance Anniversary was held; the chief speaker being the Hon. T. Ando, a most earnest and enthusiastic supporter of total abstinence.

The half-past four meeting was so directed by Dr. Daniells as to be specially helpful to the candidates for admission on trial, though his words were full of instruction and food for thought to every Christian labourer.

The topic of the evening meeting was "Christian Work." Revs. M. Yamaka and J. W. Wadman gave practical and suggestive addresses which were followed by a general discussion.

The early part of Tuesday's session was occupied with a statement of the condition of the Scripture Readers' Union. It has over eleven thousand members scattered in eight hundred places from Sapporo to Loochoo. About one third of them are not Christians. Probably the daily readers of the portions of Scripture designated by the Union is between twenty and thirty thousand, as there are many who unite with the regular members in the readings. The Union is interdenominational, its sole object being to foster a careful study of the Bible. To aid in this work it has several publica-

tions which were brought to the attention of the Conference, and the preachers were urged to aid the Union in its practical efforts to spread a knowledge of God's word.

Considerable time was occupied by the reports of the delegates to the General Conference, the legislative body of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Its regular quadrennial session was held last May at Omaha, U.S.A. Mr. V. Ninomiya, the lay delegate, made his report in person, but Rev. J. Soper, the clerical delegate, not having yet returned, reported by letter.

The twelve young men, who presented themselves for admission on trial the previous day, were received after their characters and examination were reported as satisfactory. Even with this large addition to the working force, more men are urgently needed to supply the growing demands.

The Rev. Dr. Cochran, of the Canadian Methodist Mission, was introduced to the Conference.

The afternoon and evening were devoted to religious services and committee work. There was a sermon at two o'clock by Rev. S. Kurimura, and the Rev. Mr. Daniells led two pentecostal services, one at half-past four and again at eight o'clock.

Wednesday morning was largely devoted to the reports of various committees.

The Rev. J. A. B. Scherer, of the American Lutheran Church was introduced, and addressed the conference in a few well chosen words.

There was considerable difficulty in deciding on the locality of next year's session. After consultation with the Ladies' Conference, it was finally voted that they should meet in Nagasaki. The statistical report was presented, and from it the following items are taken:—

No. of Members and probationers.....	3,795
No. of Baptisms during year (adults).....	430
No. of Sunday School Scholar.....	4,187

Amounts raised by the native Church, for—

Church building and repairs.....	Yen. 2,544.86
General expenses.....	2,516.43
Pastoral support.....	1,801.82
Other benevolent purposes.....	1,634.86

Wednesday afternoon and evening were occupied by committee meetings and religious services.

Thursday morning the hearing of reports was continued. Among them we may notice a report in favour of a thorough revision of the hymnal. In connection with this, Bishop Mallie offered three prizes of six four and two yen each for the three best hymns to be written during the coming year by members of the conference; and a similar set of prizes to the lay members of this or other Methodist churches in Japan. He added five yen more to be given to the writer of the best of the six prize hymns.

The report of the *Gokyo*, a weekly paper published in connection with two other Methodist bodies as a religious weekly, was listened to with interest. Its subscription lists represents a circulation of 480, and as this is not large enough to enable the paper to meet its running expenses, all the ministers were urged to make greater efforts to increase it. This paper is doing a work of great importance to the Methodism of Japan.

In connection with the report of the Publishing Committee of the conference, Mrs. Dr. Draper offered a prize of five yen for the best tract presented to the committee for publication. The Rev. C. Bishop offered a similar prize of ten yen. In the Ladies' Conference the same prizes have been offered.

The memoirs of two workers who have died during the year were read before the conference.

In the afternoon session the hearing of reports was continued. That of the educational committee represented fourteen institutions in different parts of the Empire, girls schools largely predominating. That part referring to the Tokyo Ei-wa Gakko Aoyama was especially encouraging, a notable feature being the addition of an industrial department where students may help themselves and feel that they are earning their education, instead of receiving it gratuitously.

The Japanese holiday on the 23rd of November was fixed as a day of Christian thanksgiving. The Bishop addressed the conference on the need of working and praying for a special Divine blessing, and on his suggestion the 30th September and 1st and 2nd October were set apart as days of special prayer; the church at home will be requested to unite in these special petitions for blessing on the work in Japan.

The minutes were read, and, after the singing of a hymn and prayer, the Bishop spoke a few words of cordial thanks to all, and of earnest exhortation to the members of the conference. He then read the appointments and the conference adjourned *sine die*.

The following are the appointments so far as they concerned the foreign portion of the body:—

Aomori District—J. W. Wadman, Presiding Elder. Hakodate District—J. Soper, Presiding Elder.

Nagasaki District—L. H. Coriell, Presiding Elder; H. B. Johnson, E. R. Fulkerson, F. T. Beckwith, Instructors in the Chinzel Gakkwan.

Nagoya District—W. S. Worden, Presiding Elder.

Sendai District—S. Matsumoto, Presiding Elder; Sendai, J. G. Cleveland.

Tokyo District—J. C. Davison, Presiding Elder; C. Bishop, Publishing Agent. Ei Wa Gakko—President, V. Houda; Theological Department, J. Wier, Dean; M. S. Vail, G. B. Norton, Instructors. Collegiate Department—J. F. Belknap, B. Chappelle, Instructors, and of those who are not members of conference, J. O. Spencer, Miss J. S. Vail, and Miss H. S. Alling, Instructors.

Yokohama District—G. F. Draper, Presiding Elder; F. Ohlinger, Missionary to Korea.

THE USES OF BAMBOO IN JAPAN.

The second meeting of the first Session of the Japan Society was held on the 12th inst., says the *London and China Express* of May 20th, at the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, when a paper was read by Mr. Charles Holmes, F.L.S., a member of the Council of the society, entitled "The Uses of Bamboo in Japan." Mr. F. T. Piggett, vice-chairman of the Society, presided, and there was a crowded attendance. A special feature of the evening was the exhibition of Mr. Holmes's varied and comprehensive collection of Japanese articles made of bamboo, to which additions were for the evening by Dr. Anderson and Mr. Larkin. This interesting collection which has been exhibited at Warrington, is to be transferred to the museum at Kew. The Chairman, in introducing the lecturer, said that the only surprising thing was that Mr. Holmes was the only person who had really touched the subject in the way of collecting utensils made of bamboo, because one's first and last notions of Japan were connected with it. He supposed that in the whole vegetable kingdom no plant was put to so many and varied uses. He should have thought it was easier to say in Japan what was not made of bamboo than to attempt to catalogue the articles which were made of this remarkable plant.

The Lecturer, who was received with applause, said that among the products of nature utilised by man there was perhaps no one that had been so extensively and variously employed as the bamboo. Travellers who had visited those parts of the world where the grass grew had made frequent reference to multitudinous services it performed as food, medicine, in construction of houses and bridges, weapons of offence and defence. In household and personal requirements, it played a more or less notable part. To enumerate in detail all its many uses in various parts of the world, from Burma to Madagascar, from China to Brazil, would be well nigh an endless task. Some idea of its great economic value might be gathered from an examination of the purposes to which it has been applied by the Japanese to supply their everyday wants. In prosecuting their inquiries they soon found that in comparison with the Chinese and some of the races of India, the Japanese had almost neglected its use in such important objects as houses, bridges, and boats. There was nothing in Japan like the native houses in India and Burma made from ground to roof entirely of bamboo, or like the elaborate bridges made of stout bamboo which exist in certain portions of China, or like the fishing boats at Formosa, where hull, mast, and cordage are all of bamboo. It was not far to seek this comparative neglect on the part of the Japanese. Constructions made of bamboo in India were very cheap. Good roomy houses, for instance, could be built for twelve shillings, but unfortunately they were not very serviceable. Two or three years was the measure of their endurance, and to last even this time they required a good deal of mending and patching up. Bamboo, with all its excellencies, was not suited to structural work in outside, exposed situations. Fortunately for Japan, it was not only favoured with bamboo but an abundance of excellent timber, the latter being so much better adapted to all important structural work. Therefore it was naturally preferred for such purposes. Nevertheless, the Japanese house builder used bamboo as an adjunct. In China paper was made of bamboo. In Japan bamboo was not used for paper making, a superior kind of paper being produced from another grass. The Japanese used sheets of bamboo in place of writing paper. In India a white mineral matter drawn from the bamboo was used for medicinal purposes. In Japan, however, it was not so used. It was necessary, he thought, to point out a few of the differences of the use of bamboo in Japan, as compared with other neighbouring countries. They were thus able to see that the Japanese by no

means slavishly copied their neighbours in the use to which they put this material, but that they followed their own ideas, and only made it applicable to such uses as were suited to their own purposes and conditions of life. There were many varieties of bamboo indigenous to Japan. One species, only a few inches in height, covered the uncultivated portions of the country, very much to the detriment of pasturage. Some varieties grew to the height of 30 or 40 feet, with stems six or seven inches in diameter, and there were many species of intermediate growth. The peculiar properties which rendered bamboo especially valuable to man's use were its great strength, flexibility, and lightness, the hollowness and boxlike cavity of its stem, and the ease with which it could be split into long, even, flexible lengths. It had, moreover, its excellence as an article of food. Collectors of Japanese objects of art know how frequently the labourer was portrayed either digging up the bamboo shoot or carrying it on his back for his wife to cook and prepare for himself and family. Opinions varied greatly on gastronomic subjects, and many dishes favoured by the Japanese required, to say the least, much education on the part of the European palate to appreciate.—(Laughter.) But the bamboo shoot, when well boiled, was by no means to be despised by a hungry man, whatever his nationality might be. The uses of bamboo might conveniently be put under three general heads: implements employed in agriculture and the trades; secondly, household utensils; and thirdly, objects for general use. Mr. Holmes then went on to describe in some detail the various implements made of bamboo which were used in the preparation of rice, tea, silk, &c., in weaving and dyeing, in baskets for trades and for fishing. Many of the articles, which the lecturer explained, were exhibited to the audience. Bamboo was used in a variety of ways—in the kitchens in the service of tea, in the arrangement of flowers, and in general house household requirements. Mr. Holmes thought it surprising that with the many ideas which Europe had taken from the East it had not adopted bamboo for smoking. The tiny Japanese pipes were generally supplied with a bamboo stem; the bowls and mouthpieces were usually of metal. Women's pipes—for, said Mr. Holmes, ladies smoke in Japan, and he created a little diversion by adding: "The same as they do here"—have a longer stem, and the cases in which they are kept are artistically made of bamboo. He then went on to speak of the use of bamboo for musical instruments and for toys. Coming to the personal use of bamboo, he instanced fans, umbrellas, and hats as, perhaps, the most important. The Japanese umbrella was the most classical form of a very necessary object. We all knew the appearance in London or Paris of a multitude of black or sombre umbrellas in the streets. It was not in any way gratifying to the aesthetic sense, but in Kyoto, where the imported gingham had not yet been introduced, the use of the native umbrella seemed to lighten the highways in pouring rain as with a ray of sunshine. The lecturer then proceeded to give some miscellaneous uses of bamboo in Japan. Amongst other things he described the *nomi tori*, which the lecturer caused some amusement by translating "flea-catcher." This ubiquitous little insect, he added, was to be found in Japan as elsewhere. He exhibited the article to the audience, and it certainly looked, as it appeared to the lecturer the first time he saw one, more suited to catch rats and mice than fleas. The little bars of bamboo are half an inch apart, but the lecturer explained that the fleas were caught by smearing the bottom of the trap with bird-lime, and the only object of the bars was to keep the clothes of the susceptible native, in whose sleeve it was secreted, from touching the bird-lime. In conclusion the lecturer said the Japanese were truly lovers of the bamboo. Their artists never tired of depicting its graceful form, or poets of praising it, while metallurgists, lacquer-workers, and potters fashioned their wares in imitation of it.

The Chairman having invited a discussion. Mr. Okoshi, Japanese Consul in London, after complimenting the lecturer upon the interest of his paper, said that one curious thing was that the bamboo could be grown in private gardens. Still more curious to the European, perhaps, was the fact that bamboo was used as a family name in Japan. He could mention about thirty different family names called simply Bamboo. In other cases some adjective from the shape of the bamboo was prefixed, as Mr. Inside Bamboo, Mr. Middle Bamboo, or Mrs. Bamboo Under.—(Laughter.) The bamboo was so extensively used in Japan that some of them were even born Mr. Bamboo.

The Rev. S. Coode Hore said that the symbol of the bamboo, according to the Japanese, expressed in English—Just Judgment, Noble Heart, and Devoted Sentiments.

Mr. Jackson, as Curator of the Royal Gardens

Original from

at Kew, who hoped to have charge in future of this marvellous collection of bamboo products, said he was glad of the opportunity of congratulating Mr. Holme upon his success in collecting such a comprehensive series of bamboo articles. The exhibition of these objects would popularise and make more general the knowledge of this wonderful series of plants of which the bamboo formed a part. He thought the public were to be congratulated upon the acquisition of such a rare collection.

Mr. F. Satow asked the lecturer whether bamboo was used in the schools of Japan in a similar way that a kindred product was used in this country, and whether it had the same stinging qualities. —(Laughter.)

Mr. Holme said that he would reply to the question at once. The Japanese were very gentle with their children, and the bamboo was not used in that particular manner. In China, however, the case was different. He believed there the bamboo was used to inflict very great cruelties.

The Rev. S. Hore said that in one of the classical books of China, he thought the Shi King, there was a reference to the ancient classical birch.

Mr. Larkin said that in the year 1877 he had rather an unpleasant experience of one of the uses of the bamboo, which had not been mentioned by the lecturer. The Japanese Government had remitted the taxes of the land into a tax of coin—that was to say, the taxes gathered in rice were substituted for a tax in coin. The peasants were unable to furnish the coin to the extent required, and they were very perplexed and rose in rebellion. He happened to be in the neighbourhood at the time, and he noted that their arms consisted of bamboo spears, and most formidable weapons they were. The spear was pointed like a lance, and heated to a degree of hardness that it would go through the bodies of two men with a good thrust. As he ran in his flight to the sea, he saw the Japanese peasants thrusting the bamboo spears into the houses and killing many men.

Mr. A. Dioso, honorary secretary of the Society, said that one use of the bamboo had not been mentioned that evening. It was really of Chinese origin. In the province of Kiuhsiu, on the Inland Sea, the custom prevailed in summer of having in each house one or several bamboo cylinders made of plaits of bamboo, which people took to bed with them for the sake of coolness. There were no beds in Japan; the people slept on mattresses covered with quilts, and in hot weather these were sometimes inconveniently hot. Two plans were adopted to obviate this—one was to have a cord attached to the quilt, which ran over a small hook in the ceiling, so that the sleeper could raise the quilt from his body at pleasure; but the mode most frequently adopted was to have this bamboo cylinder under the bed-clothes to keep the quilt off the sleepers. It was about the size of a human being, and each person took this to bed with him.

The Chairman, in closing the discussion, said he thought some attention might be advantageously given in Europe to the use of bamboo for musical instruments, more particularly the organ.

Mr. F. Satow proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded Mr. F. T. Edwards, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Holme, in acknowledging the compliment said, with regard to the spear in Japan, it was made of a class of bamboo that was solid throughout. It was common enough in India, but it was very rare in Japan, and only occurred in a small district. That was why he had made no reference to the use of bamboo as a weapon.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The catastrophe has been expected any time these last six or eight months, and, in fact, the bank could not have lived so long as it has done but for the fixed deposit system. In its origin it was an attempt to build a new institution upon the ruins of an old, without clearing those ruins away. Besides its losses through banking in the East, the concern is understood to be heavily locked up in house property in Melbourne, and it has never got clear of the old bank's commitments in Mauritius, where its difficulties and those of the Oriental Bank Estates Company have lately been aggravated by pure misfortune. The immediate cause of the stoppage was the steady withdrawal of the fixed deposits as they became due.—*Standard*.

Stoppage of payment is at last announced by the New Oriental Bank Corporation (Limited). For about eight years past it has been conducting a business which was started in the year 1884 on

the ruins of the old Oriental Bank. During the period of its activity it had obtained a large connection, and, until last year, appeared to be in a flourishing condition. To a number of good people—Anglo-Indians and Scotchmen connected with the East—the suspension will be a matter of surprise, but to City men there is nothing surprising about it. The Bank is known to have been exposed to a good many risks. Beyond incidental losses, there has been the fall in silver, which has not only depreciated the assets of the bank employed in the East, but has crippled the financial strength of its customers, and so, indirectly, affected the bank itself. Its credit having fallen, there was a natural disposition to withdraw deposits.—*Daily News*.

The failure of the New Oriental Bank Corporation (Limited) is in some respects the most serious financial disaster that we have had for some years past, excepting, of course, the liquidation of Messrs. Baring Brothers, which was exceptional. The institution has been in existence for barely eight years, and at the date of the last balance sheet it had banking assets amounting to £10,801,000. It has, of course, suffered, in common with all Eastern banks, from the heavy depreciation in silver and the Eastern exchanges; but it has also had troubles of its own through failures and unwise business on the part of its managers abroad; and while its credit for some little time past has been much discussed in banking circles, its depositors have been gradually withdrawing their deposits.—*Chronicle*.

The failure of the efforts which have been made to save the New Oriental Bank Corporation from suspension will cause a very wide widespread feel of regret, not only because of the serious gap made in the financing of our trade with the Far East, but also because the catastrophe is so obviously due to conditions over which ordinary business prudence and ability could have no control. It is an open secret that the Bank has been embarrassed to some extent by the withdrawal of deposits in consequence of the loss of confidence which has followed the decline in the gold price of silver. Such conditions must have embarrassed an institution whose capital is locked up to a considerable extent in silver-using countries. The difficulty of rapid realisation of assets, great under any circumstances when there is a run on deposits, is of course very much greater when the currency in which they are realisable is itself a factor of uncertain value. Moreover, the Bank has had to face the consequences of the recent disastrous hurricane in Mauritius, as it has played a leading part in the finances of the island.—*Manchester Guardian*.

It is only fair to those at present acting as managers, to say that the suspension of payments is more the result of the bad management in the early years after the reconstruction than of the mistakes which the existing executive have made. For example, the bank was involved by the former managers in the Gatling gun business to the extent of £100,000, and it may be said escaped fortunately with a loss of only £12,000, and money has also been sunk in sugar estates in Mauritius, and over £700,000 is believed to be locked up in building land in Melbourne. Coming to more recent blunders, by no stretch of the principles by which joint-stock bank managers are understood to be guided could the payment of £20,000 in connection with participation in a Persian lottery loan speculation be held justified. It is a mistake, in fact, to assume that because this bank has lost money by sending gold deposits to be employed in the East, other India banks are in the same category. The better class of Indian banks have been careful to avoid exposing themselves to a similar loss through the depreciation in the Indian exchange. This has been avoided by keeping the rupee deposits at the Eastern branches and the gold deposits here. If the operations happened during a particular period to throw the balance of cash more to one side than the other, the manager would pause in his commitments pending an adjustment. It should be pointed out to those who have insured their deposits in the New Oriental Bank (Limited) with other companies that they should enter into no negotiations with the bank respecting their claim, or the contract with the insuring company becomes void.—*Times*.

Although the New Oriental Bank was known to be in a tottering condition, the official announcement of its collapse comes at a most inopportune moment. The financial world is not in such a strong condition as to be able to bear any diminution of public confidence in the stability of securities.—*Globe*.

THE DOOM OF PARIS.

M. Louis Gallet, in the *Nouvelle Revue* for March 15th, gives a vivid picture of what may conceivably happen to Paris 1,200 years hence. It describes prophetically how, at that epoch, the Eiffel Tower was the only existing relic of nineteenth-century Paris, and even that was subject of dim traditions, no *savant* being able to explain the name with certainty.

All northern Europe had been depopulated by the advance of the Polar glaciers—Germany no longer in existence, Russia had spread out over the whole of Asia; the United States of Europe, whose capital was Marseilles, included all the remaining nations. South of the Mediterranean were the United States of Africa, with Algiers as their capital. Paris was as gay and pleasure loving a city as in the old days, in spite of the increasing rigours of the climate. There was scarcely any poverty and no illness—all possible microbes having been catalogued and exterminated, or rendered harmless by preventive measures—the doctors' occupation was gone. Their place was taken by scientific chemists and professors of physiology. The art of preserving health and appearance had been carried to such perfection that very few people appeared to be old, and the population, as a whole, was remarkable for looks. These Parisians—a composite race—consisting of the select survivors of the great northern catastrophe—cared nothing for art or literature, and very little for music; though, occasionally, monster Wagner concerts were given in vast halls. There were no museums, picture galleries, or public libraries. The very language was constructed on the labour-saving principle, and formed a species of spoken shorthand, consisting almost entirely of nouns and adjectives.

No one read anything but the daily papers, and these were reduced to the smallest possible size. Political news, or the latest events of the day, were indicated in a few words. All comments were suppressed, nothing but bare statements of fact being allowed. The old-fashioned argumentative journalists had been displaced by reporter-gymnasts, the most distinguished of them being the one who had the swiftest *àronet* and could reach the scene of events soonest. There was hardly any street traffic. A few electric vehicles were to be seen, but the *àronets*, or improved balloons, worked by sails and screws, were a much more popular means of transport. They were of all sizes, from the large ones with ten rows of screws, of which there was a regular service taking the place of trams and omnibuses, to the small private ones, gilt and ornamented like royal yachts. When plying by night, and showing various-coloured lights, they glittered in the sky like a rain of stars.

Then people were happy and knew it—which is rare. As long as no one spoke to them of God, or death, or love, which brings trouble—or the family, with its affections and trials, which are subversive of all peace—they were content, passing through life with a philosophic selfishness and making it as enjoyable as their riches would permit. When the cold became excessive, the lower classes took refuge in the winter gardens—immense glass palaces, artificially heated, while the rich started in their *àronets* for Algiers, or even Lake Tchad, which by this time was surrounded by delightful villas. Either could be reached in a few hours; and many of these winter visitors were in the habit of returning to Paris once a week to attend to their business.

For some years past the cold had perceptibly increased in mid winter, and the snow had fallen more abundantly than in former times. Some exceptional snowstorms had been photographed in which the flakes appeared to touch one another and form a solid mass. But these storms were of short duration, and the snow had been melted by means of chemicals discharged from an apparatus specially designed for the purpose, and drained off through the sewers into the Seine. This year, however, after a week of exceptionally mild and spring-like weather, the sky was suddenly covered with clouds so dense that the summit of the Eiffel Tower was no longer visible. The public *àronets* after a time ceased to run, but a few private ones were still about.

The police then prohibited all traffic till the weather should change. The temperature was mild. A smart breeze sprang up,—then a whiteness was perceptible at the zenith, and the snow began to fall slowly in larger flakes, so that in one hour it was over 60 centimetres deep in the streets. The melting-machines at once set to work, and streams of water poured into the Seine. The snow continued all night, and in the morning it became evident that what had been looked upon as an event was going to prove a disaster. The policemen working the machines were nearly worn out, and at midnight, when a pale daylight was struggling

through the grey sky, it was discovered that the supply of chemical salts was exhausted. The snow fell all day; it was now impossible to make headway against it, and by the evening every door in the city was blocked. Towards midnight, a sudden gale from the north scattered the clouds and cleared the sky, the thermometer dropped far below freezing point, and the drifts soon became a solid mass of ice. All who could, left their houses by the windows or balconies and made for the *aéronef* stations. There was a frantic struggle in front of the sheds; there was now neither right nor law, neither servant nor master; the stronger thrust the weaker out of the way and trampled them under foot.

The *aéronefs* were launched—some disappeared from view in the gathering clouds, others fell as if pierced with visible arrows. Through the *faubourgs* extended black lines of people trying to escape on foot. . . . They were all frozen to death before they had gone more than a kilometre, and the snow, once more falling thickly, soon buried them without leaving a trace. Within the city, all who remained of its six million inhabitants, had crowded into the square where stood the Eiffel Tower. The snow was already half way up the arches which supported the first floor. The city had already disappeared. There was no sound or movement of anything living in the air. There was a cry, "The Tower! The Tower!" Many had not even thought of this refuge. The lift would not work—clanked by the frozen snow. There was a rush for the stairs, and a fearful struggle in the narrow passage. Men seized each other by the throat, by the hair, revolvers were fired with scarcely a sound in the very air. At last the strongest made their way into the narrow ascent and climbed up and up, while the curl of the snow around them rose almost as quickly.

When day dawned there were a few frozen corpses still clinging to the bars on the platform of the electric lantern. Paris was dead.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 17th.

The following numbers have been elected to the House of Commons:—

Tories	260
Unionists	50
Liberals	268
Irish	74

London, July 21st.

The Liquidator of the New Oriental Bank Corporation states that the creditors' claims will very likely amount to £4,500,000, and that they will receive at the utmost fifteen shillings in the pound.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, July 20th.

The *Omi Maru* has arrived here and been placed in dock. The survey shows that the principal damage the vessel has sustained is forward on the starboard side, the port side being slightly injured sixty feet from the stem. It will be necessary to renew twenty-five plates and straighten a few beams.

The Court-martial on Commander McCurley has been concluded, but the sentence of the Court has not been made public. It has been stated, however, that the finding was favourable to Commander McCurley.

Nagasaki, July 21st.

The finding of the Court-martial here has been promulgated. Commander McCurley is suspended from duty for one year on full leave pay. Lieut.-Commander J. W. Rich, late of the *Palos*, has been appointed commander of the *Alliance*; and Lieut.-Commander John J. Hunter, late of the *Marion*, has been appointed Commander of the *Palos*. A number of short service men are being drafted from the

Alliance and will leave shortly for home by way of San Francisco.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS,"]

London, July 1st.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, speaking at Edinburgh, declared that he had never retracted a syllable of his Irish proposal of 1886, and he leaves it to a Liberal government to settle the question as to the retention of Irish members in the British Parliament.

[FROM THE "EL COMERCIO,"]

Madrid, July 2nd.

Riots of greengrocers and hawkers have invaded the centre of Madrid and they force the stoppage of all business.

They attack the Police and the latter are obliged to open fire, resulting in several rioters being wounded.

The return of the Royal party will be deferred, should the rioting continue.

Later.

Their Majesties the King and the Queen returned from Aranjuez and were received with acclamation.

The rioters in the Toledo Street have destroyed the slaughter house in order to prevent the issue of meat. They have destroyed all lamp-posts in the lower parishes. The firing of the troops has wounded many.

The Bourse continues paralyzed and speculators support the strike.

Madrid, July 3rd.

The additional municipal import on the hawkers, which has been the cause of the rioting, has been suspended. Madrid quiet.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

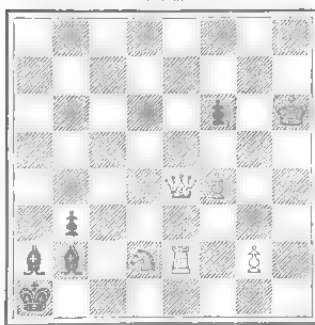
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 26.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to R 5	1—K x R
2—Kt to B 5 dis. ch. mate	1—K to B 4
2—Q to Kt 4 mate	1—R x R
2—Kt to Kt 3 mate	1—R to B 4
2—R to Q 4 mate	1—R to Kt 4
2—Kt to B 6 mate	1—R x Kt or P
2—Q to K R sq. mate	1—Kt moves.
2—R x R mate.	

Correct solutions received from W. H. S., Digamma, Ed. B., Scacchi, Omega, and O. Balk. Additional correct solution of Problem No. 25 received from J. D., and J. W. E.

PROBLEM NO. 28.

By J. A. W. HUNTER.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The following is the last game played in the Steinitz-Tschigorin match. Its surprising termination decided the match in the Champion's favour. If M. Tschigorin had won the game the score would have stood at 9 points each and the match would have been drawn. We take the game as well as the appended table of results from the *British Chess Magazine*:-

KING'S GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Tschigorin.	Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P x P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 5	4—Kt to R 4
5—B to K 2	5—P to K Kt 3
6—P to Q 4	6—B to Kt 2
7—Castles.	7—P to Q 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—Castles.
9—Kt to K sq.	9—P x P
10—B x Kt	10—P x B
11—P x P	11—Q x Q
12—Kt x Q	12—Kt to B 3
13—B x P	13—B to B 4
14—Kt to K 3!	14—B to K 5
15—Kt to B 3	15—K R to K sq.
16—Kt to Kt 5	16—B to Kt 3
17—Kt to Q 5	17—B x K P
18—Q Kt x P!	18—B x Kt
19—B x B	19—Q R to B sq.
20—B to Kt 3	20—Kt to Q 5?
21—P to B 3	21—Kt to K 7 ch.
22—K to B 2	22—P to R 5
23—B to Q 6!	23—Kt to Q 5
24—P x Kt	24—R to B 7 ch.
25—K to Kt sq.	25—K R to K 7
26—Q R to K sq!	26—R x Kt P ch.
27—K to R sq.	27—K to Kt 2
28—R to K 8	28—P to B 4
29—Kt to K 6 ch.	29—K to B 3
30—R to K 7	30—K R to K 7
31—P to Q 5	31—Q R to Q 7
32—B to Kt 4	32—R x R P ch.
33—Resigns.	

TABLE OF RESULTS.

Game No.	Opening.	Number of moves.	Winner.
1.....	Evans Gambit	31	Tschigorin (5).
2.....	Ruy Lopez	33	Drawn (31).
3.....	Evans Gambit	32	Drawn (2).
4.....	Ruy Lopez	39	Steinitz (1).
5.....	Two Knights Defence	56	Drawn (3).
6.....	Evans Gambit	48	Steinitz (2).
7.....	Evans Gambit	39	Tschigorin (2).
8.....	Two Knights Defence	24	Tschigorin (3).
9.....	Evans Gambit	35	Drawn (4).
10.....	Two Knights Defence	31	Tschigorin (4).
11.....	Ruy Lopez	46	Steinitz (3).
12.....	Two Knights Defence	27	Tschigorin (5).
13.....	Evans Gambit	39	Steinitz (4).
14.....	Ruy Lopez	32	Steinitz (5).
15.....	Evans Gambit	48	Tschigorin (6).
16.....	Ruy Lopez	38	Steinitz (6).
17.....	Evans Gambit	38	Tschigorin (7).
18.....	Kt—K B 3	48	Steinitz (7).
19.....	Scotch	32	Tschigorin (8).
20.....	Kt—K B 3	42	Steinitz (8).
21.....	King's Gambit	47	Drawn (5).
22.....	Kt—K B 3	44	Steinitz (10).
23.....	King's Gambit	38	Steinitz (10).

M. Tschigorin had first move in the first game.

A protest has been issued by the Scottish Home Rule Association against the misuse of national names, and drawing attention to certain articles of the Treaty of Union between Scotland and England, showing that Scotland and England entered into a Union upon perfectly equal terms, as both surrendered their separate names in favour of a joint title—viz., Great Britain. But of late years, it is stated, there had sprung up an evil habit of using, both in the press and on the platform, the words "England" and "English" for the "British Empire" and the "British people." This habit was an insult and injury to the Scotland people, and an offensive piece of arrogance on the part of all those who used the terms, and against this insult to the Scottish people the Association entered the following protest from

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 29th.
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.		Sunday, July 24th.*
From Canada, per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, July 31st †
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.		Sunday, July 31st.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Aug. 7th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Aug. 10th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 11th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on July 19th. † Empress of China left Vancouver on July 18th. The English mail is on board the steamer Macduff.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 26th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 28th
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 31st.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 7th.
For Canada, etc. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Aug. 8th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Aug. 12th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 16th July,—Kobe 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 16th July,—Otaru and ports 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 17th July,—Hongkong 11th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 17th July,—Hongkong via ports 9th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 17th July,—Hongkong via ports 9th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Fingal, British ship, 2,510, Fulmore, 19th July,—Kobe, Tea.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 19th July,—Kobe 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 19th July,—Otaru and ports 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Denawongse, British steamer, 1,057, Anderson, 20th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 20th July,—Mojito 18th July, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 21st July,—Yokkaichi via Handa 20th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, W. S. Thomson, 21st July,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 21st July,—Tacoma, Wash. via Victoria, B.C., 1st July, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, F. Brown, 21st July,—Kobe 20th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thermopylae, British bark, 948, Winchester, 22nd July,—Vancouver, B.C., 2nd June, Lumber.—Frazar & Co.

Salasie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 22nd July,—Marseilles 12th June, Hongkong 14th July, Shanghai 17th, and Kobe 21st, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 22nd July,—Handa 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 22nd July,—Otaru and ports 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 16th July,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Mascotte, British steamer, 2,017, Jas. Ross, 16th July,—Portland, Oregon via Vancouver, B.C., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 16th July,—Mojito, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, Brown, 17th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Bevilacqua, 17th July,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 18th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 860, J. Jones, 18th July,—Manila via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 18th July,—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Cumming, 18th July,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 19th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 19th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 21st July,—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 21st July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 21st July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Devawongse, British steamer, 1,057, Geo. Anderson, 22nd July,—Tacoma, Wash. via Victoria, B.C., Tea and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 22nd July,—Mojito, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Swift (S), gunboat, Captain R. D. Bruce, 22nd July,—Hakodate and Otaru.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, F. Brown, 22nd July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 23rd July,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 23rd July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Mike Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Denys Larrieu, Mr. Miura, and Mr. J. Shimomura in cabin; 9 passengers in steerage.

For Otaru: Miss Rosina Smith in cabin; 8 passengers in steerage. For Hakodate: 1 passenger in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Captain F. Devenish in cabin; 25 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—Dr. Runkwitz, Mr. A. Epler, Mr. and Mrs. Bowden, Mr. Ying Chee, and Mr. Ah Yow in cabin; 32 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Jones, Miss E. Jones, Messrs. David Kennedy, Borlokoff, Kornkoff, Simerman, Pearce, Forchuey, and J. W. Nicolle in cabin. Disembarked at Nagasaki: Mr. Chas. Chamberlain, R.M.L.I., in cabin. Disembarked at Kobe: Misses Falcouer, Benham, Ricketts, and Wood (2) in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. B. Aubert, Mr. G. C. Benton, Mr. T. Brown, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Broadram and family, Mrs. Butler, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Brown and family, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. G. Chapman, Mr. Chambers, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. G. Campbell and family, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Cole, Mr. Cho Tai Ying, Mr. Ching Yung Peng, Mr. M. B. Drunell, Mr. J. C. Edmonds, Dr. Edkins, Miss K. Tristram, Mr. and Mrs. Fagg, Mr. W. G. Gibson, Mrs. Miss, and Master Hanner, Mr. Hawes, Mr. A. H. Heath, Miss Howe, Mr. E. Knaut, Mr. F. H. Lorenz, Miss L. Lovell, Dr. and Mrs. Matier, Dr. and Mrs. Mills and family, Mr. H. A. J. Macray, Mr. J. MacKenzie, Dr. Noble, Mr. H. Ogilvie, Mr. Pander, Captain Ratallick, Mr. J. Schild, Mr. T. Stewart, Miss She Me Yun, Mr. O. Stibel, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore, Colonel Wilbraham, Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, Mr. Wei Loong Ching, Miss Wu Ida, and Rev. Dr. Vincent in cabin; Mrs. Blachford and family, Mrs. Burke, family, and amah, Mr. F. W. Chamberlain, Mr. Lueng H. Nom, Miss W. Kusuzi, Mr. Wm. Spiers, and Mr. P. R. S. Vincent in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. T. Honda, R. Kazikawa, and A. H. Boltenheim in cabin; Mr. G. Mori in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Devawongse*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. A. Reynolds in cabin. For Victoria: Mr. P. A. Nicolle in cabin. For Canadian ports: 36 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from

Kobe:—Mr. Tatsuoka Shorin in second class and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Salasie*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. G. Mitsukuri, Mr. Sakata Sadakatsu, Mrs. Morioka Kin, Mrs. Woomay, Mr. Biegnot, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, Mr., Mrs., and Miss J. Bredon and amah, Mr. Odon Vinals, Rev. H. B. Price and family, Mr. O. Rizetti, and Mr. Goldstein in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru:—For Hakodate: Rev. J. Bachelor in cabin. For Oginohama: Captain T. H. James in cabin. For Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Haight and infant, Messrs. S. Iwata and H. Wakabayashi in cabin; 42 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Ethel Hawkins, Mr. G. C. Greenhill, Mr. H. Jaeger, Mr. I. Sorokin, Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen, Mrs. A. Carter, Mrs. J. Sherwood, Rev. W. K. Azbill, Mr. and Mrs. Schwabach, Mr. C. H. Wilson, Mr. E. Rochette, Miss Cross, Mr. R. M. H. Woodburn, Mr. and Mrs. Deakin and son, Dr. S. Porges, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. P. Collaco, Rev. and Mrs. O. H. Gulick, Miss Gulick, Mr. P. T. Susman, Mr. L. Bouquet, Mr. A. M. Vivier, Miss Brittan, Mrs. Howell, Mrs. J. Susman, Messrs. F. W. Jaeger, C. H. Hinton, H. N. Read, S. Mylius, G. H. Johnstone, Wm. Hassland, and J. Rissmier in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. Remedios, W. J. Robinson, E. Andreis, Odon Vinals, Mrs. Yano Katsu Messrs. Utera, Stuart Smith, Salliey, Caillol, Lacaze, de Fancouval, L. Hodney, Mr. and Mrs. Reynaud, Mr. Swithinbank, Mr. A. Norkett, Miss Burnett, and Mr. J. Sarda in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Blumenstein, Mr. J. C. Benson, Rev. Mr. Britten, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Bassett, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Brown and family, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Brandon, Mr. H. Bishop, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Batten, Mr. and Mrs. Cole, Mr. C. A. Cheekoff, Mr. Wei Long Ching, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Lieut. Curry, R.N., Mr. Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clark, Mrs. Campbell and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, Mr. D. De Vitre, Mr. De Guerville, Mr. T. G. Dolbissheff, Lady Grey Egerton and maid, Miss Egerton, Mr. Evans, Mr. J. C. Edwards, Mr. Edkins, Miss Gooderham, Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, 3 children, and amah, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Giles, Miss Goldie, Mr. A. H. Heath, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hargreaves and child, Mr. A. T. Hall and servant, Mr. G. W. Hill, Lieut. Hall, R.N., Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Hawes, Miss Howe, Miss Wu Ida, Mr. Irwin, Miss K. V. Johnson, Prof. Janson, Mr. and Mrs. Keswick, Mr. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Landon, Miss Landon, Mr. and Mrs. Leary, Miss Lund, Captain Lewis, Mr. Ley, Dr. Muller, Mr. Moffett, Mr. T. Mackenzie, Mr. H. R. Miller, Madame Meyerhoff, Mrs. W. R. H. Martin, Master L. T. Martin, Mr. H. A. J. Macray, Lieut. Moggridge, R.N., Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Mills and 3 children, Dr. and Mrs. Matier, Mr. A. L. Norrie, Dr. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. H. Pfaff, Mr. Chen Yung Peng, Mr. Pander, Miss Rothweiler, Mr. Savage, Mr. Strachan, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. Lespiard Stewart, Mr. Strauss, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Turnure, Miss Turnure, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Trowbridge, Master E. K. Trowbridge, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore, Mr. S. W. Uojenin, Mr. Vogel, Rev. Dr. Vincent, Mr. Wilkinson, Miss Shie Mei Yu, and Mr. Cho Tai Yen in cabin; Mr. Budd, Mrs. Burke, 2 children, and amah, Mrs. Blachford and 4 children, Mr. Blundell, Mr. Chown, Mr. Hoskins, Mr. Kikuchi, Mr. Roubothan, Mr. Spiers, Mr. Tweedale, and Mr. Vincent in second class.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Forder and 3 children of Mr. Barrie, Mr. Chung Sing, Mr. and Mrs. Hoechter, Mr. Th. Sansen, and Mr. Th. Truka in cabin; 17 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. J. F. Lowder and maid, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Hinton, Miss D. Fitzgerald, Major-General Palmer, R.E., Captain Devenish, Messrs. F. H. Loring, W. Whymark, H. J. Marshall, A. Asano, and F. Faichney in cabin; Messrs. Miyokuchi, Kiyoki, Ninomiya, Shigeoka, Namsu, and Oyama and child in second class. For Shimomaki: Mr. and Mrs. Imadate and Mr. H. Rumschottell in cabin. For Nagasaki: Dr. H. N. and Miss Cobb, Mrs. H. H. Barnett and son, and Miss Vincent in cabin; Mrs. Taka, Messrs. Maruyama and T. Silverman in second class. For Shanghai: Messrs. H. Sylva and F. B. Aubert in cabin and 79 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Stanbury, Captain Reynolds, Major and Mrs. Selfe, Captain and Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Cavendish, Captain and Mrs. Douche, and Miss Thompson in cabin.

Original from

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 420 bales; Waste Silk for France, 16 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TRA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST.				
Hongkong ..	11	—	—	55	66
Amoy	—	—	1,144	—	1,144
Foochow	2,360	—	1,190	—	3,550
Shanghai ..	841	—	2,398	119	3,358
Macao	—	—	—	57	57
Hankow	125	—	560	36	721
Hyogo	573	2,130	1,256	—	3,959
Yokohama ..	3,491	1,652	1,174	38	6,355
Total	7,401	3,782	7,672	305	19,160

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	100	—	—	100
Shanghai	134	—	—	134
Yokohama	277	—	—	277
Total	511	—	—	511

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk for France, 264 bales; Waste Silk, 87 bales.

REPORTS.

The British schooner *Esmeralda*, Captain Harrison, reports:—Left Guam the 29th June at 6.30 a.m.; had strong winds with heavy squalls. Anchored off Rota the 30th at 10.30 p.m. and left the 1st July at 7.30 p.m.; had fresh breeze with terrific squalls and rain. Anchored off Saipan the 2nd at noon and left same night at 11 p.m.; had moderate winds and fine weather. Anchored off Pagan the 4th at 5.30 p.m. and took in cargo and left same night at 10.30 p.m.; had moderate winds with rain and squalls to Fatsizio; thence light southerly winds and calms to Iro-saki; from Rock Island to Kanon-saki moderate N.E. winds with rain; thence to port fresh breeze; off Futsu passed schooner *Norma* bound out. Arriving at Yokohama the 16th July at 9 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Mikie Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Kobe the 15th July at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 16th July at 6 p.m.; had light to moderate variable winds throughout the passage and rain off Omai-saki.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Otaru the 12th July at noon and arrived at Hakodate the 13th at 8.30 a.m.; had light easterly winds and pleasant weather to Tsugaru Straits; thence to port we encountered dense fog. Left Hakodate the 14th at noon and arrived at Oginohama the 15th at 10.45 a.m.; had fine pleasant weather to 10 p.m. on the 14th; thence thick misty weather to port. Left Oginohama the same day at 2.10 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 16th July at 3.30 p.m.; had fresh northerly and north-easterly winds with overcast cloudy weather throughout the passage.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 11th July at 11 a.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th July at 7.32 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 18th July at noon; had light variable air and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th July at 6.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakuraura Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 15th July at noon and arrived at Hakodate the 16th at 7.32 a.m. Left the 15th at noon and arrived at Oginohama the 18th at 0.35 p.m. Left at 2.45 p.m. the same day; passed Imboye at 7.5 a.m. on the 19th and arrived at Yokohama the 19th July at 7 p.m.; had light variable winds, smooth water, and fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Devawongse*, Captain Anderson, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th July at 6.12 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 20th July at 11.20 a.m.; experienced light variable winds and smooth sea with heavy southerly swell.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 20th July at noon; had light air and fine weather, with high southerly swell throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st July at 6.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Elestrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 18th July at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Hakodate the 19th at 5.30 a.m. and left the 20th at noon; had moderate S.E. winds and mist, which continued to Oginohama, where arrived the 21st at 10.46 a.m. and left at 2.30 p.m.; had moderate southerly winds and overcast sky; off Imboye, heavy S.E. swell coming up, wind freshened and hauling round to the eastward; heavy sea off Noshima. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd July at 4.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very little has been done in the way of buying during the past week, and the market remains pretty much as last reported, but quiet. There has been a demand for Shirtings, and a moderate business has been put through at previous prices, but other Cotton Goods have been dealt in sparingly and Woollens have been almost neglected; in Yarns, the quantity sold has been trifling. The Midsummer Bon generally checks business for a time, and as that festival has now passed, more activity may be looked for shortly. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10½ for Bank on demand. Sales for the week comprise 250 bales English Yarn, 10,000 pieces glb. Shirtings, 2,500 pieces Washed Shirtings, 1,000 pieces T-Cloths, 200 pieces White Shirtings, 1,000 pieces Indigo Shirtings, 1,000 pieces Tinkey Reds, 200 pieces Victoria Lawns, 150 pieces Velvets, and 1,000 pieces Mouseline de Laine.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds. 32 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9½ yds. 32 inches	1.85 to 2.50
T. Cloth—7½ yds. 24 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.30 to 1.55
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Salteenus Black, 34 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	5.60 to 6.65
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetas—12 yards, 44 inches	1.45 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.25 to 28
Medium	0.21 to 23½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 20
Cosmon	0.11 to 1.17
Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 11 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 51½ to 55 inches	0.47½ to 0.54
Cloths—Presidents, 51½ to 55 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 51½ to 55 inches	0.15 to 0.47½
Woolens—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	0.15 to 0.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
No. 328, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 428, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
PER HALE.	
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Market has not reopened, buyers continuing to make various excuses for their inactivity. Meantime, holders are not anxious, being sustained in their position by higher prices at home and lower exchange.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

With deliveries averaging over 5,000 cases per day prices are maintained. Fresh arrivals are said to be near at hand, but the vessels are apparently delayed.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER POUND.
Chester	—
Comet	\$1.57½ to 1.60
Devoe	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52½

SUGAR.

Market unchanged. There has been some inquiry for Refined Whites, but Browns seem neglected at the moment.

	PER POUND.
Brown Tahiti	\$4.20 to 4.30
Brown Datong	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Indon	3.40 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 15th instant, since which date settlements on this market are 1,033 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 136 piculs; *Filatures*, 680 piculs; *Re-reels*, 153 piculs; *Kakeda*, 58 piculs; *Oshu*, 6 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 56 bales, which brings the total business of the week up to about 1,100 piculs.

Influenced to some extent by the falling exchange, and also by the good demand from Lyons, our market has been very active at full rates. From our statistics it will be seen that purchases and shipments for Europe still predominate over those for the United States, all of which seems to be some confirmation of the rumours as to short crop in Italy.

True *Shinshu* silks are beginning to arrive, also *Kakeda* sorts, and we now only require prime *Oshu Filatures* to make our list of silks on offer complete.

The quality of present arrivals of *Shinshu Filatures* is good. With regard to *Kakeda*, color and quality are fair, but the size is very irregular and in some cases runs very full; probably this fault will be remedied as the season advances.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The American mail, *Oceanic*, on the 16th instant, took 110 bales for the United States; the French mail *Natal*, July 17th, took 420 bales for Europe; the Canadian mail, July 18th, *Empress of India*, had 277 bales for the New York trade, and the German mail, July 19th, *Nuernberg*, took 69 bales for Genoa in transit. These departures bring the present export up to 1,618 piculs, against 1,709 last year, and 990 at the same date in the previous season.

Hanks.—The large business in these continues, buyers taking practically everything which comes in and buying considerable parcels of old staple besides. Ordinary *Hachofu* has been freely taken at \$475, new staple; old *Shinshu Hanks* are said to have been done as high as \$520, with other parcels at \$515 and \$505. New *Maidashi* and new *Shinshu* have not yet arrived.

Filatures.—The principal trade has been in this class, many parcels being taken for Europe and high prices have been paid. No. 1 silks, 10/12 deniers, \$720; other grades, \$710, \$700, \$690, \$680, &c., down to \$640. In American sorts, good *Shinshu* marks have been done at \$685, \$680, \$675 and \$670; indeed, as high as \$690 is reported for some *Matsumoto* brands.

Re-reels.—Not a large business in these; buyers ask for good silks, which are scarce; medium grades are plentiful but neglected; *Five Girl* chop, first and second quality mixed, is reported sold at \$645. An inferior parcel of *Turtoise* was done at \$635; some common *Bushu*, \$602½; something a little worse in quality at \$595.

Kakeda.—These are now coming in pretty freely and apparently find ready buyers on the basis of \$620 for No. 1 *Horsehead*. A few boxes No. 3 *Horsehead*, common quality and very full size, have been placed at \$560; on the other hand, *Daruma* has been done at \$645. The bulk of these purchases would appear to be for Europe.

Oshu.—One small parcel of medium *Hamatsuki* has been done at \$480, and that closes the record for this week.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	\$510 to 520
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	490 to 500
Hanks—No. 3	475 to 495
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	460 to 470
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	600 to 605
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	580 to 590
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	630 to 645
Kakedas—No. 14	620 to 630
Kakedas—No. 2	600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 24	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3	560 to 570
Kakedas—No. 34	—
Volantes—No. 2	—
Oshu Sendai	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 2, 3	—
Sulati—No. 24	—

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Export Raw Silk Tables to 22nd July, 1892:—

	Season 1890-1891	1891-92.	1892-93.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Katago	858	438	251
America	707	1,212	715
Total	{ Bales 1,565 Piculs 1,618 }	{ 1,650 1,709 }	{ 966 990 }
Settlements and Direct }	2,000	2,300	950
Export from 1st July }	2,200	2,450	4,400
Stock, 22nd July	4,200	4,750	5,350
Available supplies to date	4,200	4,750	5,350

WASTE SILK.

Rather more doing, chiefly in old fibre. Settlements for the week are 175 piculs, divided thus:—Noshi, 140 piculs; Kibiso, 24 piculs, *Rosekwa-ta*, 11 piculs.

The chief portion of these settlements is in old fibre, and what little has been done in new Waste is hardly sufficient to determine quotations. A few sample piculs of new *Filature Kibiso* have passed the scales at prices ranging from \$90 to \$85. These look fairly cheap, when we compare them with last year's figures; then prices were about \$10 higher and exchange very much higher, also.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the *Oceanic* taking one bale, the French mail 16 bales and the German mail 9 bales. These departures bring the present export up to 847 piculs, against 112 piculs last year and 627 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—Samples of *Shinshu* crop are now coming in; we hope to report on the quality next week.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	\$110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Baku, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	Nom. \$65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90 to 95
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 22nd July, 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	847	112	627
Pierced Cocoons	847	112	627
Settlements and Direct }	300	50	300
Export from 1st July }	4,200	3,150	5,750
Stock, 22nd July	4,500	3,200	6,050
Available supplies to date	4,500	3,200	6,050

Exchange has experienced another fall in sympathy with a fresh decline in silver at London. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$70½; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.70; 6m/s. fcs. 3.73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 22nd July, 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	130	Cocoons	120
Filatures	780	Noshi-ito	2,280
Re-reels	990	Kibiso	1,620
Kakeda	145	Mawata	56
Oshu	155	Sundries	124
Taysam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	2,200	Total piculs	4,200

TEA.

Considerable activity in Tea, but buying is only partial. Some of our shippers appear to anticipate lower prices for the grades on offer, and are holding off accordingly. Should this continue long there may probably be a slight reduction in quotations, stock of second crop leaf being ample, and holders somewhat anxious to be moving.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$31 to 33
Choice	28 to 30
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	13 to 14
Common	11 to 12

EXCHANGE.

Exchange dropped another point during the week, but is firm at quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 11 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3.61
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.71
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1½ 7/8 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1½ 7/8 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	70½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71½
Silver	39½

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TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

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KILLS { BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
MOSQUITOES.

HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
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HARMLESS TO ANIMALS.

but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS in FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THE PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that packages of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins and Bottles only.

March 26, 1892.

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THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:
SORACHI AND PORONAI.

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YOKOHAMA: Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In 1 short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says:—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a transportful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

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Contractors to the British Admiralty, Foreign Governments, Leading Steamship Companies, & Yacht Owners in all parts of the World.

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5. Quickness in raising steam.
6. High rates of speed guaranteed.
7. Absence of noise and vibration.

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KINGDON PATENT LIGHT PORTABLE ENGINE

Stock sizes, 1½ to 6 H.P. Burns less fuel, and gives three times the power, weight for weight, of any other engine. Awarded First Prize by Royal Agricultural Society England, 1890, in competition open to all makers.

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17.

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SANTAL-MIDY Beware of imitations, all other Capsules or mixtures contain impurities, resins, oils &c. and are worse than useless.

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PADDLE STEAMERS WITH DRAFT RANGING DOWN TO 6 INCHES OF WATER

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Builders of the Stern Wheel Steamers used by the British Government for the Nile Expedition.

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Perfect blendings of the Choicest Brands of the Highest Classes of Fine Old Whiskies in their Native Purity, as produced in Scotland, absolutely unadulterated with

MATURED IN SHERRY CASKS.

A LUXURY ■ PURE SCOTCH WHISKIES.

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*** Gold Capsule.

* Blue "

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BOS Whiskies are remarkable for their "delicious individuality of flavour," mellowness and softness on the palate.—"A very Nectar," is marked contrast to ordinary blended Whiskies, which are more or less dominated by one or other of the Whiskies used in blending.

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Correspondence invited from Firms who desire to handle our Whiskies.

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Keeps good in the hottest
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June 14th, 1891.

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Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations,
Bilious Affections.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 5.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 30TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
西曆會信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 30TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A NEW Russian Minister has been appointed to Japan.

MORE than one hundred and sixty foreigners are now staying at Nikko.

FRESH dissensions have occurred in the Cabinet, but their outcome is still uncertain.

THE Japanese man-of-war *Yayeyama Kan* left Jinsen on the 23rd instant for Quelpart.

THE *Naniwa Kan* and the *Takachiho Kan* arrived at Kobe on the 21st inst. from Hakata.

PRINCE IWAKURA, President of the Peerage Bureau, and family, proceeded to Dzushi on the 22nd inst.

PRINCE DE CARIATI, formerly Italian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Japan, has been decorated by H.I.M. the Emperor with the Third Class Order of the Mirror.

THE traffic between the Isobe and Yagogawa Stations has been suspended, in consequence of damage to the railroad caused by the severe rains of the past few days.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu (junior) proceeded to Numadzu on Saturday. H.I.H. the Emperor Kuni has left Tokyo for the western capital.

THE promoters of the Johoku Tramway Company have been permitted by the Government to lay lines of tramway between Mito and Ota (4 *ri*) in Ibaraki Prefecture.

THE net profits of the Shinagawa Electric Light Company, Tokyo, during the past half-year amounted to yen 2,774,701, of which yen 458,928 was set apart as a reserve, yen 270,000

as remuneration to officers, and yen 2,000,000 as a dividend to be declared at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, yen 45,773 being carried forward to the new account.

THE Communications Department intends to construct a new light-house at Rijiri in the Kitami province and another at the Shiokubi Point in Toshima province, Hokkaido.

THE members of the Central Tea Traders' Association have decided to despatch deputies to the World's Fair, and have elected Messrs. Ito Kumao, of Kyoto; Yamaguchi Tetsunosuke, of Chiba; and Ito Ichibei, of Shizuoka, for the purpose.

THE Minister of State for Education proposes to erect an industrial school in Osaka. The construction of the buildings will be commenced in the next fiscal year, the school being opened in the following year. The cost is estimated at yen 93,000.

TRAFFIC on the Maiko and Suma section of the Sanyo Railway line and the Yuki and Kowashima section on the Mito Railway line, which was interrupted in consequence of damage caused by the recent heavy rains, was resumed on the 26th inst.

OWING to the recent incessant rains the Saka-wa, Minami-tama, Sagami, and Banui river in Kanagawa Prefecture, have overflowed, and many bridges have been washed away. The embankment to the length of 120 *ken* (one *ken* = 6 ft.) has been broken at Soga-mura in the Ashigara-shimo District.

DETAILS of the damage caused by the recent severe inundation in Okayama Prefecture state that the total number of houses submerged was 5,000, persons drowned over 110, houses totally destroyed 500, houses partly damaged 600, and houses swept away 200. An extensive area of cultivated land was also rendered useless.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Tokyo Gas Works Company was held at the Bankers' Club on the 24th inst. the chair being occupied by Mr. Shibusawa Yeiichi. The total revenue during the first half of this year was yen 50,252,505, and the expenditures amounted to yen 29,327,924, leaving a profit of yen 20,924,581. A dividend was declared at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

THE returns of the damage by the recent severe gale in Nitta District of Gumma Prefecture are as follow:—Houses totally destroyed, 104; houses partly damaged, 8; lives lost, 5 men and one woman; persons injured, 30; out-houses blown down, 46; sheds damaged, 15; godown ruined one; shrines destroyed, two; temple destroyed, one; and one school partly damaged. Several bridges were also carried away.

A VIOLENT gale, unprecedented in point of severity for many years, was experienced in Tokushima Prefecture on the 23rd inst. The wind blew from the south-eastern quarter with the velocity of 74 miles per hour, while waves rolled into Tokushima, inundating a large number of buildings. The tempest lasted until the following morning. The persistent rains of the past few days have caused the rivers to overflow, and some 41 corpses have been discovered.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders of the Mitsui Bank was held on the 20th inst. The total receipts during the past half-year were over yen 200,000, of which, after deducting sums for miscellaneous expenses, yen 40,000 was set apart as a reserve, yen 30,000

for the payment of doubtful debts, yen 32,000 as remuneration to officers, and yen 80,000 as a dividend to be declared at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, yen 4,000 being carried forward to the new account.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Osaka reports that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer *Inagawa Maru*, which left Hyogo on the 23rd inst. at 5 a.m. for Tamashima, in the province of Bitchu, was caught in a strong tempest off Harima-nada, and totally wrecked off the shore of Shodo Island, at 11 o'clock the same forenoon. All of the 24 passengers with the exception of two persons, and the whole of her crew except a sailor and fireman are missing. The mails and other cargo were lost. The *Setsu Maru* has been despatched to the spot. The *Inagawa* was built in 1890, and her gross tonnage was 952 tons.

THE Emperor, attended by H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Viscount Hijikata, Minister, and Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister for the Imperial Household; Viscount Nishiyotsutsuji, a Chamberlain; Mr. Tanaka, a Secretary of the Imperial Household Department; Dr. Aiso, an Imperial Court Physician; and Lieutenant Hirohata, an Assistant Chamberlain, proceeded to the Military College on the 23rd inst. The Imperial Party arrived at the institution at 9.10 a.m. After a short rest, the Emperor witnessed the drill of students of the Infantry, Artillery, and Cavalry Departments, under the command of, respectively, Katsura Takeichi, Hishida Kikujiro, and Kita Shintaro, Graduates of their corresponding courses. His Majesty also attended the ceremony of conferring diplomas on the Graduates and listened to lectures by Katsura Takeichi, a Graduate of the Infantry, and Hishida Kikujiro, Graduate of the Artillery Departments. Amongst those present were Viscount Takashima, Minister of State for War; Lieutenant-General Miyoshi, Chief Military Inspector; Lieutenant-General Kawakami, Vice-Director of the General Staff Office; Major-General Shigeno, Inspector of Colleges and Schools; Major-General Kuroda, Inspector of the Field Artillery, and several other gentlemen. The Emperor left for the Palace at 11.20 a.m.

THE Import trade appears to be much the same as recently reported. Sales of Yarns have been small, and though the demand for Cotton Goods has not been extensive generally, there have been large purchases of heavy Shirtings. Woollens have scarcely been looked at, though enquiries are made for goods to arrive. Very little doing in Metals beyond a few retail bargains, Wire Nails being the article most in demand. Nothing special to report in Kerosene, but a fair trade at late rates continues. Two arrivals reported this week, and several vessels are close to destination. In the Sugar market Browns are dull, and prices somewhat easier; but Whites have improved in value, and the trade for these is good at hardening figures. The Silk business has been brisk, and prices are well maintained. The destination of the bulk of shipments has been the States, though Europe took a fair quantity of the purchases of the week. The real "Shinsius" show good quality and colour, and during the next few weeks the very finest of the prime "chops" are expected to be placed upon this market. A fair business has been done in Waste Silk early in the week, though slackness has set in in the last few days. The scarcity of the best grades of Tea has sent prices up from one to two dollars per picul, but there is a good supply of common second crop. Exchange has fluctuated with silver in London, and remains very low.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE "MEIJI JO-GAKKO."

THE fifth semi-annual graduation ceremony of the *Meiji Jo-Gakko* took place on the evening of the 19th instant in the hall of that seminary at Shimo-Rokubanchō, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo. Established eight years ago through the exertions of one lady, the late Mrs. Kimura Tō, who combined the best qualities of a genuine Japanese woman with the aspirations of the Christian creed, the school at once began a prosperous career and has since made steady, through unostentatious, progress, until it now occupies a unique position, not only among Japanese female schools, but in the wider sphere of general female education and social reform. The high rank attained by the school is no doubt in a large measure due to the zeal of the Principal, Mr. Iwamoto Yoshiharu, a man scarcely thirty years of age, who has consecrated his life to the cause of female education and social reform. The *Jo-Gaku Zasshi* (Woman's Magazine), the first journal of the kind in Japan, is regarded as the organ of Mr. Iwamoto and his disciples of both sexes. The school is apparently conducted on strictly economical principles, and whenever its income from fees does not suffice it is indebted to the generous contributions of about a dozen Japanese Christians. The basis of education is strictly upon liberal Christian principles, but special care is taken to instruct the pupils in their national literature and history, as well as in English and all the useful branches of knowledge commonly taught in schools of the kind. There are two principal courses, the Higher and the Ordinary, the former extending over two years and the latter over three. To the Ordinary course are admitted only such girls as have passed through the higher primary school or attained a corresponding degree of proficiency; the Higher course is open only to graduates in the Ordinary course. Besides these courses, there are the Teachers' course, the Stenographic course, the Fencing course, and the Musical course. An Elective course is also provided for pupils of advanced age.

The ceremony commenced at a little past 7.30 p.m. The Principal, Mr. Iwamoto, briefly but clearly reviewed the past history and the present position of the school. He laid special stress upon the fact that, although Christianity is the basis of the education given in his school, religious propagandism does not constitute an object, nor is any preference shown to any particular denomination. The aim of the school, he declared, is to equip pupils for the duties which they will be called upon to discharge as wives and mothers. He claimed credit for endeavouring to avoid the extravagances of the extreme schools of thought on the subject of female education. His address was followed by singing and reading of essays. The latter were three in number, all in Japanese of really admirable excellence, the fair essayists being Miss Hara Mine, graduate of the Ordinary course, Miss Yoshioka Toshi, graduate of the Teachers' course, and Miss Hirose Tsune, graduate of the Higher course. Then came performances on the *koto* by Misses Shijo Kane, Anayama Matsu, and Hidaka Mitau, graduates of the Ordinary course. After these performances, diplomas and certificates were presented by the Principal to the graduates in the various courses; there being 3 in the Higher course, 27 in the Ordinary course, 6 in the Teachers' course, 3 in the Elective course, 7 in the Stenographic course, 11 in the Fencing course, and 4 in the Music course. The Principal then spoke a few words of advice to the happy recipients of diplomas; and Miss Matsui Man addressed them on behalf of the students. A valedictory address was then delivered by Miss Sakaki Natsu, graduate of the Higher course, who in touching terms thanked the members of the faculty for their unceasing zeal and kindness in teaching and guiding the pupils. After a recess of some ten minutes, the guests were treated to an interesting display of the pupils' skill in the use of halberds (*naginata*) and in the art of *yawara*. It is claimed for these exercises,

as taught in the school, that they are highly beneficial, not only to the health of the pupils but to the steadying of their minds. So far as the use of the halberd is concerned, we entirely agree with Mr. Hoshino, the teacher of these exercises, as to its beneficial effects; but as to *yawara*, we are perplexed to understand how the study of sleight of hand can contribute to a young lady's useful accomplishments. A performance on the *Satsuma ōwa*, connected with a stirring scene in the history of the heroic and loyal family of Kusunoki, by Mr. Yamashita Risuke, brought the evening's programme to a successful conclusion at a few minutes past 11 o'clock.

TOKYO WATER WORKS.

It seems that the Tokyo Water Works have at last reached the stage of practical inception, for tenders for supplies of iron pipes have been invited from twelve foreign firms, of which five are British and three American. The specifications—with regard to the manner of compiling which some not very flattering remarks are made—call for tenders under two different conditions, namely one for delivery of the pipes in Japan, and the other for delivery at the place of manufacture. This dual requisition is not easy to understand. If Japan were to take delivery at the place of manufacture, she would have to accept all the risks of bringing out the pipes, and would moreover have to provide for their inspection before shipment. Of late years she has persistently and prudently refrained from anything of that kind, and has stipulated for delivery of all her foreign purchases at this side. Except as a matter of curiosity, therefore, she might apparently have dispensed with the alternative estimate in the present instance. The specification stipulates that every pipe must have certain ideographs cast on it, in addition to a number; a precaution, doubtless, against theft. This call for tenders puts an end to the controversy, so ardently carried on by silly patriots, who advocated either that the iron pipes should be manufactured in Japan, or that the material should be pottery—the latter proposal an engineering absurdity, and the former a piece of wild extravagance. Osaka is manufacturing some pipes for her own use, we believe. It is not denied that they cost more than imported pipes, but there is some incomprehensible talk about using up scrap iron, keeping money in the country, and so forth. In short Osaka is bent upon purchasing her own experience out of her own pocket, and since she pays the money, she is entitled to make the choice. We have not heard where the tenders for the Tokyo pipes are to be opened. In the case of Yokohama, sealed tenders had to be sent from England, and were not opened until they reached the hands of the Governor of Kanagawa, who then made his selection—a method that obviated all possibility of "squeezes." It is to be hoped that the Tokyo authorities have followed that wholesome example.

THE RECENT CHANGE OF LOCAL GOVERNORS.

It will not unnaturally be concluded by the public that the recent changes of local Governors is to be regarded as a result of the complaints preferred by the Opposition about the procedure of these officials in the last general elections. Coming immediately after the appointment of Mr. Kono to be Minister of State for Home Affairs, and the transfer of Mr. Shirane from an important executive post to a sinecure—measures which are generally taken as indicative of a disposition to conciliate the Opposition—the changes of local Governors are bound to be construed in the sense of an admission that the Opposition's accusations of official interference were not entirely baseless. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* takes some pains to combat any such inference, and asserts that the changes are quite independent of the elections; but truly we cannot see why any contention so radical need be seriously advanced. In the first place, no sober-minded person will believe that officialdom was entirely immaculate in the elections. Such a cry of indignation as the Opposition raised cannot possibly have been wholly groundless. There

must at least have been indiscretions on the part of some Governors. At all events, the people believed that there was indiscretion, and there resulted, in some cases, a mood of indignation not by any means conducive to the smooth discharge of local administrative functions. The Central Government has to take note of these things. It would be governing very ill did it persist in imposing upon the inhabitants of any Prefecture a Governor whom they had learned, rightly or wrongly, to dislike and distrust. One duty of a Governor is to contrive that he shall be neither disliked nor distrusted, and, if he fails in that duty, his removal becomes imperative. We cannot see why it should not be frankly admitted that the recent changes of Governors are a direct sequel of the agitation about official interference in elections. If the Cabinet, making the changes at such a time, expected them to be construed in any other sense, it must be remarkably confiding.

BUDDHIST MARRIAGES.

BUDDHISM has always shown a tendency to adapt itself to the spirit of the age, and to supply deficiencies in its own ritual by borrowing from other creeds. The latest instance of this, we gather from the pages of the *Bukkyō*, has reference to the method of conducting marriage ceremonies. Two cases are given in which the marriage rites were conducted in quite a new fashion. One took place in Harima on January 15th, and another in Tokyo on June 6th. On the latter occasion the famous Shimaji Moku-rai was the officiating priest. The address delivered to the married couple resembled in form that used at Christian ceremonies. The happy pair were told that their union was the result of recondite causes; that its source was to be traced to a previous existence. The marriage was to be regarded as one of the Divine methods of propagating virtue. "I pray," said the priest, "that your mutual relations may be as close as those of fish and water, that the harmony between you may be as perfect as that of the *kin* and the *koto* (the harp and the lyre). I pray that your lives may ever show the gratitude you feel to your four benefactors (Divinity, parents, superiors, and country). In the presence of the Divinity whom we worship, and of the congregation now assembled, I charge you not to break the vow made here to-day." It will be seen that the above contains in the main all the elements of the Christian ceremony. In both the Buddhist and Christian ceremonies marriages are said to be divinely ordained, and their object is said to be the promotion of virtue. In both ceremonies the married couple are exhorted to live together in harmony, and in both ceremonies, in order to show the binding nature of the marriage vow, they are reminded that it has been made in the presence of God and of assembled friends. Christians may say that the allusion to a connection of marriage with a former life is not warranted by Christian doctrine. But when carefully analysed there is little difference between this notion and the Christian one that "marriages are made in heaven." In both doctrines the idea of predestination is present, in both cases the agents are represented as fulfilling divine decrees.

SECRET LANGUAGE.

LOVERS of the curious among students of the Japanese language might make an interesting collection of words and phrases used exclusively by certain classes. *Jinrikisha* coolies, thieves, and small traders, all have their secret codes which are unintelligible to the uninitiated. We have paid no special attention to the subject, and are indebted to a Japanese friend for the following specimens. *Jinrikisha* drawers, when conversing together as to the fares to be charged, frequently employ the following equivalents for the words in ordinary use. For 1 cent, *oji*, 2 cents, *jiba*, 3 cents, *yami*, 4 cents, *dari*, 5 cents, *genko*, 6 cents, *ronji*, 7 cent, *seinan*, 8 cents, *bando*, 9 cents, *kiwa*, 10 cents, *dote*, 15 cents, *dote-gen*, and 20 cents, *furi-kan*. Some of these terms originated with the *Kago* bearers. For instance, the term *dote* represented the fare they used to charge for taking a passenger to

the Yoshiwara *dote*, and *kiwa*, 9 cents, the charge for any place near. *Furi* was used as the equivalent of 2 in Tokugawa days, hence *furi-kan*, 20 cents. Some words in use among pick-pockets and thieves are, *kan*, in the sense of taking, *takai*, to indicate impossibility of securing an article; *yabai*, as an equivalent of *abu-nai*; *gata* for official; *dekureru* for *kiwotsukeru*; *dekiga mawatta* for a detective is on the look-out; *sage* for onward appearances; *kamaru* for come, and *doroku* for *bonyari*, a state of brown study, or reverie, in which pick-pockets take a deep interest.

A SERICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE sericulturists of the south have formed an association which appears to be of considerable magnitude. Its members are drawn from Kwansei and Kiushu, and it held a meeting on the 16th inst. in the Chamber of Commerce rooms in Kobe. The prefectures of Shiga, Faku, Shimane, Ishikawa, Nara, Hyogo, the towns of Osaka and Kyoto and so forth were represented, and experts from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, as well as from the Hyogo prefectural offices, were present. The meeting decided that a document of programme and principles drawn up by delegates assembled at Nara should be rescinded, and that application be made to have the organization of the Association promulgated by ordinance or notification; also that steps be taken to compile rules for combining the various silk guilds in the prefectures and cities of Kwansei. A committee of five was elected to prosecute this programme, and a scheme of general rules for the *Kwansei-Sangyo-Kai* was drawn up. We need not reproduce these rules, but may mention that the office of the association is to be in the rooms of the *Shinyei Kaisha*, Sakaye-cho, Sancho-me, Kobe, and that the establishment of an inspection warehouse in that town is also contemplated.

THE YAMAGUCHI ASSOCIATION.

FOR many years a semi-literary and semi-political Association has existed, known as the *Bocho Gakuyu-kai*. The term *Bocho* represents the two provinces, Suwo and Nagato, of which the prefecture of Yamaguchi is composed. The members of the Society number some 600. Among them we find the names of such men as Counts Ito and Inouye and Viscounts Sugi and Shishido. As is usual with such bodies, the sentiments and views of the older and younger members of the association are at variance. Divers signs of friction have displayed themselves from time to time, but not until recently has the tension been so strong as to lead to open conflict. The society has for some time published for circulation among its members a monthly journal. The last number of this publication, issued on the 7th instant, contained a violent attack on Counts Ito and Inouye and other statesmen, under the title of "The False Prophets." The magazine has been suppressed, but the discordance between members of the party still continues, despite the efforts of Count Yamada and others to bring about an understanding.

THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN" AND THE "TOKYO SHIMPO."

By the cessation of the publication of the *Tokyo Shimpō* the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is a great gainer, since it secures as editor the services of Mr. Asahina Chisen, hitherto editor of the former journal. In announcing the fact, which it does with natural satisfaction, the *Nichi Nichi* explains that the department of editorial paragraphs is to be under Mr. Tsukahara, the general business of the office being managed as heretofore by Mr. Koshiyama Tachisaburo. It is a departure in the right direction to find a Japanese journal publicly naming the person responsible for its miscellaneous items. Up to the present editors have too often showed a disposition to think that their responsibility ceases with the leading articles, and that if something erroneous or disgraceful appears in the miscellaneous columns, they can escape the blame by pleading ignorance. Mr. Asahina publishes a brief statement in connection with his entry into the *Nichi Nichi's* staff. The gist

of what he says is that the policy of the *Nichi Nichi* has hitherto been virtually identical with the policy of the *Tokyo Shimpō* under his control, and that he will continue to follow the same lines.

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The *Fiji Shimpō* refers to the demise of the *Tokyo Shimpō* in an interesting article. Our contemporary repeats what we have often ourselves noted, namely, that among the vernacular newspapers there never yet has been a genuine supporter of the Government—a Government organ in short. There have been newspapers which reflected the sentiments of this or that particular Minister, but not one that espoused the Government's cause as a whole. An example of this can be adduced from very recent experience. When Cabinet Ministers were employing all their rhetoric and arguments to induce the Diet to reject the Bill for postponing the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes, the *Tokyo Shimpō* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which were supposed to be edited in support of the Government, did not hesitate to advocate the Bill in the strongest terms, and to urge the imperative necessity of revising the Codes before putting them into operation. These two journals, therefore, were not concerned to assist the Government, but devoted themselves to ventilating the views of a coterie of statesmen outside the Government. The *Fiji* says that there was lately talk of establishing a genuine Government organ, but that the project was wisely abandoned, because, with things as they are now, to get the name of being an official organ is to lose subscribers, and without a wide circulation the influence of a newspaper is small. We do not doubt the correctness of the *Fiji's* view, but it only confirms the old adage that logic has no home among the masses. Every one of the party organs in Japan at present is subsidized. Not one of them is self-supporting. Yet people read these papers as though they contained expressions of independent and unbiased views, whereas, if they suspect a journal of receiving pecuniary aid from the Government, they call it a paid advocate. The truth is that no journals are so utterly partial, so irrevocably enslaved to the constituents for whom they cater, as are the so-called party organs. The measures of an Administration, supposing it to be honest and fairly capable, are conceived with a view to the country's good and are based upon the fullest information obtainable, as well as upon recognised legislative principles. They are not framed for selfish purposes or aimed at the retention of political power, and a newspaper can endorse them with perfect conscientiousness. But the arguments and measures of a political party in opposition are prompted by one unvarying motive, the overthrow of the Government. Any journal published in the interests of such a party is absolutely pledged to condemn the Administration's acts, and to find some means of proving them faulty. There is no literary slave bound by such inelastic shackles as the slave of a political party in opposition. A salient example is furnished by a section of the foreign press in Japan. The newspapers constituting that section are implacable foes of every Japanese Cabinet which seeks to effect Treaty Revision. To give weight to their hostility, the most effective method is to condemn and sneer at everything Japanese, irrespective of its merits or of their own competence to criticise it. In pursuing this role they find themselves in touch with the superficial and the truculent elements of the foreign community, and for the support of these elements they cater unceasingly. They dare not adopt an independent and impartial line for one moment. If they chance to stray from the track of perpetual condemnation and ridicule, they are rudely recalled to it, even at the expense of publicly eating their own words. No stronger proofs of their unhappy subservience could be adduced than their inartistic efforts, in season and out of season, to proclaim their own independence, and their besetting tendency to attribute mercenary motives to all who disagree with them. We take these journals to be a type—though a very degraded

ed type, it must be admitted—of party organs in general. Independence, such as the *Fiji Shimpō* has itself attained, is of course the ideal condition of a journal. But in the Japan of to-day independence can be secured only at the cost of colour. If a journal gives to the Government even such support as the *Tokyo Shimpō* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gave—support liable at any time to be converted into opposition, as was the case with respect to the Civil and Commercial Codes—it is at once called a *Go-yo Shimbun*. If a journal espouses the Government's cause at all, it is suspected of receiving official aid. Independence is a synonym for condemnation of everything done by the Cabinet, unless it be the almost colourless independence of the *Fiji Shimpō*. In other words, an editor must make up his mind that no step can be right if taken by the statesmen who have governed Japan successfully for the past twenty years, and whose practical and moral competence to administer the empire's affairs is beyond dispute. To oppose these men is to be an independent patriot; to support them is to be a mercenary renegade. A queer state of affairs, in truth. But the home of logic is not with the masses.

RELIGIOUS CONGRESS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE REV. JOHN HENRY BARROWS, D.D., chairman of the general Committee on religious congresses in connection with the World's Fair, reports a most favourable response to the plan of holding a Parliament of Religions from August 25th to September 3rd, next year. From Iceland to Australia, scholars of all religious faiths are looking forward with great interest to this phenomenal convention. A large representation is promised from Japan. The journals and missionaries and many of the native scholars of India, are discussing the plan with growing interest and favour. The Hon. Rai Maya Das, a British commissioner, and magistrate of the Punjab, writes that incalculable good will come from this conference, in a free country of the representatives of various religions. The Hindus of Madras think that the Parliament will mark an epoch in the moral history of the world. Among the recent additions to the advisory council are Dr. Waldenstroms, of the Swedish Parliament; Dr. Hjattalin, of Iceland; the Bishop of Sydney, New South Wales; Dr. Blodgett, of Peking; Dr. Frommel, court preacher, Berlin; Mr. Mokurai Shimaji, a leading Buddhist scholar, of Tokyo; Professor James Bryce, George William Curtis, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Dr. H. H. Jessup, of Syria; George W. Cable, Professor A. B. Bruce, of Glasgow; President Dwight, of Yale; President Schurman, of Cornell, and the eloquent Mr. Mozoomdar, of Calcutta.

THE HIOGO HOTEL.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Hiogo Hotel was held on Wednesday at the Municipal Hall, Kobe to decide: (1) The desirability of appealing against the judgment in the case of the Hiogo Hotel, Limited, against Bond and others. (2) The desirability of winding up the Company voluntarily by Special Resolution under Section 117, Subsection 2, of the Ordinance of 1865. (3) The desirability of winding up the Company by an Extraordinary Resolution under Section 117, Subsection 3, of the Ordinance of 1865, on the ground that it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Shareholders that the Company cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same. (4) To consider the advisability and feasibility of subletting the Hotel at a profit to the Company.—The chairman of the Board, Mr. E. H. Hunter, presided, and in his opening speech, as reported in the *Kobe Chronicle*, remarked that since the 5th of February last Mr. Creagh had worked against the company and Mr. Hughes, another promoter of the concern, had followed suit, yet they seemed to think that shareholders had nothing to complain of. A good deal had been said and written about the word "compromise," but the only offer of compromise which had ever been made was when Mr. Tison verbally offered, on behalf of Miss Bond, to release \$15,000 worth of the shares of

the late Mr. Johnson, not indeed to settle the whole action, but leaving the Company free to proceed against the other defendants. Mr. Tison made this proposal to Mr. Litchfield, who replied that if he talked about \$60,000 he would be nearer the mark. This was the beginning and end of the offers which had been made, and it had never been committed to writing. If the litigation had been one which the release of \$15,000 worth of vendors' shares could have settled, it ought not and never would have been entered upon. On the day after the last general meeting on February 5th Mr. Creagh emphatically remarked, "If by holding up my little finger I could bring about a settlement, I would not do it," this statement being made to the Company's solicitor and afterwards repeated on several occasions. The directors had at all times been open to reasonable proposals. Before Mr. Johnson died he had made a reasonable proposal, and a settlement would doubtless have then been arrived at, but for Mr. Johnson's suicide, an event which no one could have foreseen. He could only wish that Johnson had had better counsellors about him, some friend on whom he could have relied, so that he could have been better guided, instead of being allowed to drift away into a sea of trouble and so commit the rash act which the directors had never ceased to deplore. The Chairman completely exonerated Mr. Johnson from any blame in the drawing up of the prospectus, for when he found that there had been mistakes made he was ready and willing to do the right thing. The business of the Hotel was not profitable by any means, and his (the Chairman's) individual opinion was that they would eventually be forced to wind up. If Mr. Creagh and Mr. Hughes were willing to back up their evidence by coming forward with some proposition for taking over the whole concern, and working it for the benefit of the Company, and the satisfaction of the shareholders, their proposition would receive every consideration at the hands of the directors. The directors did not favour an appeal against the jury's finding, but upon the other items on the notice paper they would be glad to have the views of shareholders and would welcome an addition to their number.—Mr. Lucas, Chairman of the Shareholders' Committee having given an exhaustive resumé of the whole proceedings since the first private meeting of shareholders on 26th Nov., 1891, down to the present time, said: Recent events had in no way affected the opinion first expressed, and the Committee still felt, as they did then, that the shareholders were the victims of the most wilful and deliberate deception and negligence which ever attended the floating of a public company. Having referred to several points that had been discussed both before and after the trial, Mr. Lucas said there was overwhelming evidence to prove that the late Mr. Johnson stated, in the presence of Mr. Hughes and others, that he decided to turn the Hotel into a Company because it was a losing concern. If attention had, at the trial, been drawn to these and other important points, so much stress could not have been laid on the magnanimity of poor Johnson's offer to run the Hotel for a period of years. Mr. Creagh was mainly responsible, as solicitor to the Company, for the reprehensibly loose terms under which Mr. Dyer, the former manager, was engaged, and for the ill-advised manner in which he was discharged, involving the Company in an unnecessary expense of \$5,000. No proposals for a compromise had ever been received by the Committee, and there was no foundation whatever for the statement made by Counsel for defendants that in response to overtures to plaintiffs the Shareholders' Committee replied that if \$60,000 were offered, proposals might be favourably considered. Mr. Lucas concluded by moving that the meeting stand adjourned till an early date, to be fixed by the Directors and Shareholders' Committee, which would probably be some day in next month.—Mr. Th. de Berigny seconded the motion.—Mr. Kobayashi (J. K. de Becker), said that if no more evidence could be adduced than the miserable materials produced before the Court in the late case, an appeal would be useless. As

to the second and third points it seemed unwise to so act until every other legitimate means had been tried. With regard to the fourth proposition, if that could be done, it would be the best way out of the trouble, but who was going to undertake such a forlorn hope? Having criticized pretty freely the prospectus and the motives which led to its compilation, as well as the evidence given at the trial, the speaker concluded: The public has been preyed upon the last two or three years with share companies in Japan which have only proved a fiasco, and it is time an example should be made of persons who countenanced or lent their aid to bolstering up such concerns. An attempt should at least be made to fix the responsibility of the position on the Provisional Directors, who could not escape the charge of gross carelessness and neglect in office, at least. They had no expert's opinion, they could have had no reasonable ground to believe the statements made to them when they said that they investigated nothing and took everything on trust and hearsay. They had no official documents to help to substantiate their statements, they allowed Mr. Johnson to make an extra \$4,000 out of the Company, and altogether they had misled the public so seriously that he believed the shareholders had the elements of a very strong case behind them which should be worked up in the interests of common fairplay and justice.—(Applause).—Mr. Creagh, in reply, stated that up to the time when he quitted the Board he had done his best toward effecting a compromise. With regard to Mr. Dyer's agreement, that was effected by Major Hooper, in San Francisco, and he had nothing to do with it whatever. As to Mr. Dyer's discharge he still considered it to be a judicious thing.—A conversation arose as to whether a compromise had ever been suggested. Mr. Lucas having no recollection of it, while Mr. F. Walsh said that he himself had suggested to Mr. Lucas that Miss Bond was willing to compromise for £25,000 worth of shares, and Mr. Creagh added that if the suggestions had been met in a proper spirit they would have resulted in an authoritative offer. Mr. Walsh said he must contradict the statement made that Mr. Johnson had no knowledge of the counter-proposal made by the Shareholders' Committee. On the morning he left Kobe he received a letter from Mr. Drummon in which the gist of the proposal was given. One hour afterwards he made his will and two hours after he left Kobe.—After further conversation upon the question of the compromise, Mr. Penney said that Mr. de Becker had thrown out a suggestion with which he must express his total disagreement. He had said that the company ought to proceed against the provisional directors, but such an action would be most unfair. The directors had gone into the business with the shareholders, they had worked without remuneration to make the hotel pay, and it would be decidedly unfair for the shareholders to turn round and try to fix the whole responsibility upon them. He was in favour of their dropping this talk about law and concentrating their efforts upon improving the hotel. He suggested various improvements at slight cost, and, upon being asked, expressed his willingness to serve as a Director.—The meeting soon afterwards adopted the motion for adjournment and dispersed.

THE EARTHQUAKE DISASTER PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

THE *Official Gazette* contains an announcement that Professor John Milne has been appointed in connection with the work of the Committee of Investigation for the prevention of earthquake disasters. We are curious to learn what this means. The actual words used are:—*Shinsai yobo chosa-kwai no chosajigyo wo zokutaku su*, which, literally translated, signifies "entrust (or commission with) the work of investigation of the Investigation Society for the Prevention of Earthquake Disaster." Elsewhere such an announcement appearing in an official gazette could only be read as conferring upon the person indicated competence to conduct and direct investigations. We trust that it may be similarly interpreted in this country, for if so it would

indicate a wholesome departure, in one quarter at any rate, from the groove into which too many Japanese of the rising generation have fallen—the groove of imagining that they are much cleverer than any foreign expert, and that the sooner the foreigner's aid is dispensed with, the more honoured will the nation be. It would be truly too absurd, if a man, whose reputation in connection with earthquake investigation is world-wide, did not receive practical credit in the very country where his labours have been carried on, but after the remarks made by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku and other members of the House of Representatives, we are prepared for anything. It may be confidently hoped, however, that the Imperial University will set the good example of demonstrating that the genuine votaries of science know no distinctions of nationality.

A word about the title of the above society. We translated it originally "Earthquake Prevention Society," and this title provoked some criticism, the critics not unnaturally contending that to prevent earthquakes was a rather tall programme for any association of human beings to propose to themselves. Probably the difficulty would have been avoided by the more liberal translation of "Earthquake Disaster Prevention Society." The word used is "*shinsai*," or earthquake calamity, and the idea of the title is evidently to suggest the prevention not of earthquakes themselves, but of the disasters they cause.

MILITARY RAILWAYS.

"THE War Department," says the *Kokkai*, after mature deliberation has decided to recommend the following system of railway, as necessary for strategic purposes:—

CHUO SYSTEM.

A line from Hachioji in Kanagawa Prefecture to Kofu.

A line from Kofu, *via* Iwafuchi in Shizuoka Prefecture and Uyeda, Matsumoto, and Shiojiri in Nagano Prefecture, to Nagoya.

LINKS CONNECTING THE CHUO WITH THE HOKURIKU SYSTEM.

A line *via* Gifu and Takata to Tsubata.

Lines connecting the Hokuriku with the Ou systems.

A line from Shibata in Niigata Prefecture *via* Aratsu and Wakamatsu to Koriyama.

OU LINES.

A line from Shirakawa in Fukushima Prefecture, *via* Sendai, to Koshiida.

A line from Aomori *via* Hiromaye to important places in the north of Morioka.

SO-BU LINE.

A line from Utsunomiya in Tokyo *via* Chiba to Kisarazu.

KIN-KI LINKS.

A line from Kyoto, *via* Sonobe to Maizuru, and a branch line from Sonobe *via* Fukuchiyama, and Shinoyama, to Himeji.

A line from Hachioji in Nara Prefecture, *via* Gojo, to Wakayama.

SANYO LINE.

A line from Mihara in Hiroshima Prefecture *via* Hiroshima, Tsuwano, and Yamaguchi to Bakan.

SHIKOKU LINES.

A line from Tokushima, Takamatsu, Marugani, and Kawanoye to Inaji. A branch line from Kawanoye to Kochi.

KIUSHU KOCHI.

A line from Kokura in Fukuoka Prefecture, *via* Iizuka, Kurume, Yamashita, Kumamoto, Udo, and Kajiki, to Kagoshima.

THE CAMERA STATESMEN AND THE CABINET.

"THE public," says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, "have always imagined that an inseparable relation exists between the Camera Statesmen and the Cabinet, and that in every important contingency the advice of the former is sought by the latter. But careful reflection will show that there is a dividing gulf between the two. Personal friendship, indeed, has always existed, but in respect of political affairs the Cabinet Ministers never took counsel of the Camera Statesmen, except on the occasion of the Otsu incident, when the Emperor proceeded to Kyoto in person, and all the *Kurozaki* Statesmen repaired thither to assist in settling the trouble. For the rest, the Camera Statesmen have never done anything to aid those in power, yet the latter have been persistently called mere puppets

or reflections of the former, and the responsibility of everything is laid upon the shoulders of the *Kuromaku* coterie. The Cabinet Ministers, though charged with the duty of administering the weighty affairs of the State, are counted mere lieutenants. On the one hand, they are insulted; on the other, the Camera Statesmen are placed in an embarrassing position. Hence, at the recent conference, the Camera Statesmen definitely declared that thenceforth all connection between them and the Cabinet must be severed. The *Kuromaku* Statesmen never wielded any real power, but were always held responsible for measures of which they knew nothing, and when, to avoid this troublesome state of affairs, they left the capital, the public at once charged them with shirking the embarrassments of the nation. It was of course impossible that the personal intimacy between the *Kuromaku* Statesmen and their former colleagues could be severed at once, and of this fact the Opposition took disingenuous advantage to attack the Camera Statesmen by accusing them of interfering in, and saddling them with responsibility for, the doings of the Government. But the Camera Statesmen have now made it quite clear that, even as a point of friendship, their opinions must not be consulted in future. The Opposition have thus lost a weapon of attack. One of their organs, it is true, has tried to save the situation by alleging that Count Matsukata retains office on condition that at a time of crisis Count Inouye will come to his aid. The story is a baseless fabrication. Such a promise was not likely to be made at a moment of complete separation. Count Matsukata has announced his resolve to grapple with all difficulties, and there is nothing in his record to suggest that he dares not make the attempt without an ally in the rear. The term '*Kuromaku*' must henceforth be dropped from the vocabulary of the Opposition."

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE 103rd half yearly meeting of this Company was held at the Company's offices, 122, Leadenhall Street, E.C., on the 4th June, Sir Thomas Sutherland, K.C.M.G., M.P., in the chair. The Chairman, after a few prefatory remarks said: We are able to declare our usual interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. upon the preferred stock, and at the rate of 7 per cent. upon the deferred stock, and I am not without hopes, notwithstanding a considering number of features of a discouraging kind, that we may be able at the close of this year somewhat to enlarge the figures of the division which we now propose on the deferred stock.—(Applause.) At the same time, it is hardly necessary for me to point out to you of what you are no doubt fully aware, viz., that that great boom in our commercial affairs which took place some three or four years ago appears at the present moment to have reached its maximum, and now to be in more or less a state of recoil. I am glad to say that we have abundant evidence, however, that the internal state of trade in this country is still exceptionally good, and even the external trade, the foreign trade, the export and import trade, in which we as shipowners are more particularly interested, would still be considered in a highly satisfactory condition, even if it shows a certain recoil from the high figures which had distinguished it during the last three or four years. In the year 1887 the total amount of the exports and imports of this country was £643,500,000. In the year 1890 the total amount of the same exports and imports amounted to £749,000,000, showing in the course of three years no less an increase than that of £106,000,000 sterling. Eighteen months ago, we were in the fortunate position of being able, not only to declare a dividend of 13 per cent. upon our deferred stock, but in the still more fortunate position of being able to carry £85,000 to our reserve account in order to strengthen that important department of your affairs. In that year (1890) the freight receipts of the Company rose to the considerable figure of £1,250,000, a larger amount than the Company had ever earned in simple freight in any previous

year of its existence, and you will not be surprised to find that there has been a falling off since that date. Last year we announced that our freight receipts had diminished from the high point to which they had attained by something like £80,000, and now I am sorry to say that we have further receded. We have receded, in comparison with the year 1891, up to the present not so largely altogether in the matter of freight, and not at all, I am happy to say, in the matter of passage money, but we have receded by a combination of lower freight and lower exchanges to the extent of nearly £80,000 per annum as compared with the year 1891. Thus at the present moment our freight and exchange operations are really about £160,000 below the very satisfactory point to which they had attained eighteen months ago, viz., at September 30, 1890. I need scarcely say that this is owing to no fault of yours or of ours. The speaker, having referred to the great falling off in the values of freights and the glutting of the Colonial and Eastern markets, combined with the low rates of exchange, as the reason for the decrease in their returns, stated that at the present time there were 1,000,000 tons of shipping laid up in Great Britain, unable to find profitable employment. He then proceeded to refer with satisfaction to the fact alluded to in the report, namely, that the passenger traffic is maintained if it has not increased, although as against the maintenance of that passenger traffic we have the great disadvantage of receiving a large portion of our revenues in silver, and thereby lose a considerable amount of advantage which otherwise we should have gained. I need scarcely tell you that silver has, during the last six months, again "gone to the dogs," and that the rate of exchange in India, after rising to the respectable and creditable figure of 1s. 8d. the rupee, has sunk down to the utterly disreputable and unpardonable figure of something like 1s. 3d. After mentioning that the cost of the company's coal was now 10 per cent. cheaper than it was ten years ago, the chairman continued: It becomes necessary for me to refer very briefly to that paragraph in our report that speaks of the painful and unfortunate loss which we have sustained through default and forgery on the part of a man who was an agent of this Company. You will, no doubt, ask in your own minds how it is possible that in a well managed company such an occurrence as that could possibly have taken place without it being discovered sooner. Well, the story is an exceedingly sad one, and it is a sad one for me to have to have to allude to, because it is the story of a man whom I have known intimately, and who for 35 years filled an honourable position, with the confidence of everyone around him. It is the story simply of a man who lost himself apparently in a vortex of speculation, and who had recourse to forgery and to theft in order to retrieve his position. It is not the story of a man's extravagance or anything of that kind. It is simply the fact that this man, so well trusted, and I may say so well loved, gave way to a terrible temptation in order to retrieve losses which he had unfortunately incurred. The question I assume you to ask is, how such a thing can possibly have happened? Was there any visible or outward sign to the minds of the Directors that something was not quite in order? I will say that there was not only no outward and visible sign here, but that there was no outward and visible sign in the Colony in which he was your representative, for at the very time these things were happening, Mr. Woodin was appointed a director of the largest bank in China. At the very time that these forgeries were being committed his reputation was so high and so unassailable that he was placed, by universal acclamation, in that most honourable position. Had we any cause to be dissatisfied with the conduct of our affairs by this man? I say we had no cause whatever. We had written on one or two occasions complaining of the dilatory manner in which certain accounts had been rendered, and urging that these accounts should be sent forward with greater dispatch, but the explanations which we received were not only credible but

carried conviction to our minds, for we knew the agency had been somewhat overworked, and we knew he was one of those slaves to absolute labour, who would never ask for an addition to his staff if he could possibly dispense with it. Therefore the matters upon which we had any cause of complaint were matters of the most trifling character, and the explanation upon that point was abundantly satisfactory, because when the accounts arrived they were apparently in absolute order. How did this thing occur? It occurred in two ways—I may say in three ways. In the first place he had been himself for many years before he was appointed the agent of the Company the cashier, and he chose, with no dishonest motive I am sure, after being appointed to the superior position, to retain in his own hands the duties of cashier which he discharged for so many years with perfect integrity. That was one of the means which undoubtedly facilitated his subsequent operations. The next step in the history was his opening a second banking account, not in his own name, but in the name of this Company, a second and a secret banking account, whose existence was totally unknown to every member of the staff of that agency. By the manipulation of this account and a private account of his own in a different bank, a clever and ingenious manipulation as we now perceive it to have been, he contrived temporarily to get into his possession certain amounts of money which he represented to his staff as having been paid for supplies to certain suppliers, but which had not been paid. But the mere existence of this second account and its clever manipulation would never have allowed him to obtain the use of that money for more than a very limited time, but for a third and most important circumstance which enabled him to use our funds in a manner that I shall now describe. Some three or four years ago this Company sold to the Government of the colony of Hongkong a certain property of which they were the owners. A portion of the purchase money of that property remained for some time in the hands of the Government at a very respectable rate of interest. We were only too glad to leave that purchase money in their hands. Now, after that money had been in the hands of the Government for a certain number of months—I am not sure I am speaking correctly in saying it was in their hands for upwards of a year, but at all events for a certain number of months—we received a telegram from our agent asking whether we should be willing to allow that money to remain on deposit with the Government for a longer period. I need scarcely say we replied in the affirmative. That telegram was a forgery and a falsehood; the Government had paid the money, and the Government never asked for the money to be allowed to remain with them any longer. When the documents and correspondence came to England in which the particulars of this application and the reply of the Company were given, we found letters, purporting to be copies of letters received in the first instance from the Government to the agent, asking that the money might be retained, and from the agent to the Government saying he would refer the matter to his Directors and then send a reply; and then a further letter saying he had referred the matter to his Directors, and that the Directors were willing to comply with the wishes of the Government. I regret to say, as you are now aware, that all those documents were absolute forgeries to give an air of verisimilitude to this operation, and not only were these documents forged, but this man forged the initials of his chief assistant, of the man next to himself, our confidential employé, in order to prove that this was a veritable application. I shall not dwell further upon this matter. The result, I need scarcely add, is that it has consigned this man to a felon's cell, after a service with you certainly of 30 years of absolute and complete integrity. Now, how was this discovered? He was a man, as I have told you, a very glutton for work, and honest work. He was a man of iron constitution. For years he had never been absent from his post of duty; he had been the first to arrive in the morning and the last to leave at night.

The strain of his own misdeeds at last broke down this iron constitution, and he was compelled to ask for leave of absence to proceed to Japan, and although he had, by all modes and measures of a secretive character, done his utmost to conceal what he had done from the eyes of those who would be left behind, not 24 hours had elapsed before the chief assistant at the agency discovered something of a suspicious character which led him to make inquiries. His inquiries led him to the bank, where for the first time was disclosed the existence of this unauthorised second banking account, and from that moment the whole story became more or less clear. I am quite sure that there were no steps that we could have taken to avert this misfortune, and we do not hold responsible at all any member of the staff by whom the Hongkong agency was worked at that time for circumstances which they could not possibly avert in any shape or form. The chairman, in conclusion, made mention of the new addition to the fleet and the expiration of the Royal Italian mail contract. The dividend motion was carried, and Mr. H. E. Saunders, Q.C., was elected one of the company's auditors.

DISTURBANCE IN ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE.

A RIOT of a somewhat serious character is reported from Ishikawa Prefecture. It appears that for some time a question of gradually growing acuteness has divided the people of the Nomi District with respect to recovering from the police a house in the Yamada Division, used by the latter as a station. On the 22nd instant at about 7 a.m., a number of men, who had worked themselves into a state of excitement over this problem, violently entered the police station in Yamaguchi Division and began to make a disturbance. The police, however, got the better of them without much difficulty, and arresting five, proceeded to escort them to the station at Arai. On the way a rescue was attempted by several hundred villagers, but the police stuck to their prisoners and managed to get them into the lock-up at Arai. The rescuers, however, were not to be gainsaid. They forced their way into the station, and being by this time some six hundred strong, succeeded in carrying off one of the prisoners. The report says that the police did everything in their power to appease the mob, but that the rioters becoming more and more violent, it was finally necessary for the constables to use their swords, which they did with such effect that one man was killed, two severely wounded, and several others received slight hurts. Eight constables were wounded. In the meanwhile other constables and commissaries had come to the scene, and the disturbance was finally quelled.

The rioting lately reported from Ishikawa Prefecture was renewed on the 24th. The police were escorting two of the ringleaders, who had been arrested on the occasion of the first disturbance, from Yamaguchi to Terai when about forty men, armed with cutting weapons, made their appearance and attacked the escort vigorously. A constable and one of the assailants were wounded, and one of the prisoners was rescued. With regard to the origin of these disturbances various stories are circulated. A leading vernacular journal alleges that attempts made by the police and the local officials to influence, in a pro-Government sense, voting for members of the Prefectural Assembly, is responsible for the trouble. According to this authority, the Radicals resented the conduct of the police, and adopted such decisive measures to signify their resentment that a collision ensued. Arrests made by the police led to attacks upon police-stations and to cuttings and wounding, and altogether the behaviour of the constables as well as of the local officials is represented in a decidedly bad light. The Governor, too, is said to have been waited on by a Radical deputation, the members of which protested against what was going forward, but the Governor pleaded his recent arrival in the Prefecture as an excuse for ignorance, and fur-

ther denied that any instructions warranting interference had been issued by him. On the other hand, official telegrams from Kanazawa put a very different complexion on the affair. They attribute the blame to the machinations of the Radical Club in the Nomi District, which endeavoured to exercise illegal pressure upon voters, and, being thwarted by the police, incited the *Yifu* partisans to make a raid upon the police-station. It is evidently out of the question to form any idea as to the exact circumstances of this unfortunate affair. Many arrests have been made—some accounts put the number at 30, others at 80 or 90—and as a searching investigation will doubtless be held, judgment must be suspended for the moment.

ELECTIONS IN HONGKONG.

HONGKONG conceived the idea—novel we believe—of taking a test vote to show how the Colony is disposed towards the parties now fighting for supremacy at the polls in England. The following is the result:—

The result of the polling to show the sympathy of the British residents with the different political parties now contending at the General Election in the United Kingdom was declared on Saturday evening, after the voting papers had been scrutinised by Messrs. Playfair and McCallum. Mr. H. E. Pollock acted as referee. The following is the result of the poll:—

Conservatives	218
Liberal Unionists	29
Gladstonian Liberals	95
Parnellites	6
Anti-Parnellites	2
	350

Eight votes were rejected. A telegram announcing the results was despatched to London.

This seems to us to be a capital scheme. British subjects residing in the East have lost nothing of their keen interest in home politics. Their exile forbids them to record their votes at the polls, but there is no reason why their voices should be altogether silent. Results such as that telegraphed from Hongkong must exercise more or less effect on public opinion in Great Britain. Two hundred and forty-seven votes for the Salisbury Government against one hundred and three for the Gladstonians, is very significant. Why should not Her Majesty's subjects in Japan follow this good example? We shall be glad to receive and tabulate any votes sent to this office, and if our local contemporaries do the same, the sentiment of Yokohama, Tokyo, and the interior may easily be obtained, when we do not doubt that Baron Reuter's Agent will gladly telegraph it home. The Greater Britain ought to make itself heard in such important crises.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS IN CHINA.

WE take this from the *North China Daily News*:—

Last week Mr. James Acheson published in the *North-China Daily News* a communication on "Cruelty to animals" which has elicited an interesting leader in this morning's issue of the *Shen-pao*. Its editor, Mr. Hsia Tsu, writing in his own name, commends Mr. Acheson for calling attention to the plucking of pigeons alive by a Chinaman, and then launches into the subject of cruelty to animals in general—a theme on which moral reformers in this country are fond of expatiating, dwelling particularly on retributions which follow maltreatment of brutes, birds, and fishes, and sometimes, of mosquitos and other insects.

Mr. Hsia relates two examples that are new to me. A certain monk, who not only violated his vow of sparing animal life, but subjected animals to torture in order to render them toothsome, once roasted a tortoise alive by placing it in an oven which had an aperture through which it could thrust its head. When the animal, writhing in torture from heat and thirst, thrust out its head, his reverence poured soy and liquor down its throat, so that in eating he found it of delicious flavour. Now mark the retribution! Soon after his monastery took fire, and the stairs being in a blaze, he managed to escape the fire for a few moments by thrusting his head through a hole in a wall which opened into a soy store room. That condiment being the only liquid at hand for his relief it was syringed at his head and into his mouth until his body was consumed. He died, in short, in the same manner as the tortoise.

The other case was that of a hunter who maintained himself and family by shooting animals; he was punished in the person of his son, whose body was filled with ulcers, and in the centre of each ulcer was a fleshy protuberance, exactly like the shot which he employed in the chase.

Anecdotes like the above are fabricated from time to time, as cautions and deterrents, and perhaps they exert some influence, yet, while teachings of Buddhism and Con-

fucianism are opposed to endamage of animals, in no country is callous indifference to animal suffering greater than in China. Mr. Hsia cites several of the numerous examples that might be adduced confirmatory of his remarks. Purveyors of epicures and gourmets have various devices for imparting piquancy to animal food, in one example the breast being sliced out of a living fowl, and grilled the poor bird being left to writhe and leap, instead of receiving promptly a *coup de grace*. In another example we find the feet of living geese grilled, the bird being encaged during the operation, which is not completed until its oil has flowed down, saturating the feet, rendering them a much coveted delicacy.

It is not long since that the District Magistrate of Shanghai issued a proclamation aimed at suppressing cruelty to ducks that are brought to market, which shows that though Chinese statute law takes no cognizance of such offences, yet common law comes in for the protection of animal life. It is only necessary therefore that the Municipal Police be instructed to bring before the Mixed Court cases like the plucking alive of pigeons, to have the offender mulcted by the Chinese Magistrate, whenever the incumbent may be. I recollect hearing, many years ago, several native scholars joining in praising the administration of British law at Hongkong, when I informed them that a Queen's Road shopkeeper (a Chinese) had been fined for nailing a live rat to a board which he exposed to public view.

With these evidences of Chinese aversion to cruelty to animals, and innumerable others that might be adduced, what editor Hsia adds on the subject of cruelty to animals will seem incredible, but I only state facts that are recorded in Chinese books, and which have been communicated to me by travelling eye-witnesses.

In the north asses flesh *à la mode* is obtained from the wretched animal while it is still alive, by boiling! One shudders to hear of steaks cut from living animals as practised from Abyssinia to Szechuan, but suffering thus inflicted is trifling compared to that to which donkeys in the north of China are subjected.

The animal is fastened to stakes, boiling water is poured on as much of the body as there may happen to be demand for, the hair is removed from that portion and more scalding water applied until that much becomes edible. No more is sliced out than customers present require, from time to time as purchasers presented themselves the operation is resumed—the poor beast living for several days under the scalding and vivisection. All accounts concur in praising the flavour of this viand, which is prized by all, religious vegetarians alone refraining from its use.

Although belief in metempsychosis probably had most to do in causing abstinence from animal food in India, aided by a climate which rendered abstinence easy, it is not unlikely that gentle and humane natures like Shikamuni revolted at like sufferings inflicted on animals for food, and went to the opposite extreme of vegetarianism.

D. J. MACGOWAN.

Shanghai, July 11th.

ERRATIC JUDGMENTS.

ACCORDING to the *Asian*, they are nearly as bad off at race meetings in India for judges as they are for starters:—"Obliquity of vision in the judge's box causes unpleasant comment, as the verdict in the last Civil Service Cup amply proved. India, however, has a monopoly of such mistakes though not long ago we recorded a comic decision given in the colonies by a judge who had lunched not wisely but too well, and, when asked for his verdict in a race in which a bay and a grey passed the post locked together, sapiently hiccupped 'Shikewald's won.' Another curious *fiat* now reaches us, and this also comes from the Antipodes. At a recent race-meeting in Australia, the principal event of the day was won by a short head, but the judge, who, by the way, is one of the most respected men in the district, gave it a dead heat. A personal friend of the judge owned the horse that had really won, and he was not slow to tell his judge-ship that his horse had won by a couple of feet. To the owner's surprise the judge replied: 'Well, Bill, I know he did; but what is two feet in a two mile race? We'll have it over again.'

TORNADO IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

A TORNADO is reported from Saitama Prefecture. It occurred on the 23rd instant at 8.30 a.m., and had its origin in the Divisions of Nara and Nagai, whence it passed, *videlicet* the Onuma Division to Tosbu. Two persons were killed, about forty injured, and some forty houses were overthrown. There are trifling variations in the published accounts, but the majority of the vernacular journals agree as to the above.

It will be seen that the Saitama storm is spoken of as a purely local affair, but it is curiously synchronous with the typhoon which struck Japan on the 22nd instant, and which has been enveloping us with its rain-skirts during the past three days. This typhoon made its appearance in the neighbourhood of Formosa about the 19th instant, and thence travelling

in a northern and eastern direction, passed over Japan, striking Kiusiu on the 22nd; thence made its way to Okayama (in Bizen), where it did much damage; and then, taking a more easterly direction, crossed the north of Shikoku, developing great force at Tokushima, where it unroofed houses and caused the sea to inundate the town. Crossing to the Kii promontory, it passed up the Kii channel and struck Tsu and Yokkaichi with considerable force, reaching Nagoya early on the 23rd instant, and thence travelling by a route not yet clearly indicated, to Hokkaido, where it made itself felt at Sapporo on the 24th instant. No shipwrecks or loss of life at sea is yet reported. Saitama Prefecture (Musashi) lies quite out of the apparent track of this storm, yet we have the curious coincidence that while the typhoon was raging in Nagoya, the tornado was devastating Saitama. From the weather now experienced in Tokyo and Yokohama, it would seem that the typhoon is hanging about still.

VOTING BY ELECTRICITY.

THERE appears to be a probability of the Japanese Diet's being furnished with a complete novelty in parliamentary procedure. Some leading electricians, we read in the vernacular press, are discussing a device for rapidly obtaining the sense of a legislative assembly by means of electricity. After the problem had been variously debated, Mr. Yamakawa Gitaro, an assistant Professor in the Imperial University, set to work, and has now invented a machine which he has submitted for inspection by the Secretaries of the House. The idea of the instrument is to enable a member to record his vote without leaving his seat. Nothing could be simpler than the device. At one side of the dais behind the President's chair, a board would be let into the wall, measuring about 15 feet long by 5 feet deep. On this board would be written numbers from 1 to 500, and under each number would be a ball, also numbered. The balls would be movable by electricity, the connection being established (or severed) by pressing a button at the side of each member's desk, whereupon the ball corresponding to the desk would fall and roll at once into a counting box. After the "ayes," had voted in this way and their number been ascertained, the "noes" would similarly manipulate their buttons. Balls remaining *in statu quo* after the voting would represent absent members, or members declining to vote. To conduct a closed ballot a curtain would be dropped before the board, and after the balls had rolled down and been counted, they would be returned to their places by electricity. A second machine gives the number of each ball as it rolls into the counting box, and thus the names of the voters can be recorded. It is added that Mr. Yamakawa has been working at this invention since March, and he hopes to improve it still more. The machine exhibited by him to the Secretaries was capable of working nine balls only, but with that number its action is said to have been admirable.

YOKOHAMA FUJIN JIZENKAI.

THE half-yearly report of the Yokohama Jizenkai, for the past 6 months of 1892, has just been issued, and from it we translate the following, which may prove of interest to our readers:—Much valuable assistance has been received by the committee during the past six months that cannot be reckoned in dollars and cents. A gift of four large water-tanks proved very useful, especially during the time we were waiting for the completion of the hospital well. The concert, given in the Public Hall on May 23rd, the proceeds of which have enabled us to pay all bills up to the present, was the result of Mrs. Lindley's kind interest, and of those who took part and made it so attractive. The band of the "King's Daughters" has assisted at various times with gifts of *fusuns*, bottles and other necessities, and to all these kind friends we are very grateful. The next aim on the part of the society is to secure a permanent income by means of annual subscriptions, which would enable the hospital to assist as many persons as possible.

The support of seven beds is promised at five *yen* per month, and the subscriptions of five *yen* per year almost amount to the cost of the support of one more. The proceeds of the festival on the evening of July 4th amounted to a sum sufficient to support two beds for one year, but the money must be used instead to pay for the very excellent well just completed. The money received from paying patients helps those who are too poor to pay for themselves, but it is every desirable to secure for the hospital the support of as many more of its twenty ward-beds as possible, so that the Jizenkai need not discontinue its own legitimate work of relieving general distress, in order to meet the deficiencies of the hospital's income. To any one who donates a yearly subscription of five *yen* or more, tickets will be given, entitling the holder to enter any poor Japanese—whose disease is not contagious—into the hospital, for one month per ticket.

(Signed) SUYE INAGAKI, President, Jizenkai.
Report of the Charity Hospital at Negishi for the months of April, May, and June, 1892.

No. of patients admitted	33
No. of patients discharged	25
No. in hospital June 30	8
Outside patients treated	90
Deaths	5

G. HISHIKAWA, M.D., Resident Physician.

Report of Treasurers for the half-year ending June 30th, 1892. Yokohama Fujin Jizenkai in account with Hon. Treasurers.

To Hospital Kitchen	224.00	By Balance Jan.	
To Glazier	49.33	2, 289	112.37
To Carpenter	44.49	Omitted from 1891	21.42
To Medicine	75.85	By Membership	
To Insurance	11.07	fees	163.09
To Files	227.07	By Snow Ball	163.34
To Painter	49.00	By Donations	
To Well and road	63.50	Mrs. Lindley	34.54
To Grounds and rear entrance	39.53	Mrs. Holburn	5.00
To Printing reports, &c.	21.42	Leah and Mrs. Heathcote	15.00
To Carpenter	47.28	Mrs. Gay	5.00
To Furniture and Instruments	190.53	Mrs. Mendelohn	5.00
To Doctors, nurses and servants	127.00	Mrs. Pierson	5.00
To Food for poor patients	63.96	"Angela"	4.00
To General disbursements	27.61	Mrs. Van Patten	17.50
To Hospital opening	9.40	"A Friend"	10.00
To Earthquake relief	16.70	Smaller sums	87.12
To Balance	3.12	By remnants of	
		Garzar	6.06
		By Paying Patients	75.48
		By Concert	375.00
		By Earthquake relief	
		By Support of beds.	19.70
		Mrs. Lindley	75.00
		Mrs. Lowder	5.00
		Mrs. Hunt	8.00
		Mrs. Van Patten	15.00
		Japanese school	140.00
			1,284.51

ARA NINOMIYA, } Hon. Treasurers.
G. W. VAN PATTEN, }

THE LATE COUNTESS LI.

THE Tientsin correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writes as follows of the death of Countess Li, wife of the Viceroy and mother by adoption of Lord Li, now representing China in Tokyo:—

I regret, as everyone Foreign and Native regrets, to have to record the death of the wife of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, better known as Lady Li, whose name stood in the front rank of the few remarkable women in China of whom Foreigners hear nowadays. The blow to His Excellency is a most serious one, the deceased lady was also a favourite of the Empress Dowager, who had the highest regard for her, and communication between these two most remarkable women of their day in China was constant and uninterrupted to the last. The deceased lady was often consulted in matter of importance by the Empress, who had a very high opinion of her wisdom on affairs of which most women, and especially most women in China, know nothing, and in which they seldom take any interest. Lady Li's death has thrown a gloom over the entire place, and the Viceroy feels her loss most acutely. The flags at the various Consulates here, and on the steamers in the river, were put at half-mast, as a mark of respect to the deceased, and the Consular body have addressed a letter of condolence to His Excellency in his bereavement.

A friend, who was intimately associated with Lady Li, says in reference to her death:—"The Countess Li died yesterday. I have indeed lost a friend. She was a noble-minded, large-hearted woman. The poor will miss her. In her they had a friend. In the South she supported several charitable institutions. She was in many respects a remarkable woman. There was an individuality of character about her rarely met with in ladies of any nation. She had not been well for some time, and took domestic medicine. On the 23rd June she sent for her own private lady physician, Dr. King, and from the 24th, Dr. King with Dr. Irwin and Dr. Liu saw the pa-

tient twice daily. During the week preceding her death, Dr. King was with her constantly, and stayed three nights at her bedside in the Yamen. She had continued fever, but until Saturday, 3rd inst., there was no cause for apprehension, when her temperature increased suddenly, and she became delirious. She recognized Dr. King at 5 a.m. on Sunday, 4th inst., and said, "I have been very ill, but am better now." After that she did not seem to recognize anyone. It was touching to see the grief of the family, especially of her venerable husband the Viceroy. Her constitution was never strong, and she had many serious illnesses, and at last succumbed to what would not have been at all serious had she been of more robust mould.

THE "IDEAL SOSHI."

SOME little time ago, while strolling down one of the streets of the capital, our eyes were attracted by a book hanging in a conspicuous position in one of the shops, the title of which was "A Treatise on *Soshi*." Interested to see what could be said in favour of the existence of a class of men whom public opinion holds in deserved contempt, we purchased the volume. To our surprise we found that the author was no defender of rowdiness, and no advocate of modern *soshi* ways. The *soshi* of this treatise is not the rough, ragged, and dirty youth, who, club in hand, struts the streets of the capital in search of employment, but the dignified and public-spirited *samurai* of days gone by. It has often been remarked that nothing that is totally bad lasts long. The germ of goodness contained by many of the bad things of the world preserves them from total destruction. The term *soshi*, to the modern newspaper reading public, is associated with violence, intimidation, and cowardice, but if the author of the treatise we are about to notice is to be relied on, the modern *soshi* is a usurper, a man who has dragged an honourable name through the dirt, and earned all the contumely with which he is regarded by society.

The author of the treatise is one, Saito Shun-ichiro, an Oshyu man. The volume consists of some 200 pages. It contains a preface by the Korean, Kingyoku Kin, the burden of which is the need of cultivating independence of spirit. The strong can face difficulties unaided. "The lion paces the forest alone and seeks for no companion." There is a good deal of repetition in the book, so that we need only give the gist of its contents. The subject is thus divided: (1.) General remarks (2.) The relation of *soshi* to Society, (3.) *Soshi* and the spirit of the age, (4.) The duties and responsibilities of *soshi*, (5.) The *soshi* of Old and New Japan, (6.) *Soshi* abuses, (7.) The relation of *soshi* to the State, (8.) *Soshi* principles and methods.

(1.) The introductory remarks are pessimistic in the extreme. The country is represented as on the verge of ruin. At home the nation is split up into factions and unable to effect necessary reforms. Abroad it has lost respect, and the recovery of jurisdiction is still in the distance. The people are poor, and groan under heaven-inflicted calamities—earthquakes, tempests, floods, and fires. But the worst feature of all has still to be mentioned: the nation is unconscious of its own maladies, while carrying about with it the elements of dissolution. It points to its artificial civilisation as a proof of its strength. The spirit that appears to be cultivated is one of meekness, forbearance, and general contentment with things as they are. The foundations of the social organisation are rotten and must be replaced with new material.

(2.) The relation of *soshi* to society is not what it should be. Instead of being a pillar to the State, the position occupied by the modern *soshi* resemble that of the Nihilist in Russia or the Socialist in France. Instead of being independent State servants, the modern *soshi* become the slaves of individuals. The real *soshi* should be among the foremost promoters of progress.

(3.) The real *soshi* leads instead of following the spirit of his age. With him should originate all reform movements. He is a man of the type of the early American settlers, of

Luther, Lafayette, Sakura Sogoro, and a host of other heroes. From him society should obtain its tone and the nation its strength. Instead of soaring to these heroic heights the modern *soshi* grovels in the dust. Instead of acting as a leader, he is content to sell his soul to the highest bidder.

(4) Though, as his name implies, the function of a *soshi* demands a certain fierceness and severity of character, it must be borne in mind that this trait should be balanced by other mental qualities. He must never fail to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong. He must remember that he is responsible for his conduct and that it is not for him to act violently for his own personal gratification. If he acts with due regard to what is right and proper, then the element of fierceness, which is the essential constituent of his character, like thunder and lightning, will conduce to clear the air of society and give fresh life to the nation.

(5) Though the spirit which actuates the modern *soshi* should not differ from that which permeated the life of the *samurai* of olden-time, the weapons and methods employed should not be the same. The tongue and the pen must replace the sword and the spear. The leading characteristic of the ancient *soshi* was the delight he took in shedding blood. He regarded wounding and killing as the most entertaining of pastimes. In a verse composed in those days, the gratification obtained from the sight of blood streaming from some wounded man, is compared to the pleasure afforded by the sight of red maple trees. Here is the original—

Aki nareba,
Koki moenji wo mo
Chirami nari
Waga utu tachi no
Chi-kemuri wo miyo.

There were, no doubt, some ancient *samurai* who put their weapons to improper uses, who loved violence for its own sake. But such conduct was condemned by the public opinion of those days. With all his fierceness, the ancient *soshi* was a far nobler man than is to be found in the ranks of the modern aspirants for his fame. The modern *soshi* is of opinion that acts of daring and bloodshed are in themselves meritorious; that destruction, irrespective of the character of the thing or person destroyed, is meritorious. Such men as Akai Keisho (the man who stabbed Itagaki), Shimada Ichiro (the assassin who killed Okubo), and Nishino Buntaro (the murderer of Viscount Mori), are unworthy of a place among Japan's heroes and benefactors. They were assassins of a barbaric type, and should ever be regarded as such.

(6) Instead of the term *soshi* being one of respect it has become one of reproach. There are three reasons for this. (a) Modern *soshi* live bad lives. (b) They are idle theorists who prattle about things of which they have no practical knowledge. (c) They have no aim beyond earning a livelihood.

(7) The relation of *soshi* to the State ought to resemble that of planets to the sun. The State is the orb around which the rapidly travelling planets revolve. Every statesman should have associated with him a number of ardent progressive spirits, ready to assist him in carrying out reforms and enlightening the nation, and not, as is the case now, for the purpose of supporting weak arguments with physical force.

(8) For an example of what should be the principles and methods of *soshi* we are to turn to the pages of universal history. In all countries there have been men who have thrown away their lives in the public service: some by fighting their countries battles, others while pursuing peaceful vocations. The leading feature in the lives of such men has been their devotion to a cause and their renunciation of all selfish interests for its sake. If the heart be devoted to the State, the methods of furthering the State's interests will suggest themselves as time goes on. Mr. Saito's ideal *soshi* is evidently a hero of

the highest type, but we venture to think he is a man to be dreamt of and prayed for, rather than to be encountered during the present century. It is, however, gratifying to know that the *soshi* have an ideal, though their case affords another proof of the adage that a bad imitation of the best often proves to be the worst.

THE LADIES OF JAPAN AND THE WORLD'S FAIR.
UNDER the energetic and clever management of Mrs. Potter Palmer, successful efforts have been made to enlist the interests of the ladies of various countries in the Chicago World's Fair. Queen Victoria has promised to send something made by her own hands, and other Sovereign ladies of Europe have also allowed themselves to be interested. When Mr. A. B. de Guerville was in Japan, he carried an invitation from Mrs. Potter Palmer and the Ladies Committee to the Empress, and the United States Legation having duly conveyed the message, it is now stated that her Majesty has evinced much interest and that her active participation may be anticipated. Several Japanese ladies have also taken up the matter, the most enthusiastic being Marchioness Mori. The News Agency says that a Ladies' Committee has been formed, and that it will work quite independently of the Commissioners in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the ladies themselves furnishing funds to pay all expenses.

Later intelligence says that the ladies of Japan have formed a most influential association for the purpose of representing their sex at the Chicago Exhibition. The association is called *Nippon Fujin-kai*, and its general purpose is to collect objects representative of female work and send them to the Ladies Section in the World's Fair. They have, of course, no relations with any other Society formed in Japan for forwarding specimens of the country's industries, nor will they include in their list any object which is not a *bona fide* production of women's hands. The Association is divided into three sections; first the section of general business, which attends to all correspondence, translations, advertisements, publications, matters of account, collection of necessary articles, packing, carriage, insurance, and so forth; secondly, the section of investigation, whose function is to compile and prepare all documents and illustrations bearing upon the various employments of women, their education, their literary productions, and the charitable works carried on by their efforts, and thirdly, the section of exhibits, which has to do with determining, choosing and collecting articles for exhibition, preparing lists of them and deciding their manner of arrangement. Detailed rules have been compiled on to the duties of each component of the sections, or committees, but into these we need not enter. The following is the composition of the Association:

PRESIDENT.

Princess Mori.

MEMBERS OF THE EXHIBITS COMMITTEE.

Princess Iwakura, Marchioness Hachisuka, Marchioness Nabeshima, Countess Toda, Viscountess Kabayama, Mrs. Samomiya.

MEMBERS OF THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

Marchioness Mayeda, Countess Matsukata, Viscountess Yenomoto, Viscountess Takashima, Mrs. Kuki, Mrs. Hayashi.

MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

Countess Ito, Countess Oyama, Countess Goto, Viscount Hijikata, Mrs. Mutsu, Mrs. Hanabusa.

ASSISTANT MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Yanagiya (Exhibits Committee); Mrs. Uriu (Business Committee).

SECRETARIES.

Mrs. Kato; Mrs. Takemura.

THE PULSE AND EARTHQUAKES.

MORIOTA HOTAN relates in the pages of the *Fusoku Gwaoh* that when, the great earthquake of 1855 took place in Edo he was serving Yamada Seisuke. To the surprise of Morita, Yamada entered his house after the worst shock had passed, and commenced calmly to put his things in order. On being asked whether he was not afraid of another bad shock, he replied in a de-

cided manner: "There will be no more bad shocks." From Yamada Morita learnt that whenever any calamity sufficiently serious to endanger life is at hand, irregularity in the pulse indicates the fact. When things are in their normal condition, says Mr. Morita, the pulse of the wrist and that on the right side of the chin should repeat at the same instant. When anything endangering life is about to occur they do not beat together. Mr. Morita states that for 37 years he has used this test and never found it to deceive him. When some years ago a tidal wave submerged the house in which he was residing in Sagami, he had, by the use of this device, ascertained beforehand that danger was at hand, and had removed all his goods to a neighbouring hill. Mr. Morita calls on medical men to explain this phenomenon. We recommend him to read the wonderful passage in "Martin Chuzzlewit" where Tigg Montague is about to enter the grove where he meets his death.

THE POLICY OF THE NEW "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN."

JUDGING by the first article which the *Nichi Nichu Shimbun* publishes under its new editor, Mr. Asahina, the paper is to be henceforth in opposition. The article sets out by noting that as yet the portfolio of Justice remains unallotted, and that the delay in finding a successor to Viscount Tanaka makes the public suspect dissensions in the Cabinet. It then refers to the question of the Civil and Commercial Codes, with regard to which it describes the Government's attitude as one of hesitation, and it notes that the changes in the *personnel* of the Department of Home Affairs, as well as in that of local Governors, combined with the mysterious action of Viscount Takashima, have given rise to many rumours. Again, the Railway Council has been established by Imperial Ordinance, and the Railway Bureau has been transferred to the Department of Communications, but the President and Committee of the former remain unappointed, and the Director of the latter is said to be disposed to resign. Further, the News Agency, supposed to be an organ of the Government, announced, and then contradicted the announcement, that an alliance had been effected between the Cabinet and the *Fuyu-to*, but people seem more disposed to remember the original statement than to credit its contradiction. Altogether the *Nichi Nichu* thinks that the political world is suffering from a kind of panic at present, and that defective administration is to blame. "There are many ways," it says, "of governing a country, and the way now adopted may be called a Matsukata method, but a constitutional government ought not to leave the nation in doubt as to the policy of the administration. We believe that Count Matsukata is not a man to alter his policy readily, and, inasmuch as the only change in the Cabinet is the entry of Viscount Sano, there ought not to be any doubts as to the official programme. The fact that such doubts exist shows that the Government does not possess the confidence of the nation, for confidence checks rumour before it has time to spread."

This change of front on the part of the *Nichi Nichu* must be taken, we presume, as one of the first results of the definite separation of the Government and the Camera Statesmen. The Cabinet Ministers are made to feel that those whose hands were formerly with them are now against them. Such splits in the higher ranks of officialdom are all features of the development of constitutional institutions, and especially of government by party. When each political party, or group of political parties, possesses the adherence of a section of the men whose administrative ability has been proved by practical experience, the country will have taken a long stride towards the consummation which the *Fuyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* desire.

The hesitation charged against the Cabinet with regard to the fate of the Civil and Commercial Codes does not appear to be entirely fair. The only provision relating to the manner of imposing the Imperial veto on a Bill, may be call-

ed a negative provision. It is contained in the 32nd Article of the Law of the Houses which says:—"Bills which, after having been passed by both Houses of the Diet and presented to the Emperor, may receive His sanction, shall be promulgated before the next Session of the Diet." Hence it follows that the mere fact of non-promulgation is equivalent to the imposing of the Imperial veto; or rather to the withholding of the Imperial sanction, for the law does not recognise anything in the shape of active interposition of the Emperor's veto, neither does it prescribe any formula for such a procedure. Every day that passes without the promulgation of the Bill for postponing the Codes must, therefore, be taken as a confirmation of the rumour that the Bill will not receive His Majesty's sanction. The silence of the Government on the subject is perfectly consistent with a firm resolve not to sanction the Bill at all. Evidence of vacillation or hesitation will not be furnished, we think, unless the Bill is now promulgated. Forty-six days have elapsed since the passage of the Bill through both Houses became an accomplished fact, and if, after that long interval, the Bill be declared law, the nation will certainly have a right to ask what the Government was doing in the interval.

FOREIGN POACHERS.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* contains a circumstantial account of the doings of foreign poachers in the northern seas of Japan. It is given on the authority of one Inouye Chojiro, who is said to have been an eye-witness of what he describes. On the 26th of April, we read, five sailing vessels, of about 150 tons each, entered Atsugashi harbour in Kushiro. They had the appearance of being American schooners, and were evidently on a poaching expedition. Shortly after entering the harbour, a party of men armed with hunting rifles landed, and fired shots to intimidate the people. The schooners seem to have lain in Atsugashi until the 30th of April, when they sailed out to a distance of about 30 miles, and on May 1st launched seven boats, each carrying one hunter and manned by two sailors. The hunters had double-barrelled guns which they loaded with heavy shot. At 7 o'clock in the evening the boats returned to the schooners, each having taken about thirty seals, which they proceeded to salt. These operations were carried on for some fifty days, the boats going to a distance of from 15 to 20 miles from the schooners, but not losing sight of them. It used to be supposed, says the *Hochi*, that the poaching operations of foreign schooners were confined to the seas in the neighbourhood of the Chishima Islands, but it now appears that their field extends to the seas several miles off Kushiro. "The boats of our Marine Products Company do not go more than about three miles from the Chishima Islands, and the consequence is that their annual take is only a hundred seals or thereabouts; a result which, if compared with 2,500 taken by the American schooners in 50 days, amounts to only two days' catch. A seal's skin, according to the rates now ruling in the market, is worth from 15 to 20 yen, so that, on the hypothesis that the foreign vessels engaged in poaching average twenty yearly, and that they take 3,000 seals each, Japan loses about a million yen annually."

The *Hochi's* method of calculation is very liberal. Even if we assume—a most unwarrantable assumption—that each of the seven boats engaged in poaching off the Kushiro coast look an average of 30 seals every day during fifty days, the total catch is only 10,500 which gives an average of 2,100 per schooner. But everybody knows that a sealing schooner considers itself very fortunate if it makes a catch of anything over a thousand seals in the season, and that vessels so lucky as to take 2,000 or 3,000 are few and far between. We greatly doubt whether twenty thousand seals in all are taken yearly by foreign poachers in Japanese waters, and twenty thousand seals signifies about 300,000 yen, not a million yen as the *Hochi* suggests. We say this not to minimize the wrong, because every-

one agrees that this poaching is inexcusable, and that Japan would be right in adopting strong measures to stop it. But nothing is to be gained by exaggerating the evil and needlessly exciting the public about it.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S POEMS.

THE "Light of Asia" is at last to be put on the stage as an opera. We say "at last" because this prospect, which seemed on the verge of realization last year, was supposed to have been subsequently abandoned owing to difficulties not likely to be readily overcome. What happened in the sequel, as well on the steps which have now revived the project, may be gathered from the following interview between a representative of the *Pall Mall Budget* and Mr. Isidore de Lara, who has written the score of the new opera:—

"I first set Sir Edwin Arnold's poem to music in the form of an oratorio, or sacred cantata. The work was to have been produced in London during the spring of last year, but when Signor Maurel heard it he suggested that it would make a very fine opera, and said that he saw in it great opportunities for displaying on the stage certain manifestations of the human mind that have never perhaps been portrayed on the lyric stage. I submitted the matter to Sir Augustus Harris, who asked me to make an opera of my cantata. Of course, it was necessary for Covent Garden to have it turned into Italian, and in the remarkably short space of ten days Signor Mazzucato translated it into 'La Lucella Asia.' The opera was then rehearsed, and great trouble was taken by all concerned. Everything would have gone smoothly if Signor Maurel had not declared at the last moment that he was not ready with his part."

"I recollect. Then followed the exchange of letters in the newspapers, in which you pointed out that it was for you to decide whether the work had been sufficiently rehearsed or not."—"This occurred at the end of the season," continued Mr. De Lara, "so nothing could be done last year. Sir Augustus Harris, however, offered to produce 'The Light of Asia' this season, and I found myself in a terrible dilemma. After what had taken place I didn't like to ask Mr. Maurel a second time to create the role of Buddha, and it was very difficult, after his action, to approach any other artist. At that moment M. Lassalle saw the part, expressed himself pleased with it, and most kindly offered to sing it himself."

Mr. De Lara is deeply sensible of the kindness shown to him in a difficult moment by M. Lassalle, and he appreciates also his good fortune in having such interpreters as Mme. Eames and M. Plancon for the other leading parts. When the veteran composer Botto was told that Signor Mancinelli was going to conduct the work at Covent Garden, he made a remark that will probably come to the conductor's knowledge for the first time when he reads these lines. "I congratulate M. De Lara," he said; "I have never heard any man conduct the prologue of 'Mephistopheles' like Mancinelli." Mr. De Lara is an Englishman born and bred, and his "Light of Asia" bids fair to carry English music to the Continent. We haven't a hearing here now, and if the composer succeeds on his merits, Sir Augustus Harris and all who have had a hand in getting the work through in face of immense difficulty will share in the credit of having done something towards getting an introduction for English art to the Continental opera houses.

"How came you to think of setting so philosophical a work to music?" I asked. "When I read Sir Edwin Arnold's poem it impressed me very much. It seemed to offer great opportunities to a musician, because it deals with the metaphysical side of Indian philosophy, and I have always thought that music is the art par excellence for the expression of metaphysical ideas."

"If I remember rightly, your work is remarkable from the fact that there is no tenor part in it?"—"There is no tenor part in the opera, because it appeared to me that the profound melancholy so implanted in Buddha's nature was more suited to the baritone voice. I have tried as much as possible to give special characteristics to the different natures. Buddha when he sings does so in calm, measured tones, having in this the characterizing features of the contemplative man—a nature that is more impressed by things divine than by things human. The part of Yassafora, which I am pleased to say will be taken by Mme. Eames, contains music of a more sensuous and human character. That allotted to M. Plancon is also distinctive."

"In what school is your work likely to be classed?"—"My idea in undertaking any work is to sit down without any preconceived notions of adopting any particular school, or of showing oneself a disciple of this or that master. It seems to me that any man who sets a subject to music, be it a cantata, an oratorio, or an opera, should first become thoroughly imbued with the sentiment of the poem he is putting to music, and then all he has to do is to give his expression of that sentiment without trying to please men of one temperament or another temperament. He ought to express his impressions according to his own

particular feelings, and when he has done this, he has, in my opinion, done all that can be asked of him."

During his present stay in Japan Sir Edwin Arnold has written a drama which will probably be brought out by Mr. Henry Irving at the Lyceum, and if it does not prove a success the fault will certainly not lie in the thrilling character of the plot, or in the splendid diction of the poet. Sir Edwin has taken the story of Kesa-kozen for his theme, a story of noble heroism on the part of a girl of only 16, which derives additional sentiment from the fact that it is set in a historical frame of unique interest in Japanese eyes. Kesa-kozen, or Atoma, as she is more properly called, sacrificed her life to save that of her mother and to avert calamity from her husband. The story is too long to be told here, but the gist of it that Atoma contrived, by a deliberately conceived device, to divert the hand of an assassin from her husband to herself, the assassin being her disappointed lover. The plan which she adopted as well as the issue are of the most highly dramatic nature. Rendered into such verse as Sir Edwin Arnold can write, and produced by such actors as Irving and his company at the Lyceum, the drama ought to take London by storm. We have seen it stated in the vernacular press that the name of the drama is to be "Azuma." But we doubt the accuracy of this assertion. "Azuma" is itself a title sacred to the memory of another heroic woman, Tachibana-no-hime, the wife of the celebrated Prince and warrior Yamatodake. In the days of the Emperor Keiko, Prince Yamato, after having brought Suruga to submission, proceeded against "the eastern barbarians," as the insurgents in Kazusa were called. He had taken with him in his war-ship his beautiful and much loved wife Tachibana. In the sea off Kazusa the ship was caught in a tempest which threatened to swamp her, when the Princess Tachibana, crying out that for her sake the God of the sea had sent this storm and that she should give her life to appease him, jumped into the waves and perished. Tradition says that the wind lulled immediately, and Yamato-dake, coming to shore, carried his arms successfully all through the district, and thence pushed up to Yezo. But on his return journey he entered Shinanu province, and having ascended the Unui Pass, looked eastward towards the place where the body of his wife lay under the sea. Overcome with sorrow, he cried *Azuma haya* (alas my wife), and thenceforth the provinces on which he had gazed in this moment of pain, were called "Azuma." Thus this name is already consecrated to the beautiful and heroic Tachibana-no-hime. In old Japanese, "azuma" signified simply "my wife," but it has come to be associated with the memory of Tachibana, and we should hope that Kesa-kozen may be immortalized in Sir Edwin's drama under her own name of "Atoma," a beautiful and melodious appellation.

THE TYPHOON IN KOBE.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* speaks of the model settlement's sufferings in the recent typhoon in the following terms:—"Kobe has been very fortunate in escaping any damage by the first typhoon of the season, the centre of which apparently lay far to the north. On Thursday afternoon it commenced to blow freshly from the north-east, and the wind steadily increased in force all that night and during the next day. On Friday evening and throughout the night the wind had risen to a gale, blowing in great gusts that made the best-built houses on the hill shiver. But it remained steady in the north-east, and, as Kobe is fairly well protected by the hills when the wind is in that quarter, no damage was done, though the few vessels lying in the bay took every precaution against danger. Towards morning the gale subsided, and heavy rain commenced to fall, lasting all day Saturday and the greater part of yesterday."

DISPLACED CONSTITUENTS.

An amusing story is told in several of the vernacular papers concerning the return to his constituency of a member of the Diet belonging to

the Prefecture of Saga. The course taken by this member during the last session of the Diet was distasteful to his constituents, and they chose an odd method of showing their displeasure. There is a Japanese tree called *buppu* which emits a vile odour. Branches of this tree were collected and hung under the eaves of the houses of the village through which the member had to pass on his way to his home. He arrived at night. As he wended his way through the village, some of the branches of *buppu* were ignited so as to increase the offensiveness of the odour. This tree is regarded as a disinfectant and is often used, with what effect we are unable to say, as a preventative of cholera. Hence, while the unpopular representative was passing through the village, the discontented constituents shouted: "Cholera! cholera!" The story goes on to relate that, instead of treating the whole thing as a joke, the member grew very angry and has actually gone the length of bringing an action for libel against the man who supplied the villagers with branches of the malodorous tree.

THE NATIONAL UNION.

THE National Unionists (*Kokumin Kyokai*) held a meeting on the 21st instant, when the question was again discussed whether the association ought not to be registered as a political party. Some members were in favour of that step, urging that as the Association was a political party and nothing else, the best plan was to call it by its true name; but others combated this contention, and the latter view finally prevailed. The meeting then proceeded to consider a statement of motives which was passed in the following terms:—"The empire of Japan has been ruled over by a Sovereign peerless throughout the world for over two thousand five hundred years. During that long period, the country, though its prosperity varied greatly, never once suffered disgrace at the hand of foreign States, and never once forfeited its independence. This result is due to the august majesty of the Emperors and to the loyalty of the people. From the Middle Ages, however, having no foreign wars to occupy their attention, the stout men of the empire seized upon different portions of territory and fought, each for his own hand. Thus the feudal system came into existence, and for the sake of fidelity to the chief whom they immediately served, men forgot the existence of Japan. This tendency gradually passed into a national custom. Even now, after the Restoration, the people are still swayed by local sentiment, and give little thought to the welfare of the empire. Some indeed claim that they are working in the cause of the State, but in reality they are devoted to their own interests. Men who are truly engaged in promoting the welfare of the country are as scanty as morning stars. The prosperity of the empire can never be achieved under such circumstances, and the conviction is a source of constant pain to us. Looking at the world around us, we see that the aggrandizement and decline of nations depend entirely upon the strength of their armaments, and the development of their commerce, manufactures, agriculture, and so forth. The competition is of the keenest. The law of the survival of the fittest is universal: the weaker inevitably become extinct. Such competition has to-day reached Oriental nations. Now by military force and by commercial enterprise, Japan is being agitated monthly and daily. Never since the foundation of the empire did such a multiplicity of State affairs present themselves for the management of the Administration. If we consider the condition of the country, we find that commerce is still undeveloped; that the military equipment is incomplete; that countless urgent works are left untouched; and that the only business of politicians is to engage in party squabbles, the interests of the nation at large being entirely lost sight of. The idea of pitting ourselves, in this enfeebled state, against the might of foreign Powers is painful. It behoves the men of Japan to ponder well over the condition of the country, to abandon party squabbles for the sake of the national welfare, and to cooperate harmoniously for the

increase of the national power. Nothing can be more urgent than the adoption of this course. At the same time, a mere announcement of harmonious cooperation will not appeal to those who are seriously considering the improvement of the country. Some practical method must be adopted, and the establishment of this association is for the purpose of contriving such a method. The term "harmonious cooperation" does not signify that all must be engaged in the same affair," but merely that all must have a common aim, and that each must carry on the work with which he is occupied in such a manner as to promote general progress, social order, and national development. Difference of locality or variety of occupation offers no impediment. So long as people harbouring the same intention assemble together and assist each other, individual knowledge and the common welfare will be promoted. Each affair, as it gradually progresses, becomes divided into different branches, and, therefore, each person must be content to follow his own special line; he cannot become an expert in everything. Nevertheless, unless those who choose the same branch cooperate, no good result is attainable. This is true of scientific research and of commerce alike. It is not less true of politics. No enterprise of any kind can be successful unless those engaged in it work in unison. This principle does not obtain in Japan. Scholars will not associate with practical men, or practical men with politicians; and so strong are local prejudices that if the people of two neighbouring localities are following the same route, they doubt each other and will not render mutual assistance. This abuse is a heritage of mediæval institutions. Men's minds are so narrow that they cannot discern the broad national path in which the feet of all should be engaged. Hence, to unify the nation, to educate the system of mutual assistance, and to promote general intimacy, are most important aims. To that end nothing can conduce more than free expression of individual opinion in converse with others, and the interchange of useful knowledge. The abuse of class separation may thus be diminished and the benefit of mutual assistance and cooperation realized, to the profit of all and the promotion of the national welfare. Such is the object of this Association, for which we solicit popular support. The country has been drawn into the whirl of strong competition. We have no more time for petty quarrels. If the indulgence of individual piques and ambitions postpone, year after year, the inception of great national works, what will become of the empire? The thought fills us with solicitude and has impelled us to come forward. We pray our fellow-countrymen to consider carefully the condition of the world and the state of the empire, and to give their support to our Association. We seek not our own satisfaction, but the welfare of the nation."

This is a document of unimpeachable moral quality. But it sadly lacks colour. Every political party in the empire might subscribe every line of it, and yet things would remain just as nebulous as ever. It is in vain, apparently, that we wait for that definite enunciation of political issues which is at length to afford lines of demarcation, and enable men to know on which side they stand without reference to the name of their leader. However, the National Unionists do not profess to give more than a statement of motives on the present occasion, and if their statement may be read to signify that they appreciate the importance of rescuing politics from the narrow personal element which now dominates them, their project deserves every support.

CARLYLE'S JOURNEY TO EDINBURGH IN 1866.

THERE are journeys which are immortal, sometimes in the realm of fiction, sometimes in that of fact. Helty Sorrel's journey in hope, and then in despair; the journey of Jeanie Deans to London these are episodes in the lives of the children of the novelist's brain which will be read with fresh interest for ever. The same perennial interest will probably be taken

in the journey of Carlyle to deliver his rectorial address at Edinburgh, for with that journey are inseparably connected two events full of the pathos of human destinies. The first was the final attainment of dignity, popularity, universal triumph by a genius at length liberated from a youth and long manhood of drudgery, poverty, obscurity, and all an imaginative dyspeptic's self-torture; the second was the final snapping of the chain which bound together a most remarkable man and a most remarkable woman in as painful and tragic a marriage as human history records. One of the papers in Professor Tyndall's new volumes of "Fragments," deals with Carlyle, whom the Professor knew intimately and loved for many years. He is able to give a full account of this journey; for after many debates with Mr. Carlyle, it was decided that Tyndall should be Carlyle's companion and guardian during the eventful trip. Every word that Professor Tyndall has written on this journey is delightful and instructive reading. There is a series of pictures of Carlyle, in all his vast variety of moods, which give a very complete and a very lucid idea of this strange, fitful, storm-tossed nature. And knowing, as we now know, what awaited poor Carlyle after all the blaze and tumult of triumphs, there is not an episode in the whole journey which has not its pathos and its interest. Here is how Carlyle and his companion took their departure:—"On the morning of March 29, 1866, I drove to Chesham-row, and found him punctually ready at the appointed hour. Order was Carlyle's first law, and punctuality was one of the chief factors of order. He was therefore punctual. On a table in a small back parlour, below stairs, stood a siphon, protected by wickerwork. Carlyle was conservative in habit, and in his old age he held on to the brown brandy which was in vogue in his younger days. Into a tumbler Mrs. Carlyle poured a moderate quantity of this brandy, and filled it up with the foaming water from the siphon. He drank it off, and they kissed each other for the last time. At the door she suddenly said to me, "For God's sake send me one line by telegraph, when all is over." This said, and the promise given, we drove away. It had been arranged that Carlyle should make a short stay at Frystone, the seat in Yorkshire of his old friend Lord Houghton. The welcome was warm to enthusiasm; but Frystone "was clasped as in a ring" by railroads, and their whistles were energetically active all night:—"In the morning I found Carlyle in his bed room, wild with his sufferings. He had not slept a wink. It ought to be noted, that the day previous he had dined two or three hours later than was his wont, and had engaged in a vigorous discussion after dinner. Looking at me despairingly he said, "I can stay no longer at Frystone, another such night would kill me." "You shall do exactly as you please," was my reply. "I will explain matters to Lord Houghton, and he, I am persuaded, will comply with all your wishes." I spoke to Lord Houghton, who, though sorely disappointed, agreed that it was best to allow his guest complete freedom of action. It was accordingly arranged that we should push on to Edinburgh. Carlyle's breakfast was prepared; he finally filled a bowl with strong tea, added milk, and an egg beaten up. Rendered thus nutritive, the tea seemed to soothe and strengthen him. As he breakfasted, our journey was discussed. Once, after a pause, he exclaimed, "How ungrateful it is on my part, after so much kindness, to quit Frystone in this fashion." Taking prompt advantage of this moment of relenting, I said "Do not quit it, but stay. We will take a pair of horses and gallop over the country for five or six hours. Then you shall have a dinner like what you are accustomed to at home, and I will take care that there shall be no discussion afterward." He laughed, which was a good sign. I stood to my guns, and he at length yielded. Lord Houghton joyfully ratified the programme, and the two horses were immediately got ready. The animal bestrode by Carlyle, continues Professor Tyndall, was a large bony grey, with a terribly hard mouth. He seemed disposed to bolt, and obviously re-

quired a strong wrist to rein him in. Carlyle was no longer young; *paralysis agitans* had enfeebled his right hand—for some time, my anxiety was great. But after sundry imprecations and strenuous backward pulls, the horse was at length clearly mastered by his rider, and we fleetly sped along. Through lanes, over fields, along high roads, past turnpike gates, where I paid the toll. This continued for at least five hours, at the end of which we returned, and handed the bespattered horses over to the groom. The roads and lanes had been abominable, mud to the fetlocks, not to speak of the slimy fields. Carlyle went to his room, and donned his slippers and his respectable grey dressing-gown. Carrying with him one of the long "churchwardens" which he always obtained from Glasgow, he stuffed it full of tobacco. Choosing a position on the carpet by the hall fire which enabled him to send the products of combustion up the chimney, to the obvious astonishment of the passing servants, he began to smoke. Having with me at the time a flask of choice pale brandy, of this, mixed with soda-water, I gave him a stiff tumbler. The ride had healthily tired him, and he looked the picture of content. At six o'clock his simple dinner was set before him, and he was warned against discussion. It was the traditional warning of the warhorse to be quiet when he hears the bugle sound. In the evening discussion began with one of the guests, and I could see that Carlyle was ready to dash into it as impetuously as he had done the night before. I laid my hand upon his arm and said sternly: "We must have no more of this." He arched his brows good-humouredly, burst into laughter, and ended the discussion. I accompanied him to his bedroom, every chink and fissure of which had been closed to stop out both light and sound. "I have no hope of sleep," he said, "and I will come to your room at seven in the morning." My reply was, "I think you will sleep, and if so I will come to your room instead of your coming to mine." My hopes were mainly founded on the vigorous exercise he had taken; but the next day, being Good Friday, I also hoped for a mitigation of the whistle nuisance. At seven o'clock accordingly, I stood at his door. There was no sound. Returning at eight, I found the same dead silence. At nine, hearing a rustle, I opened his door and found him dressing; the change from the previous morning was astonishing. Never before or afterwards did I see Carlyle's countenance glow with such happiness. It was seraphic. I have often thought of it since. How in the case of a man possessing a range of life, wide enough to embrace the demontac and the godlike, a few hours' sound sleep can lift him from the hell of the one into the serene heaven of the other. The question of sleep or sleeplessness hides many a tragedy. He looked at me with boundless blessedness in his eyes and voice: "My dear friend, I am a totally new man; I have slept nine hours without once waking." That night's rest proved the prelude and guarantee of his subsequent triumph at Edinburgh. At last Carlyle and Professor Tyndall arrived at Edinburgh, but here their troubles were not over. Sir David Brewster was in a dreadful state of alarm. "Why," he said to Tyndall, "Carlyle has not written a word of his address, and no Rector of this University ever appeared before his audience without this needful preparation." But Tyndall did not have any fears on this ground, "being well aware of Carlyle's marvellous power of utterance when he had fair play." What he did fear was that Carlyle might be disabled by dyspepsia and insomnia. At last the great moment came:—"The degrees conferred, a fine, tall, young fellow rose and proclaimed with ringing voice, from the platform, the honour that had been conferred on 'the foremost of living Scotchmen.'" The cheers were loud and long. Carlyle stood up, threw off his robe, like an ancient David declining the unproved armour of Saul, and in his carefully brushed brown morning-coat came forward to the table. With nervous fingers he grasped the leaf, and stooping over it looked earnestly down upon the audi-

ence. "They tell me," he said, "that I ought to have written this address, and out of deference to the counsel I tried to do so, once, twice, thrice, but what I wrote was only fit for the fire, and to the fire it was compendiously committed. You must therefore listen to, and accept what I say to you as coming straight from the heart." He began, and the world already knows what he said. I attended more to the aspect of the audience than to the speech of the orator, which contained nothing new to me. I could however mark its influence on the palpitating crowd below. They were stirred as if by subterranean fire. For an hour and a half he held them spellbound and when he ended, the emotion, previously pent up, burst forth in a roar of acclamation. With a joyful heart and clear conscience I could redeem my promise to Mrs. Carlyle. From the nearest telegraph office I sent her a despatch of three words—"A perfect triumph," and returned towards the hall. Noticing a commotion in the street I came up with the crowd. It was no street brawl; it was not the settlement of a quarrel, but a consensus of acclamations, cheers, and "bravos," and a general shying of caps into the air. Looking ahead I saw two venerable old men walking slowly arm in arm in advance of the crowd. They were Carlyle and Erskine. The rector's audience had turned out to do honour to their hero. Nothing in the whole ceremony affected Carlyle so deeply as this display of fervour in the open air. Everybody knows how the splendid triumph was marred by the sudden death of Mrs. Carlyle. Tyndall was one of the first to rush to the desolate old man with his sympathy, and here is what happened:—"I drove forthwith to Chelsea. The door was opened by Carlyle's old servant, Mrs. Warren, who informed me that her master was in the garden. I joined him there, and we immediately went upstairs together. It would be idle, perhaps sacrilegious on my part, to attempt any repetition of his language. In words, the flow of which might be compared to a molten torrent, he referred to the early days of his wife and himself—to their struggles against poverty and obstruction; to her valiant encouragement in hours of depression; to their life on the moors, in Edinburgh and in London—how lovingly and loyally she had made of herself a soft cushion to protect him from the rude collisions of the world. The late Mr. Venables, whose judgment on such a point may be trusted, often spoke to me of Carlyle's extraordinary power of conversation. In his noon of life it was without a parallel. And now, with the floodgates of grief fully opened, that power rose to a height which it had probably never attained before. Three or four times during the narrative he utterly broke down. I could see the approach of the crisis, and prepared for it. After thus giving way, a few sympathetic words would cause him to rapidly pull himself together, and resume the flow of discourse. I subsequently tried to write down what he said, but I will not try to reproduce it here. While he thus spoke to me, all that remained of his wife lay silent in an adjoining room."

ANOTHER NEWSPAPER.

ANOTHER daily newspaper is to make its appearance from the 1st of next month in Tokyo. It is to be called the *Kokutai Shimbun* (National Institution) because its object is to assist in maintaining the Imperial polity which has been handed down through so many generations. The News Agency, in announcing the project, says that the *Kokutai Shimbun's* issue has long been contemplated by the class of men designated *Keishin Aikoku*; that is to say, men who revere their Sovereign and love their country. The *Kokutai*, according to its programme, is to take the Constitution for its scripture. It professes absolute independence and equal solicitude for the benefit of all, knowing no distinction of persons or of parties.

POLITICAL UTTERANCES.

MR. OHIGASHI GUTETSU has always been something of an enigma to politicians. Public attention was first fixed on him when the Opposition elected him to the Vice-Presidency of the Lower

House in the second session. People were then uncertain whether his name should be pronounced "Daito" or "Ohigashi" and the perplexity suited his career, for nobody is yet quite sure to what camp he belongs. The *Nippon*, under the title of "Language of Heroes," now makes him say that he is not surprised at being called an incomprehensible phantom, for he has made it a rule to vote exactly as he pleased, without consideration for persons or parties. He condemns both the Government and the Opposition, but being of the opinion that no great statesman is likely to emerge upon the scene during the next five or ten years, he is disposed to devote his attention to the development of the national resources rather than to attacking the Government—a very sensible frame of mind.

* * *

ANOTHER of the *Nippon's* heroes is Mr. Toyama Mitsuru, the leader of that band of *soshis* known as the Genyosha, who were implicated in the attack on the editor of the *Fumiuri Shimbun*, and the majority of whom were expelled from Tokyo under the Peace Preservation Regulations, during the last session of the Diet. This gentleman is a pessimist. He believes that everything is in about — evil a plight as possible, and he does not believe that any reforms can be effected by the Diet. But he has great faith in the right arms of his 200 *soshis*, and as he considers that, in these days of domestic degeneracy, a patriot must work out his great designs abroad, and as moreover, the Korean refuge Kim-ok-Kun is very intimate with him, the *Nippon* thinks that his mysterious sayings may be responsible for the recent scare in the peninsular Kingdom. In truth, Korea is a species of happy hunting ground for a certain class of Japanese newsmongers and Japanese politicians. When the former have no sensational intelligence to lay before the public, and when the latter lack material to make themselves conspicuous, both alike resort to Korea. But the course of events is not materially changed by either the invention of the one side or the gasconade of the other.

MISS AMY SHERWIN.

AN admirer of Amy Sherwin, the talented singer whom many in Singapore will remember, says the *Free Press*, sends us the following note of her latest success, at which several "Far Easters" put themselves *en evidence*:—

Among the numerous musical entertainments provided this month, without doubt, that in which Madame Adina Patti appeared "for the first and only time in London this season," attracted most notice, and collected the largest possible audience in London. It took place in the Albert Hall on Saturday afternoon 14th June. Associated with the Diva in this Concert, one name appeared which is remembered with admiration and esteem in Singapore—that of Madame Amy Sherwin, and the reception accorded to both her contributions was little less enthusiastic than that bestowed upon Patti, and much more rapturous than upon any other of the Artists. Madame Sherwin's contributions were Felicien David's *Idemance* "Couplets du Mysoli (La Perle du Bresil) and Thomas' "Io son Titania." In response to the call for an encore after "Mysoli" she gave Dvorak's "Songs my mother taught me." After "Io son Titania" she was four times recalled but simply bowed her acknowledgements. The strength, purity, and sweetness of Madame Sherwin's voice in the very florid music she selected surprised many of her friends who had only heard her in smaller buildings, and altogether her success at the Concert is recognised as an artistic event—and a triumph. Next week Madame Sherwin, supported by Miss Minna Fischer and Miss Gerlin Barnard (a young contralto singer of great promise) takes the burden of Dr. Richter's Fourth Concert at St. James Hall and represent three Rhine Daughters in Act III, of "Götterdämmerung," as well as give the First Scene from "Das Rheingold."

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON THE CARD CASE.

In commenting on the recent Card Scandal the *Jiji Shimpō* adopts a line of argument which we have not met with elsewhere, and which we cannot but regard as unsound. After remarking that the lives of officials are not what they ought to be, and adding that their behaviour is in agreement with the general tone of society, our contemporary proceeds to argue that the fact that judicial appointments are for life, and that administrative appointments are independent of other func-

tionaries, is quite sufficient to account for the conduct which has caused so much scandal in the Judicial Department. "The custom of rendering the Judiciary independent of the Administration, introduced from the West, may suit the circumstances of other countries, but does not work well in Japan. In this country the knowledge that an appointment is for life renders an official careless as to his conduct, and hence we recommend that the old practice of placing judicial officers on their good behaviour be reverted to."

To us, it appears the *Yiji* is only regarding the question from one point of view. Liability to dismissal for misconduct is doubtless an incentive to carefulness in all employes. But it is unfair to refuse to distinguish between the public and private acts of officials, as a section of the Japanese public has been doing. The *Yiji* must know that the evils attendant on the old system were largely in excess of its benefits. It was found in Tokugawa days that the courts were entirely in the hands of administrators. No legal decision was final were it contrary to the views of the higher officials. If, in certain cases, judges were prevented from doing wrong by the fear of loss of office, in still more numerous cases the same cause hindered them from delivering verdicts which the evidence before them demanded. The famous Tenichibo trial is a case in point. Ooka was in danger of bringing disgrace on himself for the course he took during the trial, for no other reason than that the Shogun was in favour of the acquittal of the accused. Had the judge been a man of less determination he would have quietly succumbed, and a flagrant miscarriage of justice would have been the result.

EXAMINATIONS FOR OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

WHAT amount of truth there may be in the allegation we cannot pretend to judge, but the *Kokkai* persistently attributes to Count Goto the design of abolishing the system of test examinations for civil and military officials. This system was inaugurated by Count Ito in December, 1885. Apart from the obvious expediency of ascertaining the qualifications of candidates for office by some effective method, there were two other important considerations which doubtless swayed Count Ito. They were the desire to remove appointments beyond the sphere of purely personal patronage, and, by throwing open the ranks of officialdom to every man of ability and attainments without distinction, to remove the reproach of clan favouritism which, even at that time, had begun to impair the Government's credit. But now, if the *Kokkai* be rightly informed, the Regulations are operating to prevent the appointment of the very men who have made the overthrow of clan government their battle-cry. For whereas Count Goto desires to give official positions to some of the most deserving among the Radicals, the Regulations effectually bar the path. Hence the Count seeks to modify or rescind the Regulations, but finds himself met by the objection that the 19th Article of the Constitution forbids such a step. "Japanese subjects," says that Article, "according to qualifications determined in laws or ordinances, may be appointed to civil or military or any other offices equally." The word "equally" here employed means, it is contended, that patronage must not be exercised to the advantage of one set of subjects and the detriment of another. To set aside the Regulations for the purpose of exercising such patronage is naturally objected to by all the officials who have satisfied the tests provided by the Regulations. We doubt whether the *Kokkai* gives a correct version, but it is at any rate to be sincerely hoped that the wholesome system of competitive examinations will not be abrogated in the interests of any particular body of office-seekers.

THE EASTERN RADICALS.

THE *Toyo Jiyu-to*, or Eastern Radicals, as Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers call themselves, have issued a declaration of principles which is a very admirable document in the sense that it declares nothing at all. It is certainly characteristic of Japanese Political Parties, at the pre-

sent stage of their development, that they are content to take their stand on the tamest platitudes and widest generalities conceivable. As to the *soshi*-leading and plain-speaking Mr. Oi Kentaro, we did indeed imagine that when he came to announce his political principles some tangible issues would be presented. But no; he clings to the old groove in which his predecessors have walked, and publishes a platform just as well fitted to the feet of the Government itself as to those of the *Jiyu-to*. There is of course a declaration of liberal principles, followed by the orthodox profession of loyalty to the Emperor. Significantly enough, however, in the same article which contains this profession of reverential fealty, there is a promise to labour for the enlargement of popular rights and the perfecting of constitutional institutions. The Eastern Radicals are not concerned about logic: they do not trouble themselves to explain how they propose to deprive the Emperor of his prerogatives in order to convert them into popular rights, while at the same time setting to the nation an example of loyalty. In foreign affairs they promise to pursue a strong policy, and to assert the national prestige, and in domestic affairs they talk of wise measures to develop the national strength, of unremitting efforts to improve the finances and lighten the people's burthens, but how any of these most desirable results are to be achieved, they make no shadow of explanation. They merely sketch elastic outlines, and undertake to fill in the details with whatever speed or according to whatever methods the bulk of the Party may indicate after deliberation. It would have been impossible to pen a more non-committal document. Elsewhere parties are not collected or consolidated by such invertebrate methods, and we can scarcely believe that Japan will prove an exception to the rule.

REPUTATION AND INTEREST.

THE above is the title of a leader which recently appeared in the *Jiji Shimpō*. The writer makes some interesting comments on a well-known Japanese national characteristic. Here is the gist of the article. That Japan has ever been wont to hold reputation in high regard is a well-known fact. This tendency is not in itself an evil, but the question is, has it not led to an undue disregard of national interests? There are times when honour and interests clash. At such times a high regard for reputation involves a foregoing of interests. To cite a case in point. Year by year the number of Japanese who go to foreign lands increases, and among them many are by no means a credit to the country. On account of the injury such emigrants do to the national reputation, it is proposed, in some quarters, that restrictions be placed on emigration. This policy seems to us mistaken. The world is made up of all sorts and conditions of men. Good and bad are mixed. Japan is not the only country from which disreputable people have gone forth to foreign shores. Among those emigrating from various European lands there have been thousands of worthless characters, but we have never heard that restrictions have been placed on emigration on this account. It is natural that Japanese should feel ashamed when unworthy representatives tarnish her renown in foreign lands; but it is necessary to take a broad view of things, and to realise the impossibility of arranging matters so that only the good shall go abroad. It is only lately that the desire to emigrate has arisen, and the persons who are willing to go abroad are all too few. This being the case, it is most undesirable that the Government should place a variety of obstacles in the way of persons applying for permission to travel. If this policy be persevered in, there is no saying when the spirit of emigration will be developed in Japan as it has been elsewhere. The policy for the Government to adopt is to draw no minute distinctions between the pearls and the ordinary stones among emigrants; but to encourage men of all ranks and classes to seek their fortunes in foreign lands. There are not wanting writers who object to this policy, on the ground that it places

national interests before national honour. But what is to be done? Is it not idle to be prating about honour when all the world is bent on interest? This doctrine of making interest subservient to honour may do very well for individuals, but in the conflict of races it will not work. When one sees how crooked are many of the ways in which the foremost nations of the world accumulate wealth, and how every country is keen as to its interests, it is folly to talk of Japan's obligation to forego her interests for the sake of her reputation. The greatest nations have all become great by individuals and governments combining to study and preserve interests. To disregard interests indicates a lack of patriotism. The fact that military strength and mental development of all kinds depend on riches needs to be impressed on the minds of Japanese. The rich country is strong and well armed. A nation must begin by consulting its interests alone, and it will thus gain reputation. Men who do nothing but clamour about the importance of maintaining the country's reputation, and totally disregard her interests, are looking at things upside down; are putting the cart before the horse; are mistaking an effect for a cause.

The above has been the contention of the *Jiji* for many years. In the matter of emigration we are inclined to think that the Authorities have been over strict. It has to be borne in mind that such stringency as has been exercised towards a sensitive people like the Japanese undoubtedly prevents many from going abroad, and it is a mistake to think that any regulations can deter persons, bent on evil, from deceiving the Authorities and compassing their ends. Thus, while the unworthy evade the regulations, well qualified would-be-emigrants prefer to remain at home, rather than subject themselves to the severe tests on which the Authorities insist. Hence the earnestness of the *Jiji's* protest.

INCITATUS SECUNDUS.

M. BIGOT's latest addition to the comic library of this Settlement is a collection of sketches entitled "An attempt upon the Life of Incitatus Secundus, vulgarly called 'Orme.'" It is a quaint production, somewhat antiquated as to the humour of the sketches, but abundantly modern as to certain touches of blasphemy. Some of the faces and attitudes, however, are redeemingly funny, and the little volume cannot fail to furnish a hearty laugh. The French type of Englishman figures everywhere, and "Orme," from his first proud appearance in a stall beside a slumbering care-taker, until his final ride to London on the back seat of a carriage with the Duke of Westminster for *vis-à-vis* and a detachment of the Horse Guards for escort, is about as scraggy and unlikely looking an animal as they make them. M. Bigot's caricature of the exaggerated importance which Englishmen attach to horse-racing and all other contests of physical endurance and training, is perfectly fair. But we devoutly trust that Britons may always furnish material for such caricatures. We are not exactly of the same way of thinking as the late Mr. Swift, who used to say, in his own witty way, that the Briton's mania for exercise is a merciful dispensation of Providence, inasmuch as, if he didn't work off the head of steam in that way, the whole world wouldn't hold him.

ATTEMPT TO GET TO IKAO.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—It may be of use to those who intend visiting Ikao to know that in consequence of the breaking down of the bridge carrying a tramway, Ikao can only be reached with difficulty. The tramway referred to is that between Mayebashi and Shibukawa. The river is yet in flood and it is likely to be several weeks before communication by the ordinary route is re-established. So long as the Shimbashi at Mayebashi is not carried away by the yellow waves which now rush beneath it, Ikao can be reached by a circuitous route for which the *jinrikisha* men ask a little over 20 *sen* per *ri*. You accept their proposal because you are in a fix, and then find that you cannot start until next morning. The same

Original from

kind of obstacles are met with on the Takasaki route. No sooner have you accepted the *finrikisha* figure, than you see them interviewed by a man from the hotel, and suddenly they all pick up their shafts and disappear down a side street. They are all tired, so the hotel man says; the journey will take 7 hours; you must stay the night and start in the morning. In one day I saw seven foreigners leave Mayebashi for other places, whilst, by a wire, I stopped two others from coming. Giving these people a value of 3.00 yen per head it means that in 12 hours stupid arrangements diverted 27.00 yen from Ikao to Nikko and other pastures. The half day spent whilst waiting for the *finrikisha* men to recover from fatigue is anything but lively. The streets, excepting for a few children, who having satisfied themselves by staring at you, then run away shouting *ketogin*, seem deserted. I must not, however, forget the policeman—the polite policeman with his shining sword and his spotless summer dress. He is ever present and in one day he read my passport no less than three times. The main point, however, is not the aggravation consequent on meddling “vising” of a passport, or the cries of *ketogin*, but the difficulty of reaching Ikao, which, instead of being a journey of a few hours, must now, if we follow the wishes of hotel keepers and coolies, be spread over the better part of two days.

THE PERU MINE AFFAIR.

It seems that we have not heard the last of the Peru Mining fiasco. The *Yiji Shimpō* has just published a long article on the subject, in which it is contended that though Mr. Tajima has not been legally convicted of practising deceit for the sake of obtaining money, public opinion rightly holds him morally responsible for the heavy losses incurred by the mad venture to which a number of capitalists lent their aid, for the simple reason that he visited the mine as a professional expert and as Japan's trusted representative before the enterprise was embarked on, and that on his testimony the shareholders implicitly relied. The *Yiji* notes with approval that the Public Procurator has given notice of appeal from the decision of the Court which acquitted Mr. Tajima on the plea of insufficient evidence. Our contemporary refers to the fact that it expressed doubts as to the soundness of the Peru investment from the very first, and goes on to observe that had the mine even yielded the amount of silver promised by the original promoters of the scheme, it could never have proved a success, owing to the unsettled state of the country in which it was located. Though the loss has fallen heavily on certain shareholders, the nation, says the *Yiji*, is well out of the business, for there is no knowing what complications the working of the mine might have involved. Our contemporary adds that it is most unfortunate that Japan's first experience of a big foreign investment should have been so discouraging. Far more regrettable than the loss of the 180,000 yen sunk in the Peru Mining Scheme is the depressing effect the fiasco has had on the minds of capitalists. Having burnt their fingers over this affair, Japanese investors have, during the past two years, fought shy of foreign money-making enterprises of all kinds, which, the *Yiji* considers, is highly detrimental to the interests of the country.

THE TYPHOON.

DETAILED telegrams from Okayama, on the north-east coast of Shikoku, and Nagoya, which were struck by the recent typhoon on the 22nd and 23rd instant respectively, say that in the former place several hundred houses were overthrown and as many more injured. Many lives were also lost and great destruction of embankments took place. From Nagoya it is announced that the railway between Toyohashi and Washizu has suffered damage and traffic has had to be suspended. Another telegram published by the *Kokkai* and dated at Kobe, 1.15 p.m. on the 25th instant, says that owing to violent rain during the night of the 24th-25th, the rivers Koko and Iho in Banshu overflowed and burst their banks, burying a large tract of country under water. The Kobe-Tsushima Section of

the Sanyo Railway was so much injured that traffic had to be stopped. The damage caused by inundations at Tatsuno in Banshu is also reported to be very serious. Further details of the damage done in various places will be found in our notes from the vernacular press. It is feared that another typhoon is impending, for not only does the Meteorological Observatory announce the existence of one in the China Sea, but the state of the weather at present indicates great atmospheric disturbance. If the year's allowance of typhoons would come now and be done with it, the agricultural classes would rejoice.

Details of the destruction caused by the recent typhoon continue to be received in Tokyo. In Okayama Prefecture (Bizen) the inundations resulting from the overflow and bursting of the banks of the rivers Aali and Takahashi affected five Districts—Kamimichi, Mino, Oku, Tsudaka, and Kayo—where no less than 5,000 houses were invaded by the water; 110 persons were drowned; 500 houses were completely overthrown; 600 were partially overthrown; 200 were swept away, and over 10,000 *cho* (25,000 acres of arable land) were inundated. In Kagawa Prefecture (Sanuki), two lives were lost—one man and one woman—owing to falling houses—and a school was destroyed. The unfortunate people of Gifu, also, did not escape. The carrying away of embankments in two places caused the inundation of over 70 houses, though happily no lives were lost. Tokushima Prefecture seems to have followed Okayama next in order of suffering and even to have surpassed it in some respects. The storm raged there for three days and nights—from the evening of the 22nd instant—carrying the sea far up into the town, the result being that 7,782 houses were inundated; 21 swept away; 186 overthrown; 62 partially overthrown; 6 persons crushed to death; 27 drowned; 4 bridges carried away; embankments broken in 42 places, and 2,590 persons reduced to depend on official relief. In respect of loss of life Hyogo Prefecture has the worst record of all. A telegram from Kobe, despatched on the afternoon of the 27th, says that in the Ako District 300 lives were lost and 3,000 houses either overthrown or injured. Traffic had been resumed on the railway as far as Kako river, but it was not expected that the section between Aritoshi and Mitsuishi could be opened until after the 30th instant. These returns give a total of over 17,422 houses wrecked, completely or partially, 445 lives lost, and great tracts of land buried under water. The calamity is second in magnitude only to the earthquake of last October.

DIPLOMATS IN WASHINGTON.

THE *Chicago Tribune* lately published an article containing accounts, embellished with portraits, of the Foreign Representatives in Washington. Three old friends are among the number, and this is what the *Tribune* has to say about them:—

The Ministers from France and Germany are both new men, and, singularly enough, they are both bachelors. There has not been a woman at the head of the French Legation since M. Dutrey, who had an American wife, was Minister some ten years ago. Unmarried men are, however, at a premium in Washington, where the supply is not equal to the demand.

Mr. Patenotre, the French Minister, came to us directly from Tunis. Earlier yet he had for some time been stationed in Japan. He is an unusually handsome man, well built, with an intellectual face, and manners of true Parisian courtesy. Social favours have been literally rained upon him, and he has been entertained at all the “smart” houses. M. Jules Beaufvé, an attaché of the French Legation, who has seen long service in Washington, is also a man of ability and very popular. Mr. Paul Desprez, too, who was Chargé d'Affaires before Mr. Patenotre's arrival, is a prominent figure in Washington society.

Mr. von Holleben, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Count von Arco Valley's death, was for many years German Minister in Japan. His advent has not been made with such éclat as was his predecessor's, who created a veritable sensation when he came to America. Count Arco was a distinguished looking man of the South German type, large and of imposing presence. He wore a monocle, and was always attended by his Jäger, whose first appearance, seated in Bavarian costume, on the box of the Minister's carriage, made quite a stir.

Mr. von Holleben is rather good looking, extremely clever, and somewhat of a dilettante. He has the national love for music, and himself possesses considerable skill. Under his régime at Tokyo the German Legation, which is one of the most attractive places in the Japanese capital, was so popular that Tokyo society seriously regretted his transfer to America.

The German Legation in Washington is installed in a spacious, old-fashioned house on Fifteenth street, situated just on the edge of the business part of the town, and belonging to the Imperial Government. Its interior furnishing is left to the personal taste of each Minister, who sells or sends his goods home on his recall. The property is very valuable for business purposes, and the German Government has refused several handsome offers for it.

Mme. de Struve, wife of the present Minister from Russia, who died during a visit home some three years since, was a very interesting woman—the most brilliant and versatile, the least beautiful of the ladies of the foreign legations. Mr. Blaine once said of her, “Mme. de Struve is the most brilliant woman I have ever met.”

“Yes,” said a lady present, “I have rarely seen a more brilliant foreigner.”

“I did not say the most brilliant foreigner,” said Mr. Blaine, “but the most brilliant woman.”

In appearance she was small and slender, with clear cut, intellectual features, and keen gray eyes. A modera in every sense of the word, she kept abreast of the thought of the day, and was herself proficient in the sciences. She was a devoted mother, a brilliant woman of the world, and a tender, sympathetic friend. There was a sense of strength and power about her which was irresistible, and her bonnet was in constant circulation. While she was at its head the Russian Legation was the most brilliant in Washington. Her weekly receptions were a social feature, and her dinners feasts of wit and wisdom. Since her death, the Legation, which occupies the handsome house built by ex-Gov. A. R. Shepherd when at the zenith of his power, has not been thrown open to the gay world, save occasionally when the Secretaries have offered bachelor hospitality.

Mme. de Struve came from a gifted family. Her father was a noted Russian General and her brother, Gen. Michael Nicolas Annenkov, is the engineer who is now engaged in building a great railroad through Central Asia.

Mr. de Struve has been Russian Minister at Washington for a decade, and will probably remain here until he is promoted to an Ambassadorship. He was for a number of years a Russian diplomatic agent in Central Asia, and, like Mr. Patenotre and Mr. von Holleben, has represented his country in Japan. Much of the time since Mme. de Struve's death he has spent in Russia with his children. Mr. de Struve is distinguished in appearance, with a genial, pleasant expression, and cordial manners.

TOTAL WRECK OF THE “NORTH AMERICAN.”

THE following particulars from the *Kobe Chronicle* are to hand in reference to the wreck of this vessel:—“A telegram has been received by Governor Sufu that the *North American*, which left Kobe for New York on Friday morning last, is a total wreck on the coast of Awa in the Kii Channel. Happily all the crew were saved. The *North American* passed the Straits at six o'clock on Friday morning in charge of a Japanese pilot, who picked up a fishing boat thereabouts and left her, it is supposed, shortly afterwards. The captain must have passed Hinomisaki safely, as the *Macduff* did not see the vessel as she came in, and it is therefore thought that on getting out into the open he encountered a southerly wind, which, with the current setting N.N.W., would put him right on to the shore of Awa, where the vessel probably struck on the night of Friday on the well-known dangerous reef on that shore.”

AN ORATORICAL FEAT.

On the 24th instant Mr. Inagaki Manjiro delivered at the Kinkikan, Kanda, a lecture which in respect of length has, we venture to think, never been surpassed in Japan. The speaker ascended the rostrum at 8 a.m. and spoke fluently and vigorously without stopping until after 1 o'clock. No exhausted shorthand reporters waited anxiously for the close. These gentlemen were conspicuous by their absence. The Japanese show little enterprise in obtaining full reports of speeches. It is seldom that vernacular papers contain anything but meagre outlines of public orations, however interesting and important they may be: only in the Diet is the system of reporting well developed. The importance of accuracy, and hence the value of stenographic records, are not realised by the nation at large. From the report furnished by the *Yiji*

Shimpo we gather that in his five hour lecture, under the title of "Japan's Foreign Policy," Mr. Inagaki discussed almost every subject conceivable. Among the topics of his discourse, as given by the *Fiji*, are the spirit of the nineteenth century, the French Revolution, England as a centre of Commerce, America as a centre of Commerce, and Japan as the entrance to the Eastern Commercial world. The lecture was divided into three parts, the first dealing with the commercial, the second with the industrial, and the third with the political policy Japan should adopt. The lecturer denounced in strong terms the modern tendency to concentrate attention on politics. But there is a great lacuna in the *Fiji's* account: it tells us nothing about the listeners. How did they fare during these five hours of unending eloquence?

SUSPENSION OF THE "YOMIURI SHIMBUN."

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* have been suspended for publishing an article which professes to give the conversation that occurred between the Minister-President of State and the Emperor on two occasions, when the latter sought audience of the Sovereign in connection with the appointment of Ministers to vacant portfolios. The purpose of the story is, of course, to bring discredit on the Minister-President by representing the Emperor as addressing to him precisely the objections which certain persons have urged against the supposed and actual procedure of the Cabinet with reference to these appointments. It would be right enough that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* should have advanced these objections on its own account, but when it has recourse to falsehood for the purpose of putting them into the mouth of the Sovereign, it forfeits all sympathy. Falsehood is the only term applicable, inasmuch as it is obviously impossible that any newspaper could be in a position to publish a verbatim report of an interview between Emperor and his Prime Minister on State questions. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* must have known that it was publishing a purely imaginary dialogue, and certainly the Emperor and the Minister-President were not well chosen as actors in such a fiction. Besides, to publish anything of the kind without official permission, is a direct violation of the letter of the law, so that the *Yomiuri* erred in more ways than one. It is difficult to see why Japanese newspapers should run their heads thus deliberately into the lion's jaws. They look foolish in the process, and do not increase the public's confidence in either their discretion or their veracity.

"YE ODD VOLUMES."

THE front page of the *Daily Graphic* for June 6th contains a picture of "Ye Odd Volumes, united once a month to form a Perfect Sette." Dr. William Murrell is in the chair and Mr. Marcus B. Huish is reading a paper, among the audience being Mr. Oscar Wilde, Mr. Alma Tadema, Professor Church, Dr. Ernest Hart, Mr. Alfred East, Captain Kawaka, Mr. Okoshi, and others. The likenesses appear to be good on the whole, though Alfred East looks a little out of tune. The *Graphic* gives the following account of the *reunion* :—

His Oddship, Dr. William Murrell, presided over a large and distinguished body of guests at the hospitable board of the Odd Volumes on the occasion of their June dinner at Limmer's Hotel, on Friday last. Interesting groups made by the guests and brethren formed very happy combinations of distinguished representatives of literature, medicine, science, politics, and art.

THE COMPANY.

His Oddship sat supported by Mr. Max Pemberton and Mr. Shultz Wilson; the vice-president, Bro. Heron-Allen, by Mr. Oscar Wilde and Colonel Chisborough, U.S.A.; the secretary, Bro. Todhunter, Playwright to Ye Sette, was the centre of a small literary circle, Mr. James Sims, Mr. Macmurdo, and Mr. Mackenzie Bell; opposite to whom was seated Bro. Marcus Huish, the Artisan, with Mr. Alma Tadema, R.A., and Professor Church on either hand. Bro. Holme, the Pilgrim, exchanged views upon the Japanese and Japan, with Mr. N. Okoshi, the Japanese Consul, and Mr. Arthur Dicosy, the secretary of the Japanese Society. Bro. Onslow Ford, the Sculptor, and Bro. G. C. Haité, the Art Critic, were with Mr. John Swan and the learned Dr. Leitner. Bro. Douglas Gordon, the Master of the Ceremonies and Remembrancer, with Bro. Lane, the Bibliograp-

her, entertained the representatives of the nation in Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., and Mr. Murdoch, M.P., and Mr. Harborn, the New Zealand traveller, with Bro. Wilfrid Ball, the Painter-Etcher, as their *vis-à-vis*. Near Bro. East, the Landscape Painter, were Mr. Ernest Hart, Mr. F. A. Satow, Mr. J. P. Reid, and Mr. F. T. Pigott. Bro. Elgar, the Shipwright, and Bro. Villiers, the War Correspondent, sat with Sir Henry Trueman Wood and the Naval Attaché of the Japanese Legation. Bros. Davies and Venables were neighbours to Mr. Claude Pemberton and Bro. Conrad Cooke, erstwhile the Jester, but now the Mechanic to the Sette. Bros. Quaritch, Thompson, Manning, and Gervis formed a merry and noisy quartette. Mr. Ashbee and Bro. Hamilton sat with two newly-elected brothers, Yorke Powell, of Oxford University, and Herbert Ward, the intrepid African traveller, who had but just passed through the ordeal of initiation, the former as the Ignoramus, on the score of his learning, and the latter as the Wanderer, in recognition of his nomadic habits. As the feature of the evening was a paper by the Artisan, Bro. Huish, "An Apology for Japanese Art," a great number of authorities and collectors were specially invited, most of whom are members of the New Japanese Society, of which Mr. William Anderson is president, but he was unable to be present. Mr. F. Pigott, the vice-president, and Mr. Arthur Dicosy, with the gentlemen already named, represented the society of which many of the Odd Volumes are distinguished members. In response to the toasts, the Japanese Naval Attaché was called upon by his Oddship to respond for Japan, which he briefly did in his own tongue; Mr. Jesse Collings for Parliament; Col. Chisborough for America; and Mr. Oscar Wilde was called upon to respond for himself, an opportunity of which he made the most, prefacing his remarks by assuring the Sette that it was the one subject that had engrossed his attention from his earliest recollection.

JAPANESE ART.

Bro. Huish then delivered his "Apology for Japanese art." Striking comparisons were made between the beautiful fabrics for dress materials, the swords—which upwards of two millions of Japanese were permitted to carry—and the objects of everyday life in Japan at the time of Sir Rutherford Alcock's first official visit to that wonderful country, and our manufactured goods of Manchester and Birmingham of the same period. Some very beautiful examples of dresses, swords, medicine boxes, kakemonos, &c., were handed round for inspection, lent by the lecturer, Bro. Holme, and others. By command of his Oddship, Brother Haité proposed a vote of thanks. Bro. Holme seconded the vote of thanks, and confessed to a difficulty of explaining the difference between decorative and pictorial art. Mr. Alma Tadema, R.A., spoke at some length, reverting to the change which European art had undergone since the time of Raphael, and finished with an enthusiastic expression of admiration of Japanese art. Mr. Okoshi pointed out that, whereas the art of Europe was cosmopolitan, that of Japan was traditional. Mr. Ernest Hart followed, and with remarks much to the point, declared that as Japanese art influenced by the Buddhist religion and canons, they had not sought like the Greeks, to exalt the human form, but rather to debase it. Brother Alfred East thought that, before the art of a nation could be justly understood, some knowledge of the habits and natures of the people themselves was requisite. It was approaching midnight when his Oddship rose, and the Sette dispersed, to meet again, after the vacation, in October.

The menu of the evening, presented by Brother Huish, suggested the gathering of a kindred society in Japan, discussing an apology for English art!

* * *

There is evidently a disposition in London to revive the taste for Japanese art, which suffered much a few years ago from the injudicious puffing of charlatans. Mr. F. T. Pigott's admirable essays recently published in *The Builder*—incomparably the best things that have ever appeared on the subject, we venture to think—must have done much to attract public attention, and Mr. J. Conder's book on "Flower Arrangement" has also produced an effect. Mr. Pigott, we may mention, is about to bring out a Japanese Floral Diary which is sure to be good, and he has also in the press a volume on Japanese music, which is said to have excited much interest in the musical world. Then we have Mr. Bowes in Liverpool, whose books and articles have immensely helped the cause of Japanese art, while Dr. Anderson in London exercises a steady influence in the same direction. Dr. Ernest Hart, too, since his visit to Japan, has become a more than ever active and intelligent exponent of all things Japanese, and the excellent papers compiled by Mrs. Hart after her return from this country must have been widely read. Finally Mr. Huish, editor of the *Art Magazine*, is indefatigable in his efforts to arouse in others something of the keen appreciation he evidently feels himself. His

recently published little book describing a collection of Japanese art objects from a historical and ethnographical point of view, was suggested by a very original idea which the author followed out with great ability. Altogether, if Japanese art does not begin to be better understood in London, it will not be for want of clever and sympathetic exposition.

They are fortunate who have time to study the products of Japanese art closely and by some clear light. In Mr. Huish's favourite branch—sword furniture—there are perpetual delights and surprises. The more one examines these exquisite works in metal, the more one is astounded by the strength and delicacy of the chiselling and the extraordinary skill of the artisan. Sometimes one finds a figure, perhaps one third of an inch in height, the face of which is chiselled into as perfect a mirror of some emotion as could be produced by the brush of a great painter; and then again, one discovers a whole army of *Samurai* engraved within the compass of a *Kozuka's* surface, every detail of each figure and every fold of the drapery accurately depicted. It is not mere mechanical skill either: these artisans were often poets. The greatest of the Gotos—with one exception—Goto Ichijo, often surprises us by the tenderness of his pictures in metal. We saw recently a knife-haft chiselled by him. On the face, in low relief, were a line of rustic fence and a gate, with a pine tree and autumn grasses growing in front, and the moon rising through clouds behind. By some undiscernible subtlety of line, this little scene had received the impress of perfect rest and tranquillity. It was a quiet country residence where happy folks might live peacefully. Nobody could mistake it for anything else. On the back Goto had carved a verse of his own composition :—"Husband and wife sing together: their wings of love soar high into cloud-land. They sing their deathless affection, and their love-notes thrill through the twin-branched pines." What a singular design and sentiment to choose for the haft of a knife forming part of the furniture of a *Samurai's* sword! More frequently, however, a touch of comicality is preferred by the worker in metals when he departs from historical or conventional motives. In the same collection that contained the knife-haft we have just spoken of, were a *Kozuka* and *Kogai* by Toshimitsu. On the former the celebrated courtesan Takao, magnificently apparelled, sweeps along proudly and majestically, but if we turn the *Kozuka* we find this inscription on the reverse :—"Buddha sells doctrine; the sect-founder sells Buddha; the priest of later days sells the founder. And you! You sell your five-foot body to gratify the lust of men. Green is the willow; red the flower: there is plenty of variety." On the *Kogai* we find the same Takao tickling the ear of a forbiddingly stern-looking Daruma and behind this scene of quaint contrast is the legend :—"Night after night the moon travels over the surface of the lake; but never once does her heart enter the water; never once does her shadow stay there."

It is curious that the idea which occurred to Toshimitsu so many years ago, should have presented itself independently to Mr. Henry Norman in 1886. The inimitable frontispiece of "The Real Japan," a photograph grouped and taken by Mr. Norman himself, shows the beautiful little danseuse, Oyen, with her arms thrown about the neck of an appallingly austere Daruma in Bizen pottery. There is nothing new under the sun.

THE HYOGO HOTEL.

STILL, and with reason, the people of Kobe seem to be considerably excited about the Hyogo Hotel affair. To their very great credit it must be said that, almost without exception, they have refrained from saying a word against the unfortunate Mr. Johnson. They let the dead rest in peace. But they are distinctly angry with the promoters of the disastrous scheme, who, presumably through negligence, perfumctoriness, or misplaced confidence, were the means of foisting upon the public a most deceptive chattel. Espe-

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cially against Mr. Creagh does the local wrath burn, because, acting as solicitor for vendor and vendee alike, he exercised a large faith which worked entirely in the interests of one party. Somebody has even gone so far as to compose and publish a piece of caustic doggerel at the expense of the unhappy solicitor. Here are three verses:—

Who with prospectus worded fair,
Invited all to take a share;
With hard earned savings few could spare?
Our Lawyer!!!

Who stuck us with a sick Hotel,
With promise fair and plotting fell—
Who worked on us this monstrous sell?
Our Lawyer!!!!

Who tried to earn a triple fee,
Acting at once for clients three,
With interests contradictory?
Our Lawyer!!!!!!

Mr. Creagh's position was certainly difficult. The only barrister, we believe, in Kobe, he was consulted by everybody, and it was perhaps not unnatural that his methods should be influenced by his peculiar position. But after all, is the Hyogo Hotel such a very bad speculation? We cannot but think that if the Company brings a little of its business ability to bear on the venture, a fair profit may yet be realized. Certainly all this unpleasant notoriety will not conduce to the interests of the enterprise.

THE RYOMO RAILWAY.

A decision on the long pending question of the amalgamation of the Ryomo Railway Company with the Nippon Railway Company was finally reached at a general meeting of the shareholders of the former Company held in Tokyo a few days ago. The committee who were appointed at the early part of the last month to make thorough investigations as to the advisability of selling the Ryomo railway to the larger company, submitted as the result a report strongly in favour of their Company's maintaining its independence. The opinion of the committee was supported by a large majority, and the scheme for the sale of the property thus fell through. It was further decided that the connection which has existed between the two companies since the opening of the Ryomo line—the arrangement under which the Nippon Railway Company has been taking charge of the maintenance of the line and the management of the rolling stock—should be severed, and that the Company be placed under an entirely independent footing. These altered arrangements are to come into effect from the 1st of October next.

THE RECENT STORM.

Kochi Prefecture has to be included in the area which suffered severely from the recent storm. A telegram despatched thence on the morning of the 27th instant, says that from the 22nd instant to the 25th inclusive, there was an unceasing downpour of rain, with the result that a large land-slip occurred in the Misse Division of Akawa District, 16 houses, 13 people, and six oxen being buried deep in the debris. One other death is recorded from a cause not described, and several embankments were washed away. When the figures of loss caused by this terrible storm are totalled, they will prove very considerable.

YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO VOTES.

It appears to be the opinion of our readers that the time has passed when any good purpose could be served by recording Conservative and Liberal votes on the part of the British community in Japan and telegraphing the result to London, as was done in Hongkong. We have nevertheless received a few votes. They are not sufficiently numerous to be worth arithmetical record, but we may say that they are almost unanimously Conservative.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

The fashion of relieving the tediousness, to Japanese students, of the long vacation by holding classes in the hills, is we observe, becoming very prevalent in Japan. Conducted more *Japonico*, the expense involved is slight, and the results are excellent. Book-work is only carried on for about three hours a day. The rest of the time is given to recreation. Boys are social animals, and the enjoyment of a holiday is greatly in-

hanced by good company. Some of the instructors in charge of summer schools make use of the opportunity for teaching the boys how to play foreign outdoor games, and others accompany their pupils in long rambles over the hills, and employ the occasion for giving lessons in natural history or other subjects in which they may themselves be versed.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for June, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.		1891.	1892.
		SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	5,425,893.630	6,081,351.870	
Imports	4,507,304.060	6,009,826.730	
Total exports and imports		12,091,178.600	
Excess of exports		71,525.140	
		CUSTOMS DUTIES.	SILVER YEN.
Exports		161,898.565	
Imports		246,720.978	
Miscellaneous		9,825.483	
Total		418,445.026	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	3,164,055.860	697,057.050	3,861,102.810
Great Britain	183,411.060	1,507,517.820	1,690,928.880
Hongkong	827,421.040	623,550.570	1,450,971.610
China	493,654.530	993,708.220	1,487,362.750
France	493,857.950	478,704.510	972,562.460
British India	134,858.480	580,022.270	714,880.750
Germany	87,919.050	514,091.120	602,010.170
Korea	112,390.030	175,078.030	287,468.060
Canada & other British America	51,807.820	6,362.740	58,170.560
Russia	60,217.190	180,005.860	240,223.050
Belgium	9,397.020	68,133.470	77,530.490
Philippine Islands	55,149.090	19,575.860	74,724.950
Australia	27,135.840	14,315.100	41,450.940
Switzerland	1,400.000	34,000.380	35,400.380
Italy	21,719.090	3,665.460	25,384.550
Hawaii	18,202.010	—	18,202.010
Austria	10,434.980	74,640	10,509.620
Spain	90.000	2,296.070	2,386.070
Holland	1,355.000	222.800	1,577.800
Sweden & Norway	35.000	1,260.150	1,295.150
Turkey	44.000	311.370	355.370
Peru	—	82.030	82.030
Portugal	—	59.640	59.640
Denmark	30.000	20.000	50.000
Other Countries	70,558.400	92,447.320	163,005.720
Total	5,917,080.370	6,009,826.730	11,926,907.100

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	3,213,111.540	2,400,510.230	5,613,621.770
Kobe	2,105,874.470	2,753,108.860	4,858,983.330
Osaka	107,113.220	551,177.810	658,291.030
Nagasaki	338,338.230	362,857.790	701,196.020
Hankow	29,774.760	4.000	29,778.760
Niigata	—	875.100	875.100
Shimonoseki	39,174.130	39,141.630	78,315.760
Moji	85,149.000	—	85,149.000
Kakata	1,011.650	3,013.900	4,025.550
Karatsu	12,406.000	—	12,406.000
Kuchinosu	85,830.000	—	85,830.000
Misumi	9,774.000	—	9,774.000
Idzumi	1,007.010	3,160.500	4,167.510
Saiki	311.000	108.260	419.260
Otsu	40,057.500	—	40,057.500

Specie and Bullion { Exports	195,012.910
{ Imports	2,288,479.770

Total	2,483,492.680
Excess of imports	2,993,466.860

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	735,025.950
{ Imports	933,094.140
Imported by Government	173,097.660

BOMBS.

An ugly element, the appearance of which upon the political scene has been talked of recently as a possible contingency, has now been added to the troubles of the time. At eleven o'clock on the night of the 28th instant, men presented themselves, almost simultaneously, at the residences of Count Okuma and Mr. Kono, carrying deal boxes, about 4 inches deep by 8 inches long, prepared after the usual fashion of boxes containing letters. The box given in at Mr. Kono's contained a superscription saying that it came from Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Privy Council, and Count Okuma's box purported to come from Mr. Yano Fumio. As Messrs. Ito and Yano are friends of Mr. Kono and the Count respectively, the boxes were received without any suspicion and immediately, were opened when they were found to contain, not letters but dynamite bombs. The scheme of the makers of the boxes was, that some detonating substance should be ignited by the friction of drawing back the lids of the boxes, to which springs were attached, but happily in both instances ignition failed to take place. Information was at once given to the police,

who soon traced the bearers of the boxes. In the case of Mr. Kono's box, the bearer proved to have been a *jinrikisha* coolie of Nagatacho, named Hamanaka Genjiro, who said that a person like a student had given him the box paid him to carry it to the House of the Home Minister; while Count Okuma's box had been carried by another coolie, Nakamura Fusagoro, of Yotsuya, Tenomachi, who had received it from a man passing along the street. Searching investigations are now in progress.

JAPANESE ORDERS.

We have translated from the *Official Gazette*, during the past few days, several announcements of Orders which His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to confer on foreigners, but it appears that although only now officially announced, all these honours were granted a considerable time—in some cases as much as a year—ago. Why they should not have been gazetted earlier we are unable to say.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

An Imperial Ordinance has been published authorizing the expenditure of monies from the First Reserve for the following purposes:—(1) To assist the repairing of the new Shikoku Road in Kochi Prefecture; (2) to assist the repairing of the road between Oita and Nakatsu in Oita Prefecture; (3) to pay the salaries of foreign employes as provided by agreement.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

The local manager of the O. B. C. writes yesterday:—"I have to-day received a telegram from London to the effect that the Committee of Inspection do not recommend the reconstruction of the Bank."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Ministerial problem has entered upon a new stage of much importance. Before this appears in print the storm now menacing the Cabinet's stability may plunge the political world into a state of considerable confusion. It is now no longer a secret that the Cabinet is split into two seemingly irreconcilable sections; the one being composed of Count Goto and Mr. Kono with perhaps Viscount Enomoto and Viscount Sano; the other of Viscount Takashima, Viscount Kabayama, and Count Oki. The Minister-President, Count Matsukata, is reported to incline to neither side. It was indeed apparent from the first that dissensions were unavoidable in a Cabinet constituted as the existing one is. Well informed observers wondered that Viscount Takashima's section had not resisted more strongly the appointment of Mr. Kono to the portfolio of Home Affairs. Owing to this half-hearted attitude of the militant party, as Viscount Takashima's section is called, Count Goto and Mr. Kono were for a time able to have everything in their power. The sudden and, so far as appearances went, complete ascendancy of Count Goto made him the hero of the day, a section of the press even idolizing him as the powerful demolisher of clan Government. Opposition papers, while denying the existence of a covenant between the new Ministry, as the Matsukata Cabinet under Count Goto's ascendancy is called, and the *jiyu-to*, showed an unmistakable tendency to say good things of the Count of Big Words (大言伯), who until lately was an object of general condemnation as an alleged betrayer of the popular cause. The papers seem to have suddenly called to mind certain words which he dropped when he took office, to the effect that the most effective method of pulling down the edifice of clan Government was to attack it from within. Now, they seem to think that the great statesman is going to fulfil his own prophecy, and that in this respect he deserves the support of all enemies of clan influence. Some of the Opposition papers may not necessarily be disposed to regard Count Goto as a hero, but they certainly do seem to recognize in him a unique instrument to purge the Government of its clan elements and prepare the way for

the introduction of party Cabinets. Some of the *Kaishin-to* papers, too, have evidently been delighted with the opportunity thus afforded of dealing a blow to the influence of certain Choshu statesmen. These circumstances combining made Count Goto for the past fortnight the most popular statesman of the day. But on a sudden an ugly cloud darkened this prospect so bright for the Minister of Communications, Viscount Takashima's section, which, though evidently not pleased by the turn things were taking, had hitherto remained irresolute and uncertain, suddenly awakened into full vigour, and brought pressure to bear upon the Minister-President to remodel the policy of the Cabinet. Viscount Takashima and Viscount Kabayama threatened to resign at once, unless Mr. Kono were removed from the Home Office, and the former strong policy again adopted by the Cabinet towards the Diet. As to the cause of this apparently inconsistent move on the part of the Ministers of War and of the Navy, it is attributed to pressure brought to bear upon them by the leaders of the National Union (*Kokumin-Kyokai*). Another new factor in the situation is the presence in the capital of several of the disaffected Governors of "the desperate group," (*Gakki-gumi*), who are entirely opposed to the policy of the new Minister of Home Affairs. Whatever may be the cause, the fact is that the die has been cast, and one of three things must be done; either Viscount Takashima's party must leave the Government; or Count Goto and his followers must resign, or failing this the whole Cabinet must tender its resignation simultaneously. At all events, if we may believe reports, compromise seems out of the question.

The interminable uncertainty of the position of the Cabinet is the subject of unanimous condemnation and regret in the columns of papers of all classes. The *Fiji Shimpō* earnestly hopes that every effort will be made to reconcile all differences between dissident members of the Cabinet. It asks the Ministers not to disgrace themselves by changing a policy, whatever it be, which they decided upon only a few days ago. If the continuance of Mr. Kono in the Home Office be unavoidably inconvenient, the *Fiji* advises the Minister-President to resign the portfolio of Finance and assume the control of the Home Office in addition to his post of Minister-President.

The Opposition journals strongly criticise the inconsistency of the conduct of Viscount Takashima and his section. These papers do not hesitate to urge the Cabinet to drive out of office the disaffected minority. They remind the Minister-President of the decision with which he conducted himself during the late session of the Diet; and recommend him to show equal resolution in the present case. One of these journals even goes so far as to assure him that he need be in no anxiety so long as he can count upon the active co-operation of men like Count Goto and Mr. Kono. Turning to Viscounts Takashima and Kabayama, and Count Ōki, the Opposition organs appeal to their public spirit and personal honour to resign if they find it difficult to agree with the majority of their colleagues.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* agrees with the rest of the papers in thinking it very strange that serious opposition should have arisen within the Cabinet itself against the new Minister of Home Affairs within so short a time of his appointment with the concurrence of the whole Cabinet. Whatever may be said of the new move on the part of certain Ministers, things have, in our contemporary's opinion, already reached a stage in which compromise is out of the question. The Cabinet must now take some decisive step. If the majority of the Ministers be powerful enough to drive the minority out of office, let them do so by all means. But the *Nichi Nichi* apparently entertains some doubt as to their ability to take such a decisive course. If that step be beyond their power, our contemporary calls upon the whole Cabinet to resign simultaneously, and at once to put an

end to the interminable excitement about the Ministerial crisis.

The *Kokumin Kyokai*'s manifesto has been already noticed in these columns. The appearance of the document is seized by the Opposition papers as an occasion to renew their severe attack upon the abnormal condition of that association. To all intents and purposes, the National Union is a political party, and as such ought to put itself under the scope of the Political Associations Regulations. Its members claim, however, that their association is not a political party but simply a sort of social institution; and it is apparently regarded in that light by the Authorities. The provisions of the Political Association Regulations are in some cases far from convenient; and the thought that the *Kokumin Kyokai* is evading this troublesome law with the connivance of the Authorities galls the politicians of the *Fiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*. Their criticisms on this subject seem only natural and reasonable.

The new Radical programme, just made public, is the subject of much comment in the press. The general opinion of the papers seems to be that the document marks wholesome progress in the political ideas of the *Fiyu-to*, since it shows a spirit of moderation and practical sense. The programme has found a most searching critic in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. That journal's articles on the subject are not yet concluded, but enough has been written to enable readers to comprehend the paper's general attitude. In the first place, the *Nichi Nichi* points out, that since the Party promises to institute political investigations on the basis of the new programme, its members must be held to have hitherto discussed politics without any assured foundation for their opinions. Secondly, whereas what is most important in a political programme is that it should give ample consideration to the time, method, order, and cost of the measures proposed in it, the Radical document is conspicuously deficient in these important respects, and consequently the *Fiyu-to*'s political ideas must be characterized as crude and shadowy. Thirdly and lastly, the Radical programme is declared to be full of illogical and mistaken ideas of political science.

The Radical organ, the *Fiyu*, in writing on the same topic, observes that the policy of its Party having formerly been necessarily negative and destructive, it was not in those days possible to formulate any positive programme. Further, during the new constitutional era, the *Fiyu-to*'s hand having been fully occupied by active contests with the Government and the latter's supporters, there has hitherto been no possibility of devoting much time to the investigation of political matters in detail. But the general aim of the Party has been sufficiently well known for the past few years, and only its bitterest enemy can charge the *Fiyu-to* with having been unnecessarily tardy in instituting thorough researches into political affairs.

The *Kokkai* is one of the papers which recognize that the Radical Party's new programme indicates progress in the right direction. It congratulates the Radicals on this happy improvement. But at the same time, it draws the attention of the leaders of the Party to the vital importance of changing their cold and ungrateful attitude towards many distinguished politicians who have devoted their whole energy and sacrificed their whole property to the advancement of the cause of Liberalism. There are many men of this description who, not possessing seats in the Diet, are excluded from all share in the direction of the Party's affairs and may justly be said to be left out in the cold. This is the real cause of the secession of Mr. Ōi Kentaro and his followers. Should such a petty spirit continue to prevail among the Radical leaders, the *Kokkai* fears that the *Fiyu-to* can have little hope of ever becoming a great party. Clan influence is the avowed object of attack, but the Radicals do not seem to observe that the organization of their Party is

rapidly becoming more narrow and exclusive in spirit than Clan Government ever was, even in its most flourishing days.

The *Toyo Fiyu-to*'s (Eastern Radicals) manifesto is declared to be vague and valueless as an enunciation of a party's programme. So far as it has any meaning, it seems to signify that in every respect the Eastern Radicals' object is not different from that of their former comrades of the *Fiyu-to*. There is, however, one clause which has suggested strong suspicion to the *Kaishin-to* organs. It relates to "the protection of the poor and the working classes." What does this mean? The leaders of the new Party, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, perhaps intend to oppose the two popular measures, the reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, on the ground that those reforms, being calculated to benefit only the land owners, are indirectly prejudicial to the interests of the poorer classes. The Eastern Radicals will probably support the Government's proposal to transfer the prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury, alleging that such a course is beneficial to the poorer elements of the people. If that be their real intention, the *Hochi* does not wonder that they can not work harmoniously with the Radicals. Such is the construction put upon the clause by the *Hochi Shimbun*, but in our opinion, the projects of the Eastern Radicals have more to do with the country's foreign affairs than with the improvement of internal politics. The spirit that prompted them, some years ago, to plan a mad scheme of revolution in Korea still remains operative.

The disturbance in the Prefecture of Ishikawa is laid by the Opposition papers to the change of the Local Authorities, especially the police functionaries. The Radicals are making much noise on the subject, because the mob consisted of members of their Party. It must be remembered that Ishikawa Ken is one of the localities where much ill-feeling is said to have been created between the local authorities and the people, by the former's alleged illegal interference in the elections of February last. Grave charges are preferred against the police in the present case. They are accused of having wantonly butchered many inoffensive inhabitants, and having treated even women and boys with insolence and cruelty. The Opposition papers call upon the Government to deal promptly with the offending parties and restore quiet to the much harassed people of Ishikawa. As yet it seems premature to form any decided opinion on the matter.

The sudden demise of the *Tokyo Shimpō* has occasioned much comment. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* regards it as a proof that the defunct journal was the organ, not of the Cabinet as a whole, but of a section of it, for its disappearance has been simultaneous with the going out of office of the leader of that section. With all its mistakes and blemishes, the *Tokyo Shimpō* enabled the public to know something of the ideas of the Government. The Cabinet is recommended to establish a new organ, for nothing can be more injurious for it than to have its motives and purposes misunderstood by the nation.

The Korean question continues to occupy much space in the columns of the metropolitan press. The *Choya Shimbun* is publishing a long series of articles on the subject, which will take several days more to reach an end. The *Kokkai* cautions its fellow journals against lending a ready ear to reports coming from the Korean peninsula, too many of them are prone to do. Large allowance must be made for the crafty designs of the Chinese and also of the rival factions in Seoul. Moreover, there are always some unscrupulous people who, in concert with speculative merchants at home, make it their business to send over exaggerated versions of passing events. Consideration must be given to these circumstances, and due caution exercised in discussing Korean affairs. This is the *Kokkai*'s counsel.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

POLITICAL MANIFESTOES.

TWO documents of political interest have just been published: they are Reports by the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* with reference to the last session of the Diet. Both are constructed on similar lines; the compilers cite the various measures introduced during the Session, and endeavour to show that the Government sustained a conclusive defeat on every issue with respect to which it had appealed to the country. But though following a common course, the tone of the two Reports shows a marked difference. That of the *Kaishin-to* is conspicuously bitter. It declares again and again that nothing remains for the Cabinet but to resign, and it promises that unless the popular voice be hearkened to, no Government Bill will be passed in the next session. That of the *Jiyu-to*, on the contrary, disavows all hostility to the Government, evidently seeks to convey the impression that each Bill was judged on its own merits without any reference to its source, and explains that the document is rather a vindication of the Party's procedure than an attack upon the Government. This difference of tone is a true reflection of the difference in the present attitudes of the two Parties. The *Kaishin-to* is by far the more resolute and uncompromising.

Turning from the general character of the reports to the special measures discussed by them, we find that the *Jiyu-to's* document is much clearer and more closely reasoned in this respect. Politically speaking the palm must be accorded to the *Kaishin-to* compilers, whose demonstration of the responsibilities devolving upon a constitutional government is very powerful, if read only by the light of the systems existing in such countries as England. But the *Jiyu-to's* statement has greater interest since it deals with each question independently. From it we learn, with regard to railway extension, that the Radicals are strongly in favour of adding to the present facilities, but that they aim chiefly at carrying the new lines far inland, so as to tap the goods traffic of the country and serve strategical purposes. Their dominant idea is to have a main trunk line running from the east to the west coast, with feeders passing north and south, the chief object kept in view being communication with good sea-ports. They think that the country can well afford to spend some five million *yen* annually for that purpose, inasmuch as the sums payable abroad for the purchase of material will be covered amply by the excess of exports over imports, the silk trade alone offering an immense field for exporters. We look in vain, however, for any definite statement of the reasons that induced the Opposition to reject the general scheme for the State acquisition of private railways. Such a measure ought certainly to find favour in Japan on theoretical principles

and the special circumstances of the case represent another powerful argument. But the measure is dismissed in each Report with a brief statement that it was not considered necessary. The fact is that confidence is wanting as to the manner in which the programme would be carried out, and perhaps the Opposition feel reluctant to leave to the Government the execution of an undertaking so extensive, involving such a large outlay, and adding correspondingly to the prestige and popularity of the Administration. With regard to the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures from the charge of the localities to that of the Treasury, the Reports are most unsatisfactory. There can be no question as to the desirability of the measure. The treatment of prisoners in different parts of the empire varies greatly, and it is well established that many abuses exist, owing to the natural unwillingness of each prefecture to provide a properly equipped and adequate jail at its own expense. Besides, that the prisons should be under the management of one central authority is a principle of plain expediency. But the Reports of the Opposition dismiss these important considerations with a brief observation that there is no assurance of an improved system being introduced by the proposed transfer, and that, in all probability, the expenditure would be increased. Every one can see, however, that the real reason of the Bill's rejection is stated in a corollary to the alleged reasons, where we read that the measure would involve an appropriation of over three million *yen* from the surplus revenue "which surplus public opinion desires to see applied to the reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of the land." In short, the Opposition places reduction of the agricultural classes' burdens above all reforms, and is resolved not to devote the surplus revenue to any purpose, however deserving, until that pet project is realized. In the *Kaishin-to* Report we find an interesting statement about the Prison Expenditures Bill. It is asserted that a kind of understanding existed between the two Houses, in the sense that if the Representatives passed the Bill as voted by the Peers, the latter, in their turn, would pass either the Bill for the Reduction of the Land Tax or that for Re-assessing the Taxable Value of the Land. But the Peers ultimately showed no disposition to perform their part of this bargain, and so the Representatives rejected the Prisons Bill.

Turning to the comments on the appropriation for naval ship-building, we find the Radicals avowing their belief in the necessity of increasing the Navy, but declaring that they cannot agree to any heavy expenditure for the purpose, so long as the Naval Department has no fixed policy, and so long as the naval administration is wasteful. What is meant by a fixed policy, and in what respects the administration has been wasteful, the Reports do

not explain. The figures given are that, during the *Meiji* era, 28,600,000 *yen* has been spent upon men-of-war, and that the country possesses a total tonnage of only 59,400 tons. The Naval Authorities say that this latter figure must be raised to 120,000 tons, and that the expense of the operation will be 58,000,000 *yen*, which the Radicals consider too high. They are careful to declare, however, that they do not intend to oppose the grant permanently, but only until satisfactory arrangements can be made about the expenditure. In connection with this part of the subject, one naturally looks with curiosity for the Opposition's account of the collision between the Houses. But nothing could be more disappointing. Indeed, it must be admitted that both Reports are disingenuous in this matter. Neither gives any account of the nature of the collision between the Houses, or of the fact that the EMPEROR'S decision was altogether against the Lower House. The *Jiyu-to's* Report merely says that the Naval appropriation was rejected by the Lower House but restored by the Upper; that an Imperial decision was sought, and that the appropriation was again rejected in a Conference of the two Houses. The *Kaishin-to* Report says that "the expenditure for the construction of men-of-war led to a strange collision between the two Houses, but that the trouble was settled by an Imperial decision, and that the appropriation was rejected at a conference of the two Houses." That is certainly a singular manner of writing history. It seems as though the compilers of the two Reports had agreed to throw dust of the same kind into the eyes of the public.

As to the Steel Foundry, the Opposition declare themselves not less anxious than the Government to make the country self-supplying in this important respect, but they explain, with much reason we venture to think, that they find difficulty in crediting the capacity of the Kamaishi Mines on which the Government now relies for iron. It was found hopelessly unprofitable to work the Mines in past years, and no one seems to understand what change of circumstances has materially improved the prospect now. Besides, when the Bill was originally submitted the Government admitted that supplies of pig iron would have to be obtained from abroad, but when re-submitting it, they relied upon the Kamaishi Mines. Altogether, the hesitation of the Opposition in the matter of the Steel Foundry cannot be regarded as unreasonable.

Count SOYEJIMA of course figures in both Reports. His ill-considered action in hastily proposing that a committee should be sent to Aichi and Gifu to re-investigate matters which specially appointed Government officials had already investigated, and concerning which the Government Delegates had already pledged

their faith to the House, is construed by the *Kaishin-to* and the *Fiyu-to* alike as an evidence that the Cabinet itself admitted the necessity of obtaining fuller information. There is much about this Earthquake Relief Grant in the two Reports, but no facts are adduced with which our readers are not already familiar. We learn, however, that the *Fiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* put forth all their strength to get the Bill rejected, and that they are much chagrined by their failure. The *Fiyu-to* confine themselves to expressing astonishment that a House containing popular representatives could have passed such a measure, but the *Kaishin-to* hint in the plainest terms that the passage of the Bill was secured by a threat of dissolution.

There is, in each Report, a very strong suggestion that the heat of the coming political struggle will be developed by friction between the two Houses, rather than by direct collisions between the Government and the Opposition. The *Kaishin-to* document does not say much on the subject, but the little it does say is significant:—"The Upper House showed utter indifference towards both of these important Bills (reduction of the land-tax and re-assessment of the taxable value of land) and rejected both of them." The *Fiyu-to's* Report is at once more accurate and more conciliatory. "These important Bills," it says, "which everyone was desirous of passing, were transmitted to the Upper House, but it either rejected them or kept them in the hands of a Special Committee. The House of Peers ought to play an independent and impartial part for the welfare of the country. Why it acted in such a manner is a question which the *Fiyu-to*, for certain reasons, are unwilling to discuss. But they hope that the two Houses will work more harmoniously together in future." Already the wholesome restraints of the bicameral system are beginning to prove irksome to politicians who seek to climb into power by a ladder of changes reaching far beyond the level of the nation's general experience, fitness, or education.

CRIMINAL AND CIVIL.

UNDER its present editorship the *Hyogo News* is a bright and pleasantly written journal, severely and often harshly critical of the Japanese, as compared with the *Hyogo News* of former times, but professing a disposition to be fair. It seems a pity, therefore, that before violently assaulting any expression of opinion opposed to its own policy, it should not take the trouble at least to read what it attacks. Some measure of discretion and equity is all the more necessary in this instance, because the majority of the English journals in Japan have organized themselves into a species of echo society. Whenever one of their number produces anything condemnatory of this country or its institutions, the others hasten to re-produce the

congenial paragraph, never by any chance noting its errors, should it contain errors, as it too often does, and never by any chance publishing or referring to refutations which may appear elsewhere. The one object kept in view seems to be the creation of an evil impression, and in pursuit of that object methods are resorted to which, if adopted between man and man, would soon relegate their employer to a despised and distrusted place in society. In view, therefore, of the prospect that whatever makes for the discredit of the Japanese and for the postponement of their recognition as a civilized nation, will inevitably receive wide circulation, it is surely not unreasonable to suggest that the common precaution of ascertaining salient facts should be resorted to before penning a hostile criticism. Mistakes cannot always be avoided, but there are some mistakes so flagrant as to merit a different name. To illustrate our meaning let us quote a paragraph from the *Hyogo News*, which, of course, has been re-produced by Yokohama journals:—

The *Mail* has a long article on the subject [dispute between this country and Portugal] which is replete with the usual sophistries. In one of its remarks it says:—"Against the notion of entrusting foreigners to the jurisdiction of Japanese Criminal Courts it is persistently alleged that, though the Japanese Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure represent, with some minor exceptions, a very excellent body of laws, certainly good enough to warrant their extension to foreigners residing in Japan, yet the Magistrates and Judges administering the Codes, though they have received a legal education and though they have satisfied tests designed to ensure competence, have not had sufficient training and experience to justify foreign confidence. Yet, while this pretext is solemnly iterated and re-iterated with every semblance of grave conviction, we have before our eyes the spectacle of Western Powers entrusting judicial functions in Japan to men absolutely without legal education of any kind, and moreover engrossed in commercial affairs which constitute the business of their lives." This, on the face of it, is what the *Mail* goes on to call "supremely ridiculous," but things are not what they seem, and this is one of them. Japanese Judges would be called upon to administer laws of which they are not only entirely ignorant but which are fundamentally and structurally opposed to Oriental notions of law. They would be working a machine with whose component parts they would be utterly unfamiliar, and until a few years have elapsed fair and impartial administration of the new Codes would be impossible. On the other hand, every European subject understands to a considerable extent the laws which prevail in his own country, so much so that despite the editor of the *Mail* being so immersed in the labyrinthine mazes of Japanese topsyturvydom he could probably, if need arose, give a very fair and—provided it did not clash with the terms of his subsidy—a very impartial decision on most of the questions arising among those he was once presumably proud to call his nationals. Hence merchant consuls are by no means the absurdities the *Mail* chooses to call them. It is "supremely ridiculous" to suppose Japanese Judges can administer entirely new laws very satisfactorily at first, it is also "supremely ridiculous" to suppose that a merchant consul could not grasp the first principles of laws to which he has been all his life accustomed, and by a very brief study acquire all the extra knowledge necessary for the position.

Now the first extraordinary feature of the above argument is this:—"The Japanese Judges would be called upon to administer laws of which they are not only entirely ignorant, but which are fundamentally and structurally opposed to Oriental notions of law. They would be working a machine with whose component parts they would be utterly unfamiliar, and until a few years have elapsed fair and impartial admini-

stration of the new Codes would be impossible." What on earth is the meaning of such a criticism? Our article spoke of "entrusting foreigners to the jurisdiction of Japanese Criminal Courts;" of the "Japanese Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure," and of "the Magistrates and Judges administering those Codes." The Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure were promulgated in July 1880 and came into operation on January 1st, 1882. They have been in operation for over ten years and, on the whole, have worked well and been intelligently administered. What, then, are the laws of which Japanese judges "are entirely ignorant?" What are the laws "fundamentally and structurally" (whatever that may mean) "opposed to Oriental notions of law?" What are "the new Codes" which the judges could not be expected to administer fairly and impartially "until a few years should have elapsed?" Does the *Hyogo News* know nothing about the Japanese Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure? Is it ignorant that they were promulgated twelve years ago, and that they have been in operation for more than 10½ years? We cannot suppose that it ignores these facts, known, as they are, to every educated foreigner in Japan. The obvious explanation is that the Kobe journal, not taking the trouble to read the article which it undertook to denounce as "replete with the usual sophistries," confounded Civil Codes with Criminal Codes, and thus penned a diatribe having no manner of relation to the subject under discussion. Yet, even in the matter of civil laws, the *Hyogo News* must be perfectly well aware that this journal has invariably maintained the necessity of not placing foreigners under Japanese jurisdiction until the new Civil Codes shall have been in operation sufficiently long to attest their smooth working, and to demonstrate the competence of Japanese Judges to administer them. Thus, in the first place, by confounding "criminal" and "civil" for the purposes of this particular article, and in the second by utterly misrepresenting our unvarying attitude towards the Civil Codes, the *Hyogo News* builds up a very pretty tirade calculated, doubtless, to mislead superficial readers, which tirade is complacently copied by other English journals in Japan, without regard to its flagrant errors and without the slightest intention of noting its refutation. To us the whole thing is interesting chiefly as showing what travesties are made to do duty for fair criticism in a certain circle of the foreign residents. Nothing short of a conviction that anything and everything tending to demonstrate Japanese disabilities and incapacity will pass muster, without the smallest scrutiny as to its truth or impartiality, nothing short of that conviction could prompt the recklessness of criticism which has become a feature of English journalism in Japan. In the context of such blunders and con-

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fusion of ideas as we have quoted above, it is not surprising to read the marvellous doctrine that, inasmuch as "every European subject understands to a considerable extent the laws which prevail in his own country," "a very brief study" can enable a merchant "to acquire all the extra knowledge necessary for the position" of a Judge. This is the kind of doctrine deliberately put forward by one of the journals conspicuous for their insistence in claiming that foreigners must be carefully excluded from Japanese jurisdiction because Japanese judges, after years of special education and experience, cannot be trusted to administer the law. "A very brief study" suffices to convert an entirely untrained European merchant into a competent judge, but, in the case of the Japanese, long years of study, training, and experience confer no competence. If the glaring inconsistency and partiality of such arguments be not apparent to those using them, they are to be commiserated with, not censured. As for the other insinuations in the paragraph we have quoted, the hints about subsidies, and denationalization, and so forth, they are very vulgar and very despicable, but it would seem that such blemishes cannot be eliminated from foreign journalism in the East, and it would also seem that there is a section of the foreign community sufficiently depraved to approve them, otherwise their employment would not be so frequent. The whole display tends merely to drag the name of English journalism through the mire, and to show the Japanese that the very last expectation they can entertain is to receive anything like fair or honest judgment at the hands of the writers who nevertheless inveigh so persistently against the want of integrity of Japanese traders and the incompetence of Japanese judges.

YATOI.

READING Viscount SANO's speech on the subject of Forests, we are somewhat irrelevantly reminded of a point which has often been discussed before, but has not yet been fully understood by the public, so far as we can see. We refer to the use of the term "*yatoi*." The Minister speaks of Professor Dr. WAGNER as *On-yatoi Wagner-shi*, which is a perfectly proper appellation when used by an official in an official sense. All persons in the service of the Government who do not possess official rank are "*yatoi*." There are Japanese *yatoi* in every Department of State. For example, the son of the Prime Minister is a "*yatoi*" of the Foreign Office, not having yet qualified for a permanent official post. No method exists of officially describing these persons' position except to call them "*yatoi*." Very often, however, the use of the term in connection with a foreigner is regarded by the

latter as a rudeness, whereupon the Japanese invariably reply that they have only one term to describe an *employé* who does not possess official rank, and that, as no foreigner can possess official rank in Japan, or discharge executive functions, until he is amenable to Japanese jurisdiction, nothing remains but to call him "*yatoi*." Now that is all very true, but it does not appear to be conclusive. Consider its results. Its results are that foreigners who, in their own countries, would have honorable positions, and who, in many cases, hold official titles or enjoy literary or scientific distinction abroad, men of age and high attainments, are in Japan reduced to the level of the lowest semi-officials in a Department; *employés* who have not yet qualified to be included in the ranks of permanent officialdom, and who receive a pittance of salary proportionate to their insignificant and petty positions. Of course, so long as this contrast is before the foreigner's eyes, his gorge will unavoidably rise whenever he hears himself called or sees himself addressed in writing as a "*yatoi*." The idea that a man who in Europe would be called Professor, or Doctor, or General, or Colonel, or who even possesses the blue ribbon of science, the fellowship of the Royal Society or the membership of the French Academy, a man of mature years and proved attainments—the idea that such a man should, in any country, be relegated to the rank of unfledged semi-official juveniles who have not yet succeeded in passing the test examinations that lie on the threshold of their profession, can never be other than shocking and offensive. Moreover, there is a striking inconsistency in Japan's procedure: while adhering to the term "*yatoi*," she confers upon the men thus designated high Orders, even up to the Second Class of the Rising Sun, grants them the relative rank of *Chokunin*, gives them precedence at official entertainments, invites them to ceremonies, social and official, to which her own *yatoi* never dream of seeking *entrée*, and on the whole treats them with marked consideration and courtesy. But the unhappy term "*yatoi*," spoils everything. It is the little rift that mars all the lute's music. Is its use unavoidable? We have often asked ourselves that question and always the answer is in the negative. We do not see why in Japan, a country of proverbial punctilio and politeness, a custom should be adopted which is below the corresponding practice in Western lands. In England—of which we speak as knowing it best—if a foreign *employé* of the Government, or of any institution, occupied in his own country a rank higher than that enjoyed by him in his new service, he would be designated by the higher rank on all possible occasions. His official designation must of course be in strict conformity with his actual position, but it is tolerably certain that the "*on yatoi*" would not be thrust down his throat as

persistently and offensively as it is in Japan. Of course there always enters into the account on Japan's side the unhappy factor that her foreign *employés* are independent of her jurisdiction, and that she has consequently resolved not to give them executive functions or official rank. In truth it is the foreign *employé* that suffers most. Deserving nothing but good at Japan's hands, he it is who, being brought into closest relationship with the Japanese and having most concern with their changes of disposition, is condemned to feel the worst effects of the system under which the country writhes, and of the resentment naturally aroused by the persistent brutality and slandering partiality of a section of the local foreign press. But he might at least be saved the "*on-yatoi*" as much as possible.

CABINET CHANGES.

VERY strong rumours of Cabinet changes are again prevalent. It has been known pretty generally, since the appointment of Mr. KONO to the office of Minister of Home Affairs, that great dissatisfaction exists in the Cabinet. The nomination seems to have been regarded as an indication that the Government contemplated adopting a more conciliatory policy towards the Opposition. Some observers went even so far as to predict that an alliance, or at any rate an understanding of some kind, was in prospect between the Cabinet and the *Fiyu-to*. Whatever may have been the truth of these notions, it is tolerably certain that Mr. KONO's appointment was resented by the representatives of the *Kyoko-shugi* (strong policy). The chief advocates of no compromise, namely, the Minister of War, Viscount TAKASHIMA, and the Minister of the Navy, Viscount KABAYAMA, declined to be pacified, and absented themselves persistently from Cabinet Councils. Great efforts are said to have been made by Count GOTO to effect a reconciliation, but it is asserted that these efforts have proved abortive, and that the recalcitrant Ministers now announce their determination to resign unless a change is effected in the holder of the portfolio of Home Affairs. The Minister President thus finds himself in a dilemma. He cannot recommend the Sovereign to change an appointment made only a few days ago, the ostensible reason for change being dissatisfaction on the part of two Ministers. On the other hand, if he declines to make such a recommendation, and if, in consequence, the Ministers of State for War and the Navy persist in resigning, the difficulty of obtaining suitable successors would be almost insuperable. Under these circumstances it is alleged that Count MATSUKATA has resolved to tender his own resignation, judging that events are no longer sufficiently under his control to warrant him in retaining their direction. The Tokyo News Agency publishes these

statements with a degree of assurance that seems to vouch for their accuracy. It adds that the resignations of Mr. KONO, Viscount TAKASHIMA, and Viscount KABAYAMA would be presented simultaneously with, or immediately after, the resignation of the Minister President, and that Count GOTO and Viscount SANO might also take a similar step, Viscount ENOMOTO and Count OKI alone remaining in the Cabinet. Should this forecast prove correct, the event will rank with the Cabinet crisis of 1873, when the Korean question disturbed the Government so radically, and with the crisis of 1889, when the Ministers resigned *en masse* in consequence of the interruption of Treaty Revision negotiations. Evidently such an issue would greatly impair the confidence of the nation in the strength of the Meiji Government, and to restore that confidence no course would be possible except the return to office of the Camera Statesmen. Our own settled conviction is that the duty of Japanese Statesmen at the present juncture is to maintain an unflinchingly firm attitude towards the Opposition. It seems to us the very acme of rashness to pretend that the administrative power can safely be placed in the hands of the congeries of factions constituting the Opposition, or that the country is even approximately ready for the experiment of party government. Nobody can predict how long must be the interval of preparation or what amount of preliminary friction must be evolved before a machine so strange to the customs and traditions of the nation can be brought into smooth working order. But assuredly for the present the Government is bound to stand firm, and to insist that the privileges voluntarily conferred by the EMPEROR on the people, shall not be arbitrarily and radically extended by political agitators until the people's fitness for the extension is assured. Everything goes to show that this belief guided Count MATSUKATA'S policy throughout, and it is scarcely credible that his ideas should ultimately have undergone an alteration such as that suggested by the present revolt of Viscounts TAKASHIMA and KABAYAMA. However, it is idle to indulge in conjectures when a very few days must solve the problem definitely. Whatever may be the fate of Count MATSUKATA'S Ministry, there will remain to him the credit of having played a resolute, patriotic, and disinterested part during a difficult and trying period.

A telegram from Tokushima announces that, according to the investigation made on the 25th inst., details of the damage caused by the recent storm were as follows:—Houses destroyed or swept away, 2,000; persons drowned or killed, 150; horses and oxen drowned, 20; and houses submerged, 20,000. The loss of bridges and the damage to embankments have not been ascertained. Over 25,000 persons, rendered homeless, are receiving out-door relief.—*Choya Shimbun.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE EARTHQUAKE COMMITTEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to express hearty approval of your paragraph in regard to the appointment of Professor Milne "to perform services in connection with" the Earthquake Disaster Prevention Committee. I was much surprised when the roll of that Committee was announced and contained only Japanese names. Afterwards it appeared that he was appointed in the above manner. Is the Japanese Government going to stop at this? Why not do the honourable and manly thing and put Professor Milne among the Committee itself? It is not merely that his name as investigator deserves that place; it is also because he will do a good part of the work of the Committee, as everybody knows. Why get the benefit of it and refuse him due credit? Every friend of Japan wishes that a more candid policy should be pursued in this case.

Yours, &c.,

W.

July 25th, 1892.

HOTELS IN THE INTERIOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Having just returned from a trip up country, I should like to express my disgust at the amount of impertinence one has to put up with in travelling in those parts of Japan frequented by foreigners. I think it may do some good to ventilate the subject, as it may happen that the matter will receive some notice at the hands of the Japanese press, and thus perhaps things may be altered for the better.

The particular point of complaint is that very often a foreign traveller arrives at an inn and neither the inn-keeper nor the assistants take any trouble to make him welcome, whereas they would be bowing and scraping to any native *gorotsuki* even, who might happen to claim board and lodging. It is a most singular study to watch the manner of reception of a Japanese and of a Foreign guest—one is bowed in politely with every mark of respect, is ushered to his room, given tea and cakes, and asked whether he will take a bath. In fact, he may be some dirty lout of a fellow, but he is treated as a customer and an honoured guest.

On the other hand, directly the foreigner appears the cries of welcome cease and a crowd of waitresses stand grinning and making remarks about him, while the waiters and other men-servants simply stare and make no offers of assistance, and when spoken to, reply in a style which no Japanese would ever dare to address to any of his own countrymen. If they happen to be wearing a "hachimaki" they will not remove it for the foreigner, whereas not one of them would stand covered in that way before a Japanese gentleman.

The so-called "Seiyo-ryori" establishments are particularly objectionable, and notorious for the "cheeky" treatment of their foreign guests, and the exceedingly impertinent familiarities taken by the servants in even going so far as to catch hold of customers, must make the hair stand up on the heads of serious and respectable Japanese gentlemen.

The intolerable difference and distinction drawn between Japanese and Foreign guests is most conspicuous, and is altogether unwarrantable, especially when it is considered that the Foreigner is charged far more than the native, even when he has complied with all Japanese etiquette and paid a handsome "cha dai."

I will admit that in Europe travellers are overcharged, but the Hotel proprietors treat the guests with consideration and the greatest respect. In continental Europe the more bowing to and general attention you get, the more you pay—in Japan the less attention you get and the more "cheek" you receive, the more you pay!

Now, Mr. Editor, as you know, I have had some good experience, and I can speak Japanese pretty correctly and fluently, so there is no mistake about my observations, and I think you would confer a boon on the public, and the Japanese Inns also, if your would devote a leader to this subject and beat it out thoroughly, for it is a fact that a great many foreigners get perfectly sick and disgusted at the rudeness practised and the extortionate prices charged by some—indeed very many—of the Japanese Bonifaces.

The question at point is, why should persons be less respectfully treated and at the same time overcharged simply because they are foreigners, and should foreigners be treated to a slang "pidgin" phraseology by "whippersnappers" who hardly know their own language? The foreigner

is just as much a guest as his Japanese friend, he has a head, two eyes, a nose, hands, feet, tongue, &c., like unto those produced in the "Court of the Gods," and altogether the practice of carelessness as to treating him properly is without any excuse whatsoever.

One thing is certain, the custom of curtailing all polite ceremonies in receiving foreigners must do the Japanese Hotels a great deal of harm, and rob the country of one half of its charms for the traveller, for it is undeniable that the pleasant welcome which used to be given, and is still given, where foreigners are seldom seen, left a most happy remembrance in the minds of those who travelled in Japan.

It may be that the Japanese Hotel-keepers think they are doing something clever, and that they are holding up the mirror to nature and showing the foreigner his own reflected likeness. Perhaps this is so sometimes, but even if rude foreigners are found occasionally, the Japanese have no excuse for departing from their own customs and manners in their own country. Japan is said to be a "country of gentlemen"—and it is to a great extent, but if the Hotels go from bad to worse and get ruder, the result must be unfortunate in more ways than one!

Yours faithfully,

GARI-GARI MOJA.

July 26th, 1892.

"W.B.M.'s" DESCRIPTION OF THE KONJIKIDO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A friend of mine is in the habit of kindly lending me from time to time a few numbers of the *Japan Mail*, which I always read with much interest. A few days ago I read in one of your issues Mr. Dixon's *Note on Cloissonné*, and in another my attention was drawn to "W.B.M.'s" very unjust description of the Konjikido. While taking upon himself to enlighten the public as to the temple, "W.B.M." shows himself to be a very superficial observer and quite incompetent for the task. Let us see how he proceeds. In the first place, he speaks of "highly gilt Japanese records." Although what Mr. Dixon writes may not apply to the present aspect of the Konjikido, yet there is no doubt, judging from what it now is, that the temple was at one time just as he describes it (and almost as it is described in the *Ou Kwanseki Bunro-shi*, &c.), and if that be the case, the original records, written when the whole inside was really of a golden hue and in full splendour, cannot be called "highly gilt Japanese records." But this is only a trifle. What "W.B.M." says a few lines after is most remarkable and contains a flagrant and ridiculous error. He writes "The main pillars . . . are simply lacquered, and inlaid with shells (*sic*) brought from Rome by the mission sent there in 1615 by Date Masamune." I should like to know where he picked up such crude knowledge of the Konjikido. Did he not get it from some ignorant interpreter who does not understand the meaning of the Chinese art-word 螺鈿¹ (pronounced *Latin* or *laden*)? Well do I remember on one occasion when visiting the place with a few friends how greatly amused we were at the same mistaken remarks made by a guide. Further the internal pillars are not only embellished with *laden*, but on each of there are also some traces of the images of "twelve Buddhist deities," which "W.B.M." makes no mention of and which seem to have escaped his eye. The whole workmanship comes under the epithet of *shippo-sogan* (七寶北巖),² (though it cannot be called *shippo-yaki* or *shippo-nagashi*, which corresponds to *Cloissonné*) and has existed ever since the second year of *Tennin* (1109), when the temple was built by the order of Fujiwara Kiyohira, *Oryōshi* of Mutsu. If "W.B.M." has any doubt about this and still is inclined to believe that the shells, with which the pillars are adorned, were "brought from Rome by the mission sent there in 1615 by Date Masamune," he will do well to refer to the *Asuma kagami* (東鑑), the *Ou Kwanseki Bunro-shi* (奥羽観跡聞老志), the *Hivaisumishi* (平泉志), or the *Kogei-Shiryō* (工藝志料) by Prof. Kinokawa Mayori.

Again, "W.B.M." says "The Konjikido is not a temple at all. It is a dilapidated store-room set apart for the treasures belonging to the monastery of Chusonji," &c. The absurdity of this disparaging account will easily be seen. The Konjikido, though built on a small scale, is a temple

¹ A kind of mosaic mother-of-pearl work.

² The word *shippo* was originally derived from a Buddhist term signifying seven treasures, i.e. gold, silver, amber, emerald, agate, *shōin*, and coral (pearl, tortoise-shell, crystal, &c., may be substituted for some of these treasures). Hence the works, beautifully adorned with some of these seven treasures, such as the pillars of the Konjikido as well as the *ramma* and ceiling of the Hondo belonging to the Byōdōin ■ Uji, are said to be of *shippo-sogan*.

Original from

containing some Buddhist deities such as Amida, Kwanon, Seishi, &c., as well as the ashes of three heroes Kiyohira, Hidelira, and Motohira. It is a common Japanese custom to preserve some treasures in a temple, but it cannot on that account be called "a store-room." Moreover, the expression "set apart for" conveys the most false impression. Although the building as it is, owing to its great age, is not what it once was, and though a large part of the *shippo-sagon* has fallen off, yet its workmanship shows great ingenuity, and cannot but be admired by any one who has any taste for art. Besides, the Konjikido is worth visiting on account of its history and its various associations, of which "W.B.M." shows profound ignorance, saying "it is a dilapidated store-room set apart for the treasures . . . and on that account alone well worth a visit." Thus far about the unjust description of the Konjikido by "W.B.M." I may now add a few words about the art of enamelling in Japan. Although the adornment of the Konjikido is not what is called *shippo-yaki* but *shippo-sagon*, yet Mr. Dixon's statement that the art of enamelling was known to Japan long before the close of the 16th century, is not a whit refuted by "W.B.M.'s" letter. Not only does the celebrated Gold and Silver Mirror^a (the back of which is enamel) shaped somewhat like a flower, still exist in the Shosoin^b belonging to the Totaiji, Nara, but in other places also there are sometimes to be met with articles of enamel work—things Japanese and of great age, such as the mountings of swords and the ends of *kakemono*-rollers. Indeed the art of glass making was known from a very remote period and materials to be used in enamelling as well as various kinds of glass ware are also preserved in the Shosoin. According to the *Kogei Shiryo*, a few glass beads made long before the time of the Emperor Shomu are still extant, but a great number of them seem to have been made in the reign of that Emperor, since there are so many in the Shosoin. There was at that time a jeweller at Ougori (意宇郡) of Izumo, who worked on glass very cleverly and the vessel used in melting glass is also still extant. A specimen of a very old glass ware somewhat like a 鏡, says the *Kogei Shiryo*, was dug out from the tomb of the Emperor Nintoku (313-399 A.D.) at Ootorigori of Izumi, and this with several articles of glass ware in the Shosoin proves that glass making was known in those remote periods. The art gradually dwindled during the much disturbed time between *Shohai* (931-937) and *Tenki* (938-946), and was lost in the latter period, till the first year of *Genki* (1570), when an artisan from the "Namban" settled in Nagasaki and taught how to make glass ware. It was about the same time that the art of enamelling was revived in Japan. It is highly probable that that art dwindled and lost with the art of glass making. There seems no reason for believing that the former art was for the first time introduced to Japan near the close of the sixteenth century.

I shall feel much obliged by your publishing this note in your next issue. Enclosing my card, I am, Sir, yours truly,

A JAPANESE ART STUDENT.

Tokyo, July 25th, 1892.

^a Things Japanese can generally be distinguished from things foreign, and this mirror is admitted by all great connoisseurs to be Japanese.

^b The Shosoin is the name of the celebrated treasure-store built by the Empress Koken in the eighth year of *Tenpei Shoho* (734 A.D.) for the purpose of preserving various national treasures handed down to her by the preceding Emperor Shomu (724-748 A.D.) and dedicated to the Great Buddha installed at Nara. The store being what is called *Chokufu-yakura* (store sealed up by the imperial command) was but seldom opened and its treasures were of course not permitted to be inspected until a few years ago, when their arrangement was made by Prof. Kurokawa Marjori, &c. Among them are to be found many things which are interesting on account of the exquisite æsthetic grace which they display, as well as on account of their great antiquity. Those who write about Japanese Fine Arts, it has been said by a great authority, cannot do full justice to them without once inspecting the treasures in the Shosoin.

[Has our correspondent any evidence that enamelling was used to ornament sword furniture before the time of Hirsta Donin, at the close of the sixteenth century?—Ed. J.W.M.]

There are strange chambermaids at Sheppard's Hotel in Cairo. A lady declares that the one who waited on her room and attended to all the duties of the calling, even to making the beds, was a Frenchman, dressed as if for a dinner party, with white waistcoat and dress coat, and having the air of a refined and educated gentleman. It was really embarrassing to accept his services in such a capacity. One lady, on arriving at the hotel, rang for the chambermaid, and this gentleman presented himself. Supposing him to be the proprietor, at the very least, she said, "I wish to see the chambermaid," "Madame," said he, politely, in his very best English, "Madame, she am I!"

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Limited, took place on Monday afternoon in the old dining-hall of the hotel, No. 20, Bund. There were present Messrs. J. F. Lowder (in the chair), O. Kail, J. Rickett, C.K.M. Martin, Dr. Van der Heyden, E. V. Thorn, M. Russell, Captain Swain, P. Mullendorff, J. Wilkowski, G. M. Macondray, W. Mann, B. C. Howard, and J. Tounoe (sec.)

The CHAIRMAN said that the report and accounts of the past six months, up to the 30th of June, had been in the hands of the shareholders for some little time, and doubtless all present had read and considered them, therefore it would not be necessary for him to read them out now. He thought that all would agree with him that they were most satisfactory, in fact the most satisfactory report and accounts that had been submitted by the Directors to the shareholders during the three and a quarter years since the company was formed and had taken over the hotel. This was, he considered, all that was necessary for him to say to them that day upon the report and accounts, so he would now pass to something else. There was one subject he wished to speak to them about, and he desired to take the opportunity which this meeting of shareholders afforded him, to speak about it. He referred to various rumours which had come to the ears of the Directors, and which he was told existed amongst various shareholders of the company, but whose names need not be mentioned. Some members of the company, it was said, had expressed dissatisfaction at the manner in which the hotel was conducted,—of the management of the company's affairs by the Directors, and that they had disapproved of it for some time. Mr. Rickett, one of their Board of Directors, at a recent extraordinary meeting of the shareholders had invited all those persons who had expressed dissatisfaction to come forward and tell them of the nature of their dissatisfaction, but his invitation was not accepted. He (the Chairman) took the opportunity at this ordinary general meeting to repeat that invitation. Any shareholder who had felt dissatisfied at any action of the Directorate would be welcomed by the Directors, if he would come forward at that meeting and state the reasons of his dissatisfaction or make any suggestions for improvement. This invitation was made in all earnestness and seriousness. The position of the shareholders and directors were the same and identical in every respect. Therefore, if any of them were dissatisfied let them come before them and say so, for the Directors would be only too pleased to be told where they had been wrong. He could assure them that any improvements that could be made, any suggestions of whatever kind that were made by any shareholder, would be accepted with loyalty, and if the directors saw their ability to carry them out they would do so, and if they could not, then the Board would call an extraordinary meeting of shareholders together and would lay the suggestions with their objections before them. If the shareholders thought that they could elect any more able men—he would not say able,—but men who would or could devote more time to their interests, the Directors would only be too pleased for them to join the Board. But he thought they would allow that their Directors had discharged their duty fully, and that cause for dissatisfaction with their work did not exist in all honesty. He urged them not to talk behind their (the Directors') backs, but to frankly state at that meeting the nature of their objections. They all knew what a delicate thing it was to start rumours adverse to a company about the place, the harm that they did was illimitable, while the good, if any, was of no account. It was in consequence of these rumours that he (the Chairman) had devoted a couple of hours that morning to looking into the figures relating to the work of the three and a half years during which the company had been in existence. He was one of the original directors—indeed, before the company was started, one of its promoters, in company with two gentlemen, who were better qualified in business than he, and whose names would be in their minds. The idea of the promoters and the vendor, Mr. Wolff, who argued from his previous experience of the hotel, was that the business ought to pay a dividend of 20 per cent. per annum. That was their idea when the company was started, and having gone into the figures thoroughly he was in a position to say that their expectations had been a little under than over the mark. They had made a profit of 20 per cent. and over during the three and a half years of the company's existence. Where they had erred had been in thinking that the furniture was better than it was. If they had not had to pay away large sums for repairs, and write off other sums for depreciation, they would have

been able to pay 23 per cent. per annum ever since they took over the hotel. As it was they had paid annually a dividend of 12 per cent., or very nearly. That is, we have paid back to our original shareholders in the short time we have been running no less a sum than 38 per cent. of their investment. In addition, we have written off for depreciation 5 per cent., have spent in improvements and additions 6 per cent. If they would add these three amounts, 12 per cent. dividend, 5 per cent. depreciation, and 6 per improvements and additions, he thought that their original statement of the earning power of the hotel had been realised and exceeded, while the condition of the hotel was much better, besides being now completely organised. In answer to the query, why spend so much on improvements and repairs? he must tell them that those improvements were absolutely necessary. When they entered upon the management of the hotel they had at once found that they could not do as the former proprietor had been doing. The money that had been spent upon the hotel had not been thrown away. If they would compare it with the hotel of three and a half years ago, those who knew the former place would find that immense improvements had been made in every direction. It was the expression of every one, of every visitor, that it was "the hotel of the East," and he could honestly say that there was no better managed or better kept up hotel anywhere. He invited them to go into any room, any bed-room, and they would find that was ample provision for the comfort and convenience of visitors and residents; and that everything was kept up to the mark. This was due to their excellent manager, Mr. Eppinger, and not to him alone,—he was sure Mr. Eppinger would say so also—but to the whole of the staff, whom he wished to thank on behalf of his co-directors and himself. They had a most excellent matron, to whose assistance the residents in the hotel, besides the visitors, could and did attribute half their comfort, while staying there. They had, as he had said, a most excellent manager, and matron, and secretary, and attendants, while they possessed all that could be asked for in the *cuisine*. This he knew, not from what he had seen and knew of his own knowledge—he was seldom in the hotel—but from private persons, most of whom were unaware of his connection with the company. He had alluded to these things because he wished to show that the Directors were always willing to listen to suggestions for the improvement of the place; again he would invite them for an expression of their dissatisfaction, if it existed. So far from the Directors resenting any criticisms that might be passed upon their policy, they were only too willing to accept any suggestions, and he could promise them that the Board would do all in its power to carry out those suggestions. This is all he would have to say upon the reported rumours. Their business that day was to adopt the report and pass the balance-sheet, elect two directors who were retiring through rotation, and an auditor, as well as to determine the amount of the Director's fees, which had to be settled at that meeting. Having invited remarks or suggestions from those present, the chairman presented the following report and accounts:—

The Profit and Loss, Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half year ended the 30th June, 1892, accompany this Report.

The net profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from the 31st Dec. 1891, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, interest, and depreciation, and after writing off bad and doubtful debts, amounts to \$19,331.79 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a dividend of 5 per cent. for the	
half-year	\$12,500.00
Reduction of loan from Bank of C., J. & S.	5,000.00
Balance to be carried to new Account	1,831.79
	\$19,331.79

The Directors are pleased to report that under the able management of Mr. Louis Eppinger, the *cuisine* and general comfort of the hotel have much improved; and they have decided to present him with a gratuity of \$500 in recognition of his services.

The lease of the large room in the Hotel held by Messrs. Deakin Bros. & Co., Ltd. was cancelled by agreement as from the 1st July, 1892, for a consideration of \$4,500.00 for the balance of the term of 16 months. This amount of \$4,500.00 is included in this half-year's accounts, \$2,939.33 of which sum have been expended in the alterations effected as mentioned in the following paragraph, and the balance has been written off.

The six rooms at No. 14 Bund referred to in the last report, were given up on the termination of the lease, and more accommodation has been added to the Hotel by the conversion of the large room lately occupied by Messrs. Deakin Bros. & Co., into eight new and handsome bedrooms, which have always found tenants, and are by some guests even preferred to other parts of the house.

Messrs. Lowder and Rickett retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election. Mr. Blanc having resigned on leaving Japan, Mr. C. K. M. Martin was appointed by the Board to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Keil retires from the office of Auditor, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his reelection to that office.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association, the Amount of the Directors' fees for the current year will have to be settled at this meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 26th July, 1892, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
J. RICKETT, }

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH 1892.

ASSETS.	
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	\$ 18,747.24
Cash in hand	5,030.89
Fire Insurance Policies	2,032.00
Ground	60,000.00
Buildings	149,500.00
Furniture	55,000.00
Electric Light Plant	14,000.00
Steam Launch	8,000.00
Wines in stock	9,514.40
Provisions in stock	2,090.03
Bills receivable	8,997.35
	\$312,500.33

LIABILITIES.	
Stock, 1,000 Shares at \$100	\$100,000.00
Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited	45,000.00
Bills payable	8,108.85
	\$153,108.85

Balance, Profit	19,331.70
	\$312,500.61

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1892.

Dr.	
To General Expenses	\$ 27,112.16
To Fire Insurance	1,030.21
To Interest	1,572.43
To Directors' and Auditor's Fees	845.00
To Bad Debts written off	801.70
To Balance Gross Profit	\$ 28,003.77
Less written off for:	
Depreciation of Buildings	\$ 4,489.33
Depreciation of Furniture	2,823.74
Depreciation of Electric Light Plant	873.76
Depreciation of Steam Launch	545.20
	\$8,732.03

Balance available for Division	\$28,003.77
Dividend 5 p. cent.	\$15,000.00
Payment on account of Mortgage to Bank of C. J. & S.	5,000.00
Carried forward to new account	\$7,003.77
	\$28,003.77

Cr.	
By Balance, brought forward from Dec. 31st, 1891	\$ 230.35
By Working Account	45,533.29
By Rent Account	8,800.00
By Share Transfer Fees	35.30
By Share Warrant Fees	10.00
By Sale of old material	232.63
	\$57,751.57

July 1st, 1892.	
By Balance	\$ 2,822.76
	\$ 2,822.76

Yokohama, June 30th, 1892.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 12th, 1892.

Mr. E. V. THORN said he did not see anything to criticise in the report, while he had not heard any of the rumours spoken of by the chairman. But there was one matter of interest he should like to mention and see remedied, and that was the manner of getting their supplies. He should like to see their corporation placed in a position to get their supplies at the lowest rates. They had a well qualified manager, and he should suggest that this matter be left in his hands and that the Board authorise him to procure their supplies to the best possible advantage. That was the only suggestion he had to make.

The CHAIRMAN said, in reference to this suggestion, that up to some time ago, the end of last December he thought, the Board were under a contract for their supplies—that is, for imported provisions. Before that time they had obtained their supplies in the market. Then tenders had been asked for and were submitted to the Directors, who appointed a sub-committee of three or four to report upon them to the Board of Directors. They reported the lowest tender of a certain firm, whose name need not be mentioned, and this was accepted up to the 31st December last, and all supplies were obtained from this firm. Dr. Hall then joined the Board, and suggested that it would be better to distribute the patronage of the hotel as was done before. The Directors were not quite prepared to act upon that proposition, but Dr. Hall went round to the dealers and found that they—one and all—were willing to supply us with provisions at five per cent. above cost price. Dr. Hall's suggestion was accordingly adopted, and now our supplies are obtained from different storekeepers in the place.

Mr. THORN—Does that apply to all supplies?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. THORN—To printing?

The CHAIRMAN—No, not to that.

Mr. THORN—The Company's printing is a very large item—

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, it is.

Mr. THORN—And I think, therefore, that it would be as well if that were thrown open to the different officers for tender.

The CHAIRMAN—We shall give the present suggestion all consideration. I had a conversation with you, Mr. Thorn, upon this matter some time ago, and I had hoped that I had made a clear explanation to you about it.

Mr. THORN—Oh! yes, I perfectly understood.

The CHAIRMAN—Your suggestion will not be lost sight of.

Mr. WITKOWSKI proposed, and Dr. VAN DER HUYDEN seconded, the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is the election of two directors, Mr. Rickett and myself retire by rotation; no other names have been suggested in our place, perhaps some gentlemen would propose our re-election?

Mr. O. KEIL—I propose the re-election of the retiring Directors.

Mr. THORN—I second.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed, and Mr. THORN seconded, the re-election of Mr. Keil as auditor.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next thing has reference to the Director's fees.

Mr. WITKOWSKI—I propose that they be the same as last year.

Mr. O. KEIL—I second that.

The CHAIRMAN—That is \$300.—Carried.

Mr. WITKOWSKI proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors, manager, auditor, and other officers of the company for their services.

Mr. THORN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the vote on behalf of his co-directors, said that the post of Director of such a company as theirs was no sinecure. They were really interested as shareholders in the success of the company, and they did not work for it from a philanthropic point of view or for the pay which they received, but for their own interests as shareholders. They met once a week, every Monday, for three hours. They could take credit that they (as Directors) did look fairly after the shareholders' interests.—(Hear, hear.) If at any moment the shareholders thought fit to replace them by others of their number they would immediately make way.

The meeting then dispersed.

LANGFELDT AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of Messrs. Langfeldt and Company, Limited, was held in the Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. O. Keil, Chairman of Directors, presiding. There were also present, Messrs. A. T. Watson, F. Retz, J. R. Merian, T. Meyerdirks, J. Feicke, J. F. Lowder, and E. Batavus.

The CHAIRMAN said it was not necessary for him to read the notice convening the meeting, or the statement of accounts and reports, as they had all been in shareholders hands for a week past; doubtless all interested had studied them. He had nothing to add to the remarks which the Directors had put in print, except that their company had suffered in exactly the same way as had every other company and concern in the East through the extraordinary depression in trade. There had been an absence of ships and consequently an absence of trade for them; but not only had their business suffered from these causes, but they had also felt the effects of the constant depreciation of silver. If it had not been for the constant falls in exchange the position of their business would have been very different at the 30th of June last. These were all the additions he had to make to the Director's printed remarks, he therefore would be pleased to answer any questions which might arise out of the following report and balance sheet.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year, ended the 30th June, 1892, accompany this Report.

The Net Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1891, and after providing for General Expenses, Auditor's fees, Interest, Depreciation and Losses amounts to—

\$4,857.55

which it is proposed to apply as follows:—In payment of a Dividend of 4 per cent. for the half year—

\$4,000.00

Balance to be carried to new account—

\$857.55

The Directors regret to have to report that Mr. A. Langfeldt, who has been aiding for some time, has decided to leave Japan for a longer period, and in consequence resigned his post on their Board, and they have appointed Mr. F. Retz in his place.

Mr. J. Feicke has been appointed Manager.

According to Article 85 of the Articles of Association the Amount of the Directors' Fees for the current year will have to be settled at this meeting.

O. KEIL, } Directors.
J. F. LOWDER, }

Yokohama, July 19th, 1892.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1892.

Assets.	
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, and Coal	\$109,555.18
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	5,800.00
Cash in hand	1,802.04
Fire Insurance Policies	468.73
Kobe Branch	15,916.29
Sundry Debtors	82,125.14
	\$195,760.38

Liabilities.	
Capital, 1,000 Shares at \$100	\$100,000.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	87,038.27
Sundry local Creditors	2,973.49
Bills payable (to Bank)	19,951.07
	\$150,962.83

Balance, Profit	4,857.55
	\$195,760.38

Profit and Loss Account—June 30th, 1892.

Dr.	
To General Expenses	\$ 8,079.15
To Rent	2,309.84
To Fire Insurance	491.80
To Interest	1,672.96
To Depreciation of Plant, Fixtures, etc.	328.48
To Auditor's Fees	150.00
To Balance, available for division to be dealt with as follows:	\$4,857.55
Dividend at the rate of 4% for half-year	\$4,000.00
Carried forward to new account	\$857.55
	\$4,857.55

Cr.	
Jan. 1, By Balance	\$ 745.94
July 30, By Gross Profit on trade	10,217.90
By Share transfer fees	10.00
	\$10,973.88

1892.	
July 1, By Balance	\$ 857.55

	\$ 857.55
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E. & O. E.

Yokohama, July 30th, 1892.

O. KEIL, } Directors.
J. F. LOWDER, }

J. FEICKE, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

THOS. S. BAKER, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 22th, 1892.

Mr. J. R. MERIAN—I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts, and in doing so wish to make one remark. Upon looking at our balance-sheet you will find the sum of \$1,600 which we have to pay as interest to our Bank for advances which it made us on overdraft. Our capital, I think, is inadequate for the large amount of business which we are doing. Our present capital is \$100,000, and out of this we owe the Bank and various creditors \$22,000, which leaves us a working capital of \$78,000. Our stock is valued at \$109,000, plant at \$5,800, and our Kobe branch plant \$15,000, in all about \$130,000. I am not making any proposition in what I am about to say, but only putting out a suggestion for our Directors. I think, in view of what I have just said, that it would be advisable to increase our share capital from \$100,000 to \$125,000. We should then be clear from all debt to our Bank, to whom we are now indebted, as well as to sundry creditors, for about \$50,000. I am not making any proposal, but I think that this \$25,000 could be offered to our shareholders to take up, in order to make us altogether free—or our capital could be raised to \$130,000 and the premium upon the additional shares be put by as a special reserve for the equalisation of dividends. This is my suggestion, and now I will move the adoption of the report and accounts.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Merian, your suggestion shall receive the careful consideration of the Board of Directors at an early date. It seems very feasible to raise our capital to a figure that would free us from the Bank, especially in these days when Banks are not over willing to advance large sums to individual firms; although I must say that our Bank has been very kind and obliging to us whenever we wished to obtain an extraordinary amount in cash wherewith to acquire large supplies for ships, etc.

Mr. WATSON—I second the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is the determining of the Directors' fees, which, according to the rules, must be done at the meeting in July.

Mr. WATSON—What was the remuneration last year?

The CHAIRMAN—\$500 per year.

Mr. WATSON—I have great pleasure in proposing that the Director's fees be the same as those of last year.

Mr. MERIAN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you on behalf of my co-directors for that vote of confidence in us—for that is what I take it to mean. A few dollars do not make us happy, but it is a feeling of pleasure which you give us by showing your appreciation.

Original from

of our services in such a cordial manner. Our labours are most sincere and constant, for I can assure you that the post of Director of your Company is no sinecure, but means constant labour every day and sometimes night, as to which your manager, Mr. Feicke, can also tell you. Again I must thank you for the very pleasant feeling which you give the Directors in acknowledging so heartily their endeavours on your behalf. This closes the business of the meeting, gentlemen.

THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, June 25th.

The National Democratic Convention was called to order at 12.40 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21, by Senator Calvin S. Brice, Chairman of the National Committee. After prayer, Senator Brice read the list of officers for temporary organization as agreed upon the day before in the National Committee, and then obtained from the Convention the unanimous election of such officers. The Temporary Chairman, Hon. W. C. Owens, of Kentucky, was presented, and made the usual introductory speech, in which he carefully refrained from any allusion to the rival candidates. On motion, the roll of States and Territories was called, that each delegation might name its representative on each of the four important committees,—Resolutions, Credentials, Rules and Order of Business, and Permanent Organization. Mr. Cable, of Illinois, then paid a very kind and graceful tribute to a political opponent by offering the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That this convention tender its profound sympathy to that distinguished American, James G. Blaine, in the heavy affliction which has befallen him.

The applause which followed the mention of Mr. Blaine's name, and the manner of the adoption of the resolution, all indicated a genuine sympathy for the Republican leader.

After receiving from the President of the World's Columbian Exposition an invitation to visit the World's Fair grounds, the convention adjourned till 11 o'clock the following morning.

That afternoon about 1,000 delegates, alternates, correspondents, and other visitors were carried, some by special train on the Illinois Central Railroad, some by steamers on Lake Michigan, to the World's Fair grounds, where they were escorted around by many of the Exposition officials. That they were astonished at the progress made in the work, and realized the prospective magnitude of the affair, is evident from one plank of the platform adopted.

That same afternoon and evening and the next morning, the four great committees were kept busy at work; but, when the convention was called to order Wednesday morning, not one of them was ready to report. While the assembly was waiting, calls were made for speeches by Mills, Palmer, Fellows, and others; but Senator Palmer was the only one that responded. Soon after, the Committee on Credentials made its report, which, as the contests were few and comparatively unimportant, was quickly adopted without debate. This was followed by the report of the Committee on Permanent Organization, who recommended the continuance in office of the minor officers of the temporary organization, and named Hon. William L. Wilson, a Congressman from West Virginia, as Permanent Chairman. As the report was unanimously adopted, Mr. Wilson was escorted to his position, and made an eloquent address. After the routine report of the Committee on Rules and Order of Business, Mr. Phelps, of Missouri presented to the Chairman a gavel, made of zinc mined in that State, and bearing the inscription: "We need no protection." The roll of States was then called for the purpose of naming members of the National Committee and of the Notification Committee. After futile attempts to call out several notables for speeches, inasmuch as the Committee on Resolutions was not ready to report, the convention took a recess till 5 p.m.

The next session did not begin till about 5.30 o'clock; but it continued without intermission till about 4 o'clock the next morning. It was expected that the session would be devoted to a discussion of the platform, particularly of the tariff and silver planks, and would then adjourn till Thursday morning for nominating speeches and balloting. Your correspondent intended to go in that evening; but, when he reached the wigwag about 8 o'clock, and found them still discussing the platform, he naturally concluded, that they would soon adjourn, and returned home. He was only one of many who made the same mistake, and thus lost the fun! For, the Cleveland managers, out of patience with

the dilly-dallying tactics of their opponents, and fearing the result of further delay, held the convention in a continuous session of more than ten hours until they had achieved victory!

It was about 6 o'clock that evening when the Committee on Resolutions made a report of the following platform:—

"Section 1. The representatives of the Democratic Party of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm their allegiance to the principles of the party as formulated by Jefferson, and exemplified by the long and illustrious line of his successors in Democratic leadership from Madison to Cleveland. We believe the public welfare demands that these principles be applied to the conduct of the federal government, through the accession to power of the party that advocates them; and we solemnly declare that the need of a return to these fundamental principles of a free, popular government, based on home rule and individual liberty, was never more urgent than now, when the tendency to centralize all power at the federal capital has become a menace to the reserved rights of the States that strikes at the very roots of our government under the constitution as framed by the Fathers of the Republic."

"Sec. 2. We warn the people of our common country, jealous for the preservation of their free institutions, that the policy of federal control of elections, to which the Republican Party has committed itself, is fraught with the gravest dangers, scarcely less momentous than would result from a revolution, practically establishing monarchy on the ruins of the Republic. It strikes at the north as well as at the south, and imperils the coloured citizen even more than the white; it means a horde of deputy marshals at every polling place armed with federal power, returning boards appointed and controlled by federal authority, the storage of the elective rights of the people in the several States, the subjugation of the coloured people to the control of the white power and the reviving of race antagonisms, now happily abated, of the utmost peril to the safety and happiness of all; a measure deliberately and justly described by a leading Republican senator as 'the most infamous bill that ever crossed the threshold of the Senate.' Such a policy, if enacted by law, would mean the dominance of a self-perpetuating oligarchy of officeholders, and the party first intrusted with its machinery could be dislodged from power only by an appeal to the reserved right of the people to resist oppression which is inherent in all self-governing communities. Two years ago this revolutionary policy was emphatically condemned by the people at the polls; but in contempt of that verdict the Republican Party has defiantly declared in its latest authoritative utterance that its success in the coming elections will mean the enactment of the Force Bill and the usurpation of despotic control over elections in all the States."

"Believing that the perpetration of the Republican government in the United States is dependent upon the defeat of the policy of legalized force and fraud, we invite the support of all citizens who desire to see the constitution maintained in its integrity with the laws pursuant thereto which have given our country a hundred years of unexampled prosperity, and we pledge the Democratic Party, if it be intrusted with power, not only to defeat the Force Bill, but also to relentless opposition to the Republican policy of profligate expenditure, which in the short space of two years has squandered an enormous surplus and emptied an overflowing treasury, after piling new burdens of taxation upon the already overtaxed labour of the country."

"Sec. 3. We reiterate the repeated doctrines of the Democratic Party that the necessity of the government is the only justification for taxation, and whenever a tax is unnecessary it is unjustifiable; that when custom-house taxation is levied upon articles of another land produced in this country the difference between the cost of the article as sold abroad, when such a difference exists, fully measures any possible benefit to labour and the enormous additional impositions of the existing tariff fall with crushing force upon our farmers and working men, and for the mere advantage of the few whom it enriches, exact from labour a grossly unjust share of the expenses of the government; and we demand such a revision of the tariff laws which will remove the iniquitous inequalities, lighten their oppressions, and put them on a constitutional and equitable basis."

"But in making reduction in taxes it is not proposed to injure any domestic industries, but rather to promote their healthy growth. From the foundation of the government taxes collected at the custom house have been the chief source of federal revenue. Such they must continue to be. Moreover, many industries have come to rely upon legislation for successful continuance, so that any change of law must be at every step regardless of the labour and capital thus involved. The process of reform must be subject in the execution of this principle to the following conditions:—

"We denounce the McKinley tariff law enacted by the last Congress as the culminating atrocity of class legislation; we endorse the efforts made by the Democrats of the present Congress to modify its most oppressive feature in the direction of free raw materials and cheaper manufactured goods that enter into general consumption; and we promise to regulate as one of the first results that will follow the action of the people in intrusting power to the Democratic Party. Since the McKinley tariff went into operation there have been ten reductions of the wages of labouring men to one increase. We deny that there has been any gain of prosperity to the country since that tariff went into operation, and we point to the dullness and stagnation, the wage reductions and strikes in the iron trade, as the best possible evidence that no such prosperity has resulted from the McKinley act."

"We call the attention of thoughtful Americans to the fact, that after the thirty years of restrictive taxes against the importation of foreign wealth in exchange for our agricultural surplus and the homes and farms of the country have become burdened with a real-estate mortgage debt of over \$1,300,000,000, exclusive of all other forms of indebtedness; that in one of the chief agricultural States of the West there appears a real-estate mortgage averaging \$105 per capita of the total population, and that similar conditions and tendencies are shown to exist in other agricultural exporting States. We denounce a policy which fosters no industry so much as it does that of the sheriff."

"Sec. 4. Trade interchange on the basis of reciprocal advantages to the countries participating is a time-honored doctrine of the Democratic faith, but we denounce the sham reciprocity which juggles with the people's desire for enlarged foreign markets and freer exchanges, by pretending to establish closer trade relations, for a country whose articles of export are almost exclusively agricultural products, with other countries that are also agricultural, while erecting a custom-house barrier of prohibitive tariffs against the richer countries of the world that stand ready to take our entire surplus of products and to exchange therefor commodities which are necessities and comforts of life among our own people."

"Sec. 5. We recognize in the trusts and combinations which are devised to enable capital to operate more than its just share of the joint product of capital and labour a nature of conspiracy, the prohibitive taxes which prevent free competition which is the life of honest trade, but we believe their worst evils can be abated by law, and we demand the rigid enforcement of the laws made to prevent and control them, together with such further legislation in restraint of their abuses as experience may show to be necessary."

"Sec. 6. The Republican Party, while professing a policy of reserving the public land for small holdings by actual settlers, has given away the people's heritage, until now a few railroad and non-resident aliens, individual and corporate, possess a larger area than that of all our farmers in the two seas. The last Democratic Administration reversed the improvident and unwise policy of the Republican Party touching the public domain and reclaimed from corporations and syndicates, alien and domestic, and restored to the people nearly one hundred millions of acres of valuable land to be sacredly held as homesteads for our citizens, and we pledge ourselves to carry out this policy until every acre of land so unlawfully held shall be reclaimed and restored to the people."

"Sec. 7. We denounce the Republican legislation, known as the Sherman Act of 1890 as a cowardly makeshift fraught with possibilities of danger in the future while all of its supporters, as well as its author, anxious for its speedy repeal. We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country, and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discrimination against either metal or charge for mintage, but the dollar unit of coinage of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value, or be adjusted through international agreement, or by such safeguards of legislation as shall insure the maintenance of the parity of the two metals and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of debts; and we demand that all paper currency shall be kept at par with and redeemable in such coin. We insist upon this policy as especially necessary for the protection of the farmers and labouring classes, the first and most defenceless victims of unstable money and a fluctuating currency."

"Sec. 8. We recommend that the prohibitory 10 per cent. tax on state-bank issues be repealed."

"Sec. 9. Public office is a public trust. We reaffirm the declaration of the Democratic National Convention of 1896 for the reform of the civil service and we call for the honest enforcement of all laws regulating the same. The nomination of a President, as in the recent Republican Convention, by delegations composed largely of his appointees, holding office at his pleasure is a scandalous illustration of the methods by which a President may gratify his ambition. We denounce a President who federal office-holders usurp control of party conventions in which States, and we pledge the Democratic Party to the reform of these and all other abuses which threaten individual liberty and local self-government."

"Sec. 10. The Democratic Party is the only party that has ever given the country a foreign policy consistent and vigorous, compelling respect abroad and inspiring confidence at home. While avoiding entangling alliances, it has aimed to cultivate friendly relations with other nations, and especially with our neighbours on the American continent, whose destiny is closely linked with our own, and we view with alarm the tendency to a policy of irritation and bluster which is liable at any time to confront us with the alternative of humiliation or war. We favour the maintenance of a navy strong enough for all purposes of national defence and to properly maintain the honour and dignity of the country abroad."

"Sec. 11. This country has always been the refuge of the oppressed from every land—exiles for conscience's sake—in the spirit of the founders of our government we condemn the oppression practiced by the Russian government upon its Russian and Jewish subjects and we call upon our national government, in the interests of justice and humanity, by all just and proper means, to use its prompt and best efforts to bring about a cessation of these cruel privations in the dominion of the Czar, and to secure to the oppressed equal rights."

"We tender our profound and earnest sympathy to those lovers of freedom who are struggling for Home Rule and the great cause of local self-government in Ireland."

"Sec. 12. We heartily approve all legitimate efforts to prevent the United States from being used as the dumping ground for the known criminals and professional paupers of Europe, and we demand the rigid enforcement of the laws against Chinese immigration and the importation of foreign workmen under contract to degrade American labour and keep down its wages, but we condemn and denounce any and all attempts to restrict the immigration of the industrious and worthy of foreign lands."

"Sec. 13. This Convention hereby renews the expression of appreciation of the patriotism of the soldiers and sailors of the Union in the war for its preservation, and we favour just and liberal compensation for all disabled soldiers and sailors and their dependents, but we demand that the work of the pension office shall be done industriously, impartially, and honestly. We denounce the present administration as incompetent, corrupt, disgraceful, and dishonest."

"Sec. 14. The Federal Government should care for and improve the Mississippi river, and other great waterways of the Republic, so as to secure for the interior States easy and cheap transportation to the tide-water."

"When any waterway of the Republic is of sufficient importance to demand the aid of the government, such aid should be extended upon a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured."

"Sec. 15. In support of national defence and the promotion of commerce between the States we recognize the early construction of the Nicaragua canal and its protection against foreign control as of great importance to the United States."

"Sec. 16. Recognizing the World's Columbian Exposition as a national undertaking of vast importance, in which the Federal government has invited the co-operation of all the powers of the world, and appreciating the acceptance by many of such Powers of the invitation so extended, and the broad and liberal efforts being made by them to contribute to the grandeur of the undertaking, we are of opinion that Congress should make such necessary financial provision as shall be requisite to the maintenance of the national honour and public faith."

"Sec. 17. Popular education being the only safe basis of popular liberty, we recommend to the several States most liberal appropriation for the public schools. Free common schools are the nursery of good government, and they have always received the fostering care of the Democratic Party, which favours every mode of increasing intelligence. Freedom of education, being an essential of civil and religious liberty as well as a necessity for the development of intelligence, must not be interfered with under any pretext whatever. We are opposed to State interference with parental rights and rights of conscience in the education of children, as an infringement of the fundamental Democratic doctrine that the largest individual liberty consistent with the rights of others insures the highest type of American citizenship and the best government."

"Sec. 18. We approve the action of the present house of representatives in passing bills for the admission into the union as States the territories of New Mexico, and we favour the early admission of all the territories having the necessary population and resources to entitle them to statehood, and while they remain territories we hold that the officials appointed to administer the government of any territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona-fide residents of the territory or district in which their duties are to be performed. They believe in the maintenance of the home rule and the control of their own affairs by the people of the territory."

"Sec. 19. We favour legislation by Congress and State legislatures to protect the lives and limbs of railway employees and those of other hazardous transportation companies, and denounce the inactivity of the Republican Party, and particularly the Republican Senate, for causing the defeat of measures beneficial and protective to this class of wage-workers."

"Sec. 20. We are in favour of the enactment by the States of laws for abolishing the notorious sweating system, for abolishing contract convict labour, and for prohibiting the employment in factories of children under 15 years of age."

"Sec. 21. We are opposed to all summary laws as an interference with the individual rights of the citizen."

"Sec. 22. Upon this statement of principles and policies the Democratic Party asks the intelligent judgment of the American people. It asks a change of administration and a change of party, in order that there may be a change of system and a change of methods, thus assuring the maintenance unimpaired of institutions under which the Republic has grown great and powerful."

The first contest was over the tariff plank, and was precipitated by Mr. Neal, of Ohio, who offered a minority report, to strike out the first two paragraphs.

graphs of Section 3, and substitute therefor the following:—

"We denounce Republican protection as a fraud. The labour of the great majority of the American people is for the benefit of the few. We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic Party that the government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue only, and we demand that the collection of such taxes shall be limited to the necessities of the government when honestly and economically administered."

A spirited debate followed, which bid fair to be interminable, until the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions offered to accept that paragraph as an addition to the report. But the Radicals were not satisfied with that, and demanded a roll-call on Mr. Neal's motion to strike out and substitute. After some confusion and disorder, the roll-call showed a vote of 564 to 342 in favour of the minority report. Thus, in Section 3, the two long, straddling, contradictory paragraphs preceding the denunciation of the McKinley Bill were excised, and the one short, honest, consistent paragraph was substituted.

A delegate from Colorado then offered an amendment to Section 7 for the purpose of making it read as a more definite and specific declaration in favour of free carriage; but he failed in his purpose.

When the roll of States was called for the presentation of candidates, ex-President Cleveland's nomination was made by Governor Abbott, of New Jersey, and seconded by a number of speakers; Governor Hill's nomination was made by William C. De Witt, of New York, and seconded, among others, by Senator Daniel, of Virginia; Governor Boies was nominated by Mr. John F. Duncombe, of that State, and the nomination seconded by Henry Matterson, of Kentucky. The mention of the names of Cleveland and of Hill called forth tremendous demonstrations of applause for long periods.

It was a little after two o'clock in the morning when the nominating and seconding speeches were finished. The Hon. Bouski Cockran, of New York made a vain attempt to secure an adjournment, and delivered a fiery, powerful speech against the nomination of Cleveland and in favour of Hill; but his plea was futile.

Day was dawning when the first ballot was taken, amid wild excitement, and resulted as follows:—

States and Territories.	Votes.	Cleveland.	Morton.	Boies.	Campbell.	Hill.	Gorman.	Russell.	Whitney.	Carlie.	Stevenson.	Pattison.
Alabama	23	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Arkansas	16	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
California	28	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Colorado	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Connecticut	23	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Delaware	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Florida	8	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Georgia	26	17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Idaho	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Illinois	48	48	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indiana	30	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Iowa	26	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kansas	20	20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kentucky	18	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Louisiana	16	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maine	12	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maryland	26	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Massachusetts	30	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Michigan	28	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Minnesota	28	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mississippi	18	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Missouri	34	34	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Montana	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nebraska	16	15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nevada	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Hampshire	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Jersey	30	20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New York	72	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Carolina	22	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Dakota	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ohio	46	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oregon	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pennsylvania	62	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rhode Island	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
South Carolina	28	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
South Dakota	8	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tennessee	24	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Texas	30	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vermont	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Virginia	24	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Washington	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
West Virginia	12	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wisconsin	24	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wyoming	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alaska	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Arizona	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
District of Columbia	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Mexico	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oklahoma	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Utah	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indian Territory	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	910	673	3103	222	364	3	1	24	25	3	3	3

As only 603 votes were necessary to a choice, Cleveland was thus nominated, and his nomination was at once made unanimous by motion of Senator Daniel. Cleveland had gained a glorious victory over Tammany and other wily politicians.

When the Convention re-assembled at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 23rd, it was the general expectation that Gray, of Indiana, would secure the nomination for Vice-President; but Tammany succeeded in knocking him because Indiana voted solid for Cleveland. Four candidates were presented:—Hon. Isaac P. Gray, of Indiana; Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois; Hon. Allen B.

Morse, of Michigan; and Hon. John L. Mitchell, of Wisconsin. The first ballot stood:—

States and Territories.	Votes.	Stevenson.	Gray.	Morse.	Waterson.	Cookan.	Tree.	Nitelsh.	Boies.
Alabama	23	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Arkansas	16	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
California	28	28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Colorado	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Connecticut	23	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Delaware	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Florida	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Georgia	26	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Idaho	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Illinois	48	48	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indiana	30	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Iowa	26	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kansas	20	20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kentucky	18	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Louisiana	16	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maine	12	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maryland	26	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Massachusetts	30	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Michigan	28	28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Minnesota	28	28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mississippi	18	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Missouri	34	34	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Montana	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nebraska	16	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nevada	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Hampshire	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Jersey	30	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New York	72	72	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Carolina	22	22	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Dakota	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ohio	46	46	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oregon	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pennsylvania	62	62	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rhode Island	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
South Carolina	28	28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
South Dakota	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tennessee	24	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Texas	30	30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vermont	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Virginia	24	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Washington	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
West Virginia	12	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wisconsin	24	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wyoming	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alaska	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Arizona	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
District of Columbia	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Mexico	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oklahoma	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Utah	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Indian Territory	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	910	402	343	86	36	5	1	45	1

One delegate in Maine not voting.

Before the ballot was formally closed, Iowa changed her solid vote from Waterson to Stevenson, and other States tumbled over to the winning side so fast that I could hardly keep track of them. When after much confusion quiet could be restored, Stevenson's nomination was made unanimous by a loud chorus of ayes. [Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson was born in Kentucky in 1835; has lived since 1852, and was chiefly educated, in Illinois; and is a lawyer by profession. He has twice been elected by good majorities to Congress, and has three times been defeated for Congress by very small majorities. During President Cleveland's administration he was First Assistant Postmaster General. He was a Greenbacker when that party was in existence, but afterwards became a full-fledged Democrat. He is an able man.]

After several miscellaneous resolutions, including the usual votes of thanks, etc., had been passed, and a resolution to shut out the mob of spectators from future Conventions had been refused, with power to act, to the National Committee, the Democratic National Convention adjourned sine die.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, June 10th.

The interview between the Emperors of Germany and Russia is over, and the latter has returned to Copenhagen. The German and Russia Press continue making their commentaries on the Imperial visit, and its consequences. They have generally adopted a peaceful tone, pointing out that each country should now attend more to its home interests instead of almost exclusively wasting its energy upon the increase of military armaments. If we look to the political results that may come from the Imperial meeting we feel constrained to admit that, apart from the renewal, or rather the increase, of personal friendly relations between the two sovereigns, there is nothing to be noticed of importance or practical consequence. Germany being strongly bound to its partners of the Triple Alliance, is unable to connive at the least encroachment of Russia on the Balkan Peninsula, where Austria's interests would be immediately touched. It is true that Germany, on its own account, can have no special objection to Russia's development in an eastern direction where German interests are not paramount; but Germany depends on the full and unreserved support of its allies against France and is therefore bound to maintain the Austrian policy in this respect. Hence the impossibility for Germany to conciliate Russia, however great the desire may otherwise be, whilst to mediate

between the two parties, as was often attempted in former years, would be evidently a hopeless task.

The festival and national rejoicings at Nancy have equally passed off without any great results worth noticing. The fact of a Russian Grand Duke appearing on the scene at the eleventh hour, was a masterly *coup de théâtre*, but caused no special surprise here: in fact it may be surmised, that in higher quarters the fact was known beforehand. It was an able piece of policy on the part of the Russians, and they may be praised for so adroitly managing the susceptibility of the French. The Grand Duke Constantine Constantinowich was anything but a stranger to the President; he had been travelling for some time past in France and had called upon M. Carnot in Paris, but subsequently had been keeping very quiet at Contrexmille, from whence he suddenly turned up when the right time arrived. It must be admitted that the members of the French government showed in their speeches at Nancy great tact and discretion. To the Chauvinists this moderation and the want of revenge-drum-beating was a great disappointment, but to the world at large it proved the effect of the admirable self-discipline the French nation is gradually developing in its higher spheres. The speech of M. Carnot was a model of reticence; he was able to say charming things to his countrymen without hurting their German neighbour's feelings. Very remarkable was the speech of Professor Lavisse, a great favourite of the students. He was far from preaching revenge ideas, and asked, in view of the brotherly harmony existing among the students around him, whether the day would not come when human will might be strong enough to overcome human nature. This would bring together the present antagonistic elements between nations. It is a dream, the professor continued, which many high spirited men have indulged in, but we may ask, is it to be always a dream! The time has not yet come, he said, to renounce national patriotism and its consequences. The moment is not yet arrived for disarmament and the old war-flags and banners cannot yet be burned like our idols of old. They must be preserved and honoured. But it is not only the influence of commerce, industry, steam, and electricity which causes a growing desire for peace, neither will the new relations gradually developing between capital and labour be sufficient to guarantee this object: material interest can never produce moral revolutions! But the sentiment of patriotism, the love of home, is likely to effect it. This high sentiment must in the end reconcile the sections of humanity with each other, and this will produce in future international concord. In fact, the Professor's speech might as well have been given at a Peace Congress. Given where it was, it could not have been without a happy effect on the assembly, and it is to be hoped that its noble sentiments will not be forgotten by the young and ardent listeners who formed the majority of the audience.

Another national, and at the same time dynastic, celebration, the 25th anniversary of the coronation of Francis Joseph as King of Hungary, has passed off with a great deal of splendour at Buda-Pesth. The speech of the religious "primas" of Hungary was, however, not as peaceful as that of the French Professor. Speaking of the sacred crown of St. Stephen he exclaimed:—"May it shine brightly and pure on your Royal forehead; may this crown, if possible, transmit realms of peace into the four quarters of the globe, but, if necessary, may it strike the enemies of our fatherland with the strength of the sword of a thousand years' duration!" Whether this was meant for foreign foes only, or whether the unhappy Bohemian national separatists were aimed at because of late they have become very conspicuous, is not clear. The latter have, by the declarations and machinations of their party of "young Tscheks," who openly fraternize with the Russians, given new cause for apprehension. They now send deputations to France and Russia, and even go so far as to declare that the moment will soon come when their pan-slavistic enthusiasm will make them renounce their Roman Catholic faith in order to return to the Orthodox Greek Church, which their forefathers belonged to. How great the enmity of the Tscheks against the German element has become, is shown by the telegram which the Bohemian students at Vienna sent to their colleagues at Nancy. It is reported to have contained the following sentence: "You intend to fortify yourself in your struggles against your national enemy; we also struggle for our liberation from the same enemy." Thus Austria, one of the principal supports of the Triple Alliance, is suffering at home from the consequences of its heterogeneous nationalities, but the other partner to the Triple Alliance, Italy, is not without its troubles also. Parliamentary complications and financial difficulties are being heaped on the head of the new Cabinet. The problem which

Original from

the Cabinet of Giolitti was assumed to solve is almost beyond its strength. The keeping up or even increase of the military armaments, without any additional pressure on the taxpayer, is a matter of impossibility. Commerce suffers from the hostility of the French and from their tariff obstructions. Over speculation has caused a wide spread crisis in the country, and still the War Minister wants more guns and more money.

The feeling of the Italians is evidently growing more and more hostile to the French, whose restrictions have ruined their export trade. The open declaration also of the Pope, in favour of the French Republic, has added new fuel to the flames, for it is easily conjectured that the price offered for this support of the Republic is the future restoration of the Pope's secular power, in other words, the destruction of Italian unity. Italian politicians watch therefore with much interest the proximate elections in England; they fear that a Liberal government would withdraw the engagements for maritime support in the Mediterranean in case of need, on which to a some extent the future safety of Italy and the overwhelming power of the Triple Alliance depends.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Massachusetts, July 4th.

This is the day we celebrate the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. We have a good deal to boast of, but out of respect to our friends across the water we will not go into particulars. Sufficient it is that we celebrated by bells and cannon, "crackers," torpedoes, fireworks, balloon ascensions, speeches, and dinners.

Boston is much interested these days in the "goings and the comings" of "Our Willie"—Governor William Russell—who, to use a newspaper expression, is flirting desperately with Grover Cleveland. Of course if he be elected he will want a Cabinet, and wouldn't Russell look well on it? Certainly the man who had one vote for the office of President of the United States at the Democratic Convention, ought to be entitled to a high place "way up" near the highest.

Ex-President Cleveland is domiciled at Marion, a place on the southern shore of Massachusetts, where he has had a summer residence for several years. He calls his place "Gray Gables," and we hear much now-a-days about Gray Gables and the persistent wooing of "Our Willie." On his return from these visits, is heard the "good old tune," born and died before the war, "O, Willie, we have missed you!" But Willie is considered a pretty good fellow, with a laudable ambition to mount higher on the ladder of fame.

But the great topic of the day is or, was at the time, the Democratic nominations. Ex-President Cleveland was nominated for the Presidency. He received 617 votes; Hill, 114; Boies, 103; Gorman, 38; Stevenson, 16; Carlisle, 14; Campbell, 2; Morrison, 3; Patterson, 1; Russell, 1; Whitney, 1. A wigwag was built in Chicago for the use of the Convention. The "Tammany Braves" (New York Democrats) always meet in a "wigwag," so-called. The Chicago wigwag was built as a man might fence in a field and then stretch a canvass over it. The wind carried away the canvass over the wigwag, and then a wooden roof was placed on the fence-like foundation. Fears were expressed that when the Convention met and began business, the structure might collapse and bury the hopes of the Democracy—that even the clapping of hands in unions might bring down the ponderous roof. But the Convention lived to do its work and to escape. The Hill boom was short-lived. It is simply marvellous that there was any Hill boom; that Hill received 114 votes for the highest office in the gift of the people. But it may be assumed that the delegates who voted for Hill had been promised in the way of reward about everything except the earth. These delegates were to cling together and, to turn the rest of the crowd, the 114 was to be a kind of bell-wether to lead the flock right into the Hill fold, but they would not be folded in such a camp of wolves, and refused to follow, and Mr. Hill and his little boom and his 114 boomers quietly withdrew and returned to their old haunts, presumably the gin-mills of New York. Ex-President Cleveland was nominated on the first ballot. The "quick unanimity" is due, says an "organ," to the fact that there was doubt as to the safety of the wigwag, especially in a lake storm that comes and goes quickly. But at last all the candidates, Republican and Democratic, are now before the people and it now remains to elect a part of them. All parties are now resting on their oars, but after the summer vacation the active canvass will begin, and a large part of

the people will march in procession, night after night, carrying banners, transparencies, and kerosene torches. It is to be the hottest presidential election in the history of the country. The great cry of the Republicans is and will be "Protection," and that of the Democrats is not exactly "Free Trade," although it amounts to that—"Tariff for Revenue only." Adlai-Stevenson was nominated for the office of Vice President at the Democratic Convention. He was First Assistant Postmaster-general under Cleveland, and was called the "Great Headsman," from the fact that he beheaded—turned out of office—several thousand postmasters in a remarkably short time and put in Democrats. That is all the fame he can boast of and to the Democrats it is enough. As Mr. Flanagan, of Texas, remarked, "What are we here (in office) for if not for what we can get?" A few days after the Convention at Minneapolis, Emmous Blaine died suddenly in Chicago. He was an active worker at Minneapolis in his father's interest, and probably exerted himself beyond his strength. His disappointment was great at the failure of his father to secure the nomination, and this appeared to add to the disease that caused his death. He was thirty-five years, of great promise, prominent in railway circles, being at the time of his death, Vice President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway. He was married, in 1889, to the daughter of McCormack the millionaire reaper manufacturer. The daughter had an inheritance of five of six million dollars. The sympathy of the country went out to Mr. and Mrs. Blaine in their great affliction. The campaign brings its burdens and its "crosses to bear." An ambitious publisher announces that he will publish the speeches of Ex-President Cleveland, delivered since he was President—that is, while he has been stumping the country in his own behalf. By the way, it was an extraordinary spectacle that of an Ex-president of the United States, personally bidding for another term of office—something that was never witnessed before in this country. And now it is proposed to publish what he said "on all previous occasions." A paper suggests that penal institutions secure copies and use them in the interest of discipline. To compel a man to read one of those speeches on an empty stomach would be more effective as a measure of discipline than the thumb-screw.

Since the Convention in Chicago, the city has been inundated by "excessive rains," and some streets have been navigable in boats. This was immediately after the Convention. Rain usually follows great disturbance of the atmosphere, and after "such a time" in the wigwag, it is not strange that the heavens opened and emptied the reservoirs.

We have now reached the end of the half-year. The college commencements are over, the woods are full of graduates, newly fledged, hardly fledged perhaps, and degrees of every kind and degree have been given out liberally by all institutions of learning from Harvard University to the small country college. There is no amusement now for the stay-at-homes till the campaign opens after the vacation. The "rush to Europe" is great—"beyond all precedent." It is probably true that it is cheaper to go to Europe than to stay at home.

The steamer *Trave*, which arrived in New York a day or two ago, ran down and sunk a large schooner—cut her in two and rode over her. It is said to be a fact that as soon as the large steamers are at sea, the engines are driven to their utmost capacity in the thickest fog. It is taken for granted that there is room enough at sea. But that there is not room enough, or it is not safe to drive a 10,000 ton steamer at racing speed through a dense fog as prevailed at the time when the *Trave* crashed into and sent to the bottom the schooner lying in her path. Similar accidents become more frequent every year. The *Trave*, however, stood by, lowered her boats, and rescued the crew of the schooner. As an example of navigating skill, if not recklessness, see the following:—A steamer left New York one night for a port about two hundred miles away, her course lying through two inland rivers and a sound crowded with craft of all kinds. According to report, the captain of the steamer, after he left New York, did not see anything till he reached his destination. Through the dense fog and the blackness of the night, he sailed by compass, hit nothing, made no mistakes, and reached port on time with his several hundred passengers.

John W. Foster has been appointed Secretary of State in place of James G. Blaine, resigned. Mr. Foster has had an active life, twenty five years of it in the service of the United States. He was Minister to Mexico from 1873 to 1880, Minister to Russia from 1880 to 1881, and minister to Spain in 1883. Subsequently, Mr. Foster was appointed a special ambassador to Spain in connection with the reciprocity treaty. Recently, he had charge of the Behring Sea negotiations and was the agent of the

United States to prepare the case for presentation to the arbitrators.

A new invention is attracting much attention. It is called the Double Needle Carpet Loom. It is claimed for it that a square yard of carpet may be made in one minute.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 2nd.

The weather, that trite and hackneyed topic, has lately been a subject of unusual interest. During the past two or three months there has been nothing commonplace about the weather, which has astonished both "the oldest resident" and the astronomer. June was an improvement over May, but was far from keeping up its old reputation as a bright and warm month. Let me illustrate the state of affairs by reference to official statistics concerning Chicago weather. Observations for twenty years have fixed upon less than 4 inches as a normal rain-fall for June; but this year the record shows 10.52 inches, an amount never exceeded in any month except August, 1885, when 11.28 inches were registered. During this phenomenal month there were ten clear days, two with only a trace of moisture, and eighteen rainy days. Another evidence that the weather of this year has been extraordinary, is furnished by a comparison with the record of 1882 when all previous records were beaten. The following table shows the rain-fall in inches during corresponding months:—

	1882.	1892.
April	6.72	2.17
May	5.52	6.77
June	5.71	10.52
Total.....	17.95	19.46

The heaviest rains came during the last ten days of June. In this city they came during the Democratic Convention, and probably proved quite serviceable in cleansing "the unwashed Democracy." The Republicans nominated their candidates in bright, clear weather; the Democrats named theirs in cloudy and rainy weather. It has, however, been suggested, that next November the Democrats will be revelling in sunshine, and the Republicans will be enveloped in clouds and thick darkness! The Prohibition Convention, too, was treated (most appropriately) to a down-pour of rain.

The rivers again began to rise during the last days of June, and to spread devastation along their banks. The Mississippi River, in particular, at Davenport, Burlington, Keokuk, Rock Island, and other places, beat the record of 40 years, and caused tremendous damage to property. The past few days, however, of clear weather have produced a subsidence, so that no further danger is apprehended.

The college commencements are now about finished, and have sent forth another big batch of young men and women to help settle the great questions of the day. The University of Michigan again stands at the head with a class of 689.

The University of Chicago has appointed 47 "fellows," and will soon name others. Among the successful applicants is a Mr. A. Asada, who intends to work in the department of Semitic languages.

Two Japanese students of Cornell University passed through here the other day *en route* for Japan, where they will spend their vacation. They fell into the hands of a reporter, who "sized them up" as follows: "They speak excellent English, wear the latest apparel, and seem to have adopted American customs in all things, even to carrying their cane head downward!"

Among the recent attractions of a dime museum of this city was a Japanese who exhibited his skill at free-hand drawing and painting.

The Scudder case will never come to trial in an earthly court, but has been brought to a fortunate, though sad, ending. The accused died in the county jail the other morning from the effects of morphine supposed to have been self-administered. The body, after a quiet funeral here, was taken to Long Island, and cremated. The entire episode is still a deep and unsolved mystery, and would better be left in oblivion.

Sunday, June 26, was a day devoted by the Baptists of America to a celebration of the centenary of Baptist missions. The church, Sunday-school and prayer-meeting services were all given up to special exercises appropriate to the occasion. The important events of the life and work of William Carey, of Andrew Fuller, of Marshman and Ward, were brought out for the purpose of emphasizing the present duty of American Baptists in the matter of missionary labour. They are trying to raise a centenary fund this year of \$1,000,000.

Rev. P. R. Swartworth, of Illinois, has just been

added to the Baptist force in Japan; and others will be named.

It used to be the custom for each Sunday-School by itself to enjoy a summer picnic; but it is now the practice for a large number of Schools to unite in an immense picnic. This simply applies to Sunday-Schools the "field day" idea of colleges, and makes a fine display. The other day, for instance, the Schools of the South Side all met for that purpose in Washington Park, and enjoyed a procession with banners, music, sports, etc.

It is the purpose of an association just organized to give the Passion Play here during the World's Fair. The principal performers will come from Ober-Ammergau, and bring with them "the original costumes and other accessories of the religious drama."

Most favourable response to the plan of holding a "Parliament of Religions" in connection with the World's Fair are being received from all quarters. Among the recent additions to the advisory council are the names of Mr. Mokuai Shimaji, of Tokyo, and Dr. Blodget of Peking. "A large representation is promised from Japan."

Congress will probably vote the extra appropriation for the World's Fair.

It is rather an amusing evidence of the interest which Americans feel in the Exposition, that there is a vast increase in the number of teachers who wish to get a school near Chicago! In no previous year have more than 10 persons taken the examination for certificates for teaching in the schools of this country; but this year about 300 have applied! The number of applicants for positions in the city schools is also large.

Increase of space has lately been granted to foreign nations in the Agricultural Building. The seven largest amounts, in square feet, are as follows:—Great Britain, 18,346; Germany, 11,875; Brazil, 7,200; France, 6,833; Mexico, 6,020; 6,020; Japan, 3,038; Argentine, 2,976.

The Canadian Pacific Steamship Company has made the following reduced rates for the World's Fair:—

On freight from China or Japan to Vancouver, \$10 per ton; on freight consigned on through bills of lading to Chicago, \$16 per ton; all exhibits to be returned free where they have not changed ownership. In passenger fares a half-rate will be made for government officials and representatives of the Exposition from their respective countries. Visitors from China and Japan will be furnished a round trip ticket to Vancouver, good returning until Dec. 30, 1893, for \$300. This is the regular fare one way.

The new Pacific Mail steamer, *Peru*, will leave San Francisco Thursday, August 4th, on its first trip to Japan and China.

President Harrison and Whitelaw Reid have been officially notified by committee of their nomination, and have formally accepted. But, of course, letters of acceptance may be expected from both gentlemen. An Illinois man, Hon. W. J. Campbell, of this city, has been chosen chairman of the National Committee, and will thus conduct the Republican campaign.

Hon. John W. Foster, of Indiana, has been appointed Secretary of State to fill out Mr. Blaine's term. He is an able and experienced diplomat: he has been U.S. Minister to Mexico, to Russia and to Spain, and he was selected by President Cleveland for a special service in Spain. He and his wife both speak Spanish.

George D. Johnstone, a prominent educator of Alabama, has been appointed Civil Service Commissioner.

We have now a misunderstanding with Canada, not only concerning seal fisheries, but also in regard to the navigation of Canadian canals. On the 20th of June, President Harrison sent the Senate a message, complaining of discrimination against American citizens in the matter of canal tolls in violation of the treaty of Washington, and recommending retaliatory measures of some kind. A few days later a communication was received on that subject from Mr. Herbert, the Canadian representative. Yesterday the President transmitted that communication, together with other documents, to the Senate, and reiterated strongly his previous recommendation; but the Senate has not yet taken any action in the matter.

Senator Stewart's free coinage bill was passed yesterday in the Senate by the close vote of 29 to 25, and goes now to the House of Representatives. This news was received with great rejoicing at Omaha, where the National Convention of the People's Party began to-day its session. The silver question, like Banquo's ghost, will not "down."

The statistics of business matters scarcely warrant the dismal croakings of the alarmists who are running the People's Party. R. G. Dun & Co. inform us, that the fiscal year closing June 30th was never equalled in our history in the volume of production and in the magnitude of domestic and foreign trade; and that the new half-year begins

with excellent prospects as to crops and trade. If we can only keep free from wild financial schemes!

The National Prohibition Convention opened June 29th in Cincinnati with a large attendance of delegates and visitors. One especially interesting feature was the number of women present, among whom Miss Willard, Mrs. Hoffman, and Mrs. Gougar were the most prominent. Professor Dickie, chairman of the National Committee, called the convention to order, and presented Hon. John P. St. John as Temporary Chairman. The Standard-bearer of 1884 was received with an ovation of applause, and delivered an eloquent address. The remainder of the morning session, and the afternoon session, were devoted to reports of committee, miscellaneous business and speeches. The Committee on Credentials reported 972 delegates present out of 1,191 as the full number. In the evening the Permanent Chairman, Col. Eli F. Ritter, of Indiana, was presented, and made a rousing speech. Up to and even during the first day's session there had been considerable feeling in favour of an attempt in some way to bring about fusion with the People's Party; but, as the impracticability and foolishness of such a move became clearly apparent, the project was not publicly broached.

In the morning session of the second day, a Southern delegate, whose tender feelings had been wounded the evening before by an illustration (in one of the speeches) from a slave market scene, procured the adoption of the following:—

Whereas, The Prohibition party is not a sectional party, but a National party.

Whereas, The issues of the late civil war were settled and settled forever, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Convention that speakers who are accorded the honour of addressing the Convention, be requested to refrain from unnecessary reference or illustrations that could be construed as a reflection on any of the participants in the late struggle.

In the afternoon session there was a long and lively discussion over the financial and tariff planks, which are, of course, subordinate to the main issue of prohibition, but must be carefully worded. Finally, the entire report was adopted in the following platform:—

The Prohibition party, in National Convention assembled, acknowledging Almighty God as the source of all true government and His law as the standard to which all human enactments must conform to secure the blessings of peace and prosperity, presents the following declaration of principles:

1. The liquor traffic is a foe to civilization, the arch enemy of popular government and a public nuisance. It is the citadel of the forces that corrupt politics, promote poverty and crime, degrade the Nation's home life, thwart the will of the people and deliver our country into the hands of rapacious class interests. All laws that under the guise of regulation legalize and protect this traffic or make the Government share in its ill-gotten gains are "vicious in principle and powerless as a remedy." We declare anew for the entire suppression of the manufacture, sale, importation, exportation, and transportation of alcoholic liquors as a beverage by Federal and State legislation and the full powers of the Government should be exerted to secure this result. Any party that fails to recognize the dominant nature of this issue in American politics is undeserving of the support of the people.

2. No citizen should be denied the right to vote on account of sex, and equal labour should receive equal wages without regard to sex.

3. The money of the country should be issued by the general government only, and in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the business and give full opportunity for the employment of labour. For this end an increase in the volume of money is demanded, and no individual or corporation should be allowed to make any profit through its issue. It should be made a legal tender for the payment of all debts public and private. Its volume should be fixed at the definite sum per capita and made to increase with our increase in population.

4. Tariff should be levied only as a defence against foreign Governments which levy tariff upon our bar or our products from their markets, revenue being incidental. The residue of means necessary to an economical administration of the Government should be raised by levying a burden on what the people possess instead of upon what we consume.

5. Railroad, telegraph, and other public corporations should be controlled by the Government in the interest of the people, and no higher charges allowed than necessary to give fair interest on the capital actually invested.

6. Foreign immigration has become a burden upon industry, one of the factors in depressing wages and causing discontent, therefore, our immigration laws should be revised and strictly enforced. The time of residence for naturalization should be extended, and no naturalized person should be allowed to vote until one year after he becomes a citizen.

7. Non-residents should not be allowed to acquire land in this country, and we favour the limitation of individual and corporate ownership of land. All unearned grants of lands to railroad companies or other corporations should be reclaimed.

8. Years of inaction and treachery on the part of the Republican and Democratic parties have resulted in the present reign of mob law, and we demand that every citizen be protected in the right of trial by constitution tribunals.

9. All men should be protected by law in their right to one day's rest in seven.

10. Arbitration is the wisest and most economical and humane method of settling national difference.

11. Speculations in margins; the cornering of grain, money and products, and the formation of pools, trusts and combinations, for the arbitrary advancement of prices, should be suppressed.

12. We pledge that the Prohibition party, if elected to power will ever grant just pensions to disabled veterans of the Union army and navy, their widows and orphans.

13. We stand unequivocally for the American public school, and opposed to any appropriation of public moneys for sectarian schools. We declare that only by united support of such common schools, taught in the English language, can we hope to become and remain an homogeneous and harmonious people.

14. We arraign the Republican and Democratic parties as false to the standards raised by their founders, as faithless to the principles of the illustrious leaders of the past to whom they do homage with the flag; as recreant to the "Higher way," which is as inflexible in political affairs as in personal life, and as no longer embodying the aspirations of the American people or inviting the confidence of enlightened, progressive patriotism. Their protest against the admission of "moral issues" into politics is a confession of their own moral degeneracy. The declaration of an eminent authority that municipal misrule is "the one conspicuous failure of American politics," follows as a natural consequence of such degeneracy, and is true alike of cities under Republican and Democratic control. Each accuses the other of extravagance in congressional appropriations and both are alike guilty. Each protests when out of power against the infraction of the civil service law, and each when in power violates those laws in letter and spirit. Each professes fealty to the interests of the toiling masses, but both truckle to the money power in their administration of public affairs. Even the tariff issue as represented in the Democratic Mills bill and the Republican McKinley bill is no longer treated by them as an issue upon great and divergent principles of government but is a mere catering to different sectional and class interests. The attempt in many States to swerve the Australian ballot system from its true purpose and to so deform it as to render it extremely difficult for new parties to exercise the rights of suffrage is an outrage upon popular government. The competition of both the parties for the vote of city slums and their assiduous courting of the liquor power and subservience to the money power has resulted in placing those powers in the position of practical arbiters of the destinies of the Nation. We renew our protest against these perilous tendencies and invite all citizens to join us in the upbuilding of a party that has shown in five National campaigns that it prefers temporary defeat to an abandonment of the claims of justice, sobriety, personal rights, and the protection of American homes.

The following resolution, offered by the Rev. J. G. Evans, of Abingdon, Ill., was carried:

Resolved, That we favour a liberal appropriation by the Federal Government for the World's Columbian Exposition, but only on the condition that the sale of intoxicating drinks upon the Exposition grounds is prohibited, and that the Exposition be kept closed on Sunday.

At the evening session, when the roll of States was called for the presentation of candidates for the Presidency, General John Bidwell, of California; W. Jennings Demorest, of New York; and G. L. Stewart, of Ohio, were put in nomination. The first ballot gave Bidwell, 590; Demorest, 139; Stewart, 179; and Bascom, 3; and Bidwell's nomination was made unanimous. It may be truly said, that the Prohibitionists have bid well for success! The first ballot for Vice-President gave the nomination to J. B. Cranfill, of Texas, against Joshua Levering, of Maryland, as chief rival. [General John Bidwell entered Congress from California in 1865 as a Republican, and served two terms. He went to California in 1846. Hon. J. B. Cranfill is a well-known editor, and a leading Baptist layman, of Texas. He is a very eloquent orator.]

IN U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before W. D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul and Judge.—TUESDAY, July 26th. 1892.

SHERWOOD AND SHERWOOD V. C. F. LOW.

This morning, the hearing of a motion filed by Mr. A. Tison, counsel for the defendant in the above case, was heard by the Consul-General in his private room. Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for plaintiffs and Mr. Tison for defendant.

The motion was as follows:—

The defendant in this action, entitled as above, moves, on the complaint and the proceedings herein, for an order:— (1.) That the plaintiffs so amend their pleadings as to set out in the petition and on the record herein the names of the parties plaintiff and each of them according to the usual and regular course of procedure in such cases; (2.) That the plaintiffs file with the Court security for the costs and charges hereof to the amount of \$100 in U.S. gold or the equivalent thereof, according to the regulation in such case made and provided for non-resident plaintiffs, and (3.) That defendant have until ten days after compliance with said order and notice thereof to defendant in which to answer the complaint; all proceedings in this action on the part of the plaintiffs other than under such order meanwhile to be stayed.

Dated, July 22nd, 1892.

ALEXANDER TISON,
Counsel for defendant.

Mr. Tison said—I have made this motion for the purpose of asking that plaintiffs' names be more

fully set out in the petition, for the purpose of asking for security for costs and extension of time. I know that I could have obtained the first two things by merely making a formal demand, but I have brought them forward as a motion for the benefit of all parties in the case and for simplicity. Regulation 253 bears upon the question of asking for security in a case where a party is a non-resident, and the section states that \$300 is the amount to be given. In regard to the first part of the motion, it is desirable, even if there is no counter-claim that the defendant should be enabled to know the names of the parties suing him. In regard to the extension of time in which to file an answer, Counsel urged, as one of the reasons for the putting off of the hearing of the case for a while, the heat of the season and the vacation that was now general everywhere. He wished, himself, to get away for a few days. Recapitulating, he said his motion was for the names of plaintiffs to be given more fully, a security for costs, and an extension of time for making an answer to the plaintiffs' petition.

Mr. Lowder said, in reference to the first prayer in the motion, that he had been instructed to disclose that the plaintiff was one, Robert Sherwood, of San Francisco, belonging to the firm of Sherwood and Sherwood.

Mr. Tison—And the defendant, your Honour, is Charles P. Low.

Mr. Lowder—Perhaps your Honour would allow us to amend the petition accordingly by striking out "Sherwood and" from Sherwood and Sherwood, and substituting "Robert" in their place, while plaintiffs would be altered into plaintiff throughout? If your Honour would allow this to be done, it would avoid the necessity of drawing up a fresh petition. The first paragraph would consequently read "Robert Sherwood, a merchant," etc.

His Honour—It is not necessary, I take it, to make out a new petition.

Mr. Lowder—Then, with regard to the second prayer of the motion, for the security of costs, that I cannot resist, as plaintiff is living at San Francisco and the defendant is within his right to ask for such security, as the other party to the action is a non-resident. The only thing he questioned was the amount of security asked for. He thought that it could hardly be that costs to such an amount—\$300 U.S. gold—would be given in such a case like the present, that is if the case went against them. It might be hard too, for the plaintiff to find \$300 for security; he might be a poor man for instance, and might find it difficult to raise that amount. But he would leave it to his Honour to say what amount of security was right in such a case and what ought to be given.

His Honour said he had not looked closely into the regulation bearing upon the subject of such undertakings, but as he read it, it was that the undertaking was for a sum "not exceeding \$300." It looked so to him.

Mr. Lowder—In the English Court the security does not exceed \$250.

Mr. Tison—I supposed that it was the same here until I looked at the Regulations.

His Honour—In all cases which have come under my notice the undertaking given covered all costs.

Mr. Lowder—In reference to the third prayer in the petition, Regulation 19 says that the Court has power to enlarge the time of answering, but it was usual when making such an application to the Court to support it by an affidavit stating the grounds for so doing. There was no evidence before the Court as to the reason for seeking the enlargement, and although he did not wish to oppose his learned friend in any way, still he should like to have some definite reason for his asking for the enlargement of time. His learned friend had said something about the hot weather, but that could hardly be sufficient reason for the Court to proceed upon.

Mr. Tison said that he could advance another reason for his application if necessary, and drew attention to the fact that it was in April last that he wrote to the learned counsel for plaintiff about the security for costs. He thought that ten days was a very reasonable time.

His Honour said that he always had felt that the rule of granting 3 days only in which to file an answer was rather harsh, and had consequently felt disposed to accede to any reasonable request for extension. It was the custom at home to allow 30 days in which to file an answer, while it was the custom to grant 10 or 12 days even in petty actions.

Mr. Lowder thought that this would not be so if defendant was shown to have been granted reasonable time.

His Honour—I granted extension in one case similar to this.

Mr. Lowder understood that defendant was leaving for San Francisco on Thursday.

Mr. Tison—Yes, he would have left by the *Oceanic*.

After some further conversation, his Honour said he thought that, under the circumstances, and as Mr. Tison lived in Tokyo, extension should be granted.

Mr. Lowder asked if there was any form in which security was entered into?

His Honour thought that there was no special form by which the undertaking was entered into.

Mr. Lowder thereupon produced a draft form for approval, giving the names of the two resident guarantors, and, this meeting with the Court approval.

His Honour said—The motion is granted. The Court then rose.

CHINESE AND JAPANESE TRAITS.

I have repeatedly heard said, and seen it written, that the Chinese race and civilization, compared with the Japanese, are of a decidedly inferior type. Unprogressive China is supposed to be ugly, prosaic, and degraded; mechanical in temperament, sordid and practical in aim. The art of Japan, especially, is thought to shine by contrast with that of her western neighbour. It is expressly asserted that the Chinese have never been a nation of artists, poets, and idealists.

This prejudice I believe to be unfounded. Although a lover of things Japanese, I can best show the grounds of my esteem, not by using China as a foil, but by acknowledging her as the classic source of inspiration. Whatever we admire most in the island race, be it the art, the gentle manners, the poetry, the unworlly ideal,—for all these the Japanese himself pays homage to his Chinese masters. Can it be that he knows less about the matter than our Western newspapers?

Our mistake is doubtless due to a pardonable ignorance of Asiatic history. We cannot truly exhibit the contributions of a great race to the cause of the civilization by cutting, as it were, a cross-section through its organic structures. What value would attach to a comparative estimate of the Greek and Italian races drawn solely from a contrast of Florence with Constantinople in the fifteenth century? What more from a contrast of Tokyo with Peking to-day? One is the home of a civilization of hoary age, with strength spent, struggle and crisis long since passed; the other, that of a youth in experience and temper, who has never till now been forced to grapple with the deepest social problems in a life-and-death struggle. Yet a comparative biography of these two racial lives would exhibit the closest affinities between them. From it we should discover that the specific types of far Eastern civilization have rested upon a common basis of constructive ideas; that the same moving principles which dominated the policy of successive Japanese eras, the same ideals which gave life and form to their myth, their poetry, and their art, had already created structures of similar nature, but on a far vaster scale, beyond the Yellow Sea. The continental art and literature and law, hot from the mortal struggle of China to objectify her highest ideals, were received and gayly worn as beautiful jewels, or wreathed anew into lovely garlands, by the more fortunate island mountaineers. To Chinese art and culture at their best in the Tang and Sung dynasties we must yield the palm for power, dignity, truth, and spiritual earnestness. No doubt there are an elusive subtlety and a buoyant geniality in the subsequently Japanese illuminations which have a distinct charm of their own. No doubt, too, in character there is something which reminds us strongly of the modern French or of the ancient Athenians. Nevertheless, on the whole, and in spite of temperament, it may be, we are forced to say that China has played the part of Greece for the whole Eastern world. Just as all that is classic and supreme in the inspiration of Western literature and art and philosophy comes down the ages to us from its creative centre at Athens, so all that is vital and classic in Oriental culture radiates from Loyang and Hangchow; just as frankly as Rome borrowed her models from Greece, so did Japan borrow hers from China.

Having said something in vindication of the rightful claims of Chinese civilization, I wish now to consider a charge of directly opposite import, which is sometimes made by writers and travellers, for the most part English. The Japanese are accused of being the most fickle and changeable people in the world, unstable, weak in character, vacillating in policy, and are unfavourably compared with the Chinese, who are praised for their solid, reliable, and manly qualities. The prudent conservatism of China condemns the hasty radicalism of Japan. The proof of this moral superiority of the former is supposed to lie in the fact

that foreign merchants in Japan have to employ Chinese cashiers.

Now, to appreciate the mistake involved in this estimate, we must again go back to national history. Levity and change on the one side, stolidity and conservatism on the other, are not inexplicable race characteristics. In China there was no blind love for the past, no universal hatred of change or of foreigners, previous to a comparatively recent date. There was as sharp a conscious struggle of the new with the old, as full a development of great individualities, innovating statesmen, constructive philosophers, inspired poets, and original artists, in the great Sing dynasty as at any period of European civilization. Her great seaports harbored large colonies of Arab merchants; Jewish synagogues flourished in the interior; she gladly learned science and the useful arts from the Venetians. Even more recently, in the days of her decadence, she thankfully made the Jesuit missionaries her teachers.

On the other hand, it is not true that the history of Japan is characterized by fickleness, blind change, and weak innovation. In unswerving allegiance to the single dynasty of her divinely descended Emperor she exhibits the oldest political institution in all history. Her regard for Buddhism never wavered from the seventh century to the sixteenth. She grasped firmly the ideals of the Sung dynasty nearly five hundred years ago, and has perpetuated them through an unbreakable tradition to our day in the aristocratic courts of the Tokugawa régime. How near the last two centuries of solid despotism came to making of Japan a copy of formalistic China may be seen to-day in a wide streak of stupid conservatism, of which, too, the foreign merchants complain. Both races, then, have exhibited on the scale of centuries, in grand alternation or in strange mixture; the opposite traits of individuality and formalism, and their peculiar temperaments and national tendencies to-day are only final resultants of vast movements of rise and fall, of hopeful ideal, mortal struggle, and temporary exhaustion.

What now do I mean by individuality? Surely not that sickly cast of thought, that morbid self-consciousness, which is sometimes spoken of as the feeling of personality. This has been necessarily absent from creative periods, whether in the East or in the West. I mean by individuality, not the self of which we think, but the self by which we do. It is the power to produce freshly from within, to react and adapt under rapid change of environment. It transcends institution, custom, love of approbation, fear of disapproval, all slowly acting forces of sheer mass. It is spontaneous origination, the salt of social life, the last hope of a race.

The problem, therefore, of each successive Oriental dynasty has been how to preserve all its inherited ideals, whether of patriarchal socialism, of Confucian statics, or of Buddhist discipline, by bringing to their support a renewed measure of individuality before success and organization should become so complete as to establish tyrannical rules. This could be done only when the stimulus of prolonged local warfare, or the shock of foreign contact, or the incidence of new constructive philosophies and religions gave a decided change to the conditions of the problem. Only three times in the course of three thousand years of Chinese history did these favourable conditions recur. On the third occasion, eleven centuries after Christ, the statesmen, scholars, poets, artists, priests, and philosophers of the great Sung dynasty waged a final and stupendous struggle with the hosts of formalism, and created the culminating glories of China's most individualistic illumination in an attempt to fuse together the three great religions of Taoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism. The downfall of this last movement, under the Mongol conquest, was the death-knell of Chinese individuality. All subsequent efforts to revive it were too weak and scattered. In the absence of new constructive matter, babbling Confucians of the narrowest commenting school have monopolized power and education for the last five hundred years, and have covered the glow of native genius with such a crust of literary formalism that intelligence has become stunted and government itself petrified.

But in Japan, in the course of the comparatively brief thirteen hundred years of its civilization, the disruptive forces and the renewed attack have recurred at five separate times, the last of which was as recent as the second half of the eighteenth century. It is not necessary for me here more specifically to characterize these five well-defined epochs in Japanese culture. It is enough for us to know that their rapid succession was caused either by the local independence and conflict of numerous feudal centres, or by perpetual invasions from foreign theories and religions. A happy co-existence of cultures has prevented the Japanese

mental soil from becoming exhausted; though it must not be inferred from this, as is frequently asserted, that the Japanese have been only borrowers and copyists. If this were true, if there had been no fresh individuality waiting to apprehend and restate the problem for its insular uses, no mere change of atmosphere would have galvanized into life a culture. The Japanese would have passed from idol to idol with the unintelligent submission of savages, and with a benumbing indifference to principles. But in fact Japan has ever and anon renewed her youth; and to-day one can warm himself at her living fires, kindled from those which grew cold in almost forgotten Chinese dynasties.

Here, then, is the key to the contrast. In China the outbursts of creative effort grew fainter and fainter, until they finally ceased; but in Japan they followed one another with such rapidity that individuality came to ingrain itself into the people as a race characteristic. So strong had this become that it was only half-chilled and checked by two hundred and fifty years of the Tokugawa despotism, which it finally overthrew. Slowly and insidiously, during the last few centuries, China had sunk into the night of unthinking like a huge animal in a quicksand; just as the Greek intelligence sank under the formalism of the Byzantine Empire. But the underlying fact which explains the contradictory elements in the Japanese character of to-day is this: that the old free shoots of individuality, never quite cut away, are sturdily working themselves up through the thin lava crusts of the last two centuries.

We are now in a position to estimate truly the relative values of these resultant traits. It is the extreme of short-sightedness to ascribe the recent changes of the Japanese to a fickleness of disposition and a lightness or weakness of character, as if they were mere children seeking some new toy for momentary amusement; and equally short-sighted to overpraise the solid or solid traits of Chinese persistence and uniformity, as if they were grand, conscientious, and constructive moral qualities. That the mutual trust which comes from reliableness is an essential factor of our strong Western civilizations is doubtless true; and it is natural that it should be especially Englishmen, with their dogged tenacity of purpose and their lack of sympathy with alien institutions, who should most esteem this "staying" quality of the Chinese. By it, no doubt, they are better fitted to become successful business men. But, from a point of view beyond that of the foreigner who would use them as his tools, the incidence in advantage from national temper is on the other side. It is not blind, useless change that the Japanese is prone to, but the free facility to construct and reconstruct under the necessarily everchanging environment. The very scientific idea of life is perpetual power of readaptation; and the highest life is reached when this readaptation implies a synthesis of all the organs and faculties through a free presiding intelligence. Failure to change, through the increasing inertia of the constitution, is the beginning of death, and the mere monotonous repetition of a single function is the nature of an automaton.

The success of Japan in taking up and solving the unprecedented, difficult, and sudden problems of the last thirty years certainly exhibits one of the most extraordinary feats of individuality on record. She is now actually putting into operation a new constitution, granted by the free act of her sovereign, in which his absolute power and prerogative become defined in relation to the other political forces of the nation. Imagine the boldest and most intellectual of the Chinese dreaming even for a second of accomplishing such a feat! The relative immobility of the atoms of the Celestial Empire renders all projects of reform well-nigh utopian. But variability, being the very raw metal out of which civilizations are stamped, is Japan's greatest strength. I go further, and say that it is a national strength, in this sense unique, in the whole recorded history of man. It lies in this: Japan is privileged to change so rapidly that she is able to pass through every phase of a problem in practical experience *within the lifetime of a single individual*. This unique circumstance conserves all the experience of the pre-revolutionary era as a basis for intelligent reconstruction at its end. The very *samurai*, who knew the old Tokugawa system of ideas and government, witnessed the alarming shock of foreign impact; rushed forward to seize the treasures of the Western example lavishly offered; studied face to face the inner significance of European principles of organization; felt the throbs of his own national life, which refused to accept a manufactured civilization, and insisted that native ideals, necessities, and precedents should be taken into account; turned his attention back again to the national and Asiatic point of view, and studied with foreign eyes his

own past life and institutions. This person is now the pilot at the helm, who brings the wealth of his cycle of experiences to solve the conscious problems of self-evolutionary reconstruction. In almost every other historical case of a return to ideas swept away by national convulsions, several generations have elapsed, and the consciousness of the past has had coldly to be reproduced by scholars from written documents. Few men can do more than see and state one side of a question strongly. The Japanese statesman has the perplexity, but the unspeakably valuable opportunity, of seeing all sides of all questions. Let us then pardon the pent-up individuality of these Japanese, if at the moment of relief it carried them to the extreme of extravagant change. It is like the fizzing of a champagne bottle which has just forced out its own cork. But, because it fizzed, did it follow that there was bad wine within? Or, on the other hand, because Chinese customs were apparently strong as steel, did it follow that China could hammer out for herself a newly armoured ship of state? Can a machine clean, oil, and reconstruct itself? The Chinese may be splendid material in the hands of foreigners; but is it strength to have little or no power of self-determination toward rational ends? It is not nobler to be a free, self-controlling Japanese, bravely meeting the unheard-of responsibilities which his deliberate act brings upon him, even though he be recalcitrant and unusable material in the hands of his neighbors? So it is that the very weakness of Japan is her strength, and the strength of China is her weakness.

One more question concerning present Oriental traits remains for me to answer. If it really be that the strength of Japan to-day consists in her having preserved with freshness and vigour the essence of the old Asiatic and lost Chinese ideals, how comes it that she is so willing to masquerade in the custom and costume of antipodal Western races? Does not her very tergiversation prove the inferiority of the Chinese standard to that not of Europe alone, but of Japan also? Is not Professor Chamberlain correct when he says that the Japanese very much resent any praise of their finer and more delicate taste and faculties, and that they are ready to throw these to the winds for a tithe of the wealth and the physical and mechanical vigour which endow England with her supremacy?

Doubtless there are such Japanese as this; the more shame to them! But I believe that I echo the opinion of the majority of the young educated Japanese of to-day when I say that Professor Chamberlain's mistake is most unfortunate, if not offensive. His covert sneer at those who, like, Sir Edwin Arnold, have rendered the Japanese praise is a shaft not aimed in the interests of truth. How then shall I explain the double fact of their earnest adoption of Western practices, and their apparent indifference to Western appreciation of their earlier traits? In this way: first, because Western appreciation of these traits has been hitherto, for the most part, insufferably superficial. We have mistaken the monstrous and the fantastic for the genuine Japanese. We have praised the trivialities of their lightest fancy and the patient skill of their touch rather than their earnestness and their faith, the bold passion of their individuality. We have failed to see the depth of the great social issues which they have at stake. We have travelled in every way the inner harmony of their souls.

But, in the second place, though of more importance, I know that the readiness of the Japanese to undergo their present Western discipline by no means arises from love for the English type of civilization, but is a deliberate sacrifice, a momentary necessity of developing wealth and military strength, in order to preserve their national independence. This was the policy of all the great liberals who inaugurated the present era. Japan's position in the East, in close proximity to China, Korea, Russia, and England (at Hongkong), is extremely precarious. In the event of a war between any two of these nations, she would find it almost impossible to maintain her neutrality. She wants iron ships, and big battalions, and bags of dollars, to hold an even position in any one of these balances. If, in a terrible emergency, she lose the power of self-determination, what will her artistic instincts, or polite amenities, or peaceful harmonic ideals of civilization avail her? Therefore she is willing to make every sacrifice, even to the throwing away for a time of her very ideals and choicest qualities, in order in the end to restore and conserve them. No doubt, of recent years, many leading Japanese have come to perceive that the sacrifice is too great, both because the necessity is not so urgent as supposed, and because the experiment is socially too dangerous. This is shown by the popular opposition to proposed treaties and codes of law, which would probably have strengthened Japan for the moment, but, as was believed, eventually at too high a price.

Moreover, there are many Japanese and not a few foreigners who think now that it will never be possible for Japan to develop herself into a great manufacturing nation like England. The temperament, the training, and the necessary materials are, for the most, lacking. We can pardon the Japanese their quixotic desire to commit intellectual *hara-kiri* rather than be beheaded by an enemy; but that it will be *hara-kiri*, and not any very great strengthening along material lines, seems more and more clear. For the far-seeing are now beginning to recognize that, even in industrial lines, the greatest hope of Japan lies in her very genial and artistic temperament. It is along the way of the development of her indigenous art-industries that she has the greatest natural advantages over competing peoples. In her capacity to design she has stored away an enormous capital, which even the disastrous introduction of a bastard foreign system of pencil-drawing in her public schools has not wholly exhausted. It may be that, at some distant day, China will develop into a fully armed colossus which shall draw the attention of European coalitions to strategic centres far to the east of the Dardanelles and the Neva; but it is much more possible for the perfected arts of Japan, deriving inspiration from carefully nurtured refinement, unworldly ideal, and creative individuality, peacefully to invade the willing markets of the West with her laden "treasure ship of good fortune," and conquer the world by the sword of the spirit.

Thus, I believe that, theoretically and practically, it will be best for Japan to hold fast to her own ideals of Asiatic tradition. It is a solemn service which she owes to humanity. She is the last custodian of the sacred fire. She alone has the unspeakable advantage of seeing the materialistic shams with which Western civilizations delude themselves, while she appropriates their sounder materials to rekindle her flame. In bringing to pass the fusion of Eastern and Western types which, two thousand years after Alexander the Great carried the borders of Greece to India, becomes for a second time possible, and which shall create in both hemispheres a far more rounded civilization than either has ever known, Japan has the inestimable privilege of becoming our most alert pioneer. Through her temperament, her individuality, her deeper insight into the secrets of the East, her ready divining of the powers of the West, and, more than all, through the fact that hers, the spiritual factor of the problem, must hold the master key to its solution, it may be decreed in the secret council chambers of Destiny that on her shores shall be first created that new latter-day type of civilized man which shall prevail throughout the world for the next thousand years.—ERNEST FRANCISCO FENOLLOSA in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

WRECK OF THE "NORTH AMERICAN."

LETTER FROM THE CAPTAIN.

A letter from Captain Creelman has been received in Kobe confirming the news that the *North American* is totally lost, but stating that part of the cargo might be saved if prompt action is taken. Contrary to what has been stated, the underwriters have not as yet dispatched a steamer to the scene of the wreck, but await further news before doing so. At latest advices the wind was blowing very strongly from the south, and it was therefore believed that the chance of anything being saved was very remote. A foreigner who came round the coast from Kocui in a Japanese steamer the day before yesterday, and therefore passed the spot where the disaster occurred, informs us that he saw no signs of the ship, but much floating wreckage, which at the time was thought to be the remains of houses destroyed by the recent floods. He says it is quite possible, however, that the particular point where the vessel is lying was not passed until after night-fall, and as the accident was not known to those on board the steamer no look-out was kept. The sea was running very high and breaking with tremendous force on the reefs along the coast. The letter referred to above from Captain Creelman is dated July 23rd, the name of the locality being described as Otuna, Shiwagi-mura, Mikita-mura, Kaibugouri, Awano-kuni, Tokushima-ken, which seems almost sufficient of itself to wreck the ship. The cook, who is stated by the captain to have lost his life, is a Chinaman, who had sailed with Capt. Creelman for some years. The Captain says:—"The *North American* is a total wreck about a mile from this place. All saved but the cook, who jumped overboard as soon as the ship struck. Typographical errors. Sails all blown away, and

strong current to the N.W. Natives hauled us in on shore on to the rocks in a boatswain's chain and traveller. Saved nothing but underclothing. Blowing hard. If it moderates to-night may save something to-morrow." Captain Creelman further writes:—"A Japanese schooner was lost with all hands only a few hours before us in the same place, and they say here that a great many other vessels are lost on this coast. We have had a very close shave, and it seems almost a miracle that no more were lost." On the next day (the 24th) the Captain again writes:—"Last night ship went all to pieces. Some cargo has come on shore, but in a very bad state, mostly matting, some camphor oil and some porcelain. The Governor of the ken is here, with a force of soldiers saving and guarding the cargo. But I don't think there will be enough saved to pay expenses of salvage. There was no mail yesterday, as the roads were washed out. . . . Everything saved is being taking care of, and nothing taken away. No one here speaks English, and my cabin-boy acts as interpreter, and he does not speak very well. We have to go ten miles over the mountains, and then take sampans ten or fifteen miles to Tokushima to take the steamer. The gale is now over, and the sea going down so that we may be able to take sampans from here to-morrow to Tokushima. The natives are doing all they can for us, but we are a little short of clothes. The most of us are in Japanese rig."—*Kobe Chronicle*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 27.

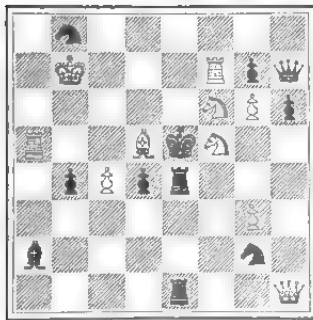
- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1—R to R 5 | 1—R x R ch |
| 2—Kt to Q 5 dis. ch, mate | 1—R elsewhere |
| 2—Q to Kt 5 mate | 1—Kt (B4) moves |
| 2—Kt moves dis. ch. mate | 1—Kt (Kt 8) moves |
| 2—B to B 3 (x Kt) mate | 1—B to Kt 2 |
| 2—Q to Kt 5 mate | |

Correct solution received from O. Balk, Scacchi, W. H. S., J. W. E., J. D., Digamma, Ed. B., and Omega.

Additional correct solution of Problem No. 26 received from J. W. E. (Otaru).

PROBLEM No. 29.
By H. BRISTOW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Game played in the recent match between the "Twin Champions of the West," Messrs. Max Judd, of St. Louis, and Jackson Showalter of Georgetown, Ky., which was won by the latter by 7 to 4. In the previous year Judd defeated Showalter by 7 to 3.

RUY LOPEZ.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Showalter. | Judd. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to Kt 5 | 3—P to Q R 3 |
| 4—B to R 4 | 4—Kt to B 3 |
| 5—Castles. | 5—Kt x P |
| 6—P to Q 4 | 6—P to Q Kt 4 |
| 7—P to Kt 3 | 7—P to Q 4 |
| 8—P x P | 8—Kt to K 2 |
| 9—Kt to Kt 5 | 9—Kt x Kt |
| 10—B x Kt | 10—B to Kt 2 |
| 11—Q to B 3 | 11—Q to Q 2 |
| 12—Kt to B 3 | 12—P to Q B 3 |
| 13—K R to K sq. | 13—Q to K 3 |
| 14—Q R to Q sq. | 14—Q to Kt 3 |
| 15—Q to K 3 | 15—Castles. |

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 16—B to K B 4 | 16—Kt to B 4 |
| 17—Q to Kt 6 | 17—Q to Kt 5 |
| 18—R to Q 3 | 18—B to Kt 5 |
| 19—B to Kt 3 | 19—B x Kt |
| 20—R x B | 20—Kt x B |
| 21—R x P ch!! and wins. | |

The match between Blackburne and Lasker has been won by the young Prussian player with the marvellous score of seven wins and three draws, Mr. Blackburne failing to win a single game.

The *Deutsche Schachzeitung* states that the Berlin Chess Club has decided to promote a match between the two champions of Germany and Russia, Dr. Tarrasch and M. Tschigorin, which is to take place before the meeting of the "Dresdner Kongress." During the preliminary negotiations Dr. Tarrasch declared that he would only play either without any stakes or for a stake of M20,000.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 24th.

It has been suggested that, even should the Marquis of Salisbury be defeated on division, Parliament should merely prorogue till February, Lord Salisbury meanwhile remaining in office.

London, July 26th.

The latest election returns are:—Tories, 262; Unionists, 52; Liberals, 274; Irish, 80. The returns from Orkney are not complete.

The Duke of Devonshire and the Marquis of Abercorn have received Garters.

The Liberal leaders hold their first conference to-day at Mr. Gladstone's house.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, July 6th.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, speaking at Dalkeith, said that if Scotland, after mature reflection, demands Home Rule, it must be obtained, for it is her right, as also is the disestablishment of the Church.

The cholera is reported to be spreading in Russia.

London, July 11th.

The boiler of a tourist steamer on Lake Geneva exploded killing twenty-six persons.

Two thirds of St. Johns, the Capital of Newfoundland has been burned, thousands of persons have been rendered homeless, and the loss is estimated at four millions sterling.

London, July 13th.

Speaking at Penicuik, the Right Hon'ble W. E. Gladstone referred to the opium question, and said that England's action towards China was a disgrace and a shame. He further said that he would gladly assist in ridding the connection of the Indian government revenue with the growth of opium.

A glacier became detached near Mont Blanc and swept Stgervais, a neighbouring hamlet, into the river Arve, causing the loss over 150 lives.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe..... | per N. Y. K. | Friday, Aug. 5th. |
| From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. | | Sunday, July 31st.* |
| From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. | | Sunday, July 31st.† |
| From America, per O. & O. Co. | | Thursday, Aug. 11th.‡ |
| From Europe via Hongkong..... | per M. M. Co. | Friday, Aug. 5th. |
| From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co. | | Sunday, Aug. 7th. |
| From Europe via Hongkong..... | per N. D. Lloyd. | Wed'day, Aug. 10th. |
| From America..... | per P. M. Co. | Saturday, Aug. 20th. |

* *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 18th. † *Ferona* left Hongkong on July 23rd. ‡ *Belgic* left San Francisco on July 26th. † *Tara* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 28th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Galle*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

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|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| For Europe, via Shanghai..... | per M. M. Co. | Sunday, July 31st. |
| For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki..... | per N. Y. K. | Tuesday, Aug. 2nd. |
| For Hongkong..... | per P. & O. Co. | Saturday, Aug. 6th. |
| For America, &c. per C. P. M. Co. | | Sunday, Aug. 7th. |
| For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. | | Monday, Aug. 8th. |
| For Europe, via Hongkong..... | per N. D. Lloyd. | Friday, Aug. 12th. |
| For America..... | per P. M. Co. | Tuesday, Aug. 30th. |

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

- China*, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 23rd July.—San Francisco 9th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
- Phra Chow Kiao*, British steamer, 1,011, J. Fowler, 24th July.—Hongkong 15th July, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
- Yokohama Maru*, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 25th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- City of Rio de Janeiro*, American steamer, 2,246, J. M. Cavarly, 25th July.—Hongkong 19th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
- Macduff*, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 28th July.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Cartill & Co.
- Oceana*, German steamer, 1,628, J. Belirens, 28th July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
- Miike Maru*, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 28th July.—Otaru and ports 24th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Cardiganshire*, British steamer, 1,657, Parsons, 29th July.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
- Evesham Abbey*, British ship, 1,613, F. H. Crotty, 29th July.—New York 13th April, 61,500 cases Oil.—Smith, Baker & Co.
- Saikio Maru*, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 29th July.—Shanghai and ports 23rd July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- R. Morrow*, British bark, 1,156, McDougall, 29th July.—New York 24th March, 43,000 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

- Guy Mannering*, British steamer, 1,828, D. Ford, 24th July.—New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
- China*, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 25th July.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
- Fingal*, British ship, 2,510, J. F. Fulmore, 26th July.—Vancouver, B.C., 5,000 tons Tea.—Frazar & Co.
- Kintuck*, British steamer, 2,312, W. S. Thomson, 27th July.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
- Phra Chow Kiao*, British steamer, 1,011, J. Fowler, 27th July.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar and General.—Butterfield & Swire.
- Wakanoura Maru*, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 27th July.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- Yokohama Maru*, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 27th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
- City of Rio de Janeiro*, American steamer, 2,246, J. M. Cavarly, 28th July.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Miss Lanterbach, Mr. A. Lanterbach, Mr. Furukawa, Miss May Lee, Mrs. Mendelson and infant, Mr. Mendelson, Miss Mendelson, Miss B. Mendelson, Captain B. Luedholm, Dr. Hopendyl, Mrs. A. H. Kellogg, Master Earl Scott, Lieut.-Commander J. M. Miller, U.S.N., Mr. J. B. Livingstone, and Mr. L. B. Hillers in cabin. For Hongkong: Messrs. G. E. Miller, R. Thompson, and W. H. Seabury in cabin.
- Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss Mary E. Laning, Miss F. A. Gardiner, Miss L. E. Wimbish, Rev. and Mrs. R. B. Gimran and 2 children, Commander Yoshida, Major Kawakawa, Lieut. Ide, Rev. D. M. Lang, Mr. Obana, and Mr. J. Kaneko in cabin; Mrs. Kawakami and child, Mr. G. Rheese, and Mr. Ishisaka in second class, and 21 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. Nugent, Miss H. Asan, Mr. Loo Chee Jong and son, and Mrs. Orme in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. K. P. Lee in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Rev. Booth, Mr. S. Thorne, Rev. and Mrs. Fuller and 3 children, and Mr. S. Hinata in cabin; 10 passengers in steerage. For Kobe: 2 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Commander and Mrs. Bartlett, Misses Bartlett (2), Commander and Mrs. F. W. Dickens, Commander F. McCurley, Mr. and Mrs. O. Mordhorst, Miss Beeliefield, Mr. P. H. McIntosh, Rev. and Mrs. O. E. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. M. Haight, Major-General Palmer, Rev. J. W. Demalce, Messrs. Ward, S. Yushiki, S. Ogawa, P. Staffa, and H. Marcus in cabin; Mr. and Mrs.

Kitadai, Messrs. K. Muraki, K. Noguchi, Mac-Millan, K. Noguchi, and Wong Tsou Ding in second class, and 59 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. F. L. Polts and infant, and Rev. Young J. Allen in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. J. B. Glover, Mr. M. R. Ogilvie, and Mr. J. B. Livingstone in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp, Mrs. Kawachi and 3 children, Miss Forbes, and Mr. Meit in cabin; one Japanese Lady and Mr. Yamada in second class. For Nagasaki: Mr. W. H. Devine in cabin. For Shanghai: Lieut.-Commander Miller, U.S.N., Messrs. B. Lindholm, M. Muramatsu, K. Toshima, M. Yamamoto, and S. Tanaka in cabin. For Shimonoeki: Mr. T. Sogo in second class; and 71 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Miss Georgia Cayvan, Mrs. Edur Eddy, Miss Alice Cayvan, Miss Stockbridge, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Low, Miss M. A. Crozier, Mr. E. Kwant, Mr. T. Blohm, Miss K. Southard, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill and 3 sons, Mrs. Fitzhugh, Mr. F. F. Simpson, Mr. E. Clifton Brown, Mr. K. Kato, and Mr. H. Berner in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,000.00.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,106	—	703	1,809
Hankow	316	—	—	316
Hyogo	184	959	944	2,087
Yokohama	4,593	769	1,505	6,867
Hongkong	270	—	—	270
Calcutta	37	—	—	37
Amoy	1,366	1,314	2,267	4,947
Batavia	12	—	—	12
Poochow	—	—	325	325
Total	7,841	3,042	5,744	16,627

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	25	—	25
Hongkong	—	415	—	415
Yokohama	—	640	—	640
Total	—	1,080	—	1,080

REPORTS.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 9th July; had moderate S.W. winds and dense fog most of the passage; last 40 hours, fresh gale from S.W. to S.S.E. with very heavy swell; at 5.20 a.m. on the 13th met *City of Peking*; at 12.20 a.m. on the 21st passed a steamer bound west. Passage, 13 days and 18 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 15th July at 3.40 p.m.; had fine weather to Nagasaki, where arrived the 17th at 7.20 a.m. and left at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoeki the 18th at 6.20 a.m. and left at 11 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 19th at 8.50 a.m. and left the 21st at noon; the 22nd a.m. stood into Owari Bay and anchored. A hard easterly gale blew, with overcast rain; proceeded on voyage at 8 a.m. on the 24th, moderate easterly wind with rain. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th July at 5.30 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Cavarly, reports:—Left Hongkong the 19th July at 4.34 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 25th July at 1.22 p.m. Passage, 5 days, 19 hours, and 4 minutes. From Hongkong and throughout the Eastern Sea had strong N.E. winds and head sea with low barometer. On the Japan Coast overcast weather, detained off Rock Island four hours by dense fog.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 23rd July at 10.10 a.m.; had moderate N.E. winds and fine weather to the Goto; thence to Nagasaki, light easterly winds with heavy southerly swell. Arriving at Nagasaki the 25th at 4.15 a.m. and left the same day at 5.20 p.m.; had light easterly with heavy southerly swell to Takashima; thence to Shimonoeki, moderately fresh E.S.E. swell and dull cloudy weather. Arriving at Shimonoeki the 26th at 5.37 a.m. and left the same day at 11.25 a.m.; had moderate variable winds and showery weather to Northern Passage; thence to Kobe, moderate easterly wind and fair weather. Arriving at Kobe the 27th at 7.35 a.m. and left the 28th at noon; had strong S.S.W. winds to Oshima; moderate S.W. winds with heavy rain throughout the night; from Rock Island to port, moderate S.W. winds and fine weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 29th July at 3.25 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The volume of business for the week is again rather small, and with the exception of glb. Shirts which have continued in demand, the sales reported have been unimportant of Cotton Goods, and of Woollens nil, though enquiries have been afloat touching goods to arrive. There has been very little done in Yarns of any description. Prices are for the most part steady and holders generally are firmer since Sterling Exchange has declined to 2/10½ for Bank on demand. The recent storms are reported to have done considerable damage to the growing crops in certain districts, and caused a rise in the value of Rice. Sales for the week comprise 100 bales English Yarn, 25 bales Bombay, 11,250 pieces glb. Shirts, 2,500 pieces 7lb. T. Cloth, 650 pieces Washed Shirts, 150 pieces White Shirts, 1,000 pieces Dyed Shirts, 1,150 pieces Prints, 3,000 dozen Handkerchiefs, 750 pieces Turkey Reds, 450 pieces Velvets, and 1,600 pieces Victoria Lawns.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirts—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirts—8 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.50
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirts—12 yards, 44 inches	1.30 to 1.55
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	0.13 to 0.15
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.50 to 0.60
Taffeta—12 yards, 45 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENIS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heel	0.25 to 0.28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.21 to 0.24
Medium	0.21 to 0.24
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Common	0.18 to 0.20
Monsieur de laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.47 to 0.52
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Hankies—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 11 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.47

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
Nos. 32, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
Nos. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
Nos. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
Nos. 104, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	60.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Generally speaking there is no life in the trade, transactions being of a retail nature. Wire Nails have been dealt in principally, but with no improvement in prices.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nails, assorted	Nom.
Nails, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Flat Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Nothing new to report. A fair business continues at unchanged rates.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER PICUL.
Chester	— to 1.60
Comet	1.52 to 1.60
Devon	1.52 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52

SUGAR.

Market for Browns being very dull, prices have receded a little. Arrivals are not large, but sales have been few. Whites, on the contrary, show an improvement, prices obtained in some cases being even better than quotations given below.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Taka	\$4.10 to 4.20
Brown Daiton	3.20 to 3.30
Brown 1st cut	3.40 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 22nd instant, since which date settlements on this market are 811 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 28 piculs; *Pilates*, 420 piculs; *Re-reels*, 242 piculs; *Kakeda*, 91 piculs; *Oshu*, 30 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 135 bales, bringing the total business of the week up to 950 piculs.

Prices have not fluctuated very much, the amount of business done keeping them firm at full rates, and in some cases sellers have been able to get a slight advance. Reports from foreign markets, however, do not seem particularly good, and some buyers look for slightly lower prices in the near future.

During the coming month, we should see some very good quality, for this is the time of the year when the cream of the crop should put in an appearance.

Exchange has fluctuated somewhat, moving up and down in sympathy with the daily news from London silver market, but closes at about last week's rates. The position of this factor causes silk to lay down at favorable rates in the consuming market, although our dollar quotations are so much higher than they were last year.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote; the English mail *Ancona* on the 23rd instant carried 258 bales for Europe, and the American mail *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which left port yesterday, took 640 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the present export figures up to 2,531 piculs, against 2,807 piculs last year and 1,463 piculs to the same date in the previous season.

Hanks.—Trade in these has fallen off a bit, sellers being rather too pretensions in their ideas. One parcel ordinary *Maibashi* was settled a few days ago at \$500, and some further parcels of *Huckaji* have been taken at \$472½. Beyond this nothing has been done, and the trade in old staple appears to have ceased for the present. No arrivals from *Shinshu* province as yet.

Filatures.—Fully one half the business of the week has been in this class, European buyers being the chief operators and taking, in some instances, full-sized silks such as are usually reserved for the American manufacturers. In fine sizes \$720 has again been freely paid for good silk, 10/12 deniers. Other qualities in *Mino*, *Bushu*, and *Kashu* sorts have brought from \$700 to \$650, according to grade. In full sizes suitable for America, business has continued to a good extent at last week's rates, several parcels of *Takosha* finding buyers at \$670, while \$680 is freely paid for anything approaching first quality.

Re-reels.—Our market has been lightened by one or two large buyers of medium grades, at \$617½ per picul; best marks are very strongly held, one parcel *Tengensha* being reported sold at \$650.

Kakeda.—About 100 bales have been settled, principally for Europe, at unchanged rates. Some few parcels, reported mixed in size, have been sold at a reduction, but for anything well up in grade, full prices must be paid.

Oshu.—Some few arrivals of new *Hamatsuki* are supposed to be here, and one sale of decent quality is entered at \$505, with some common quality at \$460.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

<i>Hanks</i> —No. 16	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 2 (Joshu)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (Joshu)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 to 3	\$490 to 500
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 3	475 to 485
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 34	460 to 470
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 10/12 deniers	—
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 13/15 deniers	—
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 10/12 deniers	710 to 720
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	680 to 690
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den	660 to 670
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 10/15 deniers	670 to 680
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 660
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	620 to 630
<i>Re-reels</i> —Extra	—
<i>Re-reels</i> —(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	650 to 660
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	630 to 640
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 620
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 605
<i>Kakedas</i> —Extra	580 to 590
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 1	640 to 645
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 14	620 to 630
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 2	600 to 610
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 24	580 to 590
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 3	560 to 570
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 34	—
<i>Oshu</i> —Sendai—No. 24	—
<i>Hamatsuki</i> —No. 1, 2	480 to 500
<i>Hamatsuki</i> —No. 3, 4	460 to 470
<i>Sodai</i> —No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 29th July, 1892:—

	Season 1890-1891	1891-92	1892-93
Europe	1,122	685	299
America	1,347	2,031	1,106
Total	2,469	2,717	1,405
	Piculs	2,531	2,807

	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July }	2,950	3,050	1,300
Stock, 29th July	2,750	3,400	5,300
Available supplies to date	5,700	6,450	6,600

WASTE SILK.

The market has been quiet the last few days, and the business done was at the beginning of the week. Settlements are reported to be 211 piculs, divided thus: *Noshi*, 107 piculs; *Kibiso*, 10 piculs; *Boseki-wata*, 34 piculs. In addition to these figures, the Japanese Kaisha have shipped 25 bales for Europe, making the total business for the week about 300 piculs.

There has only been one shipping opportunity during the interval, the English mail steamer *Ancona* taking 115 bales for European points. This brings the present export up to 1,082 piculs, against 115 piculs last year and 630 piculs to the same date in the previous season.

Pierced Cocoons.—These are beginning to arrive, but do not so far pan out very well. It is probable that during the coming month we may receive some better samples containing more silk and less chrysalis. Holders ask \$102½ for *Shinshu* cocoons, 75% yield, but this seems dear when compared with prices of other Waste, and buyers are not tempted to operate.

Noshi.—About 100 piculs of new *Foshu* were settled a week ago at \$64 per picul for ordinary assortment. Since this nothing has been done. A few parcels of *Oshu*, old crop, common quality, have passed the scales at from \$40 to \$60.

Kibiso.—A few more sample lots have been taken at prices ranging from \$84 to \$92.

Sundries.—The only business is another parcel *Boseki-wata*, for which the price is reported at \$24 per picul.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	\$110 to 110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Buslu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Ordinary	\$60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90 to 95
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Midding to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 29th July, 1892:—

	SEASON 1891-92.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	1,082	115	630
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	1,082	115	630
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July }	500	60	300
Stock, 29th July	5,000	3,400	6,400
Available supplies to date	5,500	3,900	6,700

Exchange has fluctuated from day to day as cable-news of the London silver-market have come to hand. Present quotations are:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11½; New York, 30d/s. U.S. 70½; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.69; 6m/s. fcs. 3.73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 29th July, 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	210	Cocoons	310
Filatures	1,030	Noshi-ito	2,550
Re-reels	1,140	Kibiso	1,980
Kakeda	215	Mawata	55
Jenu	155	Sundries	105
Tayssam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	2,750	Total piculs	3,000

TEA.

Quotations are up \$1 to \$2 all round, owing to the scarcity of the finer grades. Market has remained fairly active at the advance. Total settlements of the season to date amount to 177,000 piculs against 193,000 piculs at the corresponding date last year. Exports to date amount to about 17,900,000lb. against 16,500,000lb. for the corresponding period in 1891-92.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$12 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange remains very low, and there have been slight fluctuations during the week.

Steding—Bank Bills on demand	2/10
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/10
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	3.59
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.68
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 % dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2 1/2 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69 1/2
On America—Private 30 days' sight	70 1/2
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71 1/2
Silver	39 1/2

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FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day.
Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

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FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
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HARMLESS TO ANIMALS,
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but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCK-ROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS in FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that packages of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Tins and Bottles only.

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THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:
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17.

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PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. Cooper, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
May 1st, 1890.

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"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
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We build Steam Launches of every description, from the smallest size suitable for carrying on yachts of 40 tons and upwards. We also build small light Draft Paddle Boats, Tugs, Stern Wheel Paddle Steamers, and Boats in Frames, &c., &c. We supply sets of Machinery separately. We are also sole makers of the

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 6TH, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
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[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 6TH, 1892.

DEATH.

On the 5th instant, at Singapore General Hospital of Peritonitis, aged 14 years, MELLIE, elder daughter of William and Ellen Sophia Barrie.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT MATSUKATA has been decorated by the Queen of Hawaii with the First Class Order of Kalakaua.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Kanin left the capital on the 22nd inst. for Hakone.

REPORTS received from the districts visited by the recent typhoon show that total of damage to life and property is very heavy.

THE re-organization of the Cabinet has not yet been effected, but conferences for the purpose are held daily by the Camera statesmen.

THE loss to the Sanyo Railway Company in consequence of the damage caused by the great inundations is estimated at yen 20,000.

DR. TAKAGI KANEHIRO and Mr. Nishimura Ryokichi were nominated by the Emperor as members of the House of Peers on the 2nd inst.

THE dividend of the Tokyo Cotton Spinning Company for the first half of this year has been declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE and PRINCESS KITASHIRAKAWA who were absent from Tokyo in the country, returned to the capital on the 31st ult.

THE following changes were effected in the time table of the Tokaido Railway on the 29th ult.:—The up-train which leaves Kobe at 12 noon, will pass Ogaki at 6.33 p.m. Gifu at 7

p.m., and Toyohashi at 10.31 p.m.; and the down-train which leaves Shinbashi at 6 a.m. will pass Ichinomiya at 6.37 p.m., and Kisogawa at 6.47 p.m.

MR. KAWASAKI KINSABURO has been elected President of the Kawasaki Bank, Nihombashi, Tokyo, in succession to Mr. Kawasaki Hachiyemon who resigned.

THE returns of the postal savings banks for June last were:—deposits, 193,853; amount deposited, yen 980,903; withdrawals, 30,592; amount withdrawn, yen 868,028.

H.E. WM. DE LANESSAN, Governor-General of Indo-China, accompanied by the French *Chargé d'Affaires*, Vicomte Labry, were admitted to an Imperial audience on the 1st inst. at 10 a.m.

THE tobacco crop in Kagoshima and Mito have been greatly damaged by the incessant rains of the past few days and it is said that the harvest will be reduced to half the ordinary gathering.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO left the capital on the 30th ult. for Ozushi, where he intends to stay for about two weeks. Princess Iwakura proceeded to Kamakura the same day.

THE sudden death of Mr. Hara Tanzan, a distinguished scholar in the Buddhist circle, is announced to have taken place in the capital on the 27th ult. at 4 p.m. at the ripe age of 74 years.

EARLY on the morning of the 22nd ult. a fire broke out at Yeguniori-mura, Akika-gun Shimane Prefecture, and before the flames could be subdued 12 houses and 25 out-houses were destroyed.

SOME 136 students of the Nobles' School for Boys left the capital on Friday morning for Kamakura for sea-bathing during the summer vacation. Prince Iwakura, President of the school, accompanied them.

DURING the past 35 days the exhibition of valuable antiquities, now being held at Kamakura, was visited by 12,000 persons, of whom 136 were Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 5 Koreans, the remainder being Japanese.

THE inundations in Tokushima and elsewhere having created an idea that the crop will be short, there has been some wild speculation in the Tokyo Exchange, and the Exchange had to be suspended on the 3rd instant.

VICE-ADMIRAL ITO, Vice Minister for the Navy and Rear-Admiral Ito, Director of the Bureau of Personnel in the Naval Department, returned to the capital on Sunday from the Naval Academy at Etajima, Hiroshima.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE proceeded to Kamakura on the 1st inst., leaving Shinbashi by the 8 a.m. train. Several officials of the Imperial Household and a number of scholars of the Nobles' School for Boys accompanied him to the station.

THE net profits of the Fuji Paper Mills during the past half-year were yen 16,200; of which yen 3,300 was deducted for the reserve fund, yen 12,500 being distributed as a dividend among the shareholders at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

THE following are the returns of the number and value of postal money orders issued in June last:—Ordinary and small money orders, 220,953 (valued at yen 1,750,186); telegraphic money orders, 4,427 (valued at yen 67,006); total 225,380 orders (valued at yen 1,817,192).

THE values of goods, consisting of muslins, yarns, piece-goods, sugar, kerosene, iron, etc.,

purchased by Japanese merchants in Yokohama during last month amounted to \$1,245,976, and the values of raw silk, waste silk, and tea sold to foreign firms were \$2,539,721, showing an excess of \$1,293,745 in sales.

THE presentation of diplomas to some fifty-two graduates of the Naval Academy at Etajima, Hiroshima Prefecture, took place on the 26th ult. Amongst the distinguished guests present were Vice-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister for the Navy; Vice-Admiral Nakamura, Commander of the Kure Admiralty Station; and a large number of officers of the Fifth Army Division and the Hiroshima Prefectural Government.

THE graduation ceremony of the institution of Sericulturists at Nishigahara, Oji, Tokyo, took place on the 30th ult., the certificates being distributed by Mr. Nishimura, Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, who also delivered an address. Afterwards Viscount Sano Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, spoke, and was replied to by Mr. Machida Takezo, on behalf of all the other graduates. Messrs. Uchida, a Private Secretary of the Minister, Seto, a secretary and Oka, Sawano, and Nerigi, engineers of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, were also present.

THE half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Yokohama Union Electric Light Company was held on the 28th ult., the chair being occupied by Mr. Tanuma Tayemon, Vice-President of the Company. The receipts during the past half-year amounted to yen 1,014,948, to which yen 886,473, brought over from last account, were added, making a total of yen 11,891,421. The expenditure was yen 13,736,302, the Company has therefore lost yen 1,834,881 on the half-year. The chief officers tendered their resignations, and the election of their successors will take place at a special general meeting to be held on the 11th inst.

A BETTER feeling is said to be evident in the Import trade as regards Manchester goods for Autumn consumption, though dealers are somewhat slow in making up their minds to the inevitable advance consequent upon small stocks and the condition of exchange. Some buyers, however, are equal to the occasion, and have taken 36,000 pieces Indigo Shirtings at a smart rise, while Heavy and Washed Shirtings have also been sold at an advance, and a variety of Fancy Cottons have been enquired after and improved offers are made. Woollens have not been dealt in largely, but the drawback to more extensive transactions seems largely due to the attitude of holders. Yarns are quiet, but steady and firm. The Metal trade continues small, though enquiries are made in view of future deals, the principal item in demand being Wire Nails. The Kerosene trade is also quiet, though prices are fully maintained, notwithstanding the fact that buyers remain so far in the background as they can consistently with keeping up the supply in the interior. A fair amount of business all round in Sugar, Browns being a little dearer, while Whites are firm and steady. Business in Silk is good, prices high, and purchases are nearly 1,300 piculs. Competition amongst buyers keeps up the rates demanded, and induces holders to try for a further rise. Only small transactions in Waste Silk, but stock rolls in and is rapidly increasing. No change in Tea. Buying continues on a fair scale, and shipping accordingly, settlements now nearly reaching those of last season at same date. Small fluctuations continue in exchange, the rate this day being down to 29. rod, silver 38½, the lowest on record.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE FUTURE OF RAILWAY STOCK.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* has a thoughtful article on the above subject, of which we give the gist. A rise in the price of shares of all kinds has recently taken place. This is no doubt partly the result of the undue depreciation of stock which prevailed during the past few years, the depreciation being a reaction from the Joint-stock Company fever that preceded it. But there is another cause for the upward tendency, which we now proceed to indicate. The price of all kinds of stock is no doubt at present regulated by the price of land and by the price of Government Stock. The average interest yielded by investments in shares in this country does not exceed 4 per cent. This applies to railway as well as Government Stock. It is true that we read of dividends of 10 per cent. being declared, but this implies that the price of shares is correspondingly high and hence the actual profit to be derived by any one desiring to purchase shares is unaltered. The interest realised by investments in land does not average over 4 per cent. The reason why so many Japanese prefer this form of investment is an old tradition that it is a duty to ancestors to retain the land bequeathed, and if possible to add to its extent. Land in Japan is exposed to the devastations of earthquakes and floods, and the crops which it yields depend on numerous uncertain factors. The extreme poverty of the tillers of the soil, to whom land is rented, is another drawback. Notwithstanding all this the mass of Japanese still regard land as the best form of investment. Next to land, Government Stock is recommended, as not subject to the influences which cause fluctuations in the value of ordinary shares. But there is no knowing when some great change in the political world or the development of commerce and the introduction of foreign capital may result in the depreciation of Government Stock by 50 per cent. Instances of this having taken place in other parts of the world are numerous. In our opinion railway stock, as a permanent investment, is far preferable to Government Bonds. Whatever may happen, trains will be kept running. Events that ruin other enterprises are sources of wealth to railway companies. War and famine impoverish States, but they enrich railway shareholders. The reverses which it is possible for this line of business to encounter are trifling compared with the steady profits which it yields. The trouble and expense of maintaining lines in a state of efficiency are slight, compared with the task of preserving the national independence and commercial credit, on which the value of Government Stock depends. There are signs that investors generally are beginning to realise the truth that there is no safer form of investment than railway bonds, and that hence the appreciation in value which this class of stock has undergone is connected with a healthy movement in the business world. If this be so, it speaks well for the future of railways in Japan. The movement, concludes the *Yiji*, has not yet assumed large proportions, but its existence is unmistakable.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT IN THE SANITARY CONDITION OF SHIMONOSEKI AND OF VARIOUS TOWNS IN KUSHU.

THE sanitary condition of Shimonoseki is far from being what it ought to be. Both drainage and water supply are very imperfect. A complete modern drainage system for the town was designed early this year at the College of Engineering, Imperial University, and it is proposed to begin the work next year. This will be the first example of sewerage on the "separate," or small pipe, system in Japan, and the result of carrying it out will be watched with special interest, as the conditions of the working of a sewerage system in Japan are obviously very considerably different from those of a Western town sewerage system. The difference is due to the disposal of a part of the sewerage on the rice-fields by hand, and to the facts that there are no sunk storeys in Japanese towns, that the fall and rise of tide is comparatively slight, and so forth.

The question of water-supply for Shimonoseki is more difficult than that of sewerage, the nearest really good source of supply appearing to be about 10 miles from the town and an impounding reservoir being necessary. The problem of a water supply for the new town growing up at Moji, on the other side of the Strait, has also come up for consideration, but appears to present no particular difficulty, as there is plenty of water flowing from the hills immediately behind the town. The case of Omuta in Fukuoka Ken is particularly interesting. On account of the fact that the coal from the Miike mine is all loaded on junks there which, in their turn, discharge it on board ships for Hongkong and Shanghai, there is nearly direct communication between these two last mentioned places and Omuta, and for years past cholera has regularly broken out in Omuta, particularly early this year. The sanitary condition of Omuta is such that every opportunity for the spread of the disease through the town is afforded, and from the town it is liable to be carried by the railway in two directions. It will thus be seen that the improvement of the condition of Omuta may be said to be of national rather than merely local importance. The insanitary condition of this town rises chiefly from its extreme lowness. A great part of it is built on ground that has been reclaimed by constructing sea walls without any filling in, and is considerably below high water level. The sewage lodges in these low parts of the town and is actually used, more or less diluted with rain that may fall, for all domestic purposes except actual drinking! The state of affairs may be imagined. There will be considerable difficulty in designing a sewerage system for Omuta, but it is hoped the difficulty may be overcome, although probably not without resort to pumping. Fortunately a supply of water that is good and likely to be plentiful is to be had by boring Artesian wells. A sewerage system designed for Hakata, also in Fukuoka Ken, some three years ago, is likely to be carried out within the next year or two. Modern sewerage systems have been designed for Kurume and other towns in Fukuoka Ken, but we do not hear of any immediate prospect of their being carried out.

THE BOMBS SENT TO COUNT OKUMA AND MR. KONO.

FURTHER particulars are published about the sending of bombs to Count Okuma and Mr. Kono, but no light is yet thrown upon the perpetrators of the outrage. In Count Okuma's case, the messenger bearing the box with the bomb arrived at 10.50 p.m., and handed in the parcel, saying that he had been desired to wait for an answer. The box was wrapped in white calico. It was 8½ inches long by 3½ inches wide and 3 inches deep, and presented the appearance of an ordinary *fumi-bako*, such as are used in Japan to carry letters. The superscription, written on paper pasted on the lid, was *Okuma Shigenobu dono mitsuyo shinten*, the last four characters signifying, "private business; to be opened by himself." The bearer announced himself as the messenger of Mr. Yano Fumio, a close friend of Count Okuma, and now an official of the Bureau of Imperial Private Records. The servant who received the box observed that the address was not in Mr. Yano's hand-writing, and thinking the matter somewhat strange, proceeded to examine the box more carefully. He drew out the lid, but found that it could be opened only about two-thirds, some obstacle presenting itself. Peering inside, he saw a tin cylinder, and being now more than ever suspicious, he left the box where it was and reported the matter to Count Okuma. The Count directed that inquiries should be made of Mr. Yano by telephone whether he had sent such a box. The answer was in the negative. Close queries were then addressed to the bearer of the box, and from him it was learned that, being a *jinrikisha* drawer, he had been waiting for a fare at the Yotsuya Gate when a man, dressed like a student and appearing to be 25 or 26 years old, accosted him, explaining that he was the bearer of a letter from Mr. Yano

Fumio to Count Okuma, but that he felt unable to proceed, being threatened with a return of an old malady, *kakke*. The *jinrikisha* drawer suggested that, if such were the case, the messenger had better ride the rest of the way, but the other replied that it would suffice if the letter was safely delivered. He therefore asked the *jinrikisha* coolie to carry it, and gave him 16 *sen* for his trouble, saying that he himself should wait at Yotsuya until the coolie brought a receipt for the letter. Beyond this, the man knew nothing. Information was then sent to the police, who came and took the coolie into custody, proceeding with him to Yotsuya, where the letter had been entrusted to him. There the constables learned that two youths had loitered about for some thirty minutes after the departure of the coolie, one of them being a stalwart person of about 27 or 28, the other a pallid, weak-looking man apparently a little younger. Meanwhile steps were taken to examine the letter-box. On removing the lid, it was found that, attached to the latter, were three strings, communicating with as many pins, horizontally arranged opposite three holes in one end of the tin cylinder. The intention of the designer had been that when the lid was drawn open, the tension on the strings should drive the three pins into the holes in the metal cylinder, where, coming into contact with a fulminant, they would cause an explosion. But the mechanism was obviously faulty in that it required the transfer of motion from one plane to another by means of an agent possessing no rigidity of direction. Just such an accident occurred as might have been anticipated under the circumstances. The horizontal pins, instead of entering the holes in the cylinder were dragged out of position, and served only to jam the lid. Within the cylinder was a quantity of violently explosive substance, but as to its precise nature nothing is published. The fact that a very small portion, when struck between two hard surfaces, exploded with a loud detonation, seems to point to nitro-glycerine. The box was a skilful piece of joinery, evidently the work of an expert; and was covered with vermilion lacquer (*shunuri*) of excellent quality.

In some respects the incident at the residence of Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Home Affairs, closely resembled that at Count Okuma's. The time, however, was more than an hour earlier, being about 9.30 p.m. The box in this case professed to come from Mr. Ito Miyoji, chief Secretary of the Privy Council. It was addressed in the same hand-writing as that in the superscription of the other box, and in all respects the similarity was exact, the words *mitsuyo shinten* being added in both cases. The box was immediately carried to the Minister, who proceeded to open it without suspicion, but again the lid jammed, and Mr. Kono prized it open. On seeing the cylinder inside, the Minister's first impression was that a wrong box had been sent by mistake. He was about to return it when the advisability of telephoning to Mr. Ito suggested itself, the result being that the messenger was arrested. He had been waiting quietly in the vestibule, and when questioned he explained that he had received the box from an old woman who kept a bird shop. The latter made no difficulty about admitting her share in the transaction. She said that a youth had come to her shop, calling himself a student in Mr. Ito's office, and explaining that, as the messenger usually employed was absent, he desired to have a substitute engaged by the old woman to carry the letter to Mr. Kono. The woman, being in the habit of performing commissions sent from the Chief Secretary, lost no time in doing what she was told.

There is a strong probability that the miscreants who planned this affair will be arrested. The police have three clues to guide them: first, the letter boxes, both of which are of new manufacture and evidently the work of a professional joiner; secondly, the vermilion lacquer covering the boxes, which must necessarily have been made by a lacquer expert, and being of

good quality, will probably be identified without great difficulty; thirdly, the handwriting of the superscriptions, which is the same in both cases, and shows no signs of disguise. Strong hopes are expressed that with these aids an arrest will be made ere long.

The attempt is evidently directed altogether against the *Kaishin-to*. Count Okuma is the leader of that Party, and Mr. Kono was formerly its Vice-President. No connection now exists, we believe, between the new Minister for Home Affairs and the *Kaishin-to*, but undoubtedly a section of the public does not think that the old relation has been entirely severed. The *Kaishin-to* at present stand in the very forefront of the Opposition. It is they who planned and gave backbone to the campaign against the Government in the last two sessions of the Diet. But it is not to be supposed that a mere attitude of implacable hostility to those in power would provoke such an attempt as that of last Thursday. The reason why the *Kaishin-to* are regarded with dislike and distrust by not a few Japanese is that they are considered to be the advocates of a political programme which would deprive the Emperor of much of the power retained by His Majesty under the Constitution, and would reconstruct Japanese institutions precisely on the models of a foreign country. Against that prospect some Japanese Conservatives doubtless rebel. Conservatism has been responsible for all the serious outrages committed in Japan during the last quarter of a century. They were Conservatives that cut down foreigners in the old days; it was a Conservative that stabbed Viscount Mori; a Conservative that attempted the life of Count Itagaki; a conservative that threw the bomb at Count Okuma. We have very little doubt that this last outrage also was planned and carried out by Conservatives, who imagine that they have a divine mission to check headlong innovation. The Radicals use *soshi* and are fond of clubs and even sword-canes; but the Conservative fanatic shows a degree of deadly earnestness which not only makes him much more dangerous, but also argues the greater strength of his convictions. Happily human ingenuity is seldom equal to the demands of human vindictiveness. If men could carry out their evil designs as readily as they conceive them, the world would be much harder to live in than it is. But some practical detail generally goes wrong. In the West men are so fond of their lives that they place their own escape among the first essentials of every deadly undertaking, and the result is that some vital element of coolness or deliberation is wanting at the supreme moment. This saving clause is less effectual in Japan, where fanatics are always ready to die in the successful prosecution of any deed of blood. But in Japan, on the other hand, there is as yet less mechanical ingenuity in the manipulation of explosives than in Europe. What problem could be easier to work out than that of exploding a charge of dynamite or nitroglycerine in a box by means of the power developed in pulling open the lid? Nevertheless, these Japanese assassins failed to work out the problem. Their device was so clumsy that, although all the circumstances contemplated by them were fulfilled, so far as the handling of the boxes was concerned, an explosion did not occur in either case.

VISCOUNT YENOMOTO'S EMIGRATION SCHEMES. The emigration projects of Viscount Yenomoto have often received brief notice from the vernacular press. The *Kokkai* now asserts that the Minister's principal objective points are Mexico and the Philippines, and that the information gradually collected with reference to these two places indicates them as satisfactory for the contemplated purpose. It is consequently expected that estimates to meet the expense of active measures will now be prepared, and included in the Budget for the approaching fiscal year. The Tokyo journals write upon this subject in a very indifferent strain, not recognising, apparently, that emigration is one of the only practicable safety-valves for the nation's feverish

state, and that Viscount Yenomoto's conception is dictated by genuine statesmanship. Could the time be thrust back two or three centuries to the era when lands suitable for the founding of new kingdoms and nations were still obtainable by a slight exercise of strength and daring, Japan's political fever might find a speedy medicine. But even now there are still fields for resolute enterprise, and Viscount Yenomoto's programme, if followed steadily, may prove of immense value.

MAGAZINE RIFLES FOR THE JAPANESE ARMY.

THE Supplementary Budget for the present fiscal year contains an appropriation for the manufacture of magazine rifles. The number of these to be manufactured is twenty-seven thousand, and the work is to be spread over five years. We read in the *Kokkai* that the cost of these rifles, when first made in Japan, was about twenty *yen* each, but that, owing to the gradual adoption of more economical methods, they are now manufactured for 16.20, which is certainly a very reasonable figure. During the current year about half a million *yen* will be expended for this purpose, says the *Kokkai*, but as half a million *yen* would suffice for the manufacture of some three thousand rifles only at the price named, it is evident that greater expedition will have to be employed if twenty-seven thousand are to be finished in five years. Another undertaking provided for in the estimates is the production of gun-cotton. A factory for that purpose has first to be built, and the *Kokkai* says that not until 1894 will the actual work of manufacture commence.

AN OLD VIKING WAR-VESSEL.

ABOUT twelve years ago, says an American exchange, the viking ship of Gogotod was exhumed from a mound near the little seaport of Sandefjord, in Norway, where, with the sea king who commanded her, she had lain buried for 1,000 years or more. The bulk, still in a good state of preservation, was carefully removed to the Archaeological Museum at Christiania, where it has been visited by thousands of interested spectators. Expert judges of naval architecture agree as to the beauty of its model, its great sharpness and fine shear, both fore and aft, bearing comparison with some of the best models of the present day, especially those designed for sailing in deep water; while the construction of its bottom, which is flattened amidships, give it much more steadiness. It is, in fact, a very singular type, something between the cutter and the center-board. In the symmetry of its proportions and the remarkable beauty of its lines is exhibited a perfection which is not to be found in the naval architecture between its time and the present century. From its method of construction and typical relics found in the hold, antiquarians infer that it was built A.D. 800 in the later Iron Age. The foregoing description has a peculiar and pertinent interest at the present time from the fact that a facsimile of this quaint sea craft of the old Norse pirates in model, size, and equipment is being constructed for exhibition at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. It will be manned by Norwegian seamen and sailed across the Atlantic, and by way of the St. Lawrence River and lakes, the entire distance by water to the port of Chicago.

AÉRIAL NAVIGATION.

Most men, when they talk of travelling through space, think only of a balloon. But the science of aerial navigation by means of balloons has made little if any progress during the past fifty years. Evidently these clumsy contrivances will never enable us to make our way through the air from place to place. The true solution of the problem seems to be in the aeroplane. Beautiful experiments have recently been made and beautiful analyses worked out with regard to the forces which operate in the case of soaring birds. The result, briefly stated, is to demonstrate that the wings, tail and body of a bird act, to some extent, as an aeroplane, and are used both for propulsion and for support. What is meant by an aeroplane cannot be better ex-

plained than in the words of Mr. H. S. Maxim: "If a thin board, twenty feet long and two feet wide, with the edges well sharpened, the bottom side being slightly concave, and the top side slightly convex, be suspended in the air with the front edge one inch higher than the back edge, and be driven through the air with a two-bladed wooden propeller, twenty-eight inches in diameter, at the rate of fifty miles an hour, we should find that it would carry approximately a load of 240 lbs., including its own weight, and the weight of the propeller, and the power required would be 1.33 horse-power, to which would have to be added twenty per cent. for the slip of the screw. The screw and the board, collectively, need not weigh over twelve pounds." This carries us a long way towards the solution of the great problem, and shows, among other things, that the air is to be navigated by a machine heavier, not lighter, than air. The principle of the kite is to be adopted, not that of the balloon. But there is very much to be done still. Mr. Maxim states the questions now awaiting reply: "How is the screw to be attached to the plane? In what manner shall the surface of the plane be disposed so as to be easily guided or steered through the air? What manner of motor shall be employed for driving the screw?" and so forth.

THE CABINET.

It is evident that the Cabinet crisis continues. Count Matsukata, as already reported in these columns, agreed, on the night of the 29th ultimo, to re-consider his resignation, the Emperor being unwilling to accept it, and several of the Cabinet Ministers having strongly urged him to remain. But it was nevertheless found impossible to reconcile conflicting opinions, especially on the part of the Ministers of War and of the Navy, who maintained their obdurate attitude. In fact, ever since the appointment of Mr. Kono to the post of Minister of State for Home Affairs, there has been an emphatic revolt of the strong-policy section of the Cabinet against the change of front which this nomination is supposed to imply. That it does really indicate a change of front on Count Matsukata's part seems to be very improbable, but at any rate it is so interpreted by the "Stalwarts," and the Minister President has apparently failed to dispel the impression and restore a state of working harmony. He has therefore tendered his resignation again, and it is expected that nothing will induce him to withdraw it on the present occasion. But there is some probability that his example will not be followed by the majority of the Cabinet Ministers, as was originally anticipated. They are likely to remain in office until the basis of reconstruction is determined. The Emperor, on the receipt of Count Matsukata's resignation, tendered a second time, summoned to his presence Counts Ito, Kuroda, and Yamagata. Throughout Saturday a rumour prevailed that Count Goto would be asked to form a Ministry, but that idea was dispelled so soon as the action taken by the Emperor came to be known. Counts Kuroda and Yamagata immediately repaired to the Palace in obedience to the Imperial Summons, and had a long interview with the Emperor on Sunday. But Count Ito, being absent from Tokyo, could not comply at once. On Monday, however, his Excellency returned to the capital, and being met at Shimbashi by the Minister of the Imperial Household Department and by a carriage sent by the Emperor, proceeded forthwith to the Palace. There cannot be much doubt that Count Ito will undertake the task of forming a Ministry, but it is quite possible that the difficulties lying in his path may require a few days for adjustment. Count Matsukata has resigned not only the position of Minister President but also the portfolio of Finance. We trust, however, that he will remain in the reconstructed Cabinet, for the country has need of his abilities and resolution at this trying period of its political history.

ATTEMPTED WATCH LIFTING.

A NEAT attempt at watch lifting was practised on a young Englishman on Saturday evening.

He was strolling along Isezakicho in company with another of his countrymen, amusing himself with the many curious street sights there to be witnessed, when his attention was attracted by a crowd near a rifle-saloon. As he approached its outskirts he felt his coat plucked or brushed aside, and looked down just in time to see a brown hand holding his watch, while the guard hung loose. The thief, on being detected, hastily dropped the watch and disappeared down a side alleyway. The ring of the watch, it was afterwards discovered, had been neatly cut through and, when the watch fell, rolled away and could not be found.

THE BRITISH A.B. AND THE MURDERER CARSTENS.

We learn that the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Representative for transmission to the Admiral on this station a most complimentary despatch with reference to the remarkable bravery displayed by T. W. Griffiths, a Blue Jacket of H.B.M.'s S. *Archer*, on the occasion of the arrest of the murderer Carstens on the 7th ultimo. Carstens, it will be remembered, after murdering Beatty, was going down the street, carrying a loaded revolver, and behaving in such a desperate manner that no one dared to approach him. Griffiths, who had come ashore on leave, saw that a tragedy might occur at any moment. With admirable courage and quickness he leaped in and felled Carstens to the ground, thus enabling the police to come to close quarters with him. Carstens managed to wound the constables and himself also before he was arrested, but in all probability the plucky promptitude of Griffiths prevented more serious results. Such conduct deserved the recognition which the Japanese Government has extended to it, and Admiral Freemantle has emphasized the honour by reading the Foreign Minister's despatch from the quarter-deck of the flag-ship.

* * *

Admiral Freemantle, we regret to learn, has met with an accident in Hakodate. During the course of a paper hunt his pony fell with him on a hard road and broke one of his ribs. The injury has not proved sufficiently severe, however, to confine the Admiral to bed, and his complete recovery may soon be looked for.

COUNT ITO.

"LEAVING the region of dust and tumult, Count Ito has retired to his Blue-Waves Pavilion at Odawara. There, in a stream that ripples by, he laves his hot feet, hearing only the murmur of lapping waves borne across the evergreen pines. Thus sitting tranquilly, he looks with calm eyes on the political turmoil of the outer world." Such is the poetical exordium of a paragraph in the *Nippon* which professes to give an account of an interview recently held with Count Ito. The account proceeds thus:—

Visitor:—With whomsoever I converse now-a-days, I hear only sighs and lamentations that political affairs are daily going from bad to worse. Surely this unfortunate condition has not come upon us suddenly. It must be more or less the outcome of abuses accumulating during the past ten years. You Count are not entirely irresponsible. What do you think of it all?"

A gloomy expression settled upon the Count's face, and with frowning brow he said, as though meditating:—"I, indeed, was one of those who brought about the establishment of constitutional government. We devoted much time and energy to the work. Looking back now, I remember that it was some ten years ago when we began to consider the future of the country anxiously. The condition of European nations and of the world at large taught us that representative institutions are essential to the maintenance of a state. But the history of our own land and of neighbouring powers furnished no example of the kind, a fact which greatly increased our difficulties. We had no precedent to guide us, and, on the other hand, if we abandoned the idea, what would become of the empire? For a long time we considered and re-considered the subject; then finally we decided that without representative institutions it would be impossible for us to hold our own in the competition of nations, and that, judging by the standard of our civilization, the establishment of such a system was not inexcusable. Thus with our approval, an institution hitherto unknown was introduced. And now, before it has been in practice three years, some eminent men begin to declare that the system is not suited to the people of this empire. What a hasty conclusion!" At this

point the voice of the Count was stifled by heavy sighs. Thereupon the visitor broke in:—

"Count, you have witnessed the collisions between the Government and the Opposition during the past three years. Has not the country been thrown into a state of disorder because the opinions expressed by the Government, and the measures adopted by it savoured of absolutism, and because the people have begun to doubt whether they possess the reality of constitutional institutions? Is it not a fact that rumour attributes to the Government the intention of employing military force to interpret the Constitution?"

The Count's face grew darker as he heard the questions. He sighed deeply, and said:—"If these men would only recall their original intentions in supporting the innovation, it could not be possible that!" Here he broke off the sentence and meditated for a time, but presently resumed:—"Did those brave soldiers reflect more profoundly it would be happy for the country. But in this world nothing goes quite as smoothly as we could wish."

Thereupon the visitor drew closer, and said:—"It is surely time for you to come forward. You alone can settle these troubles."

But the only answer was the sound of the waves beating up the beach.

MYRTLE GROVE.

WHEN Sir John Pope Hennessy returned from service in the East, he became the proprietor of Myrtle Grove, once the residence of Sir Walter Raleigh. Sir John's death has brought the place again into the market, but apparently a purchaser is not easily found. The *Pall Mall Gazette* describes it thus:—

A fine old Elizabethan house of great historic interest is in the market. It was offered for sale by Messrs. Lumley the other day, but no sufficient offer being forthcoming the property was bought in. The house in question was the residence in Ireland of Sir Walter Raleigh. It was built by the great navigator in 1588 upon part of a large allotment of land granted to him for services in putting down the Desmond revolt. The house is situated in a rough, in the county of Cork.

It is impossible to tell how long the restless adventurer settled in this quiet retreat. He was Mayor of Youghal for two years, and he was certainly visited by his friend Spencer in this, his Irish home. "In this spot," writes Mrs. S. C. Hall of the garden at Myrtle Grove, "beyond question have been read portions of the 'Fœdus,' long before the world became familiar with the divine conception—

At whose approach the soul of Petrarch wept.
For here, certainly, the immortal bard held communion with his 'dear friend' and brother poet, whom he described as 'the sonner nightingale'—
Himself as skilful in that art as any.

In the garden there is group of four aged yew trees, which tradition states to have been planted by Raleigh; and where it requires no stretch of fancy to believe that he has many a time sat, read, and talked, or lolled in the summer time, dreaming of El Dorado, and in search of which he sacrificed his fortune, and ultimately his life."

The grounds appear to be remarkable for the luxurious growth of myrtles, bays, and other exotics. Some of the myrtles from which the place received its name exceed 20 feet in height. Here also the first potatoes ever planted in Ireland were grown; and also the first tobacco plant imported by Raleigh. Every one knows the story of the servant maid who emptied a pail of water over her master, thinking him to be on fire. Whatever truth there may be in the tradition, there can be no doubt that the first pipe of tobacco lit in Ireland was smoked here. The house will thus be seen to be of unique historic interest, and it is to be hoped that that it may fall into the hands of an owner who will deal as carefully with it as appears to have been the case in the past. The last proprietor was the late Sir John Pope Hennessy, whose widow is the present tenant.

DIVIDENDS.

THE total receipts of the following banks, exchanges, and other commercial companies in the Empire during the first half of this year, and the rates of dividend paid in that period, are given by the *Shogyo Shimpō*:—Kyoto Stock Exchange: receipts, yen 4,770,490; dividend, 3 per cent.; Niigata Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 10,672,751; dividend, 36 per cent.; Hirano Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 68,819,020; dividend, 20 per cent.; Tenma Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 50,773,264; dividend, 12 per cent.; Tokyo Stock Exchange: receipts, yen 24,296,197; dividend, 17.5 per cent.; Takaoaka Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 5,227,870; dividend, 22 per cent.; Miye Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 127,324,615; dividend, 15 per cent.; Ozaki Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 32,425,865; dividend, 34 per cent.; Wakaya Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 25,555,506; dividend, 18 per cent.; Second National Bank, Yokohama: receipts, yen 47,840,665; dividend, 15 per cent.; Third

National Bank, Tokyo: receipts, yen 72,251,736; dividend, 10 per cent.; Seventy-fourth National Bank, Yokohama: receipts, yen 50,208,752; dividend, 11 per cent.; Fourth National Bank, Niigata: receipts, yen 43,350,833; dividend, 13 per cent.; Tokyo Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 26,519,155; dividend, 29 per cent.; Nagoya Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 12,627,165; dividend, 26 per cent.; Kuwana Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 5,657,876; dividend, 20 per cent.; Omi Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 4,095,941; dividend, 17 per cent.; Kanazawa Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 6,717,107; dividend, 31.4 per cent.; Shimonoseki Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 5,054,261; dividend, 21 per cent.; Osaka Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 152,601,425; dividend, 15 per cent.; Osaka Stock Exchange: receipts, yen 21,048,486; dividend, 16 per cent.; Naniwa Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 52,631,677; dividend, 8 per cent.; Tokyo Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 38,645,638; dividend, 10 per cent.; First National Bank: receipts, yen 200,840,756; dividend, 14 per cent.; Kyoto Rice Exchange: receipts, yen 4,704,550; dividend, 13 per cent.; Miye Cotton Mills: receipts, yen 3,001,000; dividend, 10 per cent.

THE ALTHORP LIBRARY.

THE Althorp Library, the property of Lord Spencer, is the largest and finest private library in the world, containing as it does from 45,000 to 50,000 volumes of the rarest and most priceless books. The home papers announce with much regret that one of the effects of the great agricultural depression, and the prevalence of low prices, should be the compulsory sale of Lord Spencer's magnificent collection of books. The temptation to part with works possessing the value of many of those on Lord Spencer's shelves at a time of financial embarrassment must be very great. Few people have any notion of the enormous prices paid for copies of rare books. To cite only one instance, a copy of the *Mentz Psalter* of 1457, printed on vellum and handsomely illuminated, similar to one now possessed by Lord Spencer, not long ago was sold for close on £5,000. The chief interest of Lord Spencer's collection to connoisseurs is said to be the large number of books printed by Caxton which it contains. Five or six of such works are usually deemed sufficient to make a Library noted, but on the Althorp bookshelves are no less than 57 copies of Caxton's books, exceeding by one copy those treasured in the British Museum. From the comments of the home journals it is evident that no such sale of books has occurred in modern times.

METAL MARKET.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co.'s Circular of June 25th says:—"The condition of affairs in the Pig Iron trade is anything but satisfactory, and the outlook is not encouraging. At Glasgow a fair business has been done for spot delivery only, and it is understood to be mainly speculative on account of the present low prices and decrease in stocks. Prices have fluctuated but little, but are latterly rather lower. At Middlesborough the demand, though not large, is rather in excess of the present restricted production; business, however, is strictly for prompt delivery, and prices are firm at present but are expected shortly to rule lower. Shipments from Middlesborough are small, but stocks in public stores there have, up to the 20th instant, decreased by over 20,000 tons since June 1st. Copper has fallen slowly but steadily, and is at present easy at about 30/ per ton less than at the beginning of the month. Tin, after advancing strongly, has lost ground again, and is now firm though quiet. Spelter is dull. Lead also is flat at lower prices."

THE "UPTON" STEAMERS.

A TELEGRAM published in a recent issue of the *San Francisco Examiner* says:—"It is generally understood in railroad circles that the Upton steamship line between the Orient and Portland, Oregon, in connection with the Union Pacific railroad, is to be discontinued after the arrival of the next steamer from Portland. It is stated that the service will cease on ac-

count of the recent understanding with President Huntington of the Southern Pacific. The agreement with Upton was made when Charles Francis Adams was president of the Union Pacific, and was for the establishment of monthly steamer service between the Orient and Portland, for a period of ten years, mainly for through transportation of tea. The *Examiner* intimates that the service has not been very successful, and that the Union Pacific was not unwilling to agree to the cancellation of the contract with Upton.

THE YOKOHAMA UNION ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

THE semi-annual meeting of the above Company was held on the 28th ult. The Vice-President of the Company, Mr. Tanuma Tayemon, took the chair. The statement of accounts presented to the meeting contained an item which caused a good deal of discussion. The sum of 3,300 yen was entered as *asuke-kin*, deposited money, and placed to the credit of the company. On inquiry, it was elicited from one of the officers of the Company that this sum had not been accounted for by the out-going officers when they handed over the affairs of the Company to the present staff; that, in point of fact, the Company was so much out of pocket, but that out of consideration for the feelings of the shareholders it had been thought advisable to enter the sum as a deposit. This statement caused a just stir. The directors and managers of the Company were accused of attempting to deceive the shareholders by falsifying the accounts. To these charges it was replied that the same item had appeared in the statement presented to the shareholders in January last, and that it had been allowed to pass without comment. The officers stated that they could not furnish any information as to the use to which the money had been put, but that they should institute inquiries and report the result at the next semi-annual meeting. Thus the matter ended. But at an extraordinary meeting of the Company, held the same day, the managing staff of officers resigned in a body. The announcement of their resignation evoked great excitement. Mr. Tanuma, who had been presiding at the meeting, was requested to vacate the chair and the meeting was called on to elect another Chairman. This the shareholders did not seem disposed to do. The greatest disorder prevailed, three or four speakers occupying the floor at one time, and eventually the meeting had to be postponed. Report says that the affairs of the company are managed very badly and that serious abuses exist.

BUILDING MATERIAL AND EARTHQUAKES.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Architect" has written a long letter to the *Yoji Shimpō* expressing dissent from the views of Mr. Conder respecting the best material to be used in countries subject to earthquakes. "Architect" contends that wooden structures are preferable to brick or stone buildings, and he is of opinion that last October's earthquake afforded numerous proofs of this. He thinks that Mr. Conder has formed an opinion on the subject without weighing and comparing the statistics furnished by seismological societies and other learned bodies. Our own idea is that "Architect" is much more likely to have himself committed the sin of which he accuses Mr. Conder.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that at a meeting of the Directors of the Yusen Kaisha, held recently, it was resolved that the business of the Company be extended by the opening of several new lines. In order to show the position of the Company in the carrying trade, as compared with foreign companies, the *Nichi Nichi* furnishes the following table. During 1889, Exports were, by Japanese vessels, 39,768 tons, by foreign ships 962,817 tons; and Imports, by Japanese vessels, 90,822 tons, by foreign, 679,376 tons. The figures for 1890 were: Exports, by Japanese vessels, 383,704 tons, by foreign 978,320; Imports by Japanese vessels, 173,078 tons and by foreign, 972,611; and those for 1891, Exports by Japanese vessels, 361,801 tons, by foreign 1,175,392, Imports by Japanese

vessels, 170,623 tons and by foreign, 662,277 tons. Thus, says our contemporary, it will be seen that, speaking approximately, Japan is content with allowing 80 per cent. of her carrying trade to remain in the hands of foreigners. The money realized by foreign companies during the above period, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, did not fall short of \$10,800,000. According to the report of the meeting of the Directors, from which we quote, a line to Australia is the first that will be opened. Then will follow the despatch of a steamer to Europe once a month, and eventually the Company hopes to enter the list against the two companies running steamers across the Pacific. It is calculated that about \$5,000,000 will be required for the construction of new ships. The Directors are said to be fully bent on carrying out the above scheme and see no insurmountable difficulties in the way.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS IN LONDON.

THE problem of how to deal with the ever growing traffic of the greatest city in the world seems to be near solution. It has been decided to ask the permission of parliament for the construction of an electric railway at a depth of 50 feet below the surface of the ground. It is said that by running the trains in iron cylinders the usual effects on the houses built over the railway will not be felt, and hence that remuneration to owners of the land under which the railway is to be constructed will be unnecessary; a right of way is all that parliament will be asked to grant. It will be a nice question for lawyers to decide whether, when a man purchases land, his ownership extends to a depth of 50 feet below the surface.

THE SHIPWRECKED TURKS.

THE case of the eleven Turkish sailors who are now destitute in Yokohama, has been taken up by influential men in Tokyo. Mr. Masuda Kenshi, of the Barristers' Association, Viscount Honda Masanori of the House of Peers, and Mr. Yebara Soroku of the House of Representatives, with ten others, have applied for and obtained permission to raise subscriptions for the purpose of sending home the shipwrecked men. The methods contemplated are to hold a great lecture meeting at the Kiuki-Kan, and to organize an entertainment at the Yuraku-Kan, the proceeds in both cases to be applied to the payment of passage money. The Turks are to be invited to be present.

THE KOBE CONFERENCE OF THE M.E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

A KOBE correspondent, writing on the 29th ult., says:—The Methodist Conference, South, has just closed at Kobe and proved to be of special interest in religious circles. This church which has previously had no regularly arranged conference body, was regularly organized into a separate Conference by Bishop Key, and in the future will be an independent body. By this action thirteen ordained ministers were transferred as permanent workers in Japan, besides two physicians and four ladies. At the time of the organization on the 20th inst. the members of the mission reported about 600 members and probationers, showing an increase during the last ten months of 120 members. Rev. Yoshioka was the first Japanese minister to be ordained, and there are four other Japanese ministers, regular graduates, who are on trial for ordination next year. The Conference inaugurated the "Epworth League," an organization for young people that has been very successful in Europe and America. The first League was lately started in Osaka. The Conference also appointed a committee to open an orphan asylum and to secure means for its maintenance. The Bible School for Women is located at Hiroshima, and Miss Mary F. Bice was appointed to take charge of that work. The Girl's School at Hiroshima, burned down last year, was reported nearly completed at a cost of about \$6,000. The Kansei Gakuin at Kobe reported in hand the sum of \$15,000 for a new building to be erected at once. Rev. W. B. Hawkins, of Vanderbilt University, a member of the Conference, was present. He is on his

way to teach in the Government Schools at Matsuyama. The presence of the Rev. J. S. Key, D.D., Bishop, proved very acceptable, and resolutions were passed asking his return next year. The Bishop will spend a few days at Arima before he leaves for China. The Conference was a long one, and adopted strong reports on Temperance, Education, Sabbath Observance, &c. &c. A new district was formed called the Osaka District, and plans were laid for an extension of work. The Conference showed a decided increase in every particular, in the strength of the mission, and the work of the several members is very encouraging.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING BY WATER POWER.

WE read, in one of the notes of the News Agency, that the water power in the Hakone district has been utilized to generate electricity with which the lighting of the well known watering places Yumoto and Tonosawa has been successfully effected. At Miyanoshta steam has hitherto been employed to drive the dynamo, but the cost of getting coal to a place comparatively so remote among the hills has been found almost prohibitive, and the example of Yumoto and Tonosawa is now about to be followed. We believe that when the enterprising proprietor of Fujiya at Miyanoshta was about to set up steam machinery for lighting purposes, the superior economy of electric lighting by means of water-power was pointed out to him. Apparently, however, the idea was too vivid just then.

SHARES AS SECURITY.

THERE has recently been a discussion, among Japanese bankers, as to the advisability of abolishing the system by which the Bank of Japan fixes the value of a Company's shares for purposes of security. According to present methods, the Bank of Japan is virtually omnipotent. It determines at what percentage of their face value the shares of any Company, commercial or industrial, shall be accepted as security for advances, and of course, all the other banks are guided by the ruling of the big institution. The system works excellently in many respects. It is especially useful as a complete check upon any attempt to "bull" or "bear" shares by a combination among lesser banks. But complaints are heard in some quarters that the methods of the Bank of Japan are too inflexible; that, having once fixed the value of any particular shares, it does not easily alter its estimate, and that although the market may vary considerably, the Bank continues to appraise the shares at the same figure. Others, again, assert that the Bank's judgment is not always infallible, and that it occasionally gives a fictitious value to shares by accepting them at a price which could not be obtained in the open market. Thus there is an agitation to break away from the Bank's control. But on the whole, the probability is that the system now in vogue will remain unaltered. Indeed, we do not immediately perceive how it can be readily changed, for the weight that naturally attaches to the Bank of Japan's decisions must always render them more or less imperative in financial circles. Moreover, the Bank certainly errs on the right side when it refrains from following all the market variations in the prices of shares. A margin is fixed in the first instance expressly with the object of placing the security beyond the range of ordinary fluctuations, and within the limits of that margin the Bank necessarily stands firm.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

LIKE so much of the recently threatened political crises, the present trouble in the Cabinet seems not unlikely to fall considerably short of the dimensions originally assigned to it by rumour. Count Matsukata tendered his resignation on the evening of the 27th instant, but the Emperor declined to accept it, and the Count being strongly urged by Count Goto, Viscount Yenomoto and Mr. Kono, is said to have agreed to reconsider his original determination. But there is no indication that the strong-policy section of the Cabinet, in other words, Viscounts Takashima and Viscount Kabayama, will abandon their position, and it would con-

sequently seem that either Mr. Kono will resume the portfolio of Home Affairs, or the two Viscounts will resign. The latter would appear to be the most logical outcome, but we do not venture to make any prediction.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

AN election to fill three vacancies in the representation of Viscounts in the House of Peers was held on the 30th ultimo at the Nobles' Club. Out of 302 possible voters, 284 recorded their votes, with the following result:—

	Votes.
Viscount Tsutsumi Tsunaga (former Kuge).....	165
Viscount Abe Masanori (formerly Feudal Chief of Sanuki in Kazusa).....	154
Viscount Inagaki Motoyoshi (formerly Feudal Chief of Yamakami in Omi).....	145
The above three were declared duly elected, the next on the list being:—	
Viscount Takano Muneyoshi (former Kuge)....	98
Viscount Toda Tadayuki (former Feudal Chief of Ashikaga in Shimotsuke).....	95
Viscount Otawara Kazukyo (former Feudal Chief of Otawara in Shimotsuke).....	80

THE INUNDATIONS.

The *Kobe Herald* has the following with respect to the recent storm:—

Our special correspondent, who has just traversed a section of the lands in this Ken which have been devastated by flood during the last ten days, writes that one need go no farther than Kakogawa, the present temporary terminus of the Sanyo Line this side of the interrupted track, to see the effect of the storm of the 23rd and 24th ultimo. One is face to face with evidence of the heavy rains, indeed, almost immediately upon leaving the Railway Station. The long bridge over the Kakogawa has been for the most part swept away, and every one has now to cross in ferry boats, and as one nears the opposite shore a huge break in the river bank is noticed farther down stream. The force of the waters, almost incredible when in view of the river in its present state, is realized upon crossing over, as numbers of stones of immense weight with which the bridge on the Hiratsunomura side was constructed have been carried bodily away. How near the houses on the opposite bank were to being swept away, is apparent from the bags still in the position near the landing place where they were put to keep the water back; and that position is fully twenty feet above the normal level. A little beyond, one comes upon the first scene of desolation; two or three houses have been carried away, and the roadway destroyed for a distance of a quarter of a mile perhaps. At this point the railway line has been very badly damaged, the entire embankment having been washed away in two places for a stretch of fully a hundred yards. Between the track and the roadway, the fields are either under water or hidden by layers of sand or gravel, and near the roadway on lower levels are tons of heavy stones, roots of trees, and other debris. At Hiratsunomura the houses were flooded, and the water mark is evident on the houses high above the floor level. The people, however, with that wonderful submission to the unavoidable which characterizes the race, have already got things pretty much in order again. What is the state of things in Yoneda Mura, farther down river where the waters divide into two separate broad streams on their way to the sea, could not be seen, but the break before mentioned can scarcely have failed to cause some havoc. After passing Hiratsunomura, for some miles little is seen to call for notice until Amida is reached, just beyond which one or two small breaks on the line have been made. The same may be said for the stretch across the valley to the Ichikawa, save that many of the houses here and there bear traces of the flood, and that the small bridges have in place been damaged. At one insignificant stream, two heavy blocks of timber have been displaced and carried some distance off, proof of the terrific force of even mere streams at the height of the storm. The long bridge over the Ichikawa has been carried away and a break in the bank shows where the river rushed through, destroying the house, now overturned and in ruins, and rendering the usual road impassable. The railway bridge, built of iron on solid brick and granite piers, was not injured. From that point on to Himeji, things appear to be in much the usual order save that some of the houses are still propped up. At Igaramura, beyond the huge straggling garrison town, there are unmistakable signs of damage, but the storm was not at its worst in this part of the country, it would seem; and the bridge over the Aso-

gawa is intact. The Tennogawa is without a bridge, other than the long, solid Railway bridge, and the bed of the river still affords proof of the torrent of a week ago. Little damage was wrought at Anyama-mura, save by the wind. Not so reassuring is the state of things as one draws near the Ibogawa, where several houses have been wrecked and more or less damage done to the rice fields. The bridge over the Ibogawa is a wreck, though here too, fortunately, the Sanyo Company's bridge of thirteen long spans is intact and apparently quite uninjured. The Ibogawa was evidently a raging torrent on the 23rd and 24th, the long copestone of the more permanent part of the old bridge where the river bed is usually dry having been carried down stream, and the western end, which was built of heavy blocks of stone exclusively, having for the most part disappeared. Beyond this river a scene of desolation confronts one, and as one corresponds passed through Shoji village yesterday the roadway was still blocked with mats and household goods of all sorts stacked to dry. All the houses bear marks of the water just beneath the eaves, and the flood was certainly not less than six or seven feet deep. Several houses are level with the ground, and both here and beyond, many of the scenes all too forcibly remind the passer-by of distressing pictures in the earthquake district last year. Tatsuno also suffered severely, and a good deal of the young rice thereabouts has been ruined. Beyond Tatsuno the line sustained some damage. At Naba, a course was struck more towards the sea and for some miles one missed the track of the angry waters, but once across Takatori-yama, the ascent is a long, stiff pull—such a scene presented itself as fairly beggars description. The Chikusagawa as it nears the sea, flows or did flow along one side of a narrow but richly fertile valley not much more than half a mile wide, with lofty hills on either side, and in the valley stood numerous flourishing villages, Hamaichi Mura, Sunako Mura, Kitanonaka Mura, and on the island at the mouth of the river, were Minami Nonaka (south inside field) and Nakamura. Every one of these villages, has suffered terribly. The loss of life was heavier here than elsewhere in the province. The scene yesterday was bad enough, with houses inundated and thrown down, and the water flowing at will over rice fields and hamlet; what it was when the storm was at its worst it is impossible to imagine. With all its suffering and tragedy, it must have been a grand and appalling sight, and as one stood viewing the desolate scene yesterday, it was impossible to resist a wish that one might have been privileged to watch the boiling, maddened river on the fatal day. Actual acquaintance with the locality precludes surprise that so few of those borne sea-wards by the river were rescued. Probably but a small proportion were carried near the houses in Ako city, and as the island in front of the city and its suburbs was inundated, the river at Minami no Maki was probably scarcely distinguishable from an open arm of the sea. We have been once again reminded that Japan is a land of earthquake, fire, and flood; and as one is confronted with the most recent proof of the fact, the question naturally arises, when will the Government take in hand the improvement of the rivers and agree upon a feasible project for the prevention of extensive conflagrations. Thousands upon thousands of yen are wasted yearly, and though experts have demonstrated the preventability of some of the most improviding disasters the country periodically suffers from, the authorities continue year by year to regard the matter as so many helpless fatalists would. The work of constructing massive fortifications, of laying down costly modern war-ships proceeds merrily, whilst less showy but in every way more useful work which has so long emphasized its demands for something more than passing attention by repeated scourges of fire and water, is left exactly where it was when Perry appeared in the Bay of Yeddo.

The *Hyogo News*, writing on the same subject, says:—

It is astonishing with what apathy the recent terrible floods in Japan have been viewed. Had a deluge in Europe wrought such havoc the newspapers of the world would have been filled with columns of narratives of the dreadful sufferings, the appalling loss of life, the frightful destruction of property. But we doubt whether any of our readers have given a second thought to the tremendous devastation we have described in the meagre details which we have gleaned from the native papers. For this perhaps the system of passport regulations is chiefly responsible. Had not these existed, our reporter would by this time have something like a comprehensive view of the calamity, and sympathizers here would have been able to repair to the scene of ruin, which is only some 60 or 70 miles from their doors. But the news comes

second-hand, and as there were no proportionate disasters in their own midst, the native paper accounts do not elicit the slightest feeling of surprise or regret. We would undertake to assert that for one reader who has felt the slightest sentiment of pity for the unfortunate Japanese sent wholesale to their fate, or whose property and crops have been irretrievably ruined, there will be a hundred who will thrill with compassion for the unfortunate shipwrecked crew of the *North American*. Far be it from us to detract even the slightest atom of sympathy from the brave sailors who so marvellously escaped from a watery grave. But sad as their catastrophe was, it pales into insignificance compared with the magnificent ruin wrought on the very people who, in the midst of overwhelming misfortunes, exerted themselves to the utmost to befriend the shipwrecked crew whom the caprice of the winds had so rudely flung on their ironbound coasts. On the very island where the wreck took place, in the very town of Tokushima, where every hospitality was shown to them, a tidal wave had laid flat nearly one-half of the houses, and had immersed acres of tilled land in salt water, to the utter destruction of all tillage. Moreover, no fewer than fifty people were devoured by the angry sea which so suddenly inundated the town. A few miles away from the little hamlet where shelter was so generously afforded them, a landslip on a mountain occurred which dammed up a river, and turned it into a huge lake, drowning fifty people, wrecking numbers of houses and destroying acres of crops. A little farther away still, the earth had suddenly opened as a yawning chasm, into which 160 houses and over 100 persons were precipitately hurled. Yet even amidst all this chaos of ruin the people of Tokushima could sympathise with the wrecked foreigners, and over the devastated lands sent provisions, regardless of the fact that they could so ill afford to be generous. Captain Creelman came overland, and he states that the twenty-five miles was one awful scene of ruin. Not a single bridge in all the road from the village he had stayed at to Tokushima had been washed away. Some of the houses had been washed away by the torrent, others had had the water as high as the roof, and this had burst up the floors and mingled the parts of the house and the furniture into a mass of inextricable and muddy confusion. They had to be ferried in boats over the rivers where bridges once existed. The fields were coated with mud under which the ill-fated rice was buried, and the whole journey was through a scene of havoc and utter woe. A story such as this, of self sacrificing generosity and of thoughtfulness for others, even when in the midst of the most frightful desolation, deserves a meed of praise from every foreigner in Japan, and brings into vivid display those splendid qualities of the race which, although we are constantly accused of being a bitter enemy to them, we most willingly express our admiration of. So far as we know there has been no appeal for funds, but when this story comes to be known we feel sure that great has been depression in trade, and heavy as were the calls on their purses during that dreadful November of last year, yet should necessity arise the Europeans here will most readily assist the unfortunate people in the straits of their dire calamity.

The *Hyogo News* of the 2nd inst., continues its description of the damage done by the floods:

Kobe people were greatly inconvenienced by the rains of the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th July, when altogether a fall of some eight inches was recorded, but beyond the delay of business consequent thereon they gave the matter little thought. Less than forty miles away, however, and for a long distance further west, the heavy rain was productive of far more serious effects, ending in a most terrible record of disaster, damage to property, and loss of life. The rivers in the province of Harima take their rise in a range of mountains running almost parallel with the coast, and at a very short distance from it. They are fed by tributaries which drain the numerous ravines and valleys which abound in mountain ranges of volcanic formation. The mountains themselves, denuded of almost all the forests which in many countries tend to act as natural reservoirs for the absorption of heavy rains, are mere conduits for floods, and the slightest downpour leads to hill-side torrents. Hence, in the dry season many of the river courses are mere beds with a very small stream in a waste of pebble. Violent rain storms, however, quickly effect a transformation, and when the drainage of an extensive district, where eight inches of rain have fallen in two or three days, is suddenly compressed into one channel a raging torrent inevitably follows.

Such a torrent occurred on the 23rd and 24th July, and in the case of each of the three principal

the Kakogawa, the Ibigawa, and the Chikugawa, the volume of what proved too strong for the frail embankments which gave way in many places, and in consequence the surrounding country, which in each instance was of a lower level than the bed of the river, was inundated for many miles. Brief accounts, culled from articles in the native papers, have given a general idea of the extent of the ravages of the floods, but the full tale of their terrible destructiveness will never be told. On Sunday last two Kobe residents made a trip through some portions of the ruined districts, and one of them supplies us with the following account:—

We started from Kobe with the intention of taking the 6.34 a.m. train to Aoshiki, but on arriving at the station found that the train for the time being had ceased, and secondly that all communication west of Kakogawa was interrupted. The next train was at 7.35, which landed us at Kakogawa at about 9.15. As in the case of the earthquake district last year, no signs hardly were observable until one came into the midst of wholesale devastation, so in the journey to Kakogawa there was little to indicate the frightful ravages of the waters a little further on. Here and there the rice showed signs of having been submerged, and a culvert bore traces of heavy pressure, but this was no worse than might have followed ordinary rains. At Kakogawa we were informed that *kuruma* were obtainable, and as we decided to visit Aiko and Kariya, we determined to make the journey in two stages, one set of men to take us to Himeji and to bring us back at night, while at Himeji we were to engage *kuruma* to complete other portions of the journey. We soon made the arrangements and set out about 9.30. Kakogawa had been inundated, the floors of the houses were still muddy, and the street from the station into the town was serried with holes. These, however, were very faint fore-runners of what was to follow. The direst effects had been experienced on the other side of the river. On emerging from the winding little street which leads to the waterway we came upon the first serious traces. Those who have bicycled westward will remember that there are a few houses on the embankment, and that a long bridge, or rather a series of bridges connected in the centre by a pavement of huge granite blocks, formed the means of communication between the two banks. All of these houses had been washed out, one was in ruins, and another badly wrecked was shored up by poles, presenting a most dilapidated appearance. The first bridge, a wooden structure, had snapped in two, one portion had wholly disappeared, and the distorted planks in the remaining section told forcibly of the tremendous shock they had failed to withstand. We were ferried across the now narrow, and almost normal stream, and then walked to the centre bridge, which having more massive approaches had weathered the storm, though granite blocks and masses of concrete had been thrown about like straws where the river had made breaches. Coming to the third bridge close to the opposite shore, we found nothing remaining except the ending of granite slabs which had connected it with the shore. No vestige of the bridge proper was visible and the way in which the granite lengths were started and jumbled told its own story. The embankment here was intact, so also, as far as we could judge, was the long iron bridge, built on brick piles a couple of hundred yards further up the river, on which the Sanyo Railway trains cross. The houses on the bank, however, had all severely suffered, the flood leaving their sign manual far up on the sides of the mud walls.

Those who have used this road know that from this embankment there was a rather sharp gradient of some eighty yards or so in length which led to the paddy field level, and then the road curved round to where it crossed the line three-quarters of a mile or so further on. Now that once smooth plain is altogether unrecognizable. Not far up from the iron railway bridge, before referred to, the impetuous torrent, choked in the narrow compass of its two embankments sought to carve out a channel to thesea, and very nearly succeeded. Taking a sweep of nearly a quarter of a mile wide, it had swept away the railway line, torn up trees, brushed away two or three houses, and dug for itself a winding course through the once green paddy fields, and marked it by a deposit of pebbles and sand, and curving westward found itself balked by the white faced line of hills which end abruptly a couple of miles south west. There is no road—that has given place to a water course, and for acres around there is a mass of brown shingle under which lie the ruins of a promising rice crop. But even away apart from what was evidently the central rush, for miles onward the rice showed signs of prolonged submersion, leaving it a very poor colour. Under the embankment, and yet several feet up from the fields, was a small hamlet which has been immersed in some cases above the roofs,

while of some of the houses only a few broken tiles mark the spot, and just below a grove had been ruthlessly cut through, many of the trees being torn up bodily.

From there on to Amida traces of the disaster were continuous. Every paddy field culvert had undergone a strain. In every village there was that dark line on the walls, and in only too many instances, the floors and furniture were destroyed. The line too suffered severely, many small bridges being knocked to pieces. Amida itself had suffered little, but the road from there to the entrance to Himeji on this side of the Ichikawa had been shamefully served, though it was passable even for a bicycle, with due caution. The village just before reaching the sudden turn where the line crosses the road by a bridge, and within a hundred yards of the Ichikawa, had been deluged. A small stream runs through the village, and some of its surplus contents had poured through a few ill-fated houses, washing away walls, gouging up the roadway, and spoiling the rice. In one case between Amida and Himeji a small irrigation stream had torn away one of its banks right down to the level of its bed and made for itself another route.

The solid roadway under the railway bridge was no more. Its very foundations had been dug out, and there was nothing for it but to lug the *kuruma* over the broken embankment, and then carry them up the steep sides of the railway banks, an operation attended with no little difficulty, and one which attempted next morning by our jaded runners resulted in a very nasty fall for one of the men. The road from the other side to where the bridge had been was cut up badly, while the houses near the entrance to the bridge were many of them devastated. The railway bridge, a very solid structure, as at Kakogawa, appears to have escaped without injury, but the foot bridge, which was a repetition of the Kakogawa one on a much larger scale, was gone. A bit of it still abutted from the river, but the abutments on shore had all been dislodged. A central part of iron and wood still stood, minus only one or two of its railings, and the further end one, which had been a high bridge with granite paved approaches, had also disappeared, only a few of the blocks in some instances remaining to tell the tale. On the left bank looking towards the source, the river had dug out a new channel, but a breakwater, evidently built many years ago, had done good service, and had prevented that encroachment on the lower side which at Kakogawa had worked so much mischief. On the right bank, in one of the reaches, it had carried away the embankment and no doubt done much harm.

All the houses at the entrance to Himeji had been deluged, and the bridge crossing the stream a short distance from the Kencho was demolished, a temporary one of planks replacing it. Our passage through Himeji was a very disagreeable one. Our *kuruma* men quarrelled with our terms and demanded the most exorbitant rates, following us and preventing us getting other men, so that finally, and after we had collected a crowd of about 150 people, including many soldiers, had been harangued by a well meaning but exceedingly garrulous police official, we were compelled to pay them off by giving them for the single journey what we had promised for the double trip, and after much valuable time had thus been wasted we succeeded in getting some very willing men to take us the remaining eight or nine *ri* to Aiko and back, a distance of more than 40 miles altogether. These men proved very willing runners, and we had no further difficulties, as far as they were concerned. Still, it was at least 1.30 before we started, and it would be at least between five and six o'clock before we reached Aiko, so that the journey was by no means an inviting one.

Himeji had all been flooded, more or less, but the ravages were less distinct in the eastern than in the western portion. Nor was there much more to be observed until after descending from the hill which the Sanyo Railway tunnels we reached the Umisakagawa. The hamlets adjoining the river on either side had been immersed, and one or two of the houses had been partially demolished, but the wooden bridge over the river was still standing, though the approach to it from the western side had been completely broken up. From here a quiet run through a well cultivated plain brought us to the Asogawa. Here the footway was gone, and the waters spread knee deep all over the wide watercourse. On each side there was a certain amount of destruction, but no great damages worth recording, so that we did not delay but sped on to the Ibigawa, halting midway at the village of Aoyama at a very attractive little tea-house, the manners of whose inmates no globe trotters or residents of Treaty ports had tainted, and whose tiny garden at the back with its miniature waterfalls and general *ensemble* was a most artistic and de-

lightful display of landscape gardening compressed into the limits of about 6 ft. by 10 ft. Here the floods had done no harm, but they had plenty to tell us of the fearful havoc wrought at Uue, at Tanuho, at Aiko and Kariya, havoc which a couple of hours later we could imagine, but no pen could describe. Not all the villages, however, were so highly favoured as Oyama. As we neared the Ibigawa, and passed through the low lying plain through which it runs, ominous indications met our gaze at every turn. Some hamlets had their floors torn up, and godowns deluged. Here and there a dilapidated house or a shed collapsed, marked the insidious force of mighty waters. Heavy patches of mud lay in places on the rice fields, and bespattered furniture was frequently to be seen in the streets to dry. At length, through a mass of debris of some ill-fated tenements, we came on to the banks of the Ibigawa. It is a broad watercourse, with a very deep channel on the western side. Not ten miles up it can be seen winding its way through the most romantic mountain scenery. The hills there are diversified, some with sharp peaks, others with round cones, and not a few like huge spherical mounds, but all from base to summit are swathed in luxuriant verdure, with as many tints and shades of green as there are peaks, and it made in the shimmering glare of the July sun, a chastened picture such as one rarely sees outside a painter's canvas. But that this romance can change to tragedy was easily perceptible when once we forded the stream. From the bank running far away to the hills which shut in Naba was a level valley of perhaps two miles broad at its widest point, and tapering to a few hundred yards where the defile opened up between the opposite hills. Large sections of it were still under water, and Tatsuno viewed, even from that distance, looked like the reproduction of one of the scenes from the earthquake district. Standing partly on the river's bank, but stretching many hundred yards into the valley were the shattered remnants of a considerable town. The houses on the bank had fared best, but directly we began the declivity, far above our heads could be seen the yellow water mark. Throughout the entire length of that extensive street were spread soaking mats, and piles of mud-begrimed household belongings. Scarcely a floor had escaped wrecking. General shops had their contents sadly bemired. In some instances the structures had given way beneath the strain and lay in heaps, and all around was ruin. The people with cheerful faces, and apparently with the utmost good humour, were repairing their devastated homesteads, cleaning solid treasures, and one and all were working with a will to repair the mischief, showing in their resolution a superiority to the caprices of fortune, which is so characteristic of the race in nearly all the numerous calamities which periodically befall them.

THE NEW CABINET.

There are of course a great many conjectures about the new Cabinet. Here are two, which our readers may be interested to compare:—

The Kokkai.	The Choya Shimbun.
Minister President of State—Count Ito	Count Ito.
Minister for Foreign Affairs—Viscount Enomoto	Viscount Enomoto.
Minister for Home Affairs—Mr. Kono	Count Inouye or Count Yamagata.
Minister for Finance—Count Inouye	Count Matsukata or Count Inouye.
Minister for War—Count Oyama	Count Oyama or Viscount Takashima.
Minister for the Navy—Count Saigo	Viscount Kabayama.
Minister for Education—Viscount Taisho	Count Oki.
Minister for Justice—Count Oki	Mr. Kono.
Minister for Communications—Count Goto	Count Goto.
Minister for Agriculture and Commerce—Viscount Nomura	Count Yamagata or Viscount Sano.
President of Privy Council—Count Kuroda	Count Kuroda.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

We take the following from the *London and China Express*:—

The annual general meeting of this Society was held at the Society of Arts rooms, on the 23rd inst., Dr. Wm. Anderson (Chairman of the Council) presiding.

The minutes of the last general meeting having been duly confirmed, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Arthur Diósy) read the report of the Council. It stated that they (the Council) viewed with the greatest satisfaction the progress of the Society, which had now a membership of 230, who were to be found in England, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, and the United States of America. The average attendance at ordinary meetings had been 166, on which they had every right to congratulate themselves.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. Hart seconded, that the report of the Council be adopted, which was agreed to.

The Treasurer read a statement on the financial affairs of the Society, the balance in hand being £71 6s. 4d., which was duly adopted.

Original from

The retiring members of the Council (Messrs. Farlie, Mutsu, Elgar, Hall, East, Hyde-Clarke and Reid) were unanimously re-elected.

Votes of thanks to the officers of the Society and a special vote to the hon. secretaries (Messrs. Diósy and Goh) were carried with acclamation.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The annual dinner was held the same evening at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, the President of the Society, Viscount Kawasé, in the chair. Among the guests were the following:—Lord de Saumarez, Vice Admiral D'Arcy Irvine, C.B., Sir Trevor Lawrence, Sir E. J. Reed, K.C.B., M.P., General Raines, C.B., Capt. Rolleston, Capt. Kajiwara, I.J.N., Professor Wm. Anderson, Dr. Hickman, Mr. and Mrs. Bevan, Mr. and Mrs. Heron Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Bond, Mr. and Mrs. Nakai, Rev. H. Cart, Consul-General and Madame Okoski, Mr. K. Hecosawa, Mr. Inaba, Mr. H. Mutsu, Mr. J. Bell, LL.D., Dr. Phené, Mr. F. T. Pigott, Mr. Rokugo, Mr. Kiyoo Oka, Mr. Littleton, Mr. Wm. Stott, Mr. A. L. Liberty, Mr. J. T. Larkin, Mr. and Mrs. D'Ifanger, Mr. Reid, Mr. A. G. Angier, Mr. W. H. Taylor, Mr. A. C. Bruce, Mr. P. H. Bailey, Mr. J. R. Haslam, Mr. A. Santo, Mr. W. White, Mr. S. Akeha, Mr. A. C. Mitchell, Mr. J. P. Reed, Mr. R. G. E. Foster, Mr. Esbury, Mr. Alfred East, Mr. F. A. Satow, Dr. Elgar, Mr. J. H. Collis, Mr. W. S. White, Mr. W. S. Hall, Mr. F. Elgar, Mr. C. S. Grainger, Mr. H. Kraft, Mr. T. B. Harbottle, Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. Scott Elliott, Mr. T. Watanabé, Mr. and Mrs. Jonas, Mr. W. Kaula, Mr. Breisch, Mr. A. Diósy, and Mr. Daigoro Goh.

The toast of "the Queen" having been duly honoured, Dr. Wm. Anderson proposed "the Emperor of Japan." He said he would like to remind them of a story of the days 1,400 years ago. At that time there was an assemblage of a number of princes of the different states into which China was then divided. They each brought specimens of the wealth of the country over which they ruled—all except one. That one was the most famous of all; he came empty-handed, and when they asked him why his country was so poor, he said that his country was richer than all that could be produced by all mines in the world, that his country was a happy, industrious, and law abiding people. All of them knew that less than thirty years ago—even in the decline of the nineteenth century—Japan remained a solitary survival of medieval feudalism, with all the picturesque, and all the evil that medievalism implied. Now within the compass of a single reign had been achieved what must always be regarded as one of the greatest and most peaceful revolutions in the history of the world. Class privileges and class disabilities had been absolutely abolished, and this had been done with the consent and assistance of the privileged.—(Hear, hear.) The laws had been made equal for great and small. Formerly there was one law for the rich and privileged and another for the poor and unprivileged, and it would startle many people if they were able to see how all that had been set right according to the eternal principles of justice. They had now the genius of a Parliament in Japan, and that with an absolute monarchy was a very remarkable point in history. All the resources of civilisation—science, telegraphs, and railways—now belonged as much to Japan as to Europe, and this, again, within a relatively short period. Japan's savants were now enlightening the world by new researches. Japan was, at the present time, producing works of art of which any nation of Europe might be proud. He would quote the highest opinion in Europe, that of the President of the Royal Academy, who said that they are equal to anything that has been produced by the ancient Greeks.—(Hear, hear.) Japan is now represented by its envoys in every Court in Europe, and its commerce is scattered all over the face of the globe. He considered that the happiness and the works of the Japanese people would always be the noblest monument to the reign of the Emperor of Japan.—(Applause.)

The toast having been received with the greatest enthusiasm,

Sir Trevor Lawrence, M.P., rose to propose the toast of the evening "The Japan Society." He said that during the whole of the dinner he had been racking his brains in an endeavour to ascertain why their very excellent Secretary had entrusted to him the very responsible duty of proposing this toast. He had not found the answer to that inquiry. Mr. Diósy had told him that the Society, which only came into existence in January, already possessed a membership of 230. Their members were scattered in various parts of the globe, and they had also corresponding members throughout the world. One of these latter, Mr. H. Kraft, of Paris, the author of some delightful narratives on Japan, had crossed the sea on purpose to attend the dinner. He thought he (Mr. Kraft) was the ideal man to propose

the toast of the Japan Society. He thought that the reasons for the existence of the Japan Society were not very difficult to understand. They, in this country, had been brought in a great many ways in connection with Japan, and they had learned to like the people of Japan, and a brighter and more engaging populace did not exist in any part of the world. He hoped that Japanese art would never be debased, for the tendency in these commercial days was to bring everything down to a commercial level. He thought that they should all do their very best to make the people of the two countries understand one another better. He begged to propose, with all the heartiness of which he was capable the toast of "Prosperity to the Japan Society," coupling with name of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Diósy.

Mr. Arthur Diósy, who, on rising to reply, was greeted with cheers, said:—That it had been intended that his part in the orations of the evening should be confined to an official announcement. He asked those present to put themselves in his place, and to think what must be the feelings which were then passing through his heart. One of the many pictures stored away in the pigeon-holes of his brain was a picture which might be dated any day in the last winter. That picture would show his dear friend, Daigoro Goh, the best of friends and most trusty of colleagues, and as gallant a Japanese gentleman as any there that evening. It would also show him Mr. Francis Taylor Pigott, the vice-chairman of the Council, and it would show him a picture of himself. Those three men, none of whom were exactly hoary with age, seated in a small room in his small house on any raw and chilly evening during the last detestable winter. They were discussing—amending a scheme which had been in his mind for some time, that of the formation of the Japan Society of London. When he looked upon that picture, and then saw himself as he was that evening, surrounded by such an assembly, he thought the emotion under which he spoke might reasonably be excused. He had first to announce the receipt of a number of letters of regret from members of the society stating their reasons for not being present that evening. Among them was one from one of their Vice Presidents, Lord Armstrong, who said at his present age, 81, he found it difficult to attend. There was one word he (Mr. Diósy) would wish to add to the words of Sir Trevor Lawrence, who had been kind enough to introduce his name into his remarks and that was that wherever the name of Diósy had been mentioned he would ask them to couple with it the name of Daigoro Goh. The Japanese Society was doing a good work, as it helped to bind closer together the millions who inhabit the lands on which the sun rises and the teeming millions who inhabit the Empire on which the sun never sets. There were many there, no doubt, who were acquainted with the Japanese novel in its simplest form. He need hardly say that the Japanese mechanic was a novel reader, and one who could give points to the average British young lady in that respect. As the Japanese "cabman," the *Kinnmaya*, sits on the shafts of his hansom cab, of which he is both horse and driver, he may be poring over the pages of a novel. If they looked at the woodcuts with which the novel is illustrated, they would find that the hero and heroine were bound together by a red cord proceeding from heart to heart, so that the reader might make no mistake, and know, what is not easy to tell in the English or American novel, who were the people intended for each other. If the Japan Society should be able, in the course of years, to twist only one more silken thread into the red cord between the heart of the people of Japan and the heart of the people of England, then, he thought, they would not have existed in vain.

The Chairman proposed the toast of the "Army and Navy."

Vice-Admiral D'Arcy Irvine responded for the navy, which he said was as it always had been, ready to go anywhere and do its duty. Now they had a navy under the present Government, but the next time he might be called upon to respond for the navy they might not possess one. They heard of things being given away, and it might possibly be the case with the navy.

General Raines, C.B., responded on behalf of the army.

Sir Edward Reed, K.C.B., M.P., proposed the toast of "the health of the Chairman." He said they would judge of the esteem in which he held the idea of forming the Japan Society when he told them that on returning from a visit to Japan he waited on Lord Granville, the Foreign Secretary, and explained to him many things that he had become acquainted with in that interesting country, and asked of him better consideration for the Japanese Government and people than it was receiving and had received. He received from Lord Granville a positive and firm assurance that from that time the Japanese

Government should be treated with consideration. He was satisfied that nothing tended so much to secure a good understanding between two nations as the full and free interchange of their sentiments, their opinions, and their wishes, and he trusted that the Japan Society might help to bring about closer and better understanding between the two countries of England and Japan. He trusted that the chairman, who had lived some years in England, and had had some opportunity of appreciating the spirit of the English people, would believe that we, Englishmen, thanked him for placing himself at the head of the Japan Society. He hoped that it will fulfil its intentions. The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The Chairman in reply said that he tendered his sincere thanks for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast of his health. He thanked them not only on behalf of Japan, but for the Japan Society, and congratulated them on the measure of success which had attended the new Society.

THE HAKUBUNSHA AND MITSUI BANK.

Wx stated some days ago that the parties to whom the printing presses belonging to the Hakubunsha had been nominally or actually sold were taking legal measures for the recovery of their rights against the Mitsui Bank. The case has gone against the Bank. The verdict is based on a technicality which is of considerable interest from several points of view. It is contended that the presses in dispute are to be regarded as movable property and that in order to render them legal security the bank should have moved them from the Hakubunsha premises, and have stood them in its own buildings. From this judgment the bank will certainly appeal. In the new Civil Code, whose operation political agitators having few or many commercial interests at stake, are so anxious to postpone, there is a law which bears on this very point, according to which machines and appurtenances used in factories, shops, and other places of business are to be regarded as immovable property. Here is an instance where the laws now administered are said to contain no provision whatever for a case which must be of frequent occurrence. Hence any verdict given must be based solely on the individual judgment of the official before whom the case is tried.

WATERWORKS FOR KOBE.

On his way back from Moji and Omuta, where he was sent by the Home Department to design water and sewerage works, Professor W. K. Burton has stayed for some days in Kobe, and the opportunity has been taken by the Governor of Hyogo-ken to consult with him on the long-delayed waterworks for this town. It seems he has strongly urged that the plan proposed by Major-General H. Spencer Palmer, R.E., some four or five years ago, be carried out, with an addition proposed by Mr. S. Kasuya, Chief Engineer of the Kobe-shi. This addition has been found necessary because, after continuous gnawing of the water from the Nunobiki Waterfall, and from Futatabi-dani, it has been found that during about five months of the year the water falls below what was first looked for in quantity, whilst at times there has been only about half what was reckoned on. It therefore becomes necessary to store a reserve of water in the upper parts of the valleys. The additional work suggested consists in the repairing and enlarging of a number of impounding reservoirs that were made by the farmers of the district, at a considerable height, some century or so ago, to store a reserve of water for irrigation. It is a notable and interesting fact that, although the construction of these old reservoirs is very rough, and the means of controlling the outgoing water is crude in the extreme, their design is quite in accordance with modern engineering principles, whilst the sites have been selected with remarkable sagacity. In fact the most minute survey of the catchment areas of the two streams mentioned has resulted in the discovery of only one likely reservoir site that had been overlooked by the old farmers. The construction of these reservoirs will result in the storage of a quantity of water equivalent to about two months' consumption. This will be quite sufficient to tide over the dry season, even when the population of Kobe has very considerably increased,

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the more especially as the season of drought is that of cold weather, when comparatively little water is consumed. We understand that the work is likely to begin shortly. We are sure that all citizens of Kobe, foreign or Japanese, will rejoice at the prospect of a plentiful supply of water that will be greatly above the average in purity.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

THE TOKYO MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The first half of the current year seems to have proved very profitable to the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company. The semi-annual meeting was held on the 1st instant in Minami Kayabacho, when the chairman, Mr. Ikeda Mochimasa, in presenting the report and accounts, said that, although great sums had been paid by the Company abroad for losses at sea, the premia received on vessels and cargoes had also been exceptionally large, the total being 578,862 yen. The accounts were read and passed as follows:—

Total profits during the half-year	349,716
Carried to Reserve Fund	263,469
Rewards to officers of the Company	11,678
Dividend at the rate of 16 per cent.	
per annum	48,000
Carried to next account	26,567

It is evident that the Company is building up a very strong position when it carries to its Reserve more than two-thirds of its aggregate net gains.

BLAINE'S RESIGNATION.

THE Blaine-Harrison complications have caused no little speculation throughout the entire political world. Great men act in peculiar ways and seldom without cause. Blaine has been before the world for a number of years. His life has been a sort of open book—read by all interested in political affairs. The causes of some of his most important actions were published immediately such actions took place. The cause of his recent resignation, on the eve of a national convention, when, according to all apparent principles, he ought to have remained in office, was clothed in mystery until recently made known by Mr. T. C. Crawford, in a lengthy article in the *New York Sun*. If Mr. Crawford's statements are true—and he ought to know—we are not a little surprised that such a great man should have allowed such puerile motives to lead him astray. Admirers of the "Plumed Knight" will feel a sting of chagrin when they know the real condition of affairs. Mr. Crawford says, in substance, that Mrs. Blaine is the cause of her husband coming before the convention at Minneapolis as a candidate for President of the U.S. "She, exceedingly dislikes Mr. Harrison for his refusal to make Walter Blaine his father's first assistant secretary, and attributes his death to the consequent disappointment. Recently her son-in-law, Lieut.-Colonel Coppinger, was promoted Colonel by the President. But Mr. Blaine asked his further promotion to the vacant brigadier-generalship. As some thirty worthy and ranking officers would have had to be jumped for no other than personal reasons, the President courteously but firmly declined. Then came the out-break. Mrs. Blaine called on the President, and upon his persistence in his decision, she uncorked the vials of her wrath and told him that his decision would cost him a renomination, as she would force Mr. Blaine to take the field against him: the resignation came shortly after." It is further claimed that what precipitated the crisis, was an incident between Sec. Blaine and the Canadian Commissioner, Mr. Blaine was stating to the Commissioner what purported to be the views of the U.S. Government, when Secretary Forster interrupted by saying that the utterances of the Chief Secretary, did not represent the views of the President. Blaine became so irritated that he peremptorily closed the conference, and wrote his resignation the same day. It is a sad pass when the ire of a woman meddles in the affairs of any Government, and particularly so when the common sense of experienced men is made a servant to such ire. Not being satisfied by forcing her husband into a hopeless contest for the Presidency of the U.S., it is further stated that her son Emmons, impelled, no doubt, by the ner-

vousness of his mother, rushed into the convention to secure the nomination of his father, and, being disappointed, sickened and died. Probably all these stories must be largely discounted.

BOILED MILK.

THE *Révue Scientifique* contains an article which has much interest for all persons concerned in the rearing of children:—

A very important question, from the point of view of the nourishment of newly born children, is whether boiled milk retains a sufficiently nutritive value.

Formerly it was universally thought that milk ought to be used in a state as nearly like as possible to that in which it is when issuing from the breast, and uncooked milk was the only kind employed for feeding infants. Nowadays, however, since it has been clearly demonstrated that milk may be an agent for the transmission of various diseases, such as eruptive fevers, typhoid fever, and especially consumption, most authors and physicians agree in recommending that boiled milk only should be given to infants.

This practice is assuredly excellent from the point of view of prophylaxis against contagious diseases; but is it equally good from the point of view of alimentary hygiene, and, in feeding infants on boiled milk, do they get sufficient nourishment?

This question has been examined, with the aid of all the documents which could be collected, by Mr. Henry Drouet in a little book just published at Paris. From his researches, made from the various points of view of physiology, clinical treatment, and microbes, results the general conclusion that boiling does not at all diminish the digestibility of milk and consequently does not diminish its nutritive value.

It may even be said that most of the experiments of physiologists tend to show that boiled milk is more digestible than uncooked milk, and that, in fact, the infants who can digest the latter better than the former, are the exception and not the rule.

The mortality of children brought up on the bottle has lessened for some years past in considerable proportions. This mortality, which formerly reached the figure of 90 out of every 100, has been reduced to an average of 10 out of every 100 in all the departments in which the Roussel Law has been diligently enforced. In the department of the Eure, that mortality, a few years ago, was but 7 in a hundred. These happy results are plainly due in great part to the supervision of nurses required by the Roussel Law. Nevertheless, it must be noted that the superiority of boiled milk has been asserted to by most physicians, and that they more and more require the nurses whom they superintend to feed their charges with boiled milk. It is then allowable to suppose that the use of boiled milk is one factor in the diminution of mortality in infants brought up on the bottle.

The only case in which there would appear reason for not boiling the milk, is when the animal which furnishes the milk is well known, and there can be no doubt about its apparently perfect state of health. Even in this case however, the security is deceitful, for it is known that tuberculous animals have taken prizes in competitions of fat beasts, and that a diagnosis of tuberculosis limited to the test—a form of the disease especially dangerous from the point of view of the transmission of the malady—is an extremely difficult sort of diagnosis.

The conclusion to be drawn is that milk destined for food of infants should always be boiled, without any apprehension of any alteration in the liquid, from the point of view of the preservation of its nutritive value.

THE "KAISHIN TO" AND THE INUNDATION.

THE leaders of the *Kaishin-to* are displaying their usual cleverness in the matter of the inundations in Tokushima Prefecture. They have despatched Messrs. Kashima Hidemaro, Sato Bumpei, and five other members to the scene of the calamity for the purpose of conducting accurate investigations, their idea being to move the Authorities to make liberal payments out of the Famine Relief Fund and even to appropriate a portion of the Reserve Fund in aid of the sufferers. They talk also of a Special Session of the Diet, should such a course appear necessary. Doubtless this will gain some popularity for the *Kaishin-to*, but it amounts also to an indirect expression of opinion that the Government cannot be trusted to do its duty in such cases. We must confess that the story of the appropriations for the relief of Aichi and Gifu and of the attitude assumed by the Opposition towards them does not suggest that the initiative belongs to the *Kaishin-to* in these matters.

THE PRISONER MASON.

REFERRING to the prisoner Mason, who will be remembered as having been imprisoned for importing arms into China, the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 26th ult., says:—

This morning the cracked conspirator, Mason, whose term of imprisonment will expire on the 29th inst., was put forward in the Supreme Court to ascertain whether he was prepared to find the sureties he was ordered to provide for his future good behaviour.

Chief Justice Hannen, Mr. G. Jamieson, the Tantai and his Secretary occupied seats on the bench. There were only two or three people in the body of the Court, including Mr. Russell, Acting Commissioner of Customs, the fact of Mason's

appearance this morning having kept a profound secret by the authorities. Mason, who was clad in prison garb, and looked really better in health than on the day he was sentenced, was placed in the dock and addressed by the Chief Justice as follows:—

The Chief Justice—Prisoner Mason, you were sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and ordered to find two sureties of \$2,500 each for your good behaviour, on October 29th, 1891. Have you found these sureties, or are you prepared to find them?

Mason—No.

The Chief Justice—Then I order you to be deported to England and to pay the expenses of your deportation.

This concluded the proceedings, and Mason was shortly afterwards taken back to gaol by Mr. Burtenshaw.

We understand that arrangements are being made to have Mason sent home in some steamer, which sails on the 29th inst., and one of the Consular constables will probably accompany him as far as Hongkong.

THE "NICHU NICHU" ON THE SITUATION.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, generally well informed on such subjects, writes as follows about the political situation:—

COUNT ITO.

COUNT Ito came to the capital some days ago for the purpose of obtaining audience of the Emperor and also settling some private affairs. But finding that a political crisis was in progress, he left hastily for Odawara. A telegram sent thither solicited his presence in Tokyo, but he replied that the *Kuromaku* Conference having definitely decided in favour of absolute abstention on the part of the Camera statesmen, he must decline the invitation. Soon afterwards, however, Viscount Hijikata received the Emperor's commands to go and summon the Count from Odawara. In spite of indisposition, Count Ito obeyed the summons at once. The great question is whether the Count will accept the post of Minister President. At the *Kuromaku* Conference he was asked by Count Matsukata whether he would accept. He replied that if no other resource presented itself, he might undertake the great responsibility, provided that the policy of the Government were materially changed and all the Cabinet Ministers replaced. These conditions were not acceptable, and the Conference separated without any distinct result, Count Ito leaving the capital and avowing his intention not to return unless compelled by a crisis to do so. He foresaw the present crisis at that time, and declared that, even though consulted again, he should decline to interfere. Hence it may safely be concluded that even though the majority of the present Cabinet as well as the leaders of the National Union seek to induce him to accept the Premiership, he will not do so without making a radical change in the Cabinet.

COUNT YAMAGATA.

Recently both Count Yamagata and Count Yamada have been very active. The former is said to have been engaged settling some affairs of the Army and Navy. He is understood to be willing to take any trouble in such a cause. There is another rumour, however, namely that the Local Governors belonging to the extreme section (*Yakki gumi*) and a number of the National Unionists are endeavouring to make him take the post of either Minister President or Minister of War.

COUNT KURODA.

Count Kuroda stands comparatively aloof: no one talks much of him. The only rumour is that he will probably become President of the Privy Council. This idea is based on the supposition of Count Ito accepting the Premiership. At the last *Kuromaku* Conference Count Ito is said to have proposed that position to Count Kuroda and to have received an assurance of the latter's willingness to occupy it. But unless Count Ito becomes Minister President, Count Kuroda will not accept the Presidency of the Council.

COUNT INOUE.

Count Inoue has been enjoying himself at Miyashita. He intended to return to Tokyo some days ago, but while he was packing his portmanteau news of a political crisis came, and he unpacked again with all expedition. He too attended the *Kuromaku* Conference and stated his conditions, so that, unless an entirely new Cabinet is organized, he will not accept office.

COUNTS MATSUKATA AND OYAMA.

On the 27th ultimo Count Oyama with some others repaired to Count Matsukata's to advise Original from

him. Count Oyama said that if the Minister President could not find a satisfactory solution, he had better resign. Count Matsukata replied that, having been commanded by the Emperor, he had sought to settle the difficulty, but finding unexpected difficulties in connection with the portfolios of War and the Navy, he had now definitely resolved to resign. While speaking he drew from his pocket his petition for leave to resign. Count Oyama read it, and then said jestingly:—"When you moved to this official residence I told you that Count Ito had occupied it for 2½ years, Count Kuroda and Count Yamagata for only a year each, and I asked you whether you could occupy it for 3 years. Do you remember? Well, you have remained here more than a year now, so you ought to be content." Thereat the two laughed heartily.

THE AUTUMN MANŌUVRES.

THE autumn manœuvres of the Tokyo Garrison, which are to take place next October, will be held, says the *Choya Shimbun*, in the district between Utsunomiya and Shirakawa. Where the actual fighting will come off, has not yet been announced, but as the headquarters are to be in Utsunomiya, between which place and Shirakawa there is no locality suitable for them, the battle will probably be in the neighbourhood of Utsunomiya. We mention this fact, though, owing to the circumstance that no facilities are given to foreigners to view the manœuvres of Japanese troops, the event has not much interest for our foreign readers. There is, of course, considerable difficulty in making arrangements for the presence of foreigners on such occasions, but it might be well worth while to stretch a point in their favour.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON THE NEW CABINET.

THE *Jiji Shimpō*, discussing the present political situation, says that it is uncertain who will take the post of Minister President but that many of the *Kuromaku* statesmen will probably enter the Government, which is quite natural. The political world is like a gigantic stage. If Danjuro and Kikugoro do not take the leading parts in a new theatrical performance, however skillful the second-rate actors may play, the spectators feel dissatisfied. The well-known actors' names must not be left out of the programme. But, whoever assumes the reins, he ought to adopt Count Matsukata's policy of centralizing the administrative power in the person of the Prime Minister, and requiring the other members of the Cabinet to follow his counsels. Of course it is not easy to carry out such a system, because several of the *Kuromaku* statesmen being equally able and influential, no one is willing to follow the other. But if a system of several heads be adopted, the new play will receive no public applause. Perhaps the best way to get over this difficulty is illustrated by the drama of the Forty-seven Ronins: In that play Heizayemon's rôle is the most difficult; much more so than Yuranosuke's. Hence Heizayemon's part is generally taken by the best actor. Yet on the stage Yuranosuke is the master, and Heizayemon appears as a common servant. Should Heizayemon attempt to show his superiority on the stage the piece would be totally ruined. Similarly the Camera Statesmen, though they may be equally able and influential, must agree to serve under one head. Then they may count on public applause. They can afford to do so, since no Cabinet will remain unchanged more than 3 or 5 years at longest. If, then, they serve under their equal for a time, their turn will soon come to be served.

The *Jiji* goes straight to the heart of matters when it says that Count Matsukata's Cabinet was in very truth the Cabinet of Count Matsukata. There was no question of too many cooks. We believe that never before during the *Meiji* era were the members of any Cabinet induced to play such subordinate parts. If Count Matsukata's rule deserved to be well remembered for nothing else, this one thing should suffice to confer credit on it. It has seemed to the public that a noticeable feature, a flagrant blemish, of Japanese statesmanship during the past few years, has been want of disciplined

unity. The defect is well illustrated by the journals of the capital. Many a journal has been reputed a representative of the Government, but in every case it has been found that these journals were the organs of particular statesmen, and that they were always ready to attack the Government at the instance of their special patron. So, too, we hear of Ministers having an innings on their own account, or establishing certain relations quite independently, and perhaps contrary to the wishes, of their colleagues. In the face of a resolute foe, soldiers learn to work together. Count Matsukata's Cabinet learned the lesson under his leadership, when confronted by an implacable opposition, and the members were wise enough and loyal enough to practise what they had learned. Curiously enough, however, the Minister who introduced this salutary reform found himself at last in the presence of a revolt which he could not quell. Did he draw the reins too tightly?

THE "JIYU" ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

THE *Jiyu* alleges that recent collisions between the Government and the Diet, and friction among the members of the Cabinet, have caused much delay in the affairs of the State and obstructed national progress. But in establishing a perfect constitutional government, it is necessary to go through all these disagreeable ordeals. Therefore the sooner Japan gets the experience behind her, the better. No time-serving policy ought to be adopted. Count Matsukata has resigned, and it is undecided who will succeed him but the *Jiyu* hopes that the new Cabinet will adopt a decided policy instead of making compromises for the purpose of bringing the members into temporary harmony. It does not dislike the idea of a Cabinet headed by Count Yamagata, leader of the Military Party, as advocated by the National Union. For the country is still under a military despotism, and as soon as the representatives of that system collect together to form a Cabinet, the Popular Party will have no trouble in destroying them at one stroke. At present, however, such a wholesale measure is impossible, inasmuch as they are scattered about everywhere. If, on the other hand, a Military Cabinet is considered to be behind the age, then a Civil Cabinet will also be welcome to the Popular Party. That Cabinet might possess some elements essential to a constitutional Government, but it would still be a Conservative Cabinet, and therefore the Radical Party would be only too pleased to fight with it in the next session of the Diet. The one kind of Cabinet which the Popular Party is most desirous of seeing is a Cabinet of Renowned Statesmen. It would consist of Satsuma and Choshu men with others who are thoroughly loyal to them. Externally they would look strong, but being an assembly of men of totally different opinions they must always disagree. Thus the Popular Party would at once find an opportunity to abolish the old abuse of clan Government. Hence any of these different kinds of Cabinets is welcome, to the *Jiyu*. But above all things it hopes to see a Cabinet strong enough to accept its own responsibility, and to act as a Cabinet in a constitutional polity.

THE "MAINICHI" AND COUNT ITO.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that since the close of the third session of the Diet, the working of the administrative machine has been suspended owing to troubles among the administrative engineers. What have the Government done since the 15th of June when the session closed? They have promulgated a few laws and the supplementary Budget to which the Diet gave its consent. But for the rest there has been nothing worth mentioning, except continual squabbles among the Cabinet Ministers themselves. At last Count Matsukata has presented his resignation, and retired to Tomioka. The great question is, who will succeed him. It is rumoured that Count Ito will probably accept the post. The Count is not perfect, but no man among the clan statesmen is better suited for the post than he. Some recommend Count Yamagata or Count Kuroda, but if the Emperor has commanded Count Ito

to form a Cabinet, he must take the responsibility without hesitation. If he accepts the offer, he knows that first, the world has grown tired of clan government; and secondly, that the resignation of Count Matsukata, though proximately caused by disagreements among his colleagues, is really due to the fact that the people of the empire are no longer willing to endure clan government, and have attacked it unsparingly. So the Count cannot accept without first determining his policy, and obtaining the concurrence of his colleagues. Otherwise, however able or experienced he may be, he cannot maintain the position long. According to the history of the past, Count Ito's usual plan is to emerge when the world is at peace, and when it shows signs of disorder to transfer his responsibilities to some one else's shoulders and calmly look on. But such a practice ought to be abandoned now, as a real statesman alone can settle the present troubles, and there is no man in the empire but Count Ito capable of the task.

WHEELED VEHICLES IN JAPAN.

THE *Statistician* gives some interesting figures about the number of wheeled vehicles in Japan and their value:—

Number of carriages for carrying people (<i>nori ai basha</i>).....	2,817
Value of above.....	777,492 yen
Number of passengers for carrying goods.....	25,635
Value of above.....	205,080 yen
Number of <i>jinrikisha</i>	181,664
Value of above.....	2,906,624 yen
Number of hand-carts.....	714,580
Value of above.....	2,858,320 yen
Number of ox carts.....	10,038
Value of above.....	403,520 yen
Total number of wheeled vehicles.....	934,784
Total value of wheeled vehicles.....	7,151,036 yen

It will be observed that the *Statistician* values each stage carriage (*nori-ai-basha*) at 276 yen, an astonishingly liberal estimate as it seems to us. Certainly forty or fifty yen would build the best of the terrible conveyances that ply in the suburbs of Tokyo and on some of the principal country roads. Doubtless the tram-cars and omnibuses raise the average, but then there are not many of them. The average value of a *jinrikisha*, we see, is put at 16 yen.

THE FIVE HUNDRED RAKAN PICTURES.

SOME time ago there was talk of a great sale of pictures by a temple in Kyoto which had fallen into pecuniary difficulties. The story did not obtain much credence at the time, but it is now repeated by the *Jiji Shimbun* with very full details. The temple in question is Daioku-ji of Murasaki-no in Kyoto. Its debts having accumulated to a sum of nearly a hundred thousand yen, some method of clearing them off had to be found, and no better way presented itself than to dispose of a set of pictures of the five hundred Disciples of Buddha—the *Ahrats*—which had been in the possession of the temple for several generations. It is not stated by whom the pictures were painted. Probably the artist's name is not known, for in the case of the vast majority of the pictures preserved in Japanese temples tradition is entirely silent as to the painters' names, and since neither name nor mark was ever written on sacred pictures, there is no way of identifying the work except by internal evidence. We have never before heard of this wonderful set of pictures, but it is plain that they must be held in very high esteem to command such a price. The priests, before putting them on the market, were obliged, of course, to obtain the sanction of the authorities, and when the application was received, official reference was made to the Bureau charged with the duty of inspecting and keeping a record of public heirlooms throughout the empire. The Bureau replied that the pictures had been placed by it in the third class, and that the proposed price did not seem too low. Much regret was expressed by the Governor of Kyoto that such a unique set of paintings should be sold, but the circumstances left no choice, and permission was accordingly given. The *Jiji* does not know exactly how much the temple received for the pictures, as, of course, there

were sundry commissions to be paid; but it asserts that they were sold to an American merchant for a hundred and eighty thousand yen. We must confess to much scepticism about this figure. Two of the pictures are said to be missing, and thus the price paid becomes over 360 yen per picture. There are very few Japanese pictures for which any foreigner would pay 360 yen, and if any American merchant has disbursed such a sum for a figure of an Ahrat painted after the manner of mediæval Japan, we admire his enthusiasm more than his judgment. At all events it seems a pity that such heirlooms should be allowed to leave Japan.

CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS AND LOCAL JOURNALISTIC CHARACTERISTICS.

We find it very entertaining to observe the hubbub made by a section of the local foreign press about the misconception into which we were betrayed by the *St. James's Budget's* review of Mr. Smith's "Chinese characteristics." When we commented on the book we were careful to explain that we had never seen it, and that we based our remarks entirely on the review. Nothing could have been more misleading than the review. The book, as we know now from actual perusal, is admirable. It gives evidence of the keenest observation; is delightfully written, and shows throughout a disposition to be fair as well as marked distaste to assume omniscience. No one could have formed the smallest conception of such a book from the London journal's review. The review conveyed only one impression, namely, that Mr. Smith was one of those self-sufficient ignoramuses who judge a whole nation by their superficial observation of a unit's eccentricities or idiosyncrasies. Now a portion, if not the whole, of the book had appeared in the columns of the *North China Herald*, and had been praised by us at the time. Therefore, because we were misled by the review in the *St. James's Budget*, the Shanghai journal accuses us of "an extraordinary change of opinion." How delightfully ingenious on our contemporary's part! An "extraordinary change of opinion," when we had no portion of the book before us on the second occasion, but judged it entirely, as we were careful to explain, by the *St. James's Budget's* review! Had we said that the London journal's review distorted Mr. Smith into "an ignorant prig who does not hesitate to base monstrously ridiculous generalizations on his own equally monstrous ignorance," whereas we knew him by his book to be a wholly different kind of person, none of our gentle and ingenious critics would have made any protest. But unfortunately we did not know Mr. Smith's book; we had never heard his name in connection with any work on Chinese characteristics; and we were not aware that he was the author of the essays in the *North China Herald*. Our sole mistake was that we failed to recognise the Shanghai newspaper's very clever, very fair, and very open-eyed anonymous contributor in the Mr. Smith of the London journal. And we defy anybody to have identified the two without previous knowledge. One local journal alleges that we had ourselves reviewed Mr. Smith's work. That is an untruth. The *North China Herald* says that it sent us a copy of the work. Perhaps so, but we never received it. And what a storm in a tea-pot the whole thing is! Good for Mr. Smith, however. We are sure that he has forgiven us, being, as we take it, a shrewd as well as an observant and witty man. We wish that he would write a brochure about local journalistic characteristics in the East.

MR. MORTIMER MENPES.

The Dowdeswell Gallery, in New Bond Street, says a recent issue of a London journal, has opened with a pretty little collection of some sixty paintings and drawings of Venice by Mr. Mortimer Menpes, whom many of us remember in connection with his visit to Japan seven years ago. Very pleasing to the eye is the soft colouring of the architecture which characterises the greater portion of the pictures, though one cannot help regretting that nearly

all partake so much of the character of miniatures. Probably the exhibit which will claim most attention is a fine architectural study of St. Mark's (No. 14), lit up by the soft light of closing evening, and judiciously placed so as to afford a most pleasing contrast to its neighbour (No. 15), which represents the southern aisle of the same fine old building. The high altar of the same church also offers a fine subject, to which has been allotted a central position, though in the colouring natural truth would seem to have been somewhat sacrificed to effect. Although Venice, of all places in the world, offers to the painter so many subjects peculiarly characteristic of itself and pre-eminently effective in their grouping, it is only in one or two small pieces, such as "Cannareggio" (No. 13), and in a pretty evening effect ("Chioggia," No. 56), that the beaten track is followed, representations of characteristic, though not particularly picturesque, houses forming the bulk of the collection, which, however, for this very reason is perhaps the more worthy of a visit.

THE SCHOOL OF SERICULTURE.

THE ceremony of conferring diplomas on the graduates of the Sericultural School at Nishigahara, Oji, took place on the 30th ultimo, in the presence of his Excellency Viscount Sano, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Nishimura, Vice-Minister and other officials. Viscount Sano made the following speech to the graduates:—

I congratulate you heartily, gentlemen, on having brought your studies to a successful termination and obtained diplomas of proficiency. I desire to take the opportunity of addressing a few words to you. Food and raiment are the two most necessary requisites of daily life, and garments may be made of cotton, wool, hemp, and so forth, but certainly the finest material of all is silk. Silk is produced in various countries, but chiefly in China, Italy, and Japan. The quantity produced in Japan is small compared with the quantity produced in China—only about one half. A few years ago, however, when I was last abroad, it was only a fourth. Our silk stands distinctly on a lower grade than that of Europe, not because our silk-worms or our inueries are inferior, but because our methods of sericulture are less skillful. The great staple which preserves our balance of trade is silk, and if care be given to methods of sericulture so as to raise the grade of the article, very material results will ensue. Suppose, for example, that the price is increased twenty per cent, then on every hundred catties of silk sold there is an added gain of a hundred yen, approximately, so that the subject, as you perceive, is of the greatest importance. I trust, therefore, that you will devote the utmost attention to bringing about improvements in methods of sericulture as a matter of national interest. Remember, too, that no science or art can be thoroughly acquired by a single course of study, and above all that to apply in practice the knowledge obtained in the classroom is a matter of the greatest difficulty. Many a medical student graduates from the Imperial University, but very few indeed are the medical men that distinguish themselves in their profession. It is from this time forth that you must work hardest and must earnestly. To one other point I wish to direct your special attention. The most necessary factor in all human enterprises is confidence. It will be your part to inculcate this truth upon the lower orders, to instruct them and lead them in the right way, so that they may value honesty and sincerity above everything. These are behests I would make to you, gentlemen, while congratulating you on your success up to the present.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN" AND COUNT KURODA.

ON the one hand, writes the *Kokumin Shimbun*, there are ignorant fellows who attempt to thrust an unconstitutional argument down the nation's throat; on the other, there are still more extreme folks who hope to organize a military party to fight against the Opposition under a constitutional government. If the people of the empire were to rise against them the influence and power of Satsuma would fall to the ground at one stroke. The older members of the Satsuma representatives ought to be held responsible for correcting the situation. Therefore we hope that Count Kuroda will stand forth and strike down the sham heroes who are attempting to collect violent men, that he will lead the honest and peace-loving folks who refuse to enlist in the ranks of the Military Party, and that he will assist the Civil Party to form a constitutional

Cabinet. Count Kuroda is the only man suited for the post. He expressed his disapproval of official interference in elections; he dislikes the organization of the Military Party; and he has committed no political error lately. Besides, he is one of the most patriotic men in the empire. If he does not rise and give his aid, the doom of the Satsuma men is sealed, and he will be held responsible for the event.

POLITICS.

No light is yet distinctly visible on the political horizon. Long conferences are daily held by the elder statesmen, but the situation is one that requires much thought and many adjustments. Count Ito and Count Iwanoye will certainly not return to power unless they can see their way clearly to such a radical reconstruction of the Cabinet as shall not only guarantee it against a recurrence of the vicissitudes that have recently been experienced, but also give it strength to follow steadily the policy of independence which they rightly regard as the only prudent programme at present. It is too soon for the Government to identify itself with any political party for the sake of securing support in the Diet. Such an alliance would signify nothing less than government by party, and Count Ito will certainly not take the lead in prematurely inaugurating that last stage of representative institutions.

TAX ON DEALERS IN KEROSENE.

We read in the *Kokkai* that it is in contemplation to impose a special tax on the dealers in kerosene oil. There is at present no fiscal regulation applying to these traders, and the only resource has been to make them liable to the ordinary Business Tax. But the Tokyo journal asserts that a project of law on the subject is in course of preparation, and will be submitted to the Diet next session. Our contemporary adds that the amount annually realized by the tax would be over thirteen hundred thousand yen, but such a calculation is altogether perplexing. The value of the Kerosene oil imported into Japan has never reached five million dollars in any year, and how the retailers of that quantity of merchandise could be taxed to the extent of thirteen hundred thousand dollars we fail to see.

MORE SHIPWRECKED TURKS.

A TELEGRAM from the Hakodate Police Authorities, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, informs the Kanagawa Police that four more shipwrecked Turks have turned up in Kitami province, and that three of them are coming to this Settlement in the *Sagami Maru*. Whether these men belonged to the same crew as the eleven cast-aways already in Yokohama, or whether a second Turkish ship has been lost off the Japanese coast, the police do not profess to determine, but we should think it most improbable that two Turkish ships can have been in these waters simultaneously. It is certainly strange that no means can be found of communicating with the eleven Turks now in Yokohama, so as to learn their story.

TOKUSHIMA.

ANOTHER terrible disaster is reported from Tokushima Prefecture. During the recent typhoon a landslip occurred in the Otomura Division, blocking the course of a river and forming a lake, the waters of which gradually accumulated until the night of the 27th ultimo, when they burst their restraints and spread over the Nakakito Division, swamping several hundred houses, including the post-office, local offices, police-station, a temple, and so forth. Several lives are said to have been lost, and the district now presents the appearance of a sea.

THE RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

M. SCHÉVITCH, formerly Russian Representative in Japan, has been appointed Minister to Portugal, and the Minister from the latter country, Mr. Michael Hitrovo, has been nominated to represent Russia at the Court of Japan. This, of course, is the reverse of promotion for M. Schévitch, Russia's interests in Portugal being of a wholly insignificant character, while her

interests in Japan are very substantial. M. Hiltrovo was Russian Diplomatic Agent and Consul-General in Egypt from 1882 to 1886. From that post he proceeded, as Minister Plenipotentiary, to Roumania, where he served until 1891, being then transferred to Lisbon. He possesses Court rank.

THE WORLD'S FAIR AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM FOR JAPAN.

In a leading article, published in a recent issue, the *Yiji Shimpō* draws attention to the fact that the Chicago Exhibition will afford Japan a splendid opportunity for bringing to the notice of foreigners generally, the many attractions which the country offers to the tourist. The indirect benefits of the Exhibition appear to our contemporary likely to prove of far greater moment to this country than the trade in Japanese products, and works of art and industry. The object which exhibitors should set before them is to create the impression that a country which can send such exhibits as are displayed on the stalls must have a great deal that is worth seeing. To attract tourists to Japan should be one of the highest ambitions of exhibitors. The *Yiji* is of opinion that special steps should be taken to bring Japanese scenery, architecture, art, and various modern improvements calculated to show the enterprise of the nation, to the notice of foreign observers. It advocates the appointment of agents, whose special duty it shall be to furnish information to intending tourists respecting hotels, railways and a variety of other matters. Such agents should make a point of circulating pamphlets and advertisements in railway trains and other places of resort. If, as the *Yiji* anticipates, the Exhibition is the means of causing a large influx of tourists, then our contemporary advocates that measures be taken for the diversion and amusement of foreign visitors. Special Exhibitions should be held for their benefit, steamers should be ready to go on excursion trips, and so on. Japan's highest interest, argues the *Yiji*, lies in making herself better known. Already foreigners are wont to speak of this country as a Paradise. No visitor who comes to these shores goes away disappointed. All that is needed is to increase the number of visitors a hundred fold. The coming Exhibition offers a grand opportunity for doing this, and our contemporary insists on the importance of making the fullest use of it.

MR. GLADSTONE'S RYE.

THE injury inflicted on Mr. Gladstone during his visit to Chester has an exceedingly comical side. When the missile struck the Grand Old Man, he fell back in his carriage and said to Baron Halkett who was riding with him, "It was a cruel thing to do. I hope some notice will be taken of it." Notice enough was taken of it. Mr. Gladstone might have been pretty confident of that. The papers were full of the occurrence the same evening, and on the next morning (Sunday) the following singular scene took place in the City Temple:—

The Rev. Dr. Talmage, of New York, had been announced to preach, and not only was the vast building densely crowded in every part, but many thousands gathered outside in the street besieging the doors and unable to gain admission. Before the sermon was proceeded with the Rev. Dr. Parker said it was reported, but he hoped the report was exaggerated, that Mr. Gladstone had been brutally assaulted whilst addressing an open air meeting at Chester—(Hisses, and cries of "Shame.") The report was that some one in the crowd had thrown a missile which struck the aged statesman, and injured one of his eyes. This outrage, added Dr. Parker, would be universally execrated, and by none more than by the best class of the right hon. gentleman's political opponents.—(Hear, hear.) It was an infamous act. He Mr. Gladstone's political opinions right or wrong, that was not the way to oppose him.—(Hear, hear.) As an audience they represented many opinions, but they represented only one decency and one humanity.—(Cheers.) He condemned the outrage as mean, cowardly, and damnable. If those present shared this opinion, would they indicate it by standing up? In response to this invitation the entire congregation numbering 1,000 or 1,400 persons, instantly stood up. The service was then resumed. Subsequently the Rev. Dr. Talmage said:—I agree with what Dr. Parker has said in regard to the infamous attack upon one of your political leaders, and in about 24 hours you will hear a loud thunder of indignation rolling back from America.—(Cheers.)

This big congregation standing up to protect the interests of decency and humanity, and these "loud thunders of indignation rolling back from America" seem slightly out of proportion to an incident which was nothing worse than a woman throwing a gingerbread nut. To be sure it was described as a "hard nut"—gingerbread nuts generally are—and to be sure Mr. Gladstone himself said that he had "never seen a woman throw with such spite and energy." But still, after all it was only a woman and only a gingerbread nut. And the climax was reached three days later when the following letter appeared in *The Times*:—

Sir,—Friends of Mr. Gladstone will be glad to know that the lady who threw the gingerbread at him in Chester is one of his most ardent supporters. Far from intending to insult him, she only attempted to give some outward expression of her frenzied admiration.

I could give you her name and address, but she is so utterly overwhelmed with the consequences of her reckless zeal that it would be cruel to add to her sufferings.

Yours truly,

FREDERICK DRESSER.

Charlton-hall, near Chester, June 30.

So the spitefully energetic female became a "lady," whose ideas did not range beyond the amenities of friendly support. Instead of "huzzahing" or waving her hat, she threw a delectable article of food at the Grand Old Man whom she so ardently loved, without the smallest suspicion that great preachers and big congregations would be denouncing her the next morning, and that the fall of her gingerbread nut would cause a "loud thunder of indignation to roll back from America."

THE INAUGURATION OF THE PARCEL POST SYSTEM.

It will be remembered that a bill authorising the inauguration of the parcel post system, elaborated by the Department of Communications, was carried through both houses of the Diet during last session, and received Imperial sanction. The public are naturally anxious to know when the new regulations are to go into force. From a note in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we gather that the Department of Communications finds itself without the necessary funds for carrying out the measures decided on. The sum required being over 400,000 yen, the Finance Department has been applied to, but has expressed its inability to meet such a demand with the means at its disposal. The Department of Communications has hitherto intended to open in October next some 50 parcel post offices. In many cases this would have involved the erection of new buildings, or the enlargement of those already in existence, and the incurring of various transport expenses. The Department finds that its original programme must be curtailed for the present, and it is now officially stated that there is a probability that parcel delivery will be confined to Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto for the first few months, or even that Tokyo alone may for a while reap the benefit of the new reform.

BESIDE A GRAVE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Kiukiang, says:—

I have recently seen a curious sight in the country, and one that is not often to be seen, I think, and that is a man who has taken a vow to watch three years at his mother's grave. The old lady died last November and was buried as usual on the side of a neighbouring hill in the family burying place. When the remains had been consigned to the earth the son declared that he would not leave the grave for three years, and so far he has been true to his word. The neighbours took upon themselves to provide for his wants and a subscription list was started, ten piculs of rice being contributed by his relatives and those who knew him. Families take turns in preparing his food and bringing it to him. Others brought straw and poles and made a rude hut for him large enough to contain himself and the grave of his mother. I went to see him when he had already been at his self-appointed task nearly seven months, and I shall not soon forget the sight and smell! Around the hut there were three well kept graves, those of his father, brother and wife, and inside that of his mother. I opened the bundle of straw and twigs which he does duty as a door and had a look at him, and worse than that, had smell of him. During the three years of his watching he does not wash himself at all; the straw upon which he lies is not removed, he does not change his clothes till the time has expired, he does not come out of the little place for any cause whatever, he speaks to none except perhaps occasionally, and then only briefly to his nearest relatives. He spends the time muttering prayers and burning incense at the head of the tomb, along the length of which he is stretched. The hut is not high enough to allow him

to stand upright, and only a few feet longer than himself. One can faintly imagine the foulness of such a den and the condition of an unshorn human being after such an existence; what he will be like at the end of the summer I cannot well understand. It does not seem possible that a man should be able to live through three years of such horrors, none but a Chinaman could do it; his training will tend, however, to fit him for such a trial. If he survives the three years he will be highly honoured, the officials will go in state and receive him and report the matter to the Throne, and he will receive from the Emperor's hand a board containing four characters lauding his virtue. He may also receive some small official preferment and will thus be well provided for. The natives say that, although he is alone on the hillside among the graves, no ghosts or devils will interfere with him, and poisonous snakes will not come near him. I can well believe that even these scourges would avoid such a victim! The natives did not think, in reply to my question, that fleas and other vermin would leave him quite alone! People were not quite sure, some of them at any rate, what his motives were; some said, significantly, that he knew what he was doing. There was not very much to do, and at the end of three years lying at the grave, being fed by his friends, he would likely enough find a comfortable support for the rest of his natural life. The filial motive may have been the one that weighed the least.

THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

THE recent inundations and the damage caused by them to rice-land naturally effected the market and produced a rise in the quotations for rice. Speculators took advantage of the occasion to push the price still higher, with the result that many buyers who were not in among the "bulls" saw themselves threatened with heavy loss, if not ruin. The excitement ran so high on the 3rd instant that an assault was committed on one of the most active of the "bulls," and it is said that the police barely succeeded in saving him from the hands of his assailants. Subsequently the Exchange was closed by order, and business continues to be suspended. A threatening letter is reported to have been sent to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce by a party of men who promise all kinds of terrible things unless speedy steps are taken to check these speculative dealings in rice. Evidently the old faith in official omnipotence still survives in Japan.

A WHIRLWIND AT ASAKUSA.

SEVERAL vernacular papers report that on Tuesday afternoon, at about half-past three, a violent whirlwind was felt at Asakusa, which lifted the roofs of 10 houses and filled the air with shingles, tiles, and dust. It commenced at No. 15, Uina-michi, Hatchome, and swept over the seventh and eighth wards of the same street. No one seems to have been seriously injured. The commotion caused by the materials carried up into the air drew a vast concourse of people to the spot, who were under the impression that a fire was raging in the vicinity. A party of *soshi* actors, who were reciting in the third storey of the Ichimura-za when the whirlwind carried the roof of a neighbouring building away, were greatly alarmed, and with a shout left the building in a body.

SHOCKING INCIDENT.

A MOST shocking incident is reported from Ibaraki Prefecture. Two or three days ago, a large fishing junk drifted ashore in Isohama Bay. Surprised at her apparently helpless condition, the people of the locality went on board, and found no less than thirty men lying dead. Further examination revealed a pot in which the last meal of the unfortunate sailors had been cooked. It contained the remains of a stew made of a shell-fish called *Nagarami-kai* and onions. There is nothing poisonous about these ingredients, but the only way of accounting for the men's deaths is that they had partaken of some poisonous matter. It is appalling to think of a whole ship's crew of thirty souls suddenly meeting their fate in such a manner.

DEATH OF MISS BARRIE.

WE regret very much to announce the death of Miss Barrie, daughter of Mr. W. Barrie, Superintendent Engineer of the Japan Mail Steamship Company. The young lady, a bright and beautiful girl of fourteen years, was on her way to England in charge of her Aunt, and being taken seriously ill at Singapore, expired

there on the morning of the 5th instant. Nothing could be sadder than the death of a much loved child thus separated from her parents, with whom the sincerest sympathy will be felt in their great sorrow.

A LAW COURT'S WORK IN JAPAN.

A RECORD of the cases tried by the Tokyo Local Court during the first half of this year shows that the hands of that tribunal must have been kept remarkably full. The criminal cases brought before it aggregated no less than 2,289, of which 2,203 were decided, being an average of about 15 per diem. The civil cases numbered 2,072, and of these judgment was delivered in 1,733 instances, being an average of about 11 daily. Thus, from January to June, the daily average of cases decided was 26. Of course the Tokyo Local Court has several sections, in all of which Judges are constantly sitting, but this record is not unworthy of note for all that.

THE ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

UP to yesterday evening the number of Yokohama and Tokyo British residents who had registered their votes at this office in connection with the elections in the United Kingdom was 192, divided as follows:—

Conservatives	165
Liberal Unionists	14
Liberals	13

Total 192

We trust that as such a substantial beginning has been made, other residents will follow the good example as quickly as possible.

THE CARGO OF THE "NORTH AMERICAN."

THE cargo on board the *North American* was shipped by the following firms:—Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co., camphor 1,336 cases, 2,000 cases of Camphor oil, and 1,500 bales of rags; Messrs. Browne & Co., 3,930 bales of matting; Messrs. Lucas & Co., 500 bales of matting; Messrs. Vantine & Co., 1,080 cases curios; Messrs. Tuska & Co., 343 cases curios; and Messrs. Witkowski, 69 cases of curios, besides 820 bales of matting and 343 cases of curios shipped by various Japanese.—*Hyogo News*.

JULY THUNDER.

It appears that July distinguished itself among recent years by its terrible thunder storms. The News Agency reports that during the month no less than a hundred and twenty places were struck by lightning; that over fifty people were killed, ten injured, fourteen rendered insensible but without any evil consequences, and six horses and oxen destroyed. This is a cruel record. The Japanese may well place lightning second in their list of things to be feared.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1894.

AN Imperial Ordinance has been issued authorizing the postponement of the Industrial Exhibition which, under ordinary circumstances, would be held in 1894. This measure was evidently inevitable. It would have been impossible for the people to make any adequate preparations for an exhibition at home in 1894 after exhausting their energies upon the Chicago World's Fair of 1893.

THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN KOREA AND JAPAN.

THE News Agency reports that the Japanese Government has signified its willingness to accede to Korea's wishes with reference to the Quelpart fisheries, but in return has submitted certain counter-proposals to Korea. What Japan has asked for we are not told, but the Agency says that Korea's answer is to be brought by an envoy who has already set out from Seoul.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to nominate Inspector General of Hospitals, Dr. Takagi Kanchiro, and Mr. Nishimura Ryokichi, to be members of the House of Peers. The House will gain materially by the presence of such a distinguished and active expert as Dr. Takagi.

THE TURKS.

MR. MANKICHI, who has interested himself in the Turks and had given them temporary em-

ployment, informs us that he has at present no more work to which he can put them, but that they will shortly be sent home. He begs on behalf of the unfortunates to thank the community for the sum subscribed towards their passage money—\$177.80. Of this Mr. Mankichi has placed \$100 in the hands of the Police, and a like sum will be handed over to them on the Turk's account as soon as the fund reaches that amount.

FATHER COOKE.

A WELL-KNOWN character has just died in India, namely, Father Cooke, Military Roman Catholic Chaplain at Poona. He was seventy-two years of age, was educated at Stonyhurst, was one of the earliest graduates of the University of London, and acted as tutor to the real Sir Roger Tichborne.

A NEW MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

AS was anticipated by the vernacular press, Mr. Yasuba, hitherto Governor of Aichi Prefecture, who was placed on the Retired List on the 2nd instant, has been nominated by the Emperor a member of the House of Peers.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

THE Ministerial question almost monopolizes the attention of the metropolitan papers. What had for some time been feared has actually come to pass, even more early than had been expected, namely the fall of the reconstructed Matsukata Cabinet. Five of the Ministers, Counts Oki and Goto, Viscounts Enomoto and Sano, and Mr. Kouze, remain at their posts. But instructions having been directly given by the Emperor to Counts Ito, Kuroda, Yamagata, and Inouye to consult together as to the formation of a new Cabinet, the Ministers left behind by Count Matsukata at present occupy an extremely awkward position. It was at one time supposed that they would resign in the event of the retirement of their Premier, but it now appears to be their intention to remain in office until the conference of the four *Kuromaku* statesmen shall have reached a certain stage of progress. The latter statesmen meanwhile are daily conferring together, but as yet nothing is known as to the results of their meetings. There are several circumstances which may very probably cause considerable delay before a satisfactory basis can be elaborated for the organization of the new Ministry. In the first place, Count Ito or any other statesman about to assume the duties of the Premiership, must previously make himself pretty certain of the hearty co-operation of his colleagues as to the essential points of the policy he desires to pursue. But the greatest difficulty lies in the management of the Military party, which is at present inconveniently aspiring and influential. This party, however, as we have already pointed out, lacks the first essential of party efficiency, viz., a competent leader. Consequently, after offering some provoking embarrassment to Counts Ito, Inouye, and Kuroda, it is expected that the leaders of the party will finally yield to the guidance of these statesmen. Count Ito does not appear to be particularly desirous of becoming Minister President, but the whole vernacular press, with the single exception of the *Kokkai*, regard him as the inevitable chief of the new Cabinet. The *Kokkai* looks to Count Inouye for a solution of the Ministerial problem. In our contemporary's opinion, he is exactly the kind of man to assume the direction of affairs at a juncture like the present, where the qualities chiefly required are decision and courage.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing on the same subject, observes that the resignation of Count Matsukata under the circumstance was unavoidable. With reference to the Ministers who still remain in office, our contemporary thinks it but proper on their part to resign as soon as the new Minister President shall have been determined, so as to leave him entirely free to select his colleagues. As to the appoint-

ment of a new Minister President, the *Nichi Nichi* lays stress on the importance of selecting a statesman specially fitted to carry out a progressive policy. The Minister President, whoever he may be, must be released from all responsibility for the measures undertaken by his predecessor, and must, moreover, be allowed full scope for carrying out a new and thorough-going policy. Our contemporary, however, regrets to say that some influential men are now endeavouring to restore the lost prestige of clan influence. There are also signs of a determined attempt on the part of certain soldiers to meddle in politics. The *Nichi Nichi* further hints that some are so weak as to be a drag on their friends and co-operators. The statesmen now conferring about the solution of the knotty problem are reminded of these difficulties, and urged to seek such a solution as shall hold good for many years to come.

What is most noteworthy about the present Ministerial crisis, is the circumstance that the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* leaders have evinced a strong and active interest in the issue at stake. The Opposition politicians appreciate the importance of keeping in check the growing influence of the Military party. It was owing to this sentiment that they manifested open sympathy with Count Goto and Mr. Kono in these Ministers' brief struggle with Viscounts Takasima and Kabayama. The Radicals and Progressionists, especially the former, are inclined to give their support to the group of elder statesmen represented by Count Ito. The *Jiyu*, the Radical organ, has declared its party's willingness, not indeed to support, but to cease from opposing, the Government, should Count Ito and his fellow-thinkers return to power and follow an enlightened policy. The *Kokumin Shimbun* advises the Opposition to declare what sort of Ministry it desires to have formed; for our contemporary fears that, if things be left to take their own course, the Military party is likely to obtain the upper hand. The Radical and the Progressionist parties have re-called to the capital most of their leading members who were on lecture tours throughout the country. Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, a Radical member of the Diet, is said to have visited Marquis Tokudaiji, the Grand Chamberlain, to acquaint him with the wishes of his party about the character of the new Cabinet. Mr. Suzuki's object was no doubt to contrive that the matter should reach the ears of the Emperor.

The whole press is united in condemning the conduct of military men at the present juncture. The *Nippon* and the *Hochi Shimbun* are specially noted for their straightforward censure of the interference of soldiers in politics. The conduct of such meddlers is declared to be a disgrace to the country and to their profession. The *Hochi* advises Counts Ito, Kuroda, Yamagata and Inouye to keep themselves high above the level of these troublesome officers and, by remaining firmly united, to hold the latter under their control.

The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, affirms that certain statesmen make no secret of an intention never to part with the power which they wrested from the House of Tokugawa at the point of the bayonet, unless they are forced by similar means to yield it up. It is no doubt true, we read, that the four clans of Sasuma, Choshu, Tosa, and Hizen wrested the administrative power out of the hands of the Shogunate by force. But the time has irrevocably passed when force is required to effect a transfer of political power from one set of men to another. Under certain conditions, the Radical organ would not hesitate to recognise the necessity of a revolution; but it can never approve the threatening and warlike views attributed to the above statesmen. It then proceeds to dilate upon the evil of military interference in politics. Men of the Army and Navy ought to confine their attention entirely to the question of the country's protection. If they do so, there will be no more danger of their

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defensive measures being seriously thwarted by the people. The *Yiyu* professes to be deeply disquieted by the assertion that the Army and Navy being in the possession of Choshu and Satsuma respectively, the portfolios of these apartments must of necessity be occupied by officers of the two clans. If such be the case with the two branches of the Service, it is idle to look for the completion of any effective system of national defence. Our contemporary earnestly hopes that the crisis may create men capable of thoroughly re-organizing the Army and the Navy.

The cowardly attempt to blow up Count Okuma and Mr. Kono has caused some excitement in the capital. The Opposition papers are greatly exasperated about it. They have no manner of doubt that the culprits belong to the official party. From the elaborate manner in which the appliances were constructed, they arrive at the singular conclusion that at the bottom of the affair there must be men occupying a high position in society, and they call upon the police authorities to exert themselves to the utmost and never rest till the last person implicated in the matter has been arrested. Detectives are omniscient enough to record the most trifling words and actions of the politicians of the Opposition. If they bring to bear upon this case even a fraction of their usual sagacity, they will find it easy to track out the real offenders. But the Opposition journals are not without misgiving; for they say that there have been instances in which the police authorities showed themselves singularly incapable of bringing culprits to justice. The case of the threatening letter to Count Ito is cited as a recent instance of the mysterious failure of the police. It was rumoured that the latter had been traced to a certain high quarter and that the Authorities found themselves utterly helpless to deal with the real offenders. Now again, various extravagant stories are circulated as to the authors of the nefarious plot against the life of the Home Minister and the leader of the *Kaishin-to*. Several innocent persons are the subject of suspicion; and in justice to them, if not to others, the Authorities are recommended to take their usual prompt and effective measures to expose the real offenders, whoever and wherever they may happen to be.

The recent inundations of course receive much attention from the Metropolitan papers. The press in general, especially the Opposition papers, are loud in calling upon the Authorities to succour localities such as Okayama, Tokushima, and Hyogo, where extraordinary damage has been sustained. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, a Progressionist journal, thinks that in some respects the effects of inundations are more disastrous than those of earthquakes; for in the latter case injuries are generally confined to life, buildings, and personal effects, whereas in the former the damage falls most heavily upon cultivated land. Our contemporary has no doubt that the Governors of the three Prefectures mentioned above will convene the Local Assemblies and seek their consent to disbursement from the Agricultural Distress Relief Fund. But that source of aid being quite insufficient to meet the demands of the crisis, recourse must be had to the Treasury. The Local Assemblies of these Prefectures are urged to institute accurate investigations into the requirements of the situation, and make full reports, so that the Authorities in Tokyo, as well as the general public, may be able to obtain a clear notion of the extent of the injuries. All this display of unprecedented zeal on the part of the Opposition press is not unnaturally regarded as, in some degree, an attempt to remove the discredit attaching to the policy of obstruction pursued by the Diet in the matter of earthquake relief.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* complains that, with annual appropriations of from 3,000,000 to 3,500,000 yen for riparian improvements ever since 1882, more has not been done to prevent disastrous inundations like those which recently

took place in several localities. Our contemporary urges the importance of carrying out a more thorough-going and effective system of riparian improvement. It hopes that a project embodying some such system may be presented to the Diet on the earliest possible opportunity. But it does not notice that the Radicals and Progressionists refused to vote money for the survey of rivers in the first and second sessions of the Diet.

The *Fiji Shimpō* repeats its advice to the Government about the importance of diverting the attention of the people to Korea. It sees no other possible means of extricating the nation from the present entanglement in domestic politics. At the same time, it is careful to observe that it does not mean to recommend an armed invasion of the peninsular Kingdom. What it professes to mean is, that the Japanese Government should, by peaceful means, support the independence of Korea, and thus indirectly safeguard the interests of this empire. A curious way, this, of engrossing the attention of hot-headed politicians! No one capable of reading between the lines can fail to understand the *Fiji's* real meaning, especially after a perusal of its previous article on the same subject already noticed in these columns. Be that as it may, however, we follow our contemporary a little farther. To the objection that there is not a statesman in this country capable of being entrusted with such an undertaking, the *Fiji* replies that a great man is not needed. What is required is prompt and decisive action. If the ball be once set rolling, it will go on of its own accord, and the whole nation must, as an inevitable result, unite to push the programme to a successful result. Truly the *Fiji* is delightfully disingenuous as well as startlingly frank in this matter.

The Eastern Radicals (*To-yo Yiyu-to*) are a puzzle. For our own part we believe, as we have stated more than once, that they are a coterie of determined adventurers on the look out for some opportunity to bring about an international complication in the direction of Korea. The *Kokkai* thinks that their object is to become the pioneers of socialism in this country, to which belief it is led by the circumstance that in their recently issued manifesto they lay stress upon "the protection of the poor labouring classes." If their object is to be the friends of the poor, they have struck a field in which there is wide scope for the development of any party. Perhaps they are well adapted to be the friends of the poor, being themselves accustomed to the hardships of life. But at all events, we read, they had better keep in mind that the labouring classes in Japan are self-respecting and well conducted, not at all like their *confères* of the West. The Eastern Radicals have therefore a unique opportunity to evolve a socialism of ideal purity, a thing far more lovable and respectable than the socialism of European countries. They are warned against stimulating the labouring classes to institute such wild wars against capitalists as are waged by the socialists of the Occident. Instead of attempting anything like that, they are advised to better the position of their would-be protégés by establishing saving banks for them, by encouraging them to organize some joint enterprises, and by opening free schools to educate their children. If the Eastern Radicals are chivalrous enough to protect the labouring classes, they will receive the cordial support and co-operation of hundreds of young men who, after receiving a fine education, now discover little scope for the exercise of their energy. The *Kokkai* does not seem particularly confident as to the Eastern Radicals' ability or inclination to take such a noble line of action. But it does seem very confident about the possibility of an ideal socialism in Japan. May we all live long enough to see these grand consummations, Christianity purified and re-habilitated in Japan, Art recalled from errant routes into the path of perfection, and socialism idealized. Young Japan promises them all, and Young Japan has at least the strength of self-conceit.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Proofs daily accumulate (if they were needed) that the intellectual side of religion is that which has the strongest attraction for the Japanese mind. The discussion of the month about revivals, for instance, indicates a decided lack of appreciation of the emotional in religion. In other Christian countries they do not talk about the best way of having good revivals; they have them. The slight hold which Buddhism has upon the educated classes is another instance. The best part of Buddhism is its esoteric part (in which, we venture to say, it offers more to the speculative intellect than Roman Christianity, its greatest rival among the humbler classes); and yet this inner core of Buddhism is practically ignored by those who alone can understand it. Again, we learn that many of the students of one of the Kyoto Buddhist colleges are thinking of entering the Doshisha, and similar movements, backwards and forwards, among the scholars of the different Christian theological schools, are too well known to need chronicling. How could this phenomenon occur, if it did not rest on a special sensitiveness to intellectual points of a religion and a relative dullness of the emotional nature, the faith to believe, which never permits such restiveness? One cannot help noticing also the absence of discussions of practical ethics—sanitary measures, charity, etc.—which fill such space in Western religious journals. At the same time we find the beginnings of a debate over the question whether emotion is the essential element of religion,—an indication, perhaps, of a consciousness of the quality which we have spoken of above. The New Buddhism we have not heard of at all for two months. Mr. Kanamori's book of last year took well in less time; and it is to be presumed that, if the educated classes have not declared for the New Buddhism (the only real hope for that cult) in the six months that have past, they will not do so at all.

In the *Rikugo Zasshi* (Congregational)—which we could not notice last month—Mr. Yokoi gives us two timely articles. "Religion and Science" is the title of the first. Alluding to the days when Draper's "Conflict of Religion and Science" raised such doubts, he declares that the controversy then raised has now almost ended. Religion and science are recognized not to be in conflict. They express two different but co-existing aspects of human nature. Religion is the higher: it is the sum of all philosophy. The Bible is not religion. It is an important book for the religious life; but it is not religion itself. We do not need to believe the scientific truth of every assertion in the Bible. The religious idea is common to all humanity, and may be seen in all quarters of the world, Science leads us to Religion; but there is no reason why we should set the two in contradiction. The second article is called "The Religion of this Life." There is a mode of thought, very common with religious people, which, so to speak, places the centre of gravity at quite the wrong point. This world is a miserable, sinful place, they say. Our only hope for happiness lies in the future life. Our chief aim is to escape the judgment of God and to learn to live amid our sinful surroundings in expectation of future bliss. Now such an attitude toward the present life is entirely erroneous. It is founded on a mistaken idea of the Old Testament. It can be easily proved that that Old Testament regarded the present life as that of chief and direct importance. Give up the idea that the present world is essentially sinful and unhappy. The most important thing for the Christian is to combat that notion, and to preach the worth and beauty of the world in which we have been placed.

In the same journal Mr. Ukita replies at length to the criticisms of Mr. Barnett on Japan. We published last month a brief notice of these criticisms. First, says Mr. Ukita, Mr. Barnett opines that the Japanese are not over-pious, but are light-hearted and frivolous. Now the first

is true enough, but the second quite incorrect. History refutes Mr. Barnett's statements. Conservatism, loyalty, obedience, appear on every page of Japan's records. These are serious and solid qualities. The past is the mother of the present; Mr. Barnett knows neither the first nor the second. Again, the Japanese, we are told, lack a genius for invention. This is true enough of the past, we admit. But perhaps things may change in the future. Again, Mr. Barnett says that the Japanese do not know true sorrow (*hiat*); the absence of deep piety prevents them from sympathizing strongly with those oppressed with sorrow; in Japan's history there is no hell, no Puritans. The first part of this statement is not justified in Japanese history. The poor and oppressed have ever found friends to come to their aid. Justice and friendship have been among the virtues highest prized. As to the other part of the statement, that there have never been Puritans in Japan, this is perhaps true; but then there never were in England until Christianity came. Japan may yet produce men of fervent piety and religious earnestness. Lastly, Mr. Barnett says, "When the last day comes, let it be remembered that Japan never had Moses and the prophets." If Mr. Barnett means that Japan never had men who were as religious as Moses or who taught the people of a future life, he is easily answered by the names of Shinran, Nichiren, Kusunoki, Confucius. Buddhism, Shintoism, Confucianism,—religions teaching lofty principles of loyalty and obedience—have made Japan what it is. Mr. Barnett cannot ignore these great qualities,—qualities of which every Japanese is proud. One may still claim credit for all that is due to these, while admitting that the Japanese people must look to Christianity for the supplementary qualities of piety and faith. In the same journal Professor Ono gives us a very disappointing article (if we consider his abilities and opportunities and his long silence) on "Moral Statistics of Japan." The thesis is that the modes of law-breaking differ in different countries according to the church of different peoples. In Japan the figures show the most frequent offences to be stealing, gambling, cheating, quarreling; crimes of personal violence and sexual crimes are far fewer than in the West. The very inadequate explanation is then offered that in the West material prosperity creates luxury and self-indulgence, and hence leads to sexual crimes. The possibilities of the subject are entirely missed in this article.

In the *Kiristukyo Shimbun* (Congregationalist) "Revival" is the topic of one article. Though men are rational beings, their acts rest on the emotions; Religion, most of all, is emotional. A religion without feeling is a religion without life. Unitarians and Calvinists are not fond of giving play to the feelings and therefore do not care for revivals. But the most important thing about religion is that it should be living, and to be living it must flow from the emotions. Many influential religionists have lately shown their dislike of revivals and have laughed at those who talk of them. But in reality it is the evil results, not the revivals themselves, that they deplore; and no doubt the results often are not desirable ones. Nevertheless revivals are as necessary for religious life as wind is for ships; only the stimulus should be a steady one, not dying away fitfully. In another number Mr. Uchimura writes on "Rational Revivals." There were times when science was young, and scholars were content to admit that the earth was made suddenly and in the space of 6 days—in other words, when catastrophism, or the operation of forces irregular and unusual, was an accepted doctrine. To-day catastrophism is rejected. First the seed, then the stalk, then the fruit, says the Bible. The progress of the spiritual nature can be no less gradual and regular than that of the physical. Nothing goes by starts and jumps; in everything there must be order. Revivals produce excess of feeling, which often mislead and cannot be relied upon. We should learn from the Bible that all spiritual progress, in order to be real, must be gradual.

The Sabbath question comes in for treatment at the hands of two acknowledged leaders. Mr. Yoko has just finished a series of articles in the *Kiristukyo Zasshi*, in which the subject is treated historically, and in the concluding article he deals with its practical aspect—the observance of Sunday in Japan. In the time of the Old Testament, it was seen, the purpose of the day was for rest only. Under the New Testament dispensation, on the other hand, worship and praise were the chief purposes, though rest was also included. The observance of Sunday cannot be the same in every country or even in all parts of the same country. Much must depend on the habits and character of the people. The main object is spiritual refreshment. Hence there should be as far as possible rest from physical labour. For such places as hotels, steamers, etc., there cannot be complete rest; but we should strive for as much rest as possible. Mr. Harada's essay dealing with the same subject is entitled "The Use of Law." There are two sorts of men,—those who use law and those who are used by it. We are not the servants of law, but its masters. The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. It is the spirit, not the letter of the law that is binding upon us.

Mr. Matsumura, in the *Kiristukyo Shimbun*, wishes that Christianity could acquire a stronger position before the public. The Christian workers have given their chief attention to the poor and humble. They have exemplified the Christlike virtue of benevolence and humility. But they must now turn their attention to the powerful and official classes. Many of those high in office have opposed Christianity, falsely charging it with inculcating disloyalty. The most important thing now for Christianity is to come forth and work publicly, acquiring a dominant influence in politics, trade, and all other departments of national life. In the *Gokyo* (Methodist) Mr. Yamada, writing on "The Influence of Christians," rebukes believers for condoning the covetous and grasping ambition of the politicians. To-day the politician worships only Self; and it is time for Christianity to set itself openly and resolutely against the evils which so disgrace our politics.

In *Shinri* (German Liberal), Mr. Minami writes interestingly on "What is Experience?" Beginning with the saying of Protagoras, "Man is the measure of all things," he traces the views of various philosophers in succeeding ages, thus leading up to his own conclusion, that experience is the source of all right judgment. Mr. Maruyama discusses "The Progress of Christianity." Progress is the law of all things, and not the less of religion. To-day the New Buddhism and Liberal Christianity are proving the continuity of this law. Christianity, as well as the opinions of Christians about the Bible, have differed in every age, but to-day we find that the unvarying tendency is with greater knowledge, to greater liberality. In the *Yiyu Kiristukyo Zasshi* (Universalist) the subject of Cruelty to Animals continues to be the subject of correspondence, and the movement seems to be progressing. "Modern Morality" is the subject of a writer calling himself "Kyokusen Gyofu," who rebukes those hypocrites who use religion as a cloak for various misdeeds. In *Shukyo* (Unitarian) a certain "Bando" writes on the "World-Haters." There is a class of people who believe that a higher Power controls and predestines events annulling free will and effacing the distinction between right and wrong. They are overpowered by the sense of fatality, and they cannot see the world in any other aspect. Such people are to be shunned. They do no good in the world. The sum of their philosophy is that they do whatever they are impelled to do,—that is, what they wish. Let us avoid a religious belief which binds us to seek conclusions. Mr. Minami, writing on "The Church and Believers," deplores the present backward condition of the Church, and recommends as a stimulant a more thorough acquaintance with Church history. Other articles are "The Religious Life," "The Condition of

Educational Science;" and "The Contest of Different Nationalities."

In the *Seikyo Shimpō* (Greek Catholic) Mr. Owada writes on "The Great Force," meaning Christianity. His article is a defence of Christianity from some recent attacks. Some of its opponents have said that it does not recognize the fundamental ethical duties of man; and have quoted in support the Bible passages about Christ coming to bring not peace, but a sword, about setting father against sons and mothers against daughters, etc. No doubt these passages, taken as they stand, may convey to the superficial reader an idea that Christianity's purpose is to dissolve the bonds of social life. But the real meaning of the words, and the whole import of Christianity, to those who are willing to reflect, is an utterly contrary one. Those who declare that Christianity ignores the great accepted ethical relations are simply ignorant of what they are talking about! Another writer, describing "Pious Heroes," claims that the heroes of all nations—Washington, Buntensho, Kusunoki, Justinian, etc.—have been truly religious men.

From Buddhist journals we have two of the usual notes,—the revival of Buddhism from its present apathy, and the decline of national morality. In *Gokoku*, appears an article "What shall we do for Buddhism?" There are two great forces in the religious world, Buddhism and Christianity. Until recently each pursued its course in its own domain without a rival. A collision has now occurred, and Christianity has seemed at first to get the upper hand. But this must by no means be taken as proof of the superiority of Christianity as a religion. Its superficial success is due purely to better methods of work. If Buddhism will discard its old-fashioned methods, and take up the task with a will, it can win the day. Let more regard be paid to the real needs of the people. Let us preach down to their intelligence, not over their heads. There is no reason why the better doctrine should not prevail, if properly taught. In the *Bukkyo* (Tendai Buddhists), there is also some very good "Advice to Buddhists." The writer first describes the impressions of a recent tour in the Occident, incidentally remarking that Christianity seemed to him to be at its best in the United States; and then takes up the subject of the weakness of Buddhism in Japan, and its failure to raise up religious heroes in the present day. The cause of this weakness, to his mind, lies in the neglect of the popular religious needs. "The preachers do not preach down to the people. They merely say: 'Buddhist doctrines are very profound; in fact you ordinary people could not understand them without a great deal of study. We will tell you Buddha's sayings; but you cannot understand them; simply remember them and do what we say.' Under such instruction, what can be expected? The people know that if they do evil they will go to hell (*jigoku*); if righteousness, to heaven (*gokuraku*); but of the real truths of Buddhism they are quite ignorant. I yield to none in my devotion to Buddhism. It is the best religion in the world, as all the world will one day confess. But at present its disciples are as one who has a sharp sword, and, ignorant of its use, cuts only his own flesh."

The *Taishakyo Zasshi* (Shinto) has perhaps received some encouragement to enlarge its scope, for it appears with a new and ambitious title, "*Fu-cho Shin-shu*," "New Magazine for the Harmonizing of Manners and Customs." The purpose, under the new management, is declared to be, "to set forth the true principles of Shinto, to increase the lustre of the national name, to make plain the relations of superior and inferior, to increase loyalty, to foster the love of national independence, to revive the spirit of patriotism, and to increase the prosperity of the country." The new editor's hopes are indeed, in the words of Camillo, a

"Foundation piled upon his faith,"

which will need to be strong.

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THE KOREAN QUESTION.

THE Japanese public is subject to periodically recurring fits of alarm about the situation in Korea. The invariable characteristic of these fits has hitherto been that they pass away as quickly as they are caused easily. The present case, however, seems to be an exception, in this, and some other important respects. The event that aroused the public attention was the attempt to blow up the TAI WON-KUN'S palace at Sôul. A month has passed away since that singular incident began to be discussed by the vernacular press, and yet journalists do not seem to have said their last word on the subject. What is remarkable about their writings is an entire unanimity of view as to the general nature of the policy to be pursued by Japan towards Korea. Papers of all kinds—Opposition, Government, Independent—are agreed that the time has arrived when some decisive step must be taken by Japan in respect of the Peninsular Kingdom. They all urge the Government at once to resolve upon a resolute policy calculated to effectually safeguard the interests of this Empire. Because of this unanimity of view, and because of the pertinacity with which a strong policy is advocated, we think the matters worthy of special notice. Not unnaturally the various journals are reluctant to give plain utterance to their sentiments on a delicate international question. Speaking broadly, however, to secure Korea, even by force, from falling into the hands of a third power, seems to be the dominant idea of the vernacular press. But as to the method of attaining that end, there is a conspiracy of silence. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, a Progressionist organ, stood for some time alone in touching this aspect of the question. Its opinion, as we noticed in a recent weekly summary, was that Japan should combine with China and protect Korea against the aggressive designs attributed to Russia. The Japanese Government was advised to send at once an Ambassador to Peking for the purpose of arranging matters with the Chinese Government. A few days ago, a more plain-speaking essay was published by the *Fiji Shimpô*, an independent journal, whose characteristic manner of treatment attracts special attention.

The *Fiji* commences by reviewing the present state of Japanese domestic politics. It finds that the juncture is fraught with serious danger to the peaceful progress of the country. Sooner or later, it will become necessary to introduce a system of government by party. But for the present nothing could be more dangerous than to deliver the reins of power into the hands of the young politicians of the Opposition. The Government must, by all means, hold out as resolutely as possible against the Opposition. The Opposition, on the other hand, seems to be

resolved to make a business of harassing the Administration, and the political struggle has thus reached such a point that it is altogether impossible for the Government to carry out any undertaking of national importance. From such an unhappy state of affairs, the *Fiji* sees only one path of escape; namely, to divert public attention in a foreign direction. Our contemporary cannot agree with those who advocate the colonization of the South Sea Islands as a means of attaining that object. Such a policy "would be too commonplace to turn the nation's mind from domestic politics." It is to Korea that Japan has to look for salvation. The *Fiji* does not necessarily mean that war is to be made upon the Peninsular Kingdom; but it evidently knows well that nothing short of war can serve the purpose in view. It was to Korea, we read, that the great KIDO looked for the same purpose immediately after the Restoration, when the statesmen in power were puzzled what to do with the vast numbers of fighting men. The peaceful abolition of the clans and the establishment of a conscription system a few years later fortunately made it unnecessary to carry out the plan of Korean invasion. But had not these measures proved successful, it would have been necessary to plunge into a continental war. It is not exactly an invasion of Korea that the *Fiji* now advocates, but such a course of procedure as might possibly lead to that result. Apparently our contemporary agrees with the *Mainichi Shimbun* in urging the necessity of an alliance between Japan and China against Russia. Supposing such an alliance to have been formed, the Governments of the two countries must, before everything, remove from the Tientsin treaty the provision which requires either country to seek the consent of the other in order to send troops to Korea. Such a stipulation might dangerously inconvenience both empires in the event of an emergency. In the next place, both China and Japan, acting in unison, should endeavour to settle the feuds between the rival factions in the Korean Court. Should not these factions prove amenable to friendly mediation, open support is to be given to either of them, so that strength of administration may be secured. In the third place, Japan must strive to guide the Korean nation in a new career of civilization. Special endeavours should be made to assist Korea in reform of all kinds. If it be deemed necessary, Japan should supply her neighbour with the capital required for progressive undertakings on some good security. Moreover, in certain districts of the peninsula, more than a hundred thousand inhabitants are said to have crossed the frontier into Russian territory. Efforts should be made to fill up the gap by planting a Japanese colony in those districts. In carrying out this course of policy, it may perhaps, says the *Fiji*, become necessary to move troops, and that

would serve to effectually divert public attention from fruitless struggles in internal politics.

There is something charmingly frank about these utterances. History offers numerous examples of foreign wars undertaken under pressure of domestic complications, but we doubt if any leading journal in any country has ever been found to openly advocate such a remedy, and to carry its advocacy to the length of indicating the actual scene of proposed enterprise. But the *Fiji Shimpô* is nothing if not outspoken. We remember how it recommended official tolerance, and even encouragement, of Christianity as a political device, and we remember, too, how greatly it was misunderstood and how roundly it was abused by several critics on that occasion. It will be misunderstood and abused again now, and perhaps with better reason. For though we interpret it to write simply in the sense that the state of a country's domestic affairs must always exercise a strong influence on her foreign policy, and that the Japanese energy which refuses now to be restrained within convenient limits at home, might be advantageously directed abroad, many people will decline to acquit it of immoral and incendiary writing. Be that as it may, however, there is no denying the fact that such a state of public feeling as now exists in Japan, furnishes a strong incentive to activity abroad. The notion is in no sense new to us. We discussed it two months ago, and expressed the opinion that the foremost statesmen of the early *Meiji* era, were they now alive, would probably rescue themselves from the embarrassments of party pressure and parliamentary turmoil by means such as the elder SAIGO would have resorted to twenty years ago. HIDEYOSHI saved the situation under similar circumstances by planning and proceeding to execute a vast scheme of foreign conquest, the preliminary step of which was the invasion of Korea. IYEVASU resorted to the subtler device of inaugurating a system which, on the one hand, gradually paralysed the martial spirit of three centuries' growth; on the other, closed all avenues to that spirit's effective ebullition. SAIGO would have followed HIDEYOSHI's example, but circumstances proved too strong for him, and the great rebellion in which he lost his own life supplied the vent which he had desired to find abroad. OKUMA, guided by the same instinct of statesmanship, encouraged the Formosan expedition. If it be true that history repeats itself, we cannot wonder at the prevalence of such a tone as the vernacular press now adopts. Happily the control of affairs is in the hands of men not likely to bow too quickly under the pressure of domestic difficulties.

THE ELECTIONS.

YOKOHAMA and Tokyo are showing singular apathy about the proposal to record votes in connection with the general elections in Great Britain. Kobe has taken up the matter, and already a number of votes have been cast at the office of the *Kobe Herald*, but up to the present time barely a score have reached us. It is evident that to telegraph a partial result to London would be a futile kind of performance. There must be a tolerably universal expression of opinion if the numbers may be regarded as representative. We confess that we find difficulty in understanding the indifference of the British community in such a matter. It is true that the votes of residents in the East cannot directly affect the result of the elections. But surely some influence would be exerted upon public opinion at home were it rendered quite apparent that HER MAJESTY'S subjects in the Orient are overwhelmingly in favour of one side or the other. Hongkong has shown itself emphatically Conservative, and in Kobe, out of 79 votes recorded up to the evening of the 30th ultimo, 66 were Conservative; 3 Liberal-Unionist; and 10 Liberal. Thus far nearly every vote sent to us is Conservative, and we have very little doubt that Lord SALISBURY would receive a sweeping majority if the Settlements in Tokyo and Yokohama were polled. Why not let the fact be known, then? If circumstances deny us the privilege of taking an active share in the politics of the old country, that is no manner of reason why we should aid those adverse circumstances by effacing ourselves. It has been suggested that the advantage of representation in Parliament ought to be extended to the British Colonies, and assuredly nothing could be more unjust or unpractical than that a place for example, of Hongkong's wealth, importance, and population should be entirely unrepresented in the House of Commons, while nearly every petty borough in Great Britain sends a member of its own choosing to Westminster. We do not entertain the smallest doubt that this is an anomaly which will be redressed ultimately. How can British commerce be said to be properly represented in Parliament while no members sit in the House to make known the views and look after the interests of the pioneers of commerce, the men who conduct it thousands of miles away from home, and who devote their lives to finding new markets for it in distant lands? Judged by the test of property, education, or even numbers, the British communities in Japan are entitled to claim parliamentary representation, and if they care—which, being Britons, they assuredly do—to push that claim, the best possible way is to enlist the sympathies of the political party which can count on their support. Be that as it may, however, it would certainly be no

small feather in the cap of the Conservatives to know that every community of British subjects outside the United Kingdom supported them, and there should be no doubt that all of us are sufficiently loyal to go to the trouble of registering a vote for the purpose of affording such a measure of moral aid to the party in which we believe. A very small trouble it is too—merely to write one's name inside an envelope, with the letters C., L.U., or L. Names of course would not be published, but only numbers. All the local English papers will doubtless be glad to receive and record votes, and if the final results are sent to Baron REUTER'S Agent, we may assume that he will telegraph them to London. Let us make the effort.

THE YOKOHAMA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE half-yearly report of the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company for the period ending June 30th, shows a distinctly discouraging state of affairs. The Company has made a loss of over \$3,700 on the half-year, and it owes more than fourteen thousand dollars. The Chairman of Directors, in presenting the accounts, complained that, in consequence of the method adopted in compiling them, they showed a worse state of affairs than the reality, inasmuch as a portion of the money actually received for subscriptions and advertisements had been placed to the credit of the second half of the year, and therefore did not appear as an asset in the first half. This complaint will have been read with surprise by business men, we imagine. If an artisan undertook to carry on a certain work for a certain sum during a year, he certainly would not think of striking a balance between the total sum and his expenses during the first half-year. Obviously the proper method of stating his position at the end of the first half-year is to determine the difference between a moiety of that sum and the aggregate expenses incurred during the six months. Were the Chairman's plan adopted, the accounts for the second half-year would make a sorry showing, since whereas the work of composing, printing, and furnishing newspapers and of publishing advertisements, contracted for during the previous half-year, would have to go on regularly, there would be no income to set against the cost of performing it. So well is this understood that any one purchasing a newspaper deducts from the price the value of all work, in the nature of supplying copies to subscribers or inserting advertisements, which, though already contracted and paid for, has not yet been accomplished. There is no fault to be found with the method of compiling the accounts of the Printing and Publishing Company. A bad result has to be shown, and they show it fairly and squarely. A bad result, indeed, has had to be shown in every semi-annual

statement of accounts since the Company started, and the question is, can a good result be looked for at any time during the next few years. We do not think so. Naturally we cannot be expected to sympathise very deeply with the troubles of the Company. It was started, according to the open avowal of one of the chief promoters, with the intention of "killing the *Japan Mail*." We are not vain enough to suppose that no other object presented itself to the promoters, but certainly that was one of their objects, and they set about its achievement in a manner at once frank and flattering, namely, by imitating the *Mail*. They enlarged their daily sheet so as to equal the size of ours; they issued a weekly edition on the lines of ours, and they reduced their price to the same figure as ours. In fact they went into the fight openly, and since they would have been pleased to crush us, it is permissible for us also to be pleased that they have not succeeded. But it has thus far been a contest without any unsightly or exasperating features, and we have no consciousness that its results have warped our judgment. We do not speak under the influence of temper or bias when we say that from the very outset the whole enterprise seemed to us colossally mistaken. Its dimensions were altogether beyond the range of journalistic capabilities in Yokohama. We never could conceive under what impulse a number of shrewd business men could be found to set a value of \$55,000 on any local foreign newspaper published in this Settlement and circulating in Japan. One-third of the money would be considerably in excess of the value of any such journal. Yet not only was \$55,000 given for the *Japan Gazette*, but debentures to the extent of \$11,000 more were subsequently issued, and a debt of over \$13,000 was incurred to a bank, so that the paper now represents a total sum of \$78,649. The thing is laughable. It reads like a kind of romance. Three years ago, if such figures had been set before any experienced merchant acquainted with the conditions of the foreign communities in Japan, he would have regarded them as an arithmetical jest. Yet they became a reality. Certainly the celebrated meeting of 1890 must have created a species of vertigo in some quarters. It was a meeting with the original purpose of which everybody sympathised; for no foreigner in Japan would have been willing to surrender Consular Jurisdiction unconditionally? But the information submitted to the meeting was altogether misleading, as events have amply proved; the resolutions proposed and passed were clumsily constructed, exaggerated, and illogical; and the speeches made by those duly appointed to propose them contained errors and misconceptions that discredited the whole demonstration. But because we ventured to point out all this, we were called a great many ugly names, and so much caloric was excited in

certain quarters that nothing short of slaughtering the *Mail* could be regarded as a satisfying result. Business considerations seem to have been cast to the winds under the influence of this sentiment. The only pity is that those whose heads were hottest could not be left to purchase a wet towel out of their own pockets. Unfortunately, however, there were distinctly clever features about their scheme. The idea of running a newspaper and a printing office under the ægis of a Company in a place like Yokohama is excellent. Every shareholder becomes a warm supporter of the paper; endeavours to increase its circulation; is ready to procure advertisements and printing for it, and furnishes it with information. It is easy to see how well this has worked in the case of the *Japan Gazette*. Its accounts show that the daily paper's circulation does not reach 200 copies, yet advertisers, whose first thought should be to insert their notices in a widely circulating medium, actually carry them to the *Gazette*. Doubtless the shareholders were tempted originally by this specious feature of the programme, and having no conception of the real value of newspaper business in Yokohama, they consented to the preposterous figure at which the capital was placed. The past is past. A folly perpetrated cannot be mended. But what of the future? Does it present any rosier prospects? There should be no great difficulty in answering the question. The Company has three sources of income: subscriptions, advertisements, and job-printing. Neither of the latter is capable of much expansion. Every year, every month, competition becomes keener in the job-printing line, and we should say that if the *Gazette* fares as well hereafter in this respect as it has fared in the past, it will be fortunate. As for advertisements, there are no more to be obtained than the *Gazette* already receives. There remains, then, the item of subscriptions only. If the subscription list could be trebled the paper would just pay its way. Does any one imagine that three subscribers can be obtained for every one now possessed? Nothing of the kind is possible. There has been talk of the Company's having put its hand to an enterprise the management of which it did not understand. We regard that as moonshine. No mystery is involved in the conduct of a newspaper. Clever men of business, like those constituting the present Directorate of the Company, are perfectly competent to make a success of it if a success is attainable. But no men that ever lived could make a success of a Company weighted with a capital, debts, and current liabilities four times as heavy as it can support.

MR. J. LOUREIRO AND HIS TRADUCERS.

IN the interests of the commonest justice we feel constrained to refer to a letter published by the *Kobe Herald* over the signature of "One Aggrieved." The letter contains a violent attack upon an absent man, Mr. J. LOUREIRO, formerly Portuguese Consul-General and Chargé d'Affaires in Japan. It pronounces him guilty of "a shameful act," and declares that he is "the subject of unanimous criticism and censure by all Portuguese subjects in this country." The allegations upon which this charge is based must be repeated in detail for the sake of clear comprehension. Mr. LOUREIRO is accused of having suppressed, for his own selfish purposes, an ultimatum addressed through him to the Portuguese Government in May from the Japanese Authorities, to the effect that if, by July 1st, a legally trained official were not appointed by Portugal to the post of Consul-General in Tokyo, Japan would consider that the clauses relating to jurisdiction in the Treaty had been abrogated, and would herself assume the jurisdiction for which Portugal had failed to make proper provision. This communication, says the *Kobe* newspaper's correspondent, Mr. LOUREIRO quietly put into his pocket. He neither wired its contents to Macao, nor did he mail the document itself, but kept it and carried it away with him from Japan, thus leaving his Government in ignorance of the important step contemplated by the Tokyo Authorities, and virtually contriving that his nationals should be deprived of a privilege which they valued highly, namely, the privilege of being tried by their own tribunals. With regard to the purpose for which Mr. LOUREIRO is supposed to have adopted this extraordinary course, we are not left in any doubt. At first, indeed, the correspondent talks of "negligence," but presently he adopts a different tone, and roundly charges Mr. LOUREIRO with "abandoning his post," in the hope that "the attitude displayed by the Japanese Government would compel the Portuguese Government to re-instate him." In other words, he sacrificed all public considerations, and all considerations of duty and loyalty, to his own selfish interests. He "abruptly abandoned his post without taking the necessary precautions to protect the subjects of his Faithful Majesty:" he suppressed an official document of the gravest moment in order to precipitate a situation which might serve his own ends, and altogether he was guilty of conduct which "deserves the utmost censure his indignant countrymen can pass on him." Such is the accusation of this correspondent. He caps it all by a suggestion, which he declares to be "what the bulk of the Portuguese residents firmly believe," namely, that this disgraceful procedure on Mr. LOUREIRO's part was the result of "some possible arrangement" be-

tween himself and the Japanese Government. Now we have no right, and certainly we have no desire, to assume that "One Aggrieved" is deliberately mendacious. We assume rather that he is the victim of gross delusions, and content ourselves with saying that the allegations made by him are a tissue of falsehoods from first to last. The story of Portugal's action and of Mr. LOUREIRO's case is well known, but we must crave our reader's indulgence to repeat it, being confident that they will be no less desirous than we are ourselves to refute a base calumny uttered against one who cannot be immediately heard in his own defence, and to clear away from an important international incident misconceptions which altogether obscure its true character. In November last, Mr. LOUREIRO learned privately that the Portuguese *Official Gazette* contained an announcement of the abolition of the Consulate-General in Tokyo. He had received no official intimation of any kind from his own Government on the subject, but he nevertheless considered it his duty to communicate the fact to the Japanese Government, whom he found equally uninformed. Mr. LOUREIRO, appreciating the importance of the juncture, took an unusual step. He asked the Japanese Government to depart from the ordinary routine and to address the Portuguese Government direct, because communications passing through him might lose something of their force owing to his own interests being so greatly at stake. The Japanese Authorities admitted the justice of this suggestion, and thenceforth until the very eve of his departure from Japan in the following June, no official communications of any kind were addressed by the Foreign Office in Tokyo to Mr. LOUREIRO on this subject. A strongly worded telegram was, however, at once forwarded to Lisbon, via the Japanese Representative at the Portuguese Court, protesting emphatically against the contemplated step, and pointing out that its effect would be to leave Portuguese subjects in Japan without any judicial arrangements which this Empire could regard as satisfactory or sufficient; for, whatever false assertions may be published to the contrary, it is an undoubted fact, standing on official record, that the abolition of the Consulate-General in Tokyo removed the only authority under which judicial functions could be exercised in a reasonably efficient manner by the Portuguese Vice-Consuls at the out-ports. Failing to obtain any attentive consideration for this important telegram, the Japanese Government addressed a despatch to the Governor of Macao, setting forth the facts of the case in full detail, and requesting him to telegraph to his Government in Lisbon. The Governor, replying, said that he had telegraphed as desired, and that any answer received should be communicated to the Japanese Authorities. This was in February. Weeks passed

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without anything being heard from Lisbon, and we believe we are correct in saying that not another word on the subject reached Tokyo from Macao. Meanwhile, Mr. LOUREIRO had received an intimation from his Government that his pay and allowances should cease from the end of March. Yet, so far from "abandoning his post," as his traducer now alleges, he continued in Tokyo, and subsequently received another intimation that passage to Macao would be provided for himself and family, and that he should continue to discharge the functions of Consul-General until his departure from Japan. Under the circumstances, it was his plain duty not to linger in Tokyo, and he accordingly left on June 1st—left in absolute ignorance as to what steps, if any, the Japanese Government proposed to take. Immediately on his departure becoming an accomplished fact, that is to say, immediately on the disappearance of any judicial arrangements for the control of Portuguese subjects, Japan conveyed to Lisbon, through her Representative there, a distinct announcement that, in view of the absence of such arrangements, she herself should assume jurisdiction from July 1st. This message was repeated towards the close of June, but still Portugal remained indifferent, and finally, on July 14th, Japan took the threatened step. It will thus be seen that Mr. LOUREIRO was never the recipient of anything like an ultimatum from Japan; that he left this country without so much as being aware that things would take the course for which he is now falsely held responsible, and, in short, that every one of the accusations preferred against him by the correspondent of the Kobe journal rests on a basis of absolute untruth. We have nothing to do with Portugal's action towards her servants, but it can scarcely be considered extravagant on our part to have expected that Portuguese subjects in Japan would have protested against an official of rank and considerable service being treated by their Government after a fashion unwarrantable even in the case of a menial. Assuredly, however, we should never have looked for any such expression of honourable sympathy had we imagined that a writer in the public press, professing to be the mouthpiece of his Portuguese fellow-nationals, could bring himself to fix upon his country's Representative the suspicion of having sold the treaty privileges of the Portuguese community to the Japanese Government, and upon the Japanese Government the suspicion of having bought them. There are some charges that serve only to disgrace those preferring them, and this is one of them. It is not without reluctance that we devote space to the refutation of calumnies so contemptible, but it would be regrettable that the reputation of an absent man should be aspersed without protest, and that further falsehoods should be suffered to circulate about the Portuguese incident.

THE NEW CABINET.

THERE is very little doubt that Count ITO will consent to form a new Ministry, but of course it is not yet possible to predict the composition of the Cabinet. Counts INOUE and YAMAGATA are tolerably certain to resume office. There was talk at first of the former becoming Minister of State for Finance, but on the whole this does not seem probable. It appears more likely that Count INOUE will accept the portfolio of Home Affairs. The post of Minister of War would be most suitable for Count YAMAGATA, but the Department of Justice is talked of. Count KURODA is universally indicated as President of the Privy Council. This would be a strong combination. Count INOUE was summoned to the Palace on the forenoon of the 2nd instant and had a long interview with the EMPEROR. Meanwhile, Count OKI, as the senior member of the Cabinet, has been instructed by HIS MAJESTY to assume the duties of Minister President *pro tem.*, according to the Regulations for the Organization of the Cabinet. Although we speak of Count ITO'S return to power as almost assured, it must not be imagined that the situation is without complications. On the contrary, judging by present prospects, many days, perhaps even weeks, will elapse before a settlement is evolved. As yet we can only conjecture. The serious element of the situation is the temporary ascendancy of the Military Party. Like begets like. It was not to be anticipated that the uncompromising attitude of the Opposition could fail to educate a correspondingly strong determination to resist on the part of conservative members of the Government, who hold that every radical attempt to extend the constitutional privileges of the people at this early period ought to be resisted by every possible means. An opportunity to obtain prominence and influence may perhaps have been afforded to the most resolute of these conservatives by the reserve of the elder statesmen, whose abstention from public affairs during the past two years has undoubtedly facilitated the strife of hostile elements and the emergence of comparatively unknown men to places of power. Thus there is now a military party disposed to hold the breach by methods such as military men might be expected to choose. At the head of this Party are Generals TAKASHIMA and KAWAKAMI, Admiral NIREI and others, men of ability and courage, whose strong point is their popularity and influence in the Army and Navy. It is stated, further, that they enjoy the support of the National Unionists, with whom are Viscount SHINAGAWA, the former Minister of Home Affairs, and Count SAIGO, the darling of the troops. By this Party Count MATSUKATA was compelled to resign, and we are sorry to hear it rumoured that he has taken just umbrage at the nature and manner of

the interference exercised, and that he is resolved to turn his back altogether on politics for the nonce at all events. On the other hand, Count ITO is understood to disapprove not less strongly of the Military Party's programme and methods. His present policy is absolute freedom from all party ties, and if he consents to form a Cabinet, it will only be on condition that every holder of a portfolio is free from connection with a political party. This involves at once the hostility of the Liberal Unionists as well as of the "Stalwarts," who have made common cause with them, and the question is whether such adjustments can be effected as will consist with Count ITO'S principles, or whether the reins of power must be handed over to the Military Party. We do not anticipate the latter contingency, seeing that the Party lacks the first essential of administrative competence, namely, a leader who could command some measure of support from the Sasshu and Choshu elements. But it will be seen from what we have said that the situation is uncertain, and that the elaboration of a wise compromise may involve considerable delay. These are difficult times for Japan. She is engaged in a great and complicated experiment which may well tax all the resources of her statesmen and the law-abiding qualities of her people. Shallow critics, incapable of understanding the situation, or too careless to study it, may point the finger of scorn at her embarrassments, and say smart things about her changes of Government and the vicissitudes of her administrators. But she is doing what no other nation has tried before, and an attitude of sympathetic counsel would become foreign observers better than one of superficial and captious condemnation.

PORTUGAL AGAIN.

IT is astonishing that any English writer should be found to deliberately advance the plea that Japan has behaved ungenerously to Portugal in treating her as she did recently. This is one of the charges preferred by the *North China Daily News*. Residence at a distance has probably prevented our contemporary from obtaining accurate information, for we observe that it makes several very erroneous statements in the context of its appeal to sentiment. It asserts, for example, that there is nothing to prevent Japan from adopting towards all Powers employing merchant Consuls the same course which she has now pursued towards Portugal. Yet surely the leading Shanghai journal ought to have learned by this time that the question is not primarily one of merchant Consuls against trained Consuls. That is a question of great importance, doubtless, and we are ourselves of the opinion that any Power not providing properly qualified officials and properly equipped courts for the exercise of the jurisdiction of which

Japan has been deprived, should forfeit the privilege of retaining judicial control of its subjects or citizens in Japan. But that we repeat, is not the prime question between Japan and Portugal. After submitting for a quarter of a century to the abuse of merchant Consuls, it would ill become Japan to suddenly claim that such a system is inadmissible, and to demand its abolition within the space of a few months. The real question has been stated with the utmost clearness; but we fear that it is a case of the old proverb, none so blind as those that will not see. Portugal never has entrusted to her merchant Consuls judicial competence such as could satisfy any reasonable standard of efficiency. The difference between her case and that of other Powers did not obtain recognition for the first time in 1892. It was recognised ten years ago, and made the subject of special protest on Japan's part, the result of that protest being that at the Treaty Revision Conference of 1882, Portugal undertook to appoint a Consul-General in Tokyo. This is the important point of which the critics lose sight so persistently that we must assume them resolved not to see it. Much talk is heard about Japan's high-handed attitude towards treaties, but not a word is said about Portugal's having deliberately terminated a system to which she had pledged herself, and terminated it without even informing Japan of her intention. That was in truth a nonchalant and cavalier-like method of dealing with international agreements. In 1882 Portugal acknowledged the inefficiency of her judicial arrangements and promised to appoint a Consul-General in Tokyo. In 1886, a flagrant miscarriage of justice led to the discovery that, though having duly appointed such a Consul, she had failed to invest him with competence sufficient to secure the very moderate degree of judicial efficiency for which Japan had stipulated. Again in deference to Japan's protests, she then invested him with that competence, and at the same time she reduced her Consuls at the outports to the rank of Vice-Consul, making the exercise of their jurisdiction subject to the authority of the Consul-General in Tokyo. Thus for the first time Portugal inaugurated a system, not indeed comparable with the systems of Powers like Great Britain, Germany, France, and so forth, but at any rate on a level with the systems of other States employing merchant Consuls. And, it must again be noted, she inaugurated that system in the sequel of remonstrances officially addressed to her by the Japanese Government on two occasions. But at the close of 1891 she removed the Consul-General, without conveying the slightest intimation to Japan, and without making any kind of provision to supply the judicial deficiencies which had necessitated his appointment. Yet our Shanghai contemporary ventures to affirm that "no practical change is made by the withdrawal of

Mr. LOUREIRO." Other writers, too, with misapprehension not less glaring, contend that Japan has nothing to complain of since the removal of Mr. LOUREIRO simply restores the state of affairs previously existing. It is precisely to the restoration of that state of affairs that Japan objects. She had succeeded in getting it reformed by international remonstrances in 1882 and 1886, and she naturally declines to be treated in 1892 as though those remonstrances had never been made at all, and as though the old faulty system might be restored at Portuguese convenience without a syllable of explanation or notice to the Government which had stipulated in former years against its continuance. It is surely a marvellously irrational claim that Portugal should be held to have satisfied her obligations and discharged her duty because she quietly reverted to a system which by her own admission and action had been pronounced defective, and which she had agreed to reform in compliance with the protests of Japan to whom she did not take the trouble of even intimating her retrogressive intentions. All this has been stated before with the utmost clearness, yet the *North China Daily News* evidently does not understand it yet. Is our contemporary disposed to understand it? We almost doubt it, when we find it advancing such a disingenuous argument as that "for twenty-two years after the treaty between Japan and Portugal was signed, there was no Portuguese Consul-General in Tokyo." It is indeed a sorry case that requires to be bolstered up by an inference drawn from Japan's competence between 1860 and 1882 to obtain international redress of a palpable wrong. Would not the opposite argument be much stronger, namely, that for nine years after the Conference of 1882, when Japan's claims first received some measure of consideration, there was a Portuguese Consul-General in Tokyo, and that his appointment had resulted from Japan's demonstration of the flagrant incompleteness of the Portuguese system? The plea *ad misericordiam* advanced in Portugal's behalf seems to us to be on a par with the above contentions. Japan, we are told, has been high-handed; she has "kicked" Portugal with impunity, and so forth. If there has been any high-handedness, it was on Portugal's side, who would not even take the trouble to consult Japan, or to convey any intimation to her about a radical change of arrangements which had been originally made in consequence of Japan's representations. It is idle, if not contemptible, to accuse Japan of want of generosity. When do we find that the conduct of Western Powers towards one another, and above all towards Oriental States, is swayed by feelings of generosity? Such a plea, were it advanced on Japan's behalf, would be denounced as maudlin sentiment, but the very persons who would

be most forward to denounce it, do not scruple to employ it on the other side when it suits their purpose. Truly, the local censors of this empire can only expect to be laughed at when they arraign an Oriental Power for failing to show generosity and philanthropy in its dealing with an Occidental State. The Japanese may well reply, "let the Occident begin by setting the example." Besides, these critics should be competent to perceive that from Japan's point of view she has not done anything so very ungenerous or unkind to Portugal. She has substituted her own tribunals, presided over by trained judges, for the merchant consulates of Portugal. Can she be reasonably expected to regard that as a very harsh or very offensive measure?

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S NEW DRAMA.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S new Drama is finished and has been read by the poet to a few friends. It will probably be pronounced by the public one of the most beautiful and powerful of his productions. Sir EDWIN must have undertaken very extensive researches before compiling the drama, for he has succeeded in imparting to it a wonderful amount of Japanese colour, and the characters are not merely consistent with the parts played by them in the story, but are also thoroughly adapted to the roles which they afterwards performed in history. Running through the plot is one of those mystic threads of affinity which the Buddhist faith weaves from life to life in the round of existences. BAKIN, perhaps the greatest of Japanese novelists, loved to twine one of these subtle chains about the personages of his plots, and to work out the inexorable destiny thus ordained through mazes of skilfully contrived incidents and interactions. In "ADZUMA"—the melodious and love-suggesting title which Sir EDWIN has chosen for his drama—the hero, MORITO ENDO, and the heroine, ATOMA (or ADZUMA as she becomes in the drama), the KESAGOZEN of Japanese tradition and household veneration, are mysteriously drawn together by the affinity—or should we not call it antipathy?—that exists between the eagle and the snake. An eagle has been the presiding influence at MORITO'S birth; a snake at that of ADZUMA, and fate wills that the eagle shall destroy the snake in the next round of existence. These supernatural mysteries, which, we need scarcely say, have been entirely evolved from the wonder and admiration of subsequent generations, and form no part of the original historical story, are deftly introduced by the poet in a conversation between some of the minor characters, constituting a kind of prologue to the drama proper. Any one who has read the magnificent account of the warrior wooing of SIDDARTHA in the "Light of Asia" can easily understand what a noble prelude Sir EDWIN has constructed out of the slaying of the great

white eagle by the father of MORITO, to whose aid came the golden snake that loved the wife of the slayer. The poet treads, indeed, familiar ground in this part of the story, for has he not already written those not to be forgotten lines:—

"Lo! as hid seed shoots after rainless years,
So good and evil, pains and pleasures, hates
And loves, and all dead deeds, come forth
again
Bearing bright leaves or dark, sweet fruit or
sour.
Thus I was he and she Yasôdhara;
And while the wheel of birth and death turns
round,
That which hath been must be between us two."

MORITO ENDO, the betrayer of his friend, the murderer of his love, yet withal a man of great heart and highest courage, who afterwards played a prominent part in the twelfth century wars of the Hei and Gen, makes his first appearance in the drama as a noble *Samurai* at the Court in Kyoto. He is not aware that his father once sought for him in marriage the beautiful girl ATOMA, his cousin, and that her mother, his Aunt, KOROMOGAWA, knowing the mysterious influences that overshadowed the pair, refused to sanction their union. But all these things are well known to SAKAMUNE, a companion of MORITO'S, who having himself loved ATOMA—or ADZUMA as we had better call her, seeing that she goes by that name in the drama—and having failed to obtain her hand, now thinks only of avenging himself. MORITO has never seen ADZUMA. Her mother has spared no pains to keep the two apart, and as ADZUMA is now married to WATARU WATANABE, a wealthy and noble *Samurai*, destiny seems likely to be balked. But SAKAMUNE contrives that MORITO shall have sight of the lovely girl, and MORITO loses his heart at once. Not without great difficulty, however, does he allow his passion to turn him from the path of honour and friendship. Only when SAKAMUNE, by a series of crafty plots and skilful tales, persuades him that he has been grossly ill-used by ADZUMA'S mother, that the girl herself is madly in love with him, and that to rest quiet under such circumstances would be to act the part of a craven—only then does he give himself up to thoughts of violence and treachery. ADZUMA'S mother, in her young days, acting under the influence of a dream, had stolen a blue mantle from a lady sleeping in a temple, and by its aid had found a husband. In latter years she restored the mantle, and became the fast friend of its owner; but her crime remained unexpiated in the eyes of the law, which condemned sacrilegious thieves to lose their hands by the sword of the executioner. MORITO, made wise by SAKAMUNE, and taught to hate and despise his aunt, employs this unrevealed crime to intimidate her. But she laughs him to scorn. Then he produces evidence of ADZUMA'S guilty love for him—a letter forged by SAKAMUNE and a *tanzaku* written by ADZUMA herself, which has been deftly changed by the same traitor so as read like a declaration of hatred of her husband. ADZUMA

is summoned to her mother's house; she denies the authenticity of the letter but admits that she wrote the *tanzaku*, and her mother, convinced of her guilt, strikes her thrice and leaves her. MORITO, believing truly that ADZUMA loves him, and that she only shrinks from the consequences of her love, pleads his cause passionately and not without threats of disgrace for herself and her mother if she remains obdurate. Then ADZUMA, crushed and distraught, sees that whatever she does to clear herself, some stain must rest on her name, some cloud rise between herself and her husband. She therefore determines to die. The resolve is quickly taken. To MORITO she alleges her willingness to obey him, but declares that so long as her husband lives she cannot yield. Will MORITO kill WATARU? MORITO consents gladly, but how is the deed to be wrought? ADZUMA has her plan. She will ply her husband with wine and see that he lies down to sleep in a certain chamber to which easy access shall be arranged for MORITO. Further, since the thing must be done stealthily and in the dark, she promises to wet WATARU'S hair, so that MORITO, feeling the damp locks, may be sure of his man. That very night the plot is carried out. WATARU falls asleep, and while he lies with his head on his wife's knees, ADZUMA writes her last farewells to him and to her mother. The pathos of this scene is inexpressible. The lovely girl, little more than a child—she is only sixteen—has, with wonderful courage, maintained a bright mien during the last hours that she is to spend on earth with her much-loved husband. But when he sleeps and she finds herself alone with the night and the passing moments which bring her doom steadily closer, the woman's nature re-asserts itself. Will her death be rightly interpreted, and will not other arms and lips chase her image from WATARU'S memory? Her tears fall on his face and awake him to take part in a dialogue infinitely sad to those that know what it precludes. But WATARU sleeps again, unsuspecting, and ADZUMA makes her last preparations. She draws her hair back from her forehead, ties it in a knot behind after the manner of the Japanese *Samurai* of the time, and having cut it sufficiently short, wets it thoroughly. Then she goes and lies down in the room whither MORITO has been directed. MORITO comes presently feels the wet hair, cuts off the head and wrapping it up, carries it away. The dramatist shows us nothing of the cruel deed except what is conveyed in MORITO'S half-appalled soliloquy when he emerges with the terrible burden, and marvels at the ease of the foul deed and the stillness of the victim. After a moment he unfastens the cloth and discovers that he carries the head, not of WATARU, but of his love, ADZUMA. Nothing short of the poet's own words can suggest an idea of the terrible intensity of horror and anguish displayed

by the miserable man at this supreme moment. He sees the whole grandeur of ADZUMA'S heroic innocence and fidelity, the whole depth of his own duped baseness. There is only one course possible to him. At daylight, carrying the head wrapped up from sight, he forces his way through distraught servants into WATARU'S *Yashiki*, and finds him weeping beside ADZUMA'S body. MORITO lays the head of the wife before her husband, tells, in a few broken sentences, the incidents that led to the tragedy, and offers his neck to WATARU'S sword. But WATARU cannot consent to be an executioner. He bids MORITO live with his sorrow and his curse, and declares his own intention of taking religious vows, and devoting his life to the memory of the noble girl who died such a death. MORITO, already a renowned soldier and on the threshold of a career full of promise, announces that he too will take the cowl and the stole, and say prayers and burn incense for the sake of ADZUMA and in atonement for his own heinous deed. One more scene ends the drama. We are shown a temple and a group of officiating priests, among whom are WATARU and MORITO. SAKAMUNE passes, and to him MORITO'S attention is drawn by a faithful retainer. But MORITO cannot violate his sacred vows. His punishment is to see the ruffian blaster of his life and reputation pass unmolested, until the retainer follows and slays SAKAMUNE after a brief combat. History makes these two men, MORITO and WATARU, emerge from the cloister after three years and take part in the war which restored YORITOMO to power and overthrew the House of HEI, but the drama ends with the death of SAKAMUNE. These outlines will show what capabilities the story possesses, and under SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S skilful touch the stirring incidents and deep passions of the drama have assumed vividness of colour and strength of realism that cannot fail to ensure public recognition. It is said that IRVING has promised to put ADZUMA on the stage. If so, we shall be curious to see how he deals with the Japanese costumes. There is no reason why a Japanese costume should not be presented to a London audience as successfully as are the curious dresses of Mediæval Europe at which our theatre-going folk gaze with admiration, if not with awe. But the middle classes of the British metropolis are not without prejudices. They have become accustomed to regard two-sworded *samurai* and Japanese maidens as denizens of fan-land and vase-world, and they may not be ready to admit the congruity of such figures in a drama of "ADZUMA'S" power and pathos. But it is well that London should see Japan in a light other than that of art decoration and trivial æsthetics, and if SIR EDWIN ARNOLD and HENRY IRVING cannot show it successfully, who can?

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE KONJIKI-DŌ.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have to thank "A Japanese Art Student" for his interesting rejoinder to my letter on cloisonné. But he is altogether too precipitate. He says, "Besides, the Konjiki-dō is worth visiting on account of its history and its various associations, of which "W.B.M." shows profound ignorance."

Naruhodo! Now, I did not even attempt to describe the building; that has been done elsewhere, and with full justice, as your correspondent might know, were he a constant reader of your columns. What I did say was that the main pillars of the Konjiki-dō were not made of cloisonné, as Mr. Dixon asserted they were, before the Asiatic Society, and in this, the chief and most important contention from an art point of view, "A Japanese Art Student" concurs. I did not get my knowledge of the place from "some ignorant interpreter," but, like your correspondent himself, from personal inspection and from written records. Unfortunately, however, that does not prove that either of us has hit the truth. The age of miracles is past, and Japanese records, especially temple records, are more remarkable for the marvellous than the veracious. And I repeat, without fear of contradiction, that he who expects to find in the Konjiki-dō a gorgeous temple edifice, like that described by Mr. Dixon, will assuredly be woefully disappointed.

I am, Sir, yours truly, W. B. M.
Tokyo, August 3rd, 1892.

THOMAS PAINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I enclose a recent review of Moncreu Conway's "Life of Thomas Paine," which I beg you will publish as a sufficient answer to some of the untrue statements recently advanced by correspondents as to this American patriot.

J. H.
Tokyo, June 26th, 1892.

YOKOHAMA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company, Limited, was held on Saturday afternoon, at the Chamber of Commerce, the Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. C. Litchfield, presiding. Those present were Messrs. J. F. Lowder, M. Russell, Jas. Martin, W. Gordon, W. Denning, E. Leopold, C. W. Ure, W. J. S. Shand, and E. Binder.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, this is the half-yearly meeting of the company, called in accordance with the Articles of Association. It is called for the purpose of receiving the report of your Directors for the first half of 1892, and also for the purpose of receiving a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company during that period. The report and accounts have been before you for the stipulated period, and I think that it is unnecessary for me to read them over to you. Certainly the report of the Directors is a short one. The accounts are presented to you in the form that the accounts have always been presented since the company came into existence. I should like, however, to supplement the report by a few words of my own. You must observe that where it is necessary that a meeting be called during the working year it necessitates also a division, to a certain extent, of the accounts; that is one reason why the report of accounts, as presented to you, shows us as being in an absolutely worse condition than we are. It shows, for instance, on the one side, the amount of subscriptions actually received, half of which may legally be appropriated to the first half year's working, while it also shows on the other, as one of our liabilities, part of the amount as being received on account to be carried forward to the balance of the second half to provide for work which has to be done. It is a very inconvenient arrangement, but our auditors and book-keepers insist on it being so placed upon our books. That is one of the reasons why our position looks worse than it is. I don't say that the business is flourishing, but although it is distinctly stated in our statement of accounts that the balance loss for the half year is \$7,954.10, yet in the actual working the Company is in a better position than last half year. Perhaps you will allow me to compare the present balance sheet with that presented for the previous year. Our debt to the Oriental Bank is now slightly less

than it was on the 31st of January. We have paid off several debentures due to Mr. Denning. At the same time, and in spite of that, on the 30th June we had a certain, though only a slight one I am sorry to say, balance in hand in cash. That is our position. Our auditor has tried to explain to me that our reports must continue to show a loss, and an increasing loss, until the debentures due to Mr. Denning are paid off. That is the reason why the results of that engagement is spread over a period of some time. He explained to me by figures and showed quite fully that our position was not so bad as it looked, though I am sorry to say I did not quite follow him, but he did show it, and I can assure you gentlemen, that I am perfectly satisfied at his conclusions. I hope the shareholders may be as complacent as I was. It is unnecessary for me to point out that the present year has been a most trying one to everybody, not only to printing companies but also to private individuals, and especially during these last two months, I mean May and June, they are the last two months concerned in our accounts. During the first quarter of the year the business of the company showed most fair working results. During May and June a strong wave of depression set in upon this Settlement, and the great depreciation was felt by this company as well as by others. The great falling off in the job printing accounts for a great deal in the bad results now shown. We are a public company, and therefore have to show our hand. It is an unfortunate position, and, feeling this and properly realising the situation, your Directors resolved to take the shareholders into their confidence and so have put the worst before you. It is for you to say what is to be done under the circumstances. The business of this meeting is to examine the reports and accounts and discuss the general business of the company. If you have any questions to ask me, I will do my best to answer them.

MR. DENING—I should like to ask a question in regard to the debt to the Oriental Bank. It is a big debt, and an important item in the accounts. When are the Company expected to discharge that debt?

The CHAIRMAN—You see by the balance sheet what the amount of the debt is. We have to discharge it, I suppose, when it falls due, or rather when the O.B.C. instruct their counsel to take steps to recover its debts.

MR. DENING—I infer from general information which is to be obtained in Yokohama that that may be in the course of next month.

The CHAIRMAN—Any time from a week to six months.

MR. URE—Have you any spare copies of the accounts?

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid I have not—only my own copy.

MR. URE—If the Oriental Bank call up their debt how is it to be met?

The CHAIRMAN—The O.B.C. have first charge.

MR. URE—But how do you propose to pay it off—with the cash in hand of \$50.26 or the balance \$107.76?—(Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN—That is rather a conundrum. I don't answer conundrums. As far as I am concerned I don't propose to pay it off.—(Laughter.)

MR. LOWDER—It is perfectly well understood that our company is in a very bad condition indeed. I quite sympathise with the Chairman in the remark which he made about our being a public company and therefore compelled to show our hand to the world. As a public company we are open to criticism, we have to invite criticism, but we can't transact at this meeting the necessary things or put the questions about our business, which the circumstances of the time demand. I therefore throw out the suggestion, and I intend to make a proposition as soon as our proper work is finished, that is the adoption of the accounts, and I intend shortly to propose their adoption—I intend, I say, to suggest very strongly to our directors, the urgent necessity of calling an extraordinary meeting of shareholders, when such steps can be taken to inquire into our business which cannot be done at an ordinary meeting. For an extraordinary meeting must be held to consider the position in private. The position has to be faced, the difficulties have to be met. The circumstances in which we now find ourselves have been brought about through no fault of our shareholders and the sooner we face our position the better.

MR. URE—Do you propose the adoption of the report?

MR. LOWDER—Yes, I propose the adoption of the report and accounts for the last half-year.

MR. MARTIN—I second.

The CHAIRMAN put the proposition to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended the 30th

June, 1892, are presented to the Shareholders in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company. The Directors regret that the working of the past half-year does not show a better result.

H. C. LITCHFIELD, } Directors.
W. J. S. SHAND, }

Yokohama, July 22nd, 1892.

THE YOKOHAMA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1892.

Liabilities.	
Capital.....	\$35,000.00
Debentures.....	30 at \$500=15,000.00
	200 at \$50=10,000.00
New Oriental Bank Corporation.....	11,000.00
Subscriptions and Advertisements (Proportion to credit of second half year).....	2,337.71
Sundry Local Creditors.....	892.36
	\$82,879.08
Assets.	
Plant and Property as purchased, with additions thereto.....	\$9,387.69
Paper and Stationery.....	8,638.40
Publications and Printed Matter.....	518.00
Sundry Debtors.....	4,593.29
Fire Insurance Policies.....	159.00
Cash.....	50.26
National Bank of China, Limited.....	107.76
W. Denning, Suspense Account, Balance at January 1892.....	\$9,166.00
less Written off.....	1,666.00
	7,500.00
Profit and Loss Account as under.....	7,954.10
	\$82,879.08

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, JUNE 30TH, 1892.

Dr.	
Jan. 1. To Balance.....	\$ 4,407.50
June 30. To Salaries.....	7,757.03
To General Expenses.....	761.57
To Rent.....	1,110.00
To Paper.....	8,638.40
To Interest.....	607.08
To Fire Insurance.....	278.54
To Bad Debts.....	147.57
To W. Denning's Salary.....	7,000.00
	\$17,474.34
Cr.	
By Subscriptions.....	\$ 2,337.71
By Advertising.....	4,117.18
By Jobbing.....	2,337.14
By Publications.....	306.46
By Share Transfer Fees.....	1.00
	\$ 9,500.24
By Balance, Loss.....	7,954.10
	\$17,474.34

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1892.

H. C. LITCHFIELD, } Directors.
W. J. S. SHAND, }

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.
Yokohama, 22nd July, 1892.

O. KEIL, } Auditors.
R. S. SCHWAB, }

The CHAIRMAN—I may remark that it was my intention when the ordinary business of the meeting had been transacted, to propose that the Directors be asked to call an extraordinary meeting of the company, at which to discuss the condition of affairs. An extraordinary meeting requires a special resolution, and it would be necessary to hold an extraordinary meeting to inquire into the subjects proposed to be discussed, and which do not fall within the province of this meeting. As no other gentleman has any remarks to make or question to put, I declare this meeting dissolved.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 9th.
The principal Presidential tickets are now all in the field, so that voters can begin to be weighing the men and measures. The fourth great National Convention was that of the People's Party, whose delegates and "boomers" gathered in large numbers at Omaha. They were a motley assemblage of Greenbackers, Knights of Labour, Silverites, Farmers' Alliance men, Socialists, Anarchists, and various other miscellaneous "calamity howlers." They opened their meeting, Saturday, July 2, and spent the first day in the performance of the preliminary routine business, appointment of committees, addresses denouncing the Republican and Democratic parties and prophetic of the sure ruin of the country unless it listens to their warnings, takes their advice, and accepts them as leaders. Then they adjourned till Monday, July 4th, in order that the new party might be born on Independence Day.

Monday's session was long and exciting, but brought forth the new party amid the wildest enthusiasm. The platform with its long and windy preamble is as follows:—

Assembled on the 16th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the People's Party of America in their first National Convention, invoking upon their action the blessing of Almighty God, put forth in the name and on behalf of the people of this country, the following preamble and declaration of principles:—
The conditions which surround us justify our co-operation. We meet in the midst of a Nation brought to the verge of moral, political, and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the Legislatures, the Congress, and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized, most of the

Original from

States have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places in order to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are subsidized or muzzled, public opinion silenced, business as usual covered with a mortgage labour, impoverished, and the land concentrating in the hands of the capitalists. The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self-protection; imported pauperized labour beats down their wages; a hiring standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down, and they will rapidly degenerate into European conditions.

The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up the colossal fortunes of the few, unprecedented in the history of mankind, and the possessors of these in turn despise the Republic and endanger liberty.

From the same prolific womb of Governmental injustice we breed the two great classes—tramps and millionaires. The National power to create money is appropriated to enrich bondholders; a vast public debt payable in legal tender currency has been funded into gold-bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burdens of the people. Silver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labour, and the supply of currency, is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry.

A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents, and it is rapidly taking possession of the world. If it were not for the fact that once it is established, it would be the destruction of civilization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism.

We have witnessed for more than a quarter of a century the struggles of the two great political parties for power and plunder, while grievous wrongs have been inflicted upon a suffering people. We charge that the controlling influence dominating both these parties have permitted the existing dreadful conditions to develop without serious efforts to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore in the coming campaign every issue but one. They propose to wage the battles of a plundered people with the spirit of a sham battle over the tariff, so that capitalists, corporations, National banks, rings, trusts, watered stock, the demonetization of silver, and the oppressions of the usurers, may all be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, wives and children on the altar of mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption funds from the millionaires.

Assembled on the anniversary of the birthday of the Nation, and filled with the spirit of the grand generation who established our independence, we seek to restore the government of the Republic to the hands of the plain people, whose class it originated; we assert our purpose to be identical with the purposes of the National Constitution—"To form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity."

We declare that this Republic can only endure as a free government while built upon the love of the whole people for each other—the Nation that cannot be pinned together by bayonets; that the civil war is over, and that every passion and resentment which grew out of it must die with it, and that we must be in fact, as we are in name, one united brotherhood of free men.

Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in the history of the world. Our annual agricultural productions amount to billions of dollars in value, which must within a few weeks or months be exchanged for billions of dollars of commodities consumed in their production. The existing currency supply is wholly inadequate to make this exchange. The results are falling prices, the formation of combinations and trusts, and the impoverishment of the producing classes. We pledge ourselves that, if given power, we will labour to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation, in accordance with the planks of our platform.

We believe that the powers of government, in other words of the people, shall be expanded, as in the case of the postal service, as rapidly as the facts of the case require, so as to prevent the evils of the experience of Spain; to the end that no oppression, injustice, and poverty shall eventually ensue in the land.

While our sympathies as a party of reform are naturally upon the side of every proposition which will tend to make men intelligent, virtuous, and temperate, we nevertheless regard these questions, important as they are, as subordinate to the great issues now pressing for solution, namely, the rights of the individual property, but the very existence of free institutions, depends, and we ask all men to first help us to determine whether we are to have a Republic to administer before we differ as to the conditions upon which it is to be administered.

Believing that the forces of reform this day set in motion will never cease to move forward until every man, woman, and child, equal rights and equal privileges securely established for all the men and women of the country, we declare, therefore:

1. That the union of the labour forces of the United States, this day consummated, shall be permanent and perpetual. May its spirit enter into all hearts for the salvation of the Republic and the uplifting of mankind.

2. Wealth belongs to him who created it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent, is robbery. "If any will not work neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labour are the same; their enemies are identical.

3. We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations must either own the people or the people the corporations, and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads we should favour an amendment to the Constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the most rigid character, so as to prevent the increase of the power of the National administration by the use of such additional government employees.

4. We demand a National currency, safe, sound, and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations, a just, equitable, and efficient means of distribution direct to the people at a tax not to exceed a per cent. per annum to be provided in set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or a better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations of public improvements.

(a). We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

(b). We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

(c). We demand a graduated income tax.

(d). We believe that the money of the country should be kept as far as possible in the hands of the people and hence we demand that all State and National revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the Government economically and honestly administered.

(e). We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

(a). The telegraph, telephone, like the post-office system, being necessary for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

(b). The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of the people and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

Your committee on platform and resolutions beg leave unanimously to report the following:—

Whereas, Other questions have been presented for our consideration we hereby submit the following, not as a part of the

platform of the People's party, but as resolutions expressive of the sentiment of this convention.

1. Resolved, That we demand a free ballot and a fair count in all elections and pledge ourselves to secure it to every legal voter without Federal intervention through the adoption by the States of the unperverted Australian or secret ballot system.

2. Resolved, That the revenue derived from a graduated income tax should be applied to the reduction of the burden of taxation now levied upon the domestic industries of this country.

3. Resolved, That we pledge our support to fair and liberal pensions to ex-Union soldiers and sailors.

4. Resolved, That we condemn the fallacy of protecting American labour under the present system, which opens our ports to the pauper and criminal classes of the world and crowds out our wage earners; and we denounce the present ineffective laws against contract labour and demand the further restriction of undesirable emigration.

5. Resolved, That we cordially sympathize with the efforts of organized working men to shorten the hours of labour, and demand a rigid enforcement of the existing eight-hour law on government works, and ask that a penalty clause be added to the said law.

6. Resolved, That we regard the maintenance of a large standing army of mercenaries, known as the Pinkerton system, as a menace to our liberties, and we demand its abolition; and we condemn the recent invasion of the Territory of Wyoming by the hired assassins of plutocracy, assisted by Federal officers.

7. Resolved, That we commend to the favourable consideration of the people and the reform press the legislative system known as the initiative and referendum.

8. Resolved, That we favour a constitutional provision limiting the office of President and Vice-President to one term, and providing for the election of Senators of the United States by a direct vote of the people.

9. Resolved, That we oppose any subsidy or National aid to any private corporation for any purpose.

The better element of this heterogeneous convention had been hoping that they could persuade Judge Walter Q. Gresham, of Chicago, to accept the Presidential nomination on a less radical and pessimistic, but thoroughly reform, platform; and maintained their hopes up to the very last. But the Judge refused to be inveigled into such a movement in favour of so many wild cat schemes. Consequently, when the convention came to ballot, there were only two candidates—Gen. Weaver, of Iowa, and Senator Kyle, of South Dakota. The Iowa man easily won on the first ballot by a vote of 995 to 265 for Kyle, and 3 Scattering. On the first ballot for Vice Presidential candidate, General James G. Field, of Virginia, was named [General James B. Weaver, of Iowa, has creditably served two or three times in the House of Representatives, and was the Greenback Labour candidate for President in 1880. General Field is comparatively unknown.]

It is rather early to make positive and permanent prognostications and comparisons; but it may be interesting and profitable to call attention even now to certain phases of the ensuing campaign. In the first place, all the candidates are honourable men, so that personalities and mud-slinging ought to find no place. Each Presidential candidate, moreover, is a good typical representative of his party and platform. The Republicans and the Democrats have taken all their candidates from the North; the Prohibitionists and the People's Party each took its Presidential candidate from the North, and its Vice-Presidential candidate from the South. It is a curious circumstance, that, in case of no election by the people, the Democratic House of Representatives would elect Cleveland President, and the Republican Senate would elect Reid Vice-President—both from New York.

Although it is not yet positively certain what line the campaign will take, it is well enough understood to warrant a comparison of the platforms and principles. The Republican party stands squarely for the McKinley bill and protection; the Democratic party stands squarely against protection and in favour of a tariff for revenue only; the Prohibition tariff plank is ambiguous, but leans, perhaps, the Democratic way; the People's Party are strongly opposed to a high protection. On the silver question the last party is, of course, in favour of an unlimited free coinage plank, and adopted an ambiguous statement; and the Republicans and the Democrats have an indefinite straddle: but both Harrison and Cleveland are confidently expected to veto a radical measure in favour of free coinage. On the liquor question, of course, the Prohibitionists alone take a square stand. If the silver question becomes the main issue, the opponents of free coinage can most safely trust the Republican Party, and should fear most the People's Party; for, though a Presidential veto is sure from either Cleveland or Harrison, a Democratic is more likely than a Republican Congress to pass a free coinage bill over the veto. But if, as seems probable, the campaign is fought on the tariff question, it will be a hard fight between the two old parties. The matter of civil-service reform can scarcely figure much in the campaign; for both Cleveland and Harrison have had a term of office, and have sinned about equally in the dispensing of the spoils to the victors. Each of them made a good President; each intended and tried to do right; each made mistakes. We are, therefore, confidently looking for a campaign, not of men, but of measures; not of personalities, but of principles:—a campaign of rational discussion, in which an

intelligent citizen can join without loss of either temper or self-respect."

"Fourth of July" was celebrated as usual by the small boy with noise and fire-works, and was attended, of course, with a large number of casualties. In many places patriotic orations were delivered; in Chicago, ex-Mayor Carter H. Harrison made his eagle soar; in Peoria, Hon. A. E. Stevenson was the orator; in New York City, Tammany Hall indulged in a big celebration with speeches and letters from the eminent Democratic statesmen; in Woodstock, Conn., among the many prominent speakers was Indian-Commissioner T. J. Morgan, who pleaded earnestly for justice to "Our Indian Fellow Citizens."

A bill has been introduced into the Canadian Parliament to restrict still further Chinese immigration.

Another cyclist is making the tour of the world under the auspices of the *Outing* magazine. He left New York City Hall, June 9, and expects, after travelling 22,000 miles, to reach New York again in the summer of 1894. He (Mr. Frank G. Lenz) will go via San Francisco to Japan.

The Boston correspondent of the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* has written very appreciatively of Professor Ernest Fenollosa and his work, particularly of his Phi Beta Kappa poem. She speaks of "the exquisite translations he has made of Chinese poetry," and calls him a "mystic by temperament with a poetic and impressionable nature." She quotes the following stanzas from his Phi Beta poem, "The East and the West":—

Faith incredulous of creeds
Love is full of bursting seeds;
Scatters showers of living flowers
Through a wilderness of weeds.
So may perfect art and prayer,
Life and faith in union rare;
Build the soul new tabernacles,
World-encircling domes of air.
Age of worship, crowned with spires,
Flames of purified desires,
Consecrate thy knights for battle
With thy symphony of choirs.
Who shall arm these knights with flame?
Who transmit the oath-bound aim?
Who shall crumble the stars to powder
With the sceptre of God's name?
Thou, O Allah, self-awakened priest,
Soul-wrapped manhood of the East;
Let thy herald with diamond lightning
Blast the eyelids of the West!
Thou may lightnought of defiance
Consecrate the aim of Science;
Twin-jointed vigour of the ages
Corner-stone of God's reliance.

She closes with the following complimentary characterization:—

Professor Fenollosa was for some twelve years a resident of Tokyo, filling a chair in the university, and his oriental study has been not only deep and extended, but the results are those acquired through the sympathetic perception as well as through actual labour. Impressionable and imaginative, Professor Fenollosa entered into the very penetra of Oriental thought, and there saw life and literature from their own points of view. He thus brings to his interpretation of this life qualities that are as rare as they are valuable, and to the Japanese department of the museum he is giving a dignity and significance that is exceptional in any art museum in America.

Japan figures more or less every month in the American magazines. In the July *Century* in Señor Castelar's valuable paper on "Christopher Columbus" is an allusion to the great discoverer's present view of "the island of Cipango fringed with spice-trees and begirt with pearls"; and in the same magazine, in Steadman's treatment of "Beauty" under "The Nature and Elements of Poetry" is a page on the "Japanese types of art and life." In the July *Atlantic*, Lafcadio Hearn has a charming sketch, "In a Japanese Garden."

The Chautauqua Summer School has opened with a large attendance; President Harper read an able paper on "Criticism."

This is the last day of grace for the University of Chicago in securing the \$1,000,000 for buildings. During the past week it has obtained two subscriptions of \$50,000 each from Mrs. A. J. Snell and Mrs. Jerome Bucher of this city; but this morning it lacked \$30,000. It is extremely improbable that the wealthy citizens of Chicago will allow such a grand enterprise to fail by such a small amount.

The Chicago Manual Training School, which opened Feb. 4th, 1884, is now one of the important institutions of the city. Its aim is to combine manual and mental training; and it, therefore, offers instruction and practice in the use of tools together with instruction in drawing, mathematics, and the English branches of a high school course. The roll of its graduates includes about 300 names; and the annual attendances exceeds that number.

This is a great city for panoramas. "The Battle of Gettysburg" and "Niagara Falls" have been here for many years; a more recent cyclorama is "The Chicago Fire," which is intensely interesting and marvellously realistic.

"Libby Prison" is also well worth a visit. The old prison has been put up here just as it stood in Richmond, and has been filled with thousands of war relics, both Union and Confederate, and many other interesting objects. It contains, for instance, Original from

an old and fine postrail of Columbus; two ancient match lock guns made in Japan; and the wheel of Com. Perry's flag-ship *Powhatan*.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor is in session, 20,000 strong, in New York City, and is having enthusiastic meetings. It is an undenominational, union organization of Christian young people for more efficient work. It is only ten years old, but has become international, with 21,000 branches and 1,250,000 members. The convention has passed a resolution against opening the World's Fair on Sunday.

The Chief of Construction of the Columbian Exposition has issued a notice to foreign nations, that, "Unless plans are received and work actively commenced by September 1, * * * space should be promptly vacated." The Japanese Government must hurry.

The bad weather of June interfered somewhat with work on the Fair grounds; but the pleasant weather since has accelerated construction. In spite of the fact that the typical "day in June" was "rare," about 90,000 paying visitors were admitted to the grounds during that month. On the Fourth of July also there was such a crowd that carriages were forbidden to enter.

We have had another conflict between labour and capital with bloodshed. An attempt to reduce the wages of iron and steel workers in Andrew Carnegie's mills at Homestead, near Pittsburg, led to a strike. In order to protect new labourers from the strikers, the mills were fortified, and a force of Pinkerton's detectives was hired. The latter on landing at the mills were met by a mob of 3,000 strikers. It is not yet determined who fired the first shot; but a battle ensued with many dead and wounded on both sides. The Pinkertons had retreated to their barge, where they were besieged for many hours, and finally had to surrender. The strikers had even poured oil on the waters, not for peace, but for igniting the barge! When the Pinkertons were in the hands of the mob, they were shamefully maltreated and abused; but the next day they were released, and sent to New York. The County Sheriff cannot get a *posse* for the defence of the works which the strikers hold. It is hard to say what will be the outcome of this disgraceful affair. It is strange that there should be a reduction of wages in an industry highly "protected" by the McKinley Bill.

SOME NOTES ON ROUMANIA.

Not one of the lately renovated states of Eastern Europe is more worthy of attention than the Kingdom of Roumania. As the eyes of Englishmen are turned in that direction at the present moment, in consequence of the recently announced betrothal of the grand daughter of the Queen of England to the heir of its throne, a few notes on the subject may be acceptable to the readers of this paper.

Geographically the land enclosed by the Danube, the Pruth, and the Carpathians, and containing within itself numerous elements of wealth, would seem fitted by nature to be a successful nation. Its fate through ages has been to form the battlefield on which other nations have fought out their disputes and settled their destinies.

Roman and Spanish legions, brought there by Trajan to colonize and civilize the country, are the ancestors who have most firmly fixed their characteristics in the language and appearance of the people. The former is probably the nearest approach to Latin now spoken. It resembles Latin greatly shorn of its inflections, with hard consonant terminations to the words. Turkish and Slavonic substantives no doubt abound, but, putting these aside, the language can be understood without much difficulty by anyone with a knowledge of Latin or of its derived tongues.

In appearance the Roumanians are typical Italian figures. A touch of difference in the arrangement of kerchief or kirtle, of sheepskin coat or broad, brass studded belt, and one might meet their like on the Campagna. The straight, regular features and dark gleaming eyes are the same; so are the free, upright bearing, gracefully poised figure, and springing step. In the towns, as in most towns, there are many types, and any attempt at generalization would be more or less incorrect. The pride of this people is to be called Rouman; they never forget their origin, and are careful to maintain the distinction which exists between them and other races, of Tartar or Slavonic origin, who are their neighbours.

The Turkish rule, as such, never pressed so hardly on them as on the races south of the Danube. Turks never settled there, no Mosque or Minaret was to be seen in the country, and this immunity was latterly guaranteed to them by treaty. The Turkish authority was,

from the first, delegated, in great measure, to certain families of Phanariote Greeks, who gradually made themselves masters of a great part of the soil of the country, and constituted themselves into a class of feudal lords, becoming less obviously alien as time went on, and holding the population of the rural districts in an organized system of serfdom.

It is perhaps a mistake, or, at any rate, an anachronism, to speak of "the country," as, up to a time after the close of the Crimean War, the two provinces of Moldavia and Walachia of which it consists were in every respect distinct, although their language and many of their conditions were identical. The history of 300 years is mainly the history of those Phanariote Beyads, from among three or four families of the most powerful of whom Hospodars were chosen, to be deposed, imprisoned, assassinated, or beheaded, and succeeded by others, destined to share the same fate. The one bright spot in the midst of this oppression and confusion was the church. Latin in its origin, it had become Oriental to fanaticism, and, having given to the provinces the Cyrillic alphabet, the history of which is curious and well worthy of study, it fostered the literature of the country, and affords us the curious spectacle of this essentially western language expressing itself through those purely Slavonic symbols. Probably by this time the western Alphabet has asserted itself; twenty years ago its use was exceptional, and the subject of conservative protest.

The Phanariote lords, willing enough to apostatize as they had been in the south, were yet faithful sons of the Church in their new land. The Monasteries, scattered all over the Principalities, were a sure provision for their sons and daughters, and were, by common consent, exempt from the changes and confiscations to which the secular possessions were subject. So they grew in extent and importance; some were towns of several thousand inhabitants, living under the simple rule of St. Basil, cultivating the soil, pursuing trade and useful arts, sending out books from their printing presses, treating their serfs as their children, and forming little islands of calm and culture in the midst of the general disorder. The secular clergy were far from keeping pace with their Monastic brethren, and were often little better instructed than the illiterate peasants from whose ranks they were taken, and among whom they, their wives and families lived on terms of equality. The clergy have, however, been represented as being degraded to an extent which was far from being the case. The fact that all officials, however humble, connected with the Church wore ecclesiastical dress and claimed "benefit of clergy" has often caused men whose true status was that of sexton or verger to be confounded with priests proper.

The weak place in the monastic system was the claim laid by the monks of Mount Athos to a large annual tribute from certain of the Roumanian monasteries. The history of this arrangement need not be entered on here; the drain on the resources of the country, from the money sent to the Holy Mount on the one hand, and from the tribute enforced by the Porte on the other, caused a poverty, not severe perhaps, because the soil was exceptionally fertile, and the needs of the people exceptionally few, but still sufficient, in combination with the general insecurity, to prevent any real progress. Such was the state of things at the close of the Crimean War. The peace assured to the Principalities certain privileges as against the Porte, many of which they had practically enjoyed before; it failed to guard them from the Russian ascendancy which is always ready to assert itself in those regions. But the war, initiated on the banks of the Danube, had the effect of bringing the two provinces at once into touch with Western Europe. The consular posts of Bucharest became of considerable importance, and were held by men who, by their diplomacy, did much to guide events. Jassy, the capital of Moldavia, had always been less important. Walachia, the more Western province, shut out by the wall of the Carpathians from the neighbouring civilization of the Transylvanian "Grenze" so completely that the contrast between the eastern and western sides of the wild mountain passes was a thing to wonder at, was yet far less Russian than Moldavia, to which had been united, in 1829, the quasi-Russian province of Bessarabia. Jassy, was a city almost entirely "à la Russe"; full of churches and Monasteries, which, though nominally subjects to the Patriarch of Constantinople, yet looked to Kieff as their Holy City; while, in Bucharest, the Roumanian and Greek elements combined to produce a barbaric splendour, with an outside show of French civilization, side by side with a sordid, apathetic poverty, forming a whole, curious, if not too edifying to witness. One provision of the Treaty of Paris was that those two provinces, to which it gave enlarged powers of self government, should remain two. Within a few

months the same man had been elected Hospodar of both. By this step the treaty was not formally infringed, but a very short time served to bring about a revolution which placed the Hospodar, Alexander Couza, who was altogether a creature of Russia, at the head of a united Roumania. This remained a *fait accompli*, and, although grumbled at, was not disturbed by the powers. Prince Couza, an adventurer and gambler by nature, fought consistently for his own hand, but always subject to Russian influence and direction. Money was needed, and the monastic tribute to Mount Athos was a sufficient excuse for the entire confiscation of the property of the monasteries, both alien and indigenous; with some temporary exceptions, made with the view of clearing the ground more mercifully.

The next step, possibly an experiment *in corpore vultu* on the part of Russia, was the complete emancipation of the serfs; which measure, carrying with it a new set of conditions for military service, doubtless did much to raise that intrepid body of men who made a name for their country and themselves at Plevna. But the vices, public and private, of Prince Couza, and also, probably, the fiat of Russia brought about a revolution which sent him to join the band of "*Rois en exil*" in Paris, and which, after a more than usual amount of diplomatic juggling, brought Prussia to the front, by placing at the head of the United Principalities a brave and wise young member of the house of Hohenzollern. Prince Charles and his young wife, Elizabeth of Wied, had already made steady progress in the affections of the people who had adopted them, when the Russo-Turkish war of 1876 drew the country once more into the turmoil of the nations.

To many of us that march of the mighty host led by Alexander and his generals seems a thing of yesterday. "Across the Pruth" was the *mot de guerre* then, as in 1854. Then they passed, in long line, up the five miles of raised *chassees* which runs parallel to the Danube from Reni to Galatz. There were Turkish gunboats on the river, but not a shot was fired. They marched through Galatz, and on for three miles more, up to the bold headland where the Danube and the Sereth join; up to the great green plateau where the Rouman regions had their camp ages ago, leaving their coins and potsherds and broken earthenware, to make a holiday joy for little children who gather violets there. Here the Russian host halted for three days, a gallant show; and then, without let or hindrance crossed over to the reedy shore of the Dobrudja to begin the great campaign which ended under the walls of Constantinople and which, among its other results, made Roumania a Kingdom, and turned its Prince—Hospodar into King Charles I. If Charles is King, Elizabeth is Queen and more; a very womanly queen; one of those women with whom logic is second, but who justify their position by success. Very successful she has been, chiefly by becoming heart and soul a Roumanian. Carrying which her to her new home the high aims and ideals which were hers as a romantic girl by the Rhine, she has made a place for them by the Danube and the Bistritza. She has caused the quaint and soul-stirring Rouman legends, and they are many, to live afresh in the hearts of the people; she has been more Rouman than the Roumanians. But two aims above all others have been hers. First it has been in her heart to help and sustain her husband with all womanly sympathy and encouragement, in a position so full of difficulty that a man less bravely resolute and high-minded would have given up in despair. And, secondly, she has spared no effort to raise the standard of education and morals among the women of her adopted country. The way in which she has done this, learning thoroughly in order that she might teach, spending hours of every day in working and showing others how to work, is known to most of us. She has taught the girls in the village schools, and the women in their homes; and has made it her pleasure to surround herself with a band of noble maidens to be trained to share her own high aspirations, never through it all losing sight of the truth that women should be womanly; "not lesser men, but different." Critics there are ready to smile at "Carmen Sylva," or to pass judgment on same recent events, which, but for the fierce light which beats about even the Roumanian throne, would be utterly unknown to them. Such critics do not consider that the life of this devoted wife, this childless mother, who is the mother of a whole nation's womanhood, is a life of steady, quiet work, of which a book of poems is but the solace, a nervous illness but the temporary interruption. What has been already said will suggest that the life of the ruler of Roumania must be full of cares, and must involve no small amount of self devotion and self sacrifice. The Roumanians have many qualities which go to the making of a

nation; qualities of race which must tell in the end; qualities also of patience, gained during ages when patience has been their only armour. Nay, for they have also had the armour of duplicity and cunning which oppression never fails to produce. It has produced also a readiness to have recourse to corruption, bribes, treachery, any means by which the favourable turn of the wheel may be made to neutralize the unfavourable turn which is sure to follow. Nothing can speak more highly for the consistent courage of the king and queen than the steady stand which they have made against those vices, and the fact that already a large and increasing public opinion is with them, and ready to aid in unmasking, and putting a stop to the unworthy intrigues which are still too common. Then there is the great problem of a so-called free peasantry, deeply mortgaged to the Jews, which has taken the place of the serfs with few responsibilities and few hopes. The emancipation is 30 years old; it is only within the last five or six years that the difficulty has become acute. As in Russia, those serfs were emancipated with a light heart, and turned, all at once, into tax-paying responsible subjects; the results must be faced, bravely indeed, but with hearts less light. The problem of Russian ascendancy is also there, as where is it not? The Turkish problem has well nigh, or altogether solved itself. In the proposal to marry the heir to the throne, the nephew of King Charles, to the grand daughter of Alexander II, and of Queen Victoria, there is, no doubt, policy, and, though alliances of royal houses do not seem now to have the importance which was once attributed to them, we cannot but hope that this union may be for the good of the Roumanian kingdom, as well as for the happiness of the future king and his young bride.

If the political future of the country can be assured its material prosperity will, without doubt, continue to increase. In spite of drawbacks such as those just referred to, its progress during the last thirty years has been immense. At the close of the Crimean War there was no such thing as a road, properly so called, in the country, and what trade there was remained in the hands of Jews and of foreign merchants, mostly Greek or Italian, in the towns on the river. It was not till 14 or 15 years later that the first railway was opened in the country. The great fertile plains to the north of the Danube, scratched with a wooden plough, produced rich harvests of wheat and maize, far in excess of the needs of the population. The river was the natural outlet for all this surplus food; a majestic stream, flowing, after its dash through the Carpathians at the Iron Gates, in a free, level stream; not the "blue Danube" of the poets, but a great, resistless yellow tide, soaking through long reaches of marsh and meadow, swelled by great tributaries, and fit for the bearing of navies—so far; but, for the last hundred miles of its course becoming more and more undetermined what the course should be; with shallows here, awkward bends there, lagoons and subsidiary streams everywhere. The grain did indeed get shipped from the two river ports of Galatz and Ibraila. To reach those ports from the fields where it grew, it had to be dragged over weary miles of well nigh trackless steppe; down into the deep valleys which intersect it, and up to the level again. Long trains of blue-grey oxen, pulling from the forehead with patient strength, dragged the cracking arabas, with no vestige of iron in their composition, through clouds of yellow dust, past village and convent tower; stopping to rest at noon or night-fall in the courtyard of some square, white Kabin, or camping in front of some "bordei," a hut, sunk deep in the ground, its grass grown roof scarcely serving to distinguish it from the countless tumuli which dot the plain; only those resting groups, or the acrid smell of the raki sold within, marking it as a *krishma*, or wine shop. On reaching the port the grain was shipped in such craft as the river afforded, and worked its way to the Sulina mouth, to be there transferred to flat bottomed lighters. These lighters were owned and managed by a set of Greeks, who found this form of piracy more easy and profitable than that practised on their own coasts. Some of the grain found its way to the storm-tossed corn ships lying out in the Black Sea; the rest became the spoil of the lightermen, and it was "a far cry" to any source of justice or restitution. The town of Sulina, then one long street of wooden houses, with a mosque and some attempt at a lighthouse, ran up the right bank of the river, for a mile or more. No tree, no trace of vegetation, no stone or pebble even varied the monotony of this desolate ridge of muddy sand. The wreck-strewn water, half river, half tideless sea, lay in front, and behind; for miles and miles the gigantic reeds growing in the marsh, the haunt of wolves and wild boar, stretched, without interruption, southward, to the St. George's

mouth of the river. What money or profit came to the owners or tillers of the soil for the grain thus sent from it, who can say? The varied and valuable mineral resources of the country were equally ill off for any means of development: sheep and oxen were killed for the sake of their skins and their bodies left neglected on the plain; there was no possibility of transporting timber to any extent from the immense forests of oak, beech and fir which clothed the uplands of the north; great trees rotted where they fell, and no one heeded them. Ever since the peace of 1829 the question of the improvement of one or other of the three mouths of the Danube had been before those interested. There has been an idea, stated and controverted, that Russia persistently opposed any practical steps, in the interest of her own Odessa trade. Probably she may have added some extra weight to the *vis inertia* which was always sufficient for much in those regions. In any case, some feeble dredging of the Sulina mouth, quite inadequate for any real good, was all that was attempted for twenty-seven years. The Treaty of Paris made provision for an international commission to deal with the improvement of the lower Danube. The work of that commission during its first years has been the subject of interesting papers, included in the literature of more than one scientific society; these give, in some detail, the history of a work which has had an immense effect in promoting the welfare of Roumania. The first British commissioner has described the bewilderment and discouragement with which this little band of strangers viewed, for the first time, the scene of their future labours. The river, furnished, to a certain extent, the means of transport, but there all facilities ended. Forests had to be explored for timber, quarries opened for stone; and labourers had to be, first found, then trained and organized for everything directly or indirectly connected with the temporary works which, after much debate, and many delaying objections and suggestions from the various head quarters, it was at last decided to begin at the already so far practicable Sulina mouth. As the Sulina is by far the most insignificant of the three main branches into which the Danube divides itself, bearing indeed no more than one twenty-seventh part of its water to the sea, there was very great unwillingness on the part of certain of the commissioners, as on the part of their able engineer-in-chief, to abandon the idea of eventually opening up the St. George mouth, which seemed to present many advantages. But circumstances were too strong for them, and it is the great triumph of the present successful works at Sulina that, step by step, what was temporary and ephemeral, has been adapted and strengthened, and, at a minimum of expenditure, has produced a permanent, self-dredging channel, allowing ships of the largest tonnage to pass to and fro with ease, where formerly there were but three or four feet of water on the bar. The Sulina of to-day, with its long line of quay, its countless ships of all nations, its bowery gardens, formed with imported soil, and stocked with imported flowers and fruit trees, would fail to recognize the description given above and, being a town which thinks well of itself, would probably be inclined to resent it. Farther and farther up the river improvements have been carried out. Good roads bear the produce of Roumania to the railways, and from thence they are carried by river and sea to all lands whose commerce may claim them. It is an old, half forgotten story how a little band of foreigners, with often small encouragement, it might be even with positive discouragement from the governments they represented, fought the questions, of money, not easy questions—of international jealousies, of engineering possibilities and results; and opened up a new highway for commerce; so helping in the making of a nation.

In climate Roumania may be called extreme. The summer is like Greece, the winter like Canada, cold, clear, bracing. Lakes and rivers are frozen; the sleigh bells ring out along streets and country roads. There is much skating, and great hunting parties camp in forest huts, and bring home spoil of wolves and wild boar, or track the brown bear among the crags of the Carpathians. The great thaw in March is a sight to witness. The river traffic, suspended for two months or more, has taken another, than its usual form, and a constant stream of arabas, variously laden, has established communication between the banks at points where a town or village on either side invites it. The thaw comes, sometimes with but little warning: a rush, a stampede sets in. Then, for a day or two the river is impracticable for either cart or boat, and lives are often lost, crushed out among the huge ice blocks. A week or so of mud and misery follows; then the whole land is green, as if by magic; the plains are fragrant with violets and purple with dwarf iris. Easter-tide, the "Ortho-

dax" Easter, sees the houses and cottages all decked with willow boughs; and over and over again one may witness the conventional representation of the Good Shepherd repeated, as the master of each house brings home the Paschal lamb, "bearing it on his shoulders, rejoicing." Then may be seen the village festival, when the choric dance, regarded with so much interest by antiquarians, takes us back to classic times. Then also is the great time for weddings, where the bride, rapt away from her home like a Sabine maiden, is united to her husband by rites elaborated through ages of Oriental Christianity.

Summer is the time of roses; they are every where; fresh and lovely in the gardens, drying into pot pourri, distilled for rose water, or boiled into a thick confection, the favourite *douichats* which precedes the black coffee, used in Roumania as universally as in Turkey. It is a fruitful summer too; and a fruitful autumn succeeds it. The vintage is late; the wine, white and red, and of an excellent quality and flavour is produced in abundance only too great for home consumption. Those best able to judge of its qualities say that its exportation is only matter of time. The scenery, even of the lower plains, has the beauty of vastness, and of a clear, shining atmosphere which gives full value to details; invests them sometimes indeed, on hot summer days, in wonderful mirage; that of the upper country, by the Bistritza, and on the eastern slopes of the Carpathians, is often indescribably lovely in form and colour. The Treaty of Berlin restored Bessarabia to the Russians, and gave to Roumania in exchange the Dobradja, South of the Danube; a possible source of trouble in the future. Its mixed population includes few Romanians, and it is by no means fertile.

If the Eastern question could sleep for half a century it might wake harmlessly enough for Roumania; as it is, we can but hope that the results of the last 30 years may endure, and be only the beginning of still better things.

KOBE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

HALF YEARLY MEETING.

At the Masonic Hall yesterday (July 29th), at 4.30, the ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce was held, Mr. Matthew Brown, Jun., presiding. There were also present Messrs. Bardens, A. Woolley, Kochen, Faber, T. W. Hellyer, Th. de Bernigny, and J. M. Mur, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and adopted the half-yearly report was also read by the secretary. It was as follows:—Gentlemen, we take this opportunity to place before you a few comments on the foreign trade of the port for the six months ended on 30th June. Raw Cotton has continued to take the leading place amongst Imports and it is likely to maintain this ascendancy as the local spinning establishments require a large quantity to keep them going, but we may say that these wants, large though they be, have always been amply supplied. Cotton yarn shows a considerably increased importation as compared with that of the corresponding period of last year, but it should be remembered that the stock at the beginning of 1891 was much heavier than that with which we commenced the present year, and it would therefore appear that the actual consumption is not on the increase. The local manufacture of yarn continues to be carried on with success; reports from the mills prove that most of them are working at a satisfactory profit.

Piece Goods.—This branch of business has had to contend with many drawbacks, amongst which we may mention the general dullness of trade, the unsettled condition of exchange, and the gradual growth of native manufacture in several fabrics, such as Calicoes, T. Cloths, Turkey Reds, Satins, &c., but the future is still regarded with hope in some quarters and a more prosperous state of trade generally would no doubt have good effect.

Metals, Chemicals, Oil, and Sugar take their usual large place in the list of imports and call for no special remark. Prospects for the future look not unpromising when we consider that the crops so far have turned out well and that stocks of goods in second hands must be moderate—but no permanent improvement can be looked for until importers have learnt to abstain from bringing excessive supplies to a limited market.

The present unsatisfactory state of affairs is partly attributable to the great facilities afforded to importers by the Banks. Not only foreign but Japanese merchants have availed of these facilities with the result that the trade has been overdone. The impecunious importer cannot afford to hold goods for better prices and is often compelled to sell on arrival, thus producing

a ruinous effect upon the market. A steady business has been done in the principal articles of export on terms which are remunerative to the producers.

The tea trade shows no signs of falling off. The export of new leaf is not so large as at the corresponding period of last year, by reason of the larger proportion of fine teas produced, which has reduced the bulk whilst the money value of the crop is greater.

The quantity of Rice exported has not reached expectations, prices were forced up by speculations to a point which foreign markets could not entertain, and when quotations had declined to a more reasonable level, the best shipping season was over.

Campior shows a much diminished export, whilst Copper attains to almost its former figures. Antimony has been exported on the same scale as last year.

In Silk the trade has been insignificant, but in waste silk a good business has been done notwithstanding adverse markets at home, and there is every prospect of a more extensive trade in this article in the future. The tonnage returns, including the local trade with China, show such a gratifying increase as to warrant the remark that Kobe is now the leading port for shipping in Japan.

On the motion of Mr. BARDENS seconded by Mr. WOOLLEY the report, as altered at the suggestions of Mr. Hellyer and Mr. Woolley was adopted.

The accounts, which showed a falling off in the subscriptions, but an increase of revenue owing to the issue of additional circulars, were passed on the motion of Mr. BERIGNY, seconded by Mr. BARDENS.

Two new members were elected, namely, Messrs. C. P. Low & Co., and Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro.

Mr. WOOLLEY attributed the scant attendance to insufficient advertising, he thought a notice should have been inserted in both papers.

The CHAIRMAN agreed, and then asked if the members approved of the Committee making any representation to have the Fourth National Exhibition held in Kobe.

Mr. HELLYER thought some action might be taken, and in reply to Mr. Kochen's suggestion that it was to be purely a Japanese exhibition and that they might look on foreign suggestions as an intrusion, said he felt confident the action would be received in the right spirit.

The matter was left in the hands of the committee.

Mr. BARDENS then read the following circular which had been issued by the Custom House authorities:—"Notice is hereby given that from this date the Customs will only grant permission to land cargo under *General Permit* by one Landing Agent, or, from alongside vessel, and that permission will no longer be granted to discharge under *General Permit* by two or more parties, and from alongside the vessel at the same time, the Customs Authorities having found great inconvenience in keeping the run of cargo when landed under *General Permit*, as heretofore." This notification, was he said, being carried out rather rigidly, and within the last three or four weeks it had given great trouble to steamers. He had had one steamer since the notice had been issued. It would certainly be troublesome to consignees. Before that was issued shipping people had got a *General Permit* to land cargo, and consignees could, if they wished, send off and land their own cargo themselves. Now, the agent has to land everything in bulk. He had been asked by three steamship agents to bring the matter to the notice of the Chamber. It was a matter, it was true, for the consignees, as later on if they wished to take delivery of their own cargo, it would be refused. He had no proposition to make, but he thought it was a matter that should be known. The circular was dated 2nd July.

Mr. HELLYER thought it was a matter the Chamber should take up as the authorities were, as a rule, extremely reasonable in listening to representations brought by foreign merchants.

Mr. BARDENS said that when he was dispatching the *Cardiganshire* some consignees had asked for their goods, and his firm had been put to the trouble of making out 50 or 60 different permits, whereas under ordinary circumstances nothing of the kind would have been necessary. The result was that the steamer had been kept here nine days doing what ordinarily she would do in three days. It was true three of those days had been wet days, but the fact remained she should have been able to leave the port before those wet days set in.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. BARDENS further added that the old system worked satisfactorily. After some discussion it was decided to let the matter stand over for the present, and the proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.—*Hyogo News*.

REVIEW.

The Life of Thomas Paine. By MONCURE DANIEL CONWAY. In two vols. New York: G. P. Putnam's Son: 8vo.

Mr. M. D. Conway has rendered the life of Thomas Paine a great service in the researches by which he has unearthed and presented anew the real history of this remarkable man, who was the first to suggest American independence and to point out the working principles upon which our government is based. He has been tireless in his endeavours to bring out all the facts in regard to Paine's career, and the result is a biography which throws important light upon his personal public history. Thomas Paine was born January 29th, 1736 7, at Thetford in England, and was brought up in the Society of Friends. He was baptized in the Church of England. This is inferred from the fact that in one of his volumes he speaks of himself as a member of the English Church. In early youth he had but few privileges among the plain people who rejoiced in the simplicity of Quaker life. He says of himself:—"My parents were not able to give me a shilling beyond what they gave me in education, and to do this they distressed themselves. My father being of the Quaker profession, it was my good fortune to have an exceedingly good moral education and a tolerable stock of useful learning. * * * The natural bent of my mind was to science. I had some turn, and I believe, some talent, for poetry, but this I rather repressed than encouraged, as leading too much into the field of imagination. He also was strong in mathematics. His early life was a struggle. In his 25th year he had the office of exciseman, and lived under the pressure of two great hungers, for bread and for science. His income, after paying his expenses, was only about £32 pounds per annum, but he contrived to support himself under these limitations. It was an improvement upon the business of a staymaker to become an exciseman, but this was not to be his calling. He speedily emigrated to America, and brought with him political opinions which had just begun to be agitated in Europe. Shortly after he came to this country he published the *Pennsylvania Magazine*, and in this organ sowed the seeds of great reforms which were then ripening with the progress of civilization. What these were is well stated by Mr. Conway:—"Events selected his seeds of American independence, of republican equality, freedom from royal, ecclesiastical, and hereditary privilege, for a swifter and more imposing harvest; but the whole circle of human ideas and principles was recognized by this lone wayfaring man. The first to urge extension of the principles of independence to the enslaved negro; the first to arraign monarchy, and to point out the danger of its survival in presidency; the first to advocate international arbitration; the first to expose the absurdity and criminality of duelling; the first to suggest more rational ideas of marriage and divorce; the first to advocate national and international copyright; the first to plead for the animal; the first to demand justice for women; what brilliant would our modern reformers have contributed to the coronet for that man's brow, had he not presently worshipped the God of his fathers after the way that theologians call heresy!"

In this country he became a notable person. He gave utterance, probably, to the earliest printed suggestion of independence in America. Mr. Conway notes that there are three stages in the evolution of the Declaration of Independence, resistance, separation, and republicanism. Paine's work was to stir up the colonies to resistance. He wrote his pamphlet entitled: "*Common Sense*," in the autumn of 1775, and with the new year it burst from the press with an effect which has rarely been produced by types and paper in any age or country. It was full of flaming arguments for separating the colonies from Great Britain. The work was, for a time, attributed to Franklin, and the doctor was reproached by a loyal lady for using in it such an epithet as "the royal brute of Britain." Franklin assured her that he had not written the pamphlet and would never have so dishonored the brute creation. Mr. Conway says: "No other pamphlet published during the revolution is comparable with common sense for interest to the reader of to-day, or for value as an historical document. Therein, as in a mirror, is beheld the almost incredible England, against which the colonies contended. And therein is reflected the moral, even religious, enthusiasm which raised the struggle above the paltriness of a rebellion against taxation to a great human movement—a war for an idea. The art with which every sentence is feathered for its aim is consummate." The writing of this pamphlet brought the author into close relations with Washington and

Jefferson, and did much to provoke serious political thinking among the American people. Though not a military leader, Paine in the pamphlet entitled "*The Crisis*," pressed forward the objects which the friends of the revolution had in view and was constantly on the watch. When the war was over he was a great deal mixed up with the embassy to France. During the war he had the most important congressional secretaryship, but when the contest was over he was reduced to a clerkship in a law office. But his work was not done with the revolution, and his services were of almost as much value in constructing the constitution as they were in encouraging men to fight for their country.

One of his greatest services was his visit to France in 1781. He went to France with Franklin in order to induce the King to loan money to the United States, and it was the use of this money which enabled Washington to meet the demands of his army and carry on the war. No one made greater sacrifices at that time than Thomas Paine. He gave everything to secure the independence of the nation, his copyright, his secretaryship, his clerkship. But the result was that it left him in a state of dependence. The nation practically refused to reimburse him for what he had done in its behalf, and it has refused to this day. This did not discourage him. As he was the to raise the flag of republican independence, so he was the first to raise that of a union, which, above the states, should inherit the supremacy wrested from the crown. He understood, as if by anticipation, what the difficulties were to be under our system of government, and touched very gently the doctrine of centralized power. He put the case exactly when he said that "each state is to the United States what each individual is to the state he lives in," and that "it is on this grand point, this movement upon one centre, that our existence as a nation, our happiness as a people, and our safety as individuals, depend." He also struck the federal keynote by saying:—"The United States will become heir to an extensive quantity of vacant land"—the doctrine of national inheritance, which cost him dear.

A very striking chapter in this book is entitled "Great Washington and Poor Paine." In September, 1783, the month of final peace, Washington was at the height of his fame, in the receipt of the greatest honours, but Thomas Paine sat in his little home in Bordentown, living on his crust. One day the great commander wrote him a kind and friendly letter, which brought him to Washington's head-quarters with joy. Also the General Assembly of Pennsylvania voted him a special compensation of £500 for his services. Congress afterward voted him \$3,000, but these sums did not begin to cover the loss which Paine sustained while trying to serve his country. The greatest leaders of that time are strongest in their testimony to the value of Paine's work for the country.

If there were times when, both now and afterward, he was not properly appreciated, this was not the case when Congress sat in New York in 1785, where he was the literary lion of the metropolis. He was at this time only known by his political writings, and, though he had enemies, and was a man always ready to make enemies, he was having the most interesting years in his whole career. In 1787, he returned to his old home in England. He first landed in France, but went quickly over to England, and visited the Quaker meeting house in Thetford, near which his mother, then in her 91st year, lived. This was in 1789. At this time, says Mr. Conway: "America was working by his hand, looking through his eyes, and silently publishing to the people from whom he sprang what the new nation could make out of a starving English staymaker. He was a living Declaration of Independence. The Americans in London—the artist West and Trumbull, the Alexanders (Franklin's connections) and others, were fond of him as a friend, and proud of him as a countryman."

Thomas Paine was destined to have a singular experience in France. He was in Paris during the revolution of 1789, and he was just the person to take hold of this new effort to sustain liberty. It was at this time that he published "*The Rights of Man*," in which many principles of the revolution were warmly advocated. He had a wonderful insight into these political questions. He did not found the European republic in the same sense that he founded the American nation, but he was full of the republican element and was the bitterest antagonist of Burke in his "*Reflections on the French Revolution*." His next work was to exert the same constructive influence upon French politics which he had already exerted upon American politics. Much fresh light is thrown upon the French revolution in these pages, but it takes too much space to state what this new light is. His stay in Paris was made wretched by his imprison-

ment for nearly a year in the Luxembourg prison, where he expected to be gillotined at any moment. This was undoubtedly the saddest and most trying part of his career. From this prison he appealed in vain to the American government for relief. Even Washington was either ignorant of his situation or had broken friendship with him from other causes. He left him to languish in prison, but Monroe showed great magnanimity in the treatment of Paine. He took him to his house on his release from the prison and set him upon his feet. It was now that he wrote a pamphlet on "First Principles of Government," which is one of his best productions, and which had its influence upon the new French constitution which was then ready to be submitted for popular consideration.

Up to this point, Paine had not published any of his religious writings. "The Age of Reason" was begun shortly after he left the prison of Luxembourg. It was a book written not so much to advance inquiry as to express the writer's prejudices and to stir up the feelings of those who believed differently from himself. Mr. Conway indulges in a good deal of bluff when he takes up this part of the subject, and does not write in the same calm and clear manner which he maintains in other parts of his work, but he can be depended upon for telling essentially the truth about this famous production. Paine was not an infidel, but a deist in the same sense that Washington was a deist, and when his "Age of Reason" is carefully studied it is found to be an antagonism to a certain conception of Christianity rather than an attack upon it in its essence. The force of this work was not in its theology, which was but gradually developed. It was an attempt to deal with religion rationally, and so little danger was anticipated from it that it was at first published in America as a religious book. It was circulated in Virginia by Washington's old friend, Parson Weems. He put into it his rejection of certain phases of Christian teaching, but he also put into it his own heart.

It was the good fortune of Paine to know all the great men of his time in three countries, and the chapter devoted to his friendships is one of the most acceptable in Mr. Conway's work. He had intimate relations with the French government after the revolution was over, and he gained great credit throughout Europe by his pamphlet on "The Decline and Fall of the English System of Finance," in which he predicted the suspension of the Bank of England, which followed the next year. When the relations between the French government and Minister Monroe were strained to the point where they were almost intolerable in 1796, Paine came to the rescue of Monroe very much as Monroe had come to his rescue when he was released from prison. The American legation found through him a *modus vivendi* with the French government, and he more than paid back the kind services which had been rendered to him. Paine's religious writings, while not nearly so bad as they seemed to be, had the effect of raising against him, the prejudices of the people in England and America, and did much to obscure the great claims of his political works. The time was not ripe at the beginning of this century, especially in this country, for the writing of a free book on religion, and Paine made his work needlessly objectionable by the temper and freedom and personality which he put into it. He was too honest and outspoken to be a successful free thinker, and his religious writing did much to increase the rancor of his enemies and to turn against him the prejudices of the religious world. The result was greatly to his disadvantage, and interfered much with his personal happiness.

He died the 8th of June, 1809. On the morning of his death two clergymen invaded his room, and spoke to him about his opinions; but Paine said: "Let me alone; good morning!" Mrs. Bonneville asked if he was satisfied with the treatment he had received in her house, and he said, "Oh, yes." These were his last words. He had no fear of death. He held fast to his principles to the very end of his life, and those who followed him to the grave were humble and plain persons who believed in the goodness of the man. The following ill-natured epitaph was written on him in 1796, when it was supposed that he was dead. It reads thus:

Blasphemes the Almighty, lived in filth like a hog,
Is abandoned in death, and interred like a dog.

This was far from being the truth. The clergy were not present at his grave, but the Quaker preacher, the wife of an oppressed French author, and her sons and two negroes followed his coffin to the grave.

The chapter devoted to the personal traits of Paine is very readable. It refutes the charges that he was a drunkard or given to sexual immorality, or the charges that he was addicted to any other social vices. Those who knew him intimately declare that his life was without fault. He

was prodigal of snuff, but used tobacco in no other form. He had aversion to profanity, and never told or listened to indecent anecdotes. He neglected his personal appearance, and was slovenly in his dress. Mr. Conway affirms that there is no truth in the charges of excessive drinking which have been made against him. In earlier life he drank spirits, as was the custom in England and America, and he drank brandy enough to give him a red nose when he was 55, but he was no more intemperate than were hundreds of others in those days. Mr. Conway regards Paine as a profoundly religious man, and as one who practised all the moral virtues, trying to live up to his own ideal of what life ought to be.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Conway for the patience and fidelity of his historical studies into the career of Thomas Paine. His work is clearly and honestly written, but it is not free from slurs and innuendoes whenever Paine's religious opinions are presented, and it is too diffuse and extended a work for its subject. Quite a large portion of the book might have been omitted to the advantage of what remains. Mr. Conway enters into many useless inquiries. He might better have presented extracts from Paine's writings, which give the gist of his principles, and he might have curtailed many pages where his explanations add nothing to the strength of the narrative. His historical writings have been in better form and of more permanent value than his religious writings. These volumes furnish the best treatment that the career of Thomas Paine has ever received; in fact, it is the only biography of this notable man that has ever come up to the standard which his life demands, the only large and careful treatment, at the hands of a sympathetic writer that has ever been attempted. Taken as a whole, the work is one which will be read with great interest and will give an entirely new impression of one of the greatest political benefactors that America has ever known.

ACTION TO DECLARE MARRIAGE NULL AND VOID.

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT FOR HIOGO
AND OSAKA.

CORA LAFFERTY V. CONRAD HARVEY.

Readers will have observed in our columns during the last three weeks a published summons addressed to one Conrad Harvey, ordering him to appear in the Court of the United States Consulate at Higo and Osaka on Monday, the 1st day of August, as defendant in answer to a petition from Cora Lafferty Harvey praying that her marriage with the said Conrad Harvey be declared null and void *ab initio*.

The story of which this is the culminating point is a very painful one, and shows an almost incredible depth of depravity and scoundrelism on the part of the defendant to the suit, and, in justice to the plaintiff, it is worth while giving a brief outline of it. Conrad Harvey came to Japan in the early part of 1889, and staying for some time in Yokohama, came down to Kobe and entered the office of the China and Japan Trading Co. at this port. He was at that time to all appearances a quiet and unassuming young man, whom one would have been last to suspect of being a fugitive from justice, as he in reality was. In June of the same year he was introduced at Osaka to Miss Lafferty, a young lady employed as teacher in a mission school, and before two or three months had passed away Miss Lafferty had promised to become his wife. From the beginning Harvey impressed upon her the necessity of the engagement being kept secret, giving some plausible reason therefore, and having first ascertained that she was herself an orphan and had no friends in America who were likely to make inquiry into his antecedents. From most persons he on his part kept his engagement a profound secret, and none were more surprised than his acquaintances when he one morning informed them that he had got married on the previous day. The marriage took place on February 9th, 1890, before the present United States Consul in this port, the religious ceremony being performed by the Rev. B. C. Howarth, and for several months Harvey appears to have been a most devoted husband. Shortly before his marriage Harvey had become acquainted with the late Mr. Dernen, who was in Kobe at the time engaged in establishing a branch of Messrs. Grisar, Dernen & Co., and he managed so completely to deceive this gentleman as to his true character that he was appointed the Kobe agent, Mr. Dernen returning to Europe.

Things seemed to go smoothly until the end of September or the beginning of October, when

Harvey commenced to act somewhat strangely, being frequently absent from home. On 21st of October he suddenly informed his wife that he was compelled to go to Hakodate in connection with a contract concerning sulphur, and he left Kobe in a Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer on that day, since which time his wife has neither seen nor heard from him. Harvey had promised to telegraph his arrival at Hakodate, and when a day or two passed without any telegram being received inquiries were made, and it was found that he had not arrived there. For some time it seemed as if he had vanished completely, and it was several months before the whole story was unravelled. It was then discovered that he had embarked at Yokohama on one of the Canadian Pacific steamers and had landed in Canada before any hue and cry had been raised against him. On his books being examined it was found that he had robbed his employers in Kobe of a considerable sum, and further inquiries elicited the facts that he had fled from America some two or three years ago to escape punishment on a similar charge of theft, and that at the time he went through a form of marriage in Japan he was already married, his first wife living in Iowa and having been deserted in the year 1888.

The extraordinary part of the whole story is the facility with which the man was able to delude those with whom he was brought into contact. Men of the world, business men and ministers of religion were all deceived in him; for he was a man well read, could converse on a variety of topics with much ease, and professed to be deeply religious, and it is therefore scarcely surprising that he was able to deceive a young lady who had little experience of the villainy which a fair-seeming surface may conceal. Efforts, we believe, are still being made to trace Harvey, and we accompany this brief account of the man's career with a portrait in the hope that our Canadian or American exchanges will copy it and so perhaps be the means of bringing him to justice.

The following was the evidence given in the recent case on Monday last:—

Hunter Sharp, sworn: I am the marshal of this United States Court and a summons was placed in my hands July 15th last, but the defendant not being found in this Consular district I made a return accordingly. On the 16th of July, under the order of the Court, I caused the summons to be published in the *Kobe Chronicle* once a week for three consecutive weeks.

Cora Lafferty Harvey, sworn: I am the plaintiff in this case. I was married to Mr. Conrad Harvey Feb. 9th, 1890, by the Reverend B. C. Howarth, and in the presence of the United States Consul at Kobe. I had not at that time any reason for believing that Mr. Harvey was a married man. After he left me I heard he had a wife in America. I have since seen the evidence taken in America under the commission issued from this Court.

Testimony offered in evidence and read as follows:—

The deposition of witnesses taken at Guthrie Centre in the State of Iowa, before J. H. Applegate, one of the District Judges of said State of Iowa, in and for 5th Judicial district of said State, which said district includes the country of Guthrie and the County of Madison, said deposition being taken in obedience to a *Dedimus Potestatem* which was issued by the Hon. Hunter Sharp, U.S. Vice-Consul, Acting Judicially, on the thirteenth day of July, A.D. 1891, same to be read in evidence in a suit pending in the Consular Court of the United States Consulate for Osaka and Higo, Japan, wherein Mrs. Cora Lafferty Harvey is plaintiff and Conrad Harvey defendant.

Reverend W. D. Swaim of lawful age, being first duly sworn, deposeth, answereth and says as follows, to wit:

1. Are you acquainted with Conrad Harvey, and if so, state when and how you became acquainted with him?—I became acquainted with Conrad Harvey in the fall of 1884 at Panora, Iowa. He was then the station agent at said town of Panora, Iowa.

2. Do you recognize the photograph now shown you, marked "Exhibit No. 1," as being the likeness of any one you have ever known?—Yes, I recognize the photograph as the likeness of W. C. Harvey, commonly called Con or Conrad Harvey, formerly of Panora, Iowa.

3. Did you perform the ceremony at the marriage of Conrad Harvey and Miss Della Pierce, and if so, when and where did it take place?—Yes, I performed the ceremony of marriage between Conrad Harvey and Miss Della Pierce, at her father's residence, near the town of Yale, in Guthrie County, Iowa, on March 10th, 1885.

Original of any doubt as to the photograph just shown you being a true likeness of Conrad

Harvey?—No, sir, I haven't any doubt as to its being a true likeness of Conrad Harvey.

[Signed and attested.]

Mrs. Della Pierce Harvey of lawful age, being first duly sworn the depose, answereth and says as follows, to wit:

1. Do you recognize the photograph marked "Exhibit No. 1 United States Consular Court for Osaka and Hyogo," as being the likeness of any one you have ever known?—I do. I recognize the photograph as the likeness of Conrad Harvey.

2. Were you ever married, and if so, when and to whom were you married?—Yes, I was married March 10th, 1885, to Conrad Harvey.

3. Have you any doubt as to the photograph, just shown you being the likeness of Conrad Harvey, your husband?—I have no doubt of it whatever.

4. State the name of the clergyman who married you?—Reverend W. D. Swain.

5. When did you last see your husband?—December 20th, 1888.

6. Has he communicated with you since his departure?—Not at all.

7. Have you had any knowledge of his whereabouts since he left you?—Only indirectly, and not in that way until about last February, and that in connection with his marriage to Mrs. Cora Lafferty Harvey.

[Signed and attested.]

Mrs. Cora Harvey's evidence continued: I last saw Mr. Harvey's on October 21st, 1890. He then informed me that he was going to Hakodate. I have not heard from him since, nor do I know where he is.

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT.

I have read and carefully considered the evidence in this case and find that the plaintiff was married to the defendant on February 9th, 1890; that at the time of this marriage the defendant had a lawful wife residing in the United States I therefore adjudge that the plaintiff is clearly entitled to a decree annulling the marriage between herself and the defendant, and giving her the right to resume her maiden name. A decree accordingly will be issued.

(Signed) E. J. SMITHERS.

Kobe, August 1st, 1892.

—Kobe Chronicle.

AN INDIAN THOUGHT-READER.

Mr. L. C. William, B.A., Acting Inspector of Schools, Northern Circle, writes to a Madras paper:—

"Seeing in the January number of the *Theosophist* an account given by Lieutenant Peacock of an interview he had with Govinda Chetty, the famous astrologer of Valangiman, I think it desirable for the benefit of your readers, many of whom I am sure must be quite sceptic about the marvellous powers of this wonderful man, to give a brief account of an interview I had with him in September last. Having finished the examination of a school at Valangiman, I went to the house of Govinda Chetty, where I found quite a crowd of people come from far and near waiting to know the past and the future from his lips. His manners were not certainly attractive at first, and whether it is not during this period of harsh manners, he prepares himself for the work he has to do, I cannot say. Having seated himself on the floor with a piece of paper and pencil and a number of cowries, he asked me what I wanted. I replied that I wanted him to tell me the word I was thinking about and of an event expected to happen in the near future. After looking at me steadfastly for a few seconds, he wrote down something on a piece of paper, now with me, and placed it in the hands of a man who was with me. Then he began to display his wonderful feats of calculation. He wanted me to multiply or divide very large numbers, and before I could proceed beyond a few steps he gave out the answers, which I found afterwards to be quite correct. These calculations were done in such astonishingly short time that I began to suspect if these too were not done by means of occult powers. This playing with cowries and figures lasted for about half an hour, when he asked me to tell him what the futher event I wanted to know was and what the words; and on my telling him what they were he asked the man who had the written paper to read out what was in it, and the man read out the following in Tamil. So and so (here giving the name of my wife which he had not the remotest chance of knowing) will give birth to a son on the 22nd Masi (about 3rd of March). The word thought about is *Pensylvania*. Need I tell your readers that I was astonished to find both quite correct. The word *Pensylvania* is a word I had thought about two years before with a view of testing the man, when I had occasion to go

to Valangiman. This being the 20th of February, I am not in a position yet to tell you how far the prediction about my wife's confinement will be correct. But he was quite right in giving the event itself, which is expected to be sometime early in March. Then he asked me to repeat any line of poetry in any language I knew. Many a line in English and Tamil passed through my mind, and after a few seconds I repeated the first line of 'Paradise Lost,' and it was found that he had already written on the piece of paper the identical line in Tamil letters, as he does not know English. He had also written down my age correct to a month.

"I am told that there is not another man in the Presidency, if not in the whole world, who possesses similar powers. He lives in Tirumiray Inpatam, near Negapatam.

"Now coming to analyse his powers we find in the first place that he is certainly a thought reader. Giving the word I wanted, the name of my wife, my age and about my wife's confinement, are all cases of thought-reading. They were in my mind, and he read them as from a printed page. Even should the date of confinement turn out to be true, I may say it is thought-reading, as it is future contingent on the past; and if the past is known by the process of thought reading, the future is derived from it.

"But the most inexplicable part of his performance is writing out beforehand the exact line of poetry I was going to repeat half an hour or an hour hence. I had not myself thought of any particular line when I went to him, nor did I fix upon a line until a few seconds after he told me to repeat a line. That this man, utterly ignorant of English, should have foretold the particular line I would repeat sometime hence out of the hundreds of lines I remember is a clear case of prediction. It is not a case of suggestion, because he is not expected to know anything about the line; and it is only that he knows already that he may, by some occult process of placing his mind *en rapport* with mine, be able to suggest to me. It is decidedly a case of prediction; but whether he is able to predict beyond a certain period of time I cannot say, and all of my friends who had seen him doubt his powers of prediction. As regards his powers of suggestion he gave me an illustration. While he was making his calculations with the cowries, ostensibly for the purpose of testing the correctness of the statements already given on paper, he told me to write down any five numbers below 800 and that I would find that their sum would be divisible by 12.

"Without any idea of falsifying his prediction at random I wrote down the numbers 700, 500, 400, 300, 200, and you will see that their sum is divisible by 12. If I did want to falsify his prediction, I could easily have selected such numbers as whose sum would not be divisible by 12. But no such idea struck me at the time, and I was perfectly under his influence with all my individuality merged as it were in his towering personality. If any of your readers are still sceptic about the power of this man they have only to go to Valangiman, a village six miles from Kumbakonam, and test the man for themselves. He takes presents, and I am told his income from this source is several hundreds a month."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 29th.

The *Times* says that the Sultan of Morocco has asked Russia to accredit a Minister to Fez, hoping thereby with [the assistance of] France to render himself independent of all the great Powers.

London, July 31st.

The result of the elections gives Mr. Gladstone a majority of forty. Nothing is yet known of the future composition of the Cabinet. Some divergence continues in the Party, some insisting on the precedence of Home Rule, which others are urging the necessity of commencing the work of the session by the introduction of other reforms.

London, August 1st.

A scrutiny of the election returns at Greenock shows that Sir Thomas Sutherland has obtained a majority.

Mr. Gladstone is suffering from a cold, and has had to take to his bed.

London, August 3rd.

The Queen's Speech will be read on the 8th. The Opposition will move a direct vote of confidence.

Later.

The Liberals petition against the return of Mr. Balfour on the ground of corruption and treating.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 28.

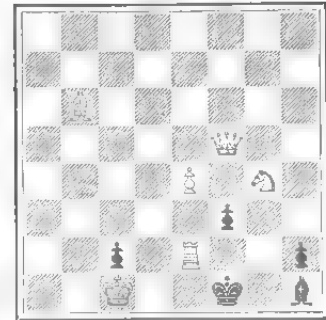
WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to B5 1—K B moves
2—Q to Kt sq. (ch.) 2—B x Q
3—Kt x P mates

Correct solution received from Omega, J.D., J.W.E., W.H.S., Scacchi, and Ed. B.

PROBLEM No. 30.

By A. HERMAN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Game played at Paris in the match for the Championship of the Café de la Régence, March 25th, 1892.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. BLACK.
Dr. A. Goetz. A. Lerc.
1—P to K4 P to K3
2—P to Q4 P to Q4
3—Q Kt to B3 K Kt to B3
4—B to Kt Kt 5 B to K2
5—B x Kt B x B
6—Kt to B3 Castles
7—B to Q3 Kt to B3
8—P to K5 B to K2
9—P to K R4 Kt to Kt 5
10—B x P ch.
A sound sacrifice.
11—Kt to Kt 5 ch. K x B
12—Q to Q2 K to R3
13—P to R3 Q to Q2
14—Q to Q3 Kt to B3
15—P to R5 P to K Kt 3
Excellently played. Black's game is getting hopeless.
16—P x P ch. B x Kt
17—R to R7 ch. K to Kt 2
18—P to Kt 7 K to Kt sq.
19—P x R and queens ch. (?) P to B4
B to R sq.

So far White's play has been exemplary but at this point he overlooks the decisive move P x P ch. The text move is very tempting.

20—R x Q K x P
21—Q to Kt Kt 3 B x R
22—Q to Kt 6 B to R3
23—Castles B to Kt 2
24—Q to Kt 5 Kt to K2
25—R to R sq. R to R sq.
26—R x R B x R
27—Kt to K2 B to Kt 2
28—Kt to B4 P to Kt 3
29—Kt to R5 B to R sq.
30—P to K Kt 4
Again white overlooks a decisive stroke, viz., Q to K R 6, which would lose Black a piece. Now he has to overcome a number of obstacles before he can finish the game.
31—Q x P P x P
32—P to Q B3 P to B4
33—P x P P x P
34—K to B2 Kt to B4
35—K to B3 P to R4
36—P to Kt 4 P to Kt 4
37—Kt to B4 Kt to K2
38—Q to R5 ch. K to Kt sq.
39—Q to Kt 5 ch. K to B2
40—Kt R5 B to Q B3
A blunder which facilitates Whites task considerably.
41—Q to R6 K to Kt sq.
42—Q x P ch. K to B sq.
43—P to K B4 B to K sq.
44—Q to R6 ch. K to Kt sq.
45—P to B5 Kt x P
Original P to B6 ch. Resigns.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 12th
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 11th
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 7th
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wednesday, Aug. 10th
From America.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 14th
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Aug. 21st.

* *Balgie* left San Francisco on July 26th. *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on July 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 7th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Aug. 8th.
For Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Aug. 12th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 14th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 30th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, J. Wilson, 30th July.—Yokkaichi 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 31st July.—Vancouver, B.C., 18th July, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Jacobs, 31st July.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 31st July.—Kobe 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 31st July.—Yokkaichi 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 1st August.—Hakodate via ports 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 1st August.—Hongkong 23d July, Nagasaki 27th, and Kobe 31st, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renney, 2nd August.—Yezo via Otaru, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 2nd August.—Hachinohe 31st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 2nd August.—Yokkaichi 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 2nd August.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 3rd August.—Kobe 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fasana (4), Austro-Hungarian corvette, Captain Frederick Schweisgut, 3d August.—San Francisco via Honolulu 22nd June.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 3rd August.—Yokkaichi 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 3rd August.—Otaru and ports 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 4th August.—Otaru 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 4th August.—Kobe 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, J. Wilson, 4th August.—Yokkaichi 3rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 4th August.—Hakodate via Miyako 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,090, W. G. Peaine, 4th August.—Hongkong 30th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 5th August.—Hongkong.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 5th August.—Yokkaichi 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Nimome, 5th August.—Kobe 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 5th August.—Shanghai and ports 29th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, Kamp, 5th August.—London via ports and Kobe 4th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Bunkoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 5th August.—Otaru 2nd August, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, De Maubenge, 5th August.—Marseilles 26th June, Hongkong 28th July, Shanghai 1st August, and Kobe 4th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 29th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 30th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 30th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 30th July.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Clara Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Harris, 31st July.—New York via Kobe, General.—Delacamp & Co.

Salasie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 31st July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 1st August.—Hongkong and ports, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. Pender, 1st August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 1st August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 2nd August.—Moji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 2nd August.—Hakodate, Light-house Stores.—Light-house Department.

Oceania, German steamer, 1,628, J. Behrens, 2nd August.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Thermopylae, British bark, 948, J. R. Winchester, 2nd August.—Nagasaki, lumber.—Frazier & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 2nd August.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 2nd August.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renney, 2nd August.—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, J. Wilson, 2nd August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Leipzig (14), German flag-ship, Captain Roetger, 3rd August.—Kobe.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 3rd August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 3rd August.—Saghalien via Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Batavia, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 4th August.—Hongkong via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Cardiganhire, British steamer, 1,657, Parsons, 4th August.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 4th August.—New York via ports, General.—Doddwell, Carill & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 4th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 5th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 5th August.—Takao via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 5th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 5th August.—Bonin Island, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 3rd August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, J. Wilson, 5th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 6th August.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. Bacon, Captain Du Boulay, Messrs. C. S. Bragg, C. F. Bragg, Brit. T. Brown, Miss Ganes, Miss Deering, Mr. James Deering, Mr. Fukunaka, Miss L. A. Godfrey, Messrs. W. S. Hamilton, K. Ijime, E. I. Lewis, Prof. K. Monita, Mr. R. L. Myric, Miss A. K. Murray, Miss M. D. Murray, Messrs. W. D. Murray, Otto Menner, G. B. Dodwell, C. S. Broadwood, A. S. Broadwood, H. Coulson, Major Pritchard, Captain Nicholas Rosanoff, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Moorhead, Mr. E. W. Newell, Mr. Platt, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Scott and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Slade, and Colonel E. Wagack in cabin; Dr. Yoshida and Mr. Kuwabara in second class, and 69 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain Forbes, Captain Devenish, and Mr. J. A. Engle in cabin; 32 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Hakodate via ports:—Miss Grant in cabin and 32 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Warburton, Mr. E. M. Bowden, Mr. A. C. S. Manners and servant, Major and Mrs. Wynne Eytton, infant, and servant, Mr. John White, Mr. and Mrs. Kleinworth, and Mr. and Mrs. Arimola Sukich in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, from Kobe:—25 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Mr. C. Nakamura in cabin; 19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Kobe:—Judge Hansen, Miss White, Mr. Macondray, and Mr. Hasche in cabin. For Hakodate: Rev. and Mrs. Hind in cabin; 20 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—43 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, from Hakodate via Miyako:—17 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. M. Hughes, maid, and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Farrow, maid, and 3 children, Miss L. Griffin, Miss M. Griffin, Mrs. H. Herchoff, Mr. M. Griffin, Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Mr. R. Fraser Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Wang (at Hong and 2 children in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. M. A. Munson, Colonel J. Bud, Mr. W. B. Peters, Mr. S. Edwards, and Mr. J. Bernhard in cabin; and one Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. W. V. Drummond and child, Mrs. Gray and child, Mrs. A. Buelho and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Hearst and children, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Goldman, Colonel Judd, Governor K. Iwasaki, Messrs. Rosanoff, T. Browne, J. Caldecott, and Shaw in cabin; Mrs. Ah Ling, Mrs. S. Seki, and Mrs. S. Hagi in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Oki, Mr. and Mrs. Sakurai and infant, Lieut. Colonel Cogan, Messrs. Germain, Piller, Gamier, Mr. and Mrs. Lord, Messrs. de Mendoucer, Jubiot, A. Rizetti, A. Garco, and de Wendrich in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salasie*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Hausell, Mr. and Mrs. K. Morrison, Messrs. A. Winstanley, A. Bizzelli, Chancel, Lai Bing Koon, H. Delmas, Le Campion, Herve, Miyun, Mouy, H. E. Banatvala, S. Louisa, Mrs. A. Gulein, and Mr. J. Jacobson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Pass, Mrs. Fuller and infant, Mrs. Uveda, Mrs. Matsumitsu and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Little, Captain Squire, Lieut. A. Petroff, Captain Rosanoff, Rev. A. R. Morris, Rev. F. S. Tyng, Rev. A. R. Fuller and 2 children, Messrs. Kamio, S. Ueno, Masumitsu, A. R. Lamb, S. D. Abraham, Uyiota, M. Kawakura, and C. V. Bowra in cabin; Messrs. H. Togo,

Original from

Cheong On Won, Mori, H. Tajima, and Ogata in second class, and 124 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports.—Mr. Maylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Morrison, Mrs. Dudley, Mr. J. H. Wong, Mr. Broadrick, Captain Butcher, Mr. Wm. Walker, and Mr. D. Kennedy in cabin; 1 Chinese and 3 Indian in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports.—Treasure, \$30,000.00.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe.—Raw Silk for France, 603 bales; for Italy, 20 bales; for Switzerland, 35 bales. Waste Silk for France, 38 bales. Treasure for London, \$85,000.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports.—Silk for France, 173 bales; Waste Silk, 126 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 30th July at noon; passed Oshima at 9.9 p.m. and Rock Island the 31st at 11.55 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.15 p.m.; had moderate to gentle S.W. to S.S.W. winds with fine pleasant weather throughout the passage; 12 miles N.E. of Rock Island passed a loaded foreign ship apparently bound for Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Hakodate the 29th July at noon; had gentle southerly breeze and cloudy weather and barometer falling down quickly; at 4 a.m. on the 30th barometer showed 29.56; then anchored at Miyako shelter at same time; 7.35 a.m. barometer started to rise then, left Yamada. Arrived at Oginohama the 30th at 5.45 p.m. and left the 31st at 4 a.m.; had light south-westerly breeze and overcast weather with rain at times. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st August at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st August at 4 p.m.; had light westerly winds and smooth sea; at 9.27 p.m. passed Hiro-misaki, light variable winds with swell from S.E.E.; on the 2nd at 2.22 a.m. passed Shiwo-misaki, light variable air and calm, smooth sea; at 3.50 p.m. passed the Henri Line steamer *Oceana*, gentle to moderate breeze from the east with slight sea; at 9.25 p.m. passed Rock Island; thence to Kannon-saki, which was passed the 3rd at 3.40 a.m., had light variable winds and calms, smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.20 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Otaru the 30th July at noon; had moderate to fresh westerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Hakodate the 31st at 7 a.m. and left the 1st August; had light westerly winds and fine weather to Oginohama, where arrived the 2nd at 11.40 a.m. and left at 3.30 p.m.; had light southerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd August at 5.30 p.m.; when passing Inuboye-saki observed the steamer, *Meiji Maru*, at anchor near the Lighthouse.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Kobe the 2nd August at 6.30 p.m.; passed Oshima the 3rd at 4.05 a.m., Rock Island at 6.53 p.m.; anchored at Honmoku Lightship the 4th at 1.25 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.05 a.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather, smooth sea throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 3rd August at 7.45 p.m.; had light westerly winds and fine clear weather; from Irako-saki to Rock Island had north-westerly gentle breeze and fine clear sky and hence light variable winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th August at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Hakodate the 1st August at 4 p.m. and arrived at Miyako the 2nd at 8.10 a.m.; had light wind and fine weather all the way. Left Miyako the 3rd at 2 a.m.; passed Kinkasan at 11.45 a.m.; at 6.40 p.m. met steamer *Sorachi Maru* bound north; the 4th at 5.24 a.m. passed Inuboye Lighthouse; at 1.30 p.m. passed Noshima Light house, and arrived at Yokohama at 5.30 p.m.; had moderate wind, smooth sea, and fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 30th July at 4.07 p.m.; had southerly winds and fine weather to August 2nd; thence to port light westerly winds and smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th August at 6.43 p.m. Passage, 5 days and 54 min.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 29th July at 2 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 31st at 5 a.m.

and left at 5 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 2nd August at 8 a.m. and left the 4th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th August at 4 a.m.; experienced fresh to moderate S.W. winds and fine clear weather to Nagasaki; light northerly winds and fine clear weather to Shimonoseki; throughout the Inland Sea to Kobe light variable winds were met with, and fine clear weather to arrival.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A much better feeling is becoming apparent with the advent of the 8th month, and Autumn trade requirements are already receiving some attention, but dealers cannot quite satisfy their minds on the subject of higher values which low Sterling Exchange means when backed up by small supplies. A large quantity of Indigo Shirtings is reported to have been recently sold for arrival at a considerable advance, and an improvement in price has taken place in glb. Shirtings, with a good demand, as also for Washed Shirtings, whilst other Fancy Cottons are more enquired for at better rates generally. Woollens have only been dealt in sparingly, though the chief difficulty seems to be the firmness of holders. Yarns have been rather quiet, but steady in price, excepting 16/24's, which may be quoted a trifle lower. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10 for Bank demand, and Bar Silver at 38½ pence per oz. being ½ below record. Sales for the week comprise 200 bales English Yarn, 30 bales Bomblays, 10,000 pieces glb. Shirtings, 1,500 pieces 7lb. T.-Cloths, 2,500 pieces Washed Shirtings, 100 pieces White Shirtings, 36,000 pieces Indigo Shirtings, 1,500 pieces Prints, 3,000 dozen Handkerchiefs, 1,000 pieces Victoria Lawns, 900 pieces Velvets, 1,200 pieces Turkey Reds, 250 pieces Silk-faced satins, 150 pieces Fianel, 1,250 pieces Italian Cloth, and 5,000 pairs Blankets.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satinets Black, 32 inches	0.12 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	5.65 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Buffalo-Las, 12 yards, 41 inches	1.15 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches heat	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.28
Medium	0.21 to 0.23
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Common	0.11 to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.47 to 0.52
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 31lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.47

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
No. 16/4, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
No. 16/4, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
No. 16/4, Good to Best	28.75 to 29.00
No. 16/4, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
No. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
No. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
No. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
No. 38/12, Medium to Best	32.75 to 35.00
No. 38, Two fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 428, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
	PER HALE.
No. 208, Bomblay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 185, Bomblay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 107/4, Bomblay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Some enquiry for "futures," but the prices buyers offer are below cost, and nothing results. Some little trade continues in Wire Nails for "spot" cargo.

	PER PIECE.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 6 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and Square up to 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KIOSKING.

Market quiet; prices well maintained in the prospect of low exchange. On the other hand, buyers hold off. Some arrivals have come to hand and the stock is ample.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	—
Cornet	\$1.57 1/2 to 1.60
Devos	1.52 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.54 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52 1/2

SUGAR.

Fair amount of business all round, and Browns are the turn dealer. In Takao sorts about 7,000 piculs have been sold, but the remaining stock is left on hand, as buyers have apparently filled their present requirements. In White descriptions a steady trade at unchanged rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.25
Brown Daitung	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 5.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last advices were of the 29th ultimo, since which date settlements on this market amount to 1,287 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 87 piculs; *Filatures*, 933 piculs; *Re-reels*, 119 piculs; *Kakeda*, 131 piculs; *Oshu*, 17 piculs. There have been no direct shipments during the week, so that the total business done is represented by the above-named 1,287 piculs.

Prices are gradually working up under the influence of a very active market, with large buyers both for Europe and America. Some excitement was caused at the beginning of the week by one large buyer attempting to corral all the good *Filatures* on offer. This was playing into the hands of sellers who, of course, took the opportunity to raise prices. After this American mail leaves, there is no steamer for San Francisco until the end of the month, and holders are afraid that during the long interval prices may show some loss of strength.

The principal demand seems to be for the best grades *Filatures* and *Re-reels*. There are plenty of medium and common silks in the market, but good qualities are decidedly scarce. It would seem that although we have a fairly large quantity of silk in our present crop, the bulk of it will be of the lower grades. From recent cable advices, it appears that a similar state of things exists with regard to the European crop.

Exchange has remained fairly steady, declining only a small fraction, keeping pace with the silver market in London.

There has been only one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the French mail *Salasia*, which left port on the 31st ultimo, taking 640 bales for Europe. This brings the present export up to 3,188 piculs, against 3,095 piculs last year and 1,639 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—A fair amount of business from day to day, new *Foshu* bringing \$195 and new *Maebashi* \$500. One parcel of so-called *Shimonita* has been entered at \$510. Nothing done in *Hachoji* the last few days.

Filatures.—As hinted above, the great demand has been in this class, *Shinshu* silks suitable for America being freely taken at an advance of from \$15 to \$20 per picul, according to chop. In *Koshu* sorts, one parcel of *Yufima* has been booked at the reported prices of \$697 1/2, which seems incredible when compared with the values of good *Shinshu* silks; Matsushiro Extras having been done at the same figure. In fine sizes for Europe a small business in Extras at \$27 1/2, while a great many medium grades have been booked at prices ranging from \$640 to \$660.

Re-reels.—Trade in these has not been large, buyers require good quality, which does not exist. A few settlements in medium grades at \$625 for silks from *Foshu* district. Some little business has been done in *Bushu* at about \$600 per picul, but these grades are not in demand, and the quality is not such as to tempt every buyer.

Kakeda.—There has been a fair amount of business in this, chiefly for Europe, about 130 piculs finding buyers at unchanged prices.

Oshu.—One sale of new *Hamatsuki* reported at \$475. Beyond this, no business.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

<i>Hanks</i> —No. 14	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 21 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 21 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 to 3	\$510
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 3	\$490 to 500
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 3	480 to 485
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 34	470 to 475

Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	730	
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	710 to 720	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15 deniers	710 to 720	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	690 to 700	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	680 to 685	
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	680 to 690	
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	660 to 670	
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	630 to 640	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	670 to 680	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	660 to 665	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	640 to 650	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	615 to 625	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	600 to 605	
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	580 to 590	
Kakadas—Extra	—	
Kakadas—No. 1	640 to 645	
Kakadas—No. 1	610 to 630	
Kakadas—No. 2	600 to 610	
Kakadas—No. 2	580 to 590	
Kakadas—No. 3	560 to 570	
Kakadas—No. 3	—	
Kakadas—No. 3	—	
Oshu Sendai—No. 1	—	
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	500 to 510	
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	470 to 480	
Sodai—No. 24	—	

Export Raw Silk Tables to 5th Aug., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92	1891-92	1892-93
Europe	1,762	2,068	438
America	1,347	2,031	1,151
Total	3,109	4,099	1,589
Settlements and Direct	4,250	3,850	1,600
Export from 1st July	3,200	4,650	6,200
Stock, 5th August	7,450	8,500	7,800
Available supplies to date	7,450	8,500	7,800

WASTE SILK.

A small business during the week, sales registered amounting to 100 piculs, of which *Noshi* 75 piculs; *Kibiso*, 25 piculs.

There does not seem as yet much disposition to make purchases; in the meantime, arrivals are plentiful and the stock has increased to 6,000 piculs. Holders appear to be rather firm at quotations, whereas telegrams from consumers seem to demand lower prices.

There have been two shipping opportunities during the interval, the French mail, on the 31st ultimo, taking 37 bales for Europe, and the Canal steamer *Macduff*, leaving port to-day, has 5 bales Mawata for New York. The total shipments to date are 1,232 piculs, against 120 piculs last year and 727 piculs at the same in the previous season.

Pierced Cocoons—The dead lock here still continues, holders requiring \$100 or over for ordinary good stock, which is a price no buyer as yet has the courage to pay.

Noshi—The business done has been in *Foshu*, fair quality, ordinary assortment, at from \$52½ to \$65. Nothing done in other kinds.

Kibiso—Several small parcels of *Filatures* have passed the scales at from \$82 to \$85 per picul.

In other sort no business done.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—	
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Best	—	
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Good	—	
Noshi— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	—	
Noshi— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	\$110 to 120	
Noshi— <i>Shinsu</i> , Best	—	
Noshi— <i>Shinsu</i> , Good	—	
Noshi— <i>Shinsu</i> , Medium	—	
Noshi— <i>Bughu</i> , Good to Best	—	
Noshi— <i>Joshu</i> , Best	—	
Noshi— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	—	
Noshi— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	—	
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	90 to 95	
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	80 to 95	
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	80 to 85	
Kibiso— <i>Shinsu</i> , Best	—	
Kibiso— <i>Shinsu</i> , Seconds	—	
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	—	
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	—	
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Good	—	
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Medium to Low	—	
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	—	
Mawata—Good to Best	—	

Export Table Waste Silk to 5th Aug., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92	1891-92	1892-93
Waste Silk	1,232	120	727
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
Total	1,232	120	727
Settlements and Direct	600	60	350
Export from 1st July	6,000	5,000	7,500
Available supplies to date	6,600	5,060	7,850

Exchange.—Only slight fluctuations is sympathy with Silver quotations:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/11; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$70½; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; Paris, 4m/s. fcs. 3.69; 6m/s. fcs. 3.73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 5th Aug., 1892:—

RAW.	COOKED.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	220	550	
Filatures	1,010	3,100	
Re-reels	1,490	2,200	
Kakada	475	50	
Oshu	265	100	
Taysam Kinds	—	—	
Total piculs	3,200	6,000	

TEA.

No particular change in this market. Buying continues on a fair scale, and shipping opportunities are plentiful. Settlements to date are roughly 190,000 piculs against 200,000 last year, with shipments of 19 million pounds against 17½ millions to same date last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$12 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Small fluctuations in exchange, and rates are lower than ever—silver 38½.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 11
On Paris—Bank sight	3.59
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.68
On Hongkong—Bank sight	12 ½ dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	9 ½ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	60
On America—Private 30 days' sight	70½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71½
Silver	38½

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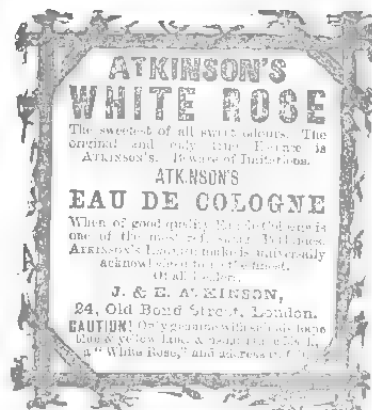
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No. 7.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 13TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可認者信選日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA?"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 13TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CAPTAIN KUROOKA TAITO has been appointed to the *Tsukuba Kan*.

THE *Matsushima Kan* left Naples on the 3rd inst. for Alexandria *en route* to Japan.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS visited the residence of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi on the forenoon of the 8th inst.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU AKIHITO left the capital on the 6th inst. for Kanagawa and Shizuoka Prefectures.

DURING last month gold and silver coins were struck in the Osaka Mint to the following amounts:—Gold 5-yen pieces, yen 118,720; silver 1-yen pieces, yen 1,415,000.

VISCOUNT HIGASHIZONO, a Chamberlain, was despatched by the Emperor on the 5th inst. to inquire into the condition of the sufferers in the inundated districts of Hyogo, Okayama, and Tokushima Prefectures.

DEPUTY-INSPECTOR-GENERAL of Hospitals and Fleets, Saneyoshi Yasuami, was promoted to be Inspector-General on the 6th inst. He has been appointed Chairman of the Central Committee of Health in the Naval Department.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Okayama announces that during the night of the 7th inst. flames burst out in the *Sanyo Shimo* Office, and before the firemen could successfully grapple with them the office and twelve other buildings were burnt.

A GREAT general assembly of paper manufacturers throughout the Empire is to take place in Osaka on the 20th inst. in order to consider matters in regard to specimen papers to be exhibited at the World's Fair. They also propose

to discuss the best methods for improving the export paper trade.

THE postal receipts throughout the Empire during the month of July last amounted to yen 424,105, an increase of yen 9,280 against the previous month. As compared with the corresponding month in the previous year the above shows an increase of yen 34,164.

DEPUTY-INSPECTOR-GENERAL of Hospitals and Fleets, M. Kagami, Chairman of the Committee of Health at the Yokosuka Admiralty Station, has been made President of the Naval Medical School. His late position has been given to Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, H. Toyozumi.

DURING the eight months ended May last the number of whales captured in Nagasaki Prefecture was 50, of which 12 were caught at Ikuzuki, 4 at Hakozaki, 31 at Arikawa, 1 at Kashiwa, and 2 at Tsushima. Their total weight amounted to 1,365,607 *kin* (one *kin*=1½ lb) and the blubber and whalebone is valued at about yen 64,732.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE, who is now staying at Kamakura, visited the Hachiman Shrine on the 5th inst. Major-General Oku, Grand Master of Services to His Highness, several officials of the Imperial Household, Governor Utsumi, of Kanagawa, and Mr. Uchida, Headman of the Kamakura District, were in attendance.

THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES the Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant yen 2,500 towards the relief of the sufferers by the great inundations in the Prefectures of Tokushima, Okayama, and Hyogo. The sum of yen 250 has also been contributed towards the relief of the families of persons drowned by the wreck of the *Inagawa Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which foundered off the Shodzu Island on the 23rd ult.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR, attended by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household; Chamberlains, Court Physicians, and Secretaries of the Imperial Household proceeded to the Naval Academy at Tsukiji on the 5th inst., leaving the Palace at 8.30 a.m. The Imperial Party arrived at the school about 9 a.m. and was welcomed by a large number of distinguished guests, and the instructors and students of the institution. The Emperor was at once conducted to a salon, where he gave audience to naval officials of *chokunin* rank and others. After a brief rest, His Majesty attended the ceremony of conferring diplomas on the Graduates of the Academy, and afterwards listened to a lecture on the history of the navy by Shiga Nanzo, a Graduate. He left for the Palace at 10.20 a.m. Among those present were H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito, Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Viscount Sano, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; Vice-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister for the Navy; Rear-Admirals Ito, Arichi, Inouye, Fukushima, and Aiura, Chief Account Inspector Honjoku, President Hida, of the School for Paymasters; and President Saneyoshi, of the Medical School.

THE ages of the statesmen comprising the new Cabinet are as follow:—The Premier, Count Ito, 52 years; Count Kuroda, Minister for Communications 53; Count Yamagata, Minister for Justice, 55; Count Oyama, Minister for War, 51; Count Inouye, Minister for Home Affairs, 58; Viscount Nire, Minister for the Navy, 62; Count Goto, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, 55; Mr. Mutsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, 49; Mr. Kono, Mini-

ster for Education, 49; and Mr. Watanabe, Minister for Finance, 47. Of the above gentlemen the first seven were born in the Tempō era (1830-1843), the following three in the era of Kokwa (1844-1847). The nick-name "Tempō Cabinet" has already been given to the present Cabinet by reason of this circumstance. The oldest of Count Ito's colleagues is Vice-Admiral Nire, and the youngest Mr. Watanabe. The Ministers who possess no patent of nobility are three, Messrs. Mutsu, Kono, and Watanabe. The people of the province of Shinano, in Nagano Prefecture, are to be congratulated upon the distinction of having their chosen representative promoted to a seat in the Cabinet. Mr. Watanabe is also a native of the above province. This is the first occasion upon which a native of Shinano has had the honour of holding the portfolio of Minister of State.

THE opening ceremony of the Hokkaido Exhibition, at Sapporo, took place on the 1st inst. The rooms provided for the occasion were neatly decorated, flags of various nationalities being draped here and there, both within and without the building. The proceedings commenced with an introductory address by Mr. Shirahito, Chairman of the Business Committee of the Exhibition. Mr. Suzuki, Secretary of the Hokkaido Administration Board, then read a congratulatory address on behalf of the Governor of Hokkaido. Various other addresses were also read by Messrs. Tsushima Kisaburo, who represented the exhibitors, and Tani Shichi, President of the *Kyoran Kan*. Afterwards the guests were conducted through the galleries, and inspected the large collection of Hokkaido productions under the guidance of the Business Committee. Among the guests were several high officials of the Administration Board, Commander Nagayama, Assistant Commander Iyemura, and other superior officers of the Hokkaido Colonial Force; Chief Public Procurator Yoshiye, and many other Judges and Procurators of the Law Courts in Hokkaido; Director Yamanouchi and other officers of the Hokkaido Branch of the Imperial Estates Bureau; officers of the Mine Superintending Office, Mr. Tanaka Chief Manager of the Japan Agricultural Society, bankers, leading merchants, and journalists.

THE Import trade is quieter, mainly due to the apathy of buyers. Only small sales of Yarn have been effected, and Woollens are very dull. Light parcels of miscellaneous Cotton goods have been taken, the only article in good demand being glb. Shirtings, of which 22,500 pieces have been sold. Nothing to report in Metals. No extensive orders from the interior have yet come in for Kerosene, but prices remain firm. There has been a fair demand for Sugar, and values are still about the same. The Silk trade is on the increase, prices are full generally, and higher for choice chops. The rates ruling have induced an influx of Silk from the interior, owners being anxious to strike the iron whilst hot, and get rid of their Silk before the present high figures decline. The Waste Silk business has not been large, a wide gulf existing between buyers and sellers, the latter being possessed of the idea that rates for Waste should follow those for Raw. The Tea trade is rather dull, and a considerable stock of leaf is accumulating. During the last day or two, however, holders have realized the fact, and a slight reduction has had to be conceded to move off the parcels that have been taken. Further reductions in silver in London are reported, but exchange here, due to local circumstances, has remained

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

COUNT KURODA and Yamagata were received in audience on the 6th inst. by the Emperor, and after their departure from the Palace, the Minister of the Imperial Household was sent for Count Ito, who is now staying in the Imperial Hotel. The Count repaired immediately to the Palace and remained some three hours with the Emperor. It was conjectured that during this last interview the composition of the new Cabinet had been determined, and that the names would be published in two or three days. The conjecture received confirmation on the 7th inst. for the three statesmen, Counts Ito, Yamagata, and Kuroda, were then summoned to the Palace together and received his Majesty's commands. Very little doubt could any longer be entertained that a satisfactory programme had been elaborated, and that the organization of the new Cabinet would be speedily announced. Count Ito was indicated as Premier, and the Department of Home Affairs, at present considered the most important in the Administration, was presided over by Count Inouye. It is understood that the arrangement thus happily evolved is due in great part to Count Inouye's sagacity and tact of compromise. The differences that had to be reconciled were sufficiently serious to threaten a long delay, but owing to his efforts they were been adjusted much sooner than had been anticipated. On Monday evening the new Cabinet was officially announced. Its composition will be found in our leading columns.

GREAT BRITAIN IN KOREA.

THE Hongkong *Daily Press* censures the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* for commenting unfavourably on a recent rumour that Great Britain, with the consent of China, had asked the Korean Government to permit the establishment of an English coaling station at Port Hamilton. The Hongkong journal says that there is "no need for the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* to go into hysterics over the intelligence," for, "if Great Britain wanted Port Hamilton and purchased or rented it as a coaling station, it would constitute no menace to Japan." The British Government has always exhibited the friendliest interest to Japan, and is much more likely to go to war with any Power threatening her with aggression and despoliment than she is to take a rood of ground in the fair land of the Rising Sun. Not only does the Government regard Japan with sympathy, but the ever increasing hosts of Britons who annually flock to Japan in search of the unique and the beautiful are by degrees building up in the British Empire a feeling of admiration and liking for this land and its people such as has never existed there for any other Asiatic country and race. In Japan they see the Britain of Asia, and the efforts of its people to make progress in the newer civilisation of the West have won their hearty sympathy, and would command their support if there ever seemed any prospect of the island empire being crushed by a ruthless aggressor. The presence of a British garrison of 100 marines in Port Hamilton a few years back was no threat to Japan and gave no real uneasiness either to Peking or Tokyo. Nor would the re-occupation of those tiny islands by the vessels of the British Squadron possess any significance for Japan.

* * *

All this is very true and very well put, but it misses the point of the matter. We do not believe that Japan has the smallest apprehension of British aggression. We have never heard such an apprehension formulated by a Japanese, or observed an indication that it is entertained. What Japan objects to, as we understand, is the propinquity of great rival Powers like England and Russia, Powers which must, as the world believes, come into collision sooner or later. It is a perilous business for the earthen-ware pitcher to undertake a voyage down stream in company with the iron pot. While the sky is fair and the stream gentle, the companionship may continue comfortably enough. But in the day of storm and flood, the

vessel of crockery cannot hope to fare well. Japan may have entire confidence in British friendliness and British good faith, but she sees, as all must see, that England is growing and that Russia is growing also, and the contingencies connected with growth of two Great Powers which have not yet resorted to that artistic and delightfully Pharisaical device of nineteenth century aggression, namely, the mutual mapping out of their "spheres of influence" may well cause uneasiness to a comparatively small Power lying on the edge of their probable battlefield. There is nothing like keeping out of harm's way. No prudent State could view with complacency the occupation of a weak and neutral neighbour's territory by a strong and active Power. In that nut-shell, we think, the whole matter lies, so far as concerns a British *piéd-à-terre* in Korea. The echoes of big guns at a great distance may be a tolerable, if not a diverting, feature of national scenery, but when one gets close enough to hear the whistle of the bullets, things assume a different complexion. We are not of those who regard a collision between Russia or England as inevitable, but the belief is so prevalent that statesmen have to reckon with it as a factor not unlikely to bring about the very result to which it points. Who can blame Japan, then, if she wishes to remain beyond the dangerous range of the shock?

TOKUSHIMA.

THE detailed record of the losses caused by the recent gale in Tokushima Prefecture makes an appalling list. The vernacular press publishes them as follow:—

Persons carried away and drowned by flood:—Men, 101; women 60	161.
Persons crushed to death by falling houses:—Men 91; women 49	140.
Persons wounded:—Men 49; women 40	89.
Houses swept away, partially destroyed, or inundated by the sea	42,080.
Vessels and boats destroyed	477.
Length of river banks broken down or injured	182,360 yards.
Length of sea embankments destroyed or injured	29,384 yards.
Length of piers injured	242 yards.
Length of roads injured	1,234,442 yards.
Area of hills broken down and forests destroyed	3,061 acres.
Area of salt fields injured	243 acres.
Area of fields and building lands inundated by the sea	14,670 acres.
Area of fields and building lands inundated by rivers	42,230 acres.
Area of land injured by inundations	23,135 acres.
Area of land completely devastated by inundations	19,968 acres.

No estimate is given of the total monetary loss, but it must evidently have been immense. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress have contributed 2,000 *yen* each to the aid of the unfortunate sufferers, and Viscount Higashisono has been despatched by the Sovereign to visit the three Prefectures of Hyogo, Okayama, and Tokushima, and to report upon the losses incurred there.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA AND THE "CHICAGO DAILY NEWS."

WE reproduced recently a letter contributed to the *Chicago Daily News* by Mr. V. Gribayedoff, the subject being Major Fukushima's ride from Berlin to Shanghai. Mr. Gribayedoff's account of the enterprise is well conceived, but as to its truth we say nothing, being only too familiar with the sensation manufacturing mania that besets the European correspondents of American journals. The statement is that the plucky Major's big ride was brought about by a plot to contrive his absence from Berlin, the chief plotter being the brother of a beautiful young lady to whom the Major was paying marked attentions. Commonplace enough was the method of carrying out the scheme. The Major was plied with champagne, and then taunted with his countrymen's inability to ride, a well known fact being that the introduction of horses into Japan was comparatively recent. Flaming himself on his equestrian abilities and being further zealous for the reputation of his countrymen as well as urged

by the courage of champagne, the Major made a heavy wager at long odds to undertake the big ride. There is one obviously absurd element in this tale, namely, that the introduction of horses into Japan is of comparatively recent date. The long bow evidently comes in at that point. However, the story, if it adds a spice of romance to the enterprise in one direction, takes off a good deal in another, and it is consequently resented by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which avers that it knows the Major a great deal too well to believe him the victim of any such folly. We observe that the *Nichi Nichi* itself errs in repeating the tale; for it makes the young lady's relatives promise her to the Major if he accomplishes the proposed ride, a degree of complacency not attributed to them by the Chicago journal's correspondent. For the rest, however, our Tokyo contemporary is thoroughly confident. So complete is its distrust of items appearing in American newspapers that it declares the Berlin belle, her brother, and even the correspondent Gribayedoff himself to be in all probability mythical personages, and laughs a good deal at its vernacular contemporaries for reproducing the tale without comment. We are disposed to think that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is perfectly right.

THE LONDON PRESS.

THE greatest innovation has recently been introduced in the newspaper press of London that has ever been witnessed since the repeal of the stamp duty. This has been thrust upon the principal London dailies by the pressure brought to bear upon them by a new advertising agency, and consists of what will be regarded with the utmost distaste by the elder generation of pressmen, namely, the insertion of stereotype blocks and cuts. Reuter's Telegram Company has effected this much-to-be-deplored arrangement, and having succeeded in the case of *The Times*, *Telegraph*, *Standard*, *Daily News*, and *Morning Post*, it stands to reason that all other papers will have to follow suit. It may not be generally known that Reuter has lately started an advertising agency. That the Telegram Company has done so to some purpose is evidenced by the fact stated above, and the influence they wield in their new business is apparent by their having been able to accomplish in a few months what the united efforts of all the London advertising agents have failed to effect after being "on the job" for fifty years past.

"ONE AGGRIEVED."

WE have to apologise to the anonymous correspondent of the *Kobe Herald* who writes over the signature of "One Aggrieved." We erred as to the sex of the writer. Had we recognised that Mr. Loureiro's accuser was a woman, we should not have treated her so seriously. Now that the fact becomes apparent from a second letter penned by the same person, we are of course willing to concede the license universally accorded to the fair sex in respect of irrelevance and illogical prattle. These things are a lady's right, and "One Aggrieved" shall not be deprived of them by us. And now that we have made this *amende* we trust that our fair assailant will soften some of the very hard missiles with which she pelts us. We could afford to be told by female lips that there is "mysticism in the black concoction of our scurrilous defence;" we could afford to be charged with indulging in a "course of vituperations;" we could afford to be accused of writing in "a spirit altogether disproportionate to journalistic etiquette." But truly this gentle combatant is a little too severe when she calls us "a modern curiosity worth exhibiting in the coming World's Fair." That is very painful. However, we must not complain, perhaps, since it is evident that her perturbation has reached an extreme pitch. We would willingly do anything in reason to restore our fair opponent's moral equilibrium, and in that spirit we venture to congratulate her very sincerely on having entirely abandoned the accusation previously preferred by her against Mr. Loureiro. It is true that she inveighs against our "cabalistic assertions," and declares herself to be "at one with her fellow-countrymen in

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preferring the accusation; but that is a woman's way. She has at any rate given up all talk about the ultimatum which Mr. Loureiro was supposed to have suppressed, and we compliment her on the sacrifice. Our only regret is that we cannot conform with her advice in selecting our sources of information. She says that we "should have waited to communicate with Mr. Loureiro" before answering her letter; that our "mystic assertions are obtained from official sources;" and that what we "know comes from Mr. Loureiro." The "aggrieved" lady will pardon us, perhaps, if we confess that we cannot follow her in this matter, since, if as she alleges, what we know is already derived from Mr. Loureiro, there can be no need to seek information from him before writing, and if it comes from him, it cannot easily be derived, at the same time, from official sources. We are equally perplexed to understand what she means by the following:—"As I said in my previous letter that the Japanese Government had done what they should do under the circumstances, I still adhere to my belief that if they did so at all it was, as is asserted by the defender of the defenceless official, done through that dignitary's suggestion, a suggestion which constitutes a diplomatic scandal." If the Japanese Government did the right thing at Mr. Loureiro's suggestion, in what did that official err? And why does his suggestion of the right thing constitute a diplomatic scandal? But there! We do not wish to disturb our gentle assailant's equanimity any more.

MURDER IN NAGASAKI.

A most fearful murder was committed in the native town about midnight on the 27-28th ult. The facts of the tragedy, briefly, are as follows: A blacksmith named Koga, residing in Kajiyamachi, had two apprentices, who resided on the premises, the household consisting, in addition, of Koga's wife and two sisters. One of the apprentices, Tomojiro by name, fell in love with the younger sister, O'Ko-san and the feeling was reciprocated to such an extent that marriage was contemplated. The master, Koga, gave his consent to their becoming man and wife, but his wife and elder sister objecting, the match was broken off. On the night in question, the master being absent, the remainder of the household retired to rest as usual, and nothing transpired until shortly after midnight, when loud screams were heard to issue from the lower storey of the house, where the female portion were sleeping, the apprentices being upstairs. Imakichi, Tomojiro's fellow-apprentice, states that, hearing the cries for help, he rushed downstairs, and finding the door of the house open ran out and called in some neighbours, who upon procuring lights were confronted with a most horrible spectacle. O'Masa, the elder sister of Koga, was lying dead, from a number of sword wounds; whilst O'Toyo, Koga's wife, was dangerously, though not mortally, wounded. Tomojiro was at once suspected, and being missing, search was made for him, with the result that he was found concealed underneath the floor of the Yem-meji temple in Tera-machi, on the afternoon of the next day. He was at once arrested, and is now waiting trial.—*Rising Sun*.

A PORTUGUESE HEROINE.

We take this from the *North China Daily News*:—

Chinamen often speak of, and not infrequently write on the extravagance and luxuriousness of foreign ladies, but they have just had in their midst an exceptional instance of thrift, economy, and frugality, in a foreign woman, which they deem fit to place on permanent record.

Lio, a common Cantonese labourer from Canton, found his way in some manner to Lisbon, where by the industry and saving habits which characterise his countrymen he was enabled to open a shop; where also he wedded a woman of Lisbon, by whom he had a son and a daughter. But he did not prosper in business and he desired to return to China; but he loved his wife from the West and was at a loss what to do. She, however, understanding his feelings, said "Go, and take me with you; I know I shall be a foreign woman in your country, but I cannot part from you, I will accompany you." He replied, "Western women are accustomed to comfort and luxuries; if you go with me you will be obliged to toil hard in rice fields, and undergo much hardship; I fear it will be more than you can endure." He replied, "Be it luxury or ease, I am prepared for either, I can but accompany you; some Western women are economical and saving." Lin

gladly assented, but frankly stated that he had no house to take her to, that she must wear Chinese clothes, etc. Undismayed by the gruesome prospect, the fair Lusitanian made the voyage to Canton, thence to Hsing-hai Weifu with her husband and two children. Lin's clan were proud of their new sister, and extended to her and the little ones the warmest welcome. At work she went, joining her fellow-villagers in climbing mountains to cut grass for fuel, or wading through the mud of the rice fields under the fierce rays of a tropical sun, not only without murmuring, but cheerfully, thereby endearing herself to the whole village; her only desire was to discharge her duties as a wife and as a member of her husband's clan. Alas! Early last spring her husband succumbed to disease, when the bereaved Portuguese showed that she had been thoroughly imbued with the customs of her adopted country—had so far become Chinese, that she determined to immolate herself as an offering to the manes of her husband. The phrase employed on the occasion was that applied anciently to the act of being buried alive with the corpse of a superior, but it has come to mean suicide by any mode. She elected starvation, but before dying from that cause her maternal feelings were revived by appeals made on behalf of her children, and she consented to live. She lived four months only, dying from a "coughing disease." Evidently grief had brought on a wasting disease, which closed the fitful drama of Lisbon's unhappy daughter.

Men may not take note of the fact, but instances are constantly occurring illustrative like this of the self-sacrificing devotion of woman, and have been in all the ages, in all climes, among all races. The spirit of the Lusitanian wife is an instinct of womankind.

THE NEW CABINET.

DIVIDED according to localities, the members of the new Cabinet stand thus:—

Count ITO	.....Choshu.
Count INOUE	.....Choshu.
Count YAMAGATA	.....Choshu.
Count KURODA	.....Satsuma.
Count OYAMA	.....Satsuma.
Viscount NIRE	.....Satsuma.
Mr. MUTSU	.....Kishu.
Count GOTO	.....Tosa.
Mr. KONO	.....Tosa.
Mr. WATANABE	.....Nagano.

Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Privy Council, has been appointed Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, in addition to his present post. Mr. Herayama, hitherto Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, retires.

Count Oyama, who returns to his old position of Minister of State for War, has been replaced upon the Active List as a full General, in consideration of his long and meritorious services.

Count Oki, Minister of Education in the Matsukata Cabinet, returns to the position formerly held by him, namely, the Presidency of the Privy Council. Viscount Sano, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, resume their seats in the Privy Council. Count Matsukata is gazetted to the position of *Jako-no-ma Giko*, or Attendant in the Incense Chamber, an honorary rank carrying no salary, so far as we know, and he is further to receive the treatment of a Minister President. The posts in the Privy Council are, of course, salaried, a Privy Councillor receiving 4,000 yen annually, the President of the Privy Council 5,000 yen, the Vice-President 4,500 yen, and the Chief Secretary 3,500 yen. When an official is appointed to discharge the duties of a second office in conjunction with his own, he receives one-third of the salary attaching to the latter.

THE OFFENDING FOREIGNER.

THERE are two offences charged against foreigners by vernacular newspapers. The first, which we find in the *Choya*, is that one of two foreign athletes now visiting Japan professionally, has been telling untruths about his nationality—trying to pass as a British subject when in reality he is an American citizen; the second, published by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, is that some American has been buying a pack of Japanese toy-dolls in Nagoya, and that, as this is evidently a commercial transaction, it constitutes a breach of the treaty—Nagoya being outside treaty limits—and a complaint has accordingly been lodged by the police at the Nagoya Local Court. We are pleased to learn that nothing worse can be laid to the charge of the "masterful foreigners" than these peccadilloes. The authorities might, perhaps, send a copy of Chabaud's lecture on "Treweth" to the men-

dacious wrestler—though we doubt whether he is worth it—but we recommend them not to make a test case of the *chin* poodles. It would be just a trifle too ridiculous.

MAX O'RELL'S LAST.

MAX O'RELL is such a conspicuous and shining light amongst all other writers upon the idiosyncrasies of different peoples, that his trite sayings will live for many generations. He has the happy gift of catching up eccentricities, and of describing them in such terse, piquant, good-humoured phraseology that offence is not possible. John Bull does not mind being told that his feet are big, so long as his strength and his moral faculties are not impugned; and Max O'Rell is always just. The Frenchman, he says, fights for glory; the German for a living; the Russian to draw attention from misgovernment at home; but the Briton—is a reasonable and reflective person. He fights to raise the standard of civilisation of his enemies in this world, in order to secure them a better opportunity in the next; therefore, he goes to battle carrying a Bible, and, presently, the untutored savage has the Bible, whilst he has the land!

THE POPULATION OF LONDON.

THE necessity of providing a water supply for London that shall suffice to meet the needs of an ever growing population, has led the London County Council to enter into a calculation as to what approximately will be the population of the city fifty years hence. The conclusion arrived at was that 17½ millions would be the maximum and 9,666,687 the minimum number. The former figure is obtained by inferring that the rate of increase will go on in the same proportion as indicated in the last census period. The latter estimate assumes that London in the future will alter its rate of progress and only grow greater by the natural increase of births over deaths. The County Council, after taking these and other calculations into consideration, decided that there is every reason to anticipate that the population of the city in 1941 will be 12½ millions, and recommended that measures be taken for providing water for this number. *The Spectator* is of opinion that the 17½ millions estimate is more likely to be verified. The tendency to congregate in cities among the middle and lower classes is very strong, and the attractiveness of suburban life is constantly being increased by modern improvements of various kinds. When we consider that future London may contain as many people as were in the whole of England and Wales in 1851, and in the whole of Spain in 1887, and remember that the vast majority of the inhabitants of the great city will always be dependent for sustenance on goods conveyed from a distance, we begin to realise how terrible might be the consequences of a great naval war.

THE TOKYO "SHIZOKU" FUND.

WHEN feudalism was abolished and the power, previously wielded by the *Daimyo* passed into the hands of the Central Government, a large number of *samurai* were thrown out of employment, and in order to assist them to start afresh in life funds known as *shisan-kin* were raised by the Government and appropriated to their use. The administration of these funds has usually been in the hands of prefects or governors of cities. The plan adopted by such officials has been to allow prominent and representative *shizoku* to draw on the funds for purposes of trade, industry, and the like, it being understood that the profits realised should go to augment the principal, which was considered in most cases too small to allow of its being distributed among the large number of men entitled to a share. Our readers will remember that last year no small stir was caused when it became publicly known that Mr. Taguchi Ukichi had been allowed to use a large sum of money drawn from the Tokyo *shizoku* fund for the purpose of opening up a trade connection between Japan and the South Sea Islands, the result of the agitation being that Mr. Taguchi dissolved the company that he had formed, sold the vessel which he had purchased, and reimbursed the *shizoku*

fund to the extent of 63,000 *yen*. The *shizoku* who took the lead in bringing about this result were represented by Mr. Murata Masanori. This gentleman obtained the permission of his associates and of the Governor of Tokyo to exercise control over the above named sum, and to establish a lace manufactory with such portion of it as might be needed. Before being entrusted with this power he was required to sign a contract which contained the following conditions: (1) None of the money belonging to the fund was to be used for any other purpose than the carrying on of the business of the factory; (2) Money not in actual use was to be deposited in the 5th National Bank, the 19th National Bank and the Mitsui Bank. Some little time ago it was rumored that Mr. Murata was making an improper use of the money entrusted to him. Headed by the famous lexicographer, Mr. Watanabe On, and backed by Messrs. Isobe Shiro, Hata-yama Kazuo, Miyake Kozo, Kuroiwa Tetsunosuke and Hashimoto Yoshimasa, the Tokyo *shizoku* took the field against their former leader. They obtained legal permission to attach the factory and other property and to institute an inquiry into the uses to which the money had been put. The full results of this inquiry have not yet been made known, but it is stated that neither of the three above named banks hold any money deposited by Murata. A sum of 30,000 *yen* has been found in Mr. Murata's possession, but this, it is stated, even allowing for the outlay required to establish the factory, leaves a large margin unaccounted for.

It seems to us that in a case of this kind the simplest and safest plan to adopt would be to place the fund under the management of a Committee, to be chosen by those for whose benefit it is administered, instead of relying on the probity and the business capacity of individuals, as has hitherto been done. It is of course premature to infer from the suspicions of the *shizoku* that Mr. Murata has misappropriated the money entrusted to him, since so far no details have been ascertained relative to the cost of establishing the factory and the carrying on of the business connected with it.

THE DEATH OF HARA TANZAN.

THIS famous Buddhist priest and philosopher, for many years professor of Buddhist philosophy in the Imperial University, expired at his residence in Tokyo on the 27th ult. He was over 70 years of age. He died, as he had lived, a philosopher to the backbone. A man of extraordinarily robust constitution and simple habits, he is said not to have known what illness was until the end. It was his opinion that the medical profession did not exist for the sake of men of his type. When asked to consult medical men he smiled contemptuously. Up to the day of his death he displayed no signs of serious illness. On the 18th ult., he remarked to his disciples that he thought he should die soon, and that it might be convenient (*tsugo ga yoi*) if he were to die on that day. The disciples became alarmed and insisted on his seeing a medical man. The doctor called in recommended tonics, but the old man said, "I want no tonics." On the 20th ult. Dr. Miyake was consulted, and after a thorough examination, said, "It is as you have ever boasted. There is no disease of any kind." On the 22nd ult. Mr. Hara asked for writing materials, saying that as he had not much more time he should write his thoughts. On the 27th, the day of his death, he awoke from a refreshing sleep at 2 p.m. in excellent spirits. Without consulting any one, he took some post cards that were near and commenced writing to his friends the following few lines:—"I write to inform you that I am now leaving you." The priests in attendance on him remarked: "If that is all you are writing, why not leave us to do it if anything should happen?" The old man smiled, lay down again, dozed, and slept to awake no more. A few days prior to his death he was asked whether he had any directions to give as to what was to be done after his decease. He replied: "What is the use of my concerning

myself about what is to be done after I am gone?" He then added, "It is customary with Buddhists to say a great deal about the future life. This I have never done. My views respecting a future life differ from those of other Buddhists. You will find them expressed in a manuscript, which I have prepared for publication after my death." The remains of the venerable old priest were cremated on the 31st ult. and will be laid in their last resting place, at the Saijoji, in Sagami, with great ceremony on a day to be hereafter notified.

THE FLOODS IN HARIMA.

THE *Hyogo News* thus concludes its account of the recent floods:—

Tatsuno, as I have said, lies in an oval shaped plain, tapering almost to a point where the hills shut it out from Harima. There is no stream of any size running through it, excepting always the Ibigawa, which in reality forms its western boundary. But the portion in which the village of Tatsuno and the railway station stand slopes at a gentle incline from the bases of the mountains which hem it in on the northern side. This slight declivity accounts for the great destruction wrought on the railway line. As we neared the station the hamlet surrounding it presented a very battered appearance. Three or four rubbish heaps were all that remained of one or two tenements. Others had a gaping breach in the walls, and all had a muddy deposit in place of the raised floor. The railway line rises a foot or two above the normal level. This had been partially carried away, the deluge had swept off the ballast and in places the rails remained suspended, a goods shed at the station looked as if it had been subjected to a heavy cannonade, so huge were the gaps in it, and so wrecked did it appear. It was half tilted over, and railway packers were busy removing the damaged stores. Over and under the hills on the left, situated on a raised slope, was a rather large village, which looked untouched, owing its immunity to advantages of its situation. Otherwise the whole of the plain had been submerged, though but for a few layers of mud here and there, and one or two places where the water had not yet subsided, the rice was in magnificent condition, indeed this was a feature of the whole trip. Except in limited areas, where the torrents had left pebbles and mud, the rice looked all the more flourishing for its universal submersion, so that there is really no reason to believe that the inundations will have any marked effect on the crops other than beneficial.

Leaving Tatsuno we continued our journey to Naba, which had been badly treated, but nothing like so harshly as Tatsuno. The railway was almost intact, and the houses damaged were much fewer in number. Some of the wayside cottages *en route*, however, were sorry spectacles. In front of some, the water had ploughed up the roadway, and dangerously undermined the whole fabric. In some instances the flooring had been ripped up, but as marking the cheerfulness and almost indifference with which the people viewed the catastrophe, I may mention that in one of the worst served houses, a bevy of young girls, at ages ranging perhaps eight from eighteen, were playing a game at cards, and were as merry as if no mud begrimed the walls, and as if a misfortune of any kind was a thing never experienced in their locality.

From thence on to Naba the damages were less noticeable. Everywhere there had been a submersion, but the waters had receded, and except for the muddy floors of the houses and the stain on the walls, there were no prominent indications. Naba in the vicinity of the station suffered little. The ground there has a considerable slope towards Omura, where the inlet of the sea, one of the most off romantic on the coast, was sufficiently wide to take all surplus water. From the station the roads winds round the shores of the inlet, and then begins an ascent through a pass rising up to some 1,200 feet. The hill slopes and ravines there are densely wooded, and the walk up to the summit, for we walked despite the faint protestations of the kuruma-men, to the invigorating atmosphere at the summit of the pass, was a most enjoyable one, though the temperature was very high, and the sun broiling. At the mouth of the pass stood the ruins of two huts. One had fallen completely, a victim of the wind and not of the floods. The other, in which were a woman and two children, was a sad wreck. One side of the hut had disappeared, another was partially destroyed. The roof had large holes in it, and yet the cheerful old woman seemed as light-hearted and gay as if her tenement, open as it was to the wind and rain, was a mansion stocked with every comfort. We gave her ten cents for a cup of tea, a generous donation which by the number

of expressions of thanks she tendered was appreciated a thousand times above its value. On turning the edge of the road we entered upon a steep declivity, and a magnificent yet heart-rending spectacle met our gaze. On our right was a deep ravine, with precipitous sides which meant death to anyone blown over, or falling by a slip. The wind, although it was a calm day, rushed through the funnel like pass with tremendous force so that we had to hold on our hats very tightly to prevent losing them, and it needed no very strong imagination to conceive of one being hurled down the yawning yet picture-que chasm, if there was anything like a storm raging. Below us stretched the delta of the vale of Chikusagawa. From Une it winds between two very high hills, which opened out at the place of our descent and then widened towards the sea-shore at Ako, some three or four miles distant. The only dry object in that formerly smiling plain was the river bed. The boundaries had been burst at many places and there was now spread out a calm lake, with its waters up to the edges of the hills, dissected by the dry watercourse, and dotted here and there with the upper parts of a few semi-demolished houses which marked the site on which Kariya once stood. The greater portion of the town had been demolished, and how any people escaped to tell the tale is surprising, for the steep sides of the mountains offered scarcely any foothold, while it was just near the sides that the torrent must have been strongest. The salt pans, or at least the majority of them, had disappeared, and all the way up that sinuous valley as far as the eye could reach, was but a panorama of devastation and ruin. One was terribly knocked about, a railway bridge had been carried away and the houses were laid low. The picture was fascinating in its complete destruction.

Having briefly investigated the various pitiable scenes, we set our course homewards, for we had nearly 40 miles of road to cover and it was already near six o'clock. Our men, extremely plucky fellows, announced their willingness to travel through the night and bring us back to Kakogawa to catch the 5.42 train in the morning, providing they had a rest at Aoyama. They had already brought us close on towards thirty miles, but as they seemed anxious to fulfil the task we consented. A little past Naba my ricksha collapsed. Another was procured a mile or two further on, and leaving the big shaftsman behind with the damaged vehicle, we obtained the services of a young fellow, who ran gamely but found the work too much for him. We reached Aoyama at about 9 o'clock in the evening and were greeted with the utmost cordiality, not only by the pleasant hostess of the *chaya*, but by a swarm of big mosquitoes, the biggest and most bloodthirsty insects I ever encountered. They met us at the door, accompanied us to the backroom, and pestered us with their unwelcome attentions all the time of our visit, as if delighted to meet a stranger. Mosquito nets, smoke and fans were of no avail, and when we emerged at one o'clock, we bore with us countless marks of their too intrusive familiarity.

Our kuruma men roused us sharply at one a.m., and half asleep, and occasionally mildly ejaculating over the stings of our late visitors, we proceeded homewards. Without stop or halt, up hill or down dale the kuruma men ran on, but my little leader began to show signs of exhaustion, and just before reaching the Ichikawa, a little beyond Himeji, he fell as if shot, and stumbled on to a board at the roadside with a bad attack of cramp. Undaunted my other man insisted that he could take me to Kakogawa. Fortunately we roused up another man, and reached the station in good time, though in lugging the kuruma over the embankment at Himeji my kuruma man, who had behaved so pluckily, fell from the top to the bottom, badly scarring his arm almost from the wrist to the elbow.

We had seen but a fraction of the ravages of the floods, and only those which lay close to the main roads, but those were so great that our description is but a faint portrayal of the actual suffering inflicted. The unfortunate people deserve every commiseration, and we trust their appeal for succour will not pass unheeded.

A STORY FROM BUNGO.

THE *Choya Shinbun* tells a terrible tale of an incident said to have occurred recently in the province of Bungo. A farmer, Kono Gihei, of Yasaka, in tolerably good circumstances, was much troubled about his mother's eyes, which, despite the use of all kinds of medicines, had gradually grown more and more useless for eleven or twelve years, until finally complete loss of sight was threatened. Having heard that the liver of a freshly killed bird or animal was effi-

cacious in such cases, Kono procured the liver of a fowl and gave it to his mother. The effect was good and the woman rejoiced greatly in a partial recovery of her sight. But after a time her malady re-asserted itself, and Kono was in much trouble. He then learned that the liver of a human being could not fail to be efficacious, but although he travelled to Osaka and Kyoto in search of this commodity, he could find no trader in it. Finally he concluded that the only resource was to give his own liver, and with this object he had a sword divided into two parts, one of which, being sharpened, was to serve for cutting open his stomach. But when he came to do the deed, it occurred to him that his death would be useless, unless he could contrive some means of getting his liver administered to his mother. Unable to think out any plan for that purpose, he then conceived the idea of killing his own child, an infant five months old, but when he carried the little girl out into the garden with the intention of despatching it, his fatherly feelings overcame him. Nevertheless he could not dismiss from his mind a sense of the imperative duty of saving his mother's eyes, and at last, on the night of the 27th of July, he resolved that the child must die. Awaking his wife he explained his purpose to her, but the woman would not hear of it. Seeing, however, that her husband was much concerned, she offered her own life, like a true mother. But Kono could not persuade himself to kill her, until she tied a rope round her own neck and bade him strangle her, which he at last did. Cutting out a portion of her liver, he was proceeding to cook it, when a servant, roused by the noise, awoke the younger sister of the murdered woman, and Kono was handed over to the police. The *Choya* adds that the deluded man was an exceptionally devout Buddhist, and hints that his weak understanding had been unhinged by extravagant teaching about his duty to parents and so forth. It says that it could not have been believed that Japan owned such a barbarian. The story is indeed appalling, but the devotion of the unhappy mother Sugi, who gave her life to save that of her baby, is a redeeming incident of the awful tale. She was only twenty years of age, we read; probably a girl with little education and only one creed, self-sacrifice in everything. Such women are indeed examples.

THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

THE trouble in the Tokyo Rice Exchange has been adjusted after much difficulty. Owing to the recent disastrous tempest with its consequent inundations, and owing also to the unseasonably cool weather which prevailed at the close of July and the beginning of August, speculators succeeded in pushing up quotations in the rice market, until suddenly dealers who had contracted to sell at fixed prices on certain dates found themselves in a grave dilemma. The rule of the Exchange is that margins must be kept covered from day to day, but the margins created by the recent sudden and rapid rise of quotations were more than sellers could fill in, and the result was serious difficulty which ended in the temporary closing of the Exchange on the 3rd instant. Over thirty brokers were defaulters, and the officials of the Exchange were divided in their opinion of the course that ought to be pursued, some maintaining that brokers who had failed to cover their margins ought to be expelled from the Exchange, while others deprecated such an extreme measure. The former party was led by Mr. Yonekura, the President, and Mr. Sekine, the Vice-President, the latter being headed by Mr. Matsuzawa. Meanwhile, Messrs. Amemiyama and Tsuji were endeavouring to affect a compromise between the sellers and the buyers, but in this they were unsuccessful, the sellers not being convinced of their integrity of purpose. Finally, on the 6th instant, the Vice-President, Mr. Sekine, caused letters to be addressed to the defaulting brokers, informing them of the Exchange's resolve to treat them as violators of contracts, and to deal with their cases in accordance with the rules of the Exchange.

The brokers replied by a joint petition, asking for two days' delay. But this petition could not be lawfully entertained unless it bore the signatures of both parties to the contracts, and therefore there appeared to be as little prospect as ever of a settlement. Strenuous efforts were made by the mediators, to whose number Mr. Kato Tokuzo had been added, and the principal buyer, Mr. Nakamura, having expressed his willingness to agree to a reduction of price, a conference of buyers and sellers was held at the Umeyoshi restaurant. The brokers for the sellers declared themselves ready to complete one half of the transactions at 8.30 *yen* for delivery this month, 8.25 *yen* for delivery in September, and 8.20 *yen* for delivery in October, but the buyers would not accept this proposal. Another mediator then intervened, Mr. Kameda Masakichi, and at his instance the sellers consented to reduce the above figures by 5 *sen* each. The buyers, however, declined to go above 8.15 *yen* for August, 8.10 *yen* for September, and 8.05 *yen* for October. Thus there remained a difference of 10 *sen* per *koku*, and as the parties could not be brought any closer together, the Exchange finally agreed to pay the difference itself. The quantity of rice in question was not large—only 64,930 *koku*—but 10 *sen* per *koku* on that amount represents 6,493 *yen*. The trouble was thus adjusted at 1 p.m. on the 8th instant, and business was resumed in the Exchange the same afternoon. A somewhat similar trouble appears to have occurred in the Osaka Rice Exchange, but news of its settlement has not been yet received. The amount at stake there is considerably larger, so there will doubtless be correspondingly greater difficulty. Indeed, it must strike anyone as very astonishing that the paltry sum involved in the Tokyo dispute could have led to the temporary closing of the Exchange. The suspension of such an institution on account of some ten thousand *yen* or thereabouts, is difficult to understand.

COUNT MATSUKATA.

WE learn from the *Mainichi Shimbun* that although there is no salary attached to the position of attendant in the Incense Chamber (*Fako-no-ma Giko*) to which Count Matsukata has been appointed, the Emperor grants to its holder an allowance equal to one-fourth of the salary received by him in his previous office, together with one two hundred and fortieth of that salary for every year of service over fifteen years. Count Matsukata's service extends from 1870 to 1892, a period of twenty-one complete years. He therefore receives one-fourth plus one fortieth of his previous salary, or eleven fortieths of 9,600 *yen*, namely 2,640 *yen*. This is the first instance of an ex-Minister President becoming an attendant in the Incense Chamber.

THE POLICY OF THE NEW FINANCE MINISTER.

THE new Minister of State for Finance assembled the Heads of the various Bureaux and the chief officials of his Department on the 9th instant, and addressed them briefly. He said that he was fully conscious of his small merits and of the greatness of the trust reposed in him, but that he intended to devote his whole energies to the discharge of his duties. With regard to the policy of the Department, he explained that it was his intention to follow strictly in the footsteps of Count Matsukata, and that he hoped to complete any reforms which, though contemplated by the latter, had not yet been carried out.

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Speaking of financial policy, we observe that the *Fiji Shimpō* severely criticises Count Matsukata's financial administration, and contends that his method of restoring specie payments involved a needless amount of commercial and manufacturing distress. We wonder how the *Fiji Shimpō* would have proceeded to achieve that immensely difficult undertaking. Our own belief is that when historians come to write the account of Japan's resumption of specie payments, they will be unanimous in describing it as an eminently well conceived, ably carried out, and successfully accomplished operation. Does the *Fiji Shimpō* imagine that it could

have been achieved without any effort or any suffering whatever? A foreign loan was the panacea suggested at the time, but had Japan contracted a large obligation seven or eight years ago to a gold-using country, the burden of paying the interest and repaying the principal would now be almost intolerable. It is possible that the indirect effects of the policy pursued would have been felt less severely had the empire's financiers proceeded with greater deliberation, but that is a nice question which no man of understanding will venture to answer at once. Nothing is easier than to be critical. Any one can condemn; any one can destroy. But how many can construct? And what country ever extricated itself more speedily and with less distress from the slough of a depreciated fiat currency than Japan?

CONJECTURES.

MR. GLADSTONE, whenever the heat of politics becomes inconvenient, seeks rest and recreation in some intellectual feat, an essay on Homer, a paper on Biblical exegesis, and so forth, which to men cast in a lesser mould would represent exhausting mental toil. We have him now discussing at length and with much evidence of minute research the curious problem:—"Did Dante study in Oxford?" Mr. Gladstone answers in the affirmative. He reaches his conclusion by a chain of reasons many of the links of which are extremely subtle, and some are forged by veritable feats of intellectual acrobatics. We do not purpose, to follow the Grand Old Man as he tracks the immortal poet through all the wanderings, moral and physical, that point to Oxford. His remarkable essay concerns us for the moment on account of one sentence only:—"Whatever be the spurious honours that we pay to our time, this one at least is genuine: it has been distinguished by the close and searching examination of texts." So indeed it has, and it is distinguished also by the wonderful theories that clever men build upon the fragments of fact revealed by their examination of texts. The internal evidences that Gladstone adduces from the *Inferno* to prove the probability of Dante's visit to Oxford pale in ingenuity before another hypothesis enunciated contemporaneously by Mr. T. J. J. See—a hypothesis about the mystery of the Phoenix. The Phoenix figures in all art decoration from the banks of the Nile eastward. It shares with the dragon the honour of pre-eminence in Japanese and Chinese art. What then was the Phoenix? Usually we find it described "as a miraculous bird of Arabian origin—the only one of its kind in the world, adorned with golden and red plumage, and in form resembling an eagle; it was sacred to the Sun, and appeared at the Temple of Heliopolis at long intervals of time. When of a very great age, it built a nest of twigs and branches, ignited it with fire, and forthwith lighted upon the funeral pyre, and was consumed to ashes, from the glowing embers of which the new Phoenix at once triumphantly arose." All this however, is a myth; an allegory. It leaves us as far as ever from knowing the Phoenix. But by that "close and searching examination of texts" to which the Grand Old Man refers, Mr. See has found that Tacitus speaks of the bird as vulgarly reported to live 500 years, whereas some positively affirm that its span of years is 1,461. Now this is not a very helpful tradition, one would imagine. But see what Mr. See makes of it:—"Fourteen hundred and sixty-one years is the length of the Sothic period, and such a coincidence in length of time cannot be the result of chance. Therefore a strong presumption is at once raised in favour of the idea that the Phoenix is a symbolization of the Dog-Star period. The Egyptian year, as is well known, consisted of 365 days, and consequently the calendar annually fell short of the Julian or natural year, one fourth of a day. This annual difference would accumulate, and in 1,461 Egyptian years amount to a whole year, so that the cycle would begin anew. This great cycle is what is known as the Sothic period, which began when the first of Thoth, (the first month of the Egyptian calendar) coin-

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cides with the heliacal rising of Sirius. This phenomenon of the Sun and Dog-Star rising together took place on the 20th July, and marked the beginning of the inundation of the Nile. Sirius was anciently fiery red, and this colour will not only enable us to explain the gorgeous plumage of the Phoenix, but also how the bird was mystically spoken of as consuming himself with self-ignited fire, and the new bird rising from the glowing ashes. For the colours of the Phoenix were merely the hues of the golden Sun and of the ruddy Sirius. And the old Phoenix cycle closed its long career when the first of Thoth came round to the day of the fixed year (July 20th) on which Sirius and the Sun rose together, and the Sothic or Phoenix cycle began on the same day. Therefore, since the beginning and end of the Sothic period was determined by the heliacal rising of Sirius, and that star was fiery red, it is easy to see why the priests represented the old Phoenix as consuming itself with self-ignited fire (of the Dog-Star) at self-appointed time, and the new Phoenix as arising immediately from the ashes of the old. Since the Sothic Period was determined by observations of the heliacal rising of Sirius, made at the Heliopolitan Temple of the Sun, we can readily understand why the Phoenix was spoken of as coming from Arabia, which lay to the east in the direction of the expected phenomena. The Phoenix being a symbolization of the Sothic cycle, there could, of course, be only one such "bird" in the world; and since the period extended over ages, it is easy to conceive how a very little mystic or even poetic fancy would enable the priests to represent it as a bird with swift wings, symbolic of the flight of time. The Sothic period being reckoned from the heliacal rising of Sirius, it is also plain why the bird was sacred to the Sun, and why it appeared to the priests at Heliopolis. Lastly, since the cycle repeats itself in endless succession, its duration is eternal, and hence the secret of the immortality of the Phoenix. The only point that needs further elucidation is the period. Tacitus relates that the first Phoenix appeared in the reign of Rameses II., and we learn from Censorinus that a Sothic period was completed A.D. 139. Therefore that period must have begun B.C. 1322; an epoch which falls within the dates assigned to the reign of Rameses by different chronologists. Tacitus records the dates of other appearances, but he does not hesitate to question the genuineness of the latest of them, and we need not hesitate to conclude that of all the Phoenixes reported by Tacitus only the first was genuine. The others occurred in the reigns of very powerful kings, and is likely that in their ambition to glorify their reigns, they may have celebrated the completion of some numerical part of the Sothic or Phoenix period, and proclaimed, as a special sign from Heaven, the coming of the sacred Phoenix."

THE ABORIGINES OF AUSTRALIA.

People living in the East have learned to take with a large grain of salt the literary condiments served up in Western journals. They see how egregiously writers at a distance err about the affairs of the Orient, and they naturally assume that similar blunders may be made by writers similarly circumstanced towards other countries. Dr. Karl Lumbholtz, however, lived for fourteen months among the aborigines of Australia, so perhaps we shall be justified in accepting as true what he tells us about them in the *Duheim* of Leipzig. It is difficult for any people to occupy a lower stage in the gradation of humanity. They live like beasts of prey upon anything they can catch or kill, and like beasts the women have to do all the manual and heavy work. They are cannibals. "They make no secret of their fondness for human flesh, and regard it as the finest food. The details of their cannibalistic practices are horrible. It is only seldom that the 'black police,' whom the Government sends out to protect the colonists, interfere with the barbarity. The traveller found these peoples exceedingly unreliable, treacherous, and immoral. The only attractive trait he could discover was the intense love of the mothers for their offspring. These people are not, however,

alone to blame for the deplorable condition of affairs. Their treatment at the hands of the whites is terrible, especially in Northern Australia. Settlers frequently offered to shoot natives for Dr. Lumbholtz, as he was anxious to secure specimens of their skulls. In Northern Queensland he often heard the words:—"The only right way of treating the natives is to kill them." One squatter there acted on this principle, and shot down every native he saw on his pastures, and the murder of the women he justified on the ground that their children would be thieves. In some districts the treatment is better, and the natives are utilized as shepherds and servants, and they even attain a certain degree of civilization; but even where the attempts to civilize them have been seemingly successful, they fall back into their barbarous state at the first contact with their people." No wonder that this people is dying out—shall we not say, is being exterminated?—rapidly. A few years ago their number was estimated at several hundreds of thousands. To-day there is only a remnant of sixty thousand. It took 60 years to sweep the Tasmanians from the face of the earth. They were a mere tribe, five thousand strong in 1803, but still the fact that not a single one of them remained in 1872 is remarkable. The Australian aborigines are rapidly going the same way.

TYNDALL AND GLADSTONE.

MR. GLADSTONE has his most implacable foes in Ireland, and at the head of them stands Professor Tyndall. Looking at the Professor's picture no one could doubt that he would be shockingly in earnest about everything. He is evidently built that way. Yet the impression left upon one's mind in the sequel of all his tirades against the Grand Old Man, is distinctly painful. The scientific luminary seems to shine with a sadly enfeebled light when he enters the political arena. It does not suit his gifts. One is oppressed with a sense of incongruity; a notion of the *sutor* who has laid his last aside with bad results. The Professor is on the war-path again. He has written a tremendous letter with a comically scenic conclusion—a veritable bit of dramatic posing. The *Pall Mall Budget*, reproducing the document, appends an illustration in which we see the shaggy scientist, with Celtic fury in his face and political ire in his attenuated thews, hacking away at a snow image of the Grand Old Man, who receives the strokes with cold and lofty imperturbability. It is very clever. Here are extracts from the letter:—

Gladstonian prints describe me as an "Ulster Orangeman." Were this true, I should accept the designation with pride. The term "Orangeman" is, for the time being, the most forcible antithesis to the "traitor." But I am a Leinster man, I have never been an Orangeman. Indeed, my desire in life has been to soften those sectarian animosities which after a full of considerable duration, the evil genius of Mr. Gladstone has so effectually revived. When Mr. Gladstone and that arch doctrinaire, Mr. John Morley, who, it is alleged, first planted the "microbe of Repeal in the brain of his venerable friend, launched the first Home Rule scheme, they forgot that there was any Ulster at all. Of Mr. Morley I would speak more in sorrow than in anger. Those of us who once knew him as a man of elevated mind, and regarded him with a feeling warmer than friendship, now mournfully behold him degraded to the level of the professional politician. No trace of personal hostility can mingle with my feelings towards Mr. Gladstone. At a time when my physicians predicted that a few hours would finish my career on earth, his warm and generous sympathy was abundantly shown. Would that his course were one that I could follow and applaud! But futility to him would be treason to something infinitely higher. The first Loyalist blood shed in Ulster for the sake of Messrs. Walsh, Croke, and Healy would rouse in this country a feeling which would sweep his Irish policy to perdition. And now for a practical winding up. I occupy no post, I receive no wages, I enjoy no pension. But a money dribble comes to me occasionally from a more precarious source. Some time ago I received from publishers the sum of £103 7s. 6d. in payment for two little books of mine. This seasonable windfall I have divided into two parts, one of which, £37 7s. 6d., I keep for myself; the other, £66, I send to you.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE following notice to mariners relating to the wreck of the steamer *Peking* in Bonham Strait, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office

of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that the wreck of the steamer *Peking* lies in a straight line drawn from the summit of Napier Island (368 feet high) to the south-western extreme of Gutzlaff Island, and with Bonham Island Lighthouse bearing S. 33° 25' E. true, distant 6½ miles. The Button Islet open its own length to the eastward of Pirie Island leads clear, to the westward, of the wreck; and the eastern extreme of The Button in line with the eastern extreme of Pirie Island leads clear, to the eastward, of the wreck.—Caution: Vessels having to pass the wreck by night should pay careful attention to the bearings of Bonham Island and Gutzlaff Lights and to the set of the tides, which are very strong in this vicinity.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE NEW MINISTRY.

Now that the new Cabinet is formed, the vernacular press has much to say on the political situation. The following are extracts from some of the leading papers:—

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* declares that the statesmen who were called *Kuromaku*, or men behind the curtain shrinking from open responsibilities, have now formed a Cabinet. It is a Cabinet of the most eminent politicians of the country; and the *Nichi Nichi* is anxious to see by what method they will ameliorate the present situation. National progress since the Restoration has been very remarkable—wonderful—but there is always a fear of the sun sinking rapidly behind the western mountains, whereas the goal to be reached is still very far; meanwhile all kinds of trouble and embarrassment have arisen. In fact the chief achievement of the past 25 years has been nothing more than the centralization of the administration and the breaking down of the barrier between the Government and the people. Whether the prosperity of the nation will be promoted by the working of the constitutional machinery is still vague and uncertain. Moreover, in congratulating the country on the wonderful results accomplished in recent years, many abuses have to be mentioned, and for these the men that planned the Restoration must be held responsible. They are responsible not alone for making the constitutional machinery workable, but also for the administrative errors in which they have been directly concerned. The Yamagata and Matsukata Cabinets fell without accomplishing anything, yet the Popular Party, though it was known to be anxious to assume the reins of Government, did nothing. Not only did it not anticipate the Imperial command to form a Cabinet, but among its leaders there were none who ventured to undertake such a duty. Therefore, though dissatisfied, the nation is compelled to grant Count Ito its commission, and consequently the Cabinet which he has formed ought not to be considered a remnant of Clan Government. "Were we to express our opinion about the Cabinet without reserve, we should be obliged to say that it does not include a man capable of ruling with a light heart by strength of arm, nor do we see any prospect of the speedy appearance of a hero competent to form his own plans and put them into execution with complete indifference to the disorderly conduct of party politicians and to the ill-regulated procedure of the noisy Diet. Count Ito, seeking to organise a coalition Cabinet, has made Count Kuroda Minister of Communications and Count Yamagata Minister of Justice. The public may be inclined to smile at the combination, but its members are not concerned about that. In truth the strength of the new Cabinet lies in its practical object. It is not like Count Kuroda's assemblage of prominent men in 1888, or Count Ito's declaration of a theoretical policy in 1885. It is to be a genuine reformer and constructor of the constitutional government."

The *Choya Shimbun* observes that the public is only too familiar with these constant changes of the Cabinet. Ministries are pulled down by themselves on every occasion. In organizing the present Cabinet Count Ito must have considered

all this. We may, therefore, expect that it will be firm and strong. The most difficult duty of the Government at present is to bring the constitutional machinery into working order, and as Count Ito is the compiler of the Constitution, he is evidently the right man to be Minister President. There will doubtless be some change in the methods of administration, but the general policy will not change. The members of the new Cabinet formerly worked in the cause of that policy while in office, and during their retirement they assisted and advised their successors. It is certain that they will not alter the general policy. Such rumours as that Count Ito is willing to accede to the desires of the Popular Party in the matter of amending the Three Regulations, reducing the land-tax and so forth, are entirely without foundation. The new Cabinet must have a very extensive programme. Its attitude towards the Diet is only a small part of that programme. It must have a policy with regard to foreign intercourse, with regard to the Eastern Question, with regard to the Korean Question, with regard to the Emigration scheme, with regard to Hokkaido, and so forth. The present Cabinet consists of first-class statesmen. Hitherto when second or third class statesmen formed a Cabinet, they could always fall back on their superiors. But there is nothing behind the new Cabinet. If it fails, totally new elements must be introduced into the Government.

The *Mainichi* says that the nature of the discussion which took place at the various meetings of the Camera statesmen is unknown, but it is said that there was a collision between Count Ito and Yamagata, the former desiring to establish a civil Cabinet, and the latter a military Cabinet, and that Count Inouye acted as mediator. The result is that all three are in the same Cabinet now. Count Ito is not the man to accept such a responsible post unless his opinions were accepted by his colleagues. Therefore it is safe to conclude that the civil party obtained the victory. Count Ito is one of the most competent men in the empire. His ability as a Minister of State in the days of absolutism is well-known. But he now appears for the first time as Minister President under a constitutional government. The *Mainichi* sincerely hopes that he will publish his policy, and show the people the order of the improvements he contemplates. Such is the duty of the constructor of a new Cabinet under a constitutional régime.

The *Hochi Shimbun* observes that it was Count Ito who reformed the Organization of the Government in 1885, a most necessary measure at the time. He was astute enough to detect the accumulated abuses of the Administration, but unfortunately he had not the courage to put his reforms into practice. Consequently the first and second sessions of the Diet were consumed in disputes about Administrative Expenditure, and the session after the dissolution led to the abuse of Official Interference. All these quarrels arose from defective administrative management. Count Ito was unable to carry out thorough reforms when he reconstructed the organization seven years ago. Unless he makes a complete change this time, he cannot avoid becoming once more the object of popular attack.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* congratulates the new Cabinet, but promises that if Count Ito fails to establish the fact of constitutional government it will spare no pains to attack him. After the resignation of Count Matsukata two parties—civil and military—fought for power and both have now entered the same Cabinet. One of the most important positions in the Cabinet, perhaps even more important than that of Minister President of State, is the position of Minister for Home Affairs, which post is filled by Count Inouye, known as the backbone of the civil party. By this fact alone the civil party may be said to be victorious, for the National Unionists recommended Count Yamagata, and the local governors who interfered in the elections attempted to prevent Count Inouye's appointment to the portfolio, but their efforts were

useless. The *Kokumin* shows the victory of the Civil Party by the following table:—

Count Ito, Count Kuroda, Count Inouye, Count Goto, Mr. Matsuo, Mr. Kono, Count Yamagata and Count Oyama	Pure Civil Party.
Count Okai and Mr. Watanabe	Incline to the Civil Party.
Viscount Nire	Inclines to the Military.

It is also praised the ability of Count Inouye in inducing Count Yamagata to accept the portfolio of Justice, for the question relating to the postponement of the Codes is by no means easy to settle. Count Ito is in favour of postponing them, but he does not clearly see how to do it, so he has imposed the responsibility on Count Yamagata. The *Kokumin* sincerely hopes, first, that Count Ito will announce his policy; secondly that changes will be effected in the local governors and superintendents of police who interfered in the last general election; and thirdly that all the accumulated administrative abuses will be reformed, so as to bring about the reality of a perfect constitutional government.

The *Fiji Shimpō* remarks that Count Ito's assumption of the office of Minister President of State is natural not only on account of his ability, but also in respect of the proper order of succession. Count Ito formed a new Cabinet in 1885, and was followed by Count Kuroda, Count Yamagata, and Count Matsukata in order. Therefore unless a new minister be chosen, the post must revert to Count Ito. Count Inouye's return to office as Minister for Home Affairs was little expected; but since the post is a difficult one the selection is good, especially as Mr. Mutsu becomes Minister for Foreign Affairs. Both Count Oyama and Viscount Nire's appointments are also suitable. Had they consented to serve sooner the Matsukata Cabinet might have remained. The entrance of Count Yamagata and Count Kuroda shows that the new Cabinet is strong. The *Fiji Shimpō* only hopes there will be no disagreement between the two last Ministers and the other members of the Cabinet. Mr. Watanabe's appointment seems rather out of place, for everybody is anxious to obtain his position. But that position is like an only daughter with two suitors. Either is good enough for her, but in order to avoid subsequent quarrels she is married to a third. The circumstance plainly shows that the old abuse of *Fojitsu* has not yet become extinct.

The *Nippon* writes two short leading articles, one about Count Matsukata and the other about Count Ito, his successor. In the former, it says that Count Matsukata was Minister of Finance for over 10 years; that he managed the nation's financial affairs well, and that his good qualities are unlimited experience in administrative business and skill in settling differences and averting collisions between the Satsuma and Choshu statesmen. On his retirement the people of the country ought to express their gratitude for his long service. Another most praiseworthy feature of Count Matsukata's retirement, concludes the *Nippon*, is that, whereas retiring Ministers, as a rule, seek some position which will bring them a high salary, he, on the contrary, has refused every offer. So, in thanking him for his service, his sincerity and purity ought also to be remembered. In the second article it says that Japanese society has been dislocated, and that the nation itself, though it looks orderly, is quite unsettled. But the situation can be saved. Count Ito is responsible for it. He ought to be consoled with rather than congratulated on his appointment, for he must now fight his conclusive battle. It is said that there are only two able statesmen in the Empire, Count Ito and Count Okuma; and that the latter is waiting for the disappearance of the former. Count Ito's responsibility must be very great indeed. The *Nippon* promises to write the history of Count Ito's career, and will then set forth its hopes and its conclusions.

THE TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY'S SHARES.

THE shares of the Tanko Railway Company seem to be an object of considerable speculation as present. Until quite recently they were quoted persistently below par (50 *yen*), but

suddenly they began to rise, and the quotations now are 56.30 *yen* for delivery in August, 56.20 *yen* for delivery in September, and 55.80 *yen* for delivery in October. This happy change in the public estimate is said to be due almost entirely to the action of the Fifteenth National Bank, which, last month, began to purchase the shares in considerable quantity, with the immediate result of a marked appreciation in their price, for in Japan almost all kinds of securities seem to be in a delicate condition, susceptible to influences which ought not to affect them materially. The officers of the Bank were not of one mind as to the prudence of the investment, and four managers were accordingly despatched to Hokkaido to inspect the state of affairs. Their reports proving satisfactory, Marquis Ikeda, President of the Bank, and Marquis Mori, together with other principal shareholders, approved of purchasing the shares. The Bank therefore acquired, at 48 *yen*, six thousand shares which had been deposited with it as security by the Tanaka Bank. Thenceforth the shares rose steadily, and were soon quoted above par. The opposing party in the Bank, however, were not yet satisfied. They sent one of their number, Mr. Matsuura, to conduct an independent investigation in Hokkaido, but his report only confirmed the favourable accounts previously obtained. Moreover, in order to place the matter beyond all doubt, an entirely independent person has been despatched by the President and Directors.

Immediately after the announcement of the new Cabinet, the Fifteenth National Bank raised the figure at which it was prepared to accept Tanko shares as security, and the following morning the market quotation showed an appreciation of 60 *sen*, which became a *yen* as the day advanced. It is supposed that Count Kuroda's appointment to the post of Minister of State for Communications had something to do with this appreciation, as the Railway Bureau being now attached to his Department, he will be able to give effect to the interest he has always displayed in the development of Hokkaido. Another point is that Mr. Watanabe, ex-Governor of Hokkaido and now Vice-Minister of State for Home Affairs, who, rightly or wrongly, is considered hostile to the Tanko Company, will probably be removed to some other post. Altogether the Company's affairs look much more promising than they have done for a long time.

THE VICE-MINISTER OF FINANCE.

THE new Vice-Minister of Finance is to be Mr. Tajiri Inajiro, hitherto Director of the Revenue Bureau. He is a Satsuma man, and was for some time Professor of Political Economy in the Imperial University. Mr. Tajiri has always been regarded as an official of great ability, and he possesses a faculty which is of no small value in these parliamentary days, eloquence and fluency. As Government delegate in the House of Representatives he will have ample opportunity to utilize this quality. We suspect that the capacity to make a good speech in the House will soon come to be regarded as a strong recommendation in a rising official. The usefulness and influence of a Government Delegate would be materially increased if he possessed the happy knack of presenting the case for the Administration in an attractive and convincing light. The Government labours under some disadvantage in this respect. While the members of the Opposition have for years been practising the art of oratory, the members of the Administration have been sitting silent. The resulting difference makes itself very evident in the Diet, and to correct the disparity will surely become an official object sooner or later.

POLITICAL MANIA.

A CERTAIN official, whose words are reported by the Tokyo News Agency, expresses the opinion that few nations become so excited about politics as the Japanese. The number of sanguinary outrages that have been committed since the Restoration in consequence of this fever is re-

markable. On January 5th, 1870, Privy Councillor Yokoi Heitaro was waylaid by Kashima Matanojo and others, and killed. On the 4th of September of the same year, Mr. Omura Nagatoshi, Vice-Minister of War, was assassinated in Kyoto by Sekijima Kinjuro and others. On the 9th of January, 1871, Privy Councillor Hirosawa Naotomi was killed in his house by rebels. On the 14th of January, 1874, the Minister of the Right, Prince Iwakura, was attacked and wounded at Akasaka, Tokyo, by Takeichi Kumakichi and others. On the 14th of May, 1878, Shimada Ichiro and a band of assailants attacked the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Okubo Toshimichi, on his way to the Palace, and assassinated him at Kioizaka in the Kojimachi District of Tokyo. After this there was an interval of comparative quiet which lasted until the year of the promulgation of the Constitution (1889) when, on the 11th of February, Nishino Buntaro stabbed Viscount Mori to death in the official residence of the Minister of State for Education, Nagatacho. Then followed Kurushima Tsunekichi's attempt to blow up Count Okuma, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, with a bomb, before the gate of the Foreign Office, on the 18th of October 1889; and finally we have the recent case of sending bombs to Count Okuma and Mr. Kono. There must also be added to the list the attempt upon the life of Mr. Itagaki (now Count Itagaki), twelve years ago, as well as the various attacks made by *soshi* upon politicians. With a Diet in front ready to rend them metaphorically, and these assassins behind, seeking an opportunity to cut short their careers, prominent Japanese statesmen have certainly a rough time.

CONSOLIDATED BONDS.

THERE has been some commotion of late in the Japanese financial world with reference to an issue of Consols. In July the Minister of Finance announced that three million *yen* worth of Consols (*sairi kosaisho*) would be issued, and called for applications. These securities are always in favour, and just at present there appears to be a good deal of money seeking investment, for the Sanyo Railway Company have been able to obtain an increase of three million to their capital without difficulty. Before many days the applications for the three million *yen* worth of Consols amounted to over five million *yen*, and the Finance Minister, influenced perhaps by this fact, perhaps by other considerations, announced in August that the issue should be increased by one million *yen*. Thereat considerable clamour was raised. People affirmed, with evidence justice, that in operations of such importance there ought to be no change of programme: that the Finance Minister should make up his mind from the outset, and that it was not fair to intending investors to be treated in such a manner. We cannot see that there is any valid excuse for this procedure on the part of the Finance Department. If it were found convenient to make an extra issue of consols, additional tenders ought certainly to have been invited from the public. To announce an issue of three millions only, and then, after applications have been sent in on that basis, to increase the issue to four millions without calling for fresh applications, is assuredly a loose method of conducting finance.

These Consolidated Bonds are one of the features of Count Matsukata's very successful financial policy. When he received the portfolio of Finance in 1881, Seven-per-cent Government securities could be obtained in the open market at a price from 25 to 30 per cent. below their face value, and they consequently offered such an excellent form of investment that capital was inconveniently diverted from the routes of manufacture and commerce. Moreover, these Public Loan Bonds were more or less influenced by speculators, and responded, at a distance, to the variations in the hard-money value of *kinsatsu*. Considering their nature—securities issued by the State in connection with the commutation of the feudal chiefs' pensions—they ought to have stood much

higher in the market and been far more independent of the vicissitudes attending other kinds of security. Count Matsukata, therefore, determined to shape his policy so as to raise their price, first and chiefly because they would then cease to attract capitalists so strongly, and secondly, because the national credit was not truly reflected by them in their then condition. He succeeded so well that it soon became possible to obtain large sums for purposes of railway construction, and in 1885 the price of public securities had appreciated so much, and the general rate of interest had fallen so low, that he saw his way to commence the conversion of the national debt. The smallest interest then paid on Government Bonds was 6 per cent. Many carried 7, and some 8, per cent. It was determined to issue 5 per-cent. Consols in lieu of these securities. The operation began in October, 1886, with an issue of 10 million *yen* worth of Consols. These were taken up at once, and in February, 1889, the state of the market being judged favourable, an issue of five millions was made. The total amount issued, including the last installment, is 30 million *yen*—

October, 1886	10 millions.
February, 1889	5 millions.
August, 1891	5 millions.
April, 1892	6 millions.
July and August, 1892	4 millions.

With regard to the quotations of these securities in the market, the following figures are interesting:—

DATE.	PRICE OF 100 YEN CONSOL. YEN.
April, 1887	104.00
April, 1888	101.75
April, 1889	102.00
April, 1890	100.90
April, 1891	99.25
May, 1891	100.25
June, 1891	99.25
July, 1891	101.70
August, 1891	100.95
September, 1891	100.85
October, 1891	101.55
November, 1891	102.20
December, 1891	100.20
January, 1892	100.80
February, 1892	101.30
March, 1892	102.35
April, 1892	102.30
May, 1892	102.70
June, 1892	101.25
July, 1892	101.70
August, 1892	101.70

The interest on the bonds being paid twice annually—in June and December—their market price increases towards the months of payment, but, for the rest, they are wonderfully free from fluctuations, and for that reason, as well as in respect of the bi-annual payment of interest and the fact that the holders' name is registered, so that the safety of the bonds is always assured, they offer perhaps one of the best opportunities for investment in the East.

APPOINTMENTS IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

THE position occupied by Mr. Tajiri, prior to his elevation to the rank of Vice-Minister of State for Finance, namely, Director of the Revenue Bureau, is regarded as the most important post in the Department after those of the Minister and Vice-Minister. It has been given to Mr. Kato Takaaki, hitherto Director of the Bureau of Inspection, Mr. Susaki Toshiyuki succeeded to the Directorship of the Bureau of Inspection, and being succeeded in his former post—Director of the Bureau of Deposits—by Mr. Hyoto Masanori, a Counsellor of the Department.

The promotion of Messrs. Tajiri and Kato must be very gratifying to Count Okuma. Both of these gentlemen are protégés of the great political leader. Mr. Tajiri is married to the Count's niece, and when the Count was Minister of Finance he recognised the young official's ability and promoted him to posts of trust. Mr. Kato is well known to foreigners. He acted as Count Okuma's Private Secretary when the former was Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in 1888 and 1889, and upon all with whom he came in contact he produced the

impression of remarkable ability, as well as integrity and tenacity of purpose. If Count Okuma himself had succeeded Count Matsukata as Minister of Finance, his choice of a Vice-Minister and Director of the Bureau of Revenue would doubtless have fallen upon precisely these two gentlemen, and there can be no doubt that it would have been a wise choice in the interests of the country.

COUNT INOUE.

NUMEROUS, as may well be imagined, are the comments of the vernacular press on the new Cabinet. The country in general may not be looking for great things, but the Opposition seem to be bent upon raising hopes which can scarcely be satisfied. Next to open hostility the most unfavourable reception that could be given to an incoming Ministry is an extremely sanguine one. It is not within the bounds of reasonable probability that Count Ito and his colleagues should accomplish everything expected of them, and by so much as their achievements fall short of the scintillating expectations roused by their opponents, by just so much will food for subsequent discontent be furnished. In the Home Department, for example, a great deal is demanded. The Opposition Journals apparently anticipate, or profess to anticipate, that all the Governors and local or police officials who are accused of having unduly interfered in the last elections will be removed from office. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, a *Kaishinto* organ, evidently influenced by this expectation, writes of Count Inouye, the new Minister of State for Home Affairs in a strongly eulogistic strain. Count Goto and Viscount Takashima, it says—coupling the names of two statesmen who were never supposed to work in unison—led the Matsukata Cabinet, and the resignation of the former killed the Cabinet. Who will be the leaders in the Ito Cabinet? Count Goto and Mr. Kono are doubtless able men, but their influence is small, and Mr. Mutsu, whose astuteness and capacity are of the highest order, can scarcely play a strong rôle under Count Ito. The only possible leader is Count Inouye. He has clan support; he is bold and resolute; he is one of the statesmen that made modern Japan; he has a vast number of followers among officials. No one is better suited to fill the post of Minister of State for Home Affairs at this juncture, for he has preeminently the strength and the ability to remove accumulated abuses. His history, too, shows that even Count Ito does not venture to gainsay him, and moreover he and Count Ito have always worked together and are now said to entertain very similar opinions. If with his talents, position, and influence Count Inouye fails to introduce much needed reforms, the nation will not regard him as the Inouye Kaoru of former times. "The first step he should take is to reconstitute the local administration, removing Governors and the police officials who hold office merely because of Satsuma patronage. It is a difficult task, but nothing is beyond Count Inouye's courage and competence."

The *Nippon* has a leading article much in the same strain. It declares that Count Inouye is the most suitable Home Minister that could have been found, for no other is so competent to correct existing abuses. He has had many nicknames given to him, and they are not all complimentary, but his character is by no means such as some people have painted it. If mistakes were formerly laid at his door, they have been entirely obliterated by the much greater mistakes of his successors during the three years of his abstinence from office. The nation receives with favour the news of his appointment. During his retirement he thoroughly studied the condition of the people, and if he still possesses his former ability and resolution, he is precisely the man for the situation. Almost every administrative affair is more or less connected with the Home Office, and whatever example Count Inouye sets will be followed by the Government generally. "The one object of the Home Department's policy hitherto has been to defeat political

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parties. But Count Inouye is not the man to secretly instruct local authorities to fight against political opponents. He is not the man to scatter detectives and spies throughout the empire and to make the Home Office the centre of political intrigue. The new Cabinet is said to be unfettered: it has been formed simply in obedience to the Imperial command. Therefore Count Inouye need not hesitate to change any policy of which he does not approve. The people of the country have long been weary of police government."

Even a supporter of the Government like the *Choya Shimbun* adds its voice to this chorus of sanguine expectations. The *Choya's* particular theme is foreign policy. It says that the Cabinet has to settle two great problems without any delay or hesitation, namely, treaty revision and the Korean question. Hitherto no satisfactory results have been attained owing to want of united action. One statesman might toil hard, but others looked on with indifference; or, if some error was committed, the Ministers or statesmen not directly concerned, instead of assisting to correct it, attacked its perpetrators in such a manner that the nearly completed negotiation fell to the ground. But now for the first time all the empire's best statesmen are in the Cabinet. If they cooperate heartily they can settle the most difficult questions. If, on the other hand, they shrink from the task, the nation will lose all confidence in them, and Count Ito's fame will be a thing of the past. It was Count Ito and Count Inouye who established Korea's independence and introduced her to the civilized world. Ten years ago they conceived and accomplished these great things. Now they are together in power once more and the country looks to them to repeat and consummate their exploits. If their Cabinet be content simply to fight against the Diet in pursuance of a time-serving policy, leaving tasks of real difficulty and national importance unassayed, the Ito Cabinet will forfeit all title to esteem both at home and abroad.

Thus by friends and enemies alike an extensive programme is mapped out for the new Cabinet. It will be hard to satisfy these great expectations. One thing, they show, however; namely, that the country is impatient of seeing the attention of its administrators absorbed by political squabbles. No wonder.

JAPANESE PAPER.

We are not surprised to learn that manufacturers of Japanese paper begin to regard their industry with strong misgivings. Foreign paper, imported or made in Japan, has come to discharge a great part of the duty that fell to the Japanese article in former times, and, moreover, a marked increase in the cultivation of the paper mulberry (*Kosu*) and the *Edgeworthia papyrifera* (*Mitsumata*), which constitute the chief material for paper manufacture, has led to a corresponding increase of the manufactured product, so that the market is overstocked, and prices have become quite unremunerative. So, at least, says the *Kokkai*, but we should be disposed to conclude that too extensive cultivation of the *Kosu* and the *Mitsumata* is not a cause, but a feature, of the over-production into which their inexperience of industrial enterprise is apt to betray the Japanese. Certainly they have lost their heads in the matter of *yoshi*—foreign-style paper—the early profits derived from which, when a moderate number of mills only were in operation, induced such a rush to the trade that the business is altogether overdone at present, and manufacturers must find their balance-sheets exceedingly unsatisfactory. Very likely the boom in the cotton-spinning industry will develop similar excesses, and several companies will have to go to the wall before survivors can count on a sound business. The *Kokkai* says no dealer is disposed to lay in a stock of Japanese paper at present. All are concerned simply to clear off their present stocks. Hence the manufacturers are driven to choose between one of two alternatives—either to reduce the

number of factories or to find a new market for their products abroad. We do not see that the latter offers a very hopeful prospect, but, at the same time, it has to be remembered that some Japanese papers find no counterparts in the West. The variety called *Hosho*, for example, which contributed so much to the successful production of the beautiful and unique Japanese chromo-xylographs of former days, is without peer in the important fact that it does not require to be moistened in order to take up the colours in printing, and that, consequently, the lines of the drawing come out far more clearly than they do in the case of Western paper, the necessary moistening of which causes irregular expansion and contraction. *Hosho*, which, in addition to its natural qualities, possesses the advantage of being seasoned by age, is an ideal paper for engravers in Europe and America, and is eagerly sought after by artists visiting this country, but of course the supply is exceedingly small. It is conceivable, however, that a fairly remunerative market might be found abroad for various varieties of Japanese paper if the methods of manufacture were modified to suit the requirements of foreign consumption. The only kind of Japanese paper that shows at present any tendency to attract increasing custom in the West is *Gampshi*—made from the *Gampi* plant (*Wickstramia canescens*)—and even of this the export in 1891 did not exceed 52,000 *yen*.

THE CONSPIRATOR MASON.

SHANGHAI has seen the last of the crack-brained conspirator, Mason. The *North China Daily News* of August 4th says:—"Yesterday morning the order for the deportation of Mason, who has recently completed the term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced at the Supreme Court in October last, was carried out. A good deal of secrecy has marked the latter proceedings in the case, and the authorities were evidently anxious that Mason's departure should be effected without attracting public attention. Accordingly, some time after three o'clock yesterday morning, some police officials visited the gaol with the necessary authority for Mason to be handed over to them. Those at the Gaol had got everything in readiness, and Mason was soon conducted down to the *Glenfruin*, which was the vessel selected for his passage home. Mason wore a blue suit, and seemed to take his departure with indifference. He will be accompanied to England by two police officers."

TEA-HOUSES AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THERE is a project, says the *Kokkai*, to open some Japanese tea-houses at the World's Fair in Chicago. Certain members of the Merchants' Association of Tokyo have the matter in hand. They have borrowed eighteen thousand *yen* on their personal security from Mr. Otani Kahei of Yokohama, and to this they propose to add seven thousand of their own and two thousand obtained from the Government, making twenty-seven thousand in all. On the 4th instant, Messrs. Aizawa, Date, Kunio, and Fukano, members of the Association, applied to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for permission, and if it is granted, commissioners will be despatched this month to Chicago to make preparations. We wonder what is meant exactly by "tea-houses." Are they to be the orthodox wooden buildings, duly matted, provided with miniature gardens, and furnished with the smiling "musume"?

THE VICE-MINISTERS.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* makes a prediction about the Vice-Ministers of State in the new Cabinet. Our contemporary's idea is as follows:—

Communications.....	Mr. Komaki Shogyo.
Home Affairs.....	Mr. Furusawa Shigeru or Mr. Saito Shuichiro.
Finance.....	Mr. Tajiri Inajiro.
Education.....	Mr. Kawazu Sukeyuki or Mr. Watanabe Chikaki.
Commerce and Agriculture.....	Mr. Kawazu Sukeyuki or Mr. Furusawa Shigeru.
Justice.....	Mr. Kyowa Keigo.
Foreign Affairs.....	No change.
Navy.....	No change.
Army.....	Mr. Kurokawa Teuki or Mr. Kodama Gentaro.

The continuance of Mr. Hayashi as Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs would be welcomed

heartily by the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, with whom he is universally popular, and the appointment of Mr. Saito Shuichiro to an important post would also be good news, for every one that has had the pleasure of being brought into contact with Mr. Saito recognises his great business capacity and tact.

THE HOME OFFICE.

THE News Agency reports that Mr. Kono, the retiring Minister of State for Home Affairs, and Count Inouye, the new Minister, proceeded to the Department together on the 9th instant, and having assembled the Heads of Bureaux and other chief officials, addressed them briefly. Mr. Kono spoke first. He confined himself to saying that if his brief tenure of office—less than 30 days—had not been marked by any mistake, the fact was due to the zeal and ability of those whom he addressed, and he congratulated the staff of the Department upon having obtained for their future Minister one of the most experienced and renowned statesmen in Japan. Count Inouye was even briefer. He merely announced his assumption of the duties of Minister, and said that he intended to carry on his functions with the aid and advice of the Department.

THE OPPOSITION AND THE NEW CABINET.

THE *Nippon* publishes an interesting article about the probable attitude of the Opposition towards the new Cabinet. The facts are said to be obtained from an influential member of the so-called "Popular Party." He alleges that for years back the *Kaishin-to* have regarded Count Ito as their greatest enemy, and now that the latter has assumed the control of the Administration, they will spare no pains to attack him. Count Okuma is reported to have said that he was only waiting for the appearance of Count Ito to put forth his full strength in opposition and that his Party will fight more stoutly than ever in the next session of the Diet. On the other hand, Count Itagaki has no special cause of unfriendliness towards Count Ito. He is absent now from Tokyo, so that his exact opinions cannot be ascertained, but being a thoroughly just man, he may not approve of the *Kaishin-to's* blind attack on the Cabinet. Mr. Hoshi, President of the House of Representatives, is an intimate friend of Mr. Musu, the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and will doubtless support the Government so long as the latter does not introduce any extreme measures. Moreover, his present views are understood to be that questions of foreign policy press more urgently for solution than questions of home policy, and he is prepared to support any Cabinet that deals boldly and thoroughly with the former. It is not at all likely, therefore, that he will join the *Kaishin-to's* destructive campaign. Further, Mr. Kono Hironaka is reported to be no longer the Kono of former days. He says that the time for attacking the Government has passed, and that Count Ito, being the compiler of the Constitution, is not likely to pursue an objectionable policy, but will surely shape his measures in accordance with constitutional principles. Hence he considers that unvarying hostility need no longer be resorted to by the Opposition: they may determine their attitude towards each question according to its merits. A number of the influential members of the *Fiyu-to* are said to be in favour of Mr. Kono's views, so that their union with the *Kaishin-to* is not likely to last long. The *Kaishin-to*, however, adhere to their old contention that until clan government is destroyed no genuine improvement of domestic administration is possible, and that until internal affairs are duly ordered, it is idle to think seriously of foreign affairs. This is precisely the opposite of the view attributed to the *Fiyu-to*. Hence, according to present appearances, the coalition of parties forming the Opposition will probably be dissolved next session.

More significant even than the above is an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the chief organ of the *Kaishin-to*. There we read—of course as the opinion of "a certain old man"—that the

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Government will have no difficulty in dealing with the Opposition next session, for the latter must feel that their position *vis-à-vis* the former is like that of "sheep before a fierce tiger." Since Mr. Mutsu has become Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, all the Kishu members well support the Government, and so will Mr. Arai Shogo and his followers, who have left the *Fiyu-to*. Further, since Count Goto has become Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, several of the *Fiyu-to* members who are deeply interested in mining affairs, will doubtless vote for the Government, and two or three *Kaishin-to* men also are pretty sure to turn their backs on their Party. Thus the Government will be able to obtain a victory in the House without much difficulty. Strange to say, the *Mainichi*, while reproducing the above, makes no attempt to contradict or controvert it, but confines itself simply to saying that it awaits the result anxiously.

A NOVEL LAW CASE.

A LAW case of rare character and considerable interest is reported from Koga. It has resulted in the attachment of the Koga Town Office and other Government property by the 120th National Bank. The following is the history of the affair:—In 1883 a large school was erected by the inhabitants of Koga at an expense of 4,000 *yen*. The sum of 3,000 *yen* was raised at the time, and the remaining 1,000 *yen* was borrowed from the 120th National Bank, in the name of the Mayor and two other town officials. The bank pressed for payment in 1887, but nothing resulted. The case was allowed to stand over until a few months ago, when the bank was informed that the new mayor and his fellow-townsmen were of opinion that they were not responsible for debts contracted prior to the inauguration of the local government system. This point the Bank determined to test. The case was tried in the Mito District Court. The verdict given was that the new Mayor was in his official capacity responsible for 600 *yen*, and that the balance must be recovered from the ex-officials—a verdict which we find it impossible to explain. The Bank appealed. The Tokyo Court of Appeal decided that the present Mayor is responsible for the whole of the debt. The Mayor informed the bank that he was unable to discharge the debt—that there was no fund at his disposal to meet it. Hence the Bank applied for an order to attach the town office and all that it contains. Even the boxes which contain money paid as taxes have not been spared. The proceeding certainly calls for more explanation than is furnished by the vernacular papers. To ordinary people it would seem contrary to the proper order of things that public property should be attached for a debt of the kind contracted by the Koga officials. There must be some regulations bearing on the incurring of pecuniary liabilities by local officials which are capable of being applied to the present case.

THE NEW CABINET AND THE CODES.

THE Bill passed by the Diet for postponing the operation of the Codes, writes the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, was placed in the hands of Count Matsukata, and has passed, on his resignation, to the new Cabinet. What they will do with it is not yet known, but if the opinions of some of the principal members be examined, the destiny of the Bill may be ascertained. Count Ito is reported to have recently declared that the Codes are by no means perfect as laws, and that they require much alteration. Were there, he said, any urgent necessity to put them into immediate operation they might be enforced. But the chief argument advanced in favour of immediate operation is that they are needed for concluding Treaty Revision, and that in the interests of that problem they ought to be enforced, all necessary amendments being made afterwards. It is clear, however, that Treaty Revision cannot be concluded simply by putting the Codes into operation. Hence the urgency of the step from that point of view is not apparent, and the best course is to amend the Codes without delay. Such are said to have been the words of the

new Minister President; so that he is evidently one of those who favour postponement. Count Yamagata, the new Minister for Justice, was among the countersignatories of the Ordinance promulgating the Codes. Hence he has always been against their postponement. But if he discovers that to enforce them would not settle the long-delayed Treaty Revision, and that his other colleagues are in favour of postponement, he will agree. Facts are stronger than arguments, and he was the man who proposed the postponement of the Commercial Code. Though the opinions of the other Ministers have not yet been published, Count Inouye is certainly in favour of postponement. In view of all this, and of the resignation of Count Oki and Viscount Enomoto, as well as the absence of Count Yamada from the Cabinet, the policy contemplated on this point is clear enough.

Elsewhere, referring to our eulogy of Viscount Enomoto, who carries with him into his retirement the respect and good wishes of all his foreign friends and acquaintances, the *Nichi Nichi*, while applauding his resolute advocacy of the immediate operation of the Codes, says that it always differed from him in this respect. In truth everything indicates that the Codes are doomed. We derive no comfort whatever from our contemporary's alleged uncertainty as to their fate. They will be postponed. The majority in the Diet will be satisfied. But will the country benefit? Impossible to believe anything of the kind. The country, standing in urgent need of a good, comprehensive body of laws adapted to modern requirements, is condemned to do without anything of the kind nominally for three years. Nominally, we say, because we cannot hope that this postponement will be so brief. The character of the proposed revision will have to be judged, not by a committee of experts, but by a multitude of party politicians. Can such judges be brought to agree? The prospect would be hopeless elsewhere. But in Japan the unexpected often happens. Perhaps our misgivings may prove unfortunate. It is a slender hope, however.

THE ELECTIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

It is worth noticing that, after all, we in Japan were abreast of London in our knowledge, or rather in our forecast, of the result of the general elections in Great Britain. In London, on July 16th, the following was the prophecy, as reported by telegraph in the columns of the *New York Herald*:—"The result of the elections returns yesterday makes it probable that Mr. Gladstone's majority in the House will be about fifty." When forming this estimate, the London folks had before them the returns from 622 constituencies: only 48 remained to be decided. But we, in Yokohama, writing on July 17th, with the returns of only 532 constituencies before us, said:—

Of the remaining 138 constituencies, it may be anticipated that Ireland will give the Gladstonians 37, Scotland will give 44, and England and Wales will give 15. Thus the final result would be:

Conservatives and Liberal Unionists	350
Gladstonians and Irish Nationalists	360

* * * Hence the picturesque old man—and we strongly suspect that the romance connected with his age and courageous perseverance has had more influence upon many voters than any political reasoning—will find himself at the head of a party out-numbering its opponents by 40 or 50.

Thus, on July 17th, we were able, with less complete data, to arrive at a more accurate conclusion than London had reached on the preceding day.

* * * With regard to the perplexity into which many people seem to have been thrown by the telegrams of the past few days, we may say that the situation seems quite clear to us. There has as yet been no change of Government. Reuter would have told us if there had, and the Foreign Office in Tokyo would have been informed at least a day earlier than that on which Reuter's telegram could reach us. Lord Salisbury has determined to hold on until a division can be taken on the Liberals' want-of-confidence proposal in connection with the Speech from

the Throne. The debate on the Address began last Monday and is probably going on still. A few days more must put us out of our pain. Meanwhile, the question addressed to the future Lord Chancellor in the Upper House about foreign policy, was doubtless in the course of the debate. It was not a question addressed by the "outs" to the "ins," as some have imagined.

THE NEW STAR IN AURIGA.

THE spectroscopic, among its other wonderful achievements, enables astronomers to measure motion in the line of sight. By its aid the approach or departure of a star moving directly towards or directly away from our planet can be ascertained. Hitherto such a star had been absolutely stationary for us. No telescope was powerful enough, nor any measuring instrument delicate enough, to show how the star was behaving. But in the spectrum obtained by the spectroscopic every change in the distance of the object is marked by a change in the wavelength, or pitch as it is scientifically called, of the light. The lines in the spectrum are shifted. They move towards the blue when the object is approaching the observer; towards the red when it is receding from him. It was owing to the spectroscopic that the new star in Auriga, for which, according to Professor Huggins, 1892 is memorable, came to be accurately observed. The star appears to be moving through space with stupendous velocity. Dr. Max Wolf photographed Auriga on December 8th, 1891, with an instrument powerful enough to include all stars to the ninth magnitude. The Nova was not on the plate. Two days later, December 10th, a photograph taken at Cambridge showed it to be already of the fifth magnitude. In 48 hours it had sprung from below the ninth magnitude to the fifth. It did not long remain an object of visible interest. Attaining to a magnitude of four and a half, it fell to the eleventh magnitude by March 24th and to the fifteenth by the beginning of April. What was this extraordinary phenomenon? The conclusion arrived at by Professor Huggins is recorded in the *Fortnightly Review*. After describing the spectroscopic appearances of bright lines and dark shadows, he says:—"The secret was revealed; we had a magnificent example on a great scale, of motions in the line of sight. Two mighty masses of hydrogen fleeing from each other, the hotter one, which emitted the bright lines, going from us, while the cooler one, producing the dark shadows by absorption, approached us with a relative velocity as great as 530 miles a second. Now, during the whole time, some seven weeks, that the spectrum was under observation, this relative velocity was maintained materially unaltered. How are we to account for the appearance and doings of this new star, or rather stars? A reasonable explanation may perhaps be found, if we venture to assume, though with some hesitation, as the subject is very obscure, two gaseous atmospheres, moving away from each other, after a near approach, in parabolic or hyperbolic orbits. Decisive information from the motions of the two bodies at the critical time of the outburst are wanting, but analogy from the variable stars of long period would suggest the view that the near approach of the two bodies may have been of the nature of a periodical disturbance arising at long intervals in a complex system of bodies. The phenomena of the new star scarcely permit us to suppose even a partial collision, though if the bodies were diffused enough, or the approach close enough, there may have been possibly some mutual interpenetration and mingling of the rare gases near their boundaries."

TO SHIP MASTERS.

THE *Gaceta de Manila* publishes a description of a new shoal discovered by the Spanish gunboat *Callao* on the 8th of May, 1892, in the Araceli bay (S.E. coast of the island of Dumarang). Its bearings are: Raquit Island, N. 60 E.; Quimitad Island, S. 82 E.; Mantuary Island, S. 36 E.; Langoy Island, S. 2 E. The point where these four lines converge may be taken as the approximate locality of the shoal. It is named Concepcion Shoal, and is more or less of elliptic

shape, extending from N. to S. some 500 or 600 metres. It is almost entirely formed of mother-o'-pearl shells with a few patches of sand; the centre or the most elevated portion is composed of mother-o'-pearl shells and rocks. Any attempt at crossing it is attended with considerable danger even to vessels of light draught.

The following is the result, so far, of the hydrographic survey, instituted by the Spanish gunboat *Mariuelo*, of the Argyll shoal (not marked in any chart) on the S.E. coast of the island of Paragus. The *Comercio* of Manila says that the gunboat *Mariuelo* having been commissioned to ascertain the exact position of the shoal on which the British ship *Argyll* was recently lost, records in her log that she traversed a large number of shoals in that vicinity between two points; one from the S. of the islet Pirata and the other from the islet Ursula. She marked approximately the site where the hull of the *Argyll* lies as lat. 8° 17' N., long. 123° 46' E., with islet Ursula bearing N. 70° W. about five miles. The exploration of this portion of the Jolo Sea not being yet complete, it is recommended that its navigation should be made with great precautions. Due notice will be given when the survey is completed.

THE TEMPERATURE.

THE exceptional coolness of the present summer has caused some uneasiness about the prospects of the rice-crop. The following figures, compiled at the Central Observatory, show the comparative temperatures of each day during the *Doyo* (mid-summer) for the past four seasons:—

Doyo Days.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Max. Min. Max. Min. Max. Min. Max. Min.				
July 1st	29.5° 23.5°	31.5° 25.5°	30.5° 25°	33.5° 28°
July 2nd	27.5° 21.5°	29.5° 23.5°	28.5° 22.5°	30.5° 24.5°
July 3rd	25.5° 19.5°	27.5° 21.5°	26.5° 20.5°	28.5° 22.5°
July 4th	23.5° 17.5°	25.5° 19.5°	24.5° 18.5°	26.5° 20.5°
July 5th	21.5° 15.5°	23.5° 17.5°	22.5° 16.5°	24.5° 18.5°
July 6th	19.5° 13.5°	21.5° 15.5°	20.5° 14.5°	22.5° 16.5°
July 7th	17.5° 11.5°	19.5° 13.5°	18.5° 12.5°	20.5° 14.5°
July 8th	15.5° 9.5°	17.5° 11.5°	16.5° 10.5°	18.5° 12.5°
July 9th	13.5° 7.5°	15.5° 9.5°	14.5° 8.5°	16.5° 10.5°
July 10th	11.5° 5.5°	13.5° 7.5°	12.5° 6.5°	14.5° 8.5°
July 11th	9.5° 3.5°	11.5° 5.5°	10.5° 4.5°	12.5° 6.5°
July 12th	7.5° 1.5°	9.5° 3.5°	8.5° 2.5°	10.5° 4.5°
July 13th	5.5° -0.5°	7.5° 1.5°	6.5° 0.5°	8.5° 2.5°
July 14th	3.5° -2.5°	5.5° -0.5°	4.5° -1.5°	6.5° 0.5°
July 15th	1.5° -4.5°	3.5° -2.5°	2.5° -3.5°	4.5° -1.5°
July 16th	-0.5° -6.5°	1.5° -4.5°	0.5° -5.5°	2.5° -3.5°
July 17th	-2.5° -8.5°	-0.5° -6.5°	-1.5° -7.5°	0.5° -5.5°
July 18th	-4.5° -10.5°	-2.5° -8.5°	-3.5° -9.5°	-1.5° -7.5°
July 19th	-6.5° -12.5°	-4.5° -10.5°	-5.5° -11.5°	-3.5° -9.5°
July 20th	-8.5° -14.5°	-6.5° -12.5°	-7.5° -13.5°	-5.5° -11.5°
July 21st	-10.5° -16.5°	-8.5° -14.5°	-9.5° -15.5°	-7.5° -13.5°
July 22nd	-12.5° -18.5°	-10.5° -16.5°	-11.5° -17.5°	-9.5° -15.5°
July 23rd	-14.5° -20.5°	-12.5° -18.5°	-13.5° -19.5°	-11.5° -17.5°
July 24th	-16.5° -22.5°	-14.5° -20.5°	-15.5° -21.5°	-13.5° -19.5°
July 25th	-18.5° -24.5°	-16.5° -22.5°	-17.5° -23.5°	-15.5° -21.5°
July 26th	-20.5° -26.5°	-18.5° -24.5°	-19.5° -25.5°	-17.5° -23.5°
July 27th	-22.5° -28.5°	-20.5° -26.5°	-21.5° -27.5°	-19.5° -25.5°
July 28th	-24.5° -30.5°	-22.5° -28.5°	-23.5° -29.5°	-21.5° -27.5°
July 29th	-26.5° -32.5°	-24.5° -30.5°	-25.5° -31.5°	-23.5° -29.5°
July 30th	-28.5° -34.5°	-26.5° -32.5°	-27.5° -33.5°	-25.5° -31.5°
July 31st	-30.5° -36.5°	-28.5° -34.5°	-29.5° -35.5°	-27.5° -33.5°
August 1st	-32.5° -38.5°	-30.5° -36.5°	-31.5° -37.5°	-29.5° -35.5°
August 2nd	-34.5° -40.5°	-32.5° -38.5°	-33.5° -39.5°	-31.5° -37.5°
August 3rd	-36.5° -42.5°	-34.5° -40.5°	-35.5° -41.5°	-33.5° -39.5°
August 4th	-38.5° -44.5°	-36.5° -42.5°	-37.5° -43.5°	-35.5° -41.5°
August 5th	-40.5° -46.5°	-38.5° -44.5°	-39.5° -45.5°	-37.5° -43.5°
August 6th	-42.5° -48.5°	-40.5° -46.5°	-41.5° -47.5°	-39.5° -45.5°

It will be seen from the above that, except on a very few days which probably produced an exaggerated impression, the temperature this season has not been below the average. Indeed the 27th, 29th, 16th, and 30th of July were hotter than the corresponding days in any of the three preceding years. Since the 11th instant, too, an unmistakable August temperature has prevailed.

MISSING STEAMER.

MESSES. BRADLEY & Co.'s steamer *Pakshan*, says a Hongkong paper, is now eight days overdue at Singapore. She left Saigon on the 24th ult. with a full cargo of rice consigned to Chinese in Singapore (a two days' voyage) and has not since been heard of. Fears are entertained that she has encountered a typhoon and been lost, or has broken down or run short of coal and is trying to "make" some port under canvas. She was fully insured with home offices. Her officers are:—Chief, C. M. B. Maddox; Second, W. Winch; Chief engineer, John Pender. Her crew of 26 Chinese were chiefly natives of Canton and vicinity.—Several days later it was stated that no news of the missing steamer has been received by the local agents or her registered owners. The agents think it highly probable that she has foundered in a typhoon. She is now more than a fortnight overdue from Saigon to Singapore. The *Pakshan* was commanded by Captain Jenkins.

SUICIDE IN TOKYO.

On the 11th instant Mr. Tsuzakibara, Director of the Bureau of Affairs in the Hokkaido Administration, committed suicide at an inn where he was staying in Yamashita-machi, Kyobashi District, Tokyo. He had paid a visit in the morning to Mr. Watanabe, former chief of the Administration, and on returning to his inn was visited by Mr. Imari, an official of the same Ad-

ministration, with whom he conversed for some time. After the latter had taken his leave, Mr. Tsuzakibara went to the kitchen to obtain a drink of water, and there furnished himself with a knife (*deba bocho*) which he carried to his room, cutting his throat with it immediately afterwards. The police were summoned at once, but they found that the jugular vein and the wind-pipe had been severed and that life was extinct. No reason has been discovered for the deed.

THE VOTING IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOME ELECTIONS.

THE final results of the voting in Tokyo and Yokohama with reference to the Home Elections are as follow:—

Conservatives	187
Liberal Unionists	19
Liberals	25

Total 231

Two hundred and thirty-one is a very respectable vote, numerically speaking, for Yokohama and Tokyo. Combining the above figures with those for Kobe, we have the following totals:—

Conservatives	253
Liberal Unionists	22
Liberals	35

Total 310

ARIMA.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Arima, says:—There are at this place at present, probably, more foreigners than ever in any previous season—130 at least, not to mention those who pay visits of a few days' duration. This is not surprising, as Arima is delightfully cool and pleasant, especially so after sundown. Bishop Key and Bishop Mallieu have both been here and during their stay preached to large congregations. The second season of the Arima Christian Conference opened with a large attendance, and will be concluded in eight days. Rev. Dr. Davis, of Soochow, read an able paper on the condition of Christian work in China, and the Rev. I. H. Correll a similar statement as to Christian work in Japan. There were four services on Sunday last, and there are morning and evening services every day, which are largely attended.

AN INDISCREET PASTOR.

It is stated in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a Japanese Christian minister, while preaching in a chapel situated in Temma-cho, Sendai, on the 31st ult., in the course of his remarks said: "Orientals and Northerners are barbarians." The assertion was challenged by one of the audience, and an altercation ensued which led to blows. The pastor, by way of enforcing his doctrine, is said to have dealt a heavy blow at his opponent, which was sufficiently serious to lead to the arrest and detention of the preacher. How far what took place is correctly reported we are unable to say, but if the pastor made the statement attributed to him and enforced it in the manner described, he has apparently mistaken his *metier*.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

THE following official appointments have been made, and will be announced to-day:—Messrs. Ariga Nagao and Nanabusa Naosaburo, hitherto Secretaries of the Privy Council, to be Private Secretaries of the Minister President of State; Mr. Dokei Sei, hitherto Private Secretary of the Prime Minister and Secretary of the Cabinet, to be Secretary of the Privy Council and Private Secretary of the President of the Privy Council; and Mr. Komiya Miomatsu, hitherto Secretary of the Privy Council and Private Secretary of the President of the Privy Council, to be Secretary of the Cabinet.

DR. E. BAEZ.

ACCORDING to an announcement in the *Official Gazette*, the honorary title of Professor of the Imperial University has been conferred on Dr. E. Baelz. The fact will afford much satisfaction to the foreign communities of Tokyo and Yokohama where Dr. Baelz has made himself innumerable friends, and where his great pro-

JAPANESE COTTON.

THE *Nichi Nichi* has an interesting note about Japanese cotton. It will be remembered that during the past two years there has been much talk about abolishing the import duty upon raw cotton, and putting an end altogether to the growth of cotton in Japan. That course would appear to be the most economical, since Japan is not well suited, apparently, for the cultivation of cotton on a large scale. But the *Nichi Nichi*'s information, obtained from a practical expert, is that although Japanese cotton is exceedingly short in the staple and therefore inconvenient for working up, it excels all other cotton in whiteness, and is therefore preferred by manufacturers for articles in which purity of colour is a desideratum. The quantity procurable, however, is so small that recourse must be had, even in the case of these articles, to Chinese cotton of the highest quality, and this must be subjected to a bleaching process in which sulphur is used. The result of the bleaching is satisfactory so far as concerns appearance, but cotton thus treated loses so much of its strength that stuffs made of it will last only one half as long as stuffs made of Japanese cotton, and, moreover, in dyeing it, three times as many hours are occupied as in dyeing Japanese cotton. On the whole, therefore, the home-grown cotton is far more economical than the imported, and instead of advocating the abandonment of cotton culture in Japan, the important question would seem to be whether it cannot be grown in larger quantities.

A DICTIONARY OF JAPANESE SECRET TERMS.

A BOOK bearing the title of the 日本秘密集 *Nihon-in goshyu*, or "Collection of Secret Terms," has just been published in Fuchu, Hiroshima, and is advertised for sale by the Seibun-kan, a book-store of the above named place. The author is the Fuchu Inspector of Police, Mr. Inuyama Kosao. In the discharge of his duties Mr. Inuyama had constantly observed that criminals were in the habit of using language not generally understood, and he saw how important it was that detectives should be versed in that tongue. He obtained official permission to make the round of the prisons and collect words, the result being the compilation of a dictionary covering 450 pages and containing some 20,000 words. All the police offices and the Courts of the empire have been supplied with a copy of this useful work. It is now for sale at 41 cents per copy, which includes postage. It will doubtless prove of great use to philologists as well as to detectives.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA'S JOURNEY.

FROM a letter which appears in the *Jiji Shimpō*, the doughty major encountered a good deal of difficulty between Moscow and Kazan, owing to the prevalence of famine and the extreme poverty of the inhabitants of the villages through which he passed. His food consisted almost exclusively of black bread and eggs. For these he had to pay high prices. Distress had rendered the inhabitants of the famine stricken districts reckless, and the Russian Home Minister, conscious of the danger to which the solitary traveller was exposed, telegraphed orders that a policeman should attend the Major as far as Kazan. It is stated in the letter that the new horse cost 350 roubles, that he is 7 years old and was holding out remarkably well.

THE DIFFICULTY OF FORMING A CABINET.

WRITING on the above subject, a day before the formation of the present Cabinet, the *Jiji Shimpō* remarked that a minister who is endeavouring to select from a number of available candidates statesmen to serve the country in the capacity of Cabinet Ministers, resembles a man who lends money on security. The money-lender need

not trouble himself about the exact nature of the security given, so long as he can insure himself against loss. "The minister who for some days past been endeavouring to form a cabinet it over particular about the nature of the security to be given. One statesman has been asked to do this, and another that, and days have been occupied to no purpose in endeavouring to make terms and conditions. The better plan would be to take what material offers by way of security, and deal with it later on." We admire the *Fiji's* rough and ready statesmanship.

THE LATE PRINCESS HIROKO.

THE statement that Princess Hiroko, relict of H.I.H. Prince Kuniye, died in Kyoto appears to have been erroneously suggested by the fact that the principal funeral ceremony is to take place in the city. Her Imperial Highness expired in the palace of Prince Fushimi, in Kioicho, Kojimachi District, Tokyo. The bier is to leave the palace to-day at 2 p.m. and to proceed to Zojoji in Shiba Park, where service will be performed. The coffin will then be carried to Shimbashi station and placed in the 9.50 p.m. train for transportation to Kyoto, where it will be interred in the cemetery of Sokokuji.

SIBERIAN EXILES.

KATE MARSDEN, who is deeply interested in a project of planting colonies in certain parts of Siberia, on her way from St. Petersburg stopped at Berlin and gave a graphic description of the terrible condition of the exiles in that desolate land. They live scattered through the great forests, and eat the bark of trees and decayed fish which are given them by friends. Good food cannot be had. Their huts, which are partly underground, are unbearably filthy. Madame Marsden thinks of locating her first colony at Belinsk. We wonder how much of their colour her pictures owe to imagination.

THE TURKISH CASTAWAYS.

THE *Kokkai* says that Mr. Masuda Mankichi, who has charged himself with the care of the eleven shipwrecked Turks, has succeeded in raising a sum of over three hundred yen to pay their passage home. It appears, however, that in order to carry them to the nearest Turkish territory, a sum of \$85 per man will be required, which means that a total of about a thousand dollars must be raised. Mr. Masuda thinks that there will be difficulty in obtaining that amount in Yokohama alone, and is therefore contemplating an appeal to foreigners in Tokyo.

THE KING OF SIAM.

THE Order of the Annunziata, which will be presented to H.M. the King of Siam by the Italian Ambassador to China, Japan, and Siam, in September, is the third rank of all orders of knighthood, the British Garter being the first, and the Austrian Order of the Golden Fleece second. It is first of the five orders of knighthood in Italy, and is almost as exclusive an order as that of the Garter. It was recently conferred on Prince George of Wales, now the Duke of York.

FIRE ON BOARD THE CANADIAN MAIL STEAMER.

THE agents at this port received a telegram yesterday from Captain Lee, of the *Empress of Japan*, in which he stated that he had been compelled to put back and make for Hakodate in consequence of fire having broken out in the after hold. The message states that the passengers are all well. It is probable that the ship will have to discharge a certain quantity of cargo—sugar. The steamer left here last Monday and had on board a large quantity of tea and silk.

ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.

ON Wednesday afternoon James Shaw, Peter Burns, Walter Payne, Griffith Roberts, and David Thomas, sailors, were brought before James Troup, Esq., Assistant Judge, in the British Court, charged by Captain McDougall of the barque *R. Morrow*, with being absent without leave. His Honour gave them the option of

being sent aboard their ship or seven days' imprisonment. All elected to go to prison with the exception of Shaw.

PICKPOCKETS AT THE POST OFFICE.

PERSONS having business at the Post Office should be on the lookout for pickpockets while their attention is engaged in the transaction of the business which takes them there. On Tuesday a gentleman was relieved of his watch who was not in the place two minutes, but the Police on being informed of the loss went to work, and a detective got the thief the same night with the watch still in his possession.

A SHIP IN TWO TYPHOONS.

THE British barque *Anglo-Indian*, Captain Ray, which vessel arrived from Tientsin in ballast on Saturday last, says the *Rising Sun* of the 3rd inst., reports having experienced two typhoons on the voyage. In addition to losing a quantity of sails, she got a severe shaking up, which will probably necessitate her being re-caulked, she being a very old vessel.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE YEARS OLD.

A REMARKABLE instance of long life is recorded of a lady now living in Wood County, West Virginia. She was born in Georgia 105 years ago, and is now able to walk more than one mile unassisted. This lady—Jane Baumgarten—has been an inveterate smoker for the past 50 years, threads her needle, and sews every day without the aid of spectacles.

MR. KONO'S INSTRUCTIONS.

It is stated that one of the only measures taken by Mr. Kono during his brief tenure of the portfolio of Home Affairs, was to issue an Instruction to all Local Officials and Police, directing them to abstain altogether from interference in elections. That is certainly a point of policy which Count Inouye is not likely to alter.

SUBMARINE TELEGRAPHS.

It has been already stated that a submarine telegraph connecting the mainland of Japan with the Riukiu (Loochoo) Islands is to be laid next, if the Diet grants an appropriation for the purpose. We now read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that a similar step is to be taken, the year following, with regard to Chishima.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

IMPERIAL permission has been granted for autumn manœuvres on a special scale, this year. They will take place during six days, from the 20th to the 27th of October, and the place is to be Shirakawa, in the province of Oshu. The Emperor has announced his intention of witnessing the manœuvres in person.

SHARE VALUES.

THE Fifteenth National Bank has announced an improvement in the values at which it is willing to accept certain shares as security for loans. The following are the shares and the alterations:—

	Amended Value.	Former Value.
Yokohama Specie Bank (old shares).....	190 yen	180 yen
Yokohama Specie Bank (new shares).....	95 yen	90 yen
Japan Railway Company (new shares)...	40 yen	33 yen

DEATH OF AN IMPERIAL PRINCESS.

A TELEGRAM from Kyoto announces the death in Kyoto, at 12.05 p.m. on the 8th instant, of Her Imperial Highness Princess Kaneko, relict of the late Prince Kuniye. Court mourning for three days, including prohibition of all public entertainments, has been announced, over the signature of H.E. Count Ito.

NINETEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A DOG.

THE largest and most valuable dog in the world, says a Dutch paper, is a St. Bernard named "Lord Bute," for which an American paid 19,000 dollars. The animal measures at the shoulder 1.10 metres and has obtained 26 prizes at exhibitions.

VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA, hitherto Minister of State for War, has been nominated

a Privy Councillor. Thus Viscount Kabayama, former Minister of State for the Navy, is the only member of the outgoing Cabinet who remains without any office or appointment.

THE "IKAWA MARU."

THE sad case of the Shosen-Kaisha's steamer *Ikawa Maru*, which foundered during the recent gale near Shotojima, with the loss of over fifty passengers, has excited much compassion. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress have each contributed 250 yen for the relief of the families of the sufferers.

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS.

OWING to the magnitude of this show, some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining ground of sufficient dimensions upon which to pitch the tents. This obstacle has now been overcome, and the company, after drawing very large houses at Osaka, has left that city for Yokohama.

THE NEW CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE.

THE name of the official who is to take the place of H.E. Lord Li, during the period of the latter's mourning for his mother by adoption, is not Kyo Woo Soon, as translated by us from a Japanese journal in our issue of Monday last, but Wong Fong Tsao.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE RYOMO RAILWAY COMPANY.

We have already announced the election of Mr. Watanabe Koki to be President of the Ryomo Railway Company. It is appears from the vernacular press that the salary attaching to the post is 150 yen per month.

THE NEW MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

We are requested to state that pending removal to the official residence within the enclosure of the Foreign Office, H.E. Mr. Mutsu, the new Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, will reside at the Imperial Hotel, and will receive visitors at the Foreign Office.

COUNT OKI.

THE Minister of Education is reported to be suffering from boils, and to be unable to leave his residence. This accounts for his absence from Cabinet meetings on several important occasions.

THE HAPPY VALLEY MURDER.

THE trial of Emin Deen for the murder of Ram Samy, at Happy Valley, Hongkong, on the 19th June, has been concluded. The prisoner was acquitted.

ORME.

"ORME," the Derby favourite, who was "doctored" just before the race and could not run in consequence, has won the Eclipse Stakes of £10,000.

THE REV. GEO. COCHRAN, D.D., will preach in the Union Church, to-morrow, morning. The service commences at 11 o'clock.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Ministerial problem, which occupied public attention for more than a month, has at last been settled by the accession of Count Ito as President of a Cabinet of Camera statesmen. When Counts Ito, Inouye, Kuroda, and Yamagata were invited by the Emperor to form a new Cabinet, it was feared that several weeks would elapse before any satisfactory result could be attained. There was, indeed, a rumour that differences of opinion between Count Ito and Count Yamagata, or, as the papers put it, between the Civil and Military parties, were so great as to threaten the breaking up of the conference. But the gravity of the issue and the fact that they had been personally charged by the Emperor to settle the Ministerial question, happily led to an early and eminently satisfactory conclusion. This result is by the public attributed to the indefatigable zeal of Count Ito,

to the consummate tact of Count Inouye, and to the magnanimous example of Count Kuroda. The new Cabinet has, upon the whole, been favourably received by the vernacular press. The temporary ascendancy of the Military party had the effect of making the Opposition sincerely desire the return to power of Count Ito, who is universally regarded as the leader of the Civil party in the Government. It is even reported that one of the most influential members of the Radical party actually offered to Count Ito the hearty support of his party, or at least of the section under his control, should the Count see his way to the formation of a Ministry. This offer is said to have been unceremoniously rejected. Whatever may be the truth of the rumour, there is no doubt that the Opposition journals are, if anything, pleased with the success of Count Ito in forming a new Cabinet. The Count is far from satisfying the qualifications required by them in an ideal statesman, yet all the papers in the capital unite in according him the first place among Japanese statesmen of the present day. He is expected to introduce thorough reforms in all branches of the Administration, and to anticipate the wishes of the Opposition by punishing the officials who interfered in the elections of February last, and by revising the Regulations relating to the Press, Public Meetings, and Publications. In short, the Opposition politicians fully recognize their inability to form a Cabinet, and for the present are satisfied to work, if possible, in harmony with a Ministry disposed to pursue a liberal and constitutional policy. All the papers urge upon the new Minister President of State the importance of taking an early opportunity to declare the policy of his Cabinet.

On the accession of Count Ito, the public supposed that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* would be the most hearty supporter, if not the direct organ, of the Ministry. But judging from its article on the New Cabinet, it appears that our contemporary will maintain an independent and critical attitude towards the Ito Ministry. The *Nichi Nichi* has been for some time praying for the appearance of a great man on the political stage. It professes profound regret that not one of the new Ministers of State possesses the qualifications of its ideal hero. It frankly tells the new Ministers of State that they are morally bound to remedy the evils which they have been instrumental in fostering. These evils are the spread of democratic principles, the tendency to value individual liberty above the interests of the country, and the general breakdown of respect for order. The seeds of these evils were, in our contemporary's opinion, originally sown by the authors of the Restoration. In all departments of the Administration, in the system of local self-government, in the defence of the country, and in foreign relations, the work begun by the Meiji Government remains yet to be completed. What has thus far been accomplished during the past twenty-five years has been merely to prepare the framework of the new Administration. The men directing the progress of the country since the Restoration have been guilty of grave mistakes, chief among these being over-hastiness in introducing reforms and changeableness of purpose. The difficulties of the present situation are in a large measure the natural results of their own faults. Upon them therefore devolves the responsibility of extricating the country from its present embarrassments. With all the faults of these statesmen, however, our contemporary admits that they are at present the only materials out of which a capable Cabinet can be formed. Whether they will be able to carry out their own policy, irrespective of the attitude of the Opposition, the *Nichi Nichi* does not pretend to know. But they are at least entitled to high praise on account of their sacrifice of self interest to the good of the country, as is abundantly proved by the fact that minor positions have been accepted by men like Count Kuroda and Count Yamagata. This is surely a hopeful sign, and on account of this circumstance the *Nichi Nichi* thinks that the new Cabinet has some chance of effecting something. Our contemporary promises always to

judge the conduct of the new Ministry by the light of justice and reason, and never to spare outspoken criticism when faulty steps are taken. Truly it seems a pity that all affairs of State cannot be placed under the control and management of newspaper editors.

As to the attitude of the Opposition towards the new Cabinet, the general tone of the articles in the organs of the *Jiyu to*, and, to a certain extent in those of the *Kaishin-to* also, leads one to believe that these parties will not persist in the policy of wanton hostility which they pursued with some success in the past three sessions of the Diet. With how much interest and even sympathy the Opposition leaders have been watching the short lived struggle between the so-called Civil and Military Sections in the Government, and how pleased they are with the ultimate victory of the former may be gathered from occasional unguarded utterances in the columns of their organs. That some of them regard the accession of Count Ito as though it were victory of their own party or parties, is proved by the language in which the *Kokumin Shimbu* censures them against supposing "that, with the fall of the Military Section, their political antagonists have been entirely swept out of the field." The Civil party, continues our contemporary, is not synonymous with the Popular party, and who knows but that the new Cabinet, just like the Military Section, may prove antagonistic to the wishes of the people. The *Kokumin*, however, admits it as a fact that the Ito Cabinet is against interference in elections, that it contemplates the adoption of the programme of the Popular party, and that it is bent upon remedying the evils of clan Government. But everything, we are told, depends upon how far the Ministers are prepared to go in each of these undertakings. In fine, our contemporary cautions the Opposition against committing itself to any definite attitude until the Cabinet's real position becomes tolerably clear.

The *Jiyu*, the Radical organ, distinctly tells Count Ito that he can expect no concession from the Popular party unless he succeeds in restoring discipline in the Government, in anticipating the wishes of the people, and in meting out punishments to those Governors who abused official power by interfering in the elections of February last. This, then, is the price at which the good will of the Radicals may be bought. The Progressionist organs, on the other hand, are more guarded in their utterances as to the conditions of their party's support. They are, however, unanimous in expressing pleasure at the victory of the Civil party.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has just concluded a remarkable series of articles entitled "Social Questions." Its essay, like that recently published by the *Jiji Shimpō* on the Korean question, is distinctly the sign of the times. Both advocate the diversion of national attention by an excursion into the field of foreign politics. The *Nichi Nichi*, however, goes a step farther than the *Jiji*, for it traces the cause of the present political crisis, and seeks to probe the matter to the very bottom. It states that the seat of the malady lies in a lack of unity and harmony in every department of national life. History teaches that a period of prosperity and strength in the career of every nation is coincident with the unity of its life, or, in other words, with the subordination of all ideas to one great programme. Greece was strong when her people were united by common anti-Persian feelings. Similarly Rome became strong under the influence of the all powerful idea of foreign conquest. It will be vain, says the *Nichi Nichi*, to talk of social or political reforms without first securing that which is absolutely essential to the health of national life, namely unity of national purpose. The *Jiji Shimpō*, as we recently noticed, seeks to attain this end by pursuing an aggressive policy in Korea. But the *Nichi Nichi* thinks that the best plan would be to take some vigorous steps in connection with the problem of Treaty Revision. The importance of this question

can never be estimated too highly. It not only concerns the national welfare of Japan, but is also, in the broader sense, a question of civilization, being destined to inaugurate a new epoch in the intercourse between the East and the West. Should Japan's aspirations be denied by Western Powers, Oriental civilization will receive its death-blow. The unique civilization belonging to India, China, and Japan will be for ever crushed by Western civilization. Should, on the contrary, Japan's just demands be approved by the Occident, the two civilizations will have a fair chance of being harmonized into a perfect whole. From this point of view, therefore, the question of Treaty Revision may even be said to possess a vital connection with the future development of the human species. A problem of such importance is certainly worth fighting for with the whole energy of the country. The *Nichi Nichi* is well aware that Western Powers will not easily accede to Japan's claims, and that strong pressure may be brought to bear upon her. But that is the very reason why our contemporary considers the question preeminently fitted for the purpose of uniting the nation. As to the methods of carrying out this policy, the *Nichi Nichi* remains silent. But it urges a speedy resumption of the task.

The *Choya Shimbu* has just finished its long essay on the Korean question. There are 15 articles in all. Our contemporary takes much pains to describe the position which England, China, and Russia respectively hold in the peninsular Kingdom. Coming to the policy which Japan ought to follow, it agrees with the rest of the vernacular papers in urging upon the Government the importance of adopting a strong attitude. In the first place, Japan is to be the guide of Korea in the latter's career of progress along the path of the new civilization. The dangers that surround Korea are the results of her inability to take care of herself. Consequently, the first requisite for her independence is to make her strong and wealthy by the introduction of Western civilization. But Korea, if left alone, will be unable to take the initiative; some external stimulus must be applied. Of all her neighbours, Japan is best fitted to be her guide in her career of regeneration; for Japan has no designs upon the peninsula, and has further precisely the experience which is needed by Korea, having herself passed through a somewhat similar stage of progress. Japan should spare neither intelligence, knowledge, nor money to enable the Koreans to introduce the necessary reforms in all departments of their national life. In the second place, steps have to be taken to guard against the interference of Russia and China. The most effectual method of doing that is to supply Korea with a strong army. But in her present condition she cannot afford to maintain a large force. China, in our contemporary's opinion, might be induced without much difficulty to relinquish her absurd policy of irresponsible interference in Korea's domestic affairs. A greater difficulty is apprehended from the direction of Russia. The *Choya's* ideas on this point are very hazy and crude. It recommends Japan to denounce, in the face of all nations, the pernicious intrigues which Russia is supposed to be carrying on at the Korean Court. Russia will of course persist on her policy of secret intrigue, but Japan may gradually obtain a sufficiently firm hold in Korea to withstand the encroachments of the Great Northern Power. In the third place, Japan has to form an alliance with Korea in order to maintain a commanding position in the East. The *Choya* has firm faith in the natural resources of Korea. Should she become strong and rich through the chivalric guidance of Japan, the two countries would be inseparably connected with each other. If they only combine (supposing of course that Korea is destined to become strong), they will be absolute masters of the sea of Japan and the China Sea. Such in brief is the idea of the *Choya* about the policy to be pursued toward Korea. Like poor Joe's will, it is "writ very large," but there is not much of a really practical character in it after all.

YOKOHAMA'S WATER SUPPLY.

MISLED, apparently, by comments appearing in the foreign local press, we find some Japanese newspapers repeating the singular errors and false assertions circulated in this Settlement with regard to the Yokohama Water Supply. The original text of these misapprehensions was a notice lately issued by the Waterworks Office, enjoining the practice of economy in water consumption during the hot months. This notice was employed as a basis of charging what the critic called the "Waterworks Company," not only with having failed at the outset to make adequate provision for increase of population, but also with having set the daily consumption per head at too low a figure. As to the first of these charges, it is true that the time has arrived for taking steps to increase the supply. But, with curious unfairness, no mention is made of the fact, clearly indicated in the notice itself, that the present condition of things is the direct result of an increase of population and of consumers which has altogether surpassed the expectations entertained by the Japanese authorities and the public generally a few years ago. Any just writer would have been careful to explain that this increase has been abnormally rapid, that the population of Yokohama has nearly doubled itself in the course of the nine years which have elapsed since the works were projected; that there was no reason whatever in 1883 to expect such an extraordinarily sudden growth, and that twenty years instead of nine might at that time have been fairly regarded as the period which would elapse before the immediate limit of the works' capacity would be reached.

As to the second charge, the whole question, is begged by the amazing assertion that "it is generally allowed" that the consumption of water is greater in the East than in the West. To this are added three flagrant untruths, namely: (1) that "the minimum supply in English towns has been placed at 27 gallons per head," (2) that "in Glasgow 52½ gallons per head was considered alarmingly inadequate," and (3) that the Yokohama Waterworks were not opened before October, 1888. In these statements we have illustrations of ignorance not merely of facts but also of the value of language. To instance the last, let us look for a moment at the remarkable sentence "In the West it is generally allowed so much water is not used as in the East." Could looser language have been used? Not to speak of "the West," what on earth, in this context—that, namely, of water-consumption—is "the East"? Is it a Chinese city such as Canton, or a Japanese city such as Kyoto, or a foreign settlement such as this of ours, or what? The *Japan Gazette*, from which we quote, prudently abstains from definition. It is

careful not to say, for example, that in a city like Canton ten gallons per head would be a liberal daily allowance, that in many East Indian towns the same and yet smaller quantities have been found to suffice, or that in a place like Yokohama, where Occidentals do not number a thirtieth of the population, Japanese usage is, in effect, the standard. It is careful not to say that such large items as trades and manufactures, water-closets, street-watering, &c., which in most Western towns represent ten gallons or more daily per head, do not figure appreciably in the waterworks consumption of Yokohama, or that the consumption here for laundry-work, on horses, and on carriages is insignificant in comparison with that of any Western city. Nor does it say that, excepting the hot bath—ascertained after careful investigation to represent here an average consumption of seven gallons daily per consumer—the Japanese regular use of water in any quantity is practically limited to rice-cleaning, cooking, and drinking. All these truths would have been highly inconvenient. It was much simpler and safer to take refuge in the vague assertion that "in the West it is generally allowed so much water is not used as in the East." We understand that as a matter of fact the average daily consumption here is only 15.4 gallons per head, and that the figure of 18 gallons originally fixed by the Authorities has only been reached occasionally in the hottest weather. The statement that 18 gallons per head is an insufficient allowance is therefore false. The present need of economy is the result, not of any error in the estimated quantity per head, but of the abnormal and wholly unexpected growth of population already named, as well as of extensive illegitimate use of the water—in consequence of which, though the conduit is delivering daily at Noge-yama upwards of a million gallons more than the original nominal limit, it has already become necessary to urge thrifty consumption, pending the completion of arrangements for an auxiliary supply.

As to the *Gazette's* assertion that "the minimum supply in English towns has been placed at 27 gallons per head," a more incorrect statement was never made. Some such average may have prevailed—may even still prevail—in a few towns under the old and extravagant system of "intermittent" supply, and where no proper steps have been taken for the prevention of waste. But modern precautions and the "constant" system long ago upset all the ancient figures; and, without including such favourable cases as Norwich with 14.8 gallons, Huddersfield and Gosport with 10 gallons each, and many others, it is an incontrovertible fact that, if we take any fairly representative group of English towns with good waterworks on modern principles, we shall find the total daily consumption, waste included, to vary between

about 17 and 22 gallons per head, from one-third to one-half of which is used for purposes from which Yokohama is practically exempt, namely, trades, manufactures, and water-closets. Manchester, for example, is satisfied with 21 gallons per head for all purposes (manufactures and trades alone absorbing 7 of those gallons), Liverpool, Hastings, and Leicester with the same, Leeds with 22, Derby with 20, Bath, Shrewsbury, and Sunderland with 19, Cambridge, Berwick, and Nottingham with 18, Portsmouth and St. Helens with 17, and so on. London uses from 16 to 21 gallons in the districts under constant service. In short, statistics amply establish that, in modern English waterworks with an unstinted "constant" supply, from 14 to 16 gallons is the maximum daily consumption per head for all domestic and public purposes, and that where those figures are exceeded the difference is caused by the use of water for trade purposes and in many cases by preventable waste. Glasgow has been a bye-word in the matter of waste for the last thirty years and more—since Mr. BATEMAN reported that of the 22 million gallons daily being supplied in 1860 more than half was going to waste, the waste from leaky taps alone being at that time no less than 20 gallons per head per day, or nearly as much as the whole average consumption, waste included, of such cities as Manchester and Leeds. The amount of waste at Glasgow is still notorious. To speak, therefore, as the *Gazette* does, of 52½ gallons per head being "alarmingly inadequate," without saying a word about the waste, is a great untruth, if only in the sense that it is a very palpable *suggestio falsi*. It is safe to say that, despite even its enormous consumption for manufacturing purposes, which is probably greater per head of population than that of any other city in the world, Glasgow might without much difficulty be brought down to an average of 30 gallons daily per head, or even less. As to the third untruth, namely, the date of opening the Yokohama works, they were opened in October, 1887, not in 1888. Lastly, from references made to the Deacon Waste-water Meter, it is evident, but hardly surprising, that the writer does not understand what he is writing about. The Deacon Meters, here as elsewhere, have served their purpose admirably. But the waste to which the Waterworks' notice refers is of a very different kind from the underground and other continuous waste which Deacon's Meter so perfectly detects. It is, in fact, the *illegitimate use* of water, such as misuse, extravagant use, and pilfering from the street fountains and elsewhere, that the notice is aimed at. These have nothing to do with the Waste-water Meters, and they may best be checked by the vigilance, good sense, and honesty of the consumers themselves, to whom the notice appeals. We trust that Japanese journals which have allowed themselves to be misled on this subject, will correct their misapprehensions from what we have written above.

THE A. B. MISSION.

THE Report of the American Board Mission for the year ending March 31st, 1892, contains much information. It is edited by the Rev. D. C. GREENE, with whose admirably clear and well balanced writings the foreign public in this country is familiar. The mission is one of the largest and most important in Japan. Its foreign staff consists of 95 men and women, of whom 9 are now absent, leaving 86 actually at work. These 86 are distributed through 14 principal districts, and, in addition to purely evangelistic work, carry on—with Japanese assistance, of course—18 schools, with a total average daily attendance of 1,893 students throughout the year, an endowment of 150,079 yen, an annual expenditure of 42,297 yen, and buildings valued at 52,665 yen. The Board has 53 fully organized churches, and a total of 195 places for preaching, the aggregate congregations being 10,760, in which is included an addition of 806 during the year. Finally, the contributions to the support of these churches totalled 25,707 yen throughout the year, which money presumably came entirely from the Japanese members. These figures bear in themselves sufficiently eloquent testimony to the magnitude and usefulness of the work done by the Mission. It may be objected that a congregation of about eleven thousand does not represent a large result for seventeen years of labour; but in truth the good wrought by such a Mission cannot for a moment be measured by any arithmetical statement of its converts. Its educational accomplishments are immense, and its general influence in directing public interest to questions of morality and religion is perhaps the most important feature of its labour. The Report contains a significant paragraph on this subject:—

It is worthy of record that at the close of the year 1892, a third of a century of missionary work in Japan will have been completed. While the large hopes indulged by many of us ten years ago with regard to the growth of the churches have not been fulfilled, the influence of Christian thought upon society at large has been increasing day by day. The so-called reaction has but superficially affected the growth of this influence. The missionary work is but one of many forces which are combining to spread Christianity over Japan. Every year that passes brings Japan nearer to the countries of the West, not so much by the shortening of the voyage across the Pacific through commercial competition, as by increasing the dependence of Japan upon foreign thought, at once the cause and the effect of a growing sympathy with that thought. Not only foreign books, but the best periodicals of Europe and America are finding their way into Japanese hands. The number who can read, more or less, three European languages is considerable. The number of those sufficiently familiar with English so that they live in a quasi Anglo-Saxon atmosphere is already very large. Sometimes we are reminded more forcibly than pleasantly of the fact that the Japanese around us are through our periodicals made aware not only of the good but also of the evil connected with our western civilization. The progress of the Chinese Exclusion Bill through the United States House of Representatives was watched with keen interest by the Tokyo editors, and the gross selfishness and injustice which it embodied met with scathing condemnation from their pens. Dr. Parkhurst's campaign against official corruption in New York received due attention, though here it was gratifying to find that some, at least, were less impressed by the existence of barefaced corrup-

tion, than by the promptness with which the public conscience responded to the preacher's impassioned appeals.

It must always be remembered, too, that the past three years have not been at all favourable to the spread of any foreign innovation in Japan, whether of manners or of morals. We do not find in the Report much allusion to this phase of popular sentiment. Perhaps its public discussion in such a publication would not be prudent. If in one place there is talk of the Japanese pastors and evangelists "having bent, perhaps too easily, when the first torrent of national feeling caught them two years ago," this suggestion of censure is immediately followed by a statement that they have now "well recovered themselves, and are bravely meeting the problems which the political excitement of the past two years has created." Political excitement has, in short, opposed obstacles to all progress in the moral no less than in the material field. Elsewhere the Report makes reference to the singularly conservative and mediæval views that found expression last year in certain quarters:—

The morbid nationalism of last year must still be mentioned as lessening not a little the influence of the Christian community. In the large centres of population public opinion seems to have fixed upon a solution of the vexed question of saluting the Imperial photographs and rescripts. We understand that in these centres the obnoxious word signifying worship is now seldom, if ever, officially used of this ceremony which would seem in itself no more inappropriate than raising the hat on viewing one's national flag. In the smaller towns, however, the trouble is not quite over. In one case that is reported, the charge of a lack of patriotism has arisen from the wrong choice of a word in speaking of putting away the Emperor's portrait after the ceremony of salutation was over. As judged by foreign standards, it may safely be said that the unfortunate teacher, who in this instance lost his place through a slip of the tongue, would not have been one whit less ready to sacrifice his life for his Emperor, or his country, than the best patriot among those who forced his withdrawal from the school. In another station, a perhaps unguarded speech which sounded the praises of a broad philanthropy brought from the Prefect an order that the teacher who uttered it should be dismissed. It is difficult to reconcile such things with our western ideas, and yet we must admit that Japan is passing through a critical time and that the new strain to which her institutions are subjected must cause deep anxiety to all patriotic Japanese. That in such a time of stress, mistakes should be made, even by the best men, is inevitable, and it is not strange that among these mistakes should be that of sadly misunderstanding the temper and the purpose of the leading Christians who, when the time of trial comes, will unquestionably be found in the very front rank of self-forgetful patriots.

The Report notices a fact which may have been observed already by readers of these columns, namely, that "the multiplication of orphanages, day schools for poor children, and poor relief societies was one of the noteworthy features of the past year." In truth the disposition to found such institutions became almost a mania, involving irresponsible persons who did not hesitate to push their schemes by house-to-house visits for the purpose of collecting subscriptions. Mr. GREENE says that, whereas in foreign countries such enterprises can generally be managed best by boards or committees, in Japan the largest measure of success seems to be attained under the rule of "a single personality."

This, we think, might have been anticipated. The Japanese is a curious mixture of enthusiasm and altruism. Working alone and depending on himself entirely, he exhibits almost feverish zeal and devotion. Working in company with others, his tendency is to efface himself. On the other hand, it is certainly remarkable that charitable folks trust their money so readily to individual promoters of benevolent undertakings. Christian propaganda has brought in its train not only philanthropic ardour but also charitable confidence.

Another fact brought out by the report is that, owing to Christian initiative, there are gradually springing into existence in Tokyo boarding houses where the numerous students who come to the capital for education and cannot obtain accommodation in the dormitories of schools, may "secure good healthful board, quiet rooms, and helpful associations at a reasonable price." This is a conception of immense practical value, which will be pushed, we hope, with all possible energy.

It has often been charged against the missionaries that they are not frank towards their constituents in England and America. A more conclusive answer to this criticism could scarcely be given than that furnished by the following paragraph:—

An increasing number of Christian tourists visit Japan from year to year. We appreciate the interest they have manifested, but may we not ask a larger share of their time and thought, that we may be able sometimes to see our work through their eyes and be benefited by their counsel? Is it not possible, that in some way such visitors may be made the messengers of the churches and thus be made to feel a certain responsibility to study the missionary work minutely, so that they may be able to carry back to the churches an independent opinion of its extent and thoroughness? In many respects, the work in Japan has reached a more advanced stage than in any other mission field. There are problems confronting us which call for special consideration; they cannot always be settled off hand in the light of experience in other lands. In settling these problems, great help would come from the more judicial attitude of mind of visiting friends, provided they were able to take the time to acquire a sufficient knowledge of the facts to render an intelligent judgment. If such visitations and investigations can be made systematically in connection with the Prudential Committee of the American Board, so much the better; but if that is not feasible, let them be made in some less formal way which shall at least insure the public use of the information gained, so that, sooner or later, it may not only lead to a more enthusiastic, but also to a more intelligent, interest in the cause of missions. We believe the churches of America will not discharge their responsibility toward Japan and other non-Christian countries until some such co-operation in the work, on the part of our constituents, is provided for. God grant that they may speedily awake to a sense of this duty!

Before we take leave of this interesting and ably compiled Report, we desire to draw the attention of the editor to a statement which appears erroneous. In speaking of the earthquake of 1891, and of the admirably charitable spirit displayed by foreigners in connection with that terrible calamity, he says that "foreigners at the open ports contributed not less than \$10,000." Now in an article published in this journal early in December last, it was shown that the foreigners at the open ports had already subscribed \$25,507, independently of the sums sent directly by

Original from

them to the Japanese Authorities and the Japanese press, and independently of money and aid in kind given through missionary sources. Since that time the total has been very largely raised, and it would certainly have been much more correct had the editor of the Report spoken of \$35,000 as the aggregate contribution of the foreign communities at the open ports. The mistake is evidently due to inadvertence, but we take pains to point it out, because the expression of friendly helpfulness conveyed to the Japanese nation by the foreign residents in connection with the earthquake deserves to be remembered.

THE NEW CABINET.

ON Monday forenoon Count ITO was formally appointed by the EMPEROR to the office of Minister President. The composition of the rest of the Cabinet is as follows:—

Minister of Home Affairs	Count INOUE.
Minister of Foreign Affairs	Mr. MUTSU MUNEMITSU.
Minister of Finance	Mr. WATANABE KUNITAKE.
Minister of Justice	Count YAMAGATA.
Minister of War	Count OYAMA.
Minister of the Navy	Viscount NIRE.
Minister of Education	Mr. KONO.
Minister of Communications	Count KURODA.
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce	Count GOTO.

This is almost a complete change: only two members of the former Cabinet remain in office, and even in their case there is a shifting of portfolios, Mr. KONO exchanging the portfolio of Home Affairs for that of Education, and Count GOTO being transferred from the Department of Communications to that of Agriculture and Commerce. It was understood from the outset that one of the conditions most imperatively insisted upon by Count ITO was a thorough reconstruction of the Cabinet, and in this respect he has carried his point. The hope at one time entertained that Count MATSUKATA would consent to remain in the Cabinet as Minister of Finance has proved delusive. The former Premier, true to the resolute policy which distinguished him throughout his period of Presidency, appears determined not to accept any compromise. The foreign public will probably be more or less perplexed to understand in what respects a compromise would have been necessary. The main principle of Count MATSUKATA'S Administration is believed to be identical with the main principle of Count ITO'S: both are equally in favour of standing aloof from party alliances. From that point of view, therefore, Count MATSUKATA might have consented without any hesitation to hold a portfolio in Count ITO'S Cabinet. But there are other considerations, and not least important among them, we imagine, is the question of the new Codes. Count MATSUKATA would have put them into operation at the time originally fixed; Counts ITO, INOUE and YAMAGATA are in favour of postponing their operation

until further revision shall have been effected. Whether a difference existed on minor issues we cannot pretend to say, but considering that Count MATSUKATA worked for so many years in the closest and most sympathetic relations with Counts ITO and INOUE, there should have been no difficulty in renewing the bond. It is doubtless owing to the same cause—the postponement of the operation of the Codes—that Count OKI and Viscount ENOMOTO go out of office. The former has always associated himself closely with the Codes, ever since the time when their compilation was undertaken during his tenure of the portfolio of Justice; and the latter resolutely maintained the advisability of putting them speedily into operation in the interests of the nation both at home and abroad. Neither statesman can consent to sacrifice his opinion on such an important issue. Viscount ENOMOTO'S resignation of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs will be regretted, we believe, by the whole Corps Diplomatique. His frankness, integrity, and earnest common-sense made him a *persona grata* with every one. As a Minister he has shown himself prompt and resolute to assert his country's just claims, and as a diplomat he has earned a reputation for tact and moderation. But no one in the outgoing Cabinet has risen higher or more rapidly in public esteem than Count MATSUKATA. During his long tenure of the portfolio of Finance he was regarded chiefly as a sound and careful administrator, thoroughly competent to carry out the details of a policy, but not likely to initiate one, and scarcely gifted with the qualities requisite in a leader. He has shown, however, that this estimate by no means did him justice. As Minister President of State during a most trying and difficult era of domestic politics, his honesty, and integrity of purpose, his indomitable courage and resolution in the face of ominous crises, and his capacity for organization and command, mark him out as one of Japan's most distinguished statesmen. He carries with him into his retirement the esteem and respect of all parties.

Of course the question of chief interest is the policy of the new Cabinet. Are we to look, next session, for a renewal of the implacable obstruction hitherto organized by the Opposition to all Government measures. At first sight it would seem that the answer must be in the affirmative. The policy of the Cabinet being abstention from all party alliances, one does not immediately perceive why the hostility of the *Fiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* should be diminished. Nor indeed do we anticipate that the *Kaishin-to* will allow itself to be materially placated, although it is represented in the new Cabinet by its ex-Vice-President, Mr. KONO. But the *Fiyu-to* may be expected to prove more amenable than it has been hitherto. Probably the truth is nearly expressed by saying that

the opposition of the Radicals next session will be based upon measures not upon men. Hitherto nothing emanating from the Government was acceptable to the Radicals. Everything bearing an official *cachet* was condemned. Hereafter they will be guided, it is predicted, by the nature of a proposal rather than by its source. Of course Count ITO'S Cabinet will have to face the same issues that confronted its predecessors—curtailment of State expenditure with the view of reducing the land tax, and a large advance in the direction of liberty of speech and public meeting. But these need not create anything like the sense of unrelenting antagonism that governed the relations of the last Cabinet to the majority in the House of Representatives. On the whole, we think that the new Cabinet will be found to be in tolerably easy touch with the bulk of the Opposition, and that Count ITO'S accession to power marks the commencement of an era of comparative peace.

MR. LOUREIRO & HIS TRADUCERS.

THE attack made by some of his nationals upon Mr. J. LOUREIRO, formerly Portuguese Consul-General and *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo, has now assumed a comical aspect—comical, because of the extraordinary bewilderment and confusion of ideas displayed by those preferring it. It is the old story, so familiar to any one who has ever watched the course of a controversy in this Settlement: little by little the public is led away from the question originally under discussion, until at last the truth is obscured behind some wholly irrelevant and trivial issue. The charge preferred against Mr. LOUREIRO in the first place was of a simple and direct character. It was alleged that, having received, last May, in his official capacity of Portuguese Representative, an ultimatum from the Japanese Government declaring that unless by July 1st a legally trained official were appointed to the post of Consul-General in Tokyo, Japan would consider as abrogated the extraterritorial clauses in her treaty with Portugal, and would herself assume jurisdiction over Portuguese subjects in this empire, he quietly put the ultimatum into his pocket, neither wiring its contents to Macao nor mailing the document itself. By this act—which his accuser called “shameful”—he was represented as having left his Government in ignorance of the important step contemplated by Japan, and as having, for his own selfish purposes, dishonestly connived at the loss of a privilege which his nationals highly valued. Now, however false and inexcusable this charge might be, it had at least the merit of being plain and direct. The answer to it, therefore, could be distinct and conclusive. It was this:—in the first place, Mr. LOUREIRO was not made the medium of any communication whatever between the two countries in this matter.

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From outset to close Japan addressed herself to Portugal, either through Macao or directly through her own Representative in Lisbon. In the second place, Japan's intimation of an intention to assume jurisdiction herself from the first of July was not made until after Mr. LOUREIRO had left Japan and was never officially communicated to him but sent direct to the Government in Lisbon. Therefore the charge that he had been the recipient of such a communication, and that he wilfully withheld it from his Government, was a gross falsehood. All these things are surely plain and distinct enough. But now observe what happens. Another anonymous correspondent comes forward and attempts to traduce Mr. LOUREIRO again. Evidently the *canard* that an official ultimatum had been deliberately suppressed by the Consul-General must be abandoned: it is too palpably baseless. Another point of attack has to be sought. It is found in an assertion that "while on board the mail steamer Mr. LOUREIRO told several of his nationals, in very bitter terms, that from the day following his departure they would be placed under Japanese jurisdiction." Now what in the name of all common sense does it matter whether he did or did not make such a statement? The whole original accusation is confined to one simple issue—had Mr. LOUREIRO been the recipient of an official communication from the Japanese Government, and, if so, did he suppress that communication? It does not matter a row of pins what opinion he may have expressed to his nationals on board the mail steamer. Perhaps he foresaw how things were likely to shape themselves; perhaps he did not foresee. We have nothing to do with his speculations. The indisputable fact is that, officially speaking, he was absolutely ignorant of the intentions of the Japanese Government. The anonymous correspondent who now comes forward and endeavours vaguely to re-fix the charge upon Mr. LOUREIRO by saying that, on the eve of his departure, he warned his nationals of what was impending—this correspondent must either have stultified himself or be seeking to stultify others, for the whole question turns upon Mr. LOUREIRO'S official knowledge. His private predictions are matters absolutely irrelevant. Moreover, the *Japan Gazette*, in which the correspondent's letter appears, actually writes thus:—"Accusations have recently been brought against Mr. LOUREIRO in Kobe and the *Mail* has undertaken to refute them. The accusations have been endorsed in Yokohama and the *Mail* has not replied them." "The accusations have been endorsed in Yokohama"! Was ever such an endorsement heard of before? The accusation was that Mr. LOUREIRO had been the official recipient of an ultimatum from the Japanese Government; that he had deliberately kept it from the knowledge of his own Government, and that he

had thus been the means of betraying his nationals in Japan. The "endorsement" is that on board the mail steamer Mr. LOUREIRO, in very bitter terms, told some of his nationals that they would be under Japanese jurisdiction from the next day. Truly we must be excused if we decline to treat such an "endorsement" seriously. And as for the *Japan Gazette's* additional assertions that its correspondent's remarks are "pertinent;" that he "is in a position to speak with authority" and that it behoves us to answer him, we have three things to say: first, that its correspondent prefaces his letter by rudeness which disqualifies him to receive a courteous answer from anybody; secondly, that the assumption of authority made on his behalf still further disqualifies him, for if, having authority, he resorts to anonymous correspondence in the public press for the purpose of maligning his country's sometime representative, he shows himself unworthy of trust; and thirdly, that the ludicrous irrelevance of his assertions places them beyond the pale of serious notice. We have another word also to say to the *Japan Gazette*, namely, that it would have done well to examine previously whether there was even a semblance of reason or logic in the slanders which it has lent its leading columns to disseminate. It publishes an article headed "Mr. LOUREIRO and Japan's Ultimatum," the whole object of the article being to show that Mr. LOUREIRO behaved in a culpable manner with regard to that ultimatum. Yet not a tittle of proof is given from first to last. We showed that Mr. LOUREIRO never had anything whatever to do officially with the so-called "ultimatum," and that it was not even penned until after his departure; nay, the anonymous correspondent of the *Gazette*, the man speaking "with authority," himself admits that the preferrer of the charge about the ultimatum "may have overshot the mark or may have been very inaccurate in some of his facts." Yet the *Gazette* alleges that this correspondent "endorses the charge," and employs its own columns to support the endorsement, even going so far as to say:—"It was then obvious that Mr. LOUREIRO was anxious to retain his post, and it is not at all unreasonable that, putting two and two together, and not forgetting his own words, Portuguese residents here find little difficulty in tracing to him the origin of their present position." Was there ever such reasoning? Premises:—Mr. LOUREIRO was anxious to retain his post; he prophesied, after his sentence of removal had become irrevocable, that his nationals in Japan would be brought under Japanese jurisdiction; conclusions:—therefore his post was abolished, and therefore his nationals were brought under Japanese jurisdiction! The process of "putting two and two together" becomes a mysterious and awful performance when, as in the case of the *Japan Gazette*, the "two and two"

are entirely invisible. In the context of such confusion and irrelevance we are not surprised to be summoned to answer whether Mr. LOUREIRO handed over the archives of the Portuguese Legation to the French Minister, and if not, why not. Truly we do not know and do not care. The archives of the Portuguese Legation may be a unit of the mystic "two and two" which some wonderful arithmeticians have been putting together, but as they have nothing whatever to do with the matter under discussion, we must decline to be catechised about them.

THE NEW MINISTER OF FINANCE.

MR. WATANABE KUNITAKE'S appointment to the post of Minister of State for Finance is evidently regarded by the Japanese with much interest as the first instance of an official originally of *Hannin* rank attaining to the dignity of becoming a portfolio-holder. The untitled members of the present Cabinet, Messrs. MUTSU and KONO, commenced their official careers as *Sonin*, but Mr. WATANABE began life as a *Zokkan* of the Finance Department. He was originally a retainer of the small fief (30,000 *koku* of rice) of Takashima, in Shinshu, the former chief of which is now Viscount SUWA, *Kannushi* of the Toshogu Shrine in Shiba Park. As years went by he gradually rose through various grades in the same Department, but when he attained to the position of Vice-Minister, the public imagined that his official career had reached its climax. Since the Restoration the Cabinet offices have been occupied, we might almost say monopolized, by men of the four great clans, Satsuma, Choshu, Tosa, and Hizen, usually spoken of by the public as "Sat-cho To-hi." The exceptions to this rule may be counted on the fingers of one hand; namely, Count KATSU and Viscount ENOMOTO of the Bakufu; Viscount TANAKA, of Bishu (Owari); Mr. MUTSU of Kishu; and Mr. YOSHIKAWA of Awa. Of the influence and power of the Bakufu it is unnecessary to speak. One can easily conceive reasons of State for appointing some of its representatives to leading positions in the Administration, especially when men of such experience and reputation as Count KATSU and Viscount ENOMOTO could be chosen. Owari, again, was one of the most opulent and puissant fiefs of feudal days, and the same is true of Kishu. The *Dai San-ke*, or Three Great Houses of Japan—that is to say, the Houses from among the scions of which a successor to the TOKUGAWA Shogun was to be chosen in the event of any failure of the original line—were Owari, Kishu, and Mito. Of these three Owari and Kishu have been represented in the Government by Viscount TANAKA and Mr. MUTSU, but Mito has been less fortunate. An explanation is doubtless to be found in the fact that Mito main-

tained a stubborn attitude towards the centralization of the Government and the importation of Western civilization. The celebrated REKKO, chief of Mito, was emphatically conservative, and the great Mito scholar FUJITA TOKO, a man whose reputation for learning and literary ability stands second to none in modern times, devoted his pen almost entirely to bringing discredit on the radical impulses of his time. It was not likely, therefore, that any member of the Mito clan should easily find his way to a high post in the Administration under the centralized and pro-foreign Government. As for the province of Awa, which has furnished a Cabinet Minister in the person of Mr. YOSHIKAWA, the enlightened and prominent part played by its Chief SHIGENORI at the time of the abolition of the *Han* may suffice to account for the consideration subsequently extended to one of its members. But, at any rate, one exception during a period of over twenty years only serves to give prominence to the general rule, namely, that, omitting Court Nobles like Princes SANJO and IWAKURA, the Administration has been carried on ever since the Restoration by representatives of the four great clans, Satsuma, Choshu, Tosa and Hizen, assisted by representatives of two out of the Three Great Houses, Owari, Kishu, and Mito. Hence the appointment of Mr. WATANABE to the important post of Minister of Finance naturally receives much attention as the first example of an official climbing to such a position from the lowest ranks without clan influence of any kind to aid him.

Speaking about the Four Great Clans, it is worth while to note that if they have furnished occupants of the highest posts in the Government, they have also supplied the vertebræ of the Opposition. Count OKUMA, the leader of the *Kaishin-to*, is a Hizen man, and Count ITAGAKI, the President of the *Yiyu-to*, is a native of Tosa. In short, we have Tosa and Hizen in Opposition, and Satsuma and Choshu in power. Yet the former claim that their campaign is against clan Government.

COTTON SPINNING IN JAPAN.

THE first half of the present year was a very remarkable epoch in the history of Japanese cotton spinning. We read in the vernacular press that the various mills—except that of Owari, which has not yet recovered from the effects of the great earthquake of 1891—numbering 35 in all, with 324,800 spindles, turned out no less than 40,875,583 lbs. of yarn from 47,988,537 lbs. of raw cotton. The significance of these figures will be better understood if we place them side by side with the corresponding totals for 1891:—

	Half year ending June 30 th , 1892.	Whole year 1891.	Whole year 1890.
Yarn Spun	40,875,583	44,314,096	42,437,820
Cotton consumed: 47,988,537	51,559,46	49,247,120	

It will be seen from these figures that the production for the first half of the current year is virtually equal to the production for the whole of either of the preceding years. Each of the 35 mills worked, on the average, 182½ days during the 6 months, the time per day being 22 hours. They employed a total of 21,430 hands, namely 5,420 men and 16,010 women, the former's daily wages being 16.20 *sen* and the latter's 8.6 *sen*. Such a prosperous state of affairs was never before experienced in the cotton-spinning industry. It appears that in spite of their very large production the mills could not keep pace with the demand; that the stock of yarn in the market is very small, and that the majority of the mills are now occupied discharging orders from three to six months in advance. The total output of the year is expected to reach a hundred million lbs., which will be more than double of the production of any previous year. Of course all this has exercised a very perceptible effect on the earnings of the factories. The following table shows the dividends paid by the ten principal mills for the half-year, as compared with the preceding semi-annual term:—

	Dividend for 1st half of 1892.	Dividend for and half of 1891.
Dojima Mill	19 per cent. ...	9.5 per cent.
Hirano Mill	20 per cent. ...	13.3 per cent.
Kanegafuchi Mill ..	6 per cent. ...	4 per cent.
Kurashiki Mill	25 per cent. ...	13 per cent.
Miye Mill	15 per cent. ...	8 per cent.
Naniwa Mill	8 per cent. ...	nil
Osaka Mill	15 per cent. ...	10 per cent.
Temima Mill	12 per cent. ...	6 per cent.
Tokyo Mill	10 per cent. ...	3 per cent.
Wakayama Mill	18 per cent. ...	2 per cent.

It is not easy to determine the cause of this remarkable briskness. The most natural explanation seems to be that a succession of good rice crops accompanied by high prices for the grain, and a marked development of profitable sericulture in obedience to the demand of foreign markets, have enriched the agricultural classes and enabled them to become large purchasers of yarns. But whatever the cause may be, there is no question about the fact, nor any doubt as to its significance in respect of the future of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan. The mill-owners of Bombay recently expressed the opinion that nothing serious or permanent was to be feared from Japanese competition, inasmuch as the vitality of the industry in this country depended on protection. What the statement signified we cannot easily comprehend. Japanese cotton-spinners enjoy no protection. There is a small duty upon imported yarns, but any trifling advantage that might be derived from this is nullified by the duty upon raw cotton, and by the greater cost of shipping the latter to Japan as compared with the cost of shipping the manufactured article. Possibly the Bombay mill-owners laboured under the impression that the Japanese cotton factories enjoy some measure of official support. But that is altogether a misapprehension. The mills are the outcome of purely

of any kind from the Government. It is well that the truth should be understood and faced in this matter. The Japanese have many advantages to aid them. The cost of labour, as given above, is a most important item. When a man's daily wage is less than sixpence, and a woman's about threepence farthing, there is a large margin for the manufacturer to work on. The great obstacle to solid success in all such enterprises in Japan is faulty organization. That, however, is a defect which time will mitigate, and perhaps mend altogether. Importers of yarns may well view the present state of affairs with uneasiness.

THE CONRAD HARVEY CASE.

SOME surprises are connected with a case tried a few days ago before the United States Consular Court for Hyogo and Osaka. It appears that one CONRAD HARVEY, a youth of engaging manners and prepossessing appearance, came to Japan a few years ago, and succeeded, after a time, in obtaining the confidence of a Belgian merchant who made him his representative in Kobe. HARVEY led a seemingly exemplary life, being especially conspicuous for his attention to all the forms of religion. But in truth he was a fugitive from justice, being a swindler. Moreover, he had deserted his wife in Iowa. By and by he secured the affections of a missionary lady, Miss CORA LAFFERTY, whom he met at Arima, and in February 1890, he went through the form of marriage with her. But in the fall of the same year he repeated his old manoeuvres, namely, swindling and desertion. He ran away with a considerable sum of his employer's money, and left the unfortunate young lady to shift for herself. Inquiries were then instituted, and HARVEY'S true character having been discovered, an appeal was made by the woman he had deceived to the United States Consular Court for Hyogo and Osaka. All this presents no novel feature. Swindlers and deceivers of women are old-fashioned and familiar phenomena. But the procedure of the Court was less hacknied. In the first place, it issued a commission to the judicial authorities in Iowa requiring them to summon and examine the real wife of HARVEY and the clergyman by whom the marriage ceremony had been performed. The commission was accompanied by a photograph, constituting "Exhibit No. 1." This photograph, being shown to the wife and the clergyman, was by both of them unhesitatingly identified as the photograph of CONRAD HARVEY, formerly of Panora, in Iowa, the husband of Mrs. DELLA PIERCE HARVEY, legally married to her in 1885 by the Rev. W. D. SWAIM. The depositions of this lady and of the clergyman, having been duly recorded by an Iowa tribunal, were returned to the U.S. Consulate in Kobe, and on the strength of them the petition of Mrs.

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CORA LAFFERTY HARVEY against CONRAD HARVEY was heard, the Consul finally issuing "a decree annulling the marriage between the plaintiff and the defendant, and giving her the right to assume her maiden name." Our readers will observe that we have said nothing as to the origin of the photograph. In truth its origin is one of the perplexities of the case. Presumably it was a photograph of the CONRAD HARVEY who went through the form of marriage with Miss CORA LAFFERTY in Kobe in February, 1890, and who deserted her in October of the same year. But, according to the published proceedings, there was not a jot of evidence to connect the face in the photograph with the face of the Kobe swindler and wife-deserter. We have no doubt that the two were identical, but it certainly would have added to the regularity of the Consular Court's methods had this vital point been duly established by evidence. However, that is a trifle compared with the interesting discovery that a United States Consular tribunal in Japan possesses the competence of a Divorce Court. We never imagined that such power was vested in a Consular tribunal. Yet we now find the United States Hyogo and Osaka Consulate issuing "a decree annulling a marriage." We must assume that the Consul possesses knowledge of the law which he administers, but it is undoubtedly a matter of surprise to find that the public has hitherto been labouring under such an erroneous impression as to the competence of a Consular Court. And a still more striking feature presents itself when we contrast this "decree annulling the marriage" with the fact that there never had been any lawful marriage at all. If CONRAD HARVEY was duly married to Miss DELLA PIERCE in Iowa in 1885, and if Mrs. DELLA PIERCE HARVEY remained living and his wife in February 1890, it is obvious that his nominal marriage with another woman in the latter year was a fraud, and that "a decree annulling it" is a travesty. If there was a marriage legally cognizable in 1890, then the Kobe Consular Court had no competence to issue "a decree annulling it," and if there was no such marriage, then the issue of "a decree annulling it" becomes a work of comical supererogation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE AMERICAN BOARD MISSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to thank you for your very kind words regarding the Report of the American Board's Mission, in your issue of this morning, but especially for calling attention to the error in the amount of the contributions of the foreign residents in aid of the earthquake sufferers. How this regrettable mistake arose, I do not quite understand. My regret for it is, however, mitigated by the fact that it has called out your re-

newed statement of the very large aggregate of these noteworthy benefactors.

They were suited to make and, as I know from my own observation, have made, a most happy impression upon the Japanese people—an impression which will not soon be forgotten.

I am, yours faithfully,

D. C. GREENE.

August 8th, 1892.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a propounder of conundrums, the ingenious Reuter is entitled to high praise. As a provider of news he has certainly mistaken his vocation. On July 31st he tells us that Mr. Gladstone has a majority of 40; that nothing is known of the composition of the new Cabinet, and that Gladstonian counsels are divided on certain important matters. On August 3rd he telegraphs that the Opposition are going to move a direct vote of confidence; and on the 5th he makes an airy reference to the "accession of Mr. Gladstone,"—apparently as an accomplished fact.

Now, Sir, who are the Opposition, and in whom or what are they going to move a vote of confidence? If, as would appear from the last telegram, Mr. Gladstone is in power, the Opposition means the Unionist minority. Are they, then, going to move a vote of confidence in themselves? Or, if the Opposition means the Gladstonian majority, are they going to express their confidence in the Government, by way of keeping it in office? It has been suggested that this mysterious vote of confidence means really the precise reverse. Perhaps that is near enough for Reuter. Let it be so. But who is who, and which is which?

On July 12th it was reported at the Conservative Clubs that, in the event of Mr. Gladstone having a small majority, Lord Salisbury would probably continue in office until beaten upon a division. This, I believe, was not telegraphed by Reuter. It affords, however, the only explanation of Reuter's telegram of the 24th, to the effect that even if Lord Salisbury were defeated he might simply prorogue Parliament until February, carrying on the Queen's Government meanwhile—*more Japonico*. It is therefore just possible that Mr. Gladstone has found his majority of 40 too much divided to form the basis of a Cabinet, and that the Conservatives are still in office. But this is only guesswork. Things have occurred which Reuter has not informed us of, and we are left to fill up the gaps as best we may. Reuter's conundrums require altogether too much ingenuity to unravel, and I suppose we shall be left in the dark until fuller telegrams reach us through the columns of the American press.

Yours obediently,
August 9th.

A UNIONIST.

THE LATE DR. SCUDDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The impression made upon most minds by reading the account of Dr. Henry Scudder's death is that he was guilty of the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Dunton. But an intimate knowledge of the circumstances, obtained from a friend when in Chicago, leads me to a very different conclusion. Dr. Scudder was no doubt deranged; and to this fact is due his sad death; and also the lack of any refutation of the false statements that have appeared in regard to him.

Mrs. Dunton died of heart disease; and Dr. Scudder was her most constant and faithful attendant. Just before her death she was seized with a paroxysm in which the pain was so intense that she felt from an invalid chair in which she was reclining and struck her forehead against a table. The result was a severe and bloody wound.

Dr. Scudder was present; and as she was writhing with the double pain attempted to help her resume her former position in the chair. A few moments afterwards she expired, as was predicted four days previously by a council of skilled physicians.

A servant girl heard the noise of the fall, and the screams of Mrs. Dunton, and rushing up the stairway saw Dr. Scudder holding Mrs. Dunton and trying to put her into the chair once more. This is the basis of the theory that Mrs. Dunton was beaten to death with a club. The wounds upon her forehead were not such as would have been made if struck with a club, and no trace of any such instrument was found. And then too how utterly absurd to think that any skilled physician should try to take the life of a patient in that way.

Mrs. Dunton had no children of her own and in her will made suitable provisions for her husband

and then gave the rest of her property to Miss Scudder, who was her adopted daughter. It is greatly to be regretted that Dr. Scudder's mental condition prevented his being able to defend himself and put an end to the many false and injurious statements which have gone into circulation. An attempt on the part of some of the relatives to break the will and get possession of the property has led to the statements that have appeared to the discredit of an unfortunate and innocent man who has no longer an opportunity to be acquitted by an earthly court, but has gone where the calumnies and wrongs of the afflicted here shall all be redressed.

Yours, &c,

H. LOOMIS.

Yokohama, August 12th.

AQUATIC SPORTS.

The swimming and diving competitions promoted by the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club came off on Wednesday afternoon in delightfully cool weather. The bathing large was crowded to its fullest extent by interested votaries of the science of natation who one and all seemed to derive a considerable amount of amusement from the various events. The tide was at the flood, but there was very little current to interfere with the success of the long dive, which Campbell won splendidly with a tolerably long immersion and straightness of line. The boys' races were spirited affairs, and the first was near being a dead heat. During the proceedings the big pontoon of the Harbour Works departments under the skilful guidance of tug *M* did its level best to run the bathing large down, fortunately nothing but a severe shaking resulted. The judges, who discharged their duties most impartially, were Mr. S. D. Hepburn, Dr. Wheeler, and Mr. E. W. Tilden, assisted by the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. K. M. Martin. Details:—

STANDING HEADERS OFF BATHING BARGE.

P. S. Bent	1
H. P. Blanchard	2
W. W. Campbell	3
H. F. Arthur	0
J. Eytton, Jr.	0
S. E. Unite	0
K. Kingdon	0
O. Balk	0

Five points each were allowed for take off, entrance, recovery, and general elegance. The competition was very close.

SWIMMING RACE.—100 YARDS.

J. Eytton, jun.	1
K. F. Crawford	2
H. P. Goddard	3
L. Salabelle	0

Eytton lead from the start, and won easily in 54½ secs; a close thing for second place.

LONG DIVE.

W. W. Campbell	1
Geo. Hood	2
C. K. M. Martin	3
W. Goddard	0
H. F. Arthur	0
O. Balk	0
S. E. Unite	0

The winner rose after 45 secs. immersion, at a distance of about 150 feet.

SWIMMING RACE FOR BOYS UNDER 13.—75 YARDS.

Geo. Wheeler	1
J. Walker	2

The little fellows swam pluckily, neck to neck, the whole way along, but Wheeler touched the steps half a second in advance of Walker.

RUNNING HEADERS OFF SPRING BOARD.

W. W. Campbell	1
J. Eytton, jun. (equal)	2
K. Kingdon (equal)	2
H. P. Blanchard	3
H. F. Arthur	0
H. S. Goddard	0
O. Balk	0
J. S. Kilgour	0
S. E. Unite	0
P. S. Bent	0
H. Goddard	0

Some of the headers were extremely gracefully executed, while there was little to choose between the winning men.

SWIMMING RACE.—¼ MILE.

K. F. Crawford	1
P. S. Bent	2
H. Goddard	3
H. F. Arthur	0

Crawford led round the moored sampan at the

first lap, Goddard coming next; at the barge Crawford had a long lead, with Bent, Goddard, and Arthur to the rear in the order named. Crawford spurred upon turning for the last time and Bent followed suit. Half way down, the distance between them was considerably lessened, but it was too late in the day for Bent to do more than taken second place.

SWIMMING RACE FOR BOYS UNDER 15 YEARS. 75 YARDS.

Carst	1
Sidney Wheeler	2
Drummond	0

The boys went at the business with right good will, but Drummond soon retired, leaving it to the other two to fight out. The finish, as usual, was very close. Time 40 secs.

THREE FEATS FROM BATHING BARGE, SPRING BOARD, AND HORIZONTAL BAR.

P. Blanchard	1
W. W. Campbell	2

The six different feats were equally clever, and Blanchard clearly won by his last daring jump from the barge roof on to the spring board and from thence into the water.

RUNNING HEADERS OFF TOP OF BATHING BARGE.

P. S. Bent	1
W. W. Campbell	2
H. P. Blanchard	3
H. F. Arthur	0
H. S. Goddard	0
O. Balk	0

There was little to choose between the merits of the leaders, but Bent's dives were extremely pretty.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 21st.

It was only a few minutes after I had mailed my last letter that I learned from an evening paper that the University of Chicago had secured the million dollars for buildings. When the Board of trustees met on the last day of grace, \$38,000 were still lacking; but Major H. A. Rust, the Vice-President of the Board, at once subscribed \$50,000, and thus brought the total \$12,000, above the required amount. Moreover, another member of the Board had privately secured the signatures of twenty leading business men of this city to a paper guaranteeing any deficiency up to \$100,000; but this was, of course, not needed. The contracts have been, or soon will be, let for the erection of several more buildings. Chicago is proud, and justly so, of the success of this effort to raise \$1,000,000 in three months! The new university, not yet opened, is already worth about \$5,000,000, of which \$3,000,000 or more is endowment fund.

The National Educational Association met this summer at Saratoga, N. Y., and had the honour and privilege of an able and felicitous address by President Harrison.

The Baptist Young People's Union of America has had an enthusiastic convention at Detroit, Mich. There was one sensational and beautiful incident. When the various State banners were brought forward to be saluted, Dr. Laming Burrows, of Georgia, arose and unfurled a large American flag; whereupon Mr. Thomas Ughart, of Toronto, expressed regret that there was no Union Jack at hand to be unfurled with the others. The band then played "God Save the Queen;" and the audience followed very appropriately with "Blest be the tie that binds." Resolutions were passed against Sunday opening and the sale of liquor in connection with the World's Fair; and in favour of government prohibition of the liquor traffic.

The W.C.T.U. Convocation and School of Methods is now in session in this city, and is favoured with valuable addresses on appropriate topics by the prominent ladies of the organization.

Cyrus W. Field breathed his last, "calmly and peaceably," on the 12th instant. His name will always be honored on account of his wonderful perseverance and final success in the matter of the Atlantic submarine cable, and ought to be associated with that of S. F. B. Morse in the annals of telegraphy.

Mrs. Rose Terry Cooke, the well-known authoress, who has portrayed New England life in a peculiarly faithful manner, died July 18 at Pittsfield, Mass.

The terrible conflagration which destroyed half of St. Johns, Newfoundland, with a loss of \$20,000,000, and made 15,000 people homeless, has aroused the people of Chicago to the necessity of

immediate and generous relief. This necessity is the more imperative because the people of St. Johns aided Chicago after the great fire of 1871.

It seems as if in every letter I am called upon to record some great calamity. This time it is again the havoc caused by the storming in a cyclone which swept over Springfield, Ohio, on the 13th inst., and partly or entirely demolished 200 houses.

Mr. W. J. Campbell, of this city, has declined the position of Chairman of the Republican National Committee; and Mr. Thomas H. Carter, of Montana, has been elected in his place and has accepted. Mr. Carter has served as Governor of Montana, Congressman, and Land Commissioner.

It is now pretty certain that the ensuing campaign is to be fought on the tariff question. The Stewart free coinage bill has been killed by the House of Representatives. On July 13, by a vote of 154 to 136, it was sent to the foot of the calendar where it cannot be reached this session. Thus the silver question has been relegated to the rear by the Democrats and the Republicans, both of whom will make their fight "straight and square" on the tariff issue.

The People's Party probably will push the silver question to the front, and undoubtedly will draw free-coinage men from both parties,—in the North from the Republicans, and in the South from the Democrats. They have received great encouragement from the National Mining Congress, which has recently been in session at Helena, Montana, and has passed long and strong resolutions in favour of bimetallic coinage.

In advance of Mr. Cleveland's formal letter of acceptance which will be expected to lay down positively the lines on which the Democratic campaign will be waged, the following in very encouraging:—

Ralph S. Hoyt of the Chicago Single-Tax club, and a former Republican, addressed a letter to the Democratic candidate a few days ago asking for an unqualified assurance that the campaign would be fought on the lines of tariff reform as radical and unequivocal as the platform adopted by the Convention.

He has received the following letter in reply:—"Giray Gable, Buzzard's Bay, July 14, 1892.—Ralph S. Hoyt—My dear Sir: Your letter of July 2 is at hand, and I am exceedingly gratified to learn of your intention to support the principles and candidates of the Chicago Convention. I think no sincere advocate of honest tariff reform can be dissatisfied with the position the Democratic party has assumed on that subject, and I am sure none need fear that the contest will not be made on the lines laid down, which have proved to be so acceptable to a great majority of the people. Very truly yours, GROVER CLEVELAND."

Last evening, in the Madison Square Garden of New York City, Cleveland and Stevenson were both formally notified of their nominations, and made formal speeches of acceptance. Both of the gentlemen, ex-President Cleveland particularly, referred to the tariff question in such a way as to indicate that it will be made the issue of the campaign. Long and formal letters may be expected soon from all the candidates.

The President has made another excellent appointment in nominating George Shiras, Jun., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, in place of the late Judge Bradley. Judge Shiras is considered one of the best and ablest men in the legal profession in that great State.

The *entente cordiale* is now finally and formally established between Chile and the United States. When a new Ministry was formed in Chile about a month ago, the new Minister of Foreign Affairs, Señor Errazuriz, communicated to our Minister Egan the disposition of the Chilean Government to come to an adjustment of the *Baltimore* indemnity matter. On the 13th instant, Señor Errazuriz sent a note to Mr. Egan with \$75,000 in gold to be distributed among the families of the two seamen who were killed, and the surviving wounded members of the crew. On the 17th, Mr. Egan accepted the offer "as a frank, friendly, and entirely satisfactory settlement;" and on the 19th Mr. Foster, our new Secretary of State, made a public and formal announcement of the settlement.

After considerable discussion, the Senate passed the increased appropriation for the Government exhibit at the World's Fair, the Sunday closing clause, and the \$5,000,000 general appropriation, and rejected a clause prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors. When the subject came back to the House of Representatives, they agreed to the Sunday closing clause by a vote of 147 to 61 (the Senate had passed it by a vote of 34 to 17), but they rejected the increased appropriation for the exhibition, and the \$5,000,000 appropriation, the last by the close vote of 122 to 110. The matter now goes for harmonizing of disputed points to a conference committee of both Houses and will come up again by report of that committee to each House. The supporters of the \$5,000,000 appropriation are very hopeful now that it will pass next time it is brought to a vote. But, even if it again fails, the efficiency of the Fair will not be affected, for a loan can easily be negotiated. In any event, it has been finally and positively settled, that the Columbian Exposition will not be open on Sunday.

Within the last two weeks we have had more than our share of labour troubles, including strikes and riots. On the 10th day of this month Gov. Pattison, of Pennsylvania, ordered out the National Guard of about 8,000 men to restore order and protect the Carnegie Mills at Homestead. The different brigades of the State militia met in rendezvous at various places, and during July 12 all met at Homestead. The strikers had planned to give the officers of the guard a formal but cordial reception: but General Snowden, the commander, snubbed the committee, and in a dignified manner befitting the chief military officer of the commonwealth, took possession of the mills and the town. At first, some of the militia felt inclined to have a good time out of it, and to enjoy a good spree; but they were at once put under strict military discipline. Moreover, as the radical element among the strikers were still talking violence, a few arrests were made, and the town practically came under martial law. In the meantime the "strike" idea had spread; and, chiefly out of "sympathy," the employees in the upper and the lower Union Mill of the Carnegie Co., in Pittsburgh, and the men in the Beaver Falls Mills of the same company, went on a strike. On the 16th letters were sent by the Superintendent of the Homestead Mills to most of the old employees, and posters were put all over the town, giving an opportunity until 6 p.m. of to day (July 21st) of returning to work. It is reported that a number have availed themselves of the privilege. The next move, though not unexpected, created great excitement. On the 18th warrants were issued in Pittsburgh for the arrest of seven principal strikers on the charge of murder. The seven persons were Hugh O'Donnell, John McLuckie (Burgesses of Homestead), Sylvester Critchlow, Anthony Flaherty, Samuel Burkett, James Flannagan, and Hugh Ross. McLuckie at once surrendered, but was yesterday released on \$10,000 bail. O'Donnell had already left for the East, but has now returned and surrendered. The other accused have not been found, though they are supposed to be waiting in Homestead to be arrested. At present it is so quiet there that one brigade has been ordered home; *heredomo*.

Idaho also has been visited with serious labour riots at Cour D'Alene. There had been a strike caused by a reduction in the wages of miners; and feeling was running very high between the shut-out union miners and non-union men engaged in their places. On the 11th inst. the strikers attacked a mill, and blew it to pieces with giant powder, killing ten men. The next day they captured three other mills; and perpetrated fearful barbarities on the men who had surrendered. In the meantime, the state militia had been called out, but was unable to cope with the large mob, which was committing devastation all around. Consequently, U.S. troops were ordered to the scene of the troubles, and succeeded in quieting matters without any collision. They arrested and carried to Spokane, Washington, large numbers of the striking and riotous miners, who will be severely punished. On the 16th President Harrison issued a proclamation to all persons in that mining district to disperse and retire to their homes. The troops are guarding the mines, and mills and tramways; all is quiet again, *heredomo*.

IN THE YOKOHAMA LOCAL COURT.

Before Judge Ono and Assistant Judges.

WEDNESDAY, May, 18th, 1892.

MOURILYAN, HENMANN & Co., v. The GOVERNOR of KANAGAWA.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

The Judge—What I wish to know is, whether those 1,400 cases are included among those for which you are demanding indemnity?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes, they are included. They were wrongfully delivered like the others, but we were unable to produce evidence to prove that it was so. The cases, however, are lost, so we demand indemnity for them.

The Judge (to Counsel for defendant)—What Counsel for plaintiffs asks is whether the dates and the number of cases mentioned in document No. 5 are correct or not; you say that you refuse to answer the question. Do you mean that you do not acknowledge them?

Counsel for Defendant—I can only say that the dates and the number of cases as stated by Plaintiffs, are incorrect. But we cannot now find out whether all their statements and figures are wrong, even if we attempted to collect the documents.

The Judge—Counsel for plaintiffs asks whether you acknowledge the fact of delivering those cases on those days or not? Do you mean to refuse to

Original from

answer the question, or do you say that you don't recognise their figures and dates?

Counsel for Defendant—I cannot answer him item by item now.

The Judge—Did you mean you cannot answer? cannot you tell us whether certain cases were delivered on the orders signed by Akew or not?

Counsel for Defendant—In some cases I could answer yes, while in others it would be no, and there are mistakes as to dates.

The Judge—Then you mean that some portions of their statements are true?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Judge—Then Counsel for plaintiffs asked as to which were the wrong numbers? Did you say you did not know or that you refused to answer?

Counsel for Defendant—I said I refused to answer any question concerning document No. 5. We can ascertain how many cases were received into the store-house on such and such days, but we don't know in whose name they were delivered, as the orders were not kept. We shall be able to find out how many cases were received only after investigation.

Counsel for Plaintiff—If you cannot answer as to the correctness of one portion of our statement you can do so for another portion, I suppose?

Counsel for Defendant—But I have said that I do not intend to answer any question concerning document No. 5.

The Judge—The document is drawn up in a very simple way, but the question is, when and how did Akew received goods through orders signed by himself?

Counsel for Defendant—I don't wish to answer the questions relating to Akew in document No. 5.

Counsel for Plaintiffs (to the Judge)—I wished to know whether the names on the delivery orders were correct, and Counsel for defendant said that some of the delivery orders were lost. Therefore, I should like to question him as to which delivery orders were lost, and the nature of those which he still holds possession of?

The Judge—That is to say whether defendant made these deliveries or not?

Counsel for Defendant—I said before that I do not intend to answer those questions.

The Judge—Do you mean that you don't intend to answer them because you think them unnecessary?

Counsel for Defendant—Not only it is unnecessary, but we are unable to ascertain what plaintiffs ask of us.

The Judge—I want you to state whether you will not answer the question or whether you cannot do so?

Counsel for Defendant—As there is no necessity, I will not answer the question.

The Judge—And the reason of your refusal is that you think the question unnecessary?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Judge—Very well, then we shall proceed with the examination of witnesses, after the mid-day recess.

Counsel for Defendant asked leave to introduce the keepers of the Store-house as a witness, but the Judge said the application must be made in the afternoon.

The Court rose at 11.50 a.m.

The Court resumed its sitting at 2 p.m. on the 18th May.

Counsel for Defendant—I refused to answer the questions asked by Counsel for plaintiffs as to facts concerning document No. 5, because the total of cases mentioned in it did not agree with a former statement of his. I asked him for the number of kerosene oil cases alleged to have been lost, and he replied that it was some 40,000 cases only. But the document in question declares that they are over 130,000. Evidently some of these must be outside those for which he demands indemnity, therefore I don't think I am obliged to answer any questions unless he puts them item by item, and about such cases as he is able to account for. Then I may inquire into the accuracy of those items, but not otherwise.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The figure contained in document No. 5 is the total number of cases deposited by the plaintiffs, therefore, if the remaining number of cases is ascertained, we are able to tell how many cases have been lost. If Counsel for Defendant does not wish to answer any questions concerning it we cannot help ourselves.

The Judge—I wish to look further into the various documents presented as evidence. What is the nature of document No. 1, presented by plaintiffs?

Counsel for Plaintiff—It contains copies of applications for depositing kerosene oil cases. The copies were made there.

The Judge—What do you mean by "there"? Do you mean the warehouse of the Kencho?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. It is like document No. 5.

The Judge—What evidence does it furnish then?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—It shows the total number of cases deposited. The number was also recorded by the defendant.

The Judge—Do the numbers correspond?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I should like to compare the documents.

The Judge (producing another document)—What is this document for?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—That is a copy of the total number of cases deposited. We got it copied at the warehouse of the Kencho.

Counsel for Defendant—There are some slight mistakes in it.

The Judge—Is there any mistake in the number of cases?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Judge—Do you mean to say that it cannot be considered an exact copy of the document in the Kencho?

Counsel for Defendant—There are some correct items, but others are incorrect.

The Judge—How these mistakes arise I cannot quite understand myself. Now, for instance, what is the total number of cases imported by the *Anglo American*?

Counsel for Defendant—The number of cases imported by the *Anglo American* is correct, but those by the *Milerton* are stated in the Kencho's Books to be 64,312, and by the *Calyso* 32,504 cases. I mentioned these differences before.

Counsel for Plaintiff—Was the total number by the *Anglo American* 35,241 cases?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Judge—How have you ascertained the number imported by the *Milerton*?

Counsel for Defendant—That is the total number of cases received at first, but it is not the number mentioned in the application for deposit.

The Judge—Then does the number of cases deposited differ sometimes from the number of cases imported?

Counsel for Defendant—They are often different. Counsel for Plaintiffs (presenting a document to the Judge)—From that open page to where a page is doubled in the middle is document No. 2.

The Judge—What evidence does it contain?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—It shows the total number of cases sold and delivered to various Japanese merchants, but for which we have not yet received payment.

The Judge—Are these figures the market price at the time of concluding the contracts, or simply those of the agreements?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—The agreements.

The Judge—Then do you make these agreements without regard to the market price?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—They are the market prices.

The Judge—As the market price may vary sometimes, the price for the lost cases must be valued at the price prevailing at the time they were lost. Is it not so?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I must explain to you fully from the beginning. Before answering any question on that document, I must ask you to look at the document I presented to you first. (Here the Judge put several questions in regard to various dates, and the Counsel for Plaintiffs replied by giving the names of ships by which certain cases were imported.)

Counsel for Defendant—From among the figures contained in document No. 2, can Counsel for Plaintiffs state how many cases from certain lots have been lost?

The Assistant Judge—We are now ascertaining the market price.

Counsel for Defendant—If the number of cases lost is uncertain, I don't see how you can estimate their market value.

The Assistant Judge—No, no. We are only ascertaining the relative market price at different times.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In the account-book you will see the number is stated to be 1,700 cases.

Counsel for Defendant—But this does not explain anything to me.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—It is very plain.

Counsel for Defendant—I wish to ask another question. There is a name, Shin Ketchin, in document No. 2. Who is he?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—He is a *banto*.

Counsel for Defendant—A *banto* of whom?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Of plaintiffs.

Counsel for Defendant—You say that he is only a *banto*, and yet he is authorized to conclude that kind of transaction. Is it not so?

Counsel for Plaintiff—Yes.

The Judge—You have explained document No. 2. Where is document No. 3?

Counsel for Plaintiff—Document No. 3 is taken from the bottom lines of the same book from which document No. 2 is compiled.

The Judge—What does it show?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—It shows the total number of cases we received.

The Judge—Do you mean the deposited cases which were re-delivered to the firm?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Judge—Then if you deduct this number from the total number deposited, whatever remains is the number of cases lost?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes, You will see—(presenting a paper)—in this document that the delivered cases are entered at the bottom; those cases that were not delivered are lost.

The Judge—Does Counsel for Defendant acknowledge this?

Counsel for Defendant—No.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I have only shown Counsel for Defendant the entries of cases imported by the *Anglo American*; but there are others.

The Assistant Judge—If they are of a similar nature will not one suffice?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—They are of a similar description.

The Judge (Exhibiting a document to counsel for Plaintiffs)—What is this?

Counsel for Plaintiff—That is a translation of the minutes of the investigation held at the Chinese Consulate, where we sued our *banto* for doing various things for which he had no authority, and he confessed to them all. It bears the seal of the Chinese Consulate. His name is Shin Ketchin.

The Judge—He was a *banto*. Was Akew under him?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes.

The Assistant Judge—Does Counsel for Defendant acknowledge this document marked No. 4?

Counsel for Defendant—I acknowledge the fact only.

The Judge—Then do you decline to acknowledge that the man has made such confession?

Counsel for Defendant—Quite so.

The Judge (to counsel for Defendant)—Your documents are so simple that I shall examine them all at once.

Counsel for Defendant—No. 1 to No. 5; No. 6 still requires explanation.

The Judge—Very well, explain from No. 1.

Counsel for Defendant—Document No. 1 shows the manner in which kerosene oil cases are deposited—through applications made by the owner of the goods; and of those applications many bear the names of Chinamen alone.

The Judge—And No. 2?

Counsel for Defendant—No. 2 shows the quantity of cases received by the official at the warehouse who, having counted the number, gives receipts for the same. This is the most important document, either in receiving or delivering; for without it no delivery is made.

The Judge—Who signs such documents?

Counsel for Defendant—The Official who has charge of the warehouse.

The Judge—What evidence does that document furnish in the present case?

Counsel for Defendant—If a portion of deposited goods is delivered, then the number is recorded on the original receipt, and this is returned to the owner; and if another portion is required, then the owner must present the original receipt, as a check; and when the whole amount has been delivered the receipt is given back to the Warehouse official altogether. Therefore, these receipts are most important as showing that the deposited goods are all delivered.

The Judge—What is document No. 3.

Counsel for Plaintiff—It contains applications sent by the owner of deposited goods requesting delivery of such deposits. Some of them are signed by Chinese, while others have European signatures. Thus it shows that the signatures on applications vary greatly.

The Judge—What is No. 4 then?

Counsel for Defendant—That only shows how many different kinds of signatures were used by the plaintiffs.

The Judge—Then documents No. 3 and No. 4 together exhibit the facts of the case?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes; as I said just now.

The Judge—What is No. 5?

Counsel for Defendant—It furnishes some instances in which firms, other than that of the plaintiffs, always allow their Chinese employees to make the deposits and take delivery of goods. In short, it shows that such is a common practice in Yokohama.

The Judge—It proves then, that according to common usage Chinamen are authorized to deposit or take delivery of goods?

Counsel for Defendant—Exactly so.

The Judge—What is No. 6?

Counsel for Defendant—It is an answer received from the Chinese Consulate to our Government's inquiry as to the suit instituted by the plaintiffs. As the suit was brought against the Chinese in November last, I am sure the plaintiffs then thought

that their Chinese were responsible for the loss. Such being the case, it is only on very vague grounds that the plaintiffs now sue the defendant. That document proves these facts.

The Judge—Was the suit against the Chinese a civil suit?

Counsel for Defendant—Yes.

The Judge—What kind of suit was it?

Counsel for Defendant—I know nothing about it beyond what is stated in that petition, a translation of which is appended.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—We do not acknowledge document No. 1.

The Judge—Did you say you do not acknowledge it?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. What is document No. 2?

The Judge—The process of delivery.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—That we acknowledge.

The Assistant Judge—Acknowledge, did you say?

Counsel for Plaintiffs—Yes. We don't acknowledge No. 3; and in No. 4 the first three names we acknowledge, but not the following three.

In Judge—Then you don't acknowledge any Chinese signatures.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—No. 5 and No. 11 we don't acknowledge. No. 6 is not the original document, so we cannot say whether the original is the same or not.

Counsel for Defendant—If the original is required, I can get it from the Chinese Consulate; but this is a copy of the one sent to us from the Consulate, and bears the seal of the Consulate.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—That document is only just presented, and we do not know whether there was such an enquiry or not; therefore we cannot acknowledge it.

The Judge—Counsel for defendant asked leave just now to introduce some witnesses—for what purpose does he require their testimony.

Counsel for Defendant—I should like to call the official who keeps the warehouse, and receives and delivers the goods, to ascertain from him the identity of the various signatures used by the plaintiffs' firm, and other matters relating to them.

The Assistant Judge—I think you can prove all those things.

Counsel for Defendant—But I never was in charge of the warehouse.

The Assistant Judge—Very well then, call him.

Counsel for Defendant—He is in the Court.

The Assistant Judge—It seems to me, on second thoughts, that it is not for the purpose of stating any facts in the case that you call him, so I fail to see any necessity for his appearance.

The Judge—As his statement does not assume the nature of evidence, at this stage, don't you think it unnecessary to call him?

Counsel for Defendant—It is not very important, as it can be stated in the pleadings.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I wish to state some facts concerning the indemnity, which must be taken into account. The interest on the money is 7 per cent. per annum, and the premium of insurance required for explosives is 2 per cent. This 2 per cent. is agreed upon by the foreign merchants in Yokohama. Thus, 9 per cent. interest to the time of delivery will be asked for.

The Judge—Do you agree to that.

Counsel for Defendant—No.

The Judge—Very well, we will proceed with the pleadings now. Counsel for plaintiffs please open for your side.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—As the present case is very complicated, and has taken several months to investigate, I shall, in order to render it at all intelligible, have to go into it from the very beginning. First, I desire to explain the system of the management of kerosene oil in Japan. According to the Regulations expressly provided, we are compelled to store all imported kerosene oil in warehouses built and managed by the Government. According to Art. II of the Regulations, we have to present an application for its reception—the form of which is shown in the document marked "A." When the goods are deposited the official in charge of the warehouse issues a receipt for them, in accordance with Art. III. of the said Regulations. When any of the goods are sold, the owner sends in a delivery order signed by himself, and the original receipt accompanies it. Such is the process gone through when depositing or delivering kerosene. The present suit concerns a certain number of cases of kerosene imported by plaintiffs by the *Anglo American, Calypso*, and *Milverton*. They were landed at the Customs' jetty, and then were carried to the Government's explosives' warehouse for storage. There is not the slightest doubt as to the depositing of the cases there, and the Kencho, the defendant, acknowledges this fact. There has been, however, some dispute as to the number of cases so deposited, but the Kencho has already acknowledged ninety per cent. of the number which we have stated. Document No. 1 was

copied at the Kencho by Mr. Edwards, who is now in Court. When he went to make these copies the Kencho treated him with all courtesy, and lent him the original book, at the same time instructing an official to assist him, with whom Edwards afterwards read over what he had copied. Document No. 5 was copied in a similar manner; but I dare say the Kencho is not over-pleased at our putting in of these documents as evidence. If they are correct the number of cases deposited by plaintiffs is much greater than we can now account for. That is to say, these papers put the total of the cases at 132,006, but our certified figures show 128,285 cases only. There is some slight difference in our totals, but as I have said before, it is quite plain that the defendant received every case imported by the three ships; and the Kencho also acknowledged that they received such cases, and that they belonged to Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co. and to no other firm. Now we will turn our attention to the delivery of these goods. Document marked No. 5, which was copied from the original in the Kencho by Edwards, will show plainly at the exhibition of whose signatures the goods were delivered. No doubt defendant is placed in an awkward position, and his reply is therefore somewhat undecided. At first I thought he was going to acknowledge this document, with the signatures therein, to be correct, but I was mistaken, for in the end he refused to answer any questions put upon it. But he acknowledged in a previous examination that there were some delivery-orders signed by Chinese, and some the signatures on which were written in pencil, while others neither bore the stamp of the firm nor the name of the ship. Thus far he has himself confessed; yet, what did he say in answer to questions concerning this document, No. 5? He declared that there was no necessity to acknowledge it, so he refused to answer any questions based on its facts. Whether our questions were important or not is plain enough. As I said before, the total number of cases deposited by the plaintiffs, and the number stated to have been delivered on those orders correspond, and therefore some persons might infer that document No. 5 was drawn up by plaintiffs for their own convenience. But such cannot possibly be the case, for each delivery order bears its date, and no one can invent the dates or such a number of cases as shall correspond with the check or tally possessed by the Kencho. My argument shows plainly that document No. 5 was copied at the Kencho from the original delivery-orders. What did the defendant say in reply? He said that he did not know anything about it, or that he refused to answer. Now, according to Art. III., of the Code of Civil Procedure, such a refusal is considered to be a tacit acknowledgement of the charge. Therefore, I may conclude, that the defendant acknowledges that he delivered the goods to the Chinese who had signed the delivery-orders. Now the second question is, whether the Chinese who signed those orders possessed any authority to do so or not. This is the most important question of all, and the defendant is also aware of its importance, so he argues against it, and in doing so indirectly acknowledges that he delivered the goods to the Chinese who signed the delivery-orders. Whether the a Chinaman has a right to represent his firm or not was made plain by the evidence of the daily practice of merchants in Yokohama. By the evidence given by Mr. Middleton it is clearly proved that no merchant authorises any Chinaman in his employ to discharge responsible duties of his own motion. This rule is so common that any firm in Yokohama will affirm the statement I now have made. If the common usage alone is not sufficient to prove its validity, I must draw your attention to the method of appointing authorised representatives. They are of two kinds: one person is authorised by receiving a power of attorney in writing, and another is appointed by verbal contract. The former method is only resorted to when the matter is of very great importance; as for instance, when a head partner in a firm, on leaving the country, appoints some one to discharge all his business duties for him during his absence. As one of the witnesses stated, no power of attorney is needed for a person to be authorised to sign delivery-orders. It is not used even in commissioning a clerk to draw money from the bank. Such being the case, it is absurd to say that any man who is authorized to sign delivery-orders must notify the fact to the Kencho or advertise it in the local papers. Not only in a case like the present, but in various other cases, a man may be authorized to sign documents for the firm, and following common usage, it is not necessary for him to notify the fact to the public—rather must those who doubt his authority inquire into the facts and be definitely assured of them. They are responsible to themselves in the matter. Such is the case in the present suit. The plaintiffs authorized X. and Y. to sign kerosene delivery-

orders, and if the Kencho doubted their power to do so it was the duty of the Kencho to enquire into the facts. Therefore we hold the Kencho responsible for believing these Chinese and accepting their signatures. It is the common usage in Yokohama, and every foreign firm is ready to express the same opinion. Well now, to whose signatures were those deposited kerosene cases delivered? It has been proved that the signatures were those of Akew, Alai, Shin-Ketchin, and others. No doubt the Kencho believed that these men were properly authorized. But to believe such a thing against the common usage of the port is sheer negligence on the part of the Kencho. It is this which constitutes the ground of our suit for wrongful delivery. The defendant acknowledges the confession of the Chinese, at the Chinese Consulate, that they tore up the delivery-orders signed by Edwards and other Western employes of the firm, and prepared different orders to which they signed their own names. I wish to mention another instance of negligence on the part of the Kencho. There was a delivery order on which no signature was written, except the stamp of the firm. The defendant said that the goods were delivered by virtue of that stamp being upon the paper. But that stamp has no value at all. In every document the signature alone is of the greatest importance; and without a signature nothing is valid. The stamp under a person's signature is simply to show that that person represents such firm and nothing more. On the other hand, if there is only a signature without a stamp denoting the name of the firm, the Kencho can be charged with wrongfully delivering goods to some individual who has no authority to sign the name of the firm. If a stranger were suddenly to come to the warehouse and say that he represented Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co., would he be believed at once? The defendant may urge that the Chinese signed several orders on different occasions; but that is an untenable argument, for mere repetition cannot and does not endue anyone with authority if he has never possessed such authority. Again, it is argued that certain portions of the goods delivered were received by the plaintiffs, therefore the defendant cannot be held responsible for the loss. But, as I have said before, that does not alter the nature of the act, which was criminal to begin with. We may in the present case, if the money is refunded, not care to institute a further suit. But surely, if one discovers any wrong that has been done against him without his knowledge, he may sue for its remedy. I will conclude my general pleading now, and in conclusion must repeat, once more, that as we are compelled by the Prefectural Government to store our kerosene oil in their warehouse, so the responsibility of its proper delivery to the right person rests on the Prefectural Government and on no other. We demand an indemnity for the number of cases lost, as we are utterly unable to ascertain to whom they were sold, the transaction taking place solely between the Chinese and the Kencho. We only know that those cases were deposited in the Kencho's warehouse, and that we did not issue any order to the defendant to deliver them. Therefore, whichever way the argument may be twisted, the responsibility must rest on the defendant, and consequently the plaintiffs are entitled to an indemnity for their loss.

At 3.50 p.m. the Court adjourned for 30 minutes.

The Court resumed at 4.30 p.m. and Mr. Mitsuhashi, Counsel for defendant, addressed the bench as follows:—

Counsel for Defendant—The learned Counsel for the plaintiffs has argued his case very cleverly and divided the subject into many branches. I wish now to lay before you the facts of the case for our side, and will do so briefly, as I think a mere statement of them will suffice for the present suit. I do not intend to waste much of your time. The first subject I have to dwell upon in reply is the statement made by Counsel for plaintiffs, that they are compelled to store in our warehouse all large quantities of kerosene oil imported to this country. It is true that such is the case, but for what purpose is such a regulation enforced? It is for the sole purpose of preserving the safety of Yokohama, for which the Government is held responsible. The amount of kerosene imported into this country is increasing very rapidly, and the Government must be prepared to store it directly on arrival, as no private individual may store it in any quantity. The Government spent much money last year in building some new warehouses for explosives, but, as they are not always full, no profit can possibly be realised from their rent. It is for the welfare of the people residing in Yokohama that we take charge of this kerosene and the responsibility is very great indeed. Now we will turn our attention to the present suit. As I have said before, it is not necessary to store every case of kerosene imported,

nor is it necessary that all the cases imported should be mentioned in the application for deposit. Because the owner of the cases may complete transactions for their sale while they are still in the hands of the Customs for inspection. In that case those which are sold will be transferred to the buyers and taken away, and only the remaining stock will be sent to the government warehouse. Upon arrival at the warehouse some official in charge of the place will examine the number of cases, and then give a receipt for them to the owner. If the goods belong to a firm the receipt will be addressed to that firm. And in accordance with Art. XI. of Regulations for explosives, the original receipt must be presented with the delivery-order whenever the owner wishes to receive back any goods. If the goods are delivered in installments the number must be written on the back of the original receipt, and returned to the depositor, and when the whole have been delivered the deposit receipt must be returned to the official who issued it. This receipt is of great importance, but the signatures on the delivery orders are not so carefully observed,—for without the original receipt no kerosene can be delivered. As long as the receipt is in the hands of the depositor we have the responsibility of delivering the goods in exchange, and as soon as it passes into our possession we know that the goods have all been properly delivered. The importance attaching to the receipts may be seen by the express provision laid down about them in Art. V. of the Regulations. (At this point the Regulations, duly marked, were handed to the Judges.) The plaintiffs received back all the cases deposited in exchange for their receipts, but now they claim that certain cases of kerosene were wrongfully delivered. I fail to see the reason for it. Even if we allow that those delivery-orders are also of great importance, it has been shown that they are all signed by Edwards, Paterson, Piggot, and some Chinese in the firm's employ. They say that some are valid while others are invalid, but how can the Kencho distinguish between them? If they say that Edwards is the only man authorized to sign them, then those signed by Paterson and Piggot will also be invalid, but their argument runs otherwise. They say that the orders signed by European employes of the firm are valid, but those signed by the Chinese alone are invalid. Did they ever notify such a fact to the Kencho before? No. So far as the Kencho knows, if the one is valid the other must be valid too. Besides, according to the common usage in Yokohama, Chinese often represent their foreign firms in the transaction of business, and no distinction is made between the European employé and the Chinese. But this is not an important point in the present case. The provision in the Regulations simply says that a signature (署名) is required on delivery-orders or on applications. That signature, in the present case, is neither that of Edwards nor of the Chinese, but of Mourilyan, Heinmann and Co. Therefore, so long as that name is on the delivery-order,—whether it is countersigned by Edwards or Piggot, matters not,—we have to deliver the goods. Counsel for plaintiffs put great stress on the evidence given by Mr. Middleton, but Mr. Middleton himself stated that kerosene oil forms only a small portion of his business, in short an additional branch, as it were, of his trading connection, therefore his methods alone cannot be considered the common usage in Yokohama. I regret that I was not allowed to bring forward my witnesses, because they could have made statements entirely contrary to those given by Mr. Middleton. That is to say, they could have proved to your satisfaction that the practice in Yokohama is to allow a Chinese employé to act as agent for the firm by which he is employed, and to conclude various business transactions. In the plaintiff's firm their Chinese were authorized to complete transactions with Japanese merchants, and to issue, on behalf of the firm, receipts for money received. Again, Counsel for plaintiffs said that some delivery orders were written in pencil, and so on. But, as I stated before, the pencil used was not an ordinary one, but one that serves the purpose of copying-ink. Counsel for plaintiffs also argued at length about my refusal to acknowledge document No. 5 as a genuine copy of the original. I grant that we received a number of cases imported by the *Anglo American* and other ships; but the reason of my refusal to acknowledge that document as a true copy was that as the plaintiffs did not know which portions of certain cargoes were wrongfully delivered, his questions would be very vague, therefore I refused to answer any of them, as I could not tell to which portions he might be referring. Besides, the dates and the number of cases mentioned in that document differ considerably from ours. If he had simply asked whether we had ever delivered goods on presentation of delivery-orders signed by Chinese, I would have been quite ready to answer yes, but his other questions were too

vague. Again, Counsel for plaintiffs said that the responsibility of finding out who were the persons properly authorized to sign the delivery-orders devolved upon the Kencho. Such a statement is absurd. The Kencho has always regarded its receipt as the most important proof of ownership and authority; and to whoever brought that receipt we were always ready to deliver goods. Besides, we have applications for deposit signed by Chinese only. Those the plaintiffs recognize as valid. Then they must acknowledge the delivery-orders signed by the Chinese as being valid too. Whether a person is properly authorized or not we cannot possibly tell, for as one of the witnesses said, no notice is given of such fact to the Kencho nor is it advertised in the papers. If a firm only authorizes A. and not B. or C. that fact should be duly notified for the benefit of persons dealing with them. Surely it is only natural for the defendant to presume that if one is authorized others have the same power too, if no intimation to the contrary is brought to his notice. In short, since Chinese can sign the applications for deposit it may reasonably be taken for granted that he can sign the delivery orders too. Even if it is considered that he is without that power, that does not depreciate the strength of our pleading, for the most important document in these transactions is our receipt, when that receipt is produced we deliver the amount of goods mentioned upon it. Thus upon defendant lies no responsibility whatever, whether the cases were lost subsequently or not. As I fail to see that there was any wrongful delivery in this case, I don't think I need detain you any longer or dwell upon the differences in the number of cases as stated by either side or their alleged value. I will therefore now conclude, and in doing so must repeat that, as the delivery of the cases was properly managed the defendant has no responsibility for any subsequent loss, and therefore there is no obligation on him to pay any indemnity.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—In the course of the pleading of the learned Counsel for the defence I noticed that he said that the Kencho regarded its receipt as the most important document, and that the application for delivery might be signed by any person. But such a statement would make the merchants who deposit goods in the Government warehouse place very little confidence in the Kencho declaration of their safety or safe keeping. Even if the receipt was brought in, surely there would be no delivery of goods if the delivery order was not properly signed? Surely the defendant does not say that, even without any delivery-order, so long as the receipt is shown, delivery of the goods would be made? Besides, the Kencho knows very well who are the persons authorized to sign these documents, so that if some strange signature is upon any order presented to them they should ascertain whether the person is authorized to sign or not. For one cannot take, and does not take, the unsupported statement of any strange individual. Besides, the Kencho can always ask a firm whether they wish to receive delivery of all the goods deposited. The plaintiffs always signed proper delivery-orders, and naturally imagined that every thing was all right. The negligence is on the part of the defendant only, and arises from his delivering the goods to the Chinese without enquiring whether they were properly authorized to sign delivery orders or not. Even if fault was on both sides, the error of the Kencho must be considered the greater. For if the Kencho had been a little more cautious in their manner of business no such great loss could possibly have been sustained by the plaintiffs. As we consider the loss was simply due to culpable negligence on the part of the defendant, it is only natural for us to demand compensation. Counsel for defendant said that many people signed those delivery orders. Well, we did not state that we had authorized one individual only; what we did say was, that to those who possessed no authority for receiving them no goods should have been delivered. In other words, the goods may only be delivered to persons who are properly authorized. Again, Counsel for defendant said that the plaintiffs were unable to state exactly what portions of certain cargoes were lost. I have said before that plaintiffs know that the loss occurs among goods imported by the three mentioned ships only, and that the number of cases delivered corresponds with those deposited. Our accounts, which we put in, contain the number of cases that were properly delivered, what remains over were delivered to the Chinese. I don't see that there is any necessity to find out when those lost were delivered. Again, the defendant said that there have been some applications for deposit signed by Chinese. But since the defendant received the goods knowing that they belonged to the plaintiffs the matter was quite in order. To receive delivery-orders signed by the Chinese and act upon them is quite a different affair, however.

Surely the right to pay money into the bank is different from that of drawing money? In Europe little boys are often commissioned to pay money into a bank, but they are never authorized to draw it out. So long as the Kencho received the goods knowing them to be the property of the plaintiffs, it did not matter who signed the deposit note. We instituted a suit against the Chinese in the Chinese Consulate, and obtained their confession that they had received the kerosene. Knowing this for the first time we proceeded to investigate into the matter, and found that the delivery-orders were signed in their names. Then we brought the present suit, as upon the Kencho lies the responsibility of delivering the cases to non-authorized persons. Whether to demand an indemnity from persons who stole the cases or from the persons who delivered them wrongfully is I think the right of the proprietor to decide.

Counsel for Defendant—In my address for the defence I only said that the Kencho does not regard the delivery order as a thing of much importance. I did not say that the Kencho may deliver goods without a delivery-order, for such would be a violation of the Regulations. No delivery was made on a delivery-order alone, or in the absence of the original receipt. Again, according to the statement of the official who has been in charge of the warehouse ever since 1886, the goods were delivered many a time on the signature of Chinese only. Such being the case he naturally thought that though the signatures of European employes changed often, Akew and Alai who signed various delivery orders, did so with an authority unchanged. Some argument on document No. 5 took place just now. Well, defendant, I may say, is ready to give any answers if plaintiffs will state plainly on what dates so many cases were delivered, and out of which consignment so many were authorized to be delivered, or what number from the remainder were wrongfully delivered. Unless such clear questions are put I fail to see the necessity for answering queries on document No. 5. No doubt when we received those goods we were aware that they belonged to the plaintiffs, and as we also considered that the Chinamen who deposited them were empowered to take delivery, we delivered the oil to them. Document No. 6 concerns the confession of those Chinese in the Chinese Consulate, but, as Counsel for plaintiffs did not mention it in his pleading I did not think it necessary to say anything upon the subject. All I wish to say about it now is, that the plaintiffs instituted a suit against the Chinese first, and it was not till its conclusion that they brought the present action against the defendant.

Counsel for Plaintiffs—I wish to remark, further, that the Kencho is very careless in delivering deposited kerosene. The defendant says that so long as Mourilyan, Heinmann & Co. is stamped on the delivery order he delivers the goods to the bearer. But there were some orders which were signed in red pencil while others were written in blue pencil. The present case is as if a man deposited some money for me in some bank in my name, and then went and drew it out in his own name; afterwards, when I wished to draw the money, I am told that it was paid out to the man who had paid the money into the bank for me!

Counsel for Defendant—I think the mistake arose from the want of management in plaintiffs office. If the receipts we gave had been properly looked after, and the numbers upon them checked, no loss could have arisen. But the plaintiffs left these most important documents in the hands of their Chinese employes, and we are informed that when some money was wanted the receipts were taken to a bank, and an advance of money was asked upon them on. This fact was known to us, owing to the clerks of the bank coming to enquire at the Kencho as to the genuineness of the receipts. Is it any wonder then, that as these important documents were left in the hands of the Chinese for two or three years without any enquiry being made as to their condition such a mistake should have arisen? It is, in short, a gross piece of negligence on the part of the plaintiffs, therefore they ought to be held responsible for it.

This closed the pleadings, and the Court rose at 5:20 p.m.

The latest meteorological eccentricity reported from America is a shower of fish. Wisconsin was the favoured locality. The storm lasted for fifteen minutes, and when it had passed the ground was covered with fish.

In recent experiments on the action of metals on india rubber, copper has proven the most deleterious. Platinum, palladium, aluminum, and lead act but slightly; magnesium, zinc, cadmium, cobalt, nickel, iron, chromium, tin, arsenic, antimony, bismuth, silver and gold, not at all. Some metallic salts—including salts of copper and nitrate of silver—are very destructive.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the fifty-fourth report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 20th inst., at noon:—

TO THE PROPRIETORS OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

GENTLEMEN,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance-sheet for the half-year ending 30th June, 1892.

The net profits for that period, including \$30,996.58 balance brought forward from last account, paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, amount to \$763,590.23.

It is with much regret that the directors have to recommend the withdrawal of \$3,000,000 from the reserve fund to credit of profit and loss account. This sum added to \$124,236.88 taken from the profits of the working account is required to make up a total of \$3,124,236.88 to be placed to contingent account in order to provide fully for bad and doubtful accounts. The reserve fund will then stand at \$3,300,000.

After making these transfers and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation \$620,353.35; out of which the directors recommend a dividend of one pound per share, which will absorb \$355,555.55.

The difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 3s. 10½d., the rate of the day, amounts to \$102,989.90.

The balance \$70,807.90 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. St. C. Michaelson, Mr. L. Poesnecker, and the Honourable J. J. Kewick having resigned on leaving the colony, the directors have invited Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. Carl Jantzen, and Mr. Julius Cramer to join the board, which appointments require confirmation at this meeting. Mr. T. E. Davies has been appointed Chairman, and Mr. H. Hoppius Deputy-Chairman for the current year.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. A. G. Wood and Mr. S. G. Bird, who were elected at the general meeting of shareholders on 25th June last.

T. E. DAVIES, Chairman.

Hongkong, 2nd August, 1892.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH JUNE, 1892.

	LIABILITIES.	\$	C.
Paid-up capital	30,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	6,300,000.00		
Marine insurance account	290,000.00		
Notes in circulation	6,680,100.00		
Deposits	300,562,855.65		
	307,251,957.30		
Bills payable, including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments	24,280,507.80		
Profit and loss account	763,590.23		
	311,846,065.73		

ASSETS.

	\$	C.
Cash	17,952,966.84	
Investments, viz:—		
£200,000, 2½ per cent. Consols.	54,845,106.33	
£150,000, 3 per cent. Indian Government Sterling Loan.	63,261,505.47	
The above lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve	1,669,182.81	
Bills discounted, loans and credits	1,661,328.30	
Bills receivable	138,342.90	
Bank premises	138,342.90	
Dead stock	138,342.90	
	311,846,065.73	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 30TH JUNE, 1892.

	Dr.	\$	C.
To amounts written off:—			
Remuneration to directors	10,000.00		
To dividend account:—			
£1 per share on 80,000 shares—£80,000 at 4/6	355,555.55		
To dividend adjustment account:—			
Difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 3/10½, the current rate of the day	302,989.90		
To contingent account	3,124,236.88		
Amount set aside to meet losses	70,807.90		
To balance carried forward to next year	3,763,590.23		
		3,763,590.23	

Cr.

	\$	C.
By balance of undivided profits, 31st December, 1891	30,996.58	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 30th June, 1892, after deducting all expenses and interest paid and due, 732,593.65	763,590.23	
By amount transferred from reserve fund	3,000,000.00	
	3,763,590.23	

RESERVE FUND.

	\$	C.
To amount transferred to profit and loss account	3,000,000.00	
To balance	3,300,000.00	
	6,300,000.00	
By balance, 31st December, 1891	6,300,000.00	
	6,300,000.00	

F. DE BOVIS, Chief Manager.

H. HUNTER, Acting Chief Accountant.

T. E. DAVIES, } Directors.
H. HOPPIUS, }
D. R. SASSON, }

Photographs of the sky, including all stars down to the fourteenth magnitude, are now being made at 18 places—Paris, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Algiers, Greenwich, Rome, Catania, Helsingfors, Potsdam, Oxford, San Fernando, Tacubaya, Santiago, La Plata, Rio Janeiro, the Cape, Sydney, and Melbourne.

THE MASON CASE.

This morning's *Shenbao*, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 4th inst., contains the text of a despatch addressed by the Chinese Minister to the Court of St. James's, to the Marquis of Salisbury, on the Mason case. The following is a very free translation of the document, which is dated from Paris, February 11th, 1892:—

THE CHINESE MINISTER TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES'S, HSÛEH FU-CH'ENG, TO THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

In the ninth moon last year the Chinese Minister sent a despatch to the English Privy Council, in consequence of telegraphic advices received from the Tsung-li Yamen, informing him that a Foreigner employed in the Customs at Chinkiang had assisted the Kolao-hwei by purchasing ammunition and firearms. This man was detected and arrested, and on his effects being searched dynamite was found in his trunks. The case was investigated, and the man, whose name is Mason, was tried for having dynamite in his position, found guilty and sentenced for this offence, by the British Chief Justice at Shanghai, to 9 months' imprisonment with hard labour. Immediately upon receiving this telegraphic news, I, the Chinese Minister, informed you of it. On the evidence the case is a most serious one, and I cannot understand how the sentence could be so light. It is doubtful whether the decision was in accordance with justice. Judging according to Chinese law, the Chinese anticipated the sentence would be a severe one, whereas it has proved to be exceedingly light. The Chief Justice may not have been aware of the real gravity of the case; at all events he tried Mason simply on the charge of having dynamite in his possession without due regard to the attendant circumstances. In the Treaty between China and England there is a clause providing that all English people residing in China shall be subject to English law, and dealt with by the English authorities according to English law. Mason was proved at the trial to be connected with the Kolao-hwei at the time when he was employed in the Chinese Customs, a position of trust and responsibility under the Chinese Government. Why, when he was in this position, should he associate himself with persons of neither lawful occupation nor respectability, and stir up discontent and sedition in China? Not only did he join the Kolao-hwei himself, but he persuaded other employees in the Chinkiang Customs to do likewise. He tried to persuade the *weiyuen*s to become members of this unlawful association; he went to Hongkong and engaged nineteen foreigners to join him in the enterprise, with the intention of taking them up to Chinkiang to stir up rising against the Government among the Chinese, and he shipped at Hongkong 25 cases of firearms to be used in the rebellion. The manner in which these arms were packed was extremely clever; the packages were most innocent looking and were marked with false descriptions of their contents on the outside. On the arrival of these arms in Shanghai, Mason duped the Customs authorities, making the officials believe that the packages contained lawful merchandise. The men he engaged in Hongkong followed on to Shanghai in another steamer and he himself brought up the dynamite, intending to take it on afterwards to Chinkiang. He had in all 25 cases of arms and dynamite. From all this it can be easily seen that Mason committed not one offence, but several, and there are several clauses in the Treaty by which he might be adequately punished, and I respectfully beg you to have the case tried over again. Mason was only punished for carrying dynamite, under the 4th clause of the Treaty, instead of being dealt with under the 3rd clause, which was the proper one. In 1865 the English Prime Minister who revised the Treaties made with China and Japan, kept in mind the necessity of making them so that people who joined lawless associations organised for the purpose of stirring up rebellion, could be punished under their provisions. Mason could have been charged under several of the articles of the Treaty with China, and why he was only prosecuted for having dynamite in his possession is not to be understood. When the Chief Justice passed sentence on him he remarked that Mason's crime was punishable either by a light or a heavy penalty; why did he not consider the case one in which he ought to inflict the most severe punishment? There was nothing in the case to entitle Mason to any leniency, especially as it took place just at the moment when the Kolao-hwei were causing trouble and doing damage to property in China; anyone joining this society at such a time should be most severely dealt with. Another reason why he should not have been shown mercy is that he turned traitor to the Chinese Government, which employed him

as an honest man and treated him fairly; his return was to abuse the confidence placed in him. Had he confessed, as the Chinese authorities thought he might have done, they considered that some little indulgence might be shown him, but at the trial and throughout the whole investigation he stubbornly closed his mouth and refused to say a word. He would neither give the names of his accomplices nor say where he got the money for the arms or what they were intended for. Had he told everything China might now be free of rebels, but he would tell nothing. All he said was that when he joined the Kolao-hwei his intentions were to find out all about the association without taking part in the unlawful actions of the members, but if that were so why would he not tell all he knew to the Chinese authorities? His story is inconsistent and clearly shows that his intentions in joining the society were bad. China considers that the sentence passed upon him was inadequate, and I hope it is not too late to re-try and re-sentence him, and that your Excellency, when Mason's time expires, will have the case re-heard. The reason I ask that the new trial should be held in Hongkong is that the Shanghai Chief Justice should not try him again. This would be in accordance with the regulations laid down in 1865. China desires that Mason should be punished in proportion to the enormity of his crime, if for nothing else, to deter other Englishmen from following his example. I need not further dwell upon the case in detail; you know the facts quite well, but I tell you again it is the wish of the Chinese to have Mason more severely punished. Foreigners in China always desire to have the very best protection of the Chinese Government, yet they go and join the most dangerous association in the Empire.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 5th.

A Russian expeditionary force has entered the Pamirs. The Conservative papers remark that this invasion is coincident with the accession of Mr. Gladstone.

London, August 6th.

The *Times* says that England cannot treat the Russian advance into the Pamirs with indifference, but questions the entire accuracy of the Russian movement reported to be directed against China.

London, August 7th.

It is believed that the prorogation of Parliament will take place on the 20th instant.

Russia has formally proposed the negotiation of a commercial treaty with Germany.

London, August 8th.

In the House of Lords, the Duke of Devonshire said he required an assurance that the Liberals would take no steps to evacuate Egypt without consulting Parliament. In reply, Lord Herschell stated that the Liberals would continue the foreign policy of the Marquis of Salisbury.

London, August 9th.

Lord Herschell was incorrectly reported when made to say that the "Liberals would continue" the foreign policy of the Marquis of Salisbury. What he did say was that he hoped the policy of abstaining from criticism of foreign affairs at critical moments would be continued.

During the debate on the Address, Mr. Goschen said that the Unionists would oppose Home Rule to the bitter end.

Mr. McCarthy demanded an assurance that Home Rule would be placed in the forefront of legislation; and said if this were not done, the Irish would not support Mr. Gladstone.

London, August 10th.

Mr. Gladstone has intimated that the first duty of Parliament will be to repeal the Coercion Bill; and, in regard to Home Rule, the first business of the House will be based upon the full upholding of Imperial supremacy in conjunction with the effectual transfer to Ireland of the management of her own affairs.

It is said to be impossible to predict what position the Irish members of the House of Commons will take until a responsible government deals with the question.

CHESSE.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

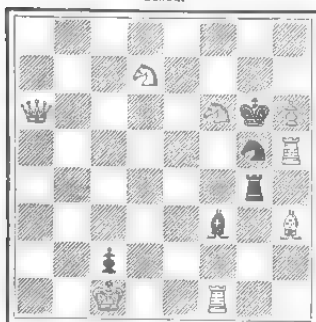
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 29.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to B 8 1—P x Kt (ch)
2—B to B 7 mate if 1—K x Kt
2—Q to R 5 mate if 1—B x P
2—B x B mate if 1—Q x P or R x Q
2—B to Kt 8 mate

Correct solution received from Scacchi, Omega, Ed. B., J.D., Digamma, W.H.S., J.W.E., and O. Balk

PROBLEM No. 31.

By Dr. Gold.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Consultation game played at the Boston Chess Club by W. Steinitz against H. N. Stone, assisted by J. F. Barry in the first part of the game and H. N. Pillsbury in the latter part. It was agreed that the single player should conduct the attack against the Stone Ware or Boston defence of the Evans Gambit. The instructive notes are by Mr. Steinitz in N. Y. Tribune.

EVANS GAMBIT.

- WHITE. BLACK.
W. Steinitz. The Allies.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3 2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4 3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4 4—B x P
5—P to Q B 3 5—B to Q 3 (a)
6—Castles 6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q 4 7—Castles
8—R to K sq. (b) 8—P to K R 3 (c)
9—Q Kt to Q 2 9—P x Q P
10—P to K 5 (d) 10—P x P (e)
11—P x B (f) 11—P x Kt
12—Q x P 12—P x P
13—Q x P (g) 13—Kt to K sq.
14—Q to K Kt 3 14—P to Q 4
15—B to Q 3 15—K to R q.
16—B to R 3 16—R to Kt sq.
17—P to R 4 17—Q to B 3
18—Q R to Q Kt sq. 18—B to B 4
19—B x B 19—Q x B
20—R x P 20—Q to Kt 3
21—Q to B 4 21—P to B 3
22—Q to Q R 4 22—R to Q B sq.
23—R to Q 7 23—Q to B 4
24—R to R B 7 24—Q to Q 6
25—P to R 5 25—Kt to K 4 (h)
26—R x Kt (i) 26—P x R
27—Kt x P 27—Q to Kt 8 ch.
28—Kt to R 2 28—Kt to B 3
29—Kt to Kt 6 ch. 29—K to R 2
30—R x Kt (j) 30—R to B 2 (k)
31—Kt to B 8 ch. 31—K to R sq.
32—Q to K B 4 32—R to Kt 2
33—R x P ch. 33—P x R
34—Q x P ch. 34—R to R 2
35—B to Kt 2 ch. 35—R to Kt 2
36—B x R ch. 36—K to Kt sq.
37—Kt x R 37—Resigns

Notes (abbreviated.)

- (a) First suggested and practised by Kieseritzky. The idea has been taken up a few years ago by Mr. Stone, one of the leaders of the Black party in the present game, in conjunction with the late Mr. Ware and this peculiar defence has been named after these two players, who have adopted it in hundreds of games against strong opponents, with a large balance of the score in their favour.
(b) The waiting attack, which was much in favour with the late Capt. Mackenzie.
(c) Messrs. Stone and Ware considered this essential to their defence. We doubt its special ability, and it is evidently contrary to general principles of development.
(d) Ill considered. P x P was certainly better.
(e) For the Black allies might have now obtained an overwhelming array of pawns by sacrificing the piece at once, e.g., 10... R x P; 11... Kt x R; 12... Kt x R; 13... R x Kt; 14... P to Q 4; followed by 15... P x P and then accordingly P to Q 5 or P to Q 6.

- (f) Withdrawing Kt to Kt 3, or K to B sq. would have given the adversaries another good opportunity of sacrificing a piece for pawns, and the game might have proceeded: 11... Kt to B sq.; 12... Kt x P; 13... Kt x B; 14... B x Kt; 15... R x B; 16... P to Q 3; 17... Kt to Kt 3, 18... P to B 3, followed by P to Q 4, etc.
(g) Much stronger was 14... B to Q R 3, with the probable continuation, 15... P to Q Kt 3 or 13... Kt to K sq.; 14... R to K sq. with an excellent attack; 15... Q x P; 16... R to K sq.; 17... R x R ch; 18... Q x R; 19... K to K sq.; 20... Q to Q sq.; 21... Kt to R 4, followed by Kt to B 5, with a powerful attack.
(h) This exposes them to a powerful attack. Q to B 5 would, however, have been insufficient to relieve them, as white would keep up pressure by Q to Q sq. followed by Q to Q 3 eventually in reply to Q 2 P.
(i) An interesting sacrifice.
(j) The adverse game becomes disintegrated after this effective move.
(k) There was no real remedy. If 30... P x R; 31... Q to Q 7 ch, 32... R to Kt 2; 33... Q x R, and wins. The rest explains itself.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 19th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 14th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 21st.
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 19th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 28th.

* Peru left San Francisco on August 4th. † Ancon left Nagasaki on August 10th. ‡ Empress of India left Vancouver on August 11th. § Yangtze (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	To-day, Aug. 13th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 14th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 16th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 20th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 29th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 30th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Alliance (5), U.S. cruiser, Lieut.-Commander J. C. Rich, 6th August.—Shanghai 30th July.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 6th August.—Otaru and ports 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 7th August.—Hongkong via ports 30th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, T. Hilderbrandt, 7th August.—Hamburg and ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 8th August.—Mojji 5th August, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 9th August.—Otaru and ports 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 9th August.—Kobe 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 10th August.—Otaru and ports, 6th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Amiciita, Norwegian steamer, 528, Jagens, 11th August.—Hongkong, Sugar and Molasses.—Butterfield & Swire.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. Wilson, 12th August.—Kobe 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 12th August.—San Francisco 26th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 12th August.—Hongkong 6th August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 12th August.—Otaru via ports 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 12th August.—Shanghai and ports 5th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 6th August.—Otaru via Hakodate.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 7th August.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 8th August.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 8th August.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Thompson, 8th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 9th August.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 9th August.—Mojji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Jacobs, 10th August.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 10th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 11th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 11th August.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 13th August.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
St. Frances, American ship, 1,810, R. P. Wilbur, 13th August.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer Wakanoura Maru, from Otaru and ports.—Mr. Y. Watanabe in cabin; 18 passengers in steerage.
Per British steamer Empress of Japan, from Hongkong via ports.—Lieut. Sterling and servant, Lieut. J. H. Hicks, Lieut. C. S. Garcia, Mr. Samashima, Mr. Kuhn, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, 2 infants, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Holloway, 2 children, and nurse, Mr. L. Millward, Major Lowe, Messrs. Heason, Baxter, J. A. Taylor, A. H. Groom, S. Ishino, Rev. E. G. Woodhall, and Mr. J. Creagh in cabin; Mr. F. G. Jones, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. and Mrs. Redmond in second class, and 2 passengers in steerage. In Transit: Messrs. F. Smith, S. W. Knapp, R. Stokes, J. Richards, Paymaster Tiffany, U.S.N., Messrs. H. Stemper, J. Mattby, R. W. Lemmon, C. S. Sanders, Miss Goldie, Rev. F. James, Lieut. Foster, R.N., Mr. W. L. Scott, Mr. F. Walsh, and Mr. F. E. Wilkinson in cabin; Mr. F. Collins, 4 Naval Invalids, Mr. Kragloff, and Mr. Rutherford in second class. For Victoria, B.C.: 45 Chinese in steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.: 78 Chinese and 3 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer Wakanoura Maru, from Kobe.—Mr. W. Walker in second class and 45 passengers in steerage.
Per British steamer Belgic, from San Francisco.—Lieut. F. H. Lefavor, U.S.N., Mrs. Lefavor, Mr. A. M. Easton, Mrs. Easton, Mr. Guy W. Brown, U.S.N., Mr. H. Rosenthal, Mr. R. Isaacs, Miss Rose Isaacs, Mr. D. Glynn, Miss A. J. Rowe, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. M. Tsuda, Miss U. Tsuda, Miss M. Morishima, Mrs. E. J. Wessington, Dr. Jas. Harris, and Mr. J. P. Reed in cabin. For Shanghai: Mrs. J. Davis, Mrs. L. D. Miller, Mrs. Jno. Weston, and Dr. J. Langer in cabin. For Vladivostok: Mr. A. Nadezky and Mrs. Nadezky in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Chas. B. Howards in cabin.
Per German steamer Nuernberg, from Hongkong.—Messrs. P. Hayakawa, M. Higashikusa, H. Krause, and J. W. Sipt in cabin; 14 Chinese and 1 Malay in steerage. For Kobe: 5 Chinese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer Yamashiro Maru, from Otaru via ports.—Messrs. Takashita and T. Shioi in cabin; 24 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer Yokohama Maru, from Shanghai and ports.—Lieut.-Commander B. S. Richards, Mrs. Yamaguchi, Prof. W. K. Burton, and Mr. Harry W. Lea in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Murata, Mr. R. Sakata, and Mr. J. Noda in second class, and 24 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer Gaelic, for San Francisco.—Captain J. R. Bartlett, U.S.N., and native servant, Mrs. Bartlett and two daughters, Captain F. W. Dickens, U.S.N., Mrs. Dickens, Captain Felix McCurley, U.S.N., Captain H. P. McIntosh, U.S.N., Mr. K. Uyeno, Mr. R. Stein, Major J. H. Yule, Mr. C. Warburton, Mr. K. P. Lee, Mr. Rud. Meyer, Mr. Chas. Guenther, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Moody and daughter, Dr. Kieffel, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bredon and daughter, Mr. J. M. Finch, Mr. E. Clark, Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Hearst and two children, Mr. Chas. Tatham, Colonel I. Boyd, Mr. W. B. Peters, Rev. Young J. Allen, Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Potts and infant, Mr. McGregor Grant, and Mr. T. Cunningham in cabin.
Per British steamer Empress of Japan, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Sir Edwin Arnold, Mr. Arai, Col. and Mrs. Bass, Rev. Mr. Cobb, Miss Cobb, Lieut. Foster, R.N., Mr. Giles, Mr. and Mrs. M. Haight and infant, Dr. and Mrs. Helmholtz, Rev. F. James, Mr. Kuwaga, Mrs. Kuwaga and maid, Mr.

Kuapp, Mr. and Mrs. Levi, Mr. R. W. Lemmon, Rev. Mr. Morris, Messrs. J. Maltby, J. Nugent, Ogilvie, Pathon, J. Richards, Colonel and Mrs. Rennick, Mr. H. Stenper, Mr. W. L. Scott, Mrs. Wesley Smead, Mr. Savage, Mr. J. Schild, Mr. R. Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and family, Mr. C. S. Sanders, Miss Throop, Mr. Takaki, Mr. S. Thorne, Paymaster Tiffany, U.S.N., Mrs. M. Upton, Mr. R. Upton, Mr. and Mrs. A. Waterhouse, Mr. Walsh, Miss Wood, Miss H. Wood, Mr. Walter, and Mr. Wilkinson in cabin; Mr. E. Bowden, Mr. Collins, Miss Charbonnier, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, Mr. W. S. Hatch, Mr. Krugloff, Mr. H. Russell, and Miss Ulmer in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe: Mrs. A. N. Kellogg and son, Miss James Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Segawa, Mr. and Miss Conkling, Dr. Conkling, Dr. H. deuype, Captain J. Wilson, Messrs. J. Cicagli, Ban, Takahashi, Farrow, and J. R. Brown in cabin. For Shanghai: Lieut. Colonel C. Wogack and Captain R. N. Walker in cabin. For Kobe: Messrs. Hiato, Ota, I. Otsubo, Hayashi, and Hashimoto in second class, and 84 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for Hongkong: Messrs. L. Millward and L. D. Hilles and native servant in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$200,000.00.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,525	1,346	1,830	4,701
Amoy	958	1,463	1,050	3,495
Yokohama	—	509	4,825	5,334
Hongkong	377	1,999	1,980	3,762
Foochow	85	—	—	85
Total	7,768	5,292	9,685	22,745

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	35	—	35
Hongkong	5	250	—	255
Yokohama	—	628	—	628
Total	5	913	—	918

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	30	10	286	326
Amoy	—	1,860	—	1,860
Foochow	2,781	1,170	336	4,487
Shanghai	728	3,476	115	6,646
Calcutta	—	—	60	60
Hankow	—	—	810	810
Yokohama	1,597	1,855	1,174	4,626
Total	5,048	—	688	5,736

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	55	—	—	55
Shanghai	123	—	—	123
Yokohama	449	—	—	449
Total	627	—	—	627

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 2nd August at noon; had moderate S.W. winds and rainy weather to Hakodate, arrived the 3rd at 8.13 a.m. and left the 4th at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather to Oginohama, arrived the 5th at 11.45 a.m. and left at 1.58 p.m.; thence to Noshima had light, southerly winds and overcast cloudy weather; thence moderate northerly breeze and fine weather to port. Time of arrival the 6th August at 5.25 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Huxey, reports:—Left Kobe the 8th August at 4.20 p.m.; had light westerly airs and fine clear weather; passed Oshima Light the 9th at 1.50 a.m. had light winds from N.E. and fine clear weather, similar weather to Rock Island; passed Rock Island at 5.51 p.m. wind E.N.E. moderate breeze and fine weather; thence to port with light variable airs. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th August at 12.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 6th August at 11.43 a.m.; had fresh S.E. wind with moderately clear weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 7th at 8.16 a.m. During the stay in Hakodate wind increased to a fresh S.E. gale with thick and rainy weather, which however moderated the next morning and left at Hakodate the 8th at 8 a.m.; passed Kinkasan the 9th at 7.16 a.m.; Imboye-saki the same day at 11.42 p.m.; experienced moderate and variable winds with cloudy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th August at 11 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Cap-

tain J. Wilson, reports:—Left Kobe the 10th August at 5.50 p.m.; had light winds and hazy weather to Rock Island; from Sagami to port had foggy weather. Time of arrival 4.45 a.m. on the 12th August.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 26th July; had light winds and smooth sea throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th August at 6 a.m. Passage, 15 days, 20 hours, and 32 minutes.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th August at 11 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th August at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 8th August at noon; had fine weather with moderate N. to N.W. breeze. Arriving at Hakodate the 9th at 6.15 a.m. and left the 10th at noon; had strong E.S.E. wind to Shiriyasaki; thence to Yamada Head, light S.W. winds and fine weather; thence to Oginohama, fresh breeze and fine weather. Arriving at Oginohama the 11th at 11 p.m. and left the same day at 2 p.m.; had light breeze and fine weather with light haze until 4 a.m.; at 4.30 p.m. set in foggy and cleared at 10 a.m. on the 12th; thence to port light breeze and very hazy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th August at 5.18 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 5th August at 8.40 a.m., detained at bar. Crossed bar at 10 p.m.; had fine weather to Nagasaki, where arrived the 7th at 5.30 p.m. and left the 8th at 6 p.m. Arrived at Shinonoseki the 9th at 7.30 a.m. and left the same day at 11 a.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Kobe the 10th at 6.40 a.m. and left the 11th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th August at 6 p.m.; had fine pleasant weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In glb. Shirts a large business has been done at improved prices, but otherwise there has not been very much doing, and the market may be considered quiet, with holders firm by reason of a further decline in Sterling Exchange, whilst buyers seem for the moment apathetic. Yarns have been in very small demand, and Woollens quite neglected. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/9½ and Bar Silver at 38½ pence per oz., showing a further fall during the week of ½ pence oz. Sales for the week comprise 75 bales English Yarn, 22,500 pieces glb. Shirts, 1,000 pieces Indigo Shirts, 1,000 pieces Turkey Reds, and 240 dozen Handkerchiefs.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9½ lb, 38 yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
I. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	5.65 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffeta—12 yards, 33 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.75 to 2.25, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches hem	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.28
Medium—30 yards, 32 inches	0.21 to 0.23
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Common—30 yards, 32 inches	0.14 to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 32s, Bombay	60.00 to 73.00
No. 10s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 16/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

MARKETS.

Market quite lifeless, and no new transactions of note to report.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Hare, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Hare, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Market strong, and holders would be glad to get higher prices, but no extensive demand from the country has set in yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	—
Comet	\$1.57½ to 1.60
Devos	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52½

SUGAR.

Market unchanged with fair demand, and some sellers at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.25
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 5th instant; since then settlements on this market amount to 1,422 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 96 piculs; *Filatures*, 664 piculs; *Re-reels* 418 piculs; *Kakada*, 188 piculs; *Oshu*, 56 piculs. Direct shipments for the week are 153 bales, so that the total business done for export is close upon 1,600 piculs.

Prices have been still further pushed up, buyers operating freely and paying long prices. The best qualities are still in demand, medium grades being comparatively easy. As might have been expected, the high rates ruling here have attracted supplies from the country, which holders are anxious to move off as fast as possible, so as to catch the good rates ruling.

A considerable amount of business has been done for Europe, and some long figures have been paid, one parcel of *Filatures* having notched the price of \$760.

Exchange has remained firm in spite of lower silver in London, bankers here complaining of scarcity of dollars.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote; the English mail steamer *Verona* left port on the 6th instant with 173 bales for Europe; the American mail steamer *Gaelic* on the 7th instant had 628 bales for the New York trade, and the Canadian steamer *Empress of Japan*, which left port on the 8th instant, also carried 449 bales for the same destination. These departures bring the present export figures up to 4,498 piculs, against 4,486 piculs last year and 2,030 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Demand has revived and a fair amount of business has been done, prices showing some advance in sympathy with other grades. One parcel *Shimonita* was booked at \$540, with good medium *Shinshu* at \$525; *Chichibu*, \$515; *Anzaka*, \$510; *Maibashi* \$495; *Hachiji* \$480.

Filatures.—The bulk of the trade has been in this department and some high prices have been paid. One parcel, fine size, said to be extra quality, has brought \$760; other European suits \$747½; 732½; \$730, running down to \$650 according to quality. In sorts available for America, high prices have been paid, and still higher ones are now asked. Business has been done as follows: *Taiyosha*, \$730; *Inasha*, \$725; *Tokushinsha*, \$717½; *Kaimaisha*, \$715; *Tokusha*, \$692½, but holders require \$10 advance on these prices for new business. *Koshu* sorts are very strongly held, \$730 being asked for *Yajima*, with \$700 actually paid for *Kusanagisha*.

Re-reels.—High grades have been pushed up in sympathy with *Filatures*; *Shinshu Kaplo*, \$690; *Five Girl* \$675; *Takasaki*, \$677½ and others at similar prices. Medium grades have been rather largely taken at from \$620 to \$630, *Bushus* \$630 to \$600 according to quality and clop.

Kakada.—Considerable business continues, chiefly for Europe. Good silks are somewhat dearer but ordinary parcels are the same as last week.

Oshu sorts. Some business in Hamatsuki at \$510 for good assortment and \$465 for common.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 21 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 21 (Yabu)	—
Hanks—No. 21 (Shinshu)	\$540
Hanks—No. 21 (Shinshu)	530 to 525

Original from

Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu).....	\$510 to	515
Hanks—No. 24 to 3.....	490 to	500
Hanks—No. 3.....	480 to	485
Hanks—No. 31.....	470 to	475
Filatures—Extra 10/15 deniers.....	750 to	760
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers.....	730 to	740
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15 deniers.....	730 to	740
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	710 to	720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700 to	705
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	700 to	710
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers.....	680 to	690
Filatures—No. 3, 13/20 deniers.....	640 to	650
Re-reels—Extra.....	—	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1.....	690 to	700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers.....	680 to	685
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	650 to	660
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/18 deniers.....	630 to	640
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	600 to	605
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	580 to	590
Kakadas—Extra.....	650 to	660
Kakadas—No. 1.....	640 to	645
Kakadas—No. 11.....	620 to	630
Kakadas—No. 2.....	600 to	610
Kakadas—No. 21.....	580 to	591
Kakadas—No. 3.....	560 to	570
Kakadas—No. 31.....	—	—
Kakadas—No. 4.....	—	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24.....	—	—
Hanmatsuki—No. 1, 2.....	500 to	510
Hanmatsuki—No. 3, 4.....	470 to	480
Solai—No. 21.....	—	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 12th Aug., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Europe.....	1,975	1,998	461
America.....	2,444	3,239	1,515
Total.....	4,419	5,237	2,030
Settlements and Direct.....	4,498	4,486	2,030
Export from 1st July.....	5,800	5,950	2,050
Stock, 12th August.....	3,700	4,800	6,950
Available supplies to date.....	9,500	10,450	9,000

WASTE SILK.

The market is rather slow, sales for the week being 275 piculs, of which 45 piculs were *Noshi*, 230 piculs *Kibiso*. The market "hangs fire" sellers and buyers being wide apart. In the meantime, arrivals are plentiful and the present stock is very near 8,000 piculs. Holders try to be strong in their ideas; they fancy that Waste silk should follow Raw and go up in like proportion, but this does not always happen; the spinning industry in Europe does not seem to be flourishing, and consumers say they must have their Raw material at lower prices.

There has been only one shipping opportunity. The English mail steamer *Verona*, which left port on the 6th instant, carried 126 bales for various European ports. The total shipments to date are now 1,610 piculs against 137 piculs last year and 727 piculs to the same date in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—The stock on the market is increased to 1,000 piculs, but there is no change in the situation, buyers holding off.

Noshi.—Some further business has been done in *Joshu* at \$68, with a few small parcels *Filatures* at from \$105 to \$115.

Kibiso.—Several transactions have been made. *Filatures* are noted at prices ranging from \$77½ to \$96, according to grade. One large parcel *Joshu Hira* has arrived from the country and is reported sold at \$30.

In other sorts, no business to report.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	\$110 to	120
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	—	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	\$68 to	70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	60 to	65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	90 to	95
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	80 to	85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	—	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	—	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good.....	—	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low.....	—	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 12th Aug., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Waste Silk.....	1,510	137	727
Pierced Cocoons.....	—	—	—
Total.....	1,510	137	727
Settlements and Direct.....	800	400	600
Export from 1st July.....	7,800	6,100	8,100
Stock, 12th August.....	—	—	—
Available supplies to date.....	8,600	6,500	8,900

Exchange remains at last week's rates in spite of further reductions in silver at home. Bankers here

complain of scarcity of dollars and keep quotations up accordingly:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/11; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/12; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$70½; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.69; 6m/s. fcs. 3.73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 12th Aug., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	290	Cocoons.....	1,020
Filatures.....	1,250	Noshi-ito.....	4,000
Re-reels.....	1,600	Kibiso.....	2,610
Kakada.....	320	Mawata.....	50
Oshu.....	160	Sundries.....	120
Tayssam Kinds.....	—	—	—
Total piculs.....	3,700	Total piculs.....	7,800

TEA.

With stocks accumulating, market is dull, and sellers, anxious to realize, are accepting a slight reduction on quotations given.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest.....	\$12 to 33
Choice.....	29 to 31
Fine.....	25 to 27
Good Medium.....	22 to 24
Medium.....	19 to 21
Good Common.....	17 to 18
Common.....	14 to 16
—	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange, still very low, has not followed the further reductions on Silver in London. The quotations below are nominal.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/10
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/10
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/10½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3/57
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3/58
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	14 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	2 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight.....	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	68½
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	70½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	71½
Silver.....	38½

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 8.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 20TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可寄書信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 20TH, 1892.

MARRIAGE

On Tuesday, August 16th, at Christ Church, and also at the Swiss Consulate, BESSIE, eldest daughter of John Goddard to HENRY LOUIS FARDEL.

DEATH.

On the 17th August, ARTHUR HEARNE, Manager, Club Hotel, aged 41 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A FIRE broke out on the 12th inst. at Mitomura in Korigami District of Gifu Prefecture, and before the flames could be subdued 21 houses were destroyed.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Otsu reports that Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Arisugawa (senior) arrived there on the 15th inst., and proceeded to Maiko the following day.

MR. NAGAI MATSUTARO, a member of the House of Representatives for the seventh district of Hiroshima Prefecture, who had been suffering from inflammation of the lungs, expired on the 9th inst.

THE work of doubling the lines between Ueno and Omiya on the Japan Railway Company, has progressed considerably, and it is expected that the lines will be completed in October next.

THE total receipts of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha during the month of July last were yen 56,569,776, of which yen 29,474,961 was obtained from passengers, and yen 27,094,815 from freight.

ON the evening of the 13th inst., about half-past 9 o'clock, a fire broke out in a house at Susaki, Mukojima, Honjo, Tokyo, and before the flames could be subdued 6 residences were burnt, and 4 partly damaged.

DURING the five months ended May last, 81,514.60 tons of coal were obtained at Takashima mine, Nagasaki. The sales during the

period amounted to 82,302.04 tons, valued at yen 213,884.92. The number of persons employed was 25,539, to whom yen 120,649.69 was paid in wages.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE, who has been staying at Kamakura, proceeded to Yokosuka on the 11th inst., and inspected the Naval Shipbuilding Yard. He also visited the Japanese war vessels now lying in the port.

THE grand festival of the Futa-arayama shrine at Nikko, will be held during the three days ending the 23rd inst., and special trains will run from Utsunomiya for Nikko as follows:—4.20 a.m. and 9.35 a.m. on the 21st, and 5 a.m. and 9.35 a.m. on the 22nd and the 23rd.

MR. NAKAMA, Chief of Takaoka District, Kochi Prefecture, has been fined, by the Home Minister, a sum equal to two months' salary for the carelessness which resulted in the loss of votes and ballot boxes which were in his charge during the parliamentary general election in the second district of Kochi.

THE cost of repairing the damage caused to roads, embankments, bridges, etc., by the recent serious inundations in Okayama Prefecture, is estimated at yen 1,300,000, of which yen 300,000 will be defrayed from the Local Fund, and the remainder, yen 1,000,000, is to be granted from the Treasury.

A RETURN of telegraphic messages and receipts for July last gives the following figures:—Foreign messages 3,512, receipts yen 10,238.520; inland messages 442,401, receipts yen 94,556.520. These figures show an increase of 14,887 messages and yen 1,794,202 in receipts, as compared with the previous month.

COUNT ITAGAKI, Radical leader, says a telegram from Iwamura, Nagano Prefecture, delivered an address at a public meeting of the *Yiyu-to* held there on the 15th instant, which was attended by an audience of over three thousand persons. The message further states that the Count will return to the capital on the following day, passing the night at Karuizawa.

THE expenses of the public works and the relief of suffering in the inundated districts of Tokushima Prefecture are estimated at over yen 1,800,000. The people are able to defray yen 100,000 towards this amount. The total relief fund to be distributed among Okayama, Tokushima, and Hyogo Prefectures will be over yen 4,000,000.

ABOUT 8 o'clock on the night of the 17th inst. flames burst out of the upper storey of the Branch of the Tanko Railway Company at Tsukiji, Kyobashi, Tokyo. The whole building and the office was burnt, but the books were saved and no damage was done to the coal depôts. The company's business will be transacted at the residence of Mr. Okada Sauenori at Nichome, Tsukiji for the next few days.

A SOCIAL gathering of medical men in Yokohama promoted by Messrs. Tanuma, Secretary; Mitsuhashi, Councillor; and Aoki, Chief of the Sanitary Section of the Kanagawa Kencho. Sugei, Superintendent of Police in Kanagawa; Yamashita, Chief of the Yokohama Police Station; Sato, Mayor of Yokohama; Otunki, Chief of the Yokohama Foreign Settlement Police Office; Doctors Kondo, Miyajima, Shima, Ema, Asai, Sudo, Ninomiya, and Hyodo, will take place at the Chitoseru, Sumiyoshicho, on the 17th inst.

THE number of shares sold in the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and their average value during the month of July last, were as follows:—1,283

Sanyo Railway shares at 24 yen, 12,922 Kansai Railway shares at 38 yen, 4,932 Kiushu Railway shares at 35 yen, 101,322 Tanko Railway shares at 54 yen, 369 Japan Weaving Company's shares at 18 yen, 11,778 Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning shares at 44 yen, 1,329 Yokohama Specie Bank's shares (new) at 115 yen, 353 Japan Railway (new) shares at 44 yen each, making a total of 134,373 shares.

THE distances between various stations on the Iwamizawa and Muroran line of the Tanko Railway Company are as follows:—Between Muroran and Horobetsu, 7m. 77ch., Horobetsu and Noboribetsu, 4m. 26ch., Noboribetsu and Shiraoi, 11m. 68ch., Shiraoi and Tomakomaki, 13m. 34ch., Tomakomaki and Oiwake, 22m. 07ch., Oiwake and Yoshihito, 9m. 55ch., and Yoshihito and Iwamizawa, 14m. 21ch., a total of 83m. 48ch.

THE export trade of *habutae* (a kind of silk goods) in Japan is growing larger every year. The following are the returns for the five years ended 1891:—1891, 83,617 *tan* (one *tan* = about 71 yards), valued at yen 1,445,639; 1890, 42,842 *tan*, valued at yen 811,538; 1889, 14,674 *tan*, valued at yen 250,743; 1888, 5,431 *tan*, valued at yen 95,975, and in 1887 1,206 *tan*, valued at yen 15,723 in 1887.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha has demanded yen 5,000 from the British Admiralty for damage sustained by the ship *Nishikigawa Maru*, while engaged in rescuing the British war-vessel *Pigmy*, which stranded on a rock off the port of Mihara in Hiroshima Prefecture on the 12th of January. Two members of the crew of the former ship were injured. After consultation with the British Consul at Kobe the Shipping Company have agreed to place their claim at yen 3,500.

THE Import trade is much the same as last reported. Whether there are or not heavy transactions pending it is difficult to say, but enquiries on a very large scale have been made, and an extensive business would have been recorded had holders accepted the terms offered. The latter, however, appear to be under the impression that before the orders can be filled to meet the requirements of the autumn trade current prices must be considerably advanced for most descriptions of Piece-goods, for which rates are very firm, and present all the appearance of remaining so. Yarns, on the other hand, though but sparingly dealt in are a shade easier, but probably a considerable demand would induce a proportionate rise in values. There has been more enquiry for Metals, and stocks being low an improvement may be looked for in this trade as soon as the heat of summer is over. Kerosene is firm, though transactions have not been on an extensive scale. The demand for Sugar has considerably reduced stocks of all kinds, but prices remain unchanged. The Silk trade has been brisk, and prices—especially for the higher qualities—have again considerably advanced, rates for all grades having also hardened. Waste Silk has not been largely dealt in, holders still maintaining an unbending attitude in regard to values. Sales having been small and arrivals heavy, the stock has largely increased, and this, together with advices from consumers to the effect that lower prices must be paid before transactions on a large scale can be hoped for, points to an inevitable come down in the present ideas of holders. The Tea trade continues on a moderate scale, and as the season advances quality declines. Prices, however, have not on this account undergone any change. Rates of exchange have remained but slightly.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN" AND THE YOKOHAMA WATERWORKS.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun*, one of the leading Tokyo journals, contains a singular paragraph about the Yokohama Waterworks. After alluding to the project now on foot to increase the works, it says:—"The Waterworks were originally constructed during the governorship of Mr. Oki Morikata after designs by Major-General Palmer. These designs were at the time opposed by a foreign engineer in the employment of the Home Office, who urged that the filter should be placed at the entrance to the tunnel at the intake so as to prevent the ingress of muddy water, and that the mouth of the tunnel should be more strongly built so as to prevent breaking down. But Major-General Palmer recommended that the filter be placed, not at the entrance of the tunnel at the intake, but at the reservoir at the exit of the tunnel. The Authorities, seeing that both plans presented advantages, finally adopted Major-General Palmer's. But practical trial shows that Major-General Palmer's design was very faulty. Not only would it have been more convenient to put the filter at the intake, but also, had it been placed there, inasmuch as filtered water would have been sent thence to the reservoir, the tunnel, though a distance of over three *ri*, would have been protected against the danger of fouling, and in rainy weather there would have been less muddiness of the water. But by following Major-General Palmer's design, and not placing the filter at the intake, muddy water flows into the tunnel in times of heavy rain, and, moreover, as there is danger of the brick-work of the tunnel giving way, an ample volume of water cannot be sent through it, and the consequence is that, the supply proving insufficient, the authorities have now come to understand the faultiness of the design. Of course this result must be laid at the door of the engineer's carelessness (*fuchui*), but the authorities concerned cannot escape a similar charge."

The *Mainichi* attributes this statement to "a certain person." Doubtless that is true. The story did not emanate from the *Mainichi's* office: it is evidently the composition of an ignorant paragraphist writing on hearsay evidence. But since it may possibly deceive readers who do not understand waterworks, we think it advisable to point out that it contains hardly a word of truth from first to last. Prominent among its errors is the assertion that a foreign engineer of the Home Department recommended that the filter-beds should be placed at the intake, and also gave some advice as to the manner of constructing the aqueduct tunnels. We happen to be in a position to say with certainty that the said engineer's report made no mention whatever of either the tunnels or the location of the filter-beds. The only expert who seriously considered the site of the filter-beds was the very engineer whom the *Mainichi* so lightly accuses of "carelessness." Unquestionably the filter-beds would have been placed by him as a matter of choice, at or near the intake, but the thing was impossible, as anyone acquainted with the locality must know, for the precipitous hill-sides of the Sagami-gawa valley offer no site anywhere for filter-beds. Under the circumstances, the best that could be done was done. Provision was made for sufficient clarification of the water prior to its entry into the aqueduct, as well as for thorough scouring out of the main pipe, by the simplest process, at all depressions where silt could collect. So long as the men in charge of the conduit do their duty properly, it is absurd to talk, as the *Mainichi* does, about inconvenient accumulation of mud in the aqueduct pipes. Still more ignorant and misleading is the assertion that owing to the defective construction of the aqueduct a sufficient quantity of water cannot be sent through it without endangering the brick-work. The *Mainichi* seems to be in a state of perplexity, not alone as to the capacity of the tunnel, but also as to the contingencies of a flood in the Sagami River. Evidently it does not know that the amount of the flow of water through the tunnels is absolutely

independent of the state of the river, and depends solely on the quantity of water delivered into the aqueduct by the pumping engines, which are themselves placed above the level of the highest floods.

What perplexes us about an article like that of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, is not altogether the singular absence it displays of anything like a sense of journalistic responsibility, though that, indeed, is striking enough, for our contemporary appears to think itself free to attack the professional reputation of an eminent engineer with just as little forethought or information as would be required in reproducing some way-side fable about anonymous individuals. But we are compelled to admit that the practice of Japanese journals has familiarized us with that kind of thing. They cry out for their "rights," freedom of speech, and so forth, but they allow themselves to abuse so flagrantly the freedom which they already enjoy that their fitness for a larger measure is more than doubtful. However, that, as we have said, perplexes us less than the origin of such an article, and the fact that it fails to elicit any official contradiction. How does the *Mainichi Shimbun* know that any report was prepared by a foreign engineer of the Home Department on the original design of the Yokohama Waterworks? And why are these false and injurious assertions allowed by the Japanese Authorities to circulate unrestrainedly in the vernacular press? The Departments of State owe something more to their foreign employés than the mere payment of salary. They owe them the common justice of protecting them against such libels as this of the *Mainichi Shimbun*; libels which an explicit official correction can always destroy, but which the unfortunate foreigner himself is almost powerless to refute. Will the *Mainichi Shimbun* reproduce our refutation of its ignorant and injurious errors? Not a bit of it. If it notices the matter at all, there will be simply some shuffle or quibble such as we have already seen in the case of the attack upon the Waterworks from another quarter. But the probability is that the *Mainichi's* libelous statement will go uncontradicted and uncorrected. This system of indifference reacts upon the newspapers. They lose all sense of responsibility and become as untrustworthy as they are reckless. And it is exceedingly hard on the foreigners whose professional reputation is at stake.

"S."

MR. LOUREIRO's assailant "S." returns to the attack in another long letter addressed to one of our local contemporaries. He is apparently indignant with us because, instead of dealing with "the general tenor" of the accusations preferred against Mr. Loureiro, we confined ourselves to rebutting the specific charges. To that rational course, however, we propose to adhere. From the outset we undertook to do one thing and one thing only, namely, to show that the Kobe correspondent, "One Aggrieved," had no grounds whatever for the specific charge formulated by him against Mr. Loureiro, the charge of having received, in his official capacity, an important diplomatic communication, and having suppressed that communication in his own private interests and in flagrant dereliction of his duty. Upon that alleged act of the Consul General's, the Kobe writer founded his accusation that Mr. Loureiro had been instrumental in bringing about the present state of affairs. Therefore, with that act alone we undertook to deal. "S." himself now admits that the assertion of "One aggrieved" was "untenable," but nevertheless blames us because we did not rebut the "general tenor" of "One Aggrieved's" letter, instead of simply exposing the falsehood of his categorical allegations. It is more amusing than annoying to be assailed in such a manner. So far as "S." is concerned, we desire to remind him that he entered the controversy at a late stage, and that the rudeness and irrelevance of his writing precluded us from noticing it at all until the *Japan Gazette* made it the text of a singularly misleading article. "S." has now enlarged, and assigned an interpretation of his own to,

the case previously advanced against Mr. Loureiro, and he actually has the assurance to speak as though we had dealt with that extended case from the outset instead of with the particular phase of it set forth by the Kobe correspondent. He also tells us that "the Portuguese are arranged (*sic*) in a solid phalanx against their late representative in Tokyo." If so, it is unfortunate that they cannot agree as to the nature of the charges publicly preferred by them against that gentleman. The first to open the campaign was "One Aggrieved." Now we have "S." in the field, who calmly tells us that the assertion of "One Aggrieved" is untenable. And yet another Portuguese, writing in the Kobe press, disagrees equally with "S." No wonder that outsiders fail to recognise the "solidity" of the "phalanx."

One point is worth noticing. "S." who, according to the *Japan Gazette*, is either an official or officially inspired, writes in quite a piteous strain about Portugal's financial embarrassments. He expresses astonishment that "the Foreign Office in Tokyo could have lent itself to be the tool of Mr. Loureiro in forcing the hand of an impoverished Government on the brink of bankruptcy to keep in their annual budget a heavy item for the sake of Mr. Loureiro and a handful of Portuguese in Japan." Now all this is so glaringly disingenuous that we are almost compelled to doubt the writer's honesty. Was there a shadow of necessity for the Portuguese Government to retain this "heavy item"—an item of about a thousand pounds sterling annually—in the Budget? Not a shadow. At any moment before the 1st of July they might have intimated an intention of transferring the Consular charge of their nationals in Japan to some of the Great Powers, England, France, or another. That method would have been less costly even than the system now actually in force, and would have secured the privilege of exemption from Japanese jurisdiction. Why did not Portugal resort to it? We cannot tell. But we do know that with such a simple and inexpensive alternative available, she is entirely beyond the pale of all commiseration in the matter of finance. She might have expunged the "heavy item" from her Budget, and yet preserved the treaty privileges of her nationals. But she was either too indifferent or too careless to do so. Pecuniary inability was not a necessary factor in the situation at all, and to assert that it was is merely to throw dust in the eyes of the public.

And how, in the name of the commonest sense, could Mr. Loureiro's interests have been furthered by contriving that his nationals in Japan should come under Japanese jurisdiction? Cannot "S." see that from a selfish point of view, such a consummation was the very last which Mr. Loureiro should have endeavoured to bring about? So soon as Japan, by Imperial Decree, abrogated the extraterritorial clauses of her Treaty with Portugal and assumed jurisdiction over Portuguese subject in this country, all possibility disappeared of the Consul-General's office in Tokyo being resuscitated. "S." may perhaps reply that Mr. Loureiro did not really desire such a result, but that he hoped the threat of it would prevent his own removal. The answer to that is that no threat of the kind was officially made until after Mr. Loureiro had been actually removed from office and had actually left Japan. Portugal, having finally abolished the Consulate-General and finding herself confronted by the prospect of some of her subjects' passing under Japanese jurisdiction, could have saved the situation at any moment before the 1st of July by asking one of the Great Powers to assume judicial charge of her people, a method already resorted to by other small States. Probably everybody at this side of the water—the Japanese Government included—expected her to take that step. Assuredly with such an easy and costless escape from the dilemma, no one supposed that she would either fold her hands helplessly or re-establish the Consulate-General in Tokyo. To

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this moment Portugal's action, or rather inaction, remains to us wholly inexplicable.

A good illustration of "S.'s" method of argument is furnished by the following:—"The Mail asserts that Japan's intention to assume jurisdiction herself was not made (*sic*) until after Mr. Loureiro's departure." Of course we have never advanced any such assertion. Not being omniscient, we do not undertake to declare when or under what circumstances an "intention" began to be formulated in the minds of any officials. Japan's intention may have been conceived before Mr. Loureiro left Japan. Very likely it was. Mr. Loureiro may have known of it. Very likely he did. But it had not received official expression of any kind until after his departure from Tokyo.

One word more. "S." at the close of his letter writes thus:—

Having established the fact that Mr. Loureiro knew perfectly well the intentions of the Japanese Government, is it not pertinent to ask if Mr. Loureiro has not failed in his duty to his country, in not striving to obtain a *quid pro quo* for the rights that his nationals were about to be deprived of in an arbitrary manner? The Mail will perhaps say that the late Consul-General had no instructions to enter into any negotiations of that nature. It may be so, but was it not in that case, his clear duty to represent to his Government the necessity of making the best of a bad job. I am afraid Mr. Loureiro did not move a finger in that direction.

The Editor of the Mail has thought fit to treat this matter in a most flippant manner. He forgot perhaps that he was dealing with a people in whose country more blood has been spilt in the cause of liberty than in any other country in the world. It was only two years ago that the Mail praised Mr. Loureiro for a translation of the Portuguese Criminal and Civil Codes, which it asserted contained the most advanced notions of jurisprudence. The liberty the Portuguese enjoy under their laws has cost their great grandfathers a good deal of blood, and they will not surely surrender it without a hard struggle, despite the Mail's advice not to spend any more money in telegrams. Portugal did not cry *misericordiam* to Great Britain in the African imbroglio, much less is she likely to do so to Japan.

We find here the usual retreat from controversy to patriotism; the usual attempt, so familiar in Yokohama, to prove that unless a newspaper endorses and supports every baseless and slanderous accusation advanced in support of a certain cause, it must be an enemy of that cause. For vindicating the reputation of the Portuguese Consul-General and Chargé d'Affaires against irresponsible traders, we are charged with "forgetting that we are dealing with a people in whose country more blood has been spilt in the cause of liberty than in any other country in the world." Let us dismiss such fustian folly altogether. Any reasonable effort made by the Portuguese in Japan to improve the unhappy position in which they are now placed, would have our support and sympathy. We believe that they are entirely in the wrong route when they devote themselves to anonymously villifying their own officials in the public press and to misstating the facts of the case. But certainly we regret that they should have been deprived of a valued privilege without receiving any equivalent, and we heartily endorse the sentiment breathed at the close of "S.'s" letter. The Government in Lisbon has displayed singular carelessness about the interests of its nationals in Japan, and while every consideration should be extended to its pecuniary embarrassments, which we trust are only temporary, it should be moved by all possible means to obtain for its subjects some equivalent for the privileges which they have lost through its neglect.

THE ATTEMPT TO MURDER MR. FRICK.

SOME of the particulars of the attempt to murder Mr. Frick, Chairman of the Carnegie Steel Company, are very curious. The would-be assassin, Alexander Berkman, did not behave in a manner at all consistent with his design. He presented himself over and over again at the office of his victim, sending in his card on each occasion, and on each occasion disappearing before the attendants could convey a message to him. Such tactics ought to have

been excellently calculated to arouse suspicion, but they did not. Berkman commenced his manoeuvres on Saturday 16th of July and concluded them on the following Saturday. He began by trying to see Mr. Frick's private secretary, Mr. Bosworth. To reach the latter's office he had to go up to a fifth floor by an elevator. He was told that Mr. Bosworth would see him immediately, but he stepped into the elevator and took his departure. This performance he repeated on Monday and Tuesday, managing on each day to get clear away before the servant could inform him of Mr. Bosworth's readiness to see him. On Thursday he began to ask for Mr. Frick himself, whose office was on the second floor. Once on Thursday and three times on Saturday he did this, always—until the third call on Saturday—disappearing before a reply could be carried to him by the servant who had taken his card. It was noticed that when he called at 11 o'clock and 1 o'clock on Saturday he was in a state of great nervousness, but when he presented himself finally at 2 o'clock, all symptoms of nervousness had disappeared, and he acted with the greatest resolution. Admitted to Frick's office, he lodged two pistol bullets in the back of that gentleman's neck at a range of 5 feet, and stabbed him four times with a dagger. Yet of the six wounds none is likely to prove serious. Frick had received a number of threatening letters, and the Superintendent of Public Safety had been anxious to place a guard in his office, but the Chairman had said:—"No. If I can't live in America without constant police surveillance, I won't live at all." It certainly does seem very singular that, in the face of all this, conduct like that of Berkman should not have awakened any suspicion. Berkman, who is described as a young Russian Jew speaking broken English, made not the smallest secret about his doings. He declared that he had come to Pittsburgh from New York expressly to kill Frick, and that he bitterly regretted his failure. He is described as a thin and insignificant little man, with a small dark moustache and wearing glasses, who, during his five years' residence in the States, had worked in various factories, one of his employments having been that of a compositor on John Most's paper, the *Freiheit*. Here is an account of an interview with him in prison on the evening of the attempted murder, after he had essayed to blow himself into the next world by chewing a fulminate cartridge:—

"What did you shoot him for?"

"What did I shoot him for? That's a nice question to ask. Do you know any person in this world who is better or happier for his ever having lived? I can find you thousands whom he has made miserable. He is a dog. I wanted to kill him and I am ready to die for it."

Berkman began to walk excitedly up and down his cell. He stopped at the door again, drew his hand through his hair and smiled.

"I suppose," he said, "you are going to describe me as a red hot anarchist? Well, say what you like; it cannot affect me."

"Do you live in Pittsburgh?"

"Oh, no. I simply came here to kill Frick. It wasn't an accident. I have no hesitation in telling you this. It did not come into my head all in one instant. I thought over it a long time and I said to myself: 'If I kill, escape is out of the question.' Then I asked myself: 'Is it worth while to sacrifice my life to kill Frick?' I decided that it was. I was only one, and my death would be nothing at all compared with the happiness of the thousands of workmen who would bless my memory. You see, I understand what I have done and I know what my punishment will be, but as it is all in a great cause I do not mind it a bit."

"Are you a socialist, or an anarchist, or a nihilist, or all three?"

The prisoner laughed. "Those names, in your mind, sound very bloody." He grew serious in an instant and went on: "I believe in liberty and justice. I have only been in your country five years, but I know its Constitution. Who lives up to it? Does the capitalist consider that the working man is his equal? Every rich man is a traitor to his country. What work did Frick ever do to give him the right to hold in his hands the happiness of thousands of workmen? I believe that every man is a king and that every tyrant should die. What's the use of my telling this to you? I wanted to kill Frick. I came here to do so. I am sorry I did not kill him at once. Now I want him to die."

Berkman was unable to state how many shots he had fired or how many stabs he had inflicted. He

said he was too excited and nervous at the time to remember.

Several policemen came into the corridor at that moment and one of them said to the prisoner: "They say you had a crowd of confederates waiting for you outside the building. Did you?"

He laughed and answered in English: "Not on your life."

THE YOKOHAMA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

The following circular has been addressed to the shareholders of the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company, Limited:—

Notice is hereby given that An Extraordinary General Meeting of The Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company, Limited will be held at The Chamber of Commerce Rooms, No. 61, Yokohama on Thursday, the 25th day of August, 1892, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Meeting is called for the purpose of considering the financial position of the Company and the advisability of winding up the same.

At the said Meeting the following special Resolutions will be moved namely:—

(1). That in the opinion of this Meeting it is advisable that The Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company, Limited, should be wound up voluntarily and it is resolved accordingly that the said Company be wound up voluntarily.

(2). That two persons be appointed by this Meeting to be the liquidators of the said Company.

And the following Extraordinary Resolution will be proposed at the said Meeting:—

That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this Meeting that The Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company, Limited, cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business and that it is advisable to wind up the same. And that a Liquidator be appointed.

The Company's career has been unexpectedly short, but of course it was not to be expected that the business men who direct its affairs would palter with a plainly hopeless situation. Presumably the *Japan Gazette* will be in the market. Like all Yokohama journals it has had a tolerably chequered career. But if a number of wide-awake folks were contented to pay fifty-five thousand dollars for it twenty months ago, it ought to have a substantial value still. At the best, however, there will be heavy loss.

THE KINGSIN LINER "SALATIGA."

A LARGE number of residents mostly belonging to the German community of the Settlement, accepted the hospitable invitation of Captain Hildebrandt to a "Fruehschoppen," on board his ship, the *Salatiga*, on Saturday forenoon. The vessel is a new addition to the fleet of the Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rhederei (Kingsin line), and was built in the Walker Shipbuilding Yard, by Sir William G. Armstrong, Mitchell and Co., towards the close of 1890, since which time she has made four trips on the company's Sunda line to the entire satisfaction of all concerned—owners, captain, passengers, and crew. Her principal dimensions are as follows:—length over all, 311 feet; between perpendiculars 300 feet; extreme breadth 41 feet; depth, moulded 24 feet 1 in.; depth of hold 21 feet 9 in. She has a cargo capacity of 144,070 cubic feet, carrying 1,640 tons nett, while the bunkers are built for 527 tons of coal, and her tanks for 437 tons of water ballast. Under ordinary circumstances her triple expansion engines, of the latest design and very compact, will drive her at a speed of 12 knots per hour; she has besides, two masts, the foremast being square rigged. The accommodation for passengers is extremely ample and in point of adornment and air-space the vessel is easily alongside a first-class mail-steamer. There are thirteen first-class cabins—nine fitted with two berths each, and four, extremely large and intended for families, with four berths—thirty-four in all, and all are situate on the main deck with a spacious alley-way running round, allowing of large ports and plenty of ventilation. The saloon is very handsome in its light elm carvings and mural paintings, while exactly above it is the music room, luxuriously furnished with velvet lounges and containing, within an alcove, a first class piano; the decoration is the same as in the room below, the paintings being chiefly allegorical representations of the Nine Muses. The officers' quarters are nearly amidships. The baths, of marble and elegantly fitted up with every variety of spray, douche, and

shower, lie right aft. The promenade deck is spacious, and at its extreme end is placed the steering bridge, chart-room, and Captain's room. Strong steam-winchs driven by a powerful donkey engine are employed for the transfer of the cargo from the hold to the shore, or lighters, and *vice versa*. The crew are accommodated forward in a raised top-gallant fore-castle, and their quarters are by no means cramped. Altogether the *Salatiga* is one of the best appointed passenger and cargo steamers which we have had in port lately.

BAILIFFS.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* urges the need of reform in the bailiff system as practised in Japan. Our contemporary observes that it is undesirable that this class of men should be dependent for a living on the money collected by means of distraint levied on the goods of private individuals. Desirous of pleasing their employers, they almost invariably err on the side of severity towards those whose property they attach. Their occupation resembles, to all intents and purposes, that of a trader whose profits are regulated by his ability to drive hard bargains. Though furnished with legal powers by the Court, they are not paid by the Court. Hence they are free to adopt what methods of attaining their ends they please, and, according to the *Hochi*, these are frequently cruel and violent. Two reforms our contemporary wishes to see effected; one being the pay of bailiffs and the thorough control of their actions by the Courts to which they are attached, and the other, the choice of a higher class of men to act in this capacity. The *Hochi* says that the men who act as bailiffs have neither education nor manners. Is not this drawing the point rather too fine? It is difficult enough to induce bankrupts and others to do their best to satisfy their creditors even now by means of the bailiffs of whose roughness the *Hochi* complains, but what would be the state of affairs if these officers were succeeded by polished gentlemen who would shrink from causing inconvenience, and who would bow apologies between every sentence uttered. The suggestion that bailiffs should be regularly paid officers of the Crown is certainly a good one, but it can hardly be expected that Courts should pay to such officers salaries that would satisfy men of education.

THE YOKOHAMA UNION ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

THE adjourned meeting of the above Company was held on the 9th instant, and fully maintained the reputation of the Company in respect of the noise and disorder by which the meeting was characterised. In anticipation of lively times, several *soshi* attended, shares which entitled them to be present having been purchased for them. The number of shareholders present was 53. The first question the meeting was called on to decide was, should the resignations of the former office-bearers be accepted. After considerable discussion an affirmative answer was given to this question. The two other items of business before the meeting were the election of new officers and the discussion of the revision of the Company's rules. Mr. Otsuka Nariyoshi was elected Chairman of the meeting. But he was unequal to the task of keeping it in order. A long and noisy discussion on the order in which the two above-named items should be taken took place, with the result that the revision of the rules was discussed first. The opposition to this measure was at first very great, but it was eventually agreed to. The election of officers followed: Mr. Kimura Riemon was chosen to be Chairman of Directors and among the Directors were Tanaka Heihachi and Takashima Kaemon. After passing a resolution to the effect that the Company's buildings should be insured the meeting dispersed.

FENCING BY BLIND MEN.

THE Japanese are often said to be lacking in originality. But careful consideration of the various methods of making a living devised by the lower and middle classes in this country

leads to an opposite conclusion. In being lovers of novelty the Japanese are like Occidentals. No student of western life and manners can deny that the desire to see, hear, and do new things is deep-seated in us all. The *Hochi Shimbun* relates that in a certain Japanese country town, in order to fill his empty coffers, a Japanese trader determined to hold a series of fencing matches in which the combatants should be blind men. He selected his fencers carefully, and hired a large theatre for the occasion. The entertainment took immensely. The combatants, some of whom were priests having a knowledge of fencing, created no end of diversion by the manner in which they stalked about the stage in search of their opponents and by the agility with which they avoided blows when actually fencing. The account goes on to say that the poor blind men who afforded the diversion were cheated out of their earnings by their employer. They were informed that the audience only consisted of about 100 persons, and hence was far too small to allow of the manager doing more than paying expenses. To this the blind men replied that the peals of laughter which greeted their ears were much too loud to be produced by 100 persons and that they were being deceived. But they were put off without payment from night to night, until eventually the manager absconded with the whole proceeds of the entertainment. Profiting by this experience the blind fencers have determined to manage the next fencing bouts themselves, with the aid of their friends.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK RUMOURS.

WE refrained on Monday from making any reference to the rumours so industriously circulated in regard to this Bank, as we considered that, in face of the report just published, they were so wildly improbable as to carry their own refutation. The sequel proves the correctness of this view, for telegraphic information received from Hongkong yesterday states that transactions in Bank shares had been put through that morning at 80 per cent. premium—the last quotation published in Messrs. Bisset's circular being 70 per cent. This is a sufficient refutation of the rumours of the past two days in Yokohama. The manager of the Bank, however, requests us to say that the rumours "have not the slightest foundation."

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It may not be uninteresting, however, at this juncture to compare the state of the Bank as shown in the report of the 30th June just published with its position two years ago when, if the inflation of the market value of the shares can be taken as any criterion, the Bank may be said to have been at the zenith of its prosperity. It will be seen by comparison that the institution, after the recent severe purging of accounts that has taken place, has probably never been in a more sound and solid condition than it is at the present moment. In the report for 30th June, 1890, the deposits amounted to \$93,101,200.47; on 30th June, 1892, they stood over \$100,000,000, notwithstanding that in the interval the rate of interest allowed by the Bank had been reduced; and Bills Payable, which amounted to \$19,778,786.45 two years ago, now amount to \$14,280,507.80. The increase of the deposits at reduced interest clearly shows that the credit of the Bank is even better than it was; whereas the falling off in Bills Payable shows that the Bank raises less funds than formerly on its own Bills, which is an indication, if of anything, of the soundness of its position. So much for liabilities. On the other side we find that the Cash Balance is nearly the same, being \$18,914,358.30 on 30th June, 1890, and \$17,251,506.84 on 30th June this year. Now the soundness of exchange banking depends largely upon the assets being kept thoroughly liquid, and the most liquid item in accounts is Bills Receivable. On the 30th June, 1890, these amounted to \$46,855,982.20, whilst on the 30th June, 1892, they stood at \$63,861,505.47, being an increase of over 35 per cent. in two years. On the other hand, Bills discounted, loans, and credits, which cannot be considered such liquid assets, including

as they do all advances, amounted on the 30th June, 1890, to \$63,880,323.06; whilst on the 30th June this year, after deducting \$3,124,236.88, the amount set aside to meet possible losses, they only amount to \$51,720,969.44, a decrease of \$12,159,353. Figures are facts, and the foregoing conclusively prove that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was never in a sounder and more liquid condition than it is to-day.

FOUR AND SIX-PENCE AND TWO AND TEN-PENCE.

It is interesting and very suggestive to note the large proportion of its profits which the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is obliged to devote to making up the immenses appreciation which has taken place in the silver price of the Sovereign during the past twenty years. When the Bank was started in 1867—and well do we recall the first beginnings of its business and its first Manager in Hongkong—the dollar stood much nearer five shillings than four. The Bank, however, presumably for purposes of convenience of accounts, has shown the dollar at 4s. 6d. through all these years, and now, in allotting its dividend, it still reckons the dollar at that figure. Thus the £80,000 which it pays on its eighty thousand shares becomes, when converted into silver, \$355,555. But to purchase £80,000 in the market to-day one must pay \$558,544, and the Bank is consequently obliged to devote \$202,989 out of its profits to make up this difference. Of course, for all practical purposes, it is unnecessary to show the former and the present gold prices of the dollar. But since they are shown, we are at once led to reflect how immensely the task of such an institution is increased by the appreciation of gold. Stated briefly, the case amounts to this—that the Bank has to earn nearly twice as many dollars to-day, in order to pay a given dividend, as it had to earn when it commenced business. The number of dollars required to pay a dividend of only 10 per cent. in 1892, would have paid a dividend of 16 per cent. in 1872.

SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

THE Governor and Chief of Police of Saitama Prefecture, Messrs. Kubota and Arita, seem to have given much cause of offence to many of those under their jurisdiction. On the 14th instant a meeting of the "public-spirited" men of the Prefecture was held in the park in Omiya. From one to two hundred persons attended. The pre-determined subject of discussion was "a change of Governor," and the chair having been taken by Mr. Takashima Yasuji, it was resolved that three representatives should be chosen to present to the obnoxious officials a letter urging their resignation. The letter ran thus:—

We have the honour to address you in our capacity of representatives of the public-spirited men of Saitama Prefecture. We, the people of this Prefecture, find many causes to be dissatisfied with the manner in which you have administered the affairs of the Prefecture since you assumed office here. To quote a few examples, we may mention the disturbance at the Normal School, the failure to annul dishonest tenders submitted for public works, interference in the general elections and obstruction of the right of franchise, failure to attach due weight to the decisions of the Local Assembly, and want of integrity in dealing with estimates for public works. These are the most prominent grounds of complaint, and in consequence of them, we, the people of the Prefecture, cannot regard your continued administration of the affairs of the Prefecture as conducive to its benefit or peace. We therefore hope that you will resign your offices.

To Mr. Kubota Kwanichi, Governor of Saitama, and Mr. Arita Yoshisuke, Chief of Police in Saitama.

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The people of Saga Prefecture are agitating in a similar sense against their Governor and Chief of Police. Last spring they addressed a memorial on the subject to the Minister of State for Home Affairs, but as it produced no result, they are now sending delegates to the capital to wait upon the Home Minister and all the Ministers of State. They come furnished, it is said, with a full statement of everything that happened during the elections, and everything that has

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happened subsequently. Plainly we have not seen the last of this question. It speaks well for the perseverance and sense of justice of the Japanese people, as well as for the value they put upon their constitutional privileges, to find them standing so stoutly to their guns.

SILK.

RECENTLY, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, the silk-market in Yokohama has assumed a more active condition. On the 1st instant No. 198 (Messrs. Otto Reimers and Co.) purchased 700 bales, so that the transactions on that day aggregated over 1,100 bales. On the 4th instant No. 209 (Messrs. Bayer and Co.) began to buy, and on the 8th No. 90-B. (Messrs. Sieber and Co.) also commenced to purchase Shinshu machine-made silk in considerable quantities, but no large transaction was subsequently concluded. Fine silk for France, however, is in great demand owing to the approaching departure of a French mail; and the Sanin silk has risen as high as \$760. But no transactions in coarse silk for the American market were made till Saturday last when suddenly No. 90-A. (Messrs. Sieber and Brennwald) began to purchase it, and at 3 p.m. the amount of Shinshu filatures bought by that firm was over 870 bales. Moreover, No. 164 (Mr. P. Douville), No. 95 (Messrs. Nabholtz and Osenbruggen), No. 206 (Messrs. Marius Girard and Co.), and No. 2 (Messrs. Walsh, Hall and Co.) bought over 1,200 bales. Messrs. Sieber and Brennwald send away nearly one-third of the total export every year, so that it is not strange for them to purchase a large quantity suddenly. But it is strange that they should have begun to purchase when the price is so high. It is said, however, that they have been competing with Messrs. Otto Reimers and Company for years, the best customer in America of both firms being one and the same person, and no doubt an order from him has just arrived. The transactions completed on Saturday showed an advance of about \$10 as compared with the price on Friday.

The *Fiji Shimpō* supplements the above with a list of the principal transactions completed by Messrs. Sieber and Brennwald, and the prices:—

Kind of silk.	Number of Bales.	Price.
Ryūjo-kan machine, Shinshu ...	32	at \$722½
Shinsei-sha machine, Shinshu ...	10	at \$710
Shinsei sha machine, Shinshu ...	24	at \$715
Saishū sha machine, Shinshu...	12	at \$730
Meiji-sha ...	22	at \$720
Kaimi-sha ...	49	at \$725
Kaiyo-sha ...	21	at \$720
Gako-sha ...	17	at \$730
Choshin-sha ...	42	at \$730
Tokushin-sha ...	13	at \$735
Kinze-sha ...	6	at \$717½
Obeisha ...	12½	at \$717½
Shunmei-sha ...	50	at \$690
Shunmei-sha (improved)...	60	at \$717½
Hakkaku-sha ...	11	at \$725
Tsuyi-sha ...	15	at \$725
Kaiboku sha ...	10	at \$717½

MR. HOSHI TORU AND THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS
It appears that Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, who is now making a political tour in the northern and eastern provinces, has been talking to some of his audiences about the National Unionists. Mr. Hoshi says that since the Ito Cabinet came into power, the connection between the Government and the National Unionists has been severed, and the latter are now entirely independent. The *Fiji Shimpō*, in recounting this incident, observes that Mr. Hoshi's position and reputation impart much force to his words, and that his hearers unquestionably interpreted him, to mean that the members of the *Kokumin Kyōkai* (National Union), are no longer allies of the Government. If that belief becomes current, Count Saigo, representing the *Kokumin Kyōkai*, will probably receive, says the *Fiji*, a hearty welcome in the districts visited previously by Mr. Hoshi Toru.

THE EPIDEMIC OF DYSENTERY.

LITTLE note has been taken journalistically of the epidemic of dysentery which has visited

Kiushu and Shikoku this summer, but the figures show a quite serious state of affairs. In Oita Prefecture, the number of fresh cases from July 31st to August 6th was 585, and the number of deaths, 116. In Kumamoto Prefecture, the same interval produced 502 fresh cases and 72 deaths, while, on the 10th instant alone, the fresh cases totalled 170. In this latter Prefecture the cases from the commencement of the epidemic to the 6th instant aggregated 2,733 with 372 deaths and 1,334 recoveries. In Miyagi Prefecture, the week ending on the 6th instant had a record of 75 fresh cases, and in Fukuoka Prefecture, the number of cases from the beginning of the epidemic until the 5th inst. was 2,111. Kochi Prefecture is also afflicted, and over ten fresh cases occur there daily.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

We have been requested to make the following correction in the last paragraph of the report of this case as recently published in our columns:—

Counsel for Defendant—I think the mistake arose from the want of management in plaintiffs' office. If the receipts we gave had been properly looked after, and the numbers upon them checked, no loss could have arisen. But the plaintiffs left these most important documents in the hands of their Chinese employees, and we are informed that when some money was wanted the receipts were taken to a bank, and an advance of money was asked upon them. This fact was known to us, owing to the clerk of the bank coming to enquire at the *Kencho* as to the genuineness of the receipts. Is it any wonder then, that as these important documents were left in the hands of the Chinese for two or three years without any enquiry being made as to their condition, such a mistake should have arisen? It is, in short, a gross piece of negligence on the part of the plaintiffs, therefore they ought to be held responsible for it.

The lines in italic above should read as follows:—

and we are informed that when some money was wanted by some one of the depositors of the oil, the receipts were taken to banks and an advance of money was asked, using their receipts as the securities for the loan. This fact was known to us, inasmuch as certain banks had sometimes to send their messengers to the Warehouses to enquire whether the receipts which they brought were the genuine ones or not, as they had to advance some money, taking these receipts as the securities.

ZENDAI MIMON.

THESE two Japanese words signify something never seen or heard of in former times. They are employed by the *Choya Shimbun* with reference to the present Cabinet. During the first ten years of the *Meiji* era, says our contemporary, the great men of the State had serious differences, Mayelara, Yeto, and Saigo, one after another, died as rebels. But since the 10th year (1877) there has been no repetition of such spectacles. Harmony, indeed, has not been uninterrupted, but on the whole the tendency of Japan's principal statesmen has been to work together for the country. Never before, however, has there been such a combination of talent as the present Cabinet shows. We have resourceful talent represented by Count Ito; trenchant ability by Count Inouye; courage and resolution by Count Kuroda; loyalty and single-mindedness by Count Yamagata; power of calculation by Count Goto; talent for contrivance by Mr. Mutsu; directness of action by Count Oyama; sincerity by Viscount Nire; quick wit by Mr. Kono, and accuracy by Mr. Watanabe. Such an assemblage of able statesmen is without parallel in any era of Japan's history. And above them is a wise and enlightened Sovereign assisted by a gifted and benevolent Empress. If the nation does not progress, if the people do not become of one heart, under such an Administration, with whom will the fault rest? We have now before us the government *par excellence* of the *Meiji* era. Thus the *Choya Shimbun*.

GRANTS IN AID.

THE damages done by the recent inundations in Okayama, Tokushima, and Hyogo Prefectures are so great that each prefecture has sent commissioners to Tokyo to report the state of affairs, and to petition for a grant of money from the Treasury for public-works and the relief of suffering. It is reported that the Government has decided to grant relief, and that the Department of Home Affairs is now investigating the amount of damage done in the above prefectures.

According to the Finance Regulations, subsidies of this nature must be granted out of the Second Reserve Fund. But as the Fund has been reduced to not more than 500,000 *yen*, it cannot suffice to meet the need of the case. On the other hand, in a matter of such urgent importance the Government cannot wait till the opening of the next session of the Diet. Probably, therefore, as in the case of the funds granted for relief purposes in Gifu and Aichi Prefectures, a portion of the surplus in the Treasury will be employed. This question will be settled at a Cabinet meeting in a day or two, says the *Nippon*. It will be curious to see what procedure the present Government adopts. The action taken by Count Matsukata's Cabinet with regard to Aichi and Gifu was challenged as unconstitutional because of the Article of the Constitution cited in support of it. Count Ito's Cabinet must be credited with exact knowledge as to how the Constitution ought to be interpreted, and if the same procedure is followed as that adopted by the Matsukata Cabinet, the Opposition can scarcely challenge its correctness.

JAPANESE CHARACTER.

WHEN next anyone undertakes to write the character of the Japanese we recommend a preliminary study of the columns of some of the local newspapers, especially those edited by men who have been only a short time in the country. At present we should take the *Hyogo News* for choice in this respect. Its editor is admirably fresh, and the comprehensiveness of his conclusions loses nothing by the vigour of the language in which they are couched. During the two years of his residence in this country he has effectually disposed of quite a number of problems that used to puzzle old hands. It is quite comfortable to meet such assurance. His latest verdict is about justice and its administration. It settles the question beyond all dispute and is well worth recording: "The judges have not the slightest idea of what Westerners consider justice, the people have the most absurd opinions of what constitutes law. The fact is, both people and judges know nothing of right as Westerners understand the term, and until some perception of it has penetrated their befogged intellects, clouded with the haze of centuries of insularity, they will be totally unfit to deal with cases between foreigners." What enhances, if that were possible, the value of such a "sizing up" as this, is the uniform display of right, fairness, and justice made in the columns of the Kobe journal itself.

THE FIRE ON BOARD THE CANADIAN MAIL STEAMER.

FOLLOWING are the full particulars of the accident to the Canadian mail steamer *Empress of Japan* after leaving this port on Monday week, which necessitated Captain Lee's putting about and shaping a course for Hakodate in order to remove the cargo stowed in the after-hold which was found to be on fire. It became generally known that a fire had broken out on Wednesday evening after a somewhat erratic performance by the electric lights. As a fact, fire was discovered by the officers of the ship some time before it was suspected by the passengers, and when the combustion was definitely located in the after-hold the first means taken to extinguish it was by the introduction of steam from the boilers into the hold by an arrangement specially designed for that purpose. The steam process, however, which is sufficiently repressive in ordinary cases, proved in this instance to be ineffectual, and this demonstrated the fact that the fire had obtained a greater hold than was at first surmised. Captain Lee then resolved that to run for Hakodate was the best course to pursue, and the ship was consequently headed for that port. The introduction of steam proving insufficient to subdue the fire, it was found necessary to pump in water. How far this measure was needed may be gathered from the fact that the divisional steel bulkhead between the after hold and the engine-room had become red-hot. Holes were soon drilled, however, and water poured in in sufficient quantities

to drown the fire, and the immediate danger of an extending conflagration was averted. In the meantime, the ship rapidly approached the coast of Japan, and the astonishment of those in Hakodate on Friday afternoon who first made out the vessel was great when it was observed that an *Empress* mail boat was in the offing under full steam with the signal flying at the fore "I am on fire." Such preparations were at once made on shore as suggested themselves under the circumstances, and the steamer was soon in harbour at anchor. Before this, however, the cause of the outbreak had been fully ascertained, and this was found to be the wires from the dynamo that passed up through the after-hold. In the screw alley of an ordinary single screw steamer the shaft passes down the centre of the ship. In a twin-screw steamer of course the shafts are port and starboard, leaving in the centre a considerable space. This space in twin-screw vessels is occupied by oil tanks, ice-houses, and spare gear, and in the case of the *Empress* it was here that the dynamo was also placed. The dynamo being at the bottom of the ship, the wires had to be carried up to the lamps, and, on board the *Empress*, were led through the after-hold in a wooden casing. It was this casing that caught fire, and from top to bottom it was nothing but a mass of charred embers when the fire was extinguished and it was completely in view. The red hot condition of the bulkhead between the after-hold and the engine-room will be sufficient to indicate the strength of the fire in the hold; and beside the tea and sugar destroyed by fire a considerable quantity was damaged by steam and water. This was all discharged into lighters placed alongside, and a thorough examination of the hold made, when it was found that a portion of the deck had also been burned. Captain Lee ordered a survey to be held and this was accordingly done, after which the discharged cargo was reshipped, this being completed on Sunday morning. The vessel, however, had incurred a considerable expenditure of coal, the shipping of which was proceeding with all speed when our informant left, and, as we learned from the agents, the *Empress* sailed on Monday morning. As regards the silk, about which some anxiety has been expressed, it is not supposed to be damaged in the smallest degree, as being in a special room entirely shut off, it is stated that not even the fumes of the fire can have reached it. Captain Lee was very warmly eulogised by the passengers, who state that the most perfect order and discipline were maintained by the officers and crew without exception, and a letter, drawn up in handsome terms, was presented to Captain Lee by Sir Edwin Arnold after being signed by himself and every passenger on board. Thus ends happily what might have proved to be a terrible disaster in mid-ocean with aid no nearer than thousands of miles away.

* * *

A correspondent writes:—"We are just entering the harbour of Hakodate, after an occurrence which might have ended very disastrously. All went well with the *Empress of Japan* after leaving Yokohama on Monday the 8th, until the evening of the 10th, when, being over 600 miles from land, something went wrong with the electric light wires. Whether a wire had broken below, or latent fire had melted one, signs of a conflagration were soon perceived in the after hold, filled with tea, sugar, and silk. The hatches were opened, and the cargo broken out, steam having previously been let into the compartment, but when a few score of tea-chests had been lifted out, smoke issued in volumes from the hold, along with the injected steam, and flames were discerned at the bottom of the cargo while the loud crackling was heard of cases and boxes being consumed. It was determined to close up the hatches, and if possible smother the fire with steam, water, and patent annihilators. The hatches were therefore again battened down, the air excluded, and five large hoses set pouring water into the hold, but all that night the reeks and fumes increased and at 5 a.m. of the morning of the 11th it was plain that the ship was most dangerously on fire.

The engine-room bulk-heads were blistering with heat, the decks were burning hot, and the Captain came to the wise resolution, gladly accepted by the passengers, to turn back and run at full speed for safety and aid. Meantime, the boats had all been prepared and provisioned, life-belts got in readiness, and every proper step taken, in case the melancholy necessity should arise for resorting to the boats. It would have been a forlorn hope indeed for the passengers and ship's company with the nearest land five or six hundred miles away, and a strong current setting from Japan. There was, however, no panic or foolish fuss visible on board. Everybody behaved with commendable calm, due largely to the admirable discipline and manliness with which the Captain and his officers and crew faced the peril. A day of quiet sea enabled the ship to steam back at her best speed, and we are now safely entering Hakodate, with the hold still probably full of fire under our feet, but the vessel, her people on board, and the bulk of the cargo saved. Too much praise cannot, I think, be awarded to Captain Lee and his ship's company for discretion, courage, and judgment, and this feeling has been expressed by the passengers in a letter to Captain Lee, of which I am able to afford you a copy. A terrible catastrophe has in all probability been escaped, and there is no one on board who understands the dangerous condition of the vessel who is not glad to be within reach of help in these quiet waters." The following letter has been presented to Captain Lee by the passengers on board:—

R.M.S. *Empress of Japan*.
August 12th, 1892.

We, the undersigned passengers on board the *Empress of Japan*, upon her present voyage to Vancouver, desire to testify our sense of the skill, good judgment, and decision displayed by Captain Lee on the occasion of the disastrous fire which occurred in the after-hold of the ship on the night of the 10th instant. The measures taken by him were prompt and sagacious, but when the safety of his passengers and of the vessel was at stake he lost no time in doing his duty to them by returning. We wish to add the expression of our admiration of the good discipline and quiet courage shown by the officers and company of the ship, under very trying circumstances. At no moment was there the slightest panic or confusion on board; and the occurrence from first to last unfortunate as it was, and inconvenient to ourselves—reflects, in our opinion, the utmost credit on the Captain, officers, and crew of this splendid steamship.

[Here follow the signatures of the passengers.]

THE CHINESE IN AMERICA.

SOME of the episodes of Chinese life in America help us to understand why even people who are not interested in the labour question may object to the Celestial settlers. A San Francisco newspaper received by the last mail contains the following:—

Two Chinese slave girls made a sensational escape from bondage last evening with the assistance of two white men, who were roughly handled by a crowd of highbinders, who attempted to recapture the girls.

The white men were Nick Long, treasurer of Stockwell's Theatre, and S. M. Simon, an ex-inspector of customs. They were walking down Pacific street, and when about midway between Kearny and Dupont streets their attention was attracted by a woman's scream. At the same time they heard a commotion in the Chinese tenement-house at 641, Pacific street.

A crowd of Chinese gathered around the door, and hurrying quickly forward Long and Simon arrived just in time to see a Chinese girl dash out of the house and break through the line of Chinamen, some of whom tried to seize her.

Seeing the white men the girl ran up to them, and falling on her knees she clasped Long by the legs and begged him to take her to "Gibson." By "Gibson" Long knew she meant the Methodist Chinese Mission on Washington street, and he realized that it was a slave girl who demanded his protection.

He placed her behind him and faced an angry crowd of Chinese who advanced with threatening gestures, but their attention was attracted from him to another girl who ran out of the same house and hurried toward the white men.

Thinking she was the woman in charge of the girls Simon was about to push her away, but she desisted when she too, cried "Gibson," and the first girl made known by her cries and gestures that the second girl was her friend.

Once more the pack of excited male Chinese advanced, but the first one who stretched forth a hand was knocked into the gutter by a blow from Simon's fist. Then Long took charge of the girls and hurried them up the street, while Simon kept the crowd at bay.

There were about 200 Chinese, however, and they overpowered Simon and threw him into the street.

Then they made for Long, but he had made such good use of his time that, with his charges, he was half way between Dupont and Stockton streets when the crowd reached him.

The Chinese attacked him, but luckily they used no weapons. Long fought valiantly and the girls used their nails, teeth, and feet to good advantage.

In a minute Long was reinforced by Simon and as they were hitting out in all directions with their fists several white men hurried down Pacific street and seeing some of their own race engaged in a battle with an overpowering horde of Chinese they took a hand in the fray. This addition to the white force was too much for the highbinders, who, seeing assistance coming to their enemies from all directions, scattered like sheep and disappeared into the labyrinths of Chinatown leaving the girls in the possession of their rescuers.

Accepting the services of a number of the whites as a bodyguard, Long and Simon escorted the rescued slaves to the Methodist Mission, where Rev. Dr. Masters received them and made them comfortable.

Each of the girls, one of whom is 17 years old and the other 18, is worth from \$1,500 to \$2,500 in the Chinese slave market. The ladies who examined the girls at the Mission found their bodies covered with bruises from the effects of frightful beatings administered by their owners.

The girls say that they came here from Hongkong in May on the steamer *Oceanic*. They were induced to leave their native country by an agent of a procuress in this city, whose precise interest in them they did not discover until too late. The agent represented to them that they were to become the wives of wealthy Chinese merchants in San Francisco.

Nothing suspicious appearing to the girls or their parents, all arrangements were made, they state, for their transportation and their entrance into the United States. They were furnished with long letters of instructions as to the part they were to play upon landing, together with a plan of the city and Chinatown, that they might not be tripped up in their endeavour to prove prior residence. Return certificates were forwarded to them before they left, the certificates describing them as the wives of Chinese merchants residing in San Francisco. Thus prepared to slip past the customs officials they sailed in the *Oceanic* in May.

The youngest of the two girls, who is 18 years of age, was landed immediately upon her arrival, the certificate she possessed being considered *prima facie* evidence of her right to enter the country by the customs officials. The other, who is a little older, was retained aboard the steamer by the Collector of the Port until a writ of habeas corpus was sworn out, when she was landed by the commissioner after an examination.

Both girls say that they confidently expected to become the wives of wealthy merchants immediately upon their arrival, as proposed by the agent who engineered their entry into the United States.

In stead of finding a husband waiting to receive them, however, they were placed in a lodging-house at 739, Jackson street and afterward removed to a house of ill repute at 641, Pacific street, kept by a notorious procuress, Tai Cum.

Here, the girls assert, they were submitted to most cruel treatment by their keeper because of their refusal to lead the life that had been mapped out for them, and they endeavoured night and day to find some means of escape from the clutches of their mistresses.

About a month ago an inmate of the same house, a young Chinese girl, escaped to the Methodist Mission on Washington street and, learning of her escape, they determined to follow her example.

Accordingly early last evening, while Tai Cum was engaged in her daily pastime of beating them into submission, they forced their way out of the room and into the street screaming at the tops of their voices for assistance. How their cries were responded too and the story of their rescue is told above.

As an evidence of the cruel treatment they received one of the girls exhibited a badly bruised head and arm when she arrived at the Mission.

The two girls are both young, rather small of stature, intelligent and of a fair type of Celestial beauty. Both are more than anxious to return to their native country, and their cases will be reported to the Collector of the Port by the Rev. Dr. Masters this morning. The latter says that he will use every endeavour to have the procuress who was responsible for their importation into this country arrested and suffer the full benefit of the law.

THE "YAKKI CHIKI."

THE name now-a-days given to the stalwarts within and without the Government who are in favour of employing the strength and influence of officialdom to assist the convenient working of representative institutions, is *Yakki-gumi*, or the desperate section. Among local Governors no fewer than eleven are included in this category by the Opposition, because of their supposed connivance at official interference in the late general elections. They are Mr. Yasuda of Fukuoka, Mr. Matsudaira of Kumamoto, Mr. Kitagaki of Kyoto, Mr. Yamada of Osaka, Mr. Kubota of Saitama, Mr. Su of Hyogo, Mr. Funakoshi of Miyagi, Mr. Watanabe of Fukushima, Mr. Moriyama of Toyama, Mr. Kabayama of

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Saga, and Mr. Suzuki of Ishikawa. Mr. Yasuda is reputed to be the head and front of all. He seems to be a man of great ability, remarkable strength of purpose, and the highest chivalry; just such a man as Japanese love. But being conservative to the backbone, he may possibly think that, after all, a *souffron* of the old methods of government is not out of place even in these modern days. He was placed recently on the Retired List, but he preferred to resign altogether, and except as a member of the House of Peers, he has now no connection with State Affairs. His removal from the scene of active officialdom is said to have greatly damped the spirits of the *Yakki-gumi*. Mr. Kitagaki, too, has been transferred to Hokkaido, and the *Yiyu* now says that the new Minister of State for Home Affairs, Count Inouye, whom it describes as the General of the Civil Party, is busily engaged investigating the whole question of official interference in elections, to the consternation of all the *Yakki* Governors and of not a few others also. We have always thought the charges of official interference were greatly exaggerated, but to believe them entirely groundless is out of the question. Count Inouye is precisely the man to take drastic measures if necessary, but he is also too prudent and has had too much experience to commit the fatal error of excessive zeal in either direction. In investigating the question of official interference, account will have to be taken of something more than the mere abstract question of right and wrong. It will have to be considered how far the Governors and local officials acted in accordance with the declared policy of their superiors, for there is an emphatic difference between initiating improper procedure and following it under instructions. Men's estimates of the dictates of discipline vary considerably.

There is a mysterious paragraph in the *Choya Shimbun* to the effect that Mr. Yamada, Governor of Osaka, and Mr. Matsudaira, Governor of Kumamoto, who came to Tokyo some time ago, presumably for the purpose of rebutting the charges brought against them of interfering in the elections, have now returned to their districts with easy minds. Naturally we want to know why their minds became easy, but it is precisely here that the *Choya's* information fails. Whether what they learned of the new Cabinet's policy pleased them, or whether they were merely gratified by the discovery that a path completely independent of political parties is to be trodden, our contemporary does not pretend to determine. Somewhat incontinently, however, it adds that having ascertained the views of the Central Government, these Prefects, who have hitherto been regarded as leaders of the *Yakki-gumi*, will abandon their "stalwart" policy and attend solely to the administrative affairs of their districts. Upon this happy result the *Choya* congratulates the country. We can make nothing out of the paragraph except that the *Yakki Chiji* are to be regenerated.

THE CARRYING OF SWORD-CANES IN AMERICA.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* it is stated that drastic legislation is contemplated by the United States Government to prevent the carrying of sword-canes, daggers, and so forth. Our contemporary's version is that this course has been suggested to the Administration chiefly by the conduct of Japanese immigrants, who frequently bring sword-canes with them, and use them so as to imperil life in drunken brawls or times of excitement. This is news to us. We have not found any notices in American journals of Japanese immigrants behaving themselves in such a truculent manner, and surely if instances of the kind occurred, the press would not fail to report them. However, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is usually well informed, and we must assume that it has grounds for its statement. It gives in detail the draft of three regulations which Congress will be asked to sanction. The first is that officials at every port shall be required to examine the baggage of Japanese disembarking there, and to seize any swords, sword-canes, and so forth that may be found, forbidding the landing of an immigrant should

he oppose the seizure. The second is that the import duty on swords shall be raised from 35 per cent. *da valorem* to 120 per cent—a prohibitive rate. And the third, that all persons shall be entitled to arrest and hand over to the police any one, whether an American or an alien, who may be seen carrying a sword in the streets. It has often been suggested that strong legislation to prevent, or diminish, the habit of carrying lethal weapons might be enacted with advantage in the United States, but the last thing we should have imagined is that the reform would be brought about by the unruly conduct of Japanese immigrants, and we find it impossible to believe that the *Nichi Nichi* is truly informed.

DESPERADOES.

MR. J. R. SPEARS, writing in the New York *Sun*, gives some studies of desperadoes as they are to-day. We extract a pithy portion:—

The story of the trouble that led to the killing of John L. Pugh, commonly called Jack, is particularly interesting, in that it illustrates in detail the methods and habits of the ideal desperado of the mining camp. Pugh was born in a Columbus, O., family of culture and wealth. He abandoned his home and came to Colorado, eventually reaching Creede early in 1891, where he established the first livery stable. Here he deliberately began to cultivate the reputation of a bad man. He had lived with a woman of ill repute for some time, and two children were born of the association. In November last, no one having done more than get drunk to enliven the community, Pugh and Jack Fullerton went to the McLeod saloon which was run by John Ferris, and shot the glassware and bar to pieces. Ferris took to the hills, and next day waylaid Pugh and Fullerton. Fullerton got a ball through the shoulder that well-nigh ended his career, but the ball intended for Pugh merely grazed his skin. Then Ferris returned to Kentucky for his health.

After that Jack very often walked into the saloons of the Upper Creede with a revolver in each hand, shouting that he was King of Creede and that only his sweet disposition kept him from slaying every one in sight.

Meantime he had been working up a feud. In those days, the Willow Creek Gulch being Government land, rights to building space were held by laying so-called foundations for houses on any vacant plots. One S. M. Osgood and his wife had come to Creede, and Mrs. Osgood had caused foundations to be placed on two adjoining plots, intending to erect a saloon on the two. Then she went away for a short time. Now Jack had lived in a boarding-house kept by the Osgoods at Del Norte and had quarrelled over his bill. When Mrs. Osgood left town Jack jumped one of her lots and bought 1,000 feet of lumber with which to build on it. Mrs. Osgood was telegraphed for and came back. Workmen she hired threw Pugh's lumber from the lot and erected a house in which the Osgoods opened the Holy Moses saloon. Ever after that Pugh "had it in for Osgood," as they say here. Although Osgood is well nigh an imbecile through the excessive use of liquor, he afterward, probably on account of his wife's influence, was elected Mayor of Creede. Pugh, who had been assistant city marshal, resigned, and "Dutch Pete" Karg, one of Osgood's German friends, was made an officer instead.

Time ran on without any overt act on Pugh's part until Wednesday, May 4. Jack, as his mistress testified, had deliberately determined to murder Osgood, but up to that time had lacked the nerve to do so. On that morning he entered the Holy Moses saloon and called for a drink, which was served by Osgood. Jack had been in the saloon but once before and had avoided Osgood. Now he sat down at a table and began playing cards and drinking with some of the loungers. And there he remained the entire day, not even going out for luncheon or any other meal. As time passed Pugh drank more rapidly and gradually worked himself into a condition that presaged coming trouble. He was doing as Bob Ford did on the night he and Joe Fullerton were looking for Pugilist Johnson. It is the desperado's trick. By 5 o'clock Osgood buckled on his belt and revolver. It was plain that Jack wanted to create a row in which he could find some sort of excuse for killing the Mayor. But Osgood had wit enough to do more than get his gun on; in a shooting match with Jack Pugh he had no hope. He sent for Dutch Pete, the Marshal. Pete remained in the saloon, and his presence served to incense Jack greatly, but his remarks about the ancestry of the officer did not provoke even a remonstrance. Finally Pugh, in his efforts to create a fight, slipped his partner in the game (whist) they were playing, and all rose from the table. There was a tremendous outburst of noise on all sides, and Marshal Karg stepped up to Pugh and told him to go home or he would have to arrest him. That was what Pugh had been working so long for. He defied the officer in the most aggravating fashion, and then made a lunge forward, reaching for his revolver as he did so. Karg backed away quickly, drew his revolver, and fired one shot. Pugh dropped in fatally wounded. It was then about 10 o'clock at night, a little over twelve hours since he had entered the saloon to murder Osgood.

Pugh was of medium size, with sandy hair and

moustache and had a hard face. Having been well bred, he could assume the bearing of a gentleman when he would. For the rest he was a drunkard and a bully—a man in marked contrast with such men-killers as Masterson, Wolfington, and Creek.

In still further illustration of the character of the desperado he needed it can be found in the doings of Charles Creatch, who was drinking in the Holy Moses saloon on Feb. 6. Creatch determined to win fame by shooting somebody, so he deliberately aimed his revolver at a colored porter named Louis Bell. The aim was uncertain and the ball struck under Bell, who thereat awoke and fled. Then Creatch fired at William Keiser, who was asleep in a cot near a back window. The bullet cut the skin across Keiser's stomach. This done, Creatch was persuaded to go away. Next day he was put under bonds of \$100 to keep the peace.

Then there was the fight between Joe Fullerton and the New Orleans Kid. The Kid was robbed at a gambling table in Soapy Smith's saloon. Going outside he "did the lamb act," to quote the local phrase, until Joe Fullerton, an employé, came out. Both began shooting together. Fullerton lost his right thumb on the first round and changed his pistol to the left hand. When the smoke cleared away the left thumb was gone, too. The Kid's friends say he did not want to kill Fullerton, but only to teach him marksmanship. The rest of the citizens think Fullerton's loss of two thumbs was due to bad, instead of good shooting.

As for the desperadoes in their sober moments I found them invariably courteous, jovial, ready to treat and be treated, reckless in spending money, in a sense generous, and always ready to curse the vigilantes. There was in Creede more sporting women than the camp demanded. The old and ill favoured were in hard luck. On a score of occasions I have seen women of this class go to men-killers of whom mention has been made, and ask for money for food or lodging, and they invariably got it. Little John Ludford, a mining camp wail, who is dying of consumption and is the most pitiful specimen of humanity to be found in the camp, is supported by the sporting men. One Western reporter who came here wrote up the boy as the "Lucky Kid." With the habits he has contracted among his friends he is a most unlucky kid, for he cannot live a year. Besides, when he ventures the silver he gets by betting on any of the games, he loses nine times out of ten.

While nothing more need be said to illustrate the character of the desperado, the words of one of Creede's most expert gamblers may interest the tenderfoot about to visit a mining camp. He said:

"There isn't a chance in a million for a respectable man to run up against one of them if he don't try to."

"But suppose he happens to hit that chance?" was said.

"Then the best thing he can do is to size up the critter. If it's like Bat Masterson waylay it if it's one who has to get up courage with drink shoot it before it gets full—while it's drinking and making threats, see? Of course he can leave town, but that's a d—d poor way to get out of trouble."

A GHOST STORY.

In Yugada Village in Fukuoka Prefecture there is a large lake about two miles in circumference, and on its shore lies a rock. Tradition says that a certain beautiful girl called Princess Camellia (*Tsubaki Hime*), lives in the rock and that her apparition has often terrified the people. About 25 years ago, a whirlwind rose from the rock, and five dwelling-houses in the neighbourhood were totally destroyed. Moreover, Dr. Kaji, a highly reputable witness, saw the apparition on his way home from a patient's house near the lake, and was so overcome that he fainted on the spot. From that time no one dared to go near the rock after sunset. Late, however, the workmen of a firm called Idakumi, Contractors for Public Works, came to the neighbourhood for the purpose of obtaining stones to construct river-banks. Going to the shore of the lake, they noticed the mysterious rock, and concluded that it would serve their purpose very well. The rock has always gone by the name of Meoto-ishi, and the legend says that if any one touches it, the spirit of the lake raises a storm. The people, therefore, leave it severely alone. But as the workmen were ignorant of these things, they put a charge of gunpowder into the rock and blasted it into five pieces. Suddenly the sky became overcast with ominous clouds, and a fierce wind, rising from the mountains on the opposite side of the lake, tore up trees and levelled buildings, while sheets of rain, vivid lightning, and rolling thunder frightened the workmen so much that they ran for their lives, and returning home, narrated the events to Mr. Suyeda, their superintendent. After midnight that evening when Mr. Suyeda was lying half asleep, he suddenly saw

a beautiful girl approaching him. The strange figure came to his side and said:—"I, the Princess Camellia, have lived in that stone on the bank of the lake called Meoto-ishi for the last thousand years. During that long period no one dared to do any injury to my dwelling. For what reason have you ventured to destroy it now? Henceforth I am homeless and neglected." Thus saying her apparition vanished. Mr. Suyeda saw the same ghost for three nights consecutively, and being terribly alarmed, he went and told the story to Mr. Karai Rinzaburo, the Headman of the Village. The latter astonished at the tale, declared that he too had seen the same apparition thrice. They conferred together, and went to the stone in company. Mr. Karai stood beside the broken rock and cried:—"By the order of the Imperial Government we destroyed thee. By what right do you attempt to injure us?" Before this speech was completed, clouds once more obscured the sky, and such a violent storm arose that the whole district was enveloped in darkness and confusion. Thereupon they went and requested a certain *Shinto* priest to make offerings and say prayers to the rock. We need scarcely say that the source of this tale is the *Fumiuri Shimbun*, which journal, however, takes the excellent precaution of disavowing its belief in the story.

CHINA AND KOREA.

THE relations of China to Korea have for many years been a subject of investigation of which the Japanese never seem to weary. Every scrap of information bearing on the question is eagerly sought for and published in the vernacular papers. The *Jiji Shimpō* is specially earnest when dealing with this subject. In a recent issue it furnishes a resumé of a memorial addressed by a certain Chinese statesman, whose name is not given, to the King of Korea; which memorial appeared in a Tientsin paper at the end of last month. After expressing regret that Korea is so poverty stricken and that her King is so blind to the dangers to which the country is exposed, the memorial proceeds to proffer the following advice: (1) Neglect not to send your tributary offerings to China. (2) Do not abandon your native costume. (3) Allow your high officials to travel in foreign lands. (4) Let not their social rank alone induce you to place confidence in men. (5) Improve the state of your army. (6) Open up telegraphic communication in the interior of your country. (7) Concede no tariff rights to foreigners. (8) Forbid opium smoking. (9) Lighten your punishments for crime. (10) Establish schools for foreign study in your own land, and do not send your young men to Japan for study.

THE CARD-PLAYING SCANDAL AND COUNT YAMAGATA.

THE News Agency reports that Count Yamagata's time, when he is not in his office, is wholly taken up by callers who come to speak about the recent card-playing scandal. From six o'clock in the morning until office time, and after office time until late at night, these persons besiege the new Minister's house. They do not, apparently, bring any suggestions as to the settlement of the affair, but are only anxious to enlist the Count's sympathies on this side or on that, and so great is their importunity that his Excellency has come to regard the *roka-jiken* as the plague of his life. If the case were to be decided purely on its merits, there might be no great difficulty, but it is complicated by so much personal feeling and official jealousy that to discover a generally satisfactory solution has become an almost hopeless task.

THE NEW ISSUE OF CONSOLS.

THE average price at which the new issue—four million *yen*—of Consolidated five-per-cent. Bonds has been subscribed is 100.0947 *yen*. It seems a work of supererogation to carry the calculation to four places of decimals, but the Japanese are nothing if not accurate. Why, we have heard of a specification for iron pipes written by a Japanese engineer in which the diameter of the pipes was given to thousandths of an inch, and everybody knows that a Japanese

contractor, in sending in an estimate for works that costs thousands of dollars, will make his proposal extend to *sen* and *rin*; which is much as though an English contractor, tendering for the building of a cathedral, were to set down the fraction of a farthing that he expected to disburse. To return to the Bonds, however. It appears that some folks offered as much as 101.51 *yen* for these five-per-cent. Consols—a very remarkable offer, concerning which the *Shogyo Shimpō* is of opinion that these sporting people know nothing about finance, and are carried away by an extravagant estimate of the value of Government securities. Be that as it may, the Treasury sells its four million *yen* worth of Consols for 4 003,786.808 *yen*—the best showing ever made in a similar transaction in Japan.

CHINESE PHYSICIANS.

THE Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese presented its first diplomas to two Chinese graduates on the 23rd of July. The fortunate students were Messrs. Sun Yat Sen and Kong Ying Wa. Referring to the event, the *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—

The ceremony which took place on Saturday in the City Hall is so far unique in the annals of the Colony. On that occasion two students of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese received their diplomas as licentiates, the first diplomas ever granted in Hongkong. The College was established in 1887 on the most modest scale, without much fuss and with even less expenditure, and since then the work has gone on slowly and unostentatiously, no attempt being made to force on results. The students have been thoroughly and practically taught; they are not turned out mere sciolists with only a theoretical knowledge; they have had patiently to plod on as dressers, assistants, and dispensers in the Hospital for five whole years, until they have reaped the reward of their study and application by securing their diplomas. Thoroughness and not show is aimed at by the Board of the College, and this is unmistakably the right policy to pursue. The diplomas of the College, if they are to carry weight, must only be granted to properly qualified men. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, especially of medicine, and the Hongkong College has no wish to swell the crowd of charlatans practising the healing art in the Far East. China presents a vast field for the labourer in the cause of medical science. It lies almost fallow. Chinese doctors possess a fair knowledge of simples and have the hoarded experience of generations of practitioners to guide them, but their knowledge of surgery is nil; they know nothing of anatomy, nothing indeed of medical science as a whole. The amount of suffering endured in China which might be mitigated by the skill of the West, the number of lives lost annually through the ignorance of the native doctors must be incalculable. The various Medical Missions do much good work, and save a great many lives; they have also done something to spread a knowledge of this beneficent science among the Chinese, but they can turn out at best medical assistants, valuable helps to the foreign doctor, capable vaccinators may be; but they cannot pretend to render their pupils qualified practitioners. This can only be done by a College equipped with a staff of professors, and such an establishment is of course beyond the modest means or time of the hard working missionaries. The Hongkong College of Medicine has therefore a great mission and a great future before it. The work it is undertaking is in a sense missionary work; to revolutionise the healing art among three hundred millions of people. It may be said that Hongkong is not called upon to spend time and money for such a purpose, but that would be taking a low and selfish view of our duty to our neighbour. The precepts of Christianity and the teachings of civilisation alike prescribe a higher course; it is our privilege, and should be our pleasure, to convey a knowledge of the blessings of science to those less happily circumstanced. That from its small beginnings the College of Medicine will grow into a great and useful institution renowned throughout the Chinese Empire as the principal source from whence her future medical practitioners have been drawn, is our earnest desire.

THE FINANCES OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

CONCERNING the financial condition of the World's Fair the following is published by the Directors:—

Some ignorant or malicious person started the report that the World's Fair is bankrupt; that it had drawn its last cent and used its last postage stamp. And this false report has been published in hundreds and probably thousands of newspapers. It is still spreading, and naturally is doing the Fair harm. The fact is that the Exposition has now \$25,000,000 cash in bank and about a million more in sight. It has not had, at any time for a year and a half, less than a million dollars to its credit in cash, and has had as much as \$5,000,000 at one time. During the last six months the money has necessarily been expended

rapidly for constructing the great Exposition buildings. About three-quarters of a million a month has been paid out for this purpose. A like expenditure will be necessary for several months to come, and more money will be needed by October. The bulk of the receipts of the Fair from admissions, etc., will not begin to come in, of course, until the Fair opens. It is in order to tide the enterprise over until that time that the Government has been asked to advance \$5,000,000. The most conservative estimate of the Fair's receipts and expenditures places the former about \$4,000,000 in excess of the latter. There need be not the slightest fear of the Fair being bankrupt, or even of its becoming "hard up" if the Government gives the aid which has been asked and which is confidently expected. Should such aid not be given, the public can rest assured that Chicago itself, though it has raised almost \$11,000,000 and ought not to be expected to do more, will put its hand deeper into its pocket and will provide enough money to carry the Fair through to the grand success which it is determined it shall be and which it certainly will be.

The Fair is not bankrupt and will not be bankrupt. The only foundation for the injurious report referred to is the fact that the National Commission, or supervising body, has expended all of the money which the government appropriated for its expenses for the current year. That body does not provide the money for constructing the buildings, gathering the exhibits, or otherwise putting the Fair in complete condition for the inspection of the public. This is done by the "World's Columbian Exposition," or local Chicago corporation. The Fair will be dedicated and opened on time, and all bills will be paid.

PLAYING CARDS IN RUSSIA.

Public Opinion has the following:—"There is only one factory in Russia for the manufacture of playing cards. It has a monopoly of the business and belongs to the Founding Hospital. It is figured that there are 30,000,000 people in Russia who play cards, and to supply the demand this factory puts out 6,000,000 packs of cards annually. In order to make this enormous quantity of cards, only 329 wot men, aged from 15 to 20 years, and sixty-eight men are employed. And they are chosen amid the sisters, wives, and daughters of the workmen at the factory. Both exteriorly and interiorly the factory is a model of cleanliness. This is one of the essential conditions of this branch of production. All the employees live at the factory and earn \$5 to \$15 a month. They work from 6 in the morning to 6 at night, and are allowed two hours a day for their meals. Besides the ordinary playing cards of different qualities, the factory produces annually 120,000 packs of figured cards for the German colonies, besides 12,000 packs of miniature playing cards as toys. The annual profit of the factory amounts to about \$800,000. The cardboard is supplied by the Neva paper mill."

FUNERAL OF MR. A. HEARNE.

AMID many tokens of deep regard the mortal remains of the late Mr. A. Hearne, manager of the Club Hotel, were laid to rest in the Cemetery on Thursday afternoon. It is scarcely three weeks ago that he left Yokohama to seek relief from a painful attack of erysipelas among the hills at Hakone, and at first, indeed up to the very last two days, it was hoped that he would successfully shake off the insidious disease. But on Tuesday, Dr. Munro, who had been called in on Sunday, telegraphed to Dr. Wheeler, the deceased's medical attendant, to come up without delay. An operation was performed, but after a slight rally the patient grew gradually weaker, finally passing "across the bar" at two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. The large assemblage of all nationalities which gathered silently into the sad procession as it wound its way to the Cemetery, via the Creekside, past Christ Church, Water Street, and Yatozaka, testified more eloquently than words can describe the high esteem in which the deceased was held by all classes in the community. Mr. Hearne was Wor. Master of the Otentosama Lodge of Freemasons, and many members of the craft took part in the obsequies, while several of the older residents attended to pay a last tribute to the memory of one who had been the first to welcome them when landing on these shores—he had lived here for twenty years, the whole of his active life in fact. The plain black casket, with silver fittings, was immediately followed by Mr. Geo. Blake-way, Mr. John W. Hall, Mr. G. S. Booth,

Original from

Dr. Wheeler, the Masters Hearne (2), Mr. H. Coulson, and Mr. H. A. Scheuten as chief mourners. In front were borne the floral tributes sent by the Japanese servants at the Club Hotel, other hotel managers in Japan, and the jinrickisha-men who plied in front of deceased's hotel; the coffin itself was covered with beautiful wreaths from European and American friends, the sorrowing widow and children, and other immediate relatives, and his late lodge. The service at the grave side was conducted with impressive dignity by the Rev. E. C. Irvine, who at its close addressed a few words to the mourning friends. He said that it would not be well if he consigned to the grave the remains of Arthur Hearne without some word of brotherly regret for his untimely end. Those who stood around him at that moment had been bound to the departed by bonds of sincere fellowship. He had been a man who had filled a distinct place amongst this community. If they would allow him (Mr. Irvine) to speak of his own experience of their late brother, he could say that he had always found him to be full of kindness, readiness, obligingness, always ready and willing to assist in any project of help for those who required his sympathy. Alluding to the early age of the deceased, the rev. gentlemen said that Mr. Hearne had died at a time which should have been the full prime of his youthful manhood—he was 41 years of age. Around the grave stood men approaching to their three-score and ten, but their friend had been taken while yet he seemed strong, earnest, and vigorous. The memory of his last hours of bitter suffering had drawn forth the tear of sympathy, he hoped that this sympathy would be extended to the widow and fatherless in their hour of deepest grief, for although the sorrowing wife would have the balm of the memory of a good and faithful husband that was little compensation for the loss she had sustained. He hoped that health and strength would be given to her and her children, and that the sympathy of friends would follow them to the end of life.

GRANTS IN AID.

THE damage caused by the recent inundation was so great that the *Kaishin-to* commissioned Messrs. Morino, Hashimoto, Uozumi, Kashima, Naito, and Kurada, members of the House of Representatives, to investigate the matter, and the reports of these gentlemen having been completed, a meeting of the Party was held on the 15th instant. According to the account submitted by these commissioners the greatest injury was wrought in Tokushima prefecture, while Okayama and Hyogo Prefectures also fared badly. The repair of public works in Tokushima alone is estimated at two million yen, but at the present moment a sum of about five hundred thousand yen is required to meet urgent requirements. From the local taxes it is not possible to raise more than one hundred thousand yen in the Prefecture, and the necessity of a large disbursement from the Treasury is therefore imperative. In the second session the Popular Party proposed that a sum of two million yen be kept as a Reserve Fund, but owing to the dissolution of the Diet the proposition did not become law, and the fund remained at the original amount of one million yen. Out of that total large sums have already been disbursed, and there remains in the Treasury not more than one hundred thousand yen. At the same time any payment from the surplus revenue is regarded by the Popular Party as unconstitutional. Therefore the only method which presents itself to the *Kaishin-to* is to address a petition to the Government, praying for the opening of a special session. The members assembled at the above meeting passed a resolution in that sense, and the petition is to be presented as soon as possible.

The National Union also despatched Messrs. Yumoto, and Ota to the three prefectures to investigate the damages, and Mr. Ota has completed his inquiry. So soon, therefore, as Mr. Yumoto's report is presented, the Union will hold a meeting to discuss the subject. The *Fyū-to*, on their side, consider that the recent

inundations were as serious a calamity as the great earthquake of last year, and are of opinion that the Government ought to grant subsidies at once. But they are opposed to the principle of disbursing any sum beyond the amount provided in the Budget, and are also against the idea of opening a special session. They hold that at present it will be sufficient to disburse all the remainder of the second Reserve Fund to meet urgent requirements, and as soon as the Diet meets in November further sums can be voted. Some members of the Tameike (Independents) Club also assembled on Wednesday, and a report from Mr. Kawamata having been read, a long discussion followed, and a resolution was finally adopted in the sense that fuller information being required, fresh investigations should be undertaken, and that, in the sequel of any action taken by the Prefectural Assemblies, the Government should be moved to disburse the sums required for needed work.

The above particulars are taken from the *Hochi Shimbun*, the *Kokkai* and other journals. One impression conveyed by them is incorrect, namely, that had the Opposition's programme been carried out, there would now be plenty of money in the Reserve Fund to meet the need of the moment. In point of fact it was owing to the Opposition's attitude towards the Budget in the first session that a sum of one million yen had to be deducted from the appropriation from the Reserve Fund, and as the Budget thus altered came into operation again this year, owing to the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the diminished Reserve Fund is now a source of embarrassment. It is curious, for the rest, that this important question should present itself so soon again for practical solution. The Opposition hold that the Constitution does not empower the Government to employ for emergency purposes any monies other than those constituting the Reserve Fund. The surplus revenue, they assert, cannot be constitutionally disbursed without the consent of the Diet. The Government, on the contrary, maintains that the nation's urgent needs may be met by any funds nationally available, under whatever heading they appear in the Budget, and that the Emperor is empowered by the Constitution to provide for urgent public wants to the limit of the Treasury's capacity, without previous reference to the Diet, being only required by the Constitution to seek the subsequent approval of that body. The Constitution, of course, contains no definite statements limiting the Government to a particular fund in the face of a public emergency. It is a question of interpretation, and there is some difficulty in believing that the Opposition's interpretation has been based upon an unbiassed study of the text. At all events the position now is that nearly three months must elapse before the consent of the Diet, in ordinary session, can be obtained for a substantial grant in aid of the distressed Prefectures, and in the meanwhile, if the Opposition's creed be adopted, there are apparently no sufficient funds available to relieve the suffering. Perhaps, however the *Fyū-to*'s programme may serve to tide over the difficulty until November. The Government will naturally endeavour to avoid provoking a collision, if any reasonably efficient method presents itself.

LIVING BY ROTE.

IN Kumamoto Prefecture there lives a Mr. Kodama Koichiro, an official, who last year married a beautiful young damsel. From their wedding day the husband laid down the following routine, and it would seem that he and his wife have been following it conscientiously ever since:—Rise at 5.30 a.m. and immediately perform ablutions—*shintai wo fuku* is the exact phrase, more precise than polite; at 5.50 a.m. clean out the apartment; at 6 say a prayer at the family altar, and when it is over, give a conjugal kiss (*seppun*), engage in conversation and drink tea; from 7 to 8 o'clock, the wife shall receive literary instruction from her husband, who, in his turn, will study on his own account from 8 to 8.45; then another con-

jugal kiss, and at 9 the husband proceeds to his office; at 3.30 p.m. the husband returns from his office; a kiss at once; from 3.30 to 4, again the *shintai-wo-fuku* performance, and at its close, a kiss; from 4 to 5, instruction of wife by husband; at its conclusion, a kiss; from 5 to 6, bathing; at its conclusion, a kiss; at 6, the evening meal; from 6 to 7, the husband carries on his own studies; from 7 to 8, a walk in the town; at its conclusion, a kiss; from 8 to 9, music—*gekkin, koto, shakuhachi*, and so forth; at 9, to bed. During the period of the husband's absence at his office, the wife must instruct the maid, must see that the house is thoroughly cleaned, inside and outside, and must practise needle-work, calligraphy, flower arranging, and the tea ceremonial.

H.M.S. "FIREBRAND" IN THE TYPHOON.

THE Formosa correspondent of the *North China Daily News* gives the following account of the manner in which H.M.S. *Firebrand* rode out the terrible typhoon that visited South Formosa on July 23rd:—

Were I to go on for columns I could but inadequately describe to you the awful injury and misery which this terrible storm has caused, so I will now pass to an incident connected with it which I am sure will prove more agreeable reading, and vary the dull monotony of perusal inseparable from an unchanging record of woe such as this communication has hitherto necessarily been. I allude to the splendid seamanship and consummate skill by which Lieutenant-Commander Lionel Tufnell saved H.M.S. *Firebrand* from what appeared inevitable disaster. The gun-vessel had arrived on the previous Saturday (16th), and although we were all pleased, and somewhat surprised at the masterly way in which she was brought into harbour, the navigation of which could only have been acquired from verbal information, picked up as best her captain could on being ordered here, we were as little prepared to see such a display of seamanship, and exquisite judgment, as the equally unexpected opportunity afforded by the storm was presently to demonstrate. I should mention that the only pilot the port boasts of happens to be away; so Captain Tufnell had all through to depend on his own resources, and any local information he could scrape together.

Soon after arrival, this officer, realising the gravity of barometrical signs, certainly busied himself in getting as much information about the harbour, its risks, and capabilities as was available in the short time at his disposal. He took counsel as to the berth for typhoon anchorage, the position of the various spits, and oyster-beds, etc. Having determined these, and secured his vessel by all necessary anchors, shore moorings, etc., nothing more was to be done than wait events. I enter into all these particulars to show that the *Firebrand* started, as, no doubt, any other vessel would, with all the advantages that average skill and intelligence could secure for her. Centres of typhoons, up to this date, have travelled to the eastward of us, and so the longest, and often the strongest blow comes from the north. Thus it is, all ships moor with special reference to this contingency. When the *Firebrand* was secured (on Monday the 18th) we had no reason to suppose that this typhoon would follow the course it did, and subject the ship to southerly wind force during the time the centre was coming up. The fastenings against such consisted of an anchor laid out on the port quarter, and the ship's two bows on the same bow; all unavoidably laid in bad holding ground, though the best the harbour affords. The ship was lying parallel with the Bund, under lee—for N. wind—of the hill and houses. She was secured to the Bund (N) side by several chains, and hawsers, round mooring posts and buried anchors, while right astern was a wire hawser fast to an enormous anchor deeply imbedded in the mud with rubble driven in, and piled over it. The *Firebrand* had not long been subjected to the force of the S. wind before the N. fastenings, severely tried by the surge of the ship, began to show signs of weakness, until early on Thursday afternoon every mooring post had snapped, and anchors buried ashore, were drawn. The gunboat was now in the very height of the hurricane, left to ride by her southern anchors and the stern wire rope. Of course so long as the wind was from the S., and these moorings held, she was all right. If they dragged the boat must go broadside on to the Bund, and with the sea that had sprung up would have gone to pieces. If she went too far astern, in a northerly direction, she must fetch up on the stern anchor heap; if too far on a southerly line, the innumerable oyster-beds suggested serious risk. The southern anchors were slowly but per-

ceptibly dragging, and then came in the splendid display of coolness and professional skill that seems, even under such unlikely conditions to have attracted universal attention. Mounted on his top-bridge, exposed to the full force of the storm, and the blinding spray, Capt. Tufnell stood; his waterproof, cut into strips as though done with a penknife, gave him the appearance of a porcupine as they blew out straight in the howling blasts. With accurate, almost mathematical calculation, Captain Tufnell kept moving the engines, now easing this cable, now slackening the other, all the while so pointing and placing the ship that, at last, when the centre passed, and the wind veered to the opposite quarter, the little craft first gently worked astern then with a rush in the only clear, but narrow channel behind her, slowed out and as her bows got the full force of the wind, swung into apparently the only bit of free water, and riding to her bows with the support of the wire-hawser off her starboard quarter, stood the butt of that dreadful night, until, to the joy of all, the *Firebrand* appeared, as daylight broke, the sole victim of the night's proceedings that had escaped perfectly and entirely uninjured. I feel that my powers of description necessarily fall short of conveying in full a true idea of the remarkable display we witnessed that day, a display not only of judgment and courage, but of grand endurance, for no one who has not passed through a typhoon can realise what that long strain, on the exposed bridge from two p.m. until long after darkness had set in up to midnight, entailed on the captain and officers subjected to it. Keen indeed was the relief, midst all our own anxieties, when daylight dawned and we saw the *Firebrand* with wrecked junks and other craft to right and left of her, proudly riding, safe and sound, at her anchors, we began even more fully to realise the excellent display of seamanship and skill that had been demonstrated to us that night. I have heard even junk captains speaking of it with wonder, for it appears that they too, like all Takaoites expected when her northern attachments gave way, that little would remain next day of the gallant little gun vessel, apparently bereft of all means for defending herself from the northern wind's fury which we knew must break over her.

However, there she is, leaving us, as soon as the bar smoothes down, as safe and pretty as she came; a very pleasant reminiscence of association through a period of dire trial and misfortune attaching to her stay, our envy, if any, of her immunity from damage quite neutralised by that pride and admiration we all feel in, and for the means by which the brave little ship has gained her happy and unshared condition.

A FAREWELL.

MR. TAKAGI, a Police Inspector of the Tera District in Ishikawa Prefecture, enjoys the distinction of having inspired a couplet. The place where his sway was exercised during the recent general elections fell into a state of much riot and confusion, and the Radicals thenceforth pointed him out as a conspicuous sinner in the matter of official interference. Whether on that account, or for what reason, we cannot tell, his transfer to Kanazawa was ordered, and now we read in the *Fiji* that not an individual went to see him off when he left his former post. A few of the wives of the policemen assembled to bid adieu to Mrs. Takagi, but for the rest everybody kept severely away, and in order to point the significance of their absence, many of them indulged in drinking bouts at which they loudly sang this verse:—

Saki-michishi
Yushino no yama no
Sakurabana
Tubagi wa saki ni
Chiri-jome ni keri.

The couplet loses everything in translating, but will doubtless be intelligible as it stands to many of our readers.

WATER POWER FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

AN interesting improvement has recently been made at the Fujiya Hotel, Miyano-shita, by its enterprising proprietor, in the adoption of water power for the electric lighting in place of the steam plant at first installed. A 40-h.p. turbine, constructed on Mr. James Thomson's well-known vortex principle, by Messrs. Gilbert Gilkes & Co., of Kendal, England, has now been erected. This turbine was made especially to suit the particular conditions existing at Miyano-shita, from plans sent to them by Mr. L. J. Healing, of No. 75, Yokohama, under whose superintendence the plant has been erected.

On account of the self-governing propensities of the vortex principle, this machine is admirably adapted for electric lighting purposes and is found to work satisfactorily without a governor. The shaft is placed horizontally, and the dynamo is belted directly to the wheel-shaft, thus saving loss of power and avoiding noisy gearing. It works under a head of 60 feet and takes 471 cubic feet of water per minute, indicating 40-h.p. By its use, we believe, the proprietor saves a monthly coal bill of \$120, besides dispensing with the skilled labour necessary to attend to a steam-engine.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

MESSRS. MOURILYAN, HEIMANN AND Co. have addressed the following correspondence to a local contemporary:—

Sir,—You will oblige us by publishing in your columns, the accompanying correspondence between Mr. Mitsunashi, Councilor, Kanagawa Ken, and ourselves, and from Mr. Mitsunashi's courteous response it will be seen at once that the report of the case between the Superintendent of the Government Kerosene Warehouses and our firm, as given in the *Japan Mail*, is very misleading.

Throughout the whole report there are a number of inaccuracies which, however, we presume are partly due to the difficulties of translation.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & Co.

Yokohama, August 17th, 1892.

[ENCLOSURES.]

Yokohama, 12th August, 1892.

N. S. MITSUNASHI, Esq., Secretary, Kanagawa Kencho. DEAR SIR,—We were much surprised to read in the *Japan Mail* of the 10th inst., the following paragraph purporting to be a verbatim report of your remarks on the 18th May last,

"But the Plaintiffs left these most important documents in the hands of their Chinese employees, and as we are informed that when money was wanted, the receipts were taken to a bank, and an advance of money was asked upon them. This fact was known to me owing to the clerk of the bank coming to enquire at the Kencho as to the genuineness of the receipts," &c., &c.

As the statement is without foundation (as can be ascertained by reference to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation), we can hardly believe that the *Japan Mail* has reported your remarks so correctly, and shall be obliged if you will authorize us to contradict them.

We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & Co.

No. 268.

Kanagawa Kencho, August 17th, 1892.

MESSRS. MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & Co. DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your note of the 12th inst., referring to a paragraph of the translated notes of my statements made at the Yokohama Local Court on the 18th May last, which appeared in the *Japan Mail* of the 10th instant.

In reply, I beg to say that the remarks extracted in your note were not made by me particularly in reference to your firm, but only to point out a custom generally prevailing.

I have therefore communicated to the *Japan Mail* Office, and requested them to make a correction by which the above meaning may be clearly understood.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

N. S. MITSUNASHI,

Councillor of Kanagawa-Ken.

We reproduce this correspondence, because, if the report contained in our columns was in any respect misleading, it becomes a duty to correct the error. So far as translation is concerned, however, our version was absolutely accurate. We are not aware whether more than one stenographic report of the case was prepared. If not, it would be interesting to know upon what grounds Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. assert that "throughout the whole of our report there are a number of inaccuracies." Under any circumstances the statement is an unwarrantable exaggeration. It condemns our report *in toto*—"throughout the whole report there are a number of inaccuracies"—whereas the report having been prepared by competent stenographers, must be accepted as at least as good a record of the case as any in existence. We regret also to observe that Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Company's action in this matter has not been in accordance with the ordinary dictates of courtesy. The report which they condemn appeared in these columns and in these columns only. To these columns, therefore, they should have addressed their complaint, not merely because the etiquette everywhere observed among candid persons dictated that course, but also because it is a principle of very simple justice that the accused should be heard before the public is asked to pass judgment. If one of the leading firms in Yokohama does not think it worth while to observe these honorable rules, we cannot wonder that anonymous slanderers should persistently follow the evil course of attacking one journal in the correspondence columns of another—a disgraceful abuse in respect of which Yokohama's notoriety is preëminent among all settlements in the Orient.

A MYSTERIOUS TRANSACTION.

On the 12th instant at 3 p.m. the occupants of Mr. Tanaka Heihachi's house, located in Ni-

chome, Tsukiji, were alarmed by the arrival of a man called Fukita Shiro, a lawyer named Wadamori Kikujiro, and two bailiffs. Fukita said that he had come to levy a distraint on Mr. Tanaka's household property for the recovery of the sum of 13,715 yen due to him (Fukita). The clerks of the Tanaka Bank were at once communicated with, and though not a little surprised that Mr. Tanaka should have contracted such a debt without communicating with them, yet, since the bailiffs had a Court order and Fukita was accompanied by a lawyer who backed his claim, they advanced the sum of money demanded, in order to save the credit of the Bank. The next day the Bank sent a clerk to the Kojimachi District Court and to the Kyobashi District Court from which the two bailiffs professed to have come, and asked permission to substitute bonds and other forms for the ready money that had been advanced the previous day. The Court officers informed them that they were entirely ignorant of the transaction. The Bank then telegraphed to Mr. Tanaka who was staying at Konuma, and he returned to the capital the same day. He pronounced the whole proceedings fraudulent and at once placed the case in the hands of the police. It seems, however, that Fukita has some kind of claim on Mr. Tanaka. The following facts are furnished by the *Hochi Shimbun*. "The great Ito Hei, Mr. Tanaka's father, and Fukita's father were close friends, and at one time they used constantly to lend each other large sums of money without exchanging documents. Gradually, however, Ito Hei grew richer and Fukita grew poorer, until finally Ito Hei paid back to the latter all the money he owed him. But while discharging his liabilities, he seems to have omitted to demand from Fukita (senior) the bonds to which he was entitled, and Mr. Fukita Shiro, who professed to be acting as a substitute for his brother Kikujiro, succeeded in procuring a document which declares that the sum of 13,715 yen is still owing. As a son of the creditor he applied for the payment of this money, and he persuaded the lawyer and the bailiffs who accompanied him that it was really due. It is further asserted that Mr. Tanaka has compromised with Mr. Fukita, accepting 7,000 yen of the money taken and allowing the rest to be retained by the Fukita family. Probably the whole story has not yet come to light. At any rate the police are of opinion that fraud has been practised and are diligently investigating the matter."

The latest phase of this strange affair is that all the parties have been arrested. At first Nakamura Masamoto, the bailiff, was missing, but on the 14th instant it was discovered that he was hiding in the house of Wadamori Kikujiro, the counsel for the alleged creditor. Mr. Nozu, the Chief Bailiff, in whose office Nakamura had been serving, sent two men to watch Wadamori's house, and these reported that Wadamori and Nakamura were busily engaged packing something in the upper storey at 12 p.m. Presently Wadamori went out, and Nakamura also, proceeding to post a letter, was accosted by the watchers who requested him to come at once to the office of Mr. Nozu. He refused, however, alleging that he must follow Wadamori who had gone to the house of Suita. Thither, accordingly, he was escorted, but, before he could enter, the police arrived to arrest him and Wadamori. The latter, meanwhile, had escaped from the back door, but was apprehended on the 16th instant in the Hisayoya, Tsukiji. Furukawa, the other bailiff, and Suita Shirozo have also been arrested. The supposed *bona fides* of Mr. Wadamori, the barrister, is considerably compromised by his flight.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE NEW CABINET.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun*, a *Kaishin-to* organ reports the following dialogue between Count Okuma and its reporter. Reporter—What do you think of the Cabinet? The Count—There is nothing to think. History revolves in its own orbit. The present Cabinet may be called new, but it is simply a collection of old *Satcho* statesmen—those who held the portfolios

at different times during the last few years, have re-appeared on the administrative stage. They have dug out some treasures, however—Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Watanabe. These are both able and young, and they have no clan influence or feeling. If the Cabinet were composed of such men alone, we might hope to see progress in the political world. Reporter—Do you not feel sorry for Viscount Sano? The Count—Sorry, no! Viscount Sano was once Minister for Finance, and now he has added another honorable item to his biography by holding the portfolio for Agriculture and Commerce. He is an energetic man. Had he remained in office long, he would surely have commenced some new enterprise, and if he had then been obliged to retire before completing it, I should sympathize with him. But his tenure of office was so short that he cannot have essayed anything, and he must be satisfied to return to the Privy Council.

COUNT SAIGO AND VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

ILLUSTRATING the interest taken by the public at present in the probable relations between the National Union and the Government, a story has been going the round of the Tokyo newspapers, to the effect that, at a recent meeting in Count Kuroda's residence, when Counts Ito, Yamagata, Kuroda, Inouye, Saigo, Yamada, and Oyama and Viscount Shinagawa were present, the expediency of withdrawing from the National Union was strongly urged upon Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa. Curious to ascertain the truth of this tale, a reporter of the Tokyo News Agency waited on a certain Count, who had formed one of the distinguished party, and ascertained from him that no such advice had been tendered to the leaders of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. It was true, indeed, that one of the party had laughingly expressed the hope that the Count and Viscount would not foment any extreme form of agitation on the political tour which they were about to undertake; whereupon they had replied, in the same jesting spirit, that inasmuch as they had discovered many faults in the Government since their own withdrawal from its ranks, they should be under the imperative necessity of exposing those faults. They proposed, however, to limit themselves to that. For the rest, the evening had been spent in general conversation.

FOREIGN MEMBERS OF THE TREATY REVISION INVESTIGATION ASSOCIATION.

THE *Kokkai* says that Mr. Alfred Curtis of Kobe and several foreign residents of Yokohama, have applied for admission to the Association formed for investigating the subject of Treaty Revision. The application seems to have caused some surprise, in view of the fact that the avowed programme of the Association is hostility to mixed residence. For our own part, we are disposed to doubt whether any such application has been made, but even admitting that it has, we do not share the surprise felt on the subject. There are no valid grounds for assuming that all the members of the Association are pledged to oppose mixed residence, or that their investigations will be devoted entirely to demonstrating its inadvisability. At all events, a person desiring to join is not required to make any previous declaration of sentiments. Perhaps the foreign applicants are bent upon bringing the members to a more rational frame of mind. And perhaps, also—a hypothesis not so extravagant as it may seem at first sight—some of these would-be foreign members are in sympathy with the conservative views of the leaders of the Association. Who knows?

THE OSAKA RAILWAY COMPANY.

WITH regard to the construction of a railway between Takata and Sakurai, the people of Imai in Nara Prefecture have expressed their disapproval for the following reasons:—Running through the town is the river Asuka which, in the spring and autumn, often overflows. It was proposed that the railroad be carried near the mouth of the river, and for that purpose the Railway Company contemplated raising the land on both sides of the river to the

height of 20 feet. The people, however, complained that if such banks were built the water would be checked in its flow, and consequently much more serious inundations might be expected in future than those experienced in the past. They therefore wished that the road be made to the south of the town so as not to disturb the stream. The Company despatched some engineers to inspect the ground suggested, and they found that, as it is higher than the land near the mouth of the river, a considerable economy might be effected by using it. But unfortunately in that case no railway station could be made at Yagi, as had been originally intended. Mr. Horinouchi, Chairman of the Prefectural Council, and others acted as mediators, and arranged that the railway should be constructed about 50 *ken* (300 ft.) north of the place originally chosen, and that to facilitate preparations against inundation a certain sum of money should be paid by the Company. Matters were nearly settled on this basis when some people found fresh grounds of disapproval and the negotiation fell through. The Kencho then ordered that an auxiliary outlet 500 feet long be constructed at once, and intimated that if any one should decline to sell his land for the use of the railroad, the Law relating to the Purchase of Land for public purposes would be enforced. The Railway Company, however, expressed their intention of negotiating with the people once more, and in the meanwhile, although it had been hoped that the works would be finished by the end of September next, a petition was sent up asking permission to extend the period by one year. We take these particulars from the *Fiji Shimpō*.

MR. P. SOPER ON JAPAN.

"MR. P. SOPER," writes an American journal, "Secretary of the Spanish Legation in Tokyo, Japan, is at the Grand Pacific on his way home to Spain on a vacation. Mr. Soper is a sprightly young gentleman of affable and agreeable manners, and talks English with considerable fluency. He is greatly taken with Japan and its people, but says he has been simply astonished with what he has seen since landing at San Francisco. Speaking of his experience in Japan he said: 'I have now been two years in Japan and am greatly pleased with the people. Japan is the country of beautiful scenery, and everything that pleases the senses. The people are very courteous, affable, and agreeable, and will put themselves to no end of trouble to please strangers. Since the revolution in Japan their system of government is more representative of the people, and the progress that has followed has been something wonderful. Even in the two years that I have been there the progress has been almost incredible. Japan is now sending her young men to the military schools of Germany to learn the best and newest systems of warfare on land and sea, and schools for this purpose have been opened in Japan. Other branches of education are displaying similar activity. As to Japan's interest in the exposition, I believe they don't fully understand its importance, but they will doubtless have a fair show of their handiwork. They are adepts in embroidery, silk, porcelain, and cabinet and enamel work. 'America, I think, is a great country. Since arriving in San Francisco it has been a series of surprises to me the greatness of American undertakings.' Presumably the gentleman referred to is Mr. Saler.

A MILKING MACHINE.

CONSIDERING the progress that has been made in various methods of pumping, it is somewhat singular that until last year no successful way of milking cows by machinery should have been devised. But it is the characteristic of most really good inventions that they appear very simple to the uninitiated. To Messrs. Nicholson and Grey, of Stanraer, a Scotch firm, belongs the distinction of inventing a milking machine which is considered a great success, and for the supply of which the firm has received more orders than by night and day work they are able to execute. The machine is worked by an air pump (vacuum), and it is as near Na-

ture's plan (calf-sucking) as mechanism can get. After the first or second milking the cows take to it kindly and stand chewing their cuds as if their calves were sucking them. The machines are very simple, easily cleaned and can be got in any size, to milk 2 or 100 cows. A man can work the pump for machines up to 30 cows, for machines over that size an engine is necessary. The milk pails used register the quantity of milk given by each cow, a matter of considerable importance to the dairyman.

COSTS OF THE HYOGO HOTEL CASH.

ACCORDING to the Kobe *Chronicle*, the unfortunate shareholders of the Hyogo Hotel are in a condition not uncommon among parties to a lawsuit—mourning over the bill of costs. The "demnition total," as Mr. Mantilini would say, amounts to no less than \$7,000, and whereas the object of the action was to get rid of a business which did not pay, the result is that another heavy item is added to the wrong side of the account. There is a remarkable resemblance between the histories of the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company and the Hyogo Hotel Company. In each alike a barrister was the moving spirit as promoter; in each alike the severance of connection with an employé imposed an irksome liability; in each alike, a lawsuit added another nasty debt; and in each alike, no one ever reaped any benefit but the original vendors and the barristers.

THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN" AND KOREA'S AFFAIRS.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* has a peculiar paragraph about General Le Gendre, who is at present in Japan in the capacity of Commissioner for the Korean Government. The facts embodied purport to come from Korea, and are to the effect that the Government of that Kingdom, having become extremely impatient about General Le Gendre's failure to complete the negotiations with which he was entrusted, talks, not of recalling him, which would be an ordinary course of procedure, but of removing him from office altogether. We find it impossible to believe that the Korean Government's conception of the exigencies of a difficult negotiation is so very crude. The *Hochi's* informant justly remarks that the tardiness or rapidity of international negotiation does not depend on the zeal or ability of one side only.

THE MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD.

THE residents of the Hokkaido have long expected that His Majesty the Emperor was about to pay them a visit. The ground for this expectation being the choice of a site for a summer palace at Kawakami. It is stated in the *Fiji Shimpō*, that since the Emperor has shown no disposition to take a journey northwards, a special request that a member of the royal family will honour the Hokkaido with a visit, has been forwarded to the Imperial Household Department from the Hokkaido. It not being convenient for any member of the Imperial House to comply with this request, the Minister of the Department has decided to make a Northern tour, and will set out on his journey about the 15th instant, remaining away about a month.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

MR. HARA KEI was Private Secretary to Mr. Mutsu when the latter held the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. On Mr. Mutsu's resignation, Mr. Hara also left the Government, and occupied himself writing for the Kobe *Yushin Nippo* and in delivering addresses in the Kwansei region. He has now, however, returned to office, and become Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office. Mr. Ando Taro, hitherto Director of the latter Bureau, applied, some time ago, for permission to resign on account of his eyesight, which requires rest and treatment, and his application has now been accepted.

TEMPERATURE.

AFTER the curiously cool weather of the close of July and the opening days of August, the sudden change subsequently made into great

heat has been very trying. But no one murmurs, for without these hot sunny days the rice crop would fare badly. A week of such temperature at present is worth many millions of yen to the country. From the records kept at the Central Observatory, as telegraphed to it daily from the interior, it appears that Tuesday last, the 16th instant, was the hottest day we have had this year; or rather, that the thermometer ranged highest on that day, for it does not always follow that a high thermometer means oppressive heat. In Tokyo the mercury registered 93° 2' F., but in Hamamatsu it rose as high as 98° 42' F., which represents the maximum reading throughout the empire. We may yet see worse things in Tokyo, but Hamamatsu has probably put its troubles behind it.

WRECK OF A STEAMER.

THE *Yamashiro Maru*, which arrived here yesterday, reports that on passing Rock Island a steamer was observed in a little bay between two piles of rocks and sunk in water so deep that nothing but her top-masts and fore-stay were visible. She was stranded stern-on, and was judged to be a vessel of between four and five hundred tons register. She was lying perfectly quiet in smooth water, and there were no boats about the wreck or persons visible in the neighbourhood of the vessel. No other report of a wreck in this district has reached us, but on searching the vernacular papers we find that a vessel belonging to Niigata, the *Hokuroku Maru*, has been wrecked in the vicinity mentioned, and that the crew and passengers were saved. The steamer was making the round trip from Niigata, and was bound to this port, last from Kobe, her destination being her home port, via the northern route.

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS.

HARMSTON AND SON'S circus and menagerie will arrive here by the *Saito Maru* on Friday and commence the season Saturday. Mr. Chas. B. Hicks has been able, through the courtesy of the Directors of the Company, to secure a spacious lot on the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's ground at Yoshihama-cho. This circus is said to have the largest company ever seen in the East, numbering 78 artists from the principal circuses of America and Europe. The stud of horses and ponies has been selected from Australia, England, and America, and a menagerie of interesting animals is included in the show. The circus has an equipment capable of presenting all they advertise, and has met with immense success in the cities of the old and new world, and in two rings they will introduce to Yokohama many features entirely new.

DYSENTERY.

VERY evil returns as to the progress of the dysenteric epidemic continue to reach Tokyo. The News Agency says that in the Morino Division of Yamaguchi Prefecture 38 fresh cases have occurred, and in the Uchihi Division of the same Prefecture, 50 fresh cases. On the 11th instant, there were 167 fresh cases and 27 deaths in Oita Prefecture, making 2,251 cases and 398 deaths since the outbreak of the epidemic. In Saga Prefecture on the same day there were 40 fresh cases and 4 deaths, bringing the totals up to 587 cases and 92 deaths. Finally, in Fukuoka Prefecture in the week ending the 5th instant, there were 90 fresh cases, the aggregate from the commencement being 2,111.

MAGAZINE RIFLES FOR JAPANESE TROOPS.

SOMEWHAT confusing figures were lately given by a vernacular newspaper with reference to the manufacture of magazine rifles for the Japanese army. We presume that the statement now made by the *Mainichi Shimbun* is correct, namely, that the number of rifles to be manufactured in 81,800, and that the operation is to be spread over five years, commencing with the current year and ending in 1897. The total cost is to be 2,507,000 yen, of which 1,630,000 yen has been specially granted by the Diet, and the remainder is to come out of the regular appropriations. The

former figure includes a certain sum for accoutrements and ammunition. These arms are to be served out to the troops serving with the colours.

THE MONGOLIAN REBELLION.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Herald* gives a new version of the Mongolian Rebellion which perplexed the public so much last fall: it is again a case of *cherches la femme*—

A few days ago I had a visit from a friend who has heard the story from the lips of one of the Generals after his return from Mongolia, and his story is as follows:—One of the mandarins on the borders of Mongolia saw a handsome woman belonging to the household of a Mongol prince close by, and falling in love with her, waited for an opportunity when the prince was not at home, and sent his yam-drunners to carry her off to his yam-dun. The prince returning finding what had happened during his absence was very angry, but he also hid his time, and endeavoured privately to enlist the sympathy of the Mongols and his Chinese friends. He was a great lawbreaker, and had been in the habit of selling, managing, and renting his land to Chinese cultivators for many years. Although he sold his land he would often tell it as if he were the perpetual owner, after using the money. In consequence of this, a great many disliked him intensely, especially as he was a hard landlord; besides even in years of famine exacting the full rent, and in some reduction. In the same district there was a Chinaman named Yang who bought land and sublet it to his fellow-countrymen. He was a just man, keeping strictly to his agreements, but when famines came, and the farmers were in distress, he always remitted freely large portions, or even the whole, of their rents. He was very popular. He was a member of one of the religious sects of China, and as such according to Chinese tradition and usage considered almost as good as a traitor. So the Mongol prince nursed his revenge against the mandarin and also against this good man Yang, because Yang's popularity made it impossible for the prince to act as he pleased without the people drawing unpleasant comparisons between him and Yang. Thus he incited all the people he had influence over to beware of the apparently kind deeds of Yang, as they all were only thin masks for treason in which he and his followers would be soon engulfed,—a red flag which will infuriate the mandarins almost at any time. The opportunity now he had to visit some part of his district, when the Mongol prince, with a large number of followers came to the yam-dun, carried off the young woman, and murdered all the rest of the mandarin's family. Then there arose the cry that the people had risen in rebellion, and that Yang was the chief, and that all the religious sects would be put to death. The Mongol prince led his forces against the rebels. Wild telegrams were sent to Peking and Tientsin about the rebellion of the religious sects. Armies were despatched, and the innocent people who had never dreamt of rebellion, were killed by the thousands, and great honour conferred on generals for battles which were never fought—butcheries of the innocent could not be called battles. Yang was taken to Tientsin as the rebel chief. According to Chinese law the rebels' families are all destroyed. But when the Viceroy saw the supposed rebel chief he was deeply moved, as a mere glance at Yang was enough to convince any one that he was a good man. To finish up the unfortunate matter, the usual sign was reluctantly given for his execution, but his sons—strange clause—were not to suffer, but on the contrary were to be brought up at the expense of the general who recommended Yang's execution! I make no comments further than this, that the reasons given in the *Peking Gazette* are often far from being the true ones, and that the account given of the Mongolian rebellion in the *Peking Gazette* may also have to be considerably modified before being accepted as true account.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 13th inst. as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Day	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100)	Pound Sterling (Per £1)
8th	149.300	7.1848
9th	143.500	7.1848
10th	143.500	7.1848
11th	143.000	7.1588
12th	143.000	7.1848
13th	143.500	7.1848
Averages	143.133	7.1761

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 1.083 per cent., and for the pound sterling an increase of yen 0.0345 as compared with the previous week.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 13th inst. were as follows:—

Convertible Notes.	Reserve and Securities.
Yen.	Yen.
Notes issued..... 107,549,133	Gold coin and bullion, 22,740,200
	Silver coin and bullion, 44,680,699
	Public Loan Bonds..... 14,500,000
	Treasury Bills.....
	Government Bills..... 22,000,000
	Other securities.....
	Commercial Bills..... 3,628,333
107,549,133	107,549,133

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 3,669,956 is in the treasury of the Bank, yen 16,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 87,879,176 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 1,677,187 as compared with yen 86,201,989 at the end of the previous week.

JAPANESE CORAL.

CONCERNING Tosa coral which is found in considerable quantities off the coast of Kochi Pre-

fecture, the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that the number of places where dredging for it had hitherto been carried on was 32, but that a new bed was discovered last year at Asaji to the west of Kashiwa-zaki. Every day subsequent to the discovery some three hundred boats congregated at the spot and engaged vigorously in dredging, the result being that 54 kwan of coral was obtained, the total value of which was 8,672 yen. This made last year's take double that of any preceding year, and had the effect of cheapening coral so much that the present price is 20 yen per 100 me (2 of a lb. avoird.) of pink coral, 8 yen for the same weight of red, and 1 yen for the white variety.

THE "JIYU."

It is stated that the *Jiyu*, hitherto regarded as the organ of Mr. Hoshi Toru, one of the Radical leaders, is henceforth to be supported from another quarter, Mr. Okazaki Kunisuke, member of the House of Representatives for Wakayama Prefecture, having become its treasurer and capitalist. The personnel of the management is to be completely changed, but presumably this does not involve any alteration of editors or policy. Meanwhile there is talk of starting another Radical organ on humbler lines. It is to be called the *Yeri Shimbun*, and the persons connected with its inception are Messrs. Nakaye Tokusuke, Kurihara Ryoichi, and Yeguchi Sansei.

THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL.

The Tokyo Court of Appeal seems to have got through a considerable amount of business during the first half of the current year. From January 10th until July 15th the number of criminal cases heard by it was 124 major offences and 553 minor offences; of which the appeals were rejected in 270 cases, and the judgment of the lower court was reversed in 184. The number of civil cases that came before the court in the same period was 2,735, of which the appeals were rejected in 506 cases, and the decisions of the lower courts reversed in 250.

ORDER OF MINISTERIAL PRECEDENCE.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following list showing the order of Court precedence of the Ministers of State and others:—

1. Count Ito Minister President.
2. Count Yamagata..... Minister of Justice.
3. Count Kuroda Minister of Communications.
4. Count Oki President of the Privy Council.
5. Count Inoue Minister of Home Affairs.
6. Count Oyama Minister of War.
7. Viscount Hijikata Minister of the Imperial Household.
8. Count Goto Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.
9. Marquis Tokudajiri..... Lord Keeper of the Seals.
10. Mr. Mutsu..... Minister of Foreign Affairs.
11. Kono Minister of Education.
12. Viscount Kato Minister for the Navy.
13. Mr. Watanabe Minister for Finance.
14. Count Matsukata Attendant in the Incense Chamber.
15. Lieut.-General Count Saigo.
16. Count Yamada Privy Councillor.
17. Count Okuma.

JAPANESE WOOD-CARVERS FOR SIAM.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* reports an interesting fact. It says that the Siamese Education Department has engaged the services of two wood engravers and a painter in this country. The engravers are Messrs. Shimada Tenmin and Ito Kinnosuke, graduates of the Seikokan of Hongcho, Sakurada, Shiba, and the artist is Mr. Oyama Suisho. The salaries are to be 840 yen per annum, and they go for a term of three years certain. Our contemporary claims that this is the first example of Japanese artistic experts being engaged by a foreign country. But certainly it is not the first example of their being engaged by foreign firms abroad.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank may succeed in discovering and making an example of the person who for speculative purposes attempted to set on foot a rumour adverse to the Bank's credit. Such a conscienceless individual deserves no mercy, and should not receive any.

MR. NAKAMA HAYATE.

ONE of the curious episodes of the general elections last spring was the loss of a voting-box and other documents kept in the local offices of

Takaoka District, in Kochi Prefecture. Great capital was made by political agitators out of this singular circumstance, and it must be confessed that they had much reason for their excitement. The case has apparently taken a considerable time to investigate, but the *Official Gazette* now at last announces that the loss is attributed to want of due care on the part of the District Headman, Mr. Nakama Hayaya, and that he is condemned to lose two months' salary by way of fine.

UNITED STATES CITIZENS IN CHINA.

We take the following from the Hongkong *Daily Press*:—"According to an official statement by the United States Minister to China there are at present in China only 1,022 citizens of the United States, nearly half of them women. Of this number 400 reside at Shanghai, 186 at Tientsin, and 75 at Canton. Nearly one-half, 506 in all, are missionaries, 28 are in the diplomatic and consular service, 6 are mining engineers, 23 are in mercantile occupations, 28 are in the Chinese Customs service, 72 are seafaring men, 7 ministers, 7 machinists, 2 professors, and 345 are "unclassified."

THE SILK CROP.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that owing to the inclement character of the early summer the business of sericulture has not prospered this year in Gumma, Nagano, or Fukushima Prefecture, the only place where a really good result was attained being Kiushu. It is consequently expected that the crop will be only seventy-five per cent. of an average yield. It is to be remarked, however, that rumours of this character are circulated every year with unvarying regularity. Hence, while reproducing the *Mainichi's* estimate, we regard it with suspicion.

ROBBERIES IN TOKYO.

We do not desire to alarm our readers, but it is right to warn them that precautions should be exercised at present against thieves in Tokyo. Two instances of robbery occurred within the past fortnight. One was in Tsukiji, the other on the night of the 16th instant—at the residence of a German gentleman—whose transliterated name we fail to identify—in Nagatacho, Tokyo. The thief, in the first case, carried off a quantity of wearing apparel; in the second, fifty yen in money and two swords.

THE BRITISH BUILDING AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.
The illustrated supplement of the *Inter-Ocean*, for July 17th, contains a picture of the British Building at the World's Fair as it will be when completed. It is a handsome and imposing structure, reminding one rather of a very large country mansion than of a hall for exhibiting industrial and agricultural products. Evidently the World's Fair will justify the predictions which have been freely uttered about it for the past few months: it will be incomparably the biggest thing of the kind that has ever been seen.

EXAMINATIONS FOR BARRISTERS.

A CHANGE in the regulations to be observed by those desirous of offering themselves as candidates for the periodical Barrister's Examinations held in Tokyo, has resulted in the decrease of the number of applicants by one half. The new rules require that all applications for permission to compete at the examinations shall bear a 5 yen stamp. This condition has debarred all but the most earnest students from applying.

THE "MAINICHI" AND THE WATERWORKS.

We observe with pleasure that a Japanese correspondent addresses to the *Mainichi Shimbun* an able letter completely disposing of the mistaken criticisms recently published by that journal with respect to the Yokohama Waterworks. It is re-assuring to find a Japanese expert—for the writer is evidently conversant with his subject—stepping forward publicly to defend the professional reputation of a foreigner.

THE "JIYU"

We published, on the 15th instant, a statement that the *Jiyu*, hitherto regarded as the organ of

Mr. Hoshi Toru, was henceforth to be supported from another quarter, Mr. Okazaki, member of the House of Representatives for Wakayama Prefecture, having become its treasurer and capitalist. The *Jiyu* requests us to correct this statement—which, we need scarcely say, was merely copied by us from the vernacular press—and explains that it has no connection whatever with Mr. Okazaki, that it is not the organ of Mr. Hoshi, and that it remains, as hitherto, the organ of the Radical Party.

NATAL AND THE POSTAL UNION.

THE following Notification has been issued by the Department of Communications:—

The British Colony of Natal having joined the International Postal Union on July 1st, 1892, postal matter despatched from this country to Natal will be charged in accordance with the rates determined by the Union Postal Regulations.

(Signed) KURODA KYOTAKA, Count,
Minister of State for Communications.
(Dated) August 16th, 1892.

SOAP.

THE total quantity of soap imported into China annually, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, is valued at 270,000 yen, and of this quantity Japan last year supplied 40,000 yen, or about one-fourth of the whole. The soap of Japanese manufacture now in the market comes chiefly from Nagoya and Osaka, and costs from twenty to thirty sen per dozen cakes. The Japanese Consul in Hongkong reports that the reputation enjoyed by this soap is not good.

COUNT SAIGO AND VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

COUNT SAIGO and Viscount Shinagawa, leaders of the Popular Union, have at last left Tokyo on a political tour. Count Saigo started from Ueno yesterday, his immediate objective point being Morioka, and Viscount Shinagawa set out from Shimbashi for Kyoto, whence he intends to make the tour of Kiushu, Shikoku, and Chiukoku.

UTSUNOMIYA AND NIKKO RAILWAY.

It is announced that from the 21st instant, during an interval of three days, special trains will be despatched from Utsunomiya to Nikko for the accommodation of pilgrims to the shrine of Futa-ara. On the 21st these trains will leave Utsunomiya at 4.20 a.m. and 9.35 a.m. On the 22nd and 23rd the hours of departure will be 5 a.m. and 9.35 a.m.

THE CHIEF SECRETARYSHIP OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

MR. ITO MIYOJI, having resigned the office of Chief Secretary of the Privy Council, in order to devote himself entirely to the duties of his new post, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, has been succeeded at the Privy Council by Mr. Hirayama Shigenobu.

CHOLERA.

THE News Agency reports that the total number of cases of cholera which occurred in Tokyo, Osaka and 26 prefectures of Japan from January 1st to July 31st of the current year, was 305; of which 111 proved fatal. They were all sporadic. This total is 212 less than the aggregate for the corresponding period of last year.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpō* that the Prince Imperial, who is now on a visit to Kamakura, will visit the Kanagawa Normal School on the 21st instant, and after inspecting the classes, will witness exercises by the pupils in the playground.

PILRIMS TO NIKKO.

THE annual pilgrimage to the Futa-ara Shrine at Nikko commences on the 22nd instant and continues for 7 days. Several special trains are to be run, and as the crowd of worshippers will probably be very great, intending visitors to Nikko and Chusenji had better avoid those days.

THE RICE CROP IN SIAM.

THE rice prospects at Patiew, Siam's most important agricultural district, says the *Bangkok Times* of July 30, were reported to be extremely promising early this week. A Siamese who

returned from there yesterday, however, says that much of the crop is lying under water.

AN EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

ON Thursday morning the Austro-Hungarian corvette *Fasano* dressed ship and fired a royal salute in honour of the Birthday of the Emperor Francis Joseph; officers and men then attended high mass at the Roman Catholic Church.

VISCOUNT TANAKA.

VISCOUNT TANAKA, who held the portfolio of Justice in the Matsukata Cabinet, and who resigned in consequence of the card-playing scandal, has been nominated a Privy Councillor.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The attention of the journalistic world has been occupied during the present week, with the position of the new Ministry and the status of the *Kokumin Kyokai* (the National Union). It had been generally supposed that Count Ito would seize an early opportunity to make public his political programme. This expectation seems to have been principally based on the reminiscence that a similar step was taken by him in 1885 when he re-constructed the Cabinet. But the inference on the present occasion is evidently erroneous, for there is no indication of any enunciation of policy. Indeed, such a course at the present moment would probably be unnecessary, as the Diet is to meet in a few months, and then the Ministry will have to define its position pretty clearly. As to the *Kokumin Kyokai*, that party is in a critical state. There is no longer any doubt that the new Cabinet has repudiated every bond of connection, direct or indirect, with the National Unionists. Rumour alleges that, at a meeting of the leading statesmen of Satsuma and Choshu at Count Kuroda's residence on the 12th instant, those who have seats in the Cabinet distinctly gave Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa to understand that their mutual political relations must henceforth cease altogether, and that the Cabinet would regard the Count and Viscount in the same light as it regards the leaders of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* was the first to publish a circumstantial account of what transpired at this memorable meeting, and the version has not been denied altogether, though some exception has been taken to its details. Even the Tokyo News Agency, which is regarded as favourable to the Cabinet, admits that words fell from the lips of the leaders of the National Union to the effect that they should be compelled to attack the Government in some respects since they had detected mistakes on the part of the new Ministers of State. It is of course impossible to foretell the future attitude of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa towards their former colleagues and friends. But so far as the bulk of the National Unionists are concerned, we may safely predict that they are destined to split up into several antagonistic factions. For instance, men like Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, Mr. Ota Minoru, Mr. Hayakawa Ryusuke, and others, are sincere admirers of Count Ito and will be his staunchest supporters in the Diet. But Mr. Sone Arasuke and his section, though not antagonistic to Count Ito, are more intimately connected with Count Yamagata and Viscount Shinagawa than with the new Minister President. Mr. Furusho Kamon, Mr. Sassa Tomofusa, and their followers, the most conservative portion of the National Union, will be more or less opposed to Count Ito, and may even adopt ultimately a radically hostile attitude. They are men of uncompromising character, and in the near future may prove to be the most dangerous political element of the day. Their possible combination with the *Fakki-gumi* of local Governors and such *soshi* leaders as Mr. Tōyama Mitsuru of Fukuoka and Mr. Endo Hidekage of Ishikawa, is the most disquieting cloud on the present political horizon.

Every careful reader of the vernacular press cannot fail to have been struck by a sudden

change in the tone of the Opposition papers towards the Ito Ministry. Perhaps in their excessive joy over the defeat of the Military Party, these journals temporarily lost their balance of mind, and carried beyond lasting limits their sympathy with a Cabinet which represents the Civil or Constitutional party. Indeed, they are beginning to manifest a disposition to revert to their old unfriendly tactics. Their altering mood has probably been greatly accelerated by a trenchant article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the inconsistency of the Popular Party, the members of which, while professing incorrigible antipathy to Clan Government, have been weak enough to pay court to a Cabinet purely clannish in composition. It may be, says our contemporary, that the Opposition journals have found out the absurdity of attacking Clan Government as such, and the senselessness of making opposition to Clan Government their political platform so long as clan statesmen continue to be the ruling spirits both in the Government and out of it. This article seems to have touched a rankling wound in the minds of the Opposition journalists, they indignantly repudiate the charge that they have paid homage to the new Cabinet. At the same time, they admit that they have manifested more or less sympathy towards it, because they think it better worthy of confidence than the Cabinet it replaced, or than the Cabinet which might have replaced the latter. When hungry, one is not scrupulous as to one's choice of food. Count Ito's Ministry has been comparatively well received, because, say these journals, it was born when the public had long been desiring a strong Cabinet. The Popular party, we are told, may have some hope in the Ito Cabinet, but not much. Moreover, these journals now profess to see an indication that the new Cabinet is not likely to last long, inasmuch as Count Ito has committed a vital mistake in bringing together discordant elements. Why did he not courageously avail himself of the present unique opportunity to form a Ministry solely out of statesmen willing to follow his direction in all essential points? The Radical and Progressionist papers express strong fears that the Ito Cabinet may prove a failure. These utterances are made with some cautious reservations, and in the case of the Radical papers at least, it is not difficult to see that they are unusually guarded in their criticisms of the Government.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* can express itself more freely, as it is not an avowed organ of any party, though entirely in sympathy with the Popular Party. It very much doubts whether the new Ministry really intends to pursue the policy of standing aloof from parties. Count Ito, for instance, is said to be connected with Mr. Suyematsu's section, Count Yamagata with the National Unionists (indirectly), Count Goto with Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and certain Tosa politicians, and Mr. Mitsu with the members of the Diet from Wakayama. Possibly the intention of the new Cabinet may be to maintain its position by secretly controlling these small parties. But such a course of policy would, in our contemporary's opinion, be injurious to the interests of the Cabinet, for it must inevitably lead to the revival of the Military Party's influence. The Ministry is advised to pursue a strictly neutral (*chozen*) Policy, but to adopt the programme of the Popular party. In that case, the Popular party, without becoming partisans of the Cabinet, could give it independent support.

It is interesting to turn to the *Nippon*, for with all its faults that journal is conscientiously independent in its political opinions. It observes that the new Cabinet has received a degree of respect and sympathy altogether beyond the expectations of the Ministers of State themselves. But this circumstance ought not to be taken as a sign that the new Cabinet enjoys the confidence of the people. The public is only comparatively well disposed. The *Nippon* further thinks that the Popular party is inclined to place more or less faith in the Ito Cabinet. That is a good sign, for it shows that party spirit is now

less strong among the Opposition politicians than formerly. Our contemporary uncompromisingly condemns journals which ridicule this new tendency of the Opposition and call it a surrender to the Government.

The disastrous inundations in the Prefectures of Tokushima, Okayama, and Hyogo arrest the public attention. Discussions as to the method of giving relief to the sufferers have brought out a curious difference of opinion between the Radicals and the Progressionists. The Progressionists are reported to be in an awkward position. They cannot afford to lose votes in the devastated localities. Hence they are forced to adopt a course hardly compatible with their attitude on the Ai-Gi Relief question. They advocate an immediate grant of relief from the Treasury, a method of procedure which, when it suited their purpose, they condemned roundly in the case of the Prefectures of Aichi and Gifu. The fortunes of a party forced to resort to such contradictory conduct in order to retain the favour of its constituencies cannot be called flourishing. The Radicals, on the contrary, are more consistent and considerate. They have at least as much interest at stake as the Progressionists; but they feel themselves strong enough to risk the displeasure of voters by adhering to the course of action which they maintained in the case of the Ai-Gi earthquake disaster. Their organ, the *Jiyu*, regrets to hear a report that the Government is disposed to grant relief to the sufferers of the three localities by an Urgency Ordinance, and that certain politicians of the Opposition are urging the Authorities to take such a step. Whatever procedure other parties may recommend, the *Jiyu-to*, says its organ, cannot deviate from its avowed principle for the purpose of currying favour with the people. Our radical contemporary admits that the recent inundations were of an exceptionally disastrous description, and that some grant of relief is necessary. But before aid is given from the Treasury, every available assistance should be sought from the local resources. The Hyogo Local Assembly has already voted a sum of 200,000 yen; and its example is about to be followed by the Assemblies of Tokushima and Okayama. Not till after these local efforts have been found insufficient should disbursements be made from the Treasury. And in case the Treasury has to come forward, its payments should be limited to the Second Reserve, as may be done without resorting to an Urgency Ordinance. Should that Reserve prove insufficient, an extraordinary session of the Diet ought to be convened to make due provision for the needs of the case. Such is the course recommended by the Radical organ.

The *Nichi Nichi*, apparently well informed, states that the new Minister of Home Affairs will not hesitate to make proper provision for the sufferers, but that he will not take any step until full investigations shall have been made into the actual requirements of the case. It is erroneous, says our contemporary, to compare the present catastrophe with the earthquake of last October. The damage done by the recent inundations, though doubtless great, are for the most part confined to embankments, loss of life and destruction of habitations being comparatively small. Consequently there is time enough to make full investigations before deciding on the measures to be taken. At the same time, the *Nichi Nichi* appeals to the generosity of private individuals to come to the rescue of the unfortunate sufferers.

The Opposition journals continue to urge upon the Government the importance of taking some decisive measures against the Governors who made themselves conspicuous by interference in the general elections of February last. They write as if this were the only important question of the day, and as if they could forgive many another mistake did the Ministry only mete out chastisement to the obnoxious officials. The manner in which the

Cabinet deals with this question is regarded as a test of its general policy. The new Minister of Home Affairs is advised not to suffer his proverbial spirit of chivalry to interfere with the discharge of his duties, and is further recommended to act promptly.

The new Minister of Justice is expected by the press to introduce drastic reforms in his Department. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* ventures to observe that discipline has to be restored in the judiciary, factious contentions having hitherto been allowed to continue unchecked. The recent Gambling Case is but a ripple caused by a great under-current of evil. The evil state of affairs is in some measure owing to the defective system of promotion introduced by the Law of the Constitution of the Courts. In itself the system embodied in that Law is far from defective; but it does not suit the present stage of judicial progress in this country. For the higher ranks of the Judiciary being filled by men of the old school, who are not well versed in the principles of Western jurisprudence, the enforcement of the above mentioned rigid system of promotion has had the pernicious effect of causing young men of capacity and knowledge to turn their backs on the Judiciary as a career, and has thus delayed the regeneration of the service. The Law in question was promulgated while Count Yamagata was Minister President of State, and he is advised by the *Nichi Nichi* to make such alterations in it as are demanded by the present state of affairs. In another article the same paper recommends Count Yamagata to settle the question of the Codes as quickly as possible. There is to be no course open to the Cabinet except to obtain the Emperor's sanction to the Bill for the postponement of the operation of the Codes, and to organize a Revision Commission.

Agitation among the students of the Western school of painting is still going on. They have published a document tabulating their complaints against the Authorities, especially Mr. Kuki, the Director General of the Imperial Museum. Five points are enumerated, namely: first that Mr. Kuki has several times declared on public occasions that Western painting must be exterminated in Japan in order to secure the development of the pure pictorial art of the country; that the Authorities have caused all paintings in Western style to be removed from the Imperial Museums; thirdly, that while allowing the *Nippon Bijutsu Kyokai* (an Association of Japanese artists) and the Fine Art School to occupy ground in Ueno Park, the Government has driven out the *Meiji Bijutsu Kyokai* (an Association of Artists of the Western school); fourthly, that while every encouragement and every protection has been given to artists of the Japanese School in connection with the Chicago Exposition no attention whatever has been paid to artists of the Western school; and fifthly, that not only has the course in Western painting been struck out of the curriculum of the Fine Art School, but also the students of that institution have been prohibited from associating with artists of the Western school. The *Choya Shimbun* does not pretend to believe in every word of the document containing these allegations; but at the same time it cannot suppose that such strong agitation has arisen out of nothing. It urges a strictly impartial official attitude towards all schools of art, inasmuch as nothing can be more fatal to the development of art than a spirit of bigotry and exclusiveness. The pictorial art of Japan has doubtless many excellent points, but its profoundest admirers are the first to admit its defects; defects of precisely such a nature as can be best remedied by a careful study of European painting. The *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* writes in a similar strain. It entertains no doubt that Japanese students of Western painting will be able in time to nationalize the new art, just as their forefathers were able to nationalize the art imported from the continent of Asia. No alarm need be felt, therefore, by conservatives about the study of Western painting in this country.

MR. LOUREIRO ONCE MORE.

WE must ask permission to abandon the controversy about Mr. LOUREIRO. Our reason for retiring from the arena is simple, and shall be briefly stated. The original accusation, which we undertook to refute, was that Mr. LOUREIRO had been the official recipient of an ultimatum from the Japanese Government with reference to the placing of Portuguese subjects in Japan under Japanese jurisdiction; that, instead of forwarding the ultimatum to his Government with all speed, as he was in duty bound to do, he put it into his own pocket and carried it away with him from Japan; and that by thus culpably suppressing a document highly important to the interest of his nationals, he contrived that they should forfeit the privilege of remaining under Portuguese jurisdiction. This accusation was categorically preferred by a correspondent of the *Kobe Herald* signing himself "One Aggrieved," and our very emphatic refutation elicited a letter from a correspondent of the *Japan Gazette* signing himself "S," who endeavoured to throw discredit on our demonstration. "S's," letter, being at once rude and irrelevant, was left unnoticed by us, whereupon the *Japan Gazette* came to the rescue of its correspondent, and in a leading article headed "Mr. LOUREIRO and Japan's Ultimatum," made use of the following words:—"Accusations have recently been brought against Mr. LOUREIRO in Kobe, and the *Mail* has undertaken to refute them. The accusations have been endorsed in Yokohama and the *Mail* has not replied to them. . . . The *Mail* asserts that Mr. LOUREIRO was never in receipt of an ultimatum from Japan. Our correspondent "S," asserts, on the other hand, that . . . it was quite certain Mr. LOUREIRO did know Japan's intentions." Now it is impossible that there can be the smallest doubt about the position taken by the *Japan Gazette* up to this stage of the controversy. One accusation and one accusation only had been preferred against Mr. LOUREIRO in Kobe; namely, that he had deliberately and with evil purpose suppressed an ultimatum officially communicated to him. The *Gazette* having read our refutation, understood thoroughly what the accusation had been. Its own words betray its knowledge:—"The *Mail* asserts that Mr. LOUREIRO was never in receipt of an ultimatum from Japan." Further, with equal explicitness it interpreted its own correspondent's letter as an endorsement of the Kobe accusations which we had undertaken to refute. Its words again place this beyond all question:—"The accusations which the *Mail* undertook to refute have been endorsed in Yokohama." Very well, then. Thus far everything is plain and intelligible. But see what follows. It having been shown by us that "S's" arguments were irrelevant and that the *Gazette* had allowed itself

to be betrayed into supporting a charge without a tittle of foundation, our contemporary now writes:—"We were under the impression that the real point under discussion was not so much whether Mr. LOUREIRO had been the official medium of Japan's ultimatum as that he was cognizant of that ultimatum, and of the events which would follow his departure, and was in some way responsible for the step which was actually taken after he left Japan. The assertion that Mr. LOUREIRO was the recipient of Japan's ultimatum and suppressed it has been made we believe, but we never made it, nor have we laid any stress on the point at all, regarding it only as a side issue and improbable." These words appeared in an article published on August 12th, the words quoted previously appeared in an article published on August 6th. Exactly six days sufficed for the *Japan Gazette* to perform a complete pirouette. On August the 6th the ultimatum, its receipt, and its suppression were alone in question: "The *Mail* asserts that Mr. LOUREIRO was never in receipt of an ultimatum from Japan;" the accusations that he had received and suppressed the ultimatum "have been recently brought against Mr. LOUREIRO in Kobe;" "the *Mail* has undertaken to refute them;" "the accusations have been endorsed in Yokohama and the *Mail* has not replied to them." "But on August the 12th the *Gazette* finds itself under the impression that the real point at issue was not so much whether Mr. LOUREIRO had received the ultimatum officially as whether he had been cognizant of its probable issue and of the events which should follow his departure. Nay more, on August 12th, our contemporary actually professes to have only a belief, a vague notion, that some such accusation—the accusation stated by itself in the plainest terms only six days previously—had been preferred. And then it goes on to plead:—"But we never made it, nor have we laid any stress on it at all, regarding it only as a side issue and improbable." We cannot wonder that in the preface of the article containing this really remarkable recantation our contemporary should speak of the "*Japan Mail's* customary inconsistency." Introspection generally discloses very vivid failings in others. But although we have no assurance that the *Japan Gazette*, six days hence, may not perform another pirouette, and revert to its attitude of August 6th, we must rest content for the nonce with its latest explicit assertion, namely, that it has no faith in the ultimatum accusation. We never addressed ourselves to anything but that accusation, and since our opponents thus publicly abandon it, we are entitled to retire from the contest. But, by way of adieu, we desire to notice one other circumstance and to offer one other explanation. The circumstance is this:—In its leading article of August 12th the *Japan Gazette* writes thus:—"The accusation which we said had been

brought in Kobe and supported in this port was the charge that Mr. LOUREIRO was responsible to a great degree for the present position of Portuguese nationals in Japan." Our readers can judge for themselves how far this version of what the *Japan Gazette* intended to say could be reasonably inferred from what it actually did say on August 6th. That point needs no further analysis. But will it be believed that up to August 9th the *Japan Gazette* had never even seen the Kobe accusation which, on August 6th, it declared had been "endorsed in Yokohama," and of which it now undertakes to repeat the definition given by itself six days ago. It had never even read the letter preferring the accusation. Of this we have its own confession. Writing on August 9th about the Kobe letters of "One Aggrieved," in which letters the accusation had been made, it says:—"We have not seen either of the letters referred to in the *Mail's* note." Having thus neglected the not unusual preliminary of previously reading what one undertakes to discuss, our contemporary's notions of the points of controversy might have been expected to lack lucidity.

This explanation which we wish to offer has reference to the archives of the Portuguese Legation. We have said that we neither know nor care whether Mr. LOUREIRO was instructed to hand over the archives to the French Legation, and whether he did or did not do so. This confession of combined ignorance and indifference seems to shock the *Japan Gazette*. Nevertheless we must repeat it. We do not know, simply because we possess no information as to the instructions which Mr. LOUREIRO may have received from his Government. We do not care, simply because his action with regard to the archives is wholly irrelevant to the original accusation about the suppression of an ultimatum. Having addressed ourselves entirely to that accusation, we have a right to abstain from being led off into unconnected byways.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

THE publication of the semi-annual Report of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for the period ending June 30, 1892, is very welcome, for the figures show that despite the extraordinarily unfavourable times through which we are now passing, the great local institution stands practically as firm as ever. It is not too much to say that the Hongkong Bank represents the foreign trade of China and Japan. Such a catastrophe as the Bank's collapse would mean nothing more or less than paralysis of that trade for a long, a very long, period. Already, indeed, the prudent reserve which the Bank has thought well to exercise of late has not a little affected a commerce that depends, to a considerable extent, on the accommodation obtainable from such

an institution. In an era when exchange fluctuations introduce into international trade a large factor of gambling, confidence becomes steadily undermined, and the chances of financial crises are greatly increased. The extraordinary experiment made by the United States two years ago, the consequent fictitious appreciation of silver, the panics that ensued, the failure of the great house of Baring Brothers, and the now utterly untrustworthy character of the medium in which the trade of the Orient with the Occident has to be carried on—all these things have combined to subject banking business to unprecedented embarrassments. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has not escaped scathless. Three years ago its shares were quoted at 250 per cent. premium. Now they may be obtained at 60 per cent. This means that scrip which was worth 35 million dollars in 1888, represents only 16 millions to-day; a tremendous shrinkage, more than sufficient to account for the uneasy feeling that prevailed at intervals during the past ten months as to the Bank's condition. There is no solid basis for such depreciation. It is evidently due, in great part, to the general sense of uncertainty and peril that has been engendered by a medium of exchange subject to fluctuations far exceeding any sound or normal margin of commercial profit and loss. The Bank's semi-annual Report does indeed show that nearly one half of the Reserve Fund has to be taken to provide for bad and doubtful accounts; in other words, to cover losses. Of course that is a great misfortune. The Reserve Fund had attained the very handsome figure of \$6,300,000, and it is now reduced to \$3,300,000. But if, as may fairly be assumed, the Bank has looked its position fairly and squarely in the face, and has boldly provided for the bad features of its affairs, its large constituency may now be satisfied that the trouble is past and gone. The volume of its business shows no appreciable shrinkage; its deposits still stand at the great figure of over a hundred million dollars, having been reduced by only fourteen millions throughout the panics and embarrassments of the half year; and the Directors are in a position to recommend the payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. This is a state of affairs eminently calculated to inspire confidence. It is not such a flourishing account as the Bank has hitherto been able to lay before its shareholders, but it is an account which, if it stood by itself and did not suffer by comparison, would be distinctly satisfactory. We sincerely trust that the feeling of confidence which the publication of the Report should inspire, may inaugurate a more prosperous era of trade in the East.

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN JAPAN.

IN the annual Report of the American Board Mission we find the following:—

Among the pressing questions which await legislative action, none is of more importance than that of limiting the hours of labour. To the casual observer, the life of the Japanese mechanic or day labourer seems relatively easy. Those who are in the habit of employing labourers often complain of their leisurely habits, of the lateness of the hour at which the labour is begun, the long rests at noon and the small amount of work accomplished. These criticisms are not without foundation as regards those who work by the day, and yet even these men do not always finish their task with the close of the nominal working day. Excessive labour is most conspicuous in the small factories, or in the villages where the so-called house industries are carried on. There are towns in the north-eastern part of Joshi where thousands of operatives are to be found, working in groups of from twenty to forty, chiefly engaged in spinning and weaving. According to an accomplished Japanese statistician, such operatives often labour from early dawn till after ten in the evening. The testimony of intelligent men in daily intercourse with these poor people places the average period of daily labour as high as seventeen hours. Such observers further state that in times of special pressure these hours are very much exceeded. Allowing for some exaggeration in the testimony of these untrained observers, it still adds emphasis to the statement of the expert above referred to. The effect of this excessive labour is seen in the fact, that in such manufacturing towns it is rare to find operatives, either men or women, over thirty years of age. They become incapacitated for labour through nervous disorders of various kinds, even if death itself does not intervene. This evil which is not new in Japan has been greatly intensified by the rapid growth of foreign trade. It is probably seen at its worst in connection with the manufacture of silk. It is not found merely in the spinning and weaving factories, but also in the many thousands of homes scattered all over Japan where hankchiefs are hemmed and embroidered for the export trade. In some of the more remote provinces the pittance of three *sen* (2½ cents U. S. currency) a day is all that many an able bodied woman can earn.

It is gratifying to know that the Government in its model filatures* has arranged to guard the interests of the operatives. These establishments merit much praise. In the large cotton and other mills, too, which have been erected in several of the great towns, the hours of labour are less excessive. In the private filatures, probably, the evil will gradually right itself, for the value of the material is so great that a slight deterioration in the reeled silk means serious loss to the proprietors. The work demanded of the operatives, mostly young girls, is not in itself difficult. There, is, of course, a certain knack essential to success, but after all the great requisite is attention. The power of attention rapidly fails when the hours of labour are excessive. One of the managers of a small filature has recently stated that all work done after the sixth, or seventh, day of consecutive labour means loss to the company, because of the uneven quality of the silk due to the failure of the power of attention on the part of the operatives. There is good reason to believe that this gentleman's observation is correct and that the self-interest of the employers will in time bring great relief to their dependents, very many of whom in the busy season labour from the first daylight until ten at night, with very inadequate hours of rest during the day, and too often, with only two or three rest days in a month. Still the hope based upon self interest is rendered somewhat remote when the large supply of such labourers is taken into account. Nearly all the women of Jōshū, for example, have by hand reeling at their homes gained a certain amount of preparation for filature work and stand ready to take the places of those dismissed for inefficiency. It is believed that the Government is ready to do all that public opinion will sustain it in doing for the relief of these overburdened men and women. However, it is to be feared that public opinion is not yet on the side of the labouring classes. Indeed, a gentleman in public life not long since remarked to the writer that any labour regulations which could be secured at present would be of little value and might even do more harm than good, because of the lack of sympathy on the part of the law makers with the unintelligent workers.

However this may be, the necessity of creating a healthy public opinion on this subject is every day increasingly evident. The Christian community

* Filatures are the establishments where silk is reeled from cocoons and made up into bunks, generally for the foreign trade.

is already interested in it, and we believe it will soon prove a most valuable ally to the small body of scientific men, who have studied social economics abroad and are working earnestly for the benefit of their countrymen. The visit last year of the Rev. Mr. Barnett, of Toynbee Hall, London, and his valuable counsels on social reform will not soon be forgotten. Many a man has the last twelve months moved about with a keener sense of his duties to the poor and down-trodden because of his helpful words.

The paradox that one can do more work in six days than in seven begins to find acceptance among working men. A manufacturer of lacquer ware, in the province of Aizu, testifies that the Sunday rest in no loss either to him or to his workmen. He says that the more experienced men acknowledge that, working by the piece, they can earn more by resting on Sunday. A charcoal burner in Jōshū gives the same testimony and attributes the new vigour in which he rejoices, and to which his employers testify, to his weekly day of rest. It means no letting up in our appreciation of the religious value of the Christian Sabbath when we plead the great social gain sure to result from a day of rest so fully recognized by public sentiment that the rest of one shall not even seem to make him the prey of another's greed.

With Sunday as a day of religious worship, Government has nothing to do; but to the question of limiting the hours of labour, especially of those who have not learned how to protect themselves, and perhaps do not yet recognize the greatness of the evil from which they suffer, every Government may properly give earnest attention. Considering the present state of public opinion, the question of what to do is a difficult one to solve. It seems, however that a central board of labour, with local boards in each prefecture, whose duty it should be to collect facts bearing upon the subject and gradually educate public opinion, might accomplish great good. In this way solid preparation for necessary legislative action would be secured and in the meantime, more by the weight of their intelligent counsels than by the exercise of definite authority, these boards could undoubtedly accomplish much in the way of relieving extreme cases of hardship. The duties of such boards would be analogous to those of the Railroad Commissioners of Massachusetts who almost solely by their strong moral influence have brought about great reforms.

More than once during the past few years allusion has been made in these columns to the severe labour performed by young people in Japan. It may probably be said with truth that toil of this unrelenting character is a feature of Japan's new civilization. In one branch at any rate such is the case. We allude to the embroidery and hemming of handkerchiefs. Young girls may be seen occupied in this manner from early dawn to late evening. They sit crowded together, generally under very insanitary conditions, and always with inadequate provision of light. Medical men have often commented on the inevitably fatal consequences of this system which cannot fail to cause defective vision, thus depriving the unfortunate toiler, probably in middle life, of the faculty of self-support. Match-making is another trade which furnishes similar examples. It is stated, on authority commanding trust, that children in match factories in Kobe work from 3 a.m. to 7 p.m. with only two recesses of 30 minutes each. The thought of such hardship is terrible, involving, as it does, results that must be felt by the next generation as well as by this. We do not know how it fared with the artisan in Old Japan. Probably he had to suffer hardship enough after the fashion of the time. But there were no factories in those days, neither was there any tyranny of competition such as has been inaugurated by contact with the

Original from

West. The new civilization brings with it new problems, and they have to be faced. We have as little faith as any in official interference. Besides, this labour question has not yet come before the Japanese public in a definite form. That there are excessive pain and suffering among some sections of the working population, is perhaps understood vaguely by many observers. There has not yet, however, been any audible remonstrance from the workers themselves. They submit to their hard toil quietly and uncomplainingly. We hear of hand silk-reelers in Joshi who begin their day at 4 a.m. and end it at 11 a.m. For them the toil of one day is carried into the next. But that is an exceptional effort, made for a season only: it does not continue all the year round, as is the case in the factory. Comparable with it is the toil of the tea-house waiting girl. The story of her daily life is almost incredible. Rising with the first streak of daylight, she cannot rest until the last guest has ceased from his carousals. Three or four hours of sleep represent her entire respite from toil. Yet she is always bright, cheerful, and willing. Neither her health nor her happiness seems to suffer materially. In fact, there appears to prevail among the Japanese lower orders a spirit of patient endurance which fits them to be the victims of suffering. They are absolutely without any consciousness of the rights and titles which in the hands of the Occidental socialist have been moulded to such dangerous dimensions. They protest against nothing that fate brings to them, but seek only to make the best of it. This disposition is very admirable in its way, and its exercise affords us many spectacles most worthy of praise. But its contact with the new order of things suggests misgivings. On the one hand, it offers a dangerous opportunity to the employer of labour; on the other, it incapacitates the employed to resent despotic exactions. The children in the match factories and in the embroiderer's shop, the silk-reeling girls, and so forth are the first outcome of the struggle to which Japan pledged herself when she entered the international race. It is well that the problem should be considered in time. Its neglect in the West has involved results so ugly that they now constitute the embarrassment of the age. There is as yet, perhaps, no occasion for any drastic measures in Japan, but these are evils that can be easily manipulated in their early stages, whereas, if suffered to grow without restraint, they may ultimately defy the skill of the ablest administrators.

THE NEW BRITISH MINISTRY.

MR. GLADSTONE has formed a Cabinet. We publish elsewhere a list of the portfolio-holders. All who are interested for the prestige of Great Britain must regard with something akin to dismay Mr. GLADSTONE'S return to power under existing circumstances. We ourselves are sincere admirers of Mr. GLADSTONE. We deem him a man of whom his country may well be proud, and we read with disgust the glaringly prejudiced and bitter railing persistently indulged in by certain English journals at his expense. But apart from the general fact that the radicalism of the nineteenth century has far outstripped the growth of intelligence and of learning, so that power is passing into the hands of men neither morally competent nor educationally equipped to exercise it discreetly; apart from this fact and from the conservative tendencies which it necessarily begets, we find it impossible to agree either with Mr. GLADSTONE'S Irish programme or with his foreign policy. The Irish people have been for centuries tried in the balance and found wanting. If nothing else could be advanced in proof of this except the striking contrast between the state of the north and that of the south of the green island, there would still be enough to convince us. Nature endowed the north far less richly than the south. She withheld from the former many of the advantages which she showered with such lavish hand on the latter. Neither did the English Government ever discriminate in favour of the north when it enacted measures intended to hamper Irish industry and agriculture—measures against which though long ago revoked, so many bitterly accusing voices have been raised during the past thirty years. In every respect the north was less favourably situated than the south for purposes of prosperity and wealth-earning. Yet the north is rich, happy, contented, and loyal, while the south is indigent, dissatisfied. The difference is in the people. The men of the north are seven-tenths Scotch; the men of the south are seven-tenths Celts. The responsibility for the south's condition does not rest with England: it rests with the unthrift, the laziness, the impracticality and the improvidence—to omit any worse qualities—of the people who inhabit the south. To make these men self-governing because they have consistently shown themselves deficient in all the qualities that justify such a trust, is an experiment that no one can view without misgivings. We know what part the Irish play in the politics of America where they have every opportunity to exhibit the better side of their character, and from that knowledge it is easy to infer what part they would play in home politics with freer hands and under the influence of far stronger passions. We are not accustomed to associate England with any half-hearted surrenders in matters

of national administration. Resolute patience and instinctive tenacity in the practical application of sound Governmental principles, have enabled her to solve problems far more complicated and perilous than this Irish perplexity. That she could solve it also by continuing to apply those principles as Lord SALISBURY'S Government was applying them, little doubt can be entertained. That she will solve it by shifting the difficulty to Irish shoulders, and by pandering to a semi-rebellious, semi-romantic sentiment which finds stronger expression the lower we descend beyond the strata of educated intelligence, industrial energy, and respectable independence, is beyond sober credence. Mr. GLADSTONE'S conversion to faith in this experiment was too sudden to command the confidence that would otherwise belong to the views of a man so marvellously gifted. It is hard to avoid an uneasy suspicion that the sentimental element of his character rather than the judicial is now in the ascendant. His foreign policy has always seemed open to the same criticism. Living habitually far above the arena where the fight is waged, his hasty struggles to climb down, at crucial moments, to a practical, common-place level are often catastrophic. The bombardment of Alexandria and the expedition to Khartoum illustrate this. We believe that he is more likely than Lord SALISBURY to plunge England into war, and in which of the two statesmen's keeping her prestige has hitherto fared best, there can scarcely be much difference of opinion.

Japan will naturally be interested to forecast the course of events in Great Britain under the new Ministry. Perhaps we may venture to predict. There will be an interval of a couple of months' quiet until Parliament meets, and then Mr. GLADSTONE'S Irish Bill will be produced. He cannot postpone it. His tenure of office depends entirely on the support of the Irish members. He is absolutely at their mercy, and any attempt to palter—even supposing, which we do not for an instant believe, that he is inclined to palter—would at once put him in a minority. The Bill, after a debate of immense length, will be carried to a second reading, and every clause of it will be fought untiringly by the Unionists. Should it survive all the perilous chances of this ordeal and find its way to the Upper House, it will be rejected there unceremoniously, for certainly the Peers will not pass the measure in deference to a majority consisting solely of Irish agitators. It has been hinted that, in such an event, Mr. GLADSTONE, accepting the verdict of the Peers, may seek to remain in office. But the Irish members will not allow that. They will be hard taskmasters. Another appeal to the country must be made. There is however, one contingency which may disturb all this forecast: Mr. GLAD-

STONE may not be able to support the terrible ordeal involved in carrying such a Bill through the Lower House by the aid of a majority so small and so exacting. Should he break down, Irish Home Rule will fall with him. No other pair of British shoulders are capable of carrying the burden to the winning post.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

THE first annual dinner of this newly formed but flourishing Society appears to have been a great success, according to the fuller accounts that have now reached us. Over one hundred ladies and gentlemen filled the well-known Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on the 23rd of June to inaugurate what promises to be a series of most interesting réunions of those who have at one time or another lingered or lived in this country. The five long tables were beautifully decorated with flowers which reproduced the Japanese national colours, and in front of the President, H.E. Viscount KAWASE, who was in the chair, were placed three dwarf *matsu* lent by Dr. E. HART, a memento of the country which was much appreciated by the many who understood its significance, and was the cause of some mystification to the reporters present. The menu, which we append, is a curiosity in its way; we fancy that this is the first time that anyone has had the courage to tackle "devililled whitebait" and "cailles rôties sur canapes" in the vernacular. Viscount KAWASE having proposed "The Queen," Professor ANDERSON, the Chairman of the Council, in an eloquent speech proposed "The Emperor of Japan" a toast which was received with the greatest enthusiasm and drunk with strains of the Japanese National Anthem rendered by the band in attendance. Sir TREVOR LAWRENCE, M.P., followed with the toast of the evening "The Japan Society," and, in a speech which was much applauded, referred to the good effect that was bound to result from the establishment of the Society in making the people of England and Japan understand one another better. The energetic Hon. Secretary, Mr. DIOSY, having replied, there followed several speeches not down on the toast list, some of which, though obviously born of the enthusiasm of the moment, contained political allusions which were felt by many of those present to be out of place at such a gathering. Apart from this slight *contretemps* the meeting was a very great success, and the Society, which now numbers close on three hundred members, may congratulate itself on its successful celebration of the inauguration of what has been a long felt want. Amongst those present in addition to H.E. the Japanese Minister, were Lord DE SAUMAREZ, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, Sir TREVOR LAWRENCE, Bart. M.P., Vice-Admiral D'ARCY IRVINE,

C.B., Sir E. J. REED, K.C.B., M.P., General RAINES, C.B., Mr. J. G. KENNEDY, C.B., H.M. Minister in Chili, Captain ROLLESTON, Mr. A. J. TRENDALL, C.M.G., Captain KAWARA, I.J.N., Professor WM. ANDERSON, Mr. ALFRED EAST, Mr. H. KRAFFT, Mr. SHOGOMATSURA, Dr. TSUBOI, Professor ELGAR, Messrs. HIROSAWA, SOYESHIMA, INABA, Professor GOLDING BIRD, the Rev. F. A. ELLIOT, Mr. W. S. SCULL of Philadelphia, Messrs. W. BLAKENEY, R.N., A. B. WALFORD, A. H. DARE, T. JACKSON, J. R. CLAYTON and G. GULLY, Consul-General and Mrs. OKOSHI, Mr. and Mrs. BEVAN, Mr. and Mrs. BOND, Mrs. ESSERY Mr. and Mrs. HERON ALLEN, Mr. and Mrs. PIGGOTT, Mr. and Mrs. NAKAI, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. REID, Mr. and Mrs. D'IFFANGER, Mr. and Mrs. JONAS, Messrs. WATANABE, WILLIAM STOTT, BAGGALLAY, F. A. SATOW, SCOTT ELLIOTT, VARLEY, KIYOOKA, ROKUZO, M. MUTSU, the Rev. H. CART, Dr. BELL, Dr. PHENÉ, Dr. HICKMAN, Messrs. R. G. FORSTER, A. C. MITCHELL, A. L. LIBERTY, A. G. ANGIER, A. SATO, A. C. BRUCE, LITTLETON, LARKIN, TAYLOR, A. C. BRUCE, BAILEY, HASLAM, W. WHITE, AKABA, COLLS, ULOTH, KAULLA, BREISACH, T. B. HARBOTTLE, W. S. HALL, F. ELGAR, GRAINGER, T. C. VENABLES, CORNES, J. W. SCOTT, JOHN WILSON, J. S. SALAMAN, A. DIOSY, and DAIGORQ GOH.

MENU DU DINER.

Hors d'Oeuvres variés.

POTAGES.

Consommé Tachibana Himé.
Purée Portugaise à la Mendez Pinto.
DRY SHERRY.

POISSONS.

Saumon, Sauce Hollandaise à la Deshima.
Blanchaille à la Urashima et à la Onigashima.
NIERSTEINER.

ENTRÉES.

Tournedos à la Ushiwaka.
Aspic de Foies Gras à la Katata, no Raku-Gan.
Sorbet Moscovite.

MAX SUTAIN AND CO., EXTRA QUALITY, EX. DRY, 1884.

RÔTS.

Selle de Pré Salé à la Broche.
Jambon Braisé au Madère.
PIPER HEIDSIECK, BRUT, 1884.

Petits Pois au Beurre.

Pommes de Terre Satsuma.

Cailles Rôties sur Tokonoma.

Salade Nana Kusa.

BORDEAUX: CHATEAU BÈCHEVILLE.

ENTREMETS.

Turban à la Futami-ga Ura.
Japonaise de Fraises au Champagoe à la Nikko.

LIQUEURS.

Filet de "Bloater" à la Will Adams.

Glace.

Bombe Fuji-Yama.

Gateaux Shoji.

Dessert.....Café Noir.

COCKBURN'S OLD BOTTLED PORT.

TOASTS:

"The Queen."

"The Emperor of Japan."

"The Japan Society."

We may mention, as showing the enthusiasm that animates the Society, that the average attendance at the ordinary meetings has been 166, an altogether exceptional figure, we should imagine, in the history of Societies of this kind. The next paper, by Mr. GOWLAND, on the "Naturalistic Art of Japan" is certain to attract a large audience, and an exhibition of over 100 Kakemono, from Mr. GOWLAND'S collection, illustrating the lecture, is to be in view for two days.

THE DAIGAKKO OF THE TOKUGAWA ERA.

THE Shohei-ko, the college which in the Tokugawa era bore the name of *Dai-gakko* (University), was founded in 1690, in the days of the fifth Tokugawa Shogun, TSUNAYOSHI. It bore no resemblance whatever to the present University. Like so many of the educational establishments of the Tokugawa era, its objects were political and ethical rather than scholastic. IEYASU and his successors were thoroughly convinced of the fact that a despotic government is only secure when it guards jealously the minds of the rising generation against the adoption of notions calculated to promote the subversion of authority. The Shogunate could never have maintained its preëminence for two and a half centuries had the youth of the land been allowed freedom of thought. The studies of the young were all so arranged that unquestioning obedience to the higher powers should acquire all the force of habit. The present government is feeling the results of the growing liberty of thought prevailing throughout the country, which modern education has done so much to foster. The instability of modern cabinets is no fault of the ministers who compose them: it is an unavoidable characteristic of the transition from despotism to constitutionalism.

But there is one particular in which modern statesmen would do well to imitate their predecessors; they should pay more attention to the education of the rising generation. The present undue forwardness and conceit of Japanese youths is undoubtedly owing to defective or unsuitable education. Lads imbibe at school ideas on democratic government and the rights of subjects which are incapable of being acted on in this country at the present time. By ceaseless agitation they keep the country in a ferment. Under the old system of education no such results of academical training showed themselves. We do not cite this as an argument for despotism, but simply to show that if the Tokugawa rulers erred in the direction of over strictness, modern statesmen lay themselves open to the charge of undue leniency in the matter of education.

To return to our subject. In accordance with Chinese notions, when the Shohei-ko was established it was deemed necessary to endow the institution with an air of sanctity, and thus deepen the students' feeling of reverence for the college authorities. In order to effect this, the shrine of CONFUCIUS, China's great patron of learning, was removed to the school, and once a year the most imposing of all Japanese ceremonies was performed there, being attended by the great lords of the land. The teaching staff of the College were invariably *hatamoto* or their dependents. The office of President was hereditary. HAYASHI NOBUATSU was the

first President (*Sosai*). HAYASHI DOSHUN may be said to have been the founder of the HAYASHI House. His superior abilities were recognised by IYEYASU, and he was appointed tutor to the Shogun's family. So great was the confidence placed in this scholar and his descendants by the early Tokugawa Shoguns that the control of the whole of the higher education of the country was entrusted to them. To HAYASHI NOBUATSU, the first President of the Tokugawa College, belongs the honour of having obtained a status for Confucian scholars independent of Buddhism. Up to that time no distinction was drawn between the learned and the religious recluse, and the scholar who wished to devote his life to study was required by custom to shave his head before retiring from the world. The personal influence of the HAYASHI family, and the teaching carried on in the Shohei-ko, by giving an immense impetus to Confucianism, account to a great extent for the prominent position that cult held in the minds of leading Japanese at the opening of the Meiji era. Under the president was the *Sokyo* or head of the teaching staff. The teachers were denominated *jusha*, a word which, though originally applied to Confucianists exclusively, grew, as a result of the preëminence of Confucian teachers, to be a synonym of *shikisha*, *gakusha*, and other equivalents for our term scholar.

The text-books used in the Shohei-ko were carefully chosen from the Chinese classics. Books calculated to develop the reasoning faculties of the students, such as the works of *Kampi* 韓非, *Junshi* 荀子, and *Soji* 莊子, were not allowed.

The motto of the institution was well expressed in words often used to describe the whole government policy of the Tokugawa Shoguns: *Tami wo shirashimu bekarasu yorashimu beshi*, "not to make people know, but to make them follow"—not enlightenment but obedience. Discussions with teachers, such as may be heard in any of the modern schools of Tokyo, were not allowed, and a tendency to persist in altercation with a teacher often led to the expulsion of a student. When the school was first opened, the expositions of the various teachers differed in some minor details, and the students enjoyed some lively debates in their rooms over the discrepancies between the views expressed. This was reported to the College authorities, who at once issued orders that in expounding text-books all teachers were to follow the commentator SHUSHI, 朱子, and not give expression to their private opinions on the meaning of the passages expounded. Thus was the thralldom rendered complete.

The school was supplied with students from two distinct sources. First, the sons of *hatamoto* and other Government officers were required to attend the institution. Secondly, provincial schools were allowed to

send up their best graduates to complete their education there. The former class of students entered the school without much preparatory training, and regarded their attendance in the light of an arduous task. The country graduates had a natural taste for learning, and consequently progressed rapidly. The *hatamoto* students were gentlemanly and refined, and were allowed the privilege of keeping attendants while passing through the course. The provincial students were rough in their manners and very poor. Hence there was little love lost between the two classes at any time. During the early days of the school they had no dealings with each other. Verse-making was at its height at the time, and many were the lines penned to caricature the pompous ignorance of the *hatamoto* students. Not until the *hatamoto* ranks had produced such graduates as NAKAMUKA MASANAO and TANABE TAICHI, did the relations between the official and the plebeian students improve.

Some of the lectures were open to the general public, and differed little from the moral discourses of Buddhist priests. They were attended by people of all classes. The names of such persons as had attended every lecture during the year were recorded, and their diligence was held up to the public as an example, much in the same way as is done in Christian countries, where punctual attendance at Church is included among men's virtues. There were other lectures, which officials were only privileged to hear. So strict were the class distinctions in those days that it was considered beneath the dignity of high officials to listen to moral discourses in company with plebeians, to say nothing of the fact that the official palate had to be tempted with choicer food than would content ordinary folks. The college course extended over five years and the periodical examinations were very severe. The examiners had to swear to a document, which stated that no favouritism would be practised, and to seal it with their blood. The examination papers were prepared by the teaching staff and submitted to the Shogun by the President. The number of questions sent in had to be largely in excess of what were required, so as to give the Shogun a choice of subjects, the object of this being to prevent favouritism, certain students being better acquainted with some subjects than with others. The answers to most of the questions consisted of (1) the orthodox exposition of the meaning of a passage chosen from the classics; (2) the meaning of the ideographs of which it was composed, and (3) the views of the student thereon. The sons of *hatamoto* were not obliged to pass these examinations. The discipline of the college was very strict, and punishments were meted out to teachers and students alike, the only difference being that they were made heavier for the former. The penalty for

drunkenness, attended by disorderly conduct, was 15 days confinement to the college in the case of teachers, and 3 days in the case of students. Repetition of this misconduct three times was punished with expulsion from the college. Excuses for wrong-doing never obtained a hearing, and to question the wisdom or justice of the rules of the institution was deemed a heinous crime. The college officials had the right to imprison students who persistently disputed with their teachers and refused to submit to their authority. To students who passed their examinations prizes were given, which consisted of books stamped with the Government stamp.

The expense of maintaining the College, estimated at about 1,000 *koku* of rice (say 5,000 *yen*) a year, was met by the produce of seven villages in the Kuraki district, Kanagawa. This regular source of income was supplemented by handsome presents made to the institution on the occasion of the annual Confucian festival.

In addition to its ordinary functions, the College served the purpose of a Stationers' Hall. All learned works on general subjects, that were not translations, had to be submitted to the College authorities before being published. For the examination of translations of Western books there was a special bureau called the 蕃書取調所 *Bansho-torishirabe-jo*—"Office for the Examination of Barbarian Books." The copyrights issued by the Shohei-ko, unlike those of modern times, were perpetual. This august establishment did not deign to take cognisance of the vulgar *Kana* literature which was produced in such large quantities in those days, much of which was extremely indecent. It was considered to be lowering to the dignity of the *samurai* to be seen reading books written in *Kana*. The early Protestant missionaries, when using the *Kana* translations of the Bible, were often reminded of this fact.

Notwithstanding its numerous defects there is no denying that the Shohei-ko turned out some very fine men. Many of the leaders of thought during the present Meiji era were trained there. The habits of self-control and deference to lawful authority cultivated in the establishment proved a most valuable preparation for the duties of life. Those fine moral instincts and courteous manners, whose decay in certain quarters is so much deplored in modern times, were nourished and developed in the Shohei-ko. From it were derived the tone of polished circles at the beginning of the Meiji era, as well as many of the influences which lessened the evils attending the revolution and accelerated the reconstruction of the fabric of society, in a word, the very back-bone of Japanese morality. We are not alone in deploring that among all the new educational agencies at work there is no institution which in that highest of all desiderata, moral training, can compare with the famous Tokugawa school.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"ADULTERATED" TEAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As it may be of interest to shippers of tea from Japan, in view of the law in the United States prohibiting the importation of Adulterated Teas, I furnish you with the following extract from the *New York Shipping and Commercial List* of date, July 15th ult.:—"Dr. H. W. Wiley, of the Agricultural Department, has recently submitted a report of his investigations into the adulterations of tea and other products. The treatment of teas with various colouring matters, a process termed facing, comes properly under the head of adulteration. Facing consists in treating the prepared leaves with mixtures containing Prussian blue, turmeric, indigo, or plumbago, to impart some favourite colour or gloss to the leaf, and always has a fraudulent intent."

He states that 51 per cent. of the teas imported into the U.S. are of Chinese origin, and 42 per cent. from Japan.

Yours respectfully,
X.
Yokohama, August 15th, 1892.

THE RELIGIOUS PLATITUDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I remember, once upon a time, reading of a certain very flippant clergyman who declined to preach upon the speaking of Balaam's ass, on the ground that such occurrences were not sufficiently uncommon at the present day to justify reference to the special case in question from the pulpit. The satire, however, of this most reprehensible person loses all its edge when we remember that the ass is generally thought to have spoken better sense than Balaam; that it actually saw what Balaam was for some time not allowed to see; and that no less than fifteen hundred years later it was honoured with most favourable mention by the writer of the Second Epistle of St. Peter, who compares the ass with the prophet to the great disadvantage of the prophet. To my own mind, Sir, I confess, Balaam is one of the most interesting and picturesque figures in the Bible; a God-fearing and conscientious man placed in a position of peculiar delicacy and temptation, a great poet, a seer of far-reaching fame, a warrior who died fighting bravely in the field. A most interesting figure, I say; and one who, like Saul, Cain, Esau, the Prodigal's Elder Brother, and a few more, has received scant justice at the hands of the orthodox, from apostles to Sunday-school teachers. It has always seemed to me that there was something rather priggish about that ass; her self-complacency is irritating, and I do not wonder that when, after backing, bolting into a field, and crushing her rider's foot against a wall, she finished by falling down with Balaam on her back, he should have been provoked into retaliation. At the same time, I freely confess the error and the wickedness of such views, which are doubtless the mark of a perverse and unenlightened mind. The goodness, the patience, the wisdom, and above all the implied orthodoxy of the loquacious animal have received the imprimatur of the entire Church, and I am sure that there is no really sound and humble-minded preacher at the present day who would not rather be compared to Balaam's ass than to the ass's master.

Fortified, therefore, by this conviction, but still adhering to my own opinions, I need not hesitate to point out one or two small matters in which a few—just a few—of our modern clergy would be well advised not to imitate the ass too closely. Now the ass, no doubt, believed herself to be divinely inspired; or, if she did not, others have believed it for her. But, apart from the fact of her loquacity, which of course was startling enough, there was really nothing startling in what she said. All that she uttered was a Platitude; and I think it ought to be laid down as a necessary and universal truth that the Religious Platitude is never divinely inspired. There is, in fact, an instance in the Gospels of the utterer of a Religious Platitude being divinely snubbed; and O, how many congregations have had reason, since then, to wish their clergymen would accept the hint! Sir, the vitality of churches and congregations everywhere is being sapped, annihilated, and destroyed by the persistent and unrelieved utterance, Sunday after Sunday, of the Religious Platitude. One would think, to listen to the preachers, that their minds were as empty as a barrel without top or bottom, as sterile as the sea shore sand, as incapable of original ideas as the sounding board of their own pulpits. Often, as I have listened, withering and mutely indignant, to some hopelessly childish and illogical discourse, full of impossible assumptions and self-complacent sophistry, have I wondered

to myself, "Does this amiable man look upon us all as uneducated and ignorant children, and is he, therefore, trying to preach down to the level of our understandings; or, is he incapable of anything better himself?" And I have once or twice reluctantly concluded that the second supposition was the true one. One would think, to hear some men preach, that they were absolutely untouched by, if indeed not ignorant of, the great discoveries, the intellectual progress, the magnificent march of thought, which constitute, in this nineteenth century, the latest of the revelations. But with their congregations it is not so; the intelligent layman is fully alive to the triumphs of research—in science, in literary and historical criticism, in comparative religion,—which have illuminated the last fifty years. What, then, must be the effect upon the mind of a man more or less familiar with Darwin, Herbert Spencer, and the less famous writers of their schools, of a silly discourse based on the infantile theology of "Line upon Line," "The Peep of Day," or some such Sunday-school authority? Impatient and contemptuous disgust!

I write as a constant church-goer. But there are few things better calculated to dissuade a man from church-going than the well-meaning, vapid twaddle that one so often hears in churches. I remember one youth, hot from Oxford; he was an ardent Evangelical, and played lawn-tennis all day long; and I remember that youth informing his congregation one Sunday evening that although the Devil was, of course, a very wicked monster, there was one sin we had no reason to suppose he ever committed; he probably never got drunk. And I remember another youth, an ardent High Churchman; he was preaching to a congregation of very hardworking, poor folk, small shopkeepers mostly, in a slummy portion of the town; and all he could think of to tell them about was the continuity of Church history, and the wickedness of being a Dissenter. And since then I have heard a sermon upon the graces and the virtues of the Virgin Mary—based apparently upon some mediæval legends; another, in which it was taken for granted that the creation of the Universe was begun one Sunday morning and finished on the following Friday afternoon; a third, in which the bloodthirsty and domineering Samuel was represented as an embodiment of every God-like virtue, and his worst acts were praised as the very noblest heroisms; a fourth, in which the preacher described the joy and awe with which he had been wont to take rather unsavoury babies from their mothers' arms, and restore them with their natures changed. I had never realised before that infant baptismal regeneration was still actually held by educated persons. Why, Sir, I imagine that nine-tenths of the women who tramp the Haymarket every night, of the murderers hung in England during the last hundred years, of the inmates of our prisons, of the criminal classes generally, and of the thousands of betting-men, men about town, gamblers, and fashionable fribbles who never think of religion from one year's end to another, were baptised in their infancy; in what sense, pray, are they "regenerate"? A definition of terms is sadly wanted here. A man may be a swearer and a drunkard; never mind! The parson regenerated him when he was a baby, and "changed his nature" in the orthodox fashion. One is tempted to ask what his nature would have been like if it had not been changed. Scarcely worse than it is, one would imagine.

No—such subtleties of an exploded theology, such puerile and trivial dissertations, are not suited to the present age. Mankind have outgrown their swaddling-clothes, and pap is no longer their fit nourishment. The clergy may shut their eyes, but the eyes of the laity are open. A man who reads his Bible devotionally but not critically, prepares for himself countless pitfalls. A man who blindly assents and consents to a book which, though of high and true merit, is but a compromise between Calvinism and Popery, can never be an exact thinker. I do not hesitate to say that a familiarity, however deep, with scholastic theology is not sufficient equipment for a religious teacher. I hold that every clergyman should make himself acquainted with the great leaders of modern thought; that a knowledge of scientific literature, of advanced theories, of anti-Christian systems, is indispensable to every man who aspires to teach his fellows; and that the religious teacher who neglects thus to equip himself—who remains wilfully blind to all those great influences and forces which are remoulding the minds of men to-day—deprives himself of more than half his opportunities for usefulness, and shirks a most serious duty towards the people committed to his care.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

A LAYMAN.

August 12th, 1892.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., July 18th.

The celebration of the Fourth of July, it is reported from all parts of the country, was attended with unusual interest, and, it may not be necessary to add, with an unusual number of casualties. In Boston the public celebration was marred by a balloon accident. A balloon containing the aeronaut and two volunteers ascended from the Common, and over Dorchester Bay collapsed and fell into the water, the occupants of the balloon, except one picked up by a boat, losing their lives. A balloon ascension usually makes a part of 4th of July celebrations, and this year the balloon and parachute contingent appeared out of gear, for in several other places there were frightful accidents, and the question is asked, "Ought not the Government to put a stop to such foolhardy recklessness? Ought not law to interfere to prevent a woman from ascending in a balloon to the height of two miles and then jumping out, trusting to an umbrella (parachute) to get safely to earth again?"

As every one who is acquainted with the United States understands one of the great problems of the country is the labour problem, or the solution of complications that arise between capital and labour. An unusual event in the labour world has stirred the country from one end to the other and shows or suggests many things not pleasant to contemplate—phases of industrial life that refer more or less to our foreign population.

At a place called Homestead, near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, are the great steel works of the Carnegie Company, lately closed owing to a disagreement between the corporation and the workmen whom numbered about 5,000. The Company proceeded to hire other workmen. The old workmen were determined to prevent the new men from working and guarded every approach to the works with picked men. Frick, the chairman of the Carnegie Company, called upon the sheriff of the county for protection of the new men to be employed by the Company. The sheriff after trying to force his way into the works, found that he could not do it without bloodshed. With no force that he could summon could he make headway against 5,000 men armed with anything from a hammer to a musket. Frick then called upon the Pinkerton Detective Bureau, and several hundred of these detectives came up the Monongahela River, on which the works, or the town is situated, on barges and attempted to land. The strikers gathered in great force to prevent the detectives from landing. It is not known which fired the first shot but firing began in earnest and an all-day battle was the result. The Pinkertons were obliged to give up the fight and surrendered, and as they were on their way to a place of imprisonment, they were set upon by those who had charge of them—an angry mob of the victors—and treated with great barbarity. Late at night the captured Pinkertons were conducted out of town, under the supposition that they would be mobbed to death if they remained. Sixteen men were killed, 65 wounded, of whom a dozen may die. The workmen, still holding the works, fortified them, and apparently defied the world, the owners of the works not being allowed to enter, the strikers declaring that they would blow up the works if they were not employed again on their own terms. This was a little too high-handed to submit to, and the State was called upon to maintain order and restore the works to the owners. A part of the State militia, about 8,000 men, appeared on the scene and took possession of the works, and of the town. Martial law was proclaimed. The strikers lost their fiery spirit when the loaded arm of the law was brought to bear upon them. They had the choice of submitting quietly or of being shot in their tracks, and they decided to live a while longer. The event has created much excitement throughout the country, and a resolution has been introduced into Congress calling for a full investigation. The Pinkerton detectives referred to, are so called because a man called Pinkerton organized a "Detective Bureau" years ago to supply detectives to private corporations or to any requiring their services. They have been introduced many times before on like occasions, being often prominent in mining strikes. Whether deserved or not, they have a bad reputation, and are said to be recruited from the lower classes—or from that class that has failed in everything and turns to the service as a last resort. However that may be, their ill-fame has increased to such an extent that their presence excites and inflames. Probably the Pinkerton detective has seen his best if not his last day. At the same time, there has been riot and bloodshed in Idaho among the miners of the Coeur d'Alene district. To quell the disturbance, the

President of the United States has sent an armed force from the regular army. The trouble there was the same as at Homestead. The miners took possession of the mines and refused to allow new men to enter them. Before the United States force reached the scene, several non-union workmen willing to take the place of the strikers, were shot. The trouble was soon over, however, on the arrival of the troops.

Cyrus W. Field died on July 12 at Dobb's Ferry, New York. He was born in 1819. He began life as a poor boy, with little education, but amassed a fortune before he was thirty-five years of age. He was best known as the originator of and the chief factor in the laying of the first Atlantic cable. For his part in laying the cable Congress voted him a gold medal. John Bright in Parliament called him "the Columbus of modern times, who by his cable moored the new world alongside the old." New York has never had a more prominent or better citizen, and no man in the United States was more respected and honoured. He was a man of wealth, but he was man for a' that. It was a pathetic incident in the life of Cyrus W. Field that just before he set sail on his last voyage, his thoughts turned in delirium to the vessels which assisted in the laying of the Atlantic cable. The early experiments troubled the brain that long ago solved the problems.

Two-thirds of the city of St. Johns, Newfoundland, was destroyed by fire on the 8th of July. For three weeks before no rain had fallen, and the fire once started was soon beyond control. The buildings where the fire started were of wood, and before the people realized their danger a terrible conflagration was in progress. So rapidly did the flames spread that the people, many of them, had barely time to escape. A few saved only what they could snatch and run with; the majority saved only the clothing in which they stood.

The fire began in the afternoon, and when the people gathered on the highlands the next morning and looked for their city, two-thirds lay in ruins. Great distress, and hunger, followed, and neighboring cities began at once to dispatch relief. In this city and in other New England places the people, unasked, sent clothing and food. The population of St. Johns was about 35,000, and at least one-half is homeless and practically without shelter. Many persons are missing, and it is known that life was lost but to what extent is not yet discovered. The money loss is estimated at \$20,000,000; insurance about \$3,000,000. Fires like this test the stability of insurance companies, but it is reported that all losses will be paid promptly.

There has been a notable gathering in New York—the convention of the Christian Endeavour societies. The members of these societies are young men and women, Christian workers, who have banded together for the promotion of the general good. They may be called the salt of civilization, and it is a "goodly pinch." There were thirty thousand of these workers present, earnest, enthusiastic, determined that to some extent, as far as their power will permit, good shall prevail. This organization has been called the "Church of the Future." All evangelical denominations are represented, and work together in harmony. Denominational differences are forgotten in the general aim and purpose. Madison Square Garden, capable of seating 14,000 persons, was filled and crowded at every session, some of the large churches were filled at the same time, and then the meetings overflowed into the open park where a thousand met. One of the papers said that these thirty thousand members were like thirty thousand pieces of clean soap thrust into the dirty face of New York. The Christian Endeavour movement is supported by 21,080 societies, having a membership of 1,370,200. During the year, five thousand societies and 250,000 members have been added. It is a great movement and its influence is already great and rapidly growing bigger.

The Homestead riots, already referred to, have led to one result which is called a "danger signal." In this city and in Chicago, a movement has been started looking to the organization of working men into militia or quasi-military companies bearing arms. It is said that the majority of the strikers at Homestead were not citizens of the country, a large number being Poles and Hungarians. But it is not probable that foreigners of this class or of any class will be allowed to bear arms to protect their own interest. The Democrats will make use of the Homestead riots in the Presidential campaign against the tariff and the McKinley bill, which the Republicans claim is doing so much for the labouring man.

The bill introduced into Congress for the free coinage of silver has been defeated, and that is the last of the matter as far as this Congress is concerned.

The World's Fair is looming up in gigantic proportions. It promises to be the most extra-

ordinary exhibition ever held in any part of world. The man who misses it will keep company with a life long regret.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, July 1st.

Since my last letter there have passed a number of events which have not failed to cause considerable excitement in nearly all the spheres of the political world.

First of all we must record the visit of their Majesties the King and Queen of Italy to the Emperor, who received them as old friends at his Potsdam residence. The King was accompanied by his new Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Brin, who is reported to have had serious and detailed *pour-parlers* with our foreign secretary, and also with the German Ambassador at London, Count Hatzfeldt, who happens to be here on a prolonged leave of absence; ostensibly for the sake of his health. The object and character of these conferences has not transpired, but is evidently closely connected with the objects of the Triple Alliance. Whether Germany is, through its Representative at the Court of St. James's, to support by its influence the special Italian desires for naval coöperation by England in case of need, has not yet transpired, but may be considered as not improbable; however so much the present moment may seem inopportune for asking Lord Salisbury to fix more definitely the future action of Great Britain, in case of the coming conflagration. It is evident that the present British Cabinet will hesitate to undertake any further engagements in this direction until after the elections, which, it is hoped by all parties interested in the Triple Alliance, will bring the present British Government back with renewed vigour and popularity.

The next great event was the wedding of Count Herbert Bismarck at Vienna to Countess Hogos. Why the marriage was celebrated at Vienna is not quite clear, considering that the Hogos family resides at Fiume, but anyhow it gave Prince Bismarck an opportunity to proceed there, and the journey turned out a perfect triumphal procession for the ex-Chancellor. On his touching Berlin great ovations took place at the Railway station; also at Dresden the enthusiasm was great; and in Vienna his entry not only gave an opportunity for the masses to show their appreciation of his great work, but an occasion for a rather disgraceful street brawl, in which the Anti-semitic and German nationalist party did not by any means cover themselves with glory, while the police showed want of discretion and forbearance by acting with undue vehemence and brutality. The old statesman had kept in the beginning a discreet silence in Berlin, but he began gradually, on receiving unmistakable tokens of popular favour, to warm up to the conviction that the opportunity might be used with advantage to let out a few of those bitter shots at his enemies which he had hitherto with difficulty restrained. Unfortunately a representative of the *Neue Freie Presse* arrived at this moment to interview him, and unto him were confided a series of complaints, criticisms, and recriminations, which in a few hours the cable conveyed all over Europe. What Bismarck said was neither new nor surprising, but what pained almost everybody who had personally esteemed him, was the severity and indiscretion of the expressions in which he condemned the policy of the present Government and tried to prove the incapacity of his successor in office. Whether, for instance, his belief is correct that he himself did enjoy greater confidence on the part of the present Emperor of Russia, or whether he is in this respect labouring under an delusion, as the most prominent Russian papers have hastened to assert, or whether really the German negotiators of the new Austro-German treaty sacrificed the commercial interests of their country and the prospects of home Agriculture, has at the present moment scarcely any but academical or historical value. But a fact sad enough is established beyond doubt, that henceforth the reconciliation of Bismarck with his sovereign is beyond the reach of all those well-intentioned mediators who hoped to establish, not perhaps full harmony, but at least an outward patching up of the relations between the Kaiser and the old servant. It may be even surmised that the impulsive nature of the Emperor was at one time inclined to pardon and shake hands, but henceforth the cloth is unfortunately cut between them, perhaps for ever. The subsequent popular demonstrations at Munich and all through the ex-Chancellor's route to Kissingen, spontaneous as they were, could only confirm this determination on both sides.

It would be, however, a mistake to attribute these

Bismarck ovations to a premeditated desire on the part of the Southern populations to demonstrate against the present new course. In the German character, so different from that of the Latin and Celtic races, enthusiasm is difficult to kindle into a strong emotional feeling, and still more difficult is it to evoke an expression thereof. If once raised to this pitch, however, the sensation will continue up for a considerable time, regardless of consequence or better judgment. Thus Bismarck, who was once the best hated man in Berlin, and not less in Bavaria and Austria after 1866, became a popular hero after 1870. With a feeling of compassion that he had to a certain extent been harshly treated, is coupled the thought that he is the only surviving actor of that great period which created German unity, and in fact one of the principal agents in the conclusion of that great historical event. In this respect the reminiscences of that period, awakened by the personal appearance of Bismarck, can only be said to have produced a happy effect on the strength of German Consolidation, which unfortunately, had been to a certain extent shaken by attempts at reactionary legislation, especially the new Prussian School Law. But the papers which now exaggerate the possible effect of Bismarck's criticisms do evidently so for purposes of their own. There cannot be the slightest doubt that even if Bismarck himself should really try with all his might and ability to destroy his own work, a perfidy which he does not dream of, he would fail, because of the simple fact that he did not alone make or create German unity and the Empire. It becomes more and more clear that the idea was to a great extent that of others, for instance the work of Crown Prince Frederick, the Grand Duke of Baden, even of men like Lasker. But Bismarck was the artist who cleverly moulded the form into which the German Empire was cast. Having been once cast and finished, however, the thousands interested in its existence and welfare will certainly take care to preserve it against perils—whether the controversy announced by the semi-official papers to take place against Bismarck, and even the slightly veiled threats of a repressive and coercive action against him, will be really carried into effect may be justly doubted. Notwithstanding that the precedent of an Armin Trial under the Régime Bismarck is on record, I seriously doubt whether the representatives of the "new course" will condescend to any measure of this sort, unless it be actually forced upon them by the pressure of circumstances.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

THE GROUNDING OF THE "OMI MARU."

The Marine Court of Inquiry attached to the Mercantile Bureau (Teishinsho) delivered its finding in the above case on Monday morning. Below will be found the minutes of the captain's statement and the full text of the judgment.

Minutes of the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, held at the Marine Bureau, in the Department of Communications, on August 2nd, 1892, for the purpose of inquiring into the circumstances of, and attendant upon the stranding of the steamer *Omi Maru*, which took place at 0.30 p.m. on July 5th, 1892, on the coast of Hokkaido, at White Cape, 8 miles S.W. by W. ½ W. from Cape Yusan, during a dense fog.

The Court consisted of the following members—President; Mr. J. Ito, Assessor Mr. J. M. James, Mr. T. Yokoi, Mr. Iwasaki.

Frederick Devenish, Certificate, No. 230, sworn, stated:—I was in command of the *Omi Maru* at the time of the accident, and have previously been in command on the coast of Japan for one year, having commanded the steamer *Tsuruga Maru* for eleven months until I joined the *Omi Maru* on the 8th of June last.

To the President—This was my second voyage in command of the *Omi Maru*. The last time I was running in these waters was six years ago as second officer in the *Satsuma Maru*. The log in use was Walker's Clerub Patent log, and from Yamada to Shiriyasaki the log had been tested on several occasions, and found correct with distances by bearings. The position of the ship when passing Kurosaki was ascertained from 4 point bearing. I considered I was well clear of Shiriyasaki when I hauled up, from the distance on the log and from the soundings. My experience has been that the currents between Kinkawan and Shiriyasaki would be against the ship when going to the northward. From my experience on the previous voyage there was little or no current to the eastward between Shiriyasaki and Hakodate. But at times, so I was told by experienced ship-masters in this trade, the currents are very erratic, running strong to the Eastward on the Northern side of the Straits.

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To Mr. James—There was no wind at the time to affect the current one way or other.

To the President—When rounding Shiriyasaki there was no indication of land visible, and the Syren was not heard. The steam whistle was kept going at intervals, in accordance with the Regulations. I was personally on the Bridge from 5.0 a.m. until 11.0 a.m. when the fog lifted so that one could see to a distance of 4 to 5 miles. The chief officer was on watch from 8.0 a.m. till noon. The second officer relieved the deck at noon, but had been relieved by the 3rd officer in order to get his tiffin about one minute before the accident. The chief officer attended personally to the taking of soundings. The weather being comparatively clear, I imagined I could see 4 or 5 miles, and I did not think it necessary to take any more soundings. After sighting the land and starboarding the helm, the ship's head was turned from W.N.W. to W. by S. before she struck the rocks. I don't remember the name of the Quartermaster at the wheel at the time. According to my dead reckoning calculation, at the time I sighted the land the ship should have been 7 miles or so off the land. I should imagine the ship was about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off the land when I first sighted it. The steam whistle is one of medium sound power. I was listening very carefully in case I should hear the echo of my steam whistle, but did not hear anything. On my previous voyage to Hakodate the weather was fairly clear, and I passed Shiriyasaki within $\frac{1}{2}$ miles and got good hearings. I steered more to the Northward on this present voyage in order to sight Shiwo Kubi-saki, the shore being bold close too. I did not think that the current would have set me over to the north side of the Straits. I felt almost confident of my position.

To Mr. James—I did not deem it necessary to take any more soundings after 11.0 a.m., as the weather was partially clear, and when it became thick again I was hesitating as to taking further soundings when the ship struck: previous to the ship striking I did not notice any change in the colour of the water. The fog did not lift actually until the following day. I did not hear any sound of breakers, or other noises from the shore indicating proximity to land. Whilst on shore at this place I found the current, say $\frac{1}{2}$ mile outside of ship, running strong to the eastward, and in shore a tidal stream running to the N.W. and eastward.

To the President—After the ship had struck, I landed the second class and steerage passengers, about 50 to 60 in all, in the ship's boats, in the small bay near the ship; the first class passengers remaining on board as there was no immediate danger of further damage. The other passengers eventually returned to the ship, and proceeded to Hakodate in the *Tugonoura Maru*. I had full confidence in all the officers of the ship both of the deck and engine room departments. I wish to mention that Mr. Matsumoto, the purser of the ship, rendered me most valuable assistance on this trying occasion. I never saw any land sufficiently clear to get a bearing for fixing the ship's position after passing Kurosaki up to the time of the accident. When passing the locality of Samesaki its estimated distance was from 6 to 7 miles, but it was not sufficiently seen to get a bearing.

To Mr. James—The boats were carried swung out in the davits except two, and four were cleared away for use within 10 minutes after striking.

(Signed) **FREDERICK DEVENISH.**

FINDING OF THE COURT.

The *Omi Maru* is a full powered iron screw steamer of 1,533 tons net register, and of 261 nominal horse-power, owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha of Tokyo. The Master was Frederick Devenish. She sailed from Ogino-hama at 2.12 p.m., on July 4th, 1892, on a voyage to Hakodate; and on passing Yamada Head (Rikuchiu) at 10.52 p.m. the same day, the course was altered to N. by W. magnetic; at 1.35 a.m. on the 5th Kurosaki was ahead, distant 5½ miles. The ship proceeded on this course at a speed of about 12 knots towards Shiriyasaki. At about 5.0 a.m. the weather became thick and foggy. At 7.57 a.m. the fog became so dense that the speed of the engines was reduced to half speed, and then to slow. At 9.30 a.m. sounded, and got 52 fathoms. At 10.0 a.m. sounded, and got 50 fathoms. At 10.39 a.m. sounded, and got 51 fathoms. At 11.0 a.m. sounded, and got 100 fathoms. The captain, calculating that he had now passed Shiriyasaki at a distance of from 5 to 6 miles, hauled the ship up, and set his course N.W. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. magnetic, and put his engines at full speed. At 0.22 p.m., the fog coming on dense again, the engines were slowed, and the course altered $\frac{1}{2}$ point to the Westward. At 0.30 p.m. the land was suddenly sighted off the starboard beam; the engines were immediately reversed to full speed astern and the helm put hard-a-starboard, but the ship took

the ground almost immediately. The fore hold compartment was found to be leaking, but the others were all intact. Took soundings and found the depth of water to be 10 feet under the stem, and 16 feet at the stern. Taking these soundings, lowered the boats down and landed the passengers, and then laid out two lower anchors astern to prevent the ship changing her position further inshore; also commenced discharging cargo and coals to lighten the ship. At 2.0 p.m. on the 8th July the steamer *Miike Maru* succeeded in towing the ship off, after which she steamed alone to Hakodate. The facts above mentioned, and the amount of damage caused to the ship's bottom are described in the Captain's report and evidence. The Court is of opinion, that, at the time of entering Tsugaru Strait the ship was navigated with great care and caution; that when the fog came on, due precautions were taken, and soundings were frequently obtained; and the speed of the ship reduced to within a limit of safety. When the fog partially cleared off the speed was increased to full speed; but, when the fog again set in thick, although the Master altered his course and slowed the engines, he neglected a most important part of his duty, in thus proceeding on without taking soundings. However, after stranding, the measures which he took for the safety of the passengers, and to prevent further damage to his ship, were prompt and seamanlike. Taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration, the Court is of opinion that the Master was to blame, and therefore recommends that his Certificate be suspended for a period of two months.

(Signed) **J. ITO, President.**
S. YOKOI } Assessors.
K. IWASAKI }

I hereby approve the decision arrived at by the Court, and order that the Master, Mr. Frederick Devenish's Certificate be suspended for 2 months.

(Signed) **KURODA KIYOTAKA,**
Minister of State for the Department of Communications.

The President, in answer to Capt. Devenish, said that the finding took effect from that day.

A SPANIARD'S TALE.

The dark, wasted face—the searching, hollow eyes—I thought, as I glanced at him, of Dante, who, the Florentines said, had “been to hell and come back again.”

A reserved, distinguished, middle-aged man, whose life-experience I fancied must have involved something out of the common. On the boat we had exchanged a few polite phrases, and now chance had conducted him to the same compartment of the train.

Sitting opposite, and talking about the “market,” were two men I knew—one the editor of a London journal, and the other the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Twaddler* returning, after a fortnight's holiday on the British side of the “streak,” to the duties of his post. Also three persons of the genus that might be called “the travelling nonentity,” for you come across any number of such people in your journeying, and they never have a single distinctive trait by which you might remember them if you were to meet them again. These had distributed themselves and their belongings variously and lavishly about the place; so altogether my sombre visaged Spaniard (he must be a Spaniard, I thought, with that attenuated wiry frame, proud air, and punctiliously courteous manner) was seated as uncomfortably as one always must be who comes the last of seven—and those Britons—into a railway-carriage—and that French.

“If you don't mind coming over to this side,” I said, as the train started, “I think I could make more room for you.”

He thanked me, and acted on the suggestion. He spoke English well, with just a *souppçon* of the Spanish rattle.

Long before we were half-way to Rouen, George Bevis, the editor, and Tom Barker, the *Twaddler's* “Our Own,” had exhausted even the topic of finance. Perhaps the question didn't come home quite so nearly to little “Tommy,” with his six hundred a year *pour tout potage*, as it did to the lordly, gorgeous Bevis, exhibiting a profusion of costly rings on fingers with their nails bitten down to the quick, and glorious in a fancy waistcoat. Well may the subject of money investments in general have an interest (no pun intended) for a gentleman owning a paper that nets him from ten to fifteen thousand a year. George was going to Monte Carlo, and took good care to let all of us know it; and while relaxing on those sunny shores, intended to combine business with pleasure in a manner at once practical and Hebraic.

It was perhaps by way of immediately inaugurating this system that, after an interval during which no sound was heard save one of the nonentities' snores, Bevis breathed on the midnight air the magic word “Nap”—the game I mean, of course, and not the other thing, which I, for one, must confess I have never been able to compass in an ordinary first-class railway carriage under any circumstances whatsoever. To Bevis's gentle hint there was no response from any one except Tom Barker, who, after a ten-years' course of petty punting at “bac” at the Cercle de la Presse and other Paris *tripots*, had taken gambler's habits in such a desperate form that he would play, as the French have it, “with his feet in the water.”

Two not being a Nappable quantity, *écarté* was the game to which Messrs. Barker and Bevis resorted, for what they gracefully denominated “a quid the go.” From the depths of a splendid bag Bevis produced a most professional-looking folding green cloth board, with a new and ingenious contrivance for making the points, and my Spanish friend and I were now afforded an opportunity of watching Barker drop close upon a pony, through a series of games, rising gradually from one-pound stakes in accordance with a mode of progression well known to every one who has ever touched a card, in railway carriages more especially.

The great Frederick, was it not, said something about hanging any man with ten words of his hand-writing. I am not the great Frederick, but speaking from personal experience, all too extensive and varied, of gaming and of gamblers, I may say: “Let me, for five minutes, see any man looking on at other people gambling, and I will tell you whether that man is, ever was, or ever will be, himself a gambler.”

'Tis an even more certain test than actually to be playing. One may not be playing from taste; but if one has it in one to look on—! There is a certain gleam of the eye, a certain restlessness in the manner—symptoms slight but unmistakable of that passion fiercer than love or hate, strongest of all human passions, because founded in the universal lust never slaked or sated—lust for gold. Yes, gambling, as all true gamblers know, is the sole appetite that can never fade or fail, but grows still by what it feeds on. To it most aptly may be applied the line:—

Age cannot wither, nor custom stale,
Its infinite variety.

Within ten seconds after Bevis had produced his board and pack, before the first game was well over, with its rapid “proposals” and “refusals” and announcements of, “the king,” I had seen enough to be certain that the Spaniard at my elbow was one of those who have, or have had, gambling blood in their veins. His nostril dilated, his eyes were fastened on the glittering cards, as the yellow light from the lamp in the roof gleamed fitfully across their painted surfaces. Not a word did he utter, but I observed him purse his lips when “Our Own” of the *Daily Twaddler*, after hesitating just one moment, led the wrong one of the last two cards he was holding, and in consequence lost the trick and the point.

“Do you see, sir,” the Spaniard remarked *sotto voce*, turning towards me as if he had divined that I, too, took an interest in questions of play; “do you see the importance of the *carte anglaise*? Now, there was a case in which the point depended upon it. Some people say it is a meaningless refinement, but undoubtedly it does give a slight advantage. How few people play *écarté* well!”

To discuss the delicacies of card-playing is, to some, quite as agreeable as actually to be handling a pack. And it certainly is much safer. I remarked, therefore, not unwillingly, upon a short *écarté* disquisition with my neighbour. The train plunged on through the night, and so did Barker and Bevis, absorbed in their game, with the two waking nonentities drawn nearer to study its progress—what time nonentity No. 3 still peacefully, though stertorously, slumbered. Our conversation, conducted in undertones, was therefore not heard above the ejaculations of the players, the usual notes of the sleeper, and the crackling of the crisp new cards as at every other moment they were taken up and rapidly shuffled in the approved “American” manner.

It was not long before our talk approached the topic of bacarat at the Paris clubs. Recent experience and observation at the Presse, the Washington, and the Betting had enriched my mind with a quantity of new and original facts and anecdotes in this connection, which I proceeded to retail to my companion. Enwrapped in an ample fur cloak—the night was rather chilly—he sat silent, forming an interested audience of one.

“But you yourself—no doubt you have seen much more of play than I have?” I insinuated at length, tentatively.

His face darkened, and beneath his thin drooping moustache his lips met and were tightly compressed.

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He paused before replying, then said slowly, with a grave and somewhat melancholy dignity that sat well upon his wasted features, "I think I have seen more of play, and under more extraordinary circumstances, than almost any other man in the world. I have seen as much of play as I should ever wish to see, though I should live to be a thousand. For years I have not touched a card, and I shall never touch a card again. A series of events, which I still look back upon with amazement and horror, have filled me with such an aversion to gambling and wagering in their every form, that I merely to sit in this train, as I have done to-night, and watch two men whom I have never seen before playing for sovereign stakes, impresses me as it might do to see children dancing on the edge of a cliff. This trifling game—may, for all we know, be the opening scene of some future tragedy, as dreadful as imagination can conceive! And yet I can find it in me to sit and talk about vicissitudes of play. Ah! the old spirit is not entirely dead. Yet I feel that henceforward I am safe, for I would sooner put this right hand into the flames than let it ever tamper again with those accursed pieces of pasteboard that so nearly ruined and destroyed me—so nearly led me down to hell!"

With surprise I heard him. This sort of thing, in our banal days, was unusual. Such a confession, made in such a strain, to a total stranger, in a train speeding towards Paris of all places in the world—the Paris of the Boulevards and the Bois de Boulogne! Decidedly Talleyrand was right—*four arrive*. Anything may happen, anything and everything may be uttered, even a tirade like the above in the year 1890, at 1 a.m. in an overcrowded carriage on the Chemin de Fer du Nord.

"You are surprised at the tone of my remarks," my companion said, after a pause. "I think you would feel as I do in the matter if you had had my experience."

"I should at all events be deeply interested in hearing something of the same—if the desire on my part is not too great an indiscretion?"

The Spaniard hesitated, bending on me a rather questioning glance. Then, with politeness: "If you are willing," said he, "to listen to a very singular story, I do not see why I should not relate it to a gentleman, even though I have not the honour of his personal acquaintance. Allow me to introduce myself. I am—"

For the life of me I could not restrain a start. I was speaking to a man whose name, five-and-twenty years before, had been more famous in every great gambling centre than that of Garcia or the Marquis of Hastings. It was M—, the former *trente et quarante* king, who had thrice in one day broken the Homburg bank, and in Paris had won fifteen hundred thousand francs at a sitting against Narischkine at the Cercle de la rue Royale. How often had I heard the broken-down old punters dilate at club suppers upon the "march" and the "method" and the "martingale" of the renowned M—! And once, I remembered, the *Figaro* critic, Albert Wolff, had somewhat startled them by declaring, with one of his well-known grating laughs, that M—, whom he, Wolff, had seen at play a hundred different times in twenty different places, had never practised any method or march or martingale whatsoever, but simply bet at random, and always won. To us players of the younger school, however, M—, the legendary M—, had been as a representative of the greater men of a foregoing generation; we were degenerate now, but there were giants in those days. Had I not heard, too, of M—'s having come to some tragic and sensational end? Yet here he was now beside me.

An hour had elapsed, and the Spaniard was still speaking. In low tones, but distinct and occasionally thrilling, he was relating a succession of scenes of excitement and strange adventure in various lands, and I realised as I heard him how different, how almost opposite from our own is the Latin nature, with its infinite capacity for eager and passionate emotion. What vitality in this man over sixty! A world of force and ardour in the mere sound of his voice, and in his deep expressive eyes a sombre gleam.

"I am a native of Cadiz"—in those terms it was that he had begun his story—"and while still young was left an orphan. At my majority I obtained possession of the few thousand piastres left me by my father, and I determined to seek my fortune in the New World. I embarked on a Spanish war vessel for Cuba, intending to repair from thence to Mexico, where a friend of my earlier days was engaged in a lucrative business. On the third day out a game of *monte* was started among the officers of the ship, and I, for want of any better occupation, took a hand. I was at first extraordinarily lucky. To my twelve thousand piastres of capital, the amount of my father's legacy (which, by the way, I was carrying about

my person), nearly three thousand within a few days were added. At length my luck changed utterly, and on the last day of the voyage, just as we were in sight of the More Castle, I rose from the table a beggar. The whole of my patrimony was gone. In one week's fierce and crazy play I had squandered the sum which was to have brought me affluence, after a term of honest labour. With a fevered brow and aching heart I paced the deck while awaiting the hour of landing, and wished that the frowning rock towering above might fall and crush us. 'You shall have your revenge,' said the officers who had won my money. They little thought I was a ruined man.

"Thus I found myself in Havana without a friend, and without five pounds in my pocket. Of course, it was useless for me, under the circumstances, to think of going on to my destination. All I could do was to procure a lodging at the cheapest hotel I could find, and write to a relative in Spain, asking for a loan that would enable me to return to my native land. But some time must elapse before I could receive a reply, and one afternoon, during the course of my rambles about Havana, I found my way into a cockpit, guided towards the spot by the large crowds all going in the same direction, outside the walls surrounding the old town. A very important match, I was told, was to be decided. When within a quarter of a mile of the building, I heard a noise that increased as I neared it. Upon entering, the yelling was absolutely deafening. Some two or three thousand persons were piled upon benches graded round an amphitheatre, and in the ring were seated four men—the two noblemen, owners of the cocks, and two individuals who might be styled the seconds of the combatants, their sole duty seeming to consist in a careful attendance upon the latter, adorned respectively (as I soon gathered from the conversation of those around) with the names of Concha and Santa Anna. In a small stand at the side of the ring sat three judges.

"At the appointed hour the birds were fitted with strong, sharp, steel spurs, and were held for a moment face to face by their attendants. Then they were released, and a most determined combat began.

"To my amazement the spectators from this instant seemed all to go absolutely mad. Shouts such as I had never heard before rang out unceasingly, while the crowd swung wildly back and forwards as the fiercely fighting cocks pressed from one side of the ring to the other. Frantic bets were yelled forth by men some as red as though on the point of apoplexy; others, their eyes fastened upon the cocks, as pale, if not as as still, as death. The sums named all around me were so great as to make me question whether these people were not speaking in jest. Old men, with hair as white as snow, elbowed boys of twelve, and bet and fraternised with them; rank and distinction were forgotten as well as age, for even negroes were there wagering with their masters. Altogether a scene of crazy, indescribable excitement, such as must be beheld to be thought possible, and as can be beheld only in Cuba.

"And now occurred an incident, which I cannot help ascribing to Fatality.

"Calm in the midst of the extraordinary agitation around me, I stood waiting patiently for the termination of the encounter. An elderly gentleman near me, from time to time as the fight progressed would gaze at me till he caught my eye, and then smile and nod with a gesture of the hand. Supposing he was merely expressing approbation of the efforts of one of the cocks, to which he had unmistakably directed my attention by pointing at it soon after the beginning of the fight, I politely nodded in return. Three or four times in succession, at quite close intervals, did this dumb show take place. At last a shout arose more ear-splitting than any that had yet been heard. Santa Anna, the black cock, had given his rival a cut in the head that put apparently an end to the fight. Several seconds elapsed, and the judges were about to give their decision, when the man attending upon Concha, the prostrate bird, rushed forward, and with a malignant '*Caramba!*' kicked it almost to the ceiling. As with fluttering wings it alighted, it seemed to have taken a new lease of life. Running furiously at Santa Anna, it made a plunge at him, and fell back with both its long steel spurs transpiercing his skull.

"This time the fight was over. After the prescribed five minutes' delay, Concha was loosened from the dead body of his victim, and the prize duly awarded to Concha's owner. The scene that followed beggars description, and well-nigh defies imagination. A score of fights broke out in as many different spots; knives and pistols were drawn, notwithstanding the presence of the police. I was not long in making my escape.

"As I rushed out into the open air, I was seized

from behind. Turning round I recognised the old nodder. He handed me a thick roll of notes, and said: 'The four thousand piastres I owe you. Please see that it is all right.'

"Too surprised to speak, I merely pushed the money back into his hand, and gazed at him.

"Ah, you think the fight was not a fair one. But you must take my money all the same. You have won it. You would have paid me if the other bird had won, and I cannot think now of allowing you to refuse your gains."

"And before he had well done speaking he had forced the money upon me, mounted into a handsome volante that stood waiting for him, and was being whirled away.

"For a time I stood bewildered. For thousand piastres! A third of my former capital came back to me as if it had dropped down out of the clouds. I now saw what method there had been in the old man's nodding madness. At each movement of his hand and head he had thought we were wagering a thousand piastres. My looks had probably inspired him with confidence in my honesty. But I could not help thinking with a shudder how near I had come, never suspecting what was at stake, to losing instead of winning, and how sorry a figure I should have cut if called upon to pay instead of receive!

"For months after this adventure," resumed the Spaniard, "I remained in Havana, gambling night and day; for now a sort of conviction had come upon me that I was destined to win back all I had lost during that fatal voyage, and more besides. So I was not only chagrined, but surprised when one night I lost all, save a few hundred piastres I had left at my rooms for current expenses. The next day the yellow fever seized me, and I lay for days between life and death. I recovered, but my last penny had gone, swallowed up owing to my illness. And now once again I was at the lowest ebb. What to do I knew not; true, I might write to my friend in Mexico and request him to give me a position in his firm; but in the meanwhile—there was nothing for it but to pawn my few jewels, relics of a mother I had never known."

"I found the pawnbroker a hard man to deal with. He was a Jew, named Isaac, and a peculiarly repulsive specimen of his class. Not content with offering me a sum ridiculously beneath the value of the jewels, he did his best to make me take, in lieu of coin, several tickets of the forthcoming Havana lottery. 'These,' he said, showing me some of them, 'I have had by me for several weeks past, and I don't want to keep them for myself, for I can't afford to have more than one ticket; here it is, you see, safe in my waistcoat pocket. But a dashing young fellow like you—you ought to have a score of them, and then you'd be sure to win a prize.' I refused the offer, insisted on having ready money, and, bidding Isaac no hearty farewell, turned my back upon his gloomy den.

"That very day, a few hours later, the lottery was publicly drawn. A crier, shouting through the streets, made me aware that the chief prize of one hundred thousand piastres had been won by No. 4,008, and that search was everywhere being made for the missing proprietor of the lucky ticket.

"Any one who has ever known what it is to gamble will readily believe me when I say that that evening—spite of my resolve not to wager a farthing of the money that the miserable Jew had lent me on my rings and other objects, but to keep it intact till I received a reply from my friend in Mexico—I could not resist the temptation to go once more and try my luck. I repaired, with a beating heart, to a clandestine roulette table, sat down in front of the board, and carefully drew out of my pocket Isaac's little roll of notes. Detaching one from the rest, I was about to stake it on the 'last dozen,' when a thin piece of paper that had been folded up along with it fluttered out and fell slowly to the ground. I stooped to pick it up, carelessly opened it, and exclaimed aloud in inexpressible amazement. It was a ticket in that day's Havana lottery, and it bore the number 4,008!"

"Some time passed before I quite recovered from my feelings of overwhelming surprise. As I did so my first move was to leave the gaming-house and return to my hotel. Four thousand and eight—there could be no doubt as to the number; I looked at it again and again to 'make sure.' But how—how—how could it have come in my possession? Here a light broke in upon me, and I came suddenly to a dead stop in the middle of the street. Isaac's solitary ticket, which he had taken from his waistcoat-pocket to show me while he was endeavouring to make me purchase the others—I remembered now that it had been folded in four, like this one, with something—the date, no doubt, of its purchase—written across the back. It must, somehow, have got among the bank-notes the Jew subsequently gave me, although I could

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have sworn that he put it back into his pocket as he had taken it out.

"And now what to do? Should I go at once and knock up the old usurer to return him his lost property, and put him out of the misery he must be in, hunting for it high and low and not finding it? In justice to myself, I must say that I never for one moment thought of keeping the ticket; but I bore the old bloodsucker a grudge for the hard bargain he had driven with me that morning, and I finally went to bed, thinking, 'To-morrow will be quite time enough to give the miserable old scoundrel his ticket. It is only people like him that have the luck to win. If it had been I, I might have taken five thousand tickets, and never won a penny.'

"The next morning I rose late, read the papers, and leisurely breakfasted. It was not till close upon noon that I set out for Isaac's shop, thinking, as I went, that on the strength of the good news I was going to impart, I should insist upon his advancing me more money on the jewels.

"The shop was closed, and I vainly rang and knocked. Out on business, I supposed, and I went away to return several hours later. Again I found the shutters up, but this time a cluster of Isaac's neighbours were gathered round the door. 'Here comes the *alcalde*!' they shouted, as that officer, accompanied by several men, came up and ordered the premises to be broken into. 'He hasn't been seen since yesterday afternoon,' said a bystander; 'he must have run away, or perhaps he's dead in his bed.'

"The strong outer door creaked and groaned on its hinges as they battered and hammered it. At length it gave way, and the *alcalde* entered, along with myself and half a dozen others. The first room—vacant; the spider was not in its web, the man of money not among his safes and ledgers. Another door forced, and we were in the Jew's sleeping room. In the dusk a strange object met our eyes, obstructing the view of the window—Isaac hanging by the neck to one of the iron bars, his head drooping to one side, his tongue horribly protruding! A man rushed forward and cut the body down; then, after a moment's examination: 'Stone cold!' he exclaimed, 'and ready for his coffin.'

"I was shocked beyond expression; for I knew, though no one else did, what had been the cause of this wretched man's act. It seemed to me that I could see him, during his horrible last moments, searching frantically for his lost treasure in every nook and cranny, every hole and corner, and searching over and over again; till at last, mad with fury and despair, he tied the cord round his throat and took that last dread leap into eternity, with hell already in his heart and blasphemous curses on his lips. I trembled.

"Isaac's relations? said somebody, as I was going thoughtfully out: 'he hasn't a relative or a friend in the world. All his money will go to the State.'

"All his money will go to the State!"
"And the lottery ticket? The hundred thousand piastres? That would go to the State too! But, since its lawful owner was not alive to claim it, why shouldn't it—why shouldn't I—By heavens! wasn't it as much mine now as anybody else's? Hadn't I a perfect right to keep it?"

"Keep it I did; and two days later I was on my way to Europe with the hundred thousand piastres.

"By nature I am a fatalist," the Spaniard continued. "You will readily understand that such an event as the above must have confirmed me in this tendency. Brooding constantly over the incidents that had marked my career, I gradually became convinced I was the sport of some evil power, which, through the means of my accursed passion for play, was leading me on to eternal destruction. I, a man of upright conscience and honour—I had come to do a base thing; and this money I possessed was stained with the blood of a self-murdered man. This money . . . I must free myself from it, — be for ever lost. But—you may think it a strange aberration—it seemed to me that in order to be well rid of the fruits of my dishonest deed, I must lose the sum at gaming—make it go back the way it came—and not spend it or bury it away (to do this I could not have the right, the dross not being really mine to dispose of); and, above all, not give it away to any one, for that would be bringing the curse on him.

"Into every form of gambling and speculation—the wilder and madder, the better—I plunged: rushing headlong from one great capital to another, and everywhere attracting attention by the extraordinary nature of my play. I lost I must do; but, somehow, lose I could not. I won, and won, and won, till I possessed a sum of money that I dared not count, and could hardly bear to think of. Those were years of madness! Always to win, and always to be congratulated on my luck, and envied and flattered, by people whom I loathed

and dreaded; for I saw that they, too, bore the fatal mark, and were evermore the slaves of Play. To win was their constant pursuit and longing; to lose, mine. There was otherwise no difference between us.

"Oh, this hideous gift of Fatality! Would it never fall away from me? Was I cursed more deeply than the Ancient Mariner with his albatross; was I never to be released?"

"And so the round went on. At Paris, London, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Madrid; on race-courses, at gambling clubs, at resorts of private play, even on the Stock Exchange, where everybody loses, and only the brokers win—my wonderful luck remained in the ascendant. The saying became proverbial among the gamblers of Europe: 'The devil's luck; or M—s.' I smiled grimly whenever I heard the phrase; for, from the bottom of my soul, I was convinced that his luck and mine were identical.

"Nearly ten millions of francs were my winnings from the original five hundred thousand in less than three years' time. But now the last scenes of the tragedy were at hand.

"Homburg had become my favourite gaming-place during the summer season, the play being so much higher there than at either Wiesbaden or Baden. The month of June came round, and to Homburg I repaired, accompanied by a young Hungarian whose acquaintance I had made in a Paris *cercle*. I had so often before broken the Homburg bank that my name had become a word of terror in the ears of the directors. And this year I resolved on a new method of play. I would recruit a dozen young men, having lost their all at the tables, and have them bet for me, each one staking the maximum at the same time on the same colour. Thus, if I lost, nearly a hundred and fifty thousand francs would go at each coup. With only a few days' success, even ten millions of francs, at this rate, would melt away.

"Within the first forty-eight hours of my applying my system, I won upwards of half a million. The directors of the Kursaal were beside themselves, and offered me a million of francs down to leave Homburg and play elsewhere. I smiled, and said I should insist upon my privilege of wagering against the Homburg bank as long as I pleased and had any money left. People pointed me out as I walked through the streets. I was the byword and wonder of the place. 'The Jew,' I thought, 'is well revenged.'

"My Hungarian friend, who had been blindly following what he called my luck, had won some hundreds of thousands of francs, and was intoxicated with delight. But he rebuked me for not accepting the directors' offer.

"It is tempting fortune too far," he said; 'you will see now that we shall lose.' I fervently prayed we might.

That very afternoon I did lose, and largely; the Hungarian, faithful to his conviction, looking on without staking a coin. I lost again the next day, and again the day after that, and yet again, until only a tenth part of my former capital remained. The eager hope began to possess me that all was now destined to go. I felt equal to getting rid single-handed of the entire amount left me, and disbanded my bodyguard of young men. People said I thought they had brought me bad luck; but I, had it not been for my inward oath never to bestow upon any one the slightest portion of that accursed gold, would willingly have divided between them what I still possessed.

Great was the excitement on that last afternoon when I appeared at the rooms and took my accustomed seat at the table of *trente-et-quarante*. The players crowded round me, all seeming to foresee that my long duel with the bank was coming to an end.

Maximum after maximum I lost, till at length I had but a handful of thousand-franc notes left. And then suddenly my fortunes changed and I found it as impossible to lose as I had previously found it impossible to win. The Hungarian bent over and whispered excitedly in my ear:—

"Now you are going to get it all back again. For Heaven's sake, go on."

"Yes, I died as much myself. Often before had I sunk almost to the last bet, and then had encountered a 'run' which would make me richer than when I sat down. Was this again to be the case?"

"The pile of notes before me rose higher and higher as I still won every bet. At length I stopped and counted.

"It seemed an awful mockery, in which I recognised the hand of Satan. There was exactly five hundred thousand francs—exactly the equivalent of a hundred thousand piastres—exactly the amount I had stolen from the accursed Jew!

"Just then, while I wiped the cold perspiration from my brow, a bowed and tottering old man elbowed his way to a seat precisely opposite. He

fastened his glassy eyes gloatingly upon the notes I was still fingering; then he gingerly placed a piece on the black. I started and trembled like a leaf. Isaac, by all that was holy! Isaac came up from hell to get back his gold! Wonder-stricken, I sat and gazed, and felt a superstitious awe benumbing my senses.

"Isaac! I called out at last. The old man did not stir.

"Abandoning my place, I walked over to where he sat.

"Isaac! Isaac!" I repeated. The old man looked at me vacantly.

"*Nein, nein,*" said he, smiling at my bewildered air. It was not Isaac; but, great Heaven! what a resemblance. I returned to where I had been sitting, and the croupier began his deal. Mechanically I bet the maximum on red, all the while looking fixedly at the old man; and I noticed that my Hungarian friend, who had again begun follow me, staked a maximum likewise. Black, I and my friend repeated our performance. Black again. A third time black—four times—five times—and still the old Jew, Isaac's living image, staked a florin each time and won it.

"Black again—black, black, black. There arose a hum of voice. I was jostled where I sat. Eagerly, ferociously, the crowd watched the croupier weeping in, time after time, my bundles of notes. How dearly do vicious, ill-conditioned mankind love to see what they consider the ruin of a fellow-being.

"A few moments later, I pushed my seat away from the table, and rose to my feet with a deep, suppressed ejaculation—of joy. At last the accursed hundred thousand piastres were gone. I had not a penny left in the world!

"A low groan from some one at my side struck on my ear as I was moving blithely out of the rooms. I stopped and turned—it was the young Hungarian, pale as death, in his eyes a look of wild despair.

"I am ruined," he hissed; 'ruined. Following your luck has done for me at last.'

"Well," I replied, 'I am ruined too.'

"What! Nothing left at all? Ha! You, too! You, too! Well, I cannot really say I feel sorry. Misery, you know, loves company. But what are you going to do? How are you going to manage? How are you going to pay debts here?"

"My debts! I had never thought of that. Thousands of francs I must owe in Homburg; in the time of my great fortune the hotel-keeper and tradesmen had never been willing to let me have a bill.

"The Hungarian had kept his eyes fixed upon my face. 'What do you say to following my example?' he abruptly asked me.

"What do you mean?"

"Why, blow your brains out—that's what I mean. Only that. . . . How it may be with you I don't know; but I haven't a friend, or a relative, or a penny, or even any prospects. I have been playing with the fire for years, and now I am scorched. My father shot himself after losing all his fortune at play, and so did one of my cousins. I see now that I am destined to follow their example."

"I paused, in some perturbation. In my mad longing to be rid of the Jew's piastres, I had never thought of this. Ruined—not a penny—and thousands of francs in debt. To earn a living, even the simplest—could I do it? After these years of fevered excitement and the most demoralising existence, could I submit to the drudgery of some miserable occupation, which would mean but a long, dull struggle against starvation? Under such circumstances, was life really worth living? A curse, I felt, had been upon me from the first. So why not make a quick and easy end of it now?

"A revulsion of feeling had come over me—the natural reaction after months and years of morbid brooding and of frenzy. I did not think of regretting the money I had lost; I only considered it was better to be out of existence.

"Very well, then," I said suddenly to my friend, 'I am quite as ready to get rid of life as you can be.'

"Hurrah!" he shouted. 'I knew you would think so. Come, let us go back to the hotel.'

"We hurried back into the large sitting room we were occupying in common. The Hungarian disappeared, and returned a moment later, a pair of pistols in one hand and a dice-box in the other.

"Ha! ha!" he said, with a horrible laugh, 'we will have one last gamble before we go! The one who makes the highest throw will shoot the other man first, and then himself.'

"Good!" And I snatched up the box and shook it. The dice rolled upon the table: 'Six—five!' The Hungarian smiled.

"Lucky to the last!" he said, as he gathered up the dice and prepared perfunctorily to cast them. The next instant we both gave utterance to a shout of wild surprise. 'Sixes!' had been his throw.

Original from

"With his eyes fastened full upon mine, I felt, rather than saw that he was slowly raising his hand towards my head. Then of a sudden a light flashed in my eyes.

"When I opened them I was lying upon a bed in a strange room. Bandages were around my head—I suffered agony.

"I remained in that bed for weeks. At last I gathered sufficient strength to be able to demand an explanation. I was then informed that the Hungarian, true to his word, had first shot at me, and, thinking me done for, turned the second pistol against himself. The reports brought a dozen people to the room. The physician pronounced the Hungarian dead, and myself mortally wounded. He was mistaken, as you see. He attended me, was kind enough to take a friendly interest in my case when I recovered, and obtained for me a position, which I was afterwards able to improve. And now I think you will understand the reason why, since that last day at Homburg, I have eschewed all forms of gambling as an angel would fly from sin."

A loud yawn from the man who had been slumbering in the corner—the clink of gold pieces as Bevis slipped his *carte* winnings into his right-hand waistcoat pocket. Behind the clouded panes a dull, dirty gleam widening over the horizon and gradually on either side revealing an arid stretch of land with hovels dotted here and there. The November day was breaking; we were not far from Paris; twenty minutes more would see us at the Gate du Nord.

I thanked my Spanish acquaintance for his tale, which I told him, not untruthfully, had held me a spellbound listener; and then, for a moment reverting in mind to certain recent baccarat adventures of my own in the city where we soon should alight, I reflected that, in order to win vast sums at cards it was evidently necessary one should be desperately anxious to lose. As such would never be the case with me, there was not much likelihood of my ever rivaling the extraordinary career of Señor M.—— *Whitehall Review*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

["REUTER" SPECIAL TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 12th.

The House of Commons adopted a vote of want of confidence by 350 against 310. The House has adjourned till Thursday next.

London, August 13th.

The Marquis of Salisbury has gone to Osborne to present his resignation.

The vote of want of confidence was taken amidst the greatest excitement, hats being waved with loud cries of "down with coercion."

London, August 17th.

A Ministry has been formed, which is composed as follows:—

Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE—Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury, and Lord Privy Seal.

Lord HERSCHELL—Lord High Chancellor.

Earl of KIMBERLEY—President of the Privy Council and Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Right Hon. HERBERT H. ASQUITH, Q.C.—Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Earl of ROSEBURY—Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Right Hon. H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN—Secretary of State for the Indian Department.

Marquis of RIPON—Secretary of State for the War Department.

Sir WILLIAM VERNON-HARCOURT—Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

Earl SPENCER—First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Right Hon. ARNOLD MORLEY—Postmaster-General.

The Right Hon. Lord BRASSEY—Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The Right Hon. A. J. MUNDELLA—President of the Board of Trade.

The Right Hon. H. H. FOWLER—President of the Local Government Board.

Lord HOUGHTON—Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Right Hon. JOHN MORLEY—Vice-President of the Committee of the Council on Education.

The Cabinet includes Sir George Otto Trevelyan, who will be Secretary for Scotland, but Lord Houghton and Lord Brassey are not in the Cabinet.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

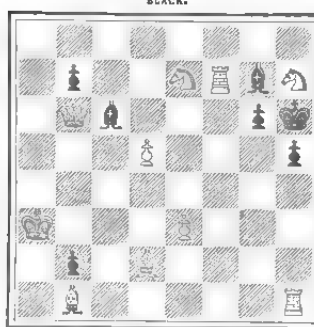
W. H. L. (Newport).—Japanese Chess differs so much from our game that the books referred to would be quite unintelligible to you.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 30.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—B to B2 1—K X R
2—Q mates at Kt 5 1—P X R or K to Kt 7
2—Q mates at K 3 1—B moves
2—R mates at K sq.

Correct solution received from W. H. S., M. A. W., Digamma, J. W. E., Omega, Omicron, O. Balk, Scacchi, J. D., and Ed. B.

PROBLEM No. 32. By C. D. P. HAMILTON.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in two moves.

The following is the seventh game of the recently concluded match between Blackburne and Lasker. We take it with notes from the *Field*.

CENTRE GAMBIT.

WHITE. BLACK.
J. H. Blackburne. B. Lasker.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q 3 2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 4 3—P takes P
4—Q takes P 4—Kt to B 3
5—Q to K 3 5—P to K Kt 3
6—B to Q 2 6—B to Kt 2
7—Castles 7—Castles
8—P to B 3 8—P to Q 4
9—Q to B 5 9—P takes P
10—B to K Kt 5 10—Q to K sq.
11—B takes Kt (a) 11—B takes P
12—Kt takes P 12—B to Kt 2
13—B to Kt 5 13—Q to K 4
14—Q takes Q 14—Kt takes Q
15—Kt to K 2 15—P to Q R 3
16—B to Q 3 16—P to R B 4
17—Kt (K 4) to B 3 17—B to K 3
18—Kt to Kt sq. (b) 18—K R to Q sq.
19—Kt to B 4 19—B to B 2
20—B to K 2 20—Kt to B 3 (c)
21—R takes R, ch. 21—R takes R
22—R to Q sq. 22—R to K sq.
23—B to B sq. 23—P to Q Kt 4 (d)
24—Kt to Q 3 24—B to Q 5
25—Kt to K 2 25—B to Kt 3
26—P to Q Kt 3 (e) 26—K to Kt 2
27—P to B 3 27—K to B 3
28—K to B 2 28—Kt to K
29—Kt (K 2) to B sq. 29—Kt to Q 4
30—K to Kt 2 (f) 30—P to Kt 5 (g)
31—Kt takes P 31—Kt to K 6
32—R to K sq. 32—Kt to B 5, ch.
33—B takes Kt 33—R takes R
34—B takes P 34—R to Kt 8
35—P to Kt 3 35—R to Kt 7, ch.
36—K to R 3 36—R takes R P
37—Kt to K 2 37—R to Kt 7
38—B to Q 3 38—P to Kt 4
39—Kt to B 2 39—B to B 7
40—K to Kt 4 40—P to R 4
41—P to R 4 41—P to B 4, ch.
42—K to Kt 5 (h) 42—B takes Q Kt P
43—P to R 5 43—P to Q B 5

44—B takes Q B P 44—B takes Kt
45—P to R 6 45—B to Q 8
46—Kt to Q 4 46—B takes Kt
47—P takes B 47—B takes P
48—P to Q 5 48—B to K 7, and wins

(a) The temporary sacrifice of a pawn with 21—B to Kt 5 would have given White a fine game, and should have been tried. The text-move only frees Black's game, and leaves him with the better position thus early in the opening.

(b) In order to play Kt to B 4, which he could not do now because of 18—Kt to R 3.

(c) Intending to reply Kt to Q 5; should White advance either Kt to Q 5.

(d) Having the same object in view as stated in note (c). If now 24—Kt (B 3) to Q 5, then 24—P to Kt 4 would win a piece; and if 24—Kt (B 4) to Q 5, then 24—P to Kt 5 would win a piece.

(e) In anticipation of the threatened 26—Kt to R 4 and B 4. (f) It is remarkable that with even forces, and apparently no immediate danger, since black's pieces are all at a distance, White's game should be so utterly defenceless. Black's pieces are so well posted, that the knight entering into play at Q 4 decides the game.

(g) A very beautiful move; it wins the exchange by force. If 31—P takes P, B to Q 5, ch; 32—K to R 3, Kt to K 6, &c. If 32—Kt to K 3, P takes P, ch; 33—Kt takes P, B to Q 5, &c.

(h) A last but hopeless attempt to save the game. 41—K R 3 would have been continued with 41—B to Q 4; 42—P to K B 4, P to Kt 5; 43—P to R 5, P to R 5; 44—P takes P, R to R 7, and wins.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe..... per N. Y. K. Friday, Aug. 26th.
From America... per P. M. Co. Saturday, Aug. 20th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 21st.
From America... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Sept. 4th.
From Hongkong. per P. M. Co. Friday, Aug. 26th.
From Hongkong. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 28th.
From Europe via Hongkong..... per M. M. Co. Friday, Sept. 2nd.
From Europe via Hongkong..... per N. D. Lloyd. Wednesday, Sept. 7th.

* Peru left San Francisco on August 4th. * Empress of India left Vancouver on August 7th. * Oceanic left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 16th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Prigga*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 20th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Aug. 23rd.
For Europe, via Shanghai... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 28th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Monday, Aug. 29th.
For America... per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Aug. 30th.
For America... per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Sept. 8th.
For Europe, via Hongkong..... per N. D. Lloyd. Friday, Sept. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 14th August.—Hongkong 6th, Nagasaki 10th, and Kobe 13th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Loosoh, British steamer, 1,020, Benson, 15th August.—Tacoma via Victoria, B.C., 28th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 15th August.—Kobe 14th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 18th August.—Hongkong via ports 6th August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Yangtsé, French steamer, 2,371, Schmitz, 18th August.—Marseilles 10th July, Hongkong 10th August, Shanghai 14th, and Kobe 17th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 18th August.—Nagasaki 5th August.
Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain J. G. Heugh, 18th August.—Otaru via ports.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 18th August.—Kobe 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 19th August.—Otaru via ports.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 19th August.—Shanghai and ports 12th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Camelot, British steamer, 1,164, Thomas, 19th August.—Glasgow via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
E. Sang, British steamer, 1,127, Payne, 19th August.—Hongkong via Kobe, Sugar and General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 20th August.—Kobe 18th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,885, Camp, 13th August.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Nippon Yusen German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke,

13th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 13th August.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Saipan, American schooner, 75, McGinnis, 13th August.—Guam, Stores.—Captain.
Alliance (6), U.S. cruiser, Lieut. Commander J. C. Rich, 14th August.—San Francisco.
Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, T. Hilderbrandt, 14th August.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Sikh, British steamer, 1,736, Rowley, 14th August.—Kuchinotsu, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, De Maubeuge, 14th August.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Amicitia, Norwegian steamer, 528, Jurgens, 15th August.—Hongkong via Moji, Light.—Butterfield & Swire.
Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Jackson, 15th August.—New York via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,268, Swain, 16th August.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Loe Sok, British steamer, 1,020, Benson, 17th August.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 17th August.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 20th August.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. J. Dawson, Mr. J. B. McCue, Mr. J. Robertson and servant, Lieut. Carey, R.A., Mr. J. B. Livingstone, Mrs. Bird and amah, Mr. D. Logan, Hon. J. M. Vermont and servant, and Mr. J. Kirby in cabin; one passenger on deck.
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. D. R. Churchill, Rev. F. C. McCallum, Mr. C. Kurotaki, and Mr. Kubo in cabin; 37 passengers in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Yangtsé*, from Marseilles via ports:—General Kodama Gentaro, Mr. Tamano, Mr. J. Gugerle, Mrs. Herzl, Mr. J. Van Schmid, Mr. M. Van Schmid, Mrs. Laurette, Mrs. and Miss Assi, Mr. A. Gregory, Surgeon Colonel C. Sibthorpe, Lieut. A. Lennox, Mr. and Mrs. T. Webber, Mr. and Mrs. Leiddell, 2 infants, and boy, Mr. Tageo, Mr. Rosenzweig, and Mr. F. Goring in cabin, and one Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. J. Otori, F. Thisaka, and Emil Rehders in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 34 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss C. E. Sterling, Miss Annie David, Mr. and Mrs. Harmon and 2 children, Madame Zoodia, Mr. and Mrs. Feeley and 2 children, Miss Blonde, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Mr. Geo. Harmon, Miss Kubig and child, Messrs. A. J. McGlen, A. E. McGlen, Robert Love, W. S. Stone, Koa, E. H. Gill, W. H. Parkes, L. A. Lyall, C. A. Foster, Captain A. Booth, Mrs. Shigashiyama, Miss Virginie, and Mr. Miyashima in cabin; Messrs. C. Morgan, Fred. Rose, Rhees, T. Date, and 18 Harmon Circus troupe in second class, and 69 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. M. Levy, Mr. M. Macgregor, Mr. and Mrs. de Lanesan, Mr. Levasseur, Dr. Boutin, Messrs. Sakata Ichinosuke, C. L. Giffard, L. Shimaasuki, K. Oyama, K. Ito, and Doguy in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. L. Bavis, Mrs. S. D. Miller, Mrs. E. J. Winstington, Miss L. Haygood, Mr. and Mrs. Yamada and 4 children, Dr. Sanger, Rev. and Mrs. O. E. Brown, Rev. J. A. Ingle, Captain Furber, Captain F. J. Brown, Captain F. Devenish, Messrs. G. W. Brown, F. H. Lefavor, Sakaki, G. W. Brockhurst, and C. W. Collier in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. A. Nedetzky, Mr. and Mrs. Nagai, Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura, Mr. Hirano, Miss Nakamura and child, and Mr. and Miss Kamoshita in second class, and 67 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$200,000.00.
 Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 663 bales; for England, 18 bales. Waste Silk for France, 13 bales. Treasure for London, \$44,000; for Manila, \$1,600.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 17th August at 3 p.m.; had light N. and N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Reports a sunken steamer laying to the westward of Rock Island with nothing below her lower mast heads projecting out of the water.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 12th August at 1.10 p.m.; had light S. and S.W. winds and fine weather to Nagasaki, arriving the 14th at 5.25 a.m. Left Nagasaki the 15th at 5 p.m.; had gentle S.W. winds and fine weather to Shimonsaki, arriving the 16th at 6 a.m. Left Shimonsaki the same day at 10.55 a.m.; had light S. and S.W. winds and fine weather to Kobe, arriving the 17th at 8.34 a.m. Left Kobe the 18th at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather to Oshima; thence to Rock Island gentle northerly winds and fine weather; thence to port light variable winds and fine, clear weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 19th August at 3.12 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The past week has not produced any large transactions, though there have been enquiries afoot of considerable extent, and if holders were disposed to accept the offers a large business might result, but with a low exchange holders are very firm in the belief that the requirements of the autumn trade will warrant an advance on current prices for most descriptions of Piece Goods, as in addition to poor prospects offering in the market when indents are usually transmitted for execution, the financial facilities have lately been so much modified as to curtail operations generally, and it is expected a more healthy condition of the market will follow. Meantime there is little change in prices to report, though Yarns have been offering for arrival at easier rates. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10 for Bank on demand, and Silver 37½ per ounce, a farthing below last week's record. Sales for the week comprise 150 bales English Yarn, 5,000 pieces 9lb. Shirtings, 250 pieces Washed Shirtings, 420 pieces 7lb. T. Cloths, 300 pieces Velvets, 1,100 pieces Turkey Reds, 2,300 dozen Handkerchiefs, 500 pieces Cotton Italians, 90 pieces Silk-faced Satins, and 1,000 pieces Italian Cloth.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—6½ lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
1. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteous Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	5.65 to 6.60
1. Affachlan, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.35 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.15, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24½ yds, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3.15, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.25 to 0.28
Medium—	0.22 to 0.23
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Chuninn	0.18 to 0.20
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidentes, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Waistcoats—Scarlet and Green, 41 to 41½, 28½ yds	0.35 to 0.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$21.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	32.75 to 35.00
No. 32, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	53.00 to 65.00

METALS.

There has been more enquiry during the week, especially for Wire Nails. With the low exchange ruling sellers have been able to hold their own, and buyers have had to improve their recent offers

or go without stock. As the end of the hot weather draws nearer, more buyers will no doubt be found in the market and prices must then further improve.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Holders are still firm in their views, the low exchange helping them to maintain their position. Transactions have not been large, but the Oil which has changed hands has brought full prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.57½ to 1.60
Comel	1.52½ to 1.55
Devoc	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.50 to 1.51½
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.51½

SUGAR.

A fair demand from the interior has set in, considerably reducing stocks on hand, which were not over-abundant. Quotations, however, remain as before noted.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.25
Brown Daitong	3.30 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.50 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 12th instant. Since that date settlements on this market are 1,350 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 159 piculs; *Filatures*, 767 piculs; *Kereels*, 251 piculs; *Kakada*, 171 piculs; *Oshu*, 2 piculs. Direct shipments are this week nil, so that the total business for export does not exceed 1,350 piculs.

Prices have still further advanced, sellers having the market all their own way. The best grades and qualities are fully \$20 up from last week, medium grades showing an advance of about one half that amount. Supplies still come in freely, reellers doing their best to hurry their produce to market, but this does not seem to have any effect on prices.

A week ago we had a comparatively quiet market, but the serenity was disturbed on the 13th instant by one large operator investing freely in high-class Filatures. This at once put the market up, and the comparatively small sales which now take place are at a steady and regular advance.

A large amount of business has again been done for Lyons, and it is worthy of note that this year to date the export to Europe exceeds that to the United States, in strong contrast with recent years.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly, and bankers have managed to maintain rates.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The German mail steamer *Nuernberg* on the 13th instant carried 118 bales for Italy, and the French mail *Yarra* on the 14th had 681 bales for Lyons. These departures make the present export figures 5,270 piculs, against 6,796 piculs last year and 2,106 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Considerable enquiry for Europe has resulted in purchases of 160 piculs. The quality this year is by no means first rate, and the chief business has been done in Low *Hachioji* at \$490 per picul. Some *Shinshus* of medium grade are on offer at \$540, and one parcel has been settled at \$535. This, with the rate of exchange now ruling, seems a long price. One small lot of *Foshu Shimonita* has been weighed up at \$550.

Filatures.—As in previous weeks, the bulk of the trade has been in this class. Recent transactions give the price of \$752½ for *Sakishima*, \$750 for *Shofokan*, and others in proportion. Holders now ask an advance of \$10 even on these figures. In fine sizes suitable for Europe, considerable business has been done at prices ranging from \$760 to \$680, according to quality.

Re-reels.—Considerable business in this department also, *Foshu* sorts equal to *Five Girl* chop being freely done at \$690. Other kinds of *Foshu* at \$650, \$630, and \$610, with some very low *Bushu* stock at \$570. Parcels of undoubted quality are in great demand and very firmly held.

Kakada.—At last there has been a rise in this department, No. 1 *Horsehead* being entered at \$680, with other grades in proportion. Fine silks of good colour and quality are much wanted, and buyers seem prepared to pay good prices for the right article.

Oshu.—Not very much done, but as we write, Original from

negotiations are in progress for a parcel of best *Hamatsuki*, the price mentioned being \$545.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	\$550
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	\$530 to 535
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	520 to 525
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	500 to 510
Hanks—No. 3	490 to 495
Hanks—No. 34	480 to 485
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	750 to 755
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	650 to 670
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	710 to 720
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 705
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	685 to 695
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	610 to 620
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	580 to 590
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 14	670 to 675
Kakedas—No. 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No. 3	600 to 610
Kakedas—No. 34	570 to 580
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	530 to 540
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	480 to 500
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 19th Aug., 1892:—

Season	1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Europe	2,752	2,083	537
America	5,444	6,493	1,513
Total	{ Hanks 5,176 Piculs 5,270	{ Hanks 6,576 Piculs 6,796	{ Hanks 2,053 Piculs 2,106
Settlements and Direct	PICULS. 7,150	PICULS. 8,850	PICULS. 2,100
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 19th August	4,650	6,100	8,000
Available supplies to date	11,800	12,950	10,100

WASTE SILK.

The market continues much as last advised. The stock is greatly increased and sales are few. Settlements for the past week are 283 piculs, of which 97 piculs are *Noshi* and 186 piculs *Kibiso*.

Advices from consumers seems to demand lower prices, while holders do their best to keep firm and, if possible, to obtain a rise on present values.

There have been two shipping opportunities during the week. The German mail carried 34 bales for Milan, and the French mail took 13 bales for Marseilles. The total shipments to date are 1,750 piculs, against 277 piculs last year and 750 to the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—The stock is further increased, but no transactions are reported as yet, buyers and sellers apparently being wide apart on the question of price.

Noshi.—A small business in *Hachoji*, prices ranging from \$75 to \$115, according to quality.

Kibiso.—The business done consists entirely of *Filatures*, many small parcels being taken up at from \$74 to \$91, according to quality.

In other sorts no business to report.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	\$110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Good	\$68 to 70
Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 19th Aug., 1892:—

Season	1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Waste Silk	PICULS. 1,750	PICULS. 277	PICULS. 750
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
Settlements and Direct	PICULS. 1,750	PICULS. 277	PICULS. 750
Export from 1st July	—	—	—
Stock, 19th August	10,100	8,300	8,850
Available supplies to date	11,200	9,000	9,650

Exchange is maintained at a high rate when compared with the value of silver in Europe. We

quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/10½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71; 4m/s. U.S. \$72; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.70; 6m/s. nominal.

Estimated Silk Stock, 19th Aug., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	130	Cocoons	1,340
Filatures	1,550	Noshi-ito	5,190
Re-reels	2,060	Kibiso	3,350
Kakeda	495	Mawata	60
Oshu	205	Sundries	120
Taysam Kinds	—	—	—
Total piculs	4,650	Total piculs	10,100

TEA.

Settlements continue on a moderate scale, but quality is falling off as the season advances. Rates are fairly well maintained. Total shipments to date are about 21,000,000lb.

CHOICEST	PER PICUL.
Choice	\$32 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not varied much, but remains very low.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11
On Paris—Bank sight	3.62
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.71
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2½ dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	2½ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	68½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	70½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71½
Silver	37½

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TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

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FOR SALE,
THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:
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YOKOHAMA: Bentendori, Nichome.

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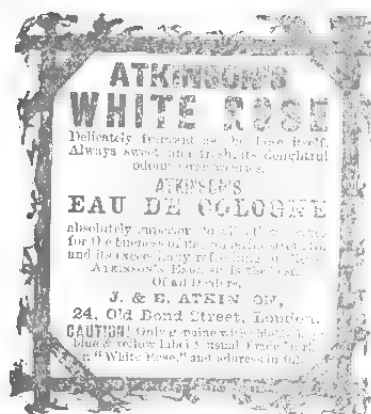
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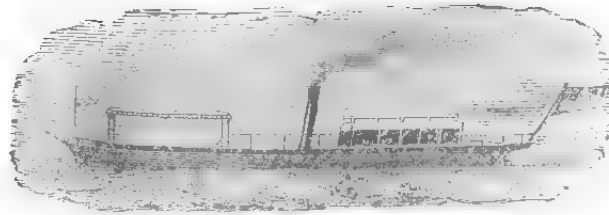
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 9.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 27TH, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
可寄者信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 27TH, 1892.

BIRTH.

On Thursday, August 25th, at Nikkō, the wife of Dr. L. BUSSE, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 24th August, at 43, Bluff, DRUMMOND ANDERSON.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT ITO's father is seriously ill.

COUNT ITO, removed to his official residence at Nagatacho on the 21st inst.

H.I.H. PRINCESS FUMI, who is staying at Miyashita, is expected to return to Tokyo about the 1st prox.

Two small steamers have been lost in Japanese waters, the one by fire, the other by striking on a sunken rock.

MR. TSUJI, Vice-Minister for Education, who had been staying at Ikao for some time, returned to the capital on the 22nd inst.

THE 15th of September being the Birthday of the King of Korea, a congratulatory entertainment will be given at the Korean Legation.

A GREAT general assembly of the Tokyo Association of Medical men will take place during the three days commencing on the 1st prox.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu have returned to Tokyo from Numadzu, where they had been staying for some time.

IMPORTANT changes have been effected in the personnel of Local Governors. The Chief Public Prosecutor, the Chief Judge of the Supreme

Court, and the Vice-Minister of Justice have resigned.

MR. NAKAJIMA, ex-President of the House of Representatives, and Mrs. Nakajima, have left Yokohama on an excursion through Hokkaido.

A TELEGRAM has been received from Hakodate stating that Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household, arrived there on the 22nd inst.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Akita dated the 23rd inst. announces that the Prefecture has been visited by a heavy rainfall, and that the rivers have overflowed.

MR. HARUKI YOSHIAKI, Chief Procurator of the Hiroshima Court of Appeal, was promoted on the 22nd inst. to be Chief Procurator of the Supreme Court.

A FIRE broke out on the 16th inst. at 7.30 p.m. in a house at Asakuracho, Kochi, destroying 22 dwellings and 2 godowns; 4 residences were partly damaged.

A FIRE broke out on the 12th inst. at 11 p.m., in a house at Komatsucho, Nomi-gun, Ishikawa Ken, destroying five dwellings, and partly damaging two. Six men were injured.

MR. UTSUMI, Governor of Kanagawa, is mentioned as among the candidates to succeed Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, who it is said will shortly be appointed to another position.

COUNT SAIGO, who left the capital on a political tour for the month, arrived at Kurosawajiri on the 20th inst., whence he proceeded to Hachinohe the following day. The Count arrived at Sambongi on Monday.

DURING a severe blow on the 19th inst. a fire occurred in a house at Tokiyama-mura, Kamiishi-gun, Gifu Prefecture, and before the flames could be subdued 36 dwellings and 1 temple were burned. No lives, however, were lost.

THE steamer *Fokkaichi Maru* (456 tons), says a telegram from Kobe, took fire on the morning of the 21st inst. off the Kishimayeki in Kishu province, and was totally destroyed. The officers and crew of the ship were rescued by the *Hyogo Maru*, and arrived at Kobe the same night.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL returned from Kamakura to the capital on the 23rd inst., arriving at the Shimbashi Railway Station at 10.05 a.m., where His Highness was received by Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Kanin and Kuni, Prince Tokugawa, and Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister, and many other officials of the Imperial Household.

MR. OMORI, Chief Commissioner of the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures in the Home Department, who was despatched to inquire into the sufferings in the inundated district of the Sanin provinces, returned to the capital on the 19th inst. He has reported fully the results of his mission to Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs.

THE Estimates of the Educational Department for the coming fiscal year are as under:—Department proper, yen 150,300; expenditure for the investigation of questions relating to the prevention of earthquake disasters, yen 3,500; expenses for libraries in various Government Schools, yen 888,600; expenses of the Normal Schools throughout the Empire, yen 35,970; expenses for the repair of school buildings, yen 361,750; and funds to be granted in aid of various

technical schools, yen 30,000. The above is an increase of about yen 394,850 as compared with the previous year.

THE following alterations in Police Appointment were made on the 19th inst.:—Messrs. N. Tatsuoka, Chief of Police in Shiga, to Saga; K. Iwashita, Chief of Police in Fukushima, to Tochigi; S. Suzuki, Chief of Police in Toyama, to Shiga; S. Tanaka, Chief of Police in Saga, to Miye; K. Yoshimi, Chief of Police in Fukushima, to Toyama; and K. Tanaka, Chief of Police in Tochigi, to Fukushima; Mr. S. Kadooka, Chief of Police in Miye, has been placed on the Retired List.

THE foreign trade of Japan during July last amounted to yen 12,501,512.910 in value, of which yen 6,903,322.480 represented exports, and yen 5,598,327.690 imports. The above is an excess of yen 1,805,132.050 in sales. The amounts of Custom Duties collected at various ports during the month were as follow:—Yokohama, yen 233,641.246; Kobe, yen 149,401.682; Osaka, yen 12,227.535; Nagasaki, yen 14,866.431; Hakodate, yen 1,094.682; and other ports, yen 2,164.259: total yen 413,395.835.

WE regret to learn of the death of Mr. Fujita Mokichi, a distinguished *Kaishin-to* parliamentary representative for the fourth district of Tokyo, which event took place in the capital on the 19th inst. at 6.55 p.m. while in the 41st year of his age. The deceased was a native of Saiki in the province of Bungo, Oita Prefecture. After graduating at Mr. Fukuzawa's institution, he became chief editor of the *Hochi Shimbun* in 1875. He had been for a long time a member of the Tokyo City Assembly representing Nishimbashi. In 1888 he proceeded on a tour through Europe, and on his return, the following year, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives. The Funeral will take place on the 28th inst. at 3 p.m. the place of interment being the Honganji Temple, Asakusa.

THERE has been a good movement in the Import trade, both for spot and arrival, the sales of Yarns amounting to 1,500 bales English and 20 Bombays, an extensive assortment of Piece-goods having also been taken. In many cases holders refused to part at recent rates, but for Grey Shirtings concessions on current quotations were made. Woollens were bought in fair quantities, including 10,000 pairs Blankets. Crop reports are excellent, and buyers look forward to a good autumn trade. The Metal market is much as last reported, namely, very dull; Wire Nails, however, continue in good request. There is a good demand for Kerosene, and stocks are being rapidly reduced. Holders are firm, however, and, given no fresh arrivals for the next week or two, values must harden. The demand for Sugar has continued, and certain classes of Browns are about cleared off. Whites are also in fair demand, and prices for all kinds are steady and firm. There has been a large business in Silk—2,287 piculs, and prices have advanced daily till the figures are now about \$200 per picul higher than those paid in August last year. Exchange, of course is lower, but making allowance for this the difference is remarkable. There is nothing to indicate any fall in values, indeed good crops are more likely to be higher than not a month hence. Small business in Waste Silk, and arrivals coming in freely the stock has further accumulated. Holders appear content to wait, but nothing from consuming quarters indicates that much business is likely to ensue at present prices. No change in the Tea trade. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, and closes a shade higher.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL UNION.

THE movements of Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, who started a few days ago on a political tour, are reported with evident interest by the Vernacular press. A telegram from Osaka, dated 7.40 a.m. on the 20th instant, announces that Viscount Shinagawa had just set out for Kobe attended by twenty or thirty persons. Another telegram despatched from Hananaki, in Rikuchu, on the evening of the 19th instant, says that Count Saigo and his friends held a political meeting that day at 2 p.m. in the theatre. An audience of over fifteen hundred assembled—such a meeting, the telegram adds—as had never before been seen in the town—and was addressed by Messrs. Furusho Yoshikado, Ooka Ikuzo, Kamura Jun, Yamana Jiro, and Arai Go. Count Saigo himself does not appear to have spoken. He is not addicted to oratorical efforts, and will probably confine himself, throughout the tour, to organization and encouragement.

The News Agency has a good deal to say about the National Union. Partly owing to people's perplexity on the subject, partly out of a desire to injure the association, rumours unfavourable to its reputation and prospects have been circulated. It was said to be the nucleus of a great political party; to be the creation of the Matsukata Cabinet; to be supported by Government money; to be opposed to the new Cabinet, and so forth. All these allegations the News Agency stoutly denies, though how there can be any doubt about the political character of the *Kokumin Kyokai* we fail to perceive. However, it is not to this point that the News Agency chiefly addresses itself, but rather to the pretence that the Union serves any particular Cabinet or receives any pecuniary aid from the Government. It did not support the Matsukata Cabinet and it does not oppose the Ito Cabinet. Measures not men are the objects of its approval or condemnation. It claims absolute independence in a pecuniary and a political sense alike, and declares that, without regard to public praise or censure, it will pursue the impartial programme mapped out by its leaders from the outset.

THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY.

It is stated that the Portuguese Community in Yokohama have addressed to the Governor of Macao a memorial charging Mr. Loureiro, lately Consul-General and Chargé d'Affaires for Portugal in Tokyo, with having left his post in Japan without making proper provision for the judicial control of his nationals after his departure. The memorialists pray that Mr. Loureiro's conduct be officially investigated. It would seem that Mr. Loureiro's nationals in this country are determined to fix the blame of their misfortunes on his head by some means or other. How the much abused man could have effected the arrangements they desire, we fail to perceive. His own post was abolished in the fall of 1891, and he remained here until June 1892, vainly awaiting some instructions of a practical character from his Government. Finally he was ordered to hand over the archives of the Portuguese Legation to the Legation of France "for safe keeping," and to proceed himself to Macao. He had no choice, as we understand, but to comply with these directions, and certainly he had no authority to invest anyone with judicial competence in his place. What the steps may be which he failed to take, we are unable to guess. Do the Portuguese residents really imagine that it rested with him, of his own authority, to invest some one with competence to exercise jurisdiction over his nationals?

An interesting phase of the action said to have been taken by the Portuguese Community, is its bearing upon the arguments hitherto advanced with so much assurance by the critics of the Japanese Government's procedure. The uniform contention of these persons has been that Mr. Loureiro's removal did not, to any appreciable degree, affect the efficiency of the

arrangements in force for exercising jurisdiction over Portuguese subjects in Japan. But if that contention be correct, how does it happen that Mr. Loureiro's alleged failure to provide a substitute for the judicial functions exercised by himself, is now declared to be the cause of the transfer of the Portuguese residents to Japanese jurisdiction? The accusation advanced by Mr. Loureiro's nationals, and the charges hitherto preferred against the Japanese Government are entirely irreconcilable. If, as has been declared in the plainest terms over and over again, the Portuguese Vice-Consuls in Japan remained perfectly competent to discharge judicial functions after Mr. Loureiro's withdrawal, how can it be possibly pretended now that Mr. Loureiro went away without making any proper provision for the discharge of such functions after his departure, and that to his neglect is attributable the transfer of his nationals to Japanese jurisdiction? Such pleasant little dilemmas are always to be dreaded by persons who commit themselves to propositions based on ignorance and maintained without reference to truth.

DEATH OF MR. FUJITA MOKICHI.

THE death is announced of a distinguished *Kaishin-to* politician, Mr. Fujita Mokichi. Formerly joint editor with Mr. Yano Fumio of the *Hochi Shimbun*, Mr. Fujita was regarded as a man of exceptional literary ability, and his name was always included among those of the ten leaders of the *Kaishin-to*. Three years ago he took a trip to Europe, and on his return offered himself as parliamentary candidate for the Fourth Electoral Division of Tokyo. He was returned by a considerable majority, and similar success attended his candidature for the same District in the general elections of February last. He expired on the 19th instant, but the newspapers, in mentioning his death, say nothing as to the malady that carried him off. Mr. Fujita must have been a young man—forty-two or forty-three at most—and his untimely decease will of course be a serious loss to his Party. He did not specially distinguish himself as a speaker in the House of Representatives. It is very frequently the case, we believe, than men who are ready with their pen do not succeed as orators.

BANK INTEREST.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* has a note, founded on a report of the Bank Inspecting Bureau attached to the Department of Finance, referring to the rate of interest realised by 102 Japanese banks during the months of April, May, and June of this year, as compared with that realised during the same period last year. To give an idea of prevailing rates we quote the figures given by the *Yiji* for the month of April:—The highest interest charged for money but was 13½ per cent. and the lowest 8.6 per cent. this year as against 14.3 per cent. and 9.2 per cent. last year. The highest interest paid to depositors this year was 5.4 per cent. and the lowest 3 per cent. against 5.7 per cent. and 3.1 per cent. last year. From these figures the *Yiji* concludes that money is plentiful and in a liquid condition. The report quoted further states that the places in the whole of Japan which pay the highest interest for borrowed money are Niigata, Nagano, Iwate, Awomori, and Yamagata in the East and North, and Fukuoka, Oita, Saga, and Miyazaki in the South.

LOCAL GOVERNORS.

THE bolt has fallen among the local Governors. No less than four of them have been placed on the Retired List; namely, Mr. Kabayama Suke-take, Governor of Saga; Mr. Watanabe Kyoshi, Governor of Fukushima; Mr. Hirose Shinichi, Governor of Akita; and Mr. Moriyama Shigeru, Governor of Toyama. These, with Mr. Yasuda, Governor of Fukuoka, whose retirement was announced some days ago, constitute the principal figures among the Governors against whom charges of interfering in the general elections were brought by the Opposition. Count Inouye, immediately on assuming the portfolio of Home Affairs, seems to have taken the matter up and investigated minutely the accusations preferred

against the Governors, the result being the very drastic action represented by the above gazette. To be placed on the Retired List means not only loss of office, but also total loss of salary. It differs from final dismissal only in the fact that the officials whose names are borne on the List remain eligible for re-appointment.

This very unequivocal step must of necessity be interpreted to mean that in the judgment of the present Cabinet justification exists for the Opposition's charges of undue official interference in the elections of last spring. Of course there cannot be any doubt that the conduct of the local officials was greatly exaggerated by the Opposition. The speech made by Mr. Tatekawa Umpei on the memorable day when the proposal to memorialize the Throne was under discussion, betrayed an amount of prejudice and credulity which plainly indicated that he and his colleagues were determined to patch together a case out of any materials however questionable. Still there is no smoke without fire, and it was impossible to conceive that so much agitation could have been fomented unless some grounds for it existed. Local officials undoubtedly interested themselves in the elections, and within limits they assuredly had a perfect right to do so. But the question that suggests itself as particularly pertinent is whether they exceeded their instructions. There are certain instructions which every conscientious and honorable official should decline to observe. We cannot suppose for a moment that any such instructions were issued by the late Cabinet. The necessary inference is that the condemned Governors exceeded their instructions, and on that hypothesis their punishment by the present Cabinet reflects unfavourably on the indulgence of its predecessor. Without entering into these details, however, the broad principle asserts itself that every Governor of a Prefecture most contrive to administer the affairs of his district in such a manner as to avoid creating strong discontent and serious friction. In this prime desideratum of good administration the discredited Governors appear to have failed signally. Their condemnation will be welcomed with acclamation by the Opposition, and will be regarded, we should hope, as an evidence that the present Cabinet means to rule constitutionally or give up altogether the idea of ruling.

The removal of the above four Governors, and other changes previously announced, entail a considerable number of new appointments. They are as follow:—

- To be Governor of Saga Prefecture, Mr. Nagamine Yakichi, hitherto Governor of Miyagi Prefecture.
- To be Governor of Miyagi Prefecture, Mr. Hagiwara Hirochika, hitherto Secretary of Tottori Prefecture.
- To be Governor of Fukushima Prefecture, Mr. Kusaka Yoshio, formerly Governor of Nagasaki.
- To be Governor of Akita Prefecture, Mr. Hirayama Yasahiko.
- To be Governor of Ioyama Prefecture, Mr. Tokuhisa Tsunenori, hitherto Secretary of Hyogo Prefecture.
- To be Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture, Mr. Komatsubara Veitaro, President of the Criminal Law Bureau.
- To be Governor of Aichi Prefecture, Mr. Tokito Tamemoto, hitherto Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture.

We have little knowledge of any of these gentlemen except Mr. Kusaka Yoshio, who is certainly one of the ablest among rising officials. Fukushima is very fortunate to come under the administration of a man so competent and conscientious.

In reporting the various changes in the personnel of local Governors, the *Nippon* says that the step is obviously a punishment for official interference in the last general elections. It strongly approves of the dismissal of four Governors, and says that Count Inouye's action is commendable in that he has removed these Governors as well as several superintendents of police. It is only just to inflict the severer punishment on those higher in authority. Our contemporary also praises Count Inouye's choice of Mr. Hirayama, M.P. as Governor of Akita. If he will take some

more members of the Diet, no one will disapprove: nay, everybody will applaud, and the policy of the Government can easily be carried out. But the *Nippon* wishes to know what Count Inouye intends to do with the Governors of Kumamoto, Gifu, and so forth. They cannot be left as they are. It is rumoured that Count Inouye sent for Mr. Yamada Kinosuke, Barrister, M.P., and offered him a post, but he refused to accept it. Again it is reported that the new Cabinet intends to punish not only the Governors who interfered in the last elections, but also any other local officials who have made themselves obnoxious to the people. The number of changes immediately contemplated are some 17 or 18, and Mr. Kosaki, Governor of Gifu is on the list.

MR. WATANABE KOKI AND THE RYOMO RAILWAY COMPANY.

SOME weeks ago there were rumours that certain prominent shareholders of the Ryomo Railway Company had expressed their intention of amalgamating it with the Japan Railway Company, owing to financial difficulties. After much discussion the proposition was defeated, and the Company remained independent. Then the election of a Director was made, and Mr. Watanabe Koki, M.P., who has not much interest in railway affairs, was suddenly installed in the chair. It seemed rather strange that he should be chosen. But now report says that a good reason existed for the selection. A majority of the shareholders hope to complete the Joyetsu Railway at once by his aid. At present the Ryomo Railway Company is not favourably situated: its lines serve as branches of those of the Japan Railway Company, and it is consequently placed in a position of dependence on the latter. Prosperity cannot be secured under such circumstances. Now, in the newly proposed system of railways, the Joyetsu road is to be constructed so as to join with the main line at Niigata. If that project were carried out, both the passengers and the goods of the Joyetsu line would pass over the lines of the Ryomo Railway Company, and it is, therefore, greatly in the latter's interests that the Joyetsu road be built speedily. Mr. Watanabe warmly supported the idea of constructing it when the question came upon the *tapis* some years ago, and as he is supposed to have close relations with the Government, it was hoped that he might influence the latter favourably were he elected Director of the Ryomo Railway Company. This is the *Kokkai's* story. We reproduce it for what it may be worth.

THE GLADSTONIAN CABINET.

THE intelligence that Mr. Gladstone has formed a new Ministry, has led many of the vernacular journals to publish leading articles about English politics. Among their comments some are worth quoting. The *Kokumin Shimbun* gives a short history of the general election and its results, and the fall of the Salisbury Ministry. "Now the Liberals are in power," it says, "Mr. Gladstone must introduce his Home Rule Bill, in order to keep the Irish members under his banner and to fulfil his promises to his constituents. But what will be the probable result? He has a majority of 40 only; so the Bill may pass the House of Commons with difficulty, but the House of Lords, which is known to consist chiefly of Conservatives, will be sure to reject it. Will he then venture to create new peers for the purpose of controlling the Upper House, as was done in the case of the Reform Bill? Were popular opinion strongly in favour of the Bill, and were it carried by a large majority in the Lower House, he might adopt such an extreme measure. But his majority in the House is not more than seven per cent. of the whole number; and the bulk of the upper and middle classes in England are opposed to the Bill. We may predict, therefore, that the Bill will be rejected, and that Mr. Gladstone will be obliged to dissolve Parliament. Will he then return again with an increased majority? That is very doubtful indeed. At any moment there may arise some disagreement between the Liberals and the Irish members, or among the Liberals themselves, as some of the latter have already expressed their

desire to give to the Labour Question precedence over the Home Rule Bill." In conclusion the *Kokumin* remarks that the English characteristics are self-complacency, self-seeking, and hero-worship. By granting Home Rule to Ireland the two former sentiments would be wounded. But Mr. Gladstone owes his majority to the third characteristic. Therefore were Mr. Gladstone to die or to quit the political arena, the career of Home Rule would be at an end.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* congratulates England on the accession of Mr. Gladstone, and says that the Grand Old Man is still full of spirit, but that his victory was not altogether satisfactory, for the people had simply become tired of the Ministry, and only desired to see a new Cabinet. They did not return Mr. Gladstone in order to pass the Home Rule Bill. In point of fact the majority of the nation shrink from anything tending to weaken the foundations of Imperial unity, and Mr. Gladstone, did he consult the wishes of the English nation, should shape his policy in accordance with that feeling. But if he did so, he would lose the support of all the Irish members. The *Nichi Nichi* cannot help sympathizing with Mr. Gladstone's troubles in his great old age of over 80. The men who were once his warmest political friends, the Duke of Devonshire, and Mr. Chamberlain, are now strongly opposed to his Home Rule Bill, and Sir Charles Dilke has not yet lived down his disgrace sufficiently to be a valuable supporter. The loss of these three coadjutors is very serious, nor can any one acquainted with English politics doubt that Mr. Gladstone is acting against the popular tide. His indomitable spirit and his wonderful prestige have brought him back to office, and the fourth Gladstonian Cabinet is now formed, but to maintain his position for any length of time will be more than even his strength can achieve.

The *Yiui* has a short note on the same subject. "The Liberals" it says, "having obtained a majority of 40, a vote of want of confidence was at once carried, and Lord Salisbury, Prime Minister of the Conservative Party, went to Osborne the following day, and placed the resignation of his Cabinet in Her Majesty's hands. The Queen thereupon sent for Mr. Gladstone and commanded him to form a new Cabinet. After consultation with his followers, he himself became Premier and Lord Rosebery took the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. How superior are the minds of English statesmen, and how easily Cabinet changes are effected. In such procedure the beauty of a constitutional government is realised. Who then will venture to say that Party Cabinets are impracticable? We have a good example before our eyes!" Excellent, but superficial *Yiui*, have we not also the example of your precipitancy to show how little fitted your country is for the exotic system which you advocate?

TREATY REVISION COMMITTEE.

SOME months ago, as our readers doubtless remember, a number of statesmen were appointed to form a Committee for investigating the subject of Treaty Revision. They only held a few meetings, however, and the public heard little of their proceedings. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now states that since Counts Kuroda, Ito, Yamagata, and Inouye are in office and Mr. Mutsu is Minister for Foreign Affairs, there will be no need for a Committee. Our contemporary adduces, as additional evidence of the truth of this view, the probability that a man of Mr. Mutsu's great ability will prefer to achieve the difficult task of his own unaided strength. On the other hand, the "Chuo Dempo-sha," a news agency, reports that though Mr. Mutsu has become Minister for Foreign Affairs, and though it is rumoured that Viscount Enomoto's qualification to be a member of the Committee has thus become *de facto* invalid, such is not the case. In his capacity of Minister of State, Mr. Mutsu may of course be present at the Committee's meetings, but since Viscount Enomoto was specially appointed a member of the Committee, he remains a mem-

ber until his services are specially dispensed with by an Imperial Rescript. It is further rumoured, however, that in a few days Mr. Mutsu will be nominated in lieu of Viscount Enomoto, and that the meetings of the Committee will be resumed. Which of these two accounts is true, the *Yiui*, from which we quote, does not pretend to determine, but for our own part we see no probability of Viscount Enomoto's remaining on the Committee.

A SCHOLASTIC SCANDAL.

A SPECIES of novelette appears in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It opens in the poetical style usually adopted by Japanese writers of works of fiction, but when we read on we find that the purpose of the story is not to deal with fiction but to set forth facts. Very painful facts they are, too. The scene is laid in a school in Tokyo. There is no mistaking the school, though its name is not given. Neither is there any difficulty in identifying the male characters of the tale. They too appear under disguised appellations, but the disguise is so cleverly devised that a misconception is out of the question. The story turns upon that old, old pivot, woman. One of the students was a girl so beautiful that the youths of the neighbourhood used to wait in the street in order to catch a glimpse of her as she passed on her daily way homeward. This lovely girl, we read, fell a victim to the wiles of a foreign teacher. Apparently she returned his affection. Discovery came, and she was expelled. But the foreigner who had wrought her ruin remained, undisturbed, at his post. The other students naturally rebelled against this partiality. They did not see why the girl alone should suffer and the man go scot-free. But the Principal turned a deaf ear to their remonstrances, and then, forfeiting their confidence, began to be himself watched, with the result that his own conduct towards another student furnished grounds for more than suspicion. Such is the tale. It appeared several days back in the columns of the *Yomiuri* and it remains to this moment unnoticed. If it be untrue—which is highly probable—some step should surely be taken to contradict it, and to punish the publisher of the scandal. The nationality of the foreigner is given. His name also may be said to be given, for though changed into two Japanese words, it remains perfectly recognisable.

THE LAST ISSUE OF CONSOLIDATED BONDS.

THE applications for the last issue of Consolidated five-per-cent Bonds aggregated 5,776,450 *yen*. The amount of Bonds to be issued was originally fixed at three million *yen*, but after the applications had been received, it was announced that another million *yen* worth would be issued. Of the applications, no less than 3,894,750 *yen* were put in at prices above par; the remaining 1,881,700 *yen* being at par. It will be seen, therefore, that the lucky applicants who obtain the Consols at their face value only get 115,250 *yen* worth altogether between them. Looking at these figures, we can scarcely wonder that the Treasury increased the issue at the eleventh hour.

THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

We explained recently that a compromise had been effected in connection with the trouble on the Tokyo Rice Exchange, and that after the sellers and buyers had been brought as near as possible to each other by means of mediators, the officials of the Exchange had finally cut the Gordian knot by making themselves responsible for the irreducible difference. We also stated that the difference amounted to a sum of six thousand *yen* only, and we expressed surprise that so paltry a sum should have involved such a fracas. But it appears that the figures which we quoted from the vernacular press were erroneous, and that the difference really aggregated 64,493 *yen*. This large sum the officials of the Exchange undertook to pay, and, in consequence of their undertaking, the Exchange was reopened. But how was the payment to be effected? There appears to have been some difficulty in originating the point, for not until last Saturday

was the account closed, the money being paid out of the Reserve Fund of the Exchange. This Reserve Fund is accumulated by levying a percentage on the commissions received by the brokers of the Exchange, and is apparently held as a provision against exceptional emergencies. Much discussion occurred as to the propriety of applying it to the recent dilemma. The sellers of the rice—i.e. the debtors—were of course, willing enough, but the buyers, the creditors, having themselves borne their part in amassing the fund, felt not unnaturally that the money due to them was, after all, about to be paid to them out of their own pockets. However, everybody seems to have been anxious for a peaceful settlement, and so the matter was arranged in that way on Saturday.

A CIRCUS IN FORMOSA.

ACCORDING to a correspondent of the *Amoy Gazette*, circus business in Formosa is neither pleasant or profitable:—The weather over here seems to be getting hotter and hotter, and there is no cessation of it. Woodyear's Circus has of late been absorbing considerable interest amongst the Chinese, and the poor people have suffered from the rowdy roughs of Banca, who came down and forced their way into the tent. To prevent this occurring again a fence was put up, but the roughs broke this down; a still stronger one was put up and the roughs finding this too much for them, threw showers of stones over the top into the tent. Mr. Fernandez received a stone in his mouth, and two of the others received several on their legs. The Band (it was always the funniest thing in the show) is now composed of one instrument, namely, a hand organ lent by one of our local gentlemen. I have not heard much news (continues the correspondent) about the savages lately, as I have not been up to Twa-tutia for some time, but I believe the fighting is going on as merrily as possible. If it isn't it is not the savages' fault, as they love fighting. A curious story is reported which may be doubted by many. The Chinese were storming a village and were just getting the worst of it, when the savage leader suddenly appeared with his flag or token of truce; when confronted he said he could not go on fighting unless the Chinese sold or lent him some more gunpowder as theirs was all finished. I leave you to guess what the result was, for I do not know.

EXHIBITION OF LACQUER.

It is announced that from the 19th of September to the 9th of October an exhibition of lacquer manufactures will be held, under the auspices of the *Shikho Kyogi-kai* (Lacquer Manufacturers Competitive Union), at the Nishi-hongwanji, Tsukiji, Sancho-me, Tokyo. All kinds of lacquered article will be exhibited, as well as decorative designs for workers in lacquer, the tools employed, and the materials as prepared for the various processes of the industry. Prizes are to be given, and purchases may be made, but no article is to be removed before the close of the Exhibition. It seems rather remarkable that the Union should find itself in a position to organize such an affair just now. We should have thought that its energies were entirely devoted to preparations for the Chicago World's Fair.

THE "NORTH CHINA HERALD" ON JAPANESE POLITICS.

It is pleasant to find the leading Shanghai journal writing in the following sympathetic spirit of Japanese politics, despite the constant sneering and contemptuous criticism which the same subject elicits from the majority of the foreign local newspapers in Japan:—

It is not fair to treat these struggles in Tokyo as no more important than battles of kites and crows. We may think that Japan has gone ahead too fast, and that the political situation is not inaptly illustrated by the vast rows of unfinished public buildings, with nobody working on them, that disfigure that city of magnificent distances, the present capital of Japan. But it is better to go ahead too fast than not to go ahead at all; and throughout Japan is going ahead. The majority in the Diet wants to go faster than the Government thinks prudent, and it may be necessary to pull it up for a time, but this should not destroy our interest in the great experiment that was begun with the promulgation of the present Constitution. It is no easy task to evolve and establish in a few years a representa-

tative institutions suitable to an Oriental people only just rescued from feudalism. If mistakes have been made in the process, they are excessively trivial as compared with the progress that has been made. The solidity of that progress strikes the visitor from China more and more every visit he makes. Granted that the Japanese are naturally the most Occidental of all Oriental peoples, the transformation that has been effected in less than thirty years is still bewildering. To no two men is this transformation more due than to Counts Ito and Inoue, and the numerous friends of Japan may well feel full confidence that the difficulties of the present situation will be satisfactorily surmounted with these two leaders in command.

The Shanghai journal reminds us opportunely of something which seems to be persistently forgotten by Japan's critics on this side of the water. The latter's one note is disparagement. They talk of the frequent changes of Cabinet, of the want of cohesion shown by political parties, of the obstructive attitude of the Diet and so forth, but they never recall the fact that Japan is grappling with the greatest problem of civilized government under circumstances of unprecedented novelty. If she succeeded in solving it without friction, her success would be miraculous. That some friction is set up, must be considered inevitable, and certainly does not justify the unappreciative condemnation of certain writers.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE Bank of Japan held its semi-annual general meeting on Saturday last. Some 35 principal shareholders were present. Mr. Kawada, Director of the Bank, took the chair, and read the Report of the business during the first six months of the present year. The depressed state of the market caused the Bank much loss, and the Report showed that the profit during the half year had been 318,849,886 yen less than that during the preceding period. The following are principal items of the Report:—

	YEN.
Total profit on business.....	1,305,841,544
Purchase of land	22,000,000
Expense of printing Notes	30,000,000
Buildings and Repairs	70,000,000
Net Profit	1,183,141,544
Dividend (at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum)	750,000,000
Reserve Fund	150,000,000
Rewards to officers and Sundry Expenses	67,500,000
Special Reserve	80,000,000
New Building Expenditure	50,000,000
Balance.....	86,341,544
	1,183,841,544

SILK.

THE silk market in Yokohama says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, become it more and more active daily. On Friday last over 1,100 bales were sold, and on the following day Messrs. Walsh, Hall and Co. begun to purchase fine silk for the French market in considerable quantity. Among the of transactions concluded Uzen Uyoken silk was sold at \$785, which is the highest price recorded this year. Messrs. Siber and Brennwald also bought some Shinshu and Koshu silk of the best quality, and Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co. purchased some more *Zaguri* silk. According to what we have learned, the reason of the purchase of *Zaguri* is that machine-reeled silk being very scarce this year, Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co. foresee that *Zaguri* will soon appreciate. However this may be, the fact is that prices have risen to 20 yen, and there is little doubt that 800 yen will be reached ultimately.

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR.

MR. HARUKI YOSHIKAKI has been appointed to the post of Chief Public Prosecutor *vice* Mr. Matsuo Koki, whose resignation has been already announced. Count Yamagata's policy is apparently to make a clean sweep of all the officials who were primarily responsible for the card-playing scandal. It is difficult to see what other course could be adopted. The result of the judicial investigation confirmed rather than weakened the opinion expressed by us at the time, namely, that the whole agitation was eminently discreditable to those who fomented it, and that to arraign the Chief Judges of the empire on such a charge betrayed a singular

absence of sobriety and common sense. It is quite true that in view of the strong efforts made by the Administration to check the vice of gambling—a vice to which the lower orders in Japan seem particularly prone—too much care cannot be exercised by officials themselves to avoid setting a bad example. From this point of view, the Judges who engaged in games of cards at restaurants with *dansesuses* for audience, were undoubtedly most reprehensible. If they possessed no higher sense of the dignity of their position and the obligations of their office, their continuance on the Bench could not conduce to public interest. But to organize an Administrative Court for the purpose of solemnly trying a number of Chief Judges on such a charge, the witnesses for the prosecution being keepers of *machi-ai-jaya* and dancing girls, was little short of a national disgrace, and we doubt whether any one will be found to pity the discomfiture of the officials who were principally instrumental in pushing matters to such an extreme. Little wonder that Viscount Tanaka, who was Minister of Justice when the agitation—or shall we not call it the intrigue?—began to assume serious dimensions, resigned his portfolio rather than be indirectly a party to proceedings of which an official so upright and sensible could not possibly approve, but which he nevertheless found himself unable to check. At the same time, it is to be hoped that if any of the Judges were really guilty of the conduct ascribed to them, they too will soon cease to preside in Courts of Law. They cannot, indeed, be removed from office without their own consent, but they must be well aware of the disgrace which they have brought on the Judiciary, and it is not in the nature of Japanese officials to cling to offices which they have dishonored.

Since writing the above we learn that Chief Judge Kojima Iken, President of the Supreme Court, has tendered his resignation, and that it has been accepted. It is also stated that Mr. Ito Miyoji will probably succeed Mr. Ozaki Saburo as President of the Law Bureau in the Cabinet.

MR. TANAKA HEIHACHI'S CASE.

THE latest news concerning the fraudulent appropriation of the sum of 13,715 yen belonging to Mr. Tanaka Heihachi, is that Mr. Tanaka has agreed to a compromise, whereby he is to receive 7,000 yen, and, out of consideration for the feelings of the Fukita family, with the members of which the Tanaka family has always been on intimate terms of friendship, Mr. Tanaka has consented to take no legal proceedings against any of the persons who figured in the transaction reported in these columns a few days ago. The conduct of Mr. Fukita Shiro was strongly condemned by the other members of the Fukita family, and since Shiro has hitherto shown no tendency to behave dishonestly, it is thought that he fell into the hands of sharpers and acted without duly weighing the probable consequences of his procedure. Opinion is divided on the case: some pronounce the whole transaction fraudulent; others assert that the Fukita family has a pecuniary claim on Mr. Tanaka and cite the compromise which the latter has accepted as a tacit acknowledgment of the validity of the claim. The case is of far too serious a kind to be hushed up in the manner suggested by Mr. Tanaka. It is stated that the investigations already made disclose the fact that the plot was promoted by persons whose names have not yet been made public. Mr. Nozaki, the Public Prosecutor, has taken the case in hand, and we shall no doubt have the results of further investigations in due time.

The comments of the *Yiji* on the case are worth quoting on account of their impracticability. As a rule the *Yiji* is nothing if not practical, but the following observations verify the proverb that even a monkey sometimes falls from the tree. The Tanaka affair, says the *Yiji*, should be a lesson to us in four different ways. (1) It suggests that barristers should consult those against whom they are taking action in refer-

ence to the validity of the documents on which they rely. (2) It suggests that courts of justice should control the action of the bailiffs to whom they issue orders. (3) The object of levying a distraint on property being to secure the payment of money which otherwise would not be paid, a Court of Law, before serving an order for attachment, should take the trouble to ascertain whether the party against whom action is taken is able and willing to satisfy the claims. That for the sake of recovering 7,000 yen, bailiffs should be empowered to levy a distraint on the property of a company whose capital amounts to 10,000,000 yen, as in the case of the Yusen Kaisha last year, is a public scandal for which a remedy ought to be found. In this Tanaka case we have the reputation of the Director of a bank and one of the largest shareholders in a public company seriously damaged by a set of men who gave no guarantee to the Court beyond the payment of 1,000 yen security money. (4) The shares of the Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha fell seriously in consequence of the report that Mr. Tanaka was unable to satisfy his creditors, and the Tanaka Bank depositors were thrown into a state of alarm. Such consequences ought to be foreseen and provided for by the administrators of justice.

These objections to prevailing legal methods sound very plausible, but they are all based on one-sided considerations. Taking the suggestions in their order, it would be impossible in most cases to carry out the first without involving a client in serious loss. Any intimation beforehand of intended action would enable dishonest persons to conceal their property and evade their obligations. As to the second, we fail to see what effective control a court can exercise over a bailiff who receives authority to act on the strength of documents which, as far as the court is able to judge, are in perfect order. With regard to the third point, against what the *Fiji* urges has to be placed the fact that laws are enacted to prevent dishonesty, and that it is impossible to preclude their occasionally becoming the source of unpleasant consequences to the thoroughly honest. The law, as it now stands, is severe against the debtor, and hence, judging by long experience, we should say that it is severe on the right side. To relax its provisions because in a couple of cases persons well able to meet their liabilities have been inconvenienced by its application, would be short sighted policy. As to the last objection, it seems to us that the duties of a Court do not involve anything more than a scrupulous administration of the laws as they stand. The suggestion that before issuing an order Court officials should balance remote possibilities of good and evil consequences is singularly impractical. The *Fiji* seems to us to have here indulged in the kind of theorising which it is usually persistent in condemning. No system is without its weak points, and a few inconvenient consequences, such as constitute the basis of the *Fiji's* criticism, are surely inadequate to necessitate a radical reform.

We have omitted to mention one amusing phase of the case. The usurer, Adachi Jun, who supplied Mr. Fukita Shiro with the 1,000 yen security money required by the Court, received 600 yen as a reward, but when summoned before the Court to answer for the part he had taken in the shady transaction, he was so alarmed by his situation that he begged the Court to accept the sum of 1,600 yen as a present and allow him thus to wash his hands of the whole affair.

ELI PERKINS.

THE account of Japanese and Chinese women given by Eli Perkins is worth reproducing, such a long and courageous bow does he draw:—

Yokohama, Japan, June 2, 1892.—[Special Correspondence.]—In complying with the invitation of the editor of the woman's page to describe the present condition of woman in Japan and China, I will say reluctantly that there is no change in the status of woman in China. This is because the Buddhist religion teaches that woman should simply be a slave to her husband. The state of woman is so low in China that a mother prays that she may have no female child. The birth of a female child throws the whole family into the deepest grief. Not only is medicine given to kill the child, but when born it is often put out of the way, and a boy adopted in its place. The killing of a

girl baby in China is a crime never punished. There is a Catholic missionary founding asylum in Canton with not a boy baby in it. Mothers bring their little girl babies and abandon them on the asylum steps.

In Foochow I saw this sign on the banks of the Yuen-Fule river:

"DO NOT DROWN FEMALE INFANTS HERE."

This sign is read by 750,000 Foochowans, causing no blush and no comment.

"Why is this?" asks the loving American mother.

It is because in all heathen countries woman and girls occupy low positions. The Chinese boy succeeds his father. He alone inherits his father's property. It is the law and custom in China that a mother shall obey her eldest son, and when a Chinese girl marries she not only obeys her husband and son, but also her father-in-law. A Chinese father is allowed to kill a child for disobedience, and he often does so, and no law ever convicts him, while custom honours him. If a child strikes his father and that father does not kill him on the spot, then the authorities will take that child and not only consign it to an ignominious death, but to slow and awful torture. But if a boy should strike his mother, the father would look on with a sort of pride.

The Chinese mother is not educated. Few of them can read. It is common for Chinamen to have two or three wives. When you go to his house you do not see his wife. She does not come to his table. She is a servant.

A gentleman friend of mine was invited to a Chinese dinner in Shanghai. He was greeted by four Chinamen and what he thought to be their wives. They were pretty, painted, and silly. They even begged presents of rings and breastpins from the guests—teased them for trinkets. The next day he spoke of meeting some Chinese gentlemen and their wives.

"Wives!" exclaimed his friend. "No, they were not wives. They were playthings—polygamous wives, taken into their own families with the consent of the dowry-giver. Such Mormonism is customary among rich Chinese in Shanghai, Canton, and Hankow, and other large Chinese cities."

There is no caste now in China except the caste caused by small feet. So every woman who pretends to respectability must deform her feet. The fashionable husband countenances this deformity because it makes his wife too helpless to walk "and it keeps her out of mischief."

I saw a poor fashionable woman's foot in the English hospital at Shanghai. When the doctor unwound it he found the ankle shrivelled as thin as a chicken's drumstick. The skin was purple. The four toes were rolled under the foot, stunted and buried in the bottom of the foot—about the size of the second joint of a turkey—a chunk of withered flesh ending in one poor, puny toe! That foot represents the moral and intellectual status of the Chinese woman of 1892.

Now compare with the sad state of the Chinese woman the evolution and advancement of the Japanese woman. Her civilization, language written characters, literature and religion came from China. Thirty years ago Japanese women ranked with the Chinese women. The Mikado was worshipped unseen as a god. His wife was a myth. He was the sun in daily intercourse with Jehovah. He only spoke to the Yacoon, the visible ruler, from behind a wall, while the Yacoon, priests and nobles knelt to the floor. Then men wore queues and shaved their heads. They worshipped Shinto and Buddha, and ate no animal food. Mothers shaved their children's heads and their own eyebrows, painted their faces and rode horseback astride. Mothers bathed naked with husband, children and the neighbours, paradoxical simplicity was everywhere. Servants (musumes) in the country went naked in the summer. "Bashfulness," says Rousseau, "came with civilization." The Japanese that Commandore Perry saw in 1853 when he landed at Yeddo were as innocent as Eve. They did not know what shame was. As Sir Edwin Arnold says "They were modest and yet immodest."

The women all greased their hair like gipsies. They all smoke, and when they get married degrade themselves by painting their teeth black. Many girls of the lower classes had their arms and backs tattooed, and showed them proudly as marks of beauty. Husbands could have as many wives, and could divorce any of them for disobedience to her husband's parents, barrenness, drunkenness, talkativeness, and could and did sell daughters and consign them to lives of shame.

In 1867 a great social and political change came to Japan. The young Mikado, so long shut up to commune with Jehovah in the old feudal castle at Kyoto came to years of discretion. Light struck him all at once. He saw that Tokugawa, the old Yacoon or Shogun, had usurped the rulership and was running the country from his feudal castle in Tokio, surrounded by his military Daimios. He deposed him in a day, and sent 20,000 Daimios to their plows or workshops or gave them new government positions. Their swords became plowshares or were auctioned off in the curio shops of Tokio. With one stroke he declared himself "Emperor, and his wife an empress—his equal." This act freed every woman in Japan. Every wife in the emperor's court was declared equal to her husband.

She could sue for divorce, ride in a carriage with her husband and appear at the court ball in full French costume with low neck, short sleeves and a long train! When the emperor left feudalism behind him, he rode into the old castle of the deposed Yacoon in an open brougham, dressed in a full general's uniform, and with his empress proudly sitting on his right hand, dressed in a costume from Worth's. He organized a court out of his own friends, and the best blood of the deposed Daimios. Many of these courtiers selected foreign wives. The wife of Count Oyama graduated at Vassar College. Countess Tsuda, a graduate of Vassar, is now in the United States studying our American Normal school system. That great system will soon be established all over the empire. Four hundred students were sent over the Canadian Pacific line to American colleges in one year. Colleges and seminaries have been founded, and these students are now teaching all over Japan. Japanese girls are being educated the same as boys.

In a private mission school in Kyoto I saw 400 Japanese young ladies. Miss Pool, the daughter of the well known bibliographer of Chicago, was hearing a class of young ladies recite in grammar and physiology, and they recited like a class of Vassar College girls. Ten years ago the fathers of these girls looked upon a girl as a slave, or at best an upper servant of her father, brother or husband.

Now they are straining every nerve to give them a liberal education. Even young husbands are sending their young wives to school. The craze to learn English is universal. The coolie will offer to work for an American for two pounds of rice a day if the American will occasionally talk to him.

Buddhism did not grant immortality to women. It made her allegiance to her husband stronger than her allegiance to morality and God. A Japanese maiden as pure as a vestal virgin would at the command of her father allow herself to be sold to a brothel keeper for money. This under the teachings of Buddha.

This has all changed now with the educated Japanese. The emperor and empress have licensed Christianity, and the question has already come up in cabinet meetings as to whether Buddhism is harming or blessing Japan.

At the last court receptions no one has been admitted unless dressed in simple full dress clothes, the same as would be worn by a lady or gentleman in Washington or New York. When the reader goes to Chicago in 1893 and examines the Japanese department he will see, presiding over their \$1,000,000 exhibit, Japanese ladies and gentlemen dressed in European costume.

The emperor and empress have no children, but years ago, they, in the old Japanese fashion, selected Majame Yanazawari, a court lady, as a wife by proxy, and she has borne the emperor a son, now called Prince Huro. He is now 13 years old, looks like an American boy, and can be seen any day in the grounds of the Noble's College jumping with the other boys in the most domestic fashion.

Already there is a furor all over Japan for education. Japanese girls and boys swell the schools and colleges in America, England, and Germany. The better classes no longer shave the heads of their children and paint their teeth black.

If the 90,000 Christians in Japan, how they have free press and free speech, and how the old mossback Japanese Buddhism and the civilized agnostic still praise Buddha and denounce Christ, I will write later; and also show the Japanese women eat, work, flirt, worship, and nurse their children.

ELI PERKINS.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE NEW CABINET.

COUNT OKUMA'S alleged criticisms of the new Cabinet have been often reported in the vernacular press, but in every case they differ more or less. The *Kokkai* now publishes a much fuller account. It runs as follows:—One day a man called on Count Okuma and asked his opinion of the new Cabinet. He replied thus:—"The new Cabinet consists of all the renowned statesmen of the Empire, as well as of a few statesmen who are known to be the most able. Externally therefore it looks extremely strong, but who can say how feeble it is internally. Count Ito, however, is very clever at elaborating administrative policy, and Count Inouye is an expert in enforcing it. In short, their abilities may be compared with those of Mokuami and Danjuro: the former composes a play and the latter puts it successfully on the stage. If therefore Count Ito and Count Inouye work harmoniously, and if, without any clashing of personal interests, they set themselves to correct old abuses, the foundations of the Government cannot be easily disturbed, even though other members of the Cabinet disagree. Count Inouye is especially anxious to reconstruct and improve the local administration so as to obtain popular confidence. He will no doubt dismiss all the useless Governors without hesitation, and appoint young and able politicians in their stead. I was informed that Count Inouye lately sent for certain young barristers and offered them governorships. He should dismiss the incompetents without regard to their personal interests. I hope that he will carry out his resolutions, and by sweeping away accumulated abuses, attain the object contemplated in forming the present Cabinet. Further, if the local administrative policy were to change every time there is a change in the Cabinet, the people would suffer greatly. Therefore the new Cabinet should at once determine upon a policy which still stand upon its own merits and be quite independent of changes in the personnel of the Government. Again, considering the members of the Cabinet individually, it was an excellent choice to appoint Mr. Mutsu Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Watanabe Minister for Finance. When Mr. Mutsu occupied the chair for Agriculture and Commerce, he was doubtless dissatisfied, being unable to display his full talent; but the new arrangement cannot fail to please him, for among the statesmen of the day no one is better suited than he to hold the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Yet Mr. Mutsu can spread his wings only by the assistance of Count Ito and Count Inouye. Unless they assist him, his talents must remain locked up. Mr. Watanabe again, is one of the country's most competent officials. He can well take his stand by the

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side of the renowned statesmen with whom he is now associated. At first, perhaps, he will not be valued by his colleagues on account of his sudden promotion, but very soon he will earn respect by the display of his ability. He has no reason to shrink from figuring as a Minister of State under a constitutional government. The new Cabinet was formed by Count Ito, but it was completed by Count Inouye becoming Minister for Home Affairs. Therefore the responsibility of the latter is very great, and I sincerely hope he will assist the Minister President of State and maintain the harmony of the Cabinet, thus enabling the other Ministers of State to accomplish their respective tasks."

MR. UTSUMI, GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA PREFECTURE.

RECENTLY all the representatives of Saitama Prefecture in the Diet, except Mr. Yumoto, together with certain members of the Prefectural Assembly and delegates of the people, have been urging the Minister for Home Affairs to remove their Governor Mr. Kubota Kawanichi, but no step of that nature has yet been taken. It is now reported by the *Kokkai* that some days ago a petition from the Prefectural Assembly of Kanagawa Prefecture was presented to the Minister for Home Affairs, requesting the removal of Mr. Utsumi Tadakatsu, Governor, and Mr. Sugai Naruyoshi, Chief Inspector of police. Further, the Headmen of Wards and Divisions in 15 Districts of the Prefecture are said to be about to present petitions in the same sense. The documents have been prepared and are in process of signature. In some places where signatures have not yet been obtained, emissaries have been despatched to hasten the process. The following is the text of the petition as given by our contemporary:—

The condition of administrative affairs in our Prefecture is becoming more and more difficult, and the people begin to regard Mr. Utsumi Tadakatsu, the Governor, as their enemy. If such a state of affairs be left unnoticed, it is impossible to predict what disorder may ensue, and that the peace and good order of the Prefecture cannot be secured, goes without saying. We earnestly beg, therefore, that the Governor be changed without loss of time. It will give us pleasure to submit full particulars when we have the honour to obtain an interview with your Excellency. In our great anxiety we venture to present this petition.

(Signed) by HEADMEN of *Cho* and *Son*, and others.

TROUBLES IN THE YOKOHAMA TRADERS' UNION.

AMONG the members of the Traders' Union in Yokohama, some two or three influential men formed an association to which many others gave their adherence. Outsiders call this association a despotic affair. Mr. Ono, President of the Traders' Union, is its head. Whatever trouble occurs in the Union, is generally attributable to the acts of the association. Lately two rather serious difficulties presented themselves. Messrs. Kashiwagi, Nakashima, and three other silk merchants, who are members of the Union, interviewed Mr. Ono, and requested him to convene a special meeting of the Union. They stated that the commission hitherto paid by the members had been required to defray the expenses of the Union, but inasmuch as the revenue now derived by the Union from its warehouse and so forth had greatly increased, the payment of commission was no longer required, and that, consequently, a special meeting ought to be convened to abolish the impost. At first sight this request seems natural enough, but it has, in truth, a deep meaning. The members preferring it declare that the accounts of the revenue collected from commissions are never prepared satisfactorily, and that the warehouse realises a comparatively scanty revenue, all of which they attribute to the mismanagement of the President. Hence, at the special meeting, they purpose introducing a vote of want of confidence, and changing the President. The total number of the members of the Union is 48, and as Mr. Kashiwagi, the agitator, has only 16 or 17 followers, there would be no hope of his measure passing were it not for the fact that many members of the Union are now away from Yokohama spending the summer in the country. Mr. Ono at once saw through this design. He

gave no immediate reply to the request, but hastened to despatch telegraphic summonses to the absent members. What the result will be cannot be foretold. The second trouble also is connected with Mr. Ono's association, and is fomented by the members of the Silk Merchants' Union. According to the regulations of the union, any one desiring to become a member must pay a sum of 2,000 yen as security. When this provision was originally discussed, it was opposed on the ground that such a regulation would exclude many from the Union, but the objection was over-ruled. Recently, however, the Kanagawa Kencho issued regulations relating to the Superintendence of the Silk Merchants' Union, and according to these regulations, the Union was required to amend its existing regulations within the space of 15 days. For that purpose the members assembled at the Traders' Hall on Friday last. The majority of those present were on the side of Mr. Ono, President of the Union. A motion was brought forward that the sum of 2,000 yen paid as security is not sufficient, and that it ought to be raised to 5,000 yen. Such a proposition, if carried, would involve the retirement of many members. It encountered strong opposition, and led to an excited discussion. Its fate is not yet known, but the affairs of the Union are in anything but a harmonious condition, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, from which we quote.

NEWSPAPER TONE.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* once more offers outspoken advice to its fellow journalists. It says that lately the tone of the vernacular press has sunk to the lowest level. Yet journalists allege that they are the mirror of society. No paper is at present edited properly, in the *Fiji's* opinion. Everyone of the Tokyo journals contains some low abusive words worthy of the meanest class of the community. In Japan there is a certain vocabulary of polished expressions which are always used among the upper and educated classes. But in discussing the politics of the day, journalists use the least refined language. It is as though a low tramp had the assurance to converse with a family aristocratic and erudite. All the writers are not equally blameworthy, and some of them may perhaps plead that they write down to public taste. But assuredly they should not degrade their *mitter* so recklessly if they think themselves the pioneers of modern civilization. Not less reprehensible is their careless use of words in reporting foreign affairs. In this respect they astonish the readers. For instance, when they allude to the policy of Russia, they say that "the double-headed eagle spreads its wings;" and with reference to England, they write "the Lion King of Europe is sharpening its teeth," or some equally offensive form of expression. Nothing is more delicate than international relations. Words used in alluding to them ought to be very carefully chosen. Russia and England are Japan's best friends, and she ought to show her own good will towards them as much as possible. But instead of contributing to that result, these careless journalists speak of "the fierce lion," or "the greedy eagle" and so forth. Such language is totally unsuited to the intercourse of friends, and writers employing these outrageous terms seem incapable of distinguishing between rudeness and courtesy. The *Fiji* urges upon them the necessity of greater caution.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT.

A RATHER unusual case of theft is reported in the vernacular papers. A lad of 12 was sent to an exchange shop in Tokyo in order to obtain 170 yen worth of coppers. He only succeeded in procuring 40 yen in that form. Placing the coppers in the box of the little cart which he drew, he laid on the top of the coin the remaining 130 yen in paper wrapped in a cloth. He had not proceeded far on his way home when a lad of 15 years of age began to push the cart behind. The latter was told that his services were not needed, but took no notice and still walked behind the cart. Presently the boy in charge of the money perceived that the lid of the box was open, and that the *satsu* were

gone. In the meanwhile, the boy who had been pushing had taken to his heels, and being hotly pursued by the other, was overtaken. While the two were struggling the thief threw away a bundle, and the smaller boy, thinking that the package contained all the lost money, allowed the thief to escape and snatched up the parcel, but found that it contained only 30 yen, and that the rest had been carried off apparently beyond hope of recovery. The police were communicated with and in the meanwhile the rogue made his way to Shinagawa. Here he was subjected to inquiry on suspicion, but by clever answers he managed to deceive the police, and had proceeded as far as Shiba when something about his looks suggested to a policeman that he might be the culprit in request. He was arrested, and in the lining of his coat was found the sum of 80 yen in paper money, which had evidently been secreted there during his first flight. The remaining 20 yen he had disposed of on the way.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE following notice to mariners in reference to the North Channel Entrance to the Yangtze, in the Shanghai District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:— Notice is hereby given that, on account of alterations which have taken place in the North Channel Entrance to the Yangtze, as disclosed by a recently completed survey extending from Bush Island to Shawsheishan, the following additions and alterations to the buoyage of this channel have been made. A six-foot conical red Buoy, surmounted by a black spherical cage, to be known as the Ch'i-yao Bank Buoy, to mark the starboard side of the channel, entering. This Buoy bears S. 34° W., true distant 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Drinkwater Point Beacon. A six-foot conical black Buoy, surmounted by a black inverted frustum cage, to be known as the Middle Island Buoy, has been moored off the northern elbow of the banks which lie to the northward of Middle and Blockhouse Islands, to mark the port side of the channel, entering. This Buoy bears N. 13° W., true, distant 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Surveying Beacon on Blockhouse Island. The Tsungming Bank Buoy has been shifted to a position where it marks the south-eastern edge of Tsungming Bank and the starboard side of the channel, entering. From this Buoy the "High Dark tree" on the south-western shore of Tsungming bears N. 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° E., true, distant 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

THE DYSENTERY EPIDEMIC.

IN addition to the returns of fresh cases of dysentery published among our notes from Japanese papers, the News Agency reports that there are 213 patients in Hyogo Prefecture and that 43 deaths have occurred there. We learn that although the epidemic is attracting so much attention this year, it was worse last year though little notice was taken of it. A greater number of cases occurred in corresponding periods, and the death-rate was higher. Medical men say that the disease is entirely due to unwholesome diet. This is conclusively proved by an incident which happened last year in Kumamoto. A man who was on a visit to the place died, and at his obsequies a number of persons—over twenty—partook of a plentiful dinner at which various kinds of fish and vegetables were served. The following day the whole of the participants, without exception, were attacked with dysentery, the only person escaping in the household being a maid-servant who had been too ill to join in the feasting. From this centre of propagation the disease travelled outward in directions that could be easily traced, a plain connection with the origin being invariably preserved.

THE FOUR CONSTELLATIONS.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* has rather an amusing note about the present Cabinet. It says that the Four Constellations in the new Ministry are Counts Ito, Inouye, Yamagata, and Kuroda, and that revolving about each are the following Satellites:—Count Ito's Satellites, Messrs. Ito Myoji, Inouye Ki, Suyematsu Kencho, and

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Kaneko Kentaro. Count Inouye's Satellites, Viscount Nomura Yasushi, Viscount Aoki Shuzo, and Messrs. Furusawa Shigeru and Saito Shuichiro. Count Kuroda's Satellites, Messrs. Orita Heina, Suzuki Daiyo, Komaki Shogyo, and Tokito Tamemoto. Count Yamagata's Satellites, Messrs. Komatsubara Veitaro, Kioura Keigo, Shirane Senichi, and Yoshikawa Akinasa. With regard to the orbits of the Constellations, our contemporary says that the Ito-Inouye Constellation travels in a path little removed from the globe; that the Kuroda Constellation partakes of the nature of a comet, and occasionally exhibits very eccentric motions; and that in respect of the Yamagata Constellation, astronomers predict its gradual recession from the earth, and ultimate invisibility except by the aid of a telescope.

THE "SOSHI" AND A GENERAL.

AN unpleasant incident is reported from Nagoya. Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, being on a visit to that town in connection with some legal business, his admirers determined to organize a friendly *r  union* in his honour. Great preparations were accordingly made for a wine party at the *Shukinro* on the 21st instant. Among those present was Major-General Aoyama, who belongs to the Government Party. His presence appears to have offended some *soshi* of the *Yiyu-to*, and finally their leader, Kato Yoshiyasu, accosted the General in an insulting manner, asking what business he had to be there, and charging him with treachery. The General, not too long-suffering by nature, replied by knocking down his rude interrogator. Thereupon Kato attacked him with such murderous violence that had not the bystanders interfered, serious results would probably have ensued. It is a thousand pities that these rude truculent *soshi* do not occasionally fall in with somebody capable of administering to them a really sound thrashing and ready to do it.

SILVER.

THE Chambers of Commerce in the East are at last bestirring themselves in respect of a question which has the most vital interest for them. Just eleven years ago we remember conversing with a leading merchant of Yokohama on the subject of silver—a subject which, at that time, many people were disposed to regard as a mere hobby of financial faddists. Our observations were listened to with a kind of languid tolerance the only comment they evoked being a statement that really the question had very little practical interest for the world of commerce. "Very little practical interest for the world of commerce"! A short eleven years ago men of intelligence were actually so short-sighted as to look with half contemptuous indifference at a problem which was destined soon to reduce international trade to mere gambling. However, a mood of juster appreciation begins to prevail now. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce took the lead, and has been followed by the Shanghai Chamber, the proceedings of which are thus reported in the *North China Daily News* of the 18th instant:—

Yesterday afternoon a general meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce was held for the purpose of taking action upon the Silver Question.

Mr. J. G. Purdon (Chairman) presided, and those present were Messrs. H. R. Hearn (Vice Chairman), F. Anderson, D. M. Moses, John Graham, A. Korff, W. McDonald, W. D. Little, J. C. Bois (Committee) J. Macgregor, F. Rinkel, C. W. Wrightson, W. Brand, M. Adler, C. J. Dudgeon, J. M. Young, J. E. Haskell, C. M. Dyce, E. B. Skottowe, R. M. Campbell, T. Wood, E. Shellim, H. J. Such, Drummond Hay (Secretary), and others.

The Chairman in opening the proceedings said—The matter of the great depression of Silver has been engaging the attention of the civilised world for a long time past, and as we are all aware, a Convention is to be held before long in Europe in which all the Great Powers, it is expected, will be represented for the purpose of settling upon some International Agreement that will have the effect of bringing about a steady and uniform relation between the values of the two precious metals, Gold

and Silver. How and to what extent this can be done is, as I have said, the very purpose for which the Convention is called, and as the question will undoubtedly be debated by the greatest authorities on finance and commerce, it is not with any idea that we can put forward any scheme or furnish any new argument on the subject that this meeting is called. The wide-spread depression we see in all our business relations, however, brings the matter very decidedly home to us, and when we know that the question whether some remedy cannot be found for this evil is to be debated in such a Convention, it becomes us to show by every means in our power that the subject is of vital importance to us, and to record our earnest hope that some international measure may be adopted that will put an end to the present deplorable state of affairs, and therefore this meeting of this important commercial community has been called for the purpose of giving its support to any scheme that will achieve that desirable result. With the object therefore of obtaining the opinion of this meeting the Committee has prepared the resolution I am about to offer. Should it be carried, copies of it will be forwarded to the Chambers of Commerce in London, Manchester, Hamburg, and New York, and to the China Association in London. A resolution to this effect will be submitted. The resolution I which propose is:—

As it is the opinion of this Chamber that the great and sudden fluctuations in the exchangeable value of gold and silver, are highly detrimental to the foreign trade with China, and as there is every prospect of a continuance of the evil unless some remedy is applied, therefore—

Resolved, that this meeting hereby accords its hearty support to any International action directed towards remedying the present unsatisfactory state of affairs.

Mr. John Macgregor in seconding the resolution said—The Chairman has so clearly and succinctly placed before you the object of this meeting that there is very little that it is necessary for me to add. The course of fluctuation which has characterised the relative exchangeable values of the so-called precious metals in the near past has been very erratic, but on the whole decidedly adverse to silver. It is, I believe, the universal experience of those engaged in the foreign trade with China that the result has been not only always to perplex, but too often to inflict loss, and the outlook is so uncertain, that trade is more or less paralysed; people who consider themselves prudent confining their transactions to the most moderate limits. The very violent fluctuations have taken place in the price of silver, in which our transactions with China are conducted, are I am sure only too present to your minds. The rise in 1890, which a great part of the world considered, to their discomfiture, to be justified and permanent, culminated in September of that year with silver at 54½d. per oz. It has been followed by a violent reaction, relieved by intermittent attempts at rehabilitation, until the other day when we saw silver at 37½d. per oz., or a decline of over 30 per cent; all this in the space of 23 months. The foreign trade with China emanates almost entirely from countries which regard gold as the standard of value, and under the conditions I have just mentioned it needs no words, from me to prove that foreign trade must be, as it has been, and is, injuriously affected by these abnormal fluctuations in the relative values of the metals. This Chamber does not propose to suggest, or submit, out of such wisdom as is in us, any particular course which we think should be followed in obviating the mischievous uncertainty which has hitherto prevailed, and which of late has become so acute. In the bustle and worry of business, as it has to be conducted here, many of us have not the time, even if we had the inclination, to consider and weigh this great and clamant question in all its bearings, and study the manifold interests which are bound up in it and surround it. This we may leave in able hands, and with those who are making the subject their special study, and I most heartily second and support the resolution proposed by the Chairman.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried, with one dissentient.

Mr. R. M. Campbell enquired whether the gentleman who dissented would not like to explain his views.

The Chairman pointed out that though it was somewhat irregular, seeing that the resolution had been adopted, no doubt the meeting would willingly hear what the gentleman had to say.

Mr. J. C. Bois—I would like to explain briefly why I am opposed to the passing of the proposed resolution. By passing it, although we do not commit ourselves to any particular form of legislation, yet we are undoubtedly casting our vote in favour of some sort of international agreement for the purpose of artificially raising and keeping up the price of silver. Now the question is,

is it not a mistake to do this? I think that any interference with the natural laws which govern the rise and fall of all articles is a mistake. What we are, and have been, suffering from for the last few years is not so much the fall in silver as the rapid and violent fluctuations in its value. Had silver been left to itself we would have seen a gradual and constant fall in value until it reached a point at which it would not pay to produce it, such gradual fall could easily have been provided for by brokers and merchants, and trade generally would have gradually adjusted itself to the new state of things. Now what has caused the rapid and violent fluctuations we complain of? It cannot be said that the position as to the supply of and demand for gold has altered in any way in the last three years. It is not that metal therefore that is responsible; but the whole trouble has arisen from the desperate attempts made in the United States to bolster up the price of silver. This legislation has not been successful, but it has given rise to hopes which have led to speculation, and it is this speculation which has caused the violent fluctuations we are suffering from. No doubt I shall be told that this legislation did not go far enough, but I think that the farther we go the worse we shall fare, and that we would have been much better off if nothing had been done. What should be sought for is the quickest and best way of undoing the mischief that has already been done by legislation, and of getting back to the state of things when the natural laws which govern prices will have full scope. Any international agreement for the purpose of keeping up the price of anything can only work mischief, and I am therefore, opposed to any support being given to those who wish to bring about such an interference with the natural course of things.

Mr. F. Anderson then proposed that a copy of the proceedings of the meeting, and the resolution should be sent to the Chambers of Commerce of London, Manchester, New York, Hamburg, and Bremen, the China Association in London, and the Chambers of Commerce of all the important centres of trade in the East.

Mr. F. Rinkel seconded and the motion was carried.

* * *

Concerning the remarks of Mr. J. C. Bois there are two obvious comments to be made. In the first place he speaks of "artificially raising the price of silver." By whom is that intention entertained, unless it be by the American mine-owners? No responsible European financier has ever proposed that international steps should be taken to raise silver to a price out of proportion with its market value. The object of international action is simply to fix the white metal at a price approximating as closely as possible to what appears to be its real market price, and to set in operation a factor which would preserve it at that price, namely, the factor of remonetization. The second criticism suggested by Mr. Bois' speech is that while he lays upon the shoulders of American legislation the violent fluctuations of recent years, and while he objects to fresh legislation as unnatural and factitious, he appears to forget altogether that meddling legislation is the very *fons et origo mali*. The whole trouble has its roots in laws demonetizing silver; laws which were first enacted by England at the time of resuming specie payments, and which were copied subsequently by other nations with equal thoughtlessness and precipitancy. What the bimetallic advocates is the repeal of all such unnatural laws, and the inauguration of a system of absolute free trade in respect of the precious metals. Silver would not be left to find its own level, as Mr. Bois suggests, merely by abstaining from further legislation; for an impassable dam has been constructed across one of its principal channels of demand by the laws that demonetized it, and until those laws are repealed, it is idle to talk of reverting to a natural and unrestricted state of affairs.

TROUBLE A BLESSING.

So argues the *Fiji Shimpo*, apropos the new Japanese Cabinet. The country is to be congratulated on the possession of such a Cabinet, says our contemporary. With such men as now hold the reins in office, there is no fear of mismanagement. Home and Foreign Affairs are secure in such hands. But there is one cloud on the horizon. One serious trouble has to

be dealt with—the Diet. “These Diet rascals are not to be feared,” say some statesmen. “There is a way of stopping the mouths of the 300 *geijōgi*,” say others. But there is no denying, observes the *Fiji*, that the young politicians who, after the manner of youthful barristers quoting law books, are ever referring to this and that article of the Constitution as sanctioning certain acts and interdicting certain others, are a constant source of annoyance to experienced and well-informed statesmen. Yet our contemporary would not alter this state of affairs. In the fiction that exists between the Diet and the Cabinet lies the strength of the latter. To illustrate its meaning the *Fiji* refers to a neighbouring household. In prosperous times the members of this family are always at loggerheads with each other. But when disease invades the dwelling or the bailiff arrives to sue for debts, the family forthwith becomes united. All combine to stem the tide of adversity which has set against them. The trouble with Japan's Cabinets in the past has been want of union. Only in the presence of common foes can men of diverse views on a variety of questions act in harmony. A turbulent Diet, the clamour of aspirants for political power, such are the agencies by which the disintegration to which all Cabinets are liable may be avoided. Thus it proves to governments as to individuals that troubles are blessings in disguise.

THE KANAGAWA SILK GUILD.

We stated in a recent issue that general rules for the control of the silk-dealers in Kanagawa Prefecture had been issued by the Local Authorities. The rules provide that merchants and brokers desiring to engage in the silk trade with foreigners, must form themselves into a Guild, and be guided in their transactions by regulations which they are required to frame for themselves, so far as concerns the organization of the Guild, the nature of the security deposited by members, and the method of punishing violations of contracts. A certificate of membership is furnished, and this is to be regarded as a sort of business passport, being always carried by members when engaging in operations of trade. The rules are evidently framed with the view, amongst other things, of effecting improvements in the manner of preparing parcels of silk, for it is provided that:

- (1). No bale, or smaller parcel, of silk in which good and bad qualities are mixed, shall be sold; unless the difference of classification is distinctly stated.
- (2). No silk which has been rendered heavier by dishonest means shall be sold.
- (3). Neither *sage-sukuri*, *shimada sukuri*, nor *ori-kayeshi*, the skeins of which have been re-twisted or re-bundled in the guise of re-reels, without having undergone the process of re-reeling, shall not be sold.
- (4). No silk shall be sold which does not bear a trademark duly registered in the Department for Agriculture and Commerce, unless it carries a stamp showing the name and residence of the sericulturist or agent.
- (5). Cocoons of different seasons or different colours (yellow and white), mixed together, shall not be sold.
- (6). Silk-worm's eggs affixed to cards with starch, instead of being deposited there by the moth itself, shall not be sold.

A small fine—from 20 *sen* to 1.95 *yen*—or minor confinement for from one to ten days is provided against infraction of any of the above rules.

To these rules the silk merchants of Yokohama take very strong exception. They have held a meeting and raised a number of questions. In the first place they claim that a perplexing and inconvenient distinction is now made between silk-dealers and sericulturists. In the regulations issued six years ago, provisions applying to both classes were embodied, and the query now is whether the old regulations become invalid on the promulgation of the new, or whether both are to be in operation together. Further, they point out that Yokohama is merely a mart for the sale of silk, not a place for its manufacture. The dealers who handle the staple at this port cannot possibly provide against abuses on the part of the sericulturists in the interior. Are the regulations intended to interdict all transactions in silk which does not satisfy the prescribed conditions, even though buyers are fully cognizant of the fact and willing nevertheless to do business? According to the custom of the trade at present,

foreign buyers inspect silk before purchasing it. Suppose that mixed parcels come from the interior, is it interdicted to submit them for inspection even though their condition be duly notified? Again, with regard to cocoons of different seasons or colours, how is the rule to be observed in the case of *fama-mayu* and *degara-mayu*, to which no such interdiction has any useful or practicable application? The provisions of the third rule quoted above are declared to be incomprehensible, and the framers of the regulations are asked for a clearer definition. Another objection made has reference to the affixing of trade-marks. At present neither these marks nor the name and address of the manufacturer or broker are attached, so that the provision introduces a wholly new system, and the Yokohama folks claim that a special rule of this kind applicable to one market only will amount to unfair discrimination. Other difficulties also are raised, but we need not enter into them in detail, since they refer chiefly to the organization of the Guild. What we have noted suffices to show that the regulations are received most unfavourably, and it certainly seems as though grounds for objection existed.

ANOTHER TALL STORY.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun*'s power of invention has been developed to such an extravagant degree that it becomes a nice question whether the police should not interfere to check the flow of its demoralizing mendacity. Recently it told us of a man who killed his wife in order that he might roast a portion of her liver to give as eye-medicine to his mother, and now it recounts an equally monstrous yarn about a phthisical patient who believed that roasted baby would cure the degeneration of his lung tissue. In each case the names and localities of the parties concerned are duly given, and every detail capable of enhancing the verisimilitude of the story is added. But it is easy to see that the same romancer is responsible for both falsehoods. In the case of the filial assassin, the man was represented as a particularly pious and single-minded person, and before he conceived the notion of killing himself, his child, or his wife in order to obtain the desired medicine, he is described as having visited various druggists in search of a modicum of human liver. So, too, the consumptive individual becomes, in the hands of the same mendacious and clumsy chronicler, a simple, credulous kind of man, who, having been told that the roasted flesh of a fellow-mortal would restore him to health, went to all the apothecaries in the district asking for that delicacy, and even tried to strike a bargain with households which death had just visited. Finally, he found an *eucinte* widow in desperately penurious circumstances, who, seeing no chance of rearing her child, agreed to kill it immediately after its birth, and to hand the body to the lunatic Ugo Tokusaburo. This being done, Tokusaburo is made to carry it to the hills and bake it in a jar, but after all his pains the viand is too revolting, and he ends by falling, phthisis and all, into the hands of the police. If the *Yomiuri Shimbun* must invent, if its inevitable destiny is to be a propagator of lies, why not give us some pretty, exciting, or artistic fable instead of these revolting romances, the products of a diseased, inhuman and illiterate mind?

A MANIA IN NEW YORK.

In reference to the Japanese Decorative mania in New York, an American contemporary publishes this:—

“The Japanese decorative craze is rampant among the ladies of New York, said G. H. Hanover, a dealer in art pottery in Gotham, at the Tremont yesterday. ‘There are several ladies in New York who have collections designed and painted by themselves. There is one vase modelled after a Japanese creation that has attracted a great deal of attention, and to my way of thinking is a more artistic piece of work than the original. It is not for sale, and I doubt if the lady who made it could be induced to part with it for any price. Her husband is very proud of her skill, and although the parlour of their home is so cluttered with jars, vases, etc., that the room is useless except for show, he has no word of complaint. ‘There are potteries over New Jersey which do a

rushing business selling material to ladies who have contracted the pottery craze. After the jugs are shaped they are brought to the pottery to be baked, and it would do you good to see the smiling and happy faces of the fair artists when their work comes out of the oven without a blemish.

“The decoration of pottery is by no means the only artistic part of the business, and the lady who can model something new is envied by her associates. I have a customer in Brooklyn who could make several thousand dollars a year if she cared to sell the jugs and vases she creates. I tell you they are fine examples of the art. But she has plenty of funds and does the work for love of it.

“Not long ago she contributed a number of allegorical pieces to a church fair and they sold for a sum almost sufficient to pay the expenses of the undertaking.”

CONTRACTS FOR STEEL HOOPS.

We published, some time ago, the intelligence that Messrs. Vickers & Co. had obtained a contract for supplying steel hoops to the Arsenal in Osaka. Previously orders of this character had gone to Germany, British firms being apparently unable, or unwilling, to produce the hoops at the prices for which they are manufactured in Germany. We now learn that the last contract for hoops has gone to another English house, Messrs. Firth and Sons of Sheffield, Messrs. Firth and Sons enjoy the reputation of being among the best manufacturers of steel in Great Britain. It was they who obtained the contract for supplying sword-bayonets to replace the defective weapons about which so much scandal occurred a few years ago in England. The fact that Messrs. Firth and Sons have beaten Messrs. Vickers and Co., and the latter beat the Germans, seems to show that the era of German success in this kind of business is at an end for the present in Japan. The last order for hoops amounts to about a hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

THE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

YESTERDAY afternoon at 4 o'clock the Yokohama Printing and Publishing Company held the extraordinary meeting which had been advertised for some time. Newspaper reporters were not allowed to be present, as was very natural, for the Company is in no wise bound to lay its affairs before rival journals which have shown a disposition to criticise it in a very biased manner. We shall therefore respect this desire for privacy by limiting ourselves to a statement that the proposal to go into voluntary liquidation was adopted; that a liquidator was appointed, and that anticipations as to the demise of the *Japan Gazette* are not likely to be realized.

A MISSTATEMENT.

THE *Kobe Herald* of Monday last has a paragraph on the new British Ministry commencing thus:—“The East is indebted to Reuter, and the foreign press of Japan to the *Mail*—the foreign press of this country being precluded from participating in the monopoly which gives the *Mail* one of its admitted sources of strength”—&c., &c. Now no one knows better than the writer of the above that it is a misstatement. Baron Reuter's Agent was in Kobe during the present year, and the editor of the *Kobe Herald* was distinctly told in a conversation with the Agent that he could have the telegrams, but when the cost was mentioned he had no more to say on the subject.

THE AINU OF JAPAN.

FROM that most excellent periodical *The National Observer*, we re-produce elsewhere a review of Mr. Batchelor's book “The Ainu of Japan.” The review, already deserving of notice because of its bright and clever style, gains additional interest from the fact that its writer is a man who during the three years of his residence in Tokyo, won friends more numerous and earnest than have fallen to the lot of any other sojourner in this land of peace and sunshine.

NAVAL FUNERAL.

A NAVAL funeral took place on Wednesday at four o'clock for the interment of the remains of Lieutenant Rosanoff, a Russian officer, who died on Tuesday at the German Hospital. The function was largely attended, and included a

firing party of 100 men from the Austrian corvette *Fasana*, under the command of Lieutenant Baron Weizlar. The band of the U.S.S. *Marion* played the Russian National Anthem, and after the coffin, which was covered with the Russian flag, had been lowered into the grave, the whole party filed past. There were present the Captains of the *Fasana* and *Rattler*, and other officers, the Russian Consul, the Austrian Consul, an official from the Russian Legation, a party of American officers, and others. The deceased was Chief Navigating Officer of the *Vitias*, and had the rank of Commander.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce are divided into two parties, and their disagreement often makes it impossible for them to obtain a quorum for their usual meetings. However, by the energy of Mr. Shibusawa, President, they have now become much more friendly. Still the wholesale sugar and cotton dealers are not yet appeased. They propose to form a new association under the name of the *Doyu-kai*. Their anger is not directed against the other members of the Chamber *en masse*, but only against the two, Messrs. Masuda, who, they vaguely allege, disregard the resolution of the *Shodan-kai*, and are thereby slighting its members. (The *Shodan-kai* is an association within the Chamber, formed by the "practical men.") The withdrawal of these malcontents will restore harmony, and enable the Chamber to proceed with various business which has long been suspended. Many important subjects await discussion. For example, several members were formerly defaulters as to subscriptions to defray the expenditure of the Chamber. This unsatisfactory state of affairs has been gradually improved, until some 12 or 13 only remain without paying, and the aggregate of their debt does not exceed 40 *yen*. Of course such a small sum does not inconvenience the Chamber, but, as matter of principle, the defaulters must be made pay. Accordingly, at a meeting held on the 26th, a resolution was passed, and in accordance with the Art. 19 sec. 2 of the Regulations relating to the Chamber of Commerce, it was determined to proceed against the debtors. Again, the Public Works Department in the Chamber is under the control of the Department of Home Affairs, and its members advise on matters relating to the construction and repair of rivers, roads, and harbours at the request of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. But as these works have an important bearing on the general prosperity of the country, the Chamber of Commerce intends to present a petition requesting that the members of this particular section shall be elected from the various Chambers of Commerce throughout this empire. The proposal to present a petition in that sense will be discussed in a day or two. Another point relates to railways construction. The Chamber approves the request of the Chambers in Sendai and in Kanagawa, that members of the various Chambers be allowed to attend the Railway Councils meeting, and will present a representation for that purpose to the Minister of Communications. Finally, a question relating to Customs Tariff was propounded last winter, but has not been answered. Before replying, the Chamber desired to ascertain whether the rates adopted by Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi in the Bill submitted by him to the House of Representatives, were in accord with those of European countries, but though several members have been engaged in this investigation, they have not yet reached a result. The Chamber, therefore, has plenty of business to transact as soon as it can persuade itself to go to work quietly and harmoniously. We take these particulars from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

IRON INLAID WITH GOLD AND SILVER.

We read in the vernacular press that the faculty of the Fine Arts School at Ueno contemplate the addition of another section to the instruction department. Among the art products for which Japan is famous, objects made of iron inlaid with gold and silver are conspicuous.

During the past four centuries examples of this kind of work have been produced so perfect in every respect that they defy comparison with the similar work of any other nation. In China, especially during the *Shun-tieh* era (1426-1436) of the *Ming* dynasty, inlaying of iron with gold was carried to a point of high excellence. Many exquisite specimens attributed to that era and bearing its mark still survive, though it seems probable that the majority of them belong to a later period. But the Chinese work falls far below the Japanese in beauty of decorative design, and is inferior also in excellence of handicraft. Moreover, this is not an art which shows any signs of decay in Japan. Numerous objects of the very highest finish and beauty have been produced during the past two decades in the ateliers of Tokyo, Kaga, and Kyoto. There are two methods of inlaying. The first is called *hon-sogan* (true inlaying) or *hira-sogan* (flat inlaying); the second *nunome-sogan* (cloth-mesh inlaying). In the former, the pattern is cut into the iron, the section of the channels having the shape of the vertical section of a truncated cone, being thus broader at the bottom than at the top. Into these channels gold or silver wire is hammered until it completely fills the groove, thus becoming immovably imbedded in the metal. In this process durability is obtained at the sacrifice of great cost, for not only is immense labour involved in chiselling out such channels, but the result is that more gold is hidden in the iron than the surface appearance indicates. On the other hand, the work is everlasting. Until the iron oxidizes and crumbles away, the inlaid design remains as clear as on the day when it left the artists' hands. The *Nunome* process is less troublesome. The channels of the pattern are not cut with widened bases but with vertical sides, and instead of filling them with gold wire, thick gold foil is laid over the surface and beaten until it enters firmly into every part of the design. This kind of work has been carried to a pitch of wonderful dexterity and beauty by Kajima Ippu whose atelier is in the Kommei suburb of Tokyo. His masterpieces may possibly be less durable than the *Hira-sogan chefs-d'œuvre* of Kyoto, but since the life of each alike may be measured by centuries, the distinction between them in this respect is not very practical. It is claimed, however, that owing to the great favour which Japanese inlaid iron has found with foreign collectors, inferior specimens are now produced to the probable detriment and discredit of the whole industry. Hence the faculty of the Art School propose to organize a section for the improvement of this class of work, and for the education of experts.

"THE VOLCANOES OF JAPAN."

GRADUALLY Japan, the real Japan, is being transferred to paper. Travellers and temporary sojourners have done their part cleverly and sympathetically in describing the superficial traits of the people, the beauty of their manners and of their environment, their progressive efforts to be strong among the nations of the earth, and the delights of their art. Deeper still men like Satow, Aston, Chamberlain, Gubbins, Batchelor, Conder, Mason and so forth—to mention our own nationality only—have dug to the depths of the country's legends, history, customs, and administrative systems, so that the printing press seems to have brought within our reach about as much as we have any need or inducement to know. But the operation to which we particularly refer here is that of taking portraits of the country. Old residents can recall the days when Beato's photographic studio was an institution of the Settlement. Every Yokohamite bought an album there, and every globe-trotter considered it a duty to carry away some of the excellent reproductions of manners, customs, and costumes for which the studio was famous. Those were the days of easy money getting. It was something then to be a pioneer of commerce. The position brought substantial rewards, for the pioneers had the field practically to themselves, and the virgin innocence of the "native" made it a simple process to exploit him. He, too, was content. Rewards far beyond his most elastic conception of the possi-

bilities of industry, came to him in abundance. Everybody, in short, was happy, and all things boomed. More than one fortune was made in that photographic studio. What matter if the readily earned dollars were as readily dissipated? That was one of the pleasant features of the time. There are no pioneers of commerce now-a-days, but only humble followers. Neither are there any merchant princes but only merchant slaves. The Beato photographs have become curiosities rather than treasures. Their possessors value them for the sake of the associations they recall far more than for the sake of their service as pictures. Incomparably more beautiful and lasting efforts of photographic skill have now supplanted them, and it is to a combination of the leaders of the photographic art in Japan that we owe the inception of a series of albums which, if the programme contemplated be fully carried out, will enable the public to see many of the country's most interesting and lovely features without visiting it. We have already written of Mr. Ogawa's albums of costumes, flowers, and so forth, and noted his association with men like Professor Milne and Mr. Murdoch, whose work as writers converts books which would otherwise be mere collections of pictures into valuable literary records. To the same coterie of photographic and literary artists belongs Professor Burton, now a world-wide celebrity as a scientific photographer. How much Mr. Ogawa has gained by contract with Professor Burton, or *vice versa*, we, not being experts, cannot pretend to judge. But of the admirable character of their combined work we can speak with confidence. The great earthquake of 1891 seems to have brought Professors Milne and Burton into closer relations with Mr. Ogawa, for the first public association of the three was evidenced in the earthquake album, which, we may mention *en passant*, has been a great success, no less than 1,500 copies having been sold. The same collaborators have now produced the first volume of a series of Albums entitled "The Volcanoes of Japan." It is uncertain to what length the series is to extend. The authors prudently decided that the number of parts published is to "depend on the encouragement they receive, and partly on the number of photographs they are able to obtain in the summer of 1892." Naturally their opening volume is devoted to Fujiyama. It contains ten very beautiful and striking views of the peerless mountain. Probably no finer achievements of the camera have ever appeared, excepting, of course, special pictures such as Mr. Ogawa himself contributed to recent exhibitions. A reproduction of one of these unique masterpieces is given in Plate III. It is a view of "Fuji from the West." Vividly do we recall this picture as it hung in the Industrial Exhibition of 1890, a noble photograph, huge as to dimensions and perfect as to tone and details. It loses something in the process of reduction, but still makes an admirable picture. In truth every one of the ten plates is an object of delight. One only disappoints us a little. It is the view of Fuji from the top of the Otome Pass. No one who from Otome-toge has gazed at the inimitable sweep of the graceful mountain can ever forget the loveliness of the scene. But what makes this prospect so exquisite is the middle-distance. As in the case of the view from the Yamanaka way-side plateau, so in that from the summit of the Otome gorge, Fuji raises its beautiful head and shoulders amid seemingly boundless reaches of the softest and most voluptuous scenery imaginable—gently undulating stretches of emerald green plains, dotted with forests of delicate contour, traversed by streams of silver, and brooded over by the dreamiest of atmospheres. Never was there an environment better adapted to its crowning feature. From such surroundings only a Fuji could rise. Ruggedness, sterility, jaggedness of peak or frown of precipice would do violence to the whole scheme of the prospect. Take away the middle distance, however, and the celebrated Otome-toge view is marred almost completely. Unfortunately the photograph has taken it away. From a black foreground of fallen trees, dilapidated huts and

Original from

confused brushwood, we look across to a Fuji rising dim, majestice, cold, and solitary; a Fuji, in short, with nothing but its size and the catenary of its slopes to recommend it. But is it within the capacity of photographic art to reproduce that never-to-be-forgotten view from the Olome Pass? Hereafter, perhaps, but not yet. Meanwhile we have compensations. The view of the crater; the wonderful cloud scene in Plate II.; the lovely combination of lake, foliage, forest, peak, shadow, and sunlight in Plate IX.—these and other delightful pictures make the album a treasure. If we speak first of the pictures, it is merely because we follow the natural course of persons examining such a work. But there is even more interest and certainly more instruction in the letter press by Professors Milne and Burton. The authors commence by a brief summary of Japanese volcanic facts. They tell us of exactly a hundred volcanoes in Japan, among them being fifty above which "a flag of steam" floats constantly to proclaim the activity of the internal fires, while thirty-nine "by their graceful curvature, and by their symmetry of form, inspire painters and poets, and teach those who investigate the meaning of those outlines, lessons of scientific and utilitarian value." As to Fuji itself, its history, the legends connected with it, and the facts that science has revealed about it, the authors have much to tell that is instructive and interesting. (Where, by the way, do they obtain the wonderful name *Slo-ana* for *Hitoana*? Apparently they are ignorant of the etymology of the word.) In fact, their account, combined with the accompanying photographs, makes the mountain a more familiar acquaintance than ever, and supplies all the information we are ever likely to need or to obtain about Fujiyama. It is to be hoped that the authors will obtain sufficient encouragement to continue and complete the series of which this volume makes such an excellent commencement.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF.

A sum of 16,150 marks and 70 pf. collected by Mr. Carl Wolfson, Honorary Consul in Berlin, and Baron Siebold, being proceeds of an exhibition of fine arts opened for the relief of sufferers in the Aichi and Gifu Prefectures, has been handed over to the Japan Red-cross Hospital through the Foreign Office. The above sum on conversion, realised 5,214.06 yen, which was transmitted to the Governors of those prefectures. Recently the following report was sent to the Foreign Office to be communicated to the promoters in Germany:—

Received a sum of.....	5,214.06 yen
From Mr. Wolfson.....	2,340.86 yen
From Baron Siebold.....	2,873.20 yen

Total 5,214.06

Which has been disbursed as follows:—

To families of 7392 deceased persons	985.575 yen
To 19,102 wounded persons	1,738.399 yen
To 75,879 sufferers	2,493.086 yen

Total 5,214.060 yen

THE EARL OF ORKNEY'S MARRIAGE.

THE Earl of Onslow, who recently spent a short time in Japan on his way home from his Governorship in New Zealand, acted as best man at the wedding of the Earl of Orkney with Miss Connie Gilchrist. The Duke of Bedford gave the bride away, and the gossip-loving public have not failed to make mischief out of the affair, sneering, in the first place, at the Earl of Orkney for marrying an actress, and very broadly hinting, in the second, that the Duke of Beaufort, in giving away the lady, got rid of a friend with whom his relations had not been of the purest. The fact is, however, that the Duke of Beaufort is sixty-eight years of age and has a large family. His friendship with Miss Gilchrist seems to have been of a perfectly platonic character. But it is typical of the times that friendships between persons of different sexes are invariably construed in the worst sense. In this as in other matters the old saying is verified that none are so ready to attribute evil motives to others as those whose own conduct is most swayed by such motives. The Earl of Orkney is only 25 years of age. He has been

for years on terms of the closest intimacy with the Duke of Beaufort. The Duke, for his part, has always been fond of histrionic celebrities. One of his cronies was the late Edward Sothorn, and it is stated that the two planned and carried out many a practical joke together.

GOLD AND SILVER RATIOS.

THE *Official Gazette* gives the following table of comparative values of gold and silver coins and of the pound sterling for the week ended the 20th inst. as derived from the returns of the Bank of Japan and the Yokohama Specie Bank:—

Day	Gold Coin. (Per yen 100) Silver Yen.	Pound Sterling (Per £1) Silver Yen.
15th.....	143.500	A.M. 7.3317 P.M. 7.3317
16th.....	144.200	A.M. 7.3848 P.M. 7.3848
17th.....	143.500	A.M. 7.3038 P.M. 7.3038
18th.....	144.000	A.M. 7.3339 P.M. 7.3339
19th.....	143.000	A.M. 7.3828 P.M. 7.3828
20th.....	143.500	A.M. 7.3848 P.M. 7.3848
Averages.....	143.200	P.M. 7.3593

The above averages show for gold coin an increase in value of yen 0.067 per cent., and for the pound sterling a decrease of yen 0.0258 as compared with the previous week.

COUNT ITO AND HIS POLICY.

THE *Fuyu* says that Count Ito's habit has always been to declare his policy first, and then follow it. Hence his silence since he formed the present Cabinet has been construed as an evidence that he appreciates the truth of the saying "deeds are better than words." But our Radical contemporary denies the truth of this interpretation. It avers that Count Ito originally intended to deliver a long lecture on his policy, and that he hoped to receive congratulations from the press, and to be declared by the public truly the Premier of a Constitutional Administration. His project was opposed, however, by other members of the Cabinet, who declared that it is far better for the nation to eat a well cooked dinner than to see a magnificent menu. This is a cleverly conceived story, but we don't believe a word of it. Count Ito would not be the best trusted man in Japan to-day did he not know the value of golden silence when speech can only furnish grounds for hostile criticism.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

THE position of President of the Supreme Court, vacated by the resignation of Judge Kojima Iken, has been given to Judge Namura Taizo, hitherto President of the Civil Division of that Court. Another important change, which will doubtless be announced officially to-day or to-morrow, is the resignation of Major-General Okazawa, Vice-Minister of State for War, and the appointment to that post of Major-General Kodama Kentaro.

THOMAS PAINE.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Optimist" has addressed us on the subject of Thomas Paine, apparently in ignorance of our rule not to publish letters from the same writer on the same subject over different *noms-de-plume*. If over correspondent authorizes us to use the signature previously employed by him, his letter shall appear.

YOKOHAMA BENEVOLENCE.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG, on whose behalf we published an appeal recently when giving an account of the series of misfortunes that culminated in his being wrecked in the *North American*, now informs us that the generous people of Yokohama have subscribed the handsome sum of \$688, the larger portion of which will be sent to his family for their benefit till he can once more get an appointment.

THE CHANGES IN THE "NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA."

We observe that several lists have been published giving the names of the foreign employes of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha whose services are dispensed with. All these lists are more or less

erroneous, and all contain the same mistaken statement that Lieut. T. H. James, R.N., (retired), Navigating Inspector, is among the number of those to leave. There has been no idea whatever, we believe, of dispensing with Lieut. James' services.

THE YOKOHAMA-YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

THE News Agency reports that from Sunday the 21st instant until further orders, a special train will leave Yokosuka for Yokohama every Sunday at 9 a.m. the times of departure for the stations *en route* being:—Kamakura 9.26 a.m., Ofune 9.45 a.m., and Totsuka 10.05 a.m. The train reaches Yokohama at 10.30 a.m.

COUNT ITO'S FATHER.

WE regret to learn that Count Ito's father is seriously ill, that this Excellency was obliged to proceed to Odawara on the afternoon of the 24th, where he still remains. The great age of the patient makes his illness a subject for considerable uneasiness.

BURNING WRECK.

THE *Mtike Maru*, which arrived here on Monday from Kobe, reports sighting the burning wreck of a small wooden steamer about 22 miles E.N.E. of Oshima. So far as could be seen, nothing was left of the vessel but her stem and stern-post and the machinery.

VICE-MINISTER FOR JUSTICE.

THE new Vice-Minister for Justice is to be Mr. Kyouza Keizo, hitherto President of the Police Bureau in the Home Department. The appointment was pretty generally anticipated.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Changes of *personnel* are going on in the minor official positions. Of these changes, those effected in the Department of Justice and in Prefectural Governments have attracted the greatest amount of journalistic attention. The measures have been upon the whole very favourably received by the vernacular press. Thus far the new Cabinet's position has been greatly strengthened by the manner in which the above mentioned changes have been carried out, but no body knows what turn the popular whim may next take.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing on the subject of the changes in the Governors of various localities, observes that, if these changes had been carried out in obedience to party politicians' clamour about the punishment of local authorities who interfered in the last general elections, it could not approve the step taken by the new Minister of Home Affairs. It is inclined to believe, however, that the question of alleged interference in elections is not the basis of the changes, but that they are effected on the principle of removing Governors who have shown themselves unfit for their positions on account either of administrative blunders or incapacity. If, as it appears, such has been the aim of Count Inouye, the *Nichi Nichi* is prepared to endorse his action with all heartiness.

The Opposition journals, however, refuse to view the matter in the above light. They take it for granted that the official changes in question have been carried out solely in consequence of the pernicious interference attempted by the disgraced Governors at the time of the last general elections. Looking at the matter from that standpoint, the organs of the Radical and Progressionist parties heartily welcome the decisive step taken by the new Minister of Home Affairs, so far as the changes thus far effected are concerned. They are agreed in regarding the new departure adopted by the Ministry as an indication of the latter's acceptance of the Opposition platform. Even the *Hochi Shimbun*, which has of late been the most consistent and uncompromising of the Government's assail-

Original from

ants, goes so far as to avow that the new Cabinet, having begun to remedy evils in the Government, "is far superior to its predecessor." As to the disposal of the Governors who have been placed on the Retired List, the *Kokumin Shimbun* warns the Government against the suicidal policy of conciliating them by the gift of seats in the House of Peers. It seems to be feared by the vernacular press that the Cabinet may take some such step, as was done in the case of Mr. Yasuba, late Governor of Fukuoka. Viscount Tani and some other members of the Upper House are reported to have made strong representations to Count Ito on the impropriety of admitting into their House officials who have disgraced the trust placed in them by the Emperor. The *Kokumin* discusses the question merely from the standpoint of the interest of the Cabinet. The most uncompromising opponents of the Government in the coming session of the Diet will be, in our contemporary's opinion, not the present Opposition but the National Unionists; and as the Governors who interfered with elections are sure to sympathize with their protégés of February last, the appointment of the former to the House of Peers would be tantamount to the creation of so many parliamentary enemies of the Ministry.

The Radical and Progressionist organs, though undoubtedly pleased with these official changes, cannot think that Count Inouye will stop there. "The arrows he has thus far shot have all hit the mark," says the *Yiyu*, but then, like all other organs of the Opposition, the Radical Journal proceeds to claim that there remain untouched many Governors who actively meddled with the elections, and who ought not to be suffered to escape scathless. Among the functionaries whose removal is demanded by the Opposition organs, may be mentioned Governor Matsudaira of Kumamoto, Governor Chisaka of Okayama, Governor Funakoshi of Miyagi, Governor Sô of Hyogo, and Police Inspector-General Sonoda.

The resignations of Mr. Miyoshi Vice-Minister of Justice, Mr. Matsuoka Kôki, Public Prosecutor General and Mr. Kojima, President of the Court of Cassation, are also regarded with satisfaction by the whole press of the capital. It had been from the first admitted that the factious contentions in the Judiciary could not be stopped unless the chiefs of the rival factions left the service altogether. So far as the Gambling Case is concerned, the accused Judges were acquitted by the Disciplinary Court on the ground of absence of evidence. But in consideration of the above mentioned faction feuds, as well as of the supposed moral obligation of the parties concerned in the case, the vernacular papers have from time to time called upon both Judge Kojima and Mr. Matsuoka to resign their positions. Hitherto all the efforts of Count Yamada and Viscount Tanaka proved ineffectual to induce them to send in their resignations, and under these circumstances, Count Yamagata is the object of universal journalistic praise because of his success in effecting what men like Count Yamada and Viscount Tanaka failed to accomplish. Mr. Miyoshi, though not held directly responsible for the institution of the gambling case, is still regarded as being indirectly connected with the affair: and his resignation is considered to be only proper and natural, though he is not the subject of such uncompromising criticism as Mr. Matsuoka. The removal of these leaders of antagonistic factions has effectually broken up the long continued rivalry between their followers. Count Yamagata's appointment to the portfolio of Justice was at first sneered at by the Opposition journals, but they now acknowledge the propriety of the choice and observe that the welcome reform in the Judiciary could not have been entrusted to better hands. The Count is earnestly recommended to do the work thoroughly and completely.

The *Kokkai* thinks that the evil of factious contention is not confined to the Department of Justice, but exists in a more or less degree in the Department of Home Affairs, of War, of

Communications, of Education, and so forth. The evil has been effectually remedied so far as the Departments of Justice and of Home Affairs are concerned. The Ministers of other Departments are recommended to avail themselves of the present unique opportunity to abolish for ever an abuse which has incalculably impeded the smooth and expeditious conduct of business in all branches of the Administration. Our contemporary, in another article, observes that the reforms thus far accomplished in the two Departments of Justice and Home Affairs, welcome as they are, must be considered of secondary importance, when compared with the various national problems awaiting solution. It seems to entertain some doubt as to the ability of Count Ito to approach the solution of those problems with decision and firmness equal to that just manifested by two of his colleagues. Not questioning that the Count has many excellent points, since otherwise he could not exercise such vast influence in the political world, the *Kokkai* is nevertheless constrained to say that his greatest weakness consists in want of courage. He likes to fill the public with large expectations which he very often fails to fulfil. However, our contemporary is not without hope that the Count, considering the large expectations raised by his return to power, may strain his great powers to the utmost to justify the high estimate in which he is held by all sections of the nation.

The question of the Codes is of course a subject of anxious discussion in the vernacular press. It had been at first feared by certain observers that the result of the postponement of the operation of the Codes would be to seal their destiny for ever, the presumption being that the real aim of the opponents of the Codes was not merely to postpone their operation, but to defer it indefinitely. Very possibly a few of the barristers who so actively opposed the putting of the Codes into operation at the appointed date, may have been misled by excessive admiration for everything English into objecting to codification itself. But the whole tenor of journalistic writings on the subject does not suggest any suspicion that the advocates of postponement were in any way influenced by a desire to see codification abandoned for ever. The *Nippon*, for instance, though one of the strongest supporters of postponement, acknowledges the necessity of having well arranged codes, and professes to be much puzzled by the apparent indecision of the Cabinet as to the disposal of this problem. Evidently, the Ministers of State are anxious to solve the question in a way not prejudicial to the cause of Treaty Revision. If such be the reason of their delay in coming to a decision, our contemporary bids them be at ease. For under any circumstances, even supposing that revision could be speedily effected, there would be an interval of three or four years before the new order of things could go into effect. Is not an interval of three or four years sufficient for the purpose of revising the Codes? The *Nippon* is also informed that the new Ministers of State are disposed to shape their conduct in accordance with public opinion. If such be really their attitude, they may proceed to the postponement of the Codes without any misgiving, as the Bill for postponement was passed in both Houses of the Diet by a large majority composed of men of all parties. The *Kokumin Shimbun* goes still further and advises the Cabinet to set itself at once to the task of revising the Codes. Should their revision be deferred the present Cabinet may fall before anything has been done to put the Codes into a shape ready for operation, and it is not inconceivable that the next Cabinet will be entirely opposed to codification.

The question of reassessment of the taxable value of land is again on the tapis. It is reported by certain papers that the new Ministry is inclined, by way of compromise with the Opposition, to lay before the Diet a bill for the reassessment of the taxable value of land, a step which seems absurd on the face of it.

Meanwhile, a section of the members of the House of Representatives is making vigorous efforts for the attainment of this reform. They have formed themselves into an association, and issued a document containing the engagements to which they have pledged themselves. They declare that, in order to accomplish their object, they are determined "to cut down as much as possible all appropriations for undertakings of minor importance and to make large reductions in official salaries, office expenses, allowances for repairs," etc. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* strongly criticizes the attitude taken by these Representatives. It does not think that the present system of determining the taxable value of land is in every respect fair and equitable, but it suggests that an attempt to make a re-assessment is likely to do more harm than good. All the conditions that directly affect the price of rice and, through it, the price of land, should be taken into consideration. But the association of Representatives apparently pays little regard to these circumstances, their method of re-assessment being crude and arbitrary. The *Nichi Nichi* cautions them against sacrificing the interest of the country to the attainment of a reform of doubtful wisdom.

The vernacular press, without distinction of party, manifests the warmest sympathy with the Grand Old Man on his return to power at such an advanced age. Gladstone and Bismarck are in this country as well known as any Japanese statesmen. Gladstone's liberality and open-handedness in dealing with foreign countries, as well as his earnest sincerity in his private and public conduct, seem to appeal strongly to the somewhat romantic minds of this people. His return to power has been watched by the Tokyo press with keen interest. The metropolitan journals, however, regret to observe that the position of his Cabinet is not at all secure. As to Home Rule, the Japanese papers are all agreed that the step contemplated by Mr. Gladstone is demanded by justice and humanity, and that the result of granting the privilege of self-government to the Irish would be advantageous to England. The majority of these journals, however, think it extremely improbable that Home Rule will become an accomplished fact in the lifetime of the present Cabinet. A few of them, however, the *Fiji Shimpô* and the *Choya Shimbun*, take a more hopeful view of the case. They are aware of the immense difficulties of Mr. Gladstone's position, but they have strong faith in his wonderful ability and pluck, and think that he may yet be able to pull through and attain the last object of his political career.

The Religious Conference to be held at Chicago some time during the coming year, is attracting considerable attention among the Japanese. The *Choya Shimbun* is very glad that such a conference is to take place, for it may lead to important results in the way of diminishing the pernicious prejudices at present existing between nations of different race and religion. So far as concerns the establishment of religious truth, our contemporary does not seem to expect much from the conference. Indeed the fact that such a conference has been deemed desirable indicates a gradual loss of self confidence among religious men of the West. The *Choya* recommends Japanese Buddhists to have their religion represented at the conference as strongly as possible.

The *Fiji Shimpô* again takes up the Korean question. The policy defined in the frank and interesting article we reproduced some time ago from our contemporary's columns, has since been more than once explained away to mean something very much milder and more commonplace than what it originally seemed to signify. But so long as our contemporary's general arguments remain unchanged, we may safely read its later utterances by the light of its first article. The present article dwells on the necessity of Japan's acting singly without inviting any co-operation of other Powers, not even China.

DECORATIVE DESIGNS.

WE find a curious paragraph in the *Kokkai* about decorative designs. "Anxious," writes our contemporary, "to exhibit some new designs at the Chicago Exhibition and thereby win applause, Japanese artists are devoting themselves to carving and drawing dragons, phoenixes, and other strange creatures which they think likely to attract popular attention. Considered solely from the point of view of glyptic or graphic capacity, these creations may be very praiseworthy, but they violate the principles of fine art, since such animals or birds have no existence in nature. The Judges at the Exhibition will always estimate the merit of a work of sculpture or painting by the accuracy with which it depicts the real, and since no model exists for a dragon or a phoenix, a representation of them can never be counted of much merit in foreign countries. The Government ought to exercise care with respect to this point." The *Kokkai* puts these words into the mouth of an exhibitor, but apparently endorses them itself. They inculcate, in our opinion, a very erroneous doctrine. Such a creed, if followed, would lead to the exclusion of the imaginative element altogether from the arts. In the West as well as in the East, mythical beings and animals have always played an important part in decorative art. Conceive what European artists would say were they told to exclude altogether from their portfolio of motives the satyrs, the fauns, the demons, the angels, the dragons, and all the other creations of fancy which have served such charming purposes in their hands. The *Kokkai's* principle, if pushed to its logical limit, would eliminate the subjective element altogether from the field of art, and reduce the artist to a mere photographer. In China, it is true, the dragon has been used *ad nauseum*. The artists of mediæval days erred much less than their successors in this respect. They showed consummate skill in conventionalizing the dragon, so that often the monster, though barely identifiable with his grim original, becomes not the least pleasing feature of the metal work in which he appears. But in later days the sterile and conservative genius of the decorator suggested no such modifications. He took the dragon as tradition had depicted it, and thrust it into fields where the awe that it was originally intended to inspire became entirely incongruous with its circumstances. A celestial dragon to guard and support the palace of the gods; a benevolent dragon that makes the rain fall and the wind blow for human benefit; an earthly dragon that defines and circumscribes the courses of rivers and streams; and a dragon, guardian of hidden treasures, that watches over the wealth which nature has stored away and concealed from mortal eyes—all these are creatures occupying appointed places in the Chinese mythology. A mon-

ster discharging such extensive functions offered wide opportunity for displays of the sculptor's and painter's imaginative faculty. Its component parts were soon fixed—a camel's head, a stag's antlers, a demon's eyes, a bull's ears, a serpent's body, a carp's scales, and an eagle's claws. But the limner of the dragon understood that this anatomical catalogue was intended to suggest multifarious attributes rather than to be faithfully adhered to. He depicted a gigantic serpent, or a winged fish, or a worm no larger than one's little finger, or a sickly snake undergoing acupuncture, or a Rishi's plaything, or a thousand other varieties of monster, as the fancy took him. That is to say, the mediæval Chinese decorator gave the reins in this fashion to his imaginative faculty. But liberty subsequently became license. The dragon began to appear everywhere in decorative designs, and one grows utterly weary of its unending recurrence on all sorts and kinds of objects emanating from Chinese *ateliers*. The Japanese did not fall into this error, or at any rate they avoided it to a great extent. In their hands the dragon is generally used with judgment and true instinct. Some of their carvings and paintings of it are admirably strong and impressive, and when we find dragons in Japanese decoration they are genuinely decorative. The apprehension that any competent Western critic would withhold praise from a design embodying a dragon, merely because no animal of the kind exists, is purely chimerical. It has been said of the Japanese dragon, as it appears in sculpture and painting, that no such monster could be depicted except by a people persuaded of its existence: faith alone could beget it. Whatever truth there may be in this theory, it is certain that Western reproductions of the Eastern dragon are altogether tame and lifeless affairs. The power of depicting it so as to command admiration and inspire awe is still monopolized by the Oriental, and receives full recognition from Western critics. The same is true in a lesser degree of the phoenix. It has played and still continues to play in Japanese decorative art a rôle at once important and excellent. No more fatal error could be made by the Japanese than that recommended by the *Kokkai's* informant. Half of the blunders into which the art artisans of this country have fallen, and half of the losses they have incurred, are due to an unthinking attempt to adapt their work to Western taste. It would be precisely a cognate error did they try to conciliate Western criticism by modifying their own designs or violating their own canons. What they have to do is simply to follow the bent of their national genius. The world has already endorsed the correctness of their decorative instincts, and has paid them the genuine compliment of imitating their creations. Let them continue to use phoenixes, dragons, *shishi*, and any other mythical creature suggested by their fancy. The more purely Japanese they can be, the better assured will be their success.

BOOKS IN 1891.

THE *Publisher's Circular* (London), and the *Publisher's Weekly* (New York), give some interesting information as to the number and character of books published in Great Britain and the United States during the year 1891. The total number published was 10,371: 5,706 in the former country and 4,665 in the latter: these figures include new editions of standard authors, reprints and translations of foreign books, as well as new original works. Although compelled to admit that American publishers have hitherto been more culpable than their British confrères, yet the latter are not absolutely guiltless in the matter of "reprinting." There are editions of HOLMES' Poems, BRET HARTE'S works, &c., from British presses which were not authorized by the holders of American copyrights, to say nothing of the cheap railway editions of CHATTO and WINDUP, &c.

The following list gives the number of books—or perhaps "works" would be the preferable word, since volumes are, of course, not intended—in the order of their importance:—

In Great Britain.	In United States of America.
Fiction.....1,126	Fiction.....2,105
Educational and Classical.....694	Theology, Sermons, etc.....538
Theological, Sermons, etc.....627	Juvenile.....460
Juvenile.....447	Educational and Classical.....452
Historical, Biographical, etc.....413	Law, Jurisprudence, etc.....348
Year Books and Serials.....316	Historical, Geographical, etc.....335
Voyages and Travels.....271	Arts and Sciences, Illustrated.....334
Belles-lettres, etc.....254	Belles-lettres, etc.....290
Poetry and Drama.....201	Political and Social Economy.....197
Medicine, Surgery, etc.....175	Poetry and Drama.....193
Political and Social Economy.....136	Voyages and Travels.....139
Arts and Sciences, Illustrated.....126	Medicine, Surgery, etc.....108
Law, Jurisprudence, etc.....109	Miscellaneous.....176
Miscellaneous.....731	
5,706	4,665

This tabulated statement is of little value, save for a cursory comparison, because the individual taste of the different compilers asserts itself so plainly, and we have such apparent discrepancies as the absence of "Year-books and Serials" from the American list. Doubtless such were published in the United States, but they appear in some other division, probably in "Arts and Sciences, Illustrated," for only on that hypothesis can we explain the fact that double the quantity, under this division, was printed in America as compared with Great Britain.

The most conspicuous feature of the lists, and that to which we shall first give our attention is the enormous preponderance of fiction—an average of 3.34 per day for Great Britain, and 3.03 for America. In the former country the number of novels published in 1891 nearly equals the whole of all other books; in the latter country it exceeds all others combined. Compared with late years, the total number of works of fiction published in Great Britain last year exceeds by a dozen the number for 1890, by over a hundred that for 1889, but falls a hundred short of that for 1888. In America there were 1,118 books of fiction published in 1890, and previous to that last year's figures had never been approached by over a score.

In America, books for young people are increasing in number—although in 1887 there were 488 of this class of literature published, or 28 more than last year; but in England this class of literature is steadily decreasing, the number last year not being within thirty of the totals of any one of the previous five years.

Comparing various other classes of books given to the world in 1891 from English presses with similar contributions in the immediately preceding years, we find a considerable increase in the number of historical and biographical works, an increase—though not so marked—in books on political and social economy, and in narratives of travels and voyages; a falling off in works relating to theology, volumes of sermons, etc., belles-lettres, and juvenile books. In America more books for young readers were issued in 1891 than for several years before, and the character of these books indicates a greater amount of care and attention to the wants of the young than was dreamt of a few years ago; but in this, as in every other field, the chaff will and must grow with the wheat, and the crop of "blood and thunder" literature increases with other kinds. There is to be noted also a significant increase in the number of books devoted to theological, religious, political, and social questions—a reflection of the popular interest in the theological controversies of the day and in social problems concerning the poor in the great cities of America. Books of description and travel, and historical works show a falling off, while the biographies and memoirs number about the same as in 1890.

The greater number of books upon Law, Jurisprudence, etc., printed in America, is explained by the fact that the acts of each State Legislature are published separately. It would be interesting to know how many of the 348 works are based upon the conflicts which must arise under such a system, and also to learn if any of them consist wholly of legislative enactments.

As the autumnal campaigns of the publishers for 1891 were planned before the International Copyright Law went into effect, it is not possible to draw from the figures for 1891 any inference regarding the results of the operation of that law. The statistics for the current year, however, should bring some interesting facts to light.

Several distinguished literateurs were invited by the editor of *The North American Review* to give an opinion as to the best book of the year (see the *Review* for February, 1892). Sir EDWIN ARNOLD selected EMILE ZOLA'S "La Bête Humaine" which, by the way, was not published in 1891; GAIL HAMILTON, ALEXANDER MACDOUGALL'S "The Maybrick Case," AGNES REPLIER, OSCAR WILDE'S "Intentions;" and Dr. WILLIAM HAMMOND, "The Century Dictionary." Admitting the usefulness of the last, and cutting out the

first as impertinent, we are much puzzled that any of the remaining should have been pitched upon by anyone as *the best*: here in truth the personal equation must have entered very largely.

Although not much is thought of Mrs. WARD'S "The History of David Grieve," in it she went so far beyond "Robert Elsmere" that her book must be in the front rank of novels for 1891. Somewhat ahead of it, we think, should be put BARRIE'S "The Little Minister." BARRIE himself still says it is his best. CARMEN SYLVA'S arrangement of Romanian Folk-song in the volume entitled "The Bard of the Dimbrovitna," and GARRETT'S "Elizabethan Songs in Honor of Love and Beauty," seem to stand out with peculiar sharpness of outline as being essentially different from each other, and decidedly unlike the ordinary stray volumes of poetry. The former is quaintness itself. AGNES REPLIER, who so charmingly praises OSCAR WILDE'S book, has herself contributed two volumes of essays to the numerous books in the Belles-lettres series that are delightful reading—"Points of View" and "Books and Men." JUSTIN WINSOR'S "Christopher Columbus" is a masterpiece of biography, and appeals not alone to Americans.

But how absurd it really is to pick out from over ten thousand books one, one dozen, or one hundred concerning which all readers may be expected to be of one opinion!

THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THE necessity for retrenchment, unhappily so imperative throughout the business world of the East at present, has made itself felt in Japan's big steamship Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. A large reduction of working expenses has had to be effected, and under such circumstances we learn with very great regret that several members of the foreign staff have received their *congé*. The gentlemen concerned are Mr. Y. DUER, Manager of the Department of Foreign Correspondence in the Head Office, Tokyo, and Mr. E. L. JAMES, Clerk in that Department; Mr. S. D. HEPBURN, Assistant Manager of the Yokohama Branch; Mr. J. JOHNSTONE, Foreign Manager of the Stores Department, Yokohama, and Messrs. C. POPE, J. H. DONKER-CURTIUS, and J. M. SCOTT, Clerks in that Department; Mr. PATTERSON, Manager of the Engine Works; Mr. J. MACKENZIE, Engine Shop Foreman; Mr. J. H. MACGREGOR, Foreman Boilermaker; Mr. C. B. CLAUSEN, Foreman Carpenter; and Mr. W. DONALD, of the Superintending Captain's Department. Thus, of a total of 26 foreigners hitherto employed by the Company in Tokyo and Yokohama, 12, or virtually one half, are dispensed with, and a reduction has been made in the salaries of the remainder. Similarly sweep-

ing measures have been adopted, we understand, with regard to the Japanese staff, but the details in their case have not yet been published. So far as we can judge, this proceeding on the part of the Directors is not in any sense dictated by the morbid anxiety to dispense with foreign aid which constitutes a feature of the reactionary impulse swaying Japan at present. The question is simply one of retrenchment. Many factors combine just now to curtail the profits of the Company. The gradual extension of railways, though destined ultimately to bring an increase of goods traffic, inflicts at the outset uncompensated injury by diverting the great bulk of the travelling public from maritime conveyances. This alone must have made an appreciable difference in the Company's ledgers. Further loss has been inflicted by competition on very unequal terms. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha is bound by strict conditions. Its charter forbids it to purchase vessels more than two years old, and requires also that its steamers shall be invariably kept in a very high condition. No such limits or standards operate in the case of other Japanese maritime companies. They are at liberty to employ ships of any age, and they labour under no costly obligation as to a standard of maintenance and equipment. Competition, under such circumstances, is one-sided, and it cannot be doubted that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has suffered by the increase of rivals working on lines so much less costly. Naturally if there were question of attracting passenger traffic, the advantages offered by the steamers of the Yusen Kaisha would bring their own reward; but where goods only are concerned, these hand-to-mouth competitors cannot fail to make their presence inconveniently felt. Added to the above reasons for retrenchment there is the general depression of the times. Comparatively little movement of merchandise is taking place, and in the case of one important staple—fish manure—from the carriage of which a considerable amount of freight is usually derived, the crop this year is so small that an appreciable difference is felt by all public carriers. From many points of view, therefore, the Company is constrained to exercise economy, and as the salaries paid to foreign employés are conspicuously large, we cannot wonder that there should be a tendency to commence retrenchment with them. But it is difficult to avoid a doubt whether the dismissal of men so able and zealous as those we have catalogued above can prove in the long run a really economical measure. Foreigners are by no means chagrined when they see Japan developing ability to manage her own affairs without their assistance. On the contrary, they are disposed to congratulate her on her capacity to be independent. But there are many enterprises to the management

and organization of which Japan was a total stranger before the *Meiji* era. It is no reflection whatsoever on the moral endowments of her people that they should have recourse to foreign aid for the purpose of inaugurating and establishing such enterprises. Indeed we may go a great deal farther, and assert that if, where aid capable of insuring success is available, they failed to employ it because of a sentimental objection to be dependent, then in truth they might fairly be charged with unpractical silliness, and their ability to succeed under any circumstances might be questioned. One of the most valuable forms of human wisdom consists in shrewdness to recognise useful agents and liberality to utilize them freely. This kind of wisdom was possessed in a large measure by the founder of the Japanese mercantile marine. If we saw the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha diminishing their foreign staff gradually and deliberately, dispensing with the services of one here and another there, as the particular functions discharged by the retiring foreigners fell within the range of the acquired competence of their Japanese colleagues, then we could recognise a deliberate and cautiously exercised policy. But when, out of a foreign staff of 26 in Tokyo and Yokohama, we find no less than half swept away at one coup, we are constrained to doubt whether prudence has not been sacrificed to arithmetic. Is it soberly conceivable that all these men were superfluities, or that the various departments in which they were employed became simultaneously competent to dispense with their services? A great potentate once determined the route of a railway by drawing a straight line on the map between its proposed termini. That was a very pretty exercise of autocracy, but a very poor display of business instinct. The retrenchments of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha seem to us to be the work of an accountant guided by a ruler and a ready reckoner, rather than the programme of a prudent and far-seeing directorate. We trust that the interests of the Company will not suffer in the sequel, but we confess that the need of retrenchment suggests much less cause for anxiety than this mode of retrenching.

JAPANESE JUSTICE.

SO far as concerns the prospect of Western intercourse with Japan becoming closer, and so far as concerns the chance of Western peoples laying aside the distrust which holds them from genuine friendship with this nation, it would be difficult to play a more mischievous role than that which the *Hyogo News* is now persistently playing. In several strongly worded and thoroughly assured articles, our contemporary has sought to prove that Japanese judges are wholly incompetent to administer justice, and that the Japanese people are

"utterly incapable of grasping the ideas of Westerns with regard to what constitutes justice." Now everyone will admit, and the *Hyogo News* must be well aware, that a nation could scarcely have a worse character given to it than this. To be "utterly incapable of grasping" any true conception of justice is to be plunged in moral darkness of the crassest description. We doubt whether it would be possible to say a harder thing about any people. A due sense of justice is one of the elementary qualities that are supposed to be inseparable from civilization even in its early stages. If the Japanese be really devoid of such a sense, they must be relegated to a place below that occupied by any non-barbarous people. It becomes, therefore, more than interesting to know on what grounds the charge is advanced, and whether those grounds are in any way sufficient to warrant it. Happily they are not complicated or lengthy grounds. We can set them forth briefly and in such fashion that our readers may follow them without weariness or perplexity. First, then, there is the fact that a Japanese firm in Kobe, having been sued for failure to perform a contract concluded in its name with a third party by a man named WILKINSON, set up the defence that WILKINSON was not the firm's agent and had no authority to pledge it to any bargain. Now this, *qua* defence, is not only perfectly proper, but is also sanctioned by innumerable precedents in Western commercial practice. If WILKINSON was not—and we may add that under the present treaties he could not possibly have been—the lawfully recognised agent of the Japanese firm, then the latter was entitled to repudiate his act. Moreover, no Japanese Court could possibly saddle upon a Japanese firm the responsibility of engagements contracted by such a person. Whether the Kobe people behaved in good faith towards the person with whom WILKINSON had made a contract, we do not pretend to judge. Possibly they behaved in very bad faith. Possibly they took advantage of a technicality to escape a moral obligation. But most assuredly the Court was entirely precluded from ruling that a pledge given by a foreign agent is binding upon a Japanese firm. Yet the *Hyogo News* advances this action of the Court as a proof of the total incompetence of Japanese tribunals to administer justice, and sneers at "the able Judge who allowed such an irrelevant defence to be proceeded with." The second basis of our contemporary's sweeping condemnation is contained in these words:—"In a case now proceeding at the Yokohama Court the sapient Judge actually declared that there was no need to produce certain vouchers because they were only necessary at the time the transfer of the goods by their means took place." This indeed would have been a most singular ruling—so singular that its extreme improbability ought to have occurred to the *Hyogo News*. But the Judge

of the Yokohama Court made no such ruling. What happened was simply this:—The plaintiffs in the Kerosene Oil case asked the defendant to produce certain documents, namely, receipts that had come into the possession of the Warehouse Authorities after the oil entered in the receipts had been entirely delivered out of the Warehouse. The defendant declined to produce these receipts, alleging that some of them had been destroyed. He was naturally unwilling to prejudice his case by producing an incomplete set of documents, when the lacunæ might be used inferentially to his disadvantage. The question then arose, could the Court order the production of the receipts, and it was with reference to this that the Judge gave his ruling. He ruled that he was incompetent to issue such an order, for the obvious reason that the receipts were not of the nature of documents which the defendant had been under any obligation to preserve. They were, in fact, documents of the character of I O U's or exchange bills, which, though of prime importance in the hands of a creditor, become valueless after the liability to which they refer is discharged, and may consequently be destroyed by the debtor after he has recovered possession of them by discharging that liability. A Court of Law cannot order an alleged debtor to produce such documents since he labours under no disability whatever by not possessing them and is under no obligation to possess them. It will be seen that had the *Hyogo News* deliberately applied itself to misrepresent the Judge's ruling, it could not have done so more successfully. The ruling, so far from justifying that journal's sneer or helping to establish its sweeping charge against the Japanese Judiciary, was strictly just and proper. The third basis of condemnation is the recent decision of a Japanese tribunal that a perpetual lease on unchanging terms cannot be recognised by law. At the time when this verdict was rendered, we expressed strong disapproval of it, because, in the absence of any definite legal enactment to the contrary, the plain terms of a contract ought, in our opinion, to be enforced by the Courts. But it is none the less certain that the highest school of Western jurists decline to admit the propriety of perpetual leases. The new Civil Code, compiled from the best materials furnished by the Occident, does not recognise such leases, and makes special provision for converting into terminable contracts any obligation of the kind that may be in existence at the time of the Code's going into operation. The Court, in the absence of a written law, took the guidance of Japanese custom, and in so doing we cannot but think that it erred. As to the principle at stake, however, the indisputable fact is that the future law of the land, a law strictly in accord with Western jurisprudence, was anticipated, though harshly applied, by the

Court. Evidently there is no ground here for alleging that "Japanese Judges have not the slightest idea of what Westerns consider justice." We come now to the fourth basis, which is said "to eclipse even the others in its blundering stupidity." An American tea-exporter of Kobe found one of his coolies standing beside some carts loaded with tea-boxes. He asked the man what he was about, and the reply was:—"I am taking tea into this Chinaman's house by direction of your *banto*, your godown man, and your Chinese tea-boy." On searching the house, six packages of tea were found concealed in the second storey. Now who was the thief in this case? The Chinaman to whom the house belonged, the *banto*, the godown man, the Chinese tea-boy, the coolie, or all the four? We can form no idea. The coolie, however, was arrested and arraigned before the Kobe District Court on a charge of theft. After three days the case was dismissed on the ground of "insufficient evidence." What evidence was furnished? What took place in the District Court? What defence did the man set up? Will it be credited that nothing whatever is known about all this? The proceedings of the Court are a sealed book. They are not published anywhere, and the *Hyogo News* does not profess to know anything about them. Yet, though completely ignorant of everything that transpired in the Court, and therefore obviously unqualified to criticise the verdict, the *Hyogo* journal does not hesitate to declare that this case "eclipses all the others in its blundering stupidity." We, of course, do not pretend to form any opinion as to whether the ends of justice were or were not satisfied, but we do unhesitatingly affirm that a journal which pronounces a sweeping condemnation of the finding of a law Court without knowing anything about the evidence, the pleadings, or the procedure of the Court, offers in its own conduct a flagrant example of the injustice which it is so ready to detect in others.

It is, at the best, weary work to seriously discuss such premises and such conclusions as those of the *Hyogo News*. We have not approached the task with any desire to provoke controversy, but because there is strong general interest in determining whether these sweeping charges of moral deficiency rest upon any really solid ground. Were it demonstrable that Japanese Judges are incapable of administering justice, in the Western sense of the word, and that the Japanese people are without any appreciation of justice, there could be no doubt about the imprudence of entrusting the guardianship of foreign lives and property to Japanese care. Much adverse criticism has been written and spoken about the manner of administering the law in almost every country in the world, and it would be idle to pretend for a moment that Japanese tribunals are faultless. On the contrary, they appear frequently

to deserve censure, and what they deserve, it is well that they should receive. But when we compare the wholesale denunciations quoted above with the exceedingly slender and inconclusive, if not flagrantly erroneous, evidence upon which they are avowedly based, we are bound to say that the charge of injustice seems to be shifted from the shoulders of the accused to those of the accuser. Foreign estimates of Japanese character and capacity must often betray the defect of insufficient information, but may they not at least be preserved from the disfigurement of obvious bias and gross exaggeration?

FOOT-BINDING.

FROM time to time benevolent people address appeals to public sympathy on behalf of the unhappy female children of China. It is not difficult to understand the compassion excited by the pains of these poor little girls. Few of our readers, we should hope, have been so unfortunate as to see the naked foot of an orthodox Chinese lady. But many have probably looked at photographs of that terribly twisted and distorted member, and the sight must have suggested thoughts of barbarous suffering inflicted on a particularly sensitive part of the human body. Year in and year out hundreds of thousands of little girls, throughout the wide empire of China, are subjected to a ruthless process which crushes the bones and wrenches the sinews of their tender feet, until at last a revolting deformity is produced, and the foot, crumpled into a shocking monstrosity, fulfills the dictates of fashion but becomes almost valueless as a means of locomotion. The wretched girl emerges from her period of feverish torture a mutilated cripple, condemned to hobble through life on feet which preserve no semblance of nature's beautiful mechanism, having become as hideous as they are useless. If such abominable cruelty did not occasionally move the world's pity, it would be a far more evil world than it is. At intervals, therefore, the missionary cries out, the traveller writes, and the charitable agitate. But never do the poor little children benefit. For them there remains always the same ruthless bending of bones, the same agonizing application of tight ligatures, the same long months of bitter pain and unavailing tears. It is scarcely conceivable that such things should be wrought upon helpless children even in the most savage communities, but when we reflect that they are perpetrated in a highly civilized country like China, our wonder becomes bewilderment. Perhaps it is to this singular contrast between general refinement and cultivation, on the one hand, and callous cruelty on the other that we must attribute the periodical appearance of apologists for the appalling custom. These people tell us that though the foot is ultimately de-

formed, though the woman is indeed condemned to be little better than a cripple, yet the process is not so very painful after all. The bones are soft, they say, in early youth; the sinews supple. Twisting, crushing, and wrenching are operations that may be performed without much suffering on baby feet, whereas adults would be maddened by the torture. These apologists mean well, no doubt. They seek excuses to palliate the inhuman brutality of a nation. But in truth they belong to that class of indolent moralists whose tendency is to depict things in softened light rather than apply themselves to efforts of earnest reformation. Let no one talk of the yielding character of young bones or the pliability of baby sinews. We have listened with our own ears to the cries of a little girl undergoing the torturing process. Such agonized wails never before fell on our ears. They were the shrieks of a child absolutely wild with suffering. When the ligatures were loosened and the shocking succession of breathless screams ended in long-drawn wails of exhaustion and misery, the listener turned almost sick with horror and sympathy. Yet a mother was the deliberate torturer of the poor baby, and a father callously listened to its heart-broken cries. Think that this fiendish barbarity is being practised daily and hourly throughout the length and breadth of a land containing three hundred million inhabitants. Not alone are the tender bodies of the poor little girls ruthlessly racked and tortured, but the purest sentiment of humanity, the love of parents for their children, is perpetually outraged. Such unnatural cruelty could be tolerated only in the presence of the worst kind of demoralization. How much can survive of the moral beauty of the parental relation when fathers and mothers, in deference to a mere freak of fashion, consent to inflict on their daughters, day after day, torture that well nigh maddens the baby brain and wrings shrieks of excruciating agony from the little lips? This is one of those facts that make us marvel when we hear a great destiny predicted for the Chinese nation. The qualities of the individual Chinaman, the resources of his country, and the arithmetical strength of his race may justify such a prediction. But a people among whom this inhumanity is habitually practised can never climb to an altitude of civilized domination. To contemplate anything of the sort, one must lose all faith in the world's progress. No, in truth, China is not to be feared. She is to be pitied rather, and the nations of the West are to be pitied seeing that they are condemned to helplessly witness the tortures of her girl babies.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE SILK CROP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to the extract in your yesterday's issue from the *Mainichi Shimbun*, about the silk crop, allow me to make a few remarks in support of the views therein expressed. As you justly observe, it has been customary for the native papers in previous seasons to indulge in such utterances which proved afterwards incorrect, and you naturally suspect the same this year. It has been the old cry of "Wolf! wolf!" until he really comes. It is quite certain, I think, that the silk crop will fall short this year, owing to the constant bad weather that prevailed throughout Central and Northern Japan during the time silkworm rearing was in its most critical stages. The delicate creature must have been considerably disturbed in his work not only through the atmospheric conditions, but also because of the difficulty in providing him with the necessary dry mulberry leaf, not to speak of people being much hampered in getting any leaves at all in the almost flooded silk districts. The fears thus entertained as to a bad yield being quite justified, are besides amply illustrated by the fact of the quality of the silk, which is much poorer than usual. It remains also to be proved whether the quality of the silkworm eggs produced by a sickly moth for next season has not been affected. Meanwhile, not only is there 25 per cent. shortage in the Italian crop, but also 25 to 30 per cent. in Japan, with a considerably smaller proportion of good silks, and this accounts for the high prices asked and readily paid.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

SILK REELER.

Yokohama, August 19th, 1892.

KARUIZAWA HAPPENINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—This summer resort in Nagano Ken is becoming quite popular. The number of foreigners enjoying their vacation here at present is one hundred and twelve. To these may be added eight persons summering on Usui Togi Pass, which rises some seven hundred feet above the Karuizawa Plain. People are coming and going all the time, so there will probably not be less than one hundred and fifty foreigners in this place during the heated term.

Parties of eight, fifteen, or twenty, making excursions by moonlight to Asamayama's fiery crater to behold the sun rise, have been frequent this year, and varied, amusing, and intensely interesting have been the experiences of the different parties ascending the volcano at midnight.

Religious services in English, which are largely attended, are held every Sabbath at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m., and at 3 p.m. in Japanese, in the capacious home of Rev. and Mrs. T. M. McNair. Episcopal Services also are conducted at the residence of Archdeacon Shaw every Sabbath morning.

A mid-week meeting for Bible study and conference is held every Thursday evening at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. W. T. Austen.

Arrangements have just been perfected for the first Christian Conference in Karuizawa. It will be opened on Thursday August 25th and continue till September 1st. Rev. R. B. Grinnan of Kobe has been chosen Chairman, Rev. B. Chappell of Tokyo, Vice-Chairman, and Rev. S. Swann of Fukuoka, Secretary of the Conference. The topics are all to be on "Practical Christian Life and Work."

The fact that the foreign residences are located mostly within a small area conspires to produce much sociability. Evening socials, afternoon teas, lawn tennis, ice-cream parties and various social gatherings, form a prominent feature at this resort this season. In fact this may yet become the Long Branch or Saratoga of Japan!

The climax, up to present writing, however, was the musical entertainment given Saturday evening, August 20th, at the house of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Kirby. By 8 p.m. an audience of ninety seven filled every available space in the house. The rooms were beautifully decorated with clematis in full bloom, other mountain flowers and vines, and the festooned flags of England and America. This ornamentation, as also the successful concert itself, was largely due to the skill and energy of Miss Lena Thomas. The entertainment revealed the fact that not a little musical

talent is to be found in Karuizawa this season. While all taking part performed most creditably indeed and highly entertained the audience, two or three deserve special mention.

Mr. T. Seel's rendering of classical music from *Tannhauser* and others was superb. His musical ability is well known to the residents of Tokyo. Miss M. L. Schouler of Tokyo captivated the audience by her rich, mellow, and winning voice in her solos. Her response to the encore and "Comin' thro' the Rye" were exquisitely sung. The recitations by Miss Nellie Hart of Tokyo displayed much historic talent and delighted everyone present. The piece on the famous man-of-war "The Revenge," was ably rendered.

Miss Moulton of Yokohama and Miss Thomas of Tokyo alternately presided at the organ. The two choruses on the programme were delightfully rendered by eight ladies and three gentlemen.

The programme was as follows:—

- Part I.
- 1.—Organ Voluntary.....Miss Moulton.
 - 2.—Chorus....."Hunting Song".....Rev. J. W. Cate.
 - 3.—Solo....."Last night".....Rev. J. W. Cate.
 - 4.—Violin Solo.....Bach.....Rev. W. D. Murray.
 - 5.—Recitation....."The Revenge".....Miss Nellie Hart.
 - 6.—Duet....."Were I a bird".....Miss Thomas.
 - 7.—Guitar Solo....."Spanish Cavalier".....Miss F. E. Porter.
 - 8.—Solo....."Spring" (in German).....Mr. T. Seel.
- Part II.
- 1.—Organ Solo.....Trameter.....Mr. E. Gauntlett.
 - 2.—Solo....."Voices of the World".....Miss M. L. Schouler.
 - 3.—Recitation....."Seminole's Defence".....Rev. J. M. Leonard.
 - 4.—Solo....."Tannhauser".....Mr. T. Seel.
 - 5.—Solo....."Comin' thro' the Rye".....Miss M. L. Schouler.
 - 6.—Recitation....."The Peach".....Miss Nellie Hart.
 - 7.—Violin Solo.....Mendelssohn.....Miss W. D. Murray.
 - 8.—Duet....."I would that my love".....Miss M. L. Schouler.
 - 9.—Chorus....."Good Night".....Rev. J. W. Cate.

I remain, yours sincerely, OBSERVER.
August 22nd, 1892.

YOKOHAMA BALLADS.—NO. 1.

Loquitur victima quodam:—

When companies are bustin', and banks are goin' bung,
An' share quotations fall to freezin' point,
An' Exchange is two an' tenpence, an' poor Silver's dirge is sung,
'Tis sure there's something muchly out of joint.
Two years ago them Companies—or may be it was three—
Like Jonah's gourd o'erspread the Ori'ent,
An' Jonah-wise we rested 'neath their shade full trustfully.
An' now they've nailed our every bloomin' cent.
There's Yokohama Towage hat-in-hand at seventy yen,
An' Club Hotels right down to fifty-five,
The Iron Works are up the spout, while not a single sen
Have the P. P. folks to save their life alive.
In Kobe too the sounds of doul sweep up to Maya's lane,
For Kobe's in a mighty ugly fix,
It wasted all its substance, like a prodigal insane,
On a hō-tel slightly dear at less than nix.
And the only wights that profit by this precious game of pool,
Are vendors and the Devil's own Brigade;
If again I save a stiver—Well, to play the bloomin' fool
For once is quite enough for man or maid.
Chorus boys!
For they've taken my hard-won dollars, an' I'll never see them more,
They've vanished quite away like Nelly Gray;
An' about the whole blamed business I feel un-common sore
But never mind! I've had my little say.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 30, 1892.

A newspaper item stated the other day, that the police of Boise City, Idaho, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., ordered all Japanese residents to leave the city, and that the order was generally complied with. As that is all that I have seen concerning the matter, I can give no explanations.

The August *Atlantic Monthly*, just out, contains an able and interesting article on "Townshend Harris, the first American Minister to Japan," by Dr. W. E. Griffiths. He has also revised Bayard Taylor's "Japan" for an "Illustrated Library of Travel," recently published by Scribner.

Charles S. Sargent, professor of forestry in Harvard College, passed through here the other day en route for Japan.

Three carriages full of Chinamen, under the lead-

dership of Hip Lung, of this city, visited the World's Fair grounds the other day to see "Alice about it."

We have had a "spell" of six consecutive days of very hot weather, when the thermometer was standing in the "nineties," and in some localities reached 100 and even exceeded that figure. The list of fatalities during that hot period was very large; the ambulances and patrol waggons were kept busy, and the hospitals and morgue were crowded. But the night before last a change came with rain and a tremendous fall of the mercury; and every one feels better.

Last Monday (25th) a cyclone swept over the northern part of Philadelphia, and produced damage to the amount of \$200,000 in forty minutes. Houses were demolished or unroofed, and in Philadelphia and Reading shops were razed to the ground.

The same day Bay City, Michigan, was visited by a great conflagration which burned fifty blocks with over 1,300 buildings, and cost about \$1,000,000.

The climax of the Homestead troubles was reached on July 23rd, when an attempt was made to assassinate H. C. Frick, the manager of the Carnegie mills at that place. A young man who had been frequent visitor for a few days at the Company's offices in Pittsburgh, was admitted to Mr. Frick's private room. Two bullet wounds and four gashes from a dagger show how desperate was the attempt, which fortunately has not yet proved fatal. The assailant was one Alexander Bergman, an Anarchist, a Russian Jew. He was taken from school in Russia on account of his radical ideas; and he has recently had some mysterious connection with the infamous Johann Most. Two or three Anarchists, supposed to have been accomplices, have been arrested. It is but fair to state that the strikers disclaim any connection with Bergman, and express the deepest regret over the dastardly attack. But, by their bitter words of condemnation of Frick, they have indirectly, at least, incited such an assault.

Otherwise, things are quiet at Homestead. The mills are running again with a small force. It seems difficult to find men willing to work there; day before yesterday a number of working men, being conveyed there under false pretences, made their escape, after a fight with their conductors, from the train. Several families of the strikers have had to move from the company's houses. The state militia have left with the exception of about 1,000 soldiers, a battery, and a small squadron of cavalry.

According to the directory enumeration made early last month, Chicago has a population of about 1,400,000; and according to the school census just completed the figure should be 1,428,318 (New York City will have to look out!). Chicago has also 455 churches and missions, and 6,445 saloons; she spends \$16,000,000 annually on her regular expenses budget, and \$80,000,000 for intoxicants. Chicago is evidently a great, but wicked, city.

There have been a number of changes recently in our diplomatic service. Gen. Grubb, having resigned as Minister to Spain, is succeeded by A. L. Snowden, till now Minister to Greece, Roumania, and Serbia; and to the latter post comes Truxton Beale (who married a daughter of J. G. Blaine) from Persia. Andrew D. White, ex-President of Cornell University, New York, becomes our Minister to Russia; he is an able and intelligent man and an experienced diplomat, having been once Minister to Germany.

The Presidential campaign has not yet become very warm. The Democratic National Committee has organized, with William F. Harty, of Pennsylvania, as Chairman; Simon P. Shurin, of Indiana, as Secretary (re-elected); and Robert B. Roosevelt, of New York, as Treasurer. There will probably be a branch headquarters in Chicago. Chairman Harty has not held many offices (he has been postmaster of Philadelphia and secretary of state of Pennsylvania); but he has had considerable experience and success in managing campaigns.

The House of Representatives, though so largely Democratic, have shown sympathy with President Harrison in his attitude toward Canada on account of her treatment of American vessels in Willand Canal. The House passed a bill providing that "when the President shall be satisfied that the passage through any canal or lock connected with the navigation of the St. Lawrence River, the great lakes, or the waterways connecting the same, of any vessels of the United States, or of cargoes or passengers in transit to any port of the United States, is prohibited or is made difficult or burdensome by the imposition of tolls or otherwise, which he shall deem to be reciprocally unjust and unreasonable, he shall have the power to suspend the right of free passage through the St. Mary's Falls Canal, so far as it relates to a vessel owned by the subjects of the government discriminating against the United States." The bill has also passed the Senate.

The conference committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives in the early part of this week sent the Sunday civil service appropriation bill back to the two Houses. The House of Representatives again voted not to concur in the Senate amendments increasing the appropriations for the government exhibit, for the Commission, etc.; but finally on July 27th, by a vote of 117 to 105, concurred in the appropriation of \$5,000,000. The House, however, is at present in a deadlock; for the enemies of the World's Fair have ever since that day succeeded by filibustering in keeping the House from proceeding to further consideration of the bill. They seem willing, for the sake of defeating the World's Fair appropriation, to endanger the entire bill which is full of exceedingly important provisions in the form of absolutely necessary appropriations. The filibusters are chiefly Southern Democrats with a few Northern Democrats, but not one Republican. The Farmers' Alliance representatives are also opposed to the appropriation. Reports this morning from Washington stated that the prospects were good for the Fair.

Whatever may be the result, the World's Columbian Exposition will not be, in the least, hindered or hampered. If necessary, Chicago will and can, effect a loan of more than \$5,000,000, and will carry the Exposition to success. But, while Chicago is able to undertake the responsibility, and can pledge no failure, it will unquestionably raise the credit of the Exposition in the eyes of foreign nations to have the United States, by granting this appropriation, assume the responsibility of it as a purely national affair. Congress voted to establish it, and Congress ought now to "see it through." Chicago has done more than she promised, and asks further assistance only because the affair has tremendously outgrown its original plans. The following clipping will give a good idea of its bigness:—

The Paris Exposition of 1889 cost \$5,000,000, the London Exposition of 1883, \$4,300,000, the Vienna Exposition of 1873, \$7,450,000, and the Paris Exposition of 1889, \$6,500,000. The cost of the Columbian Exposition will, it is expected, reach the sum of \$25,000,000.

I visited the Fair grounds this morning, and was again surprised at the rapid progress of the work. As it was too hot to walk around much, I did not get all over "the Exposition city," as it is called; but I went about enough to get a view of the whole thing. Several of the Exposition buildings are practically finished; others are nearly completed; and all the rest are well under way. The immense Manufacture and Liberal Arts building is almost covered. The various State buildings and those of Great Britain and Germany, are in different stages of construction. The recent heat did not hinder work very much; out of 8,000 workmen, only 14 were affected at all, and not seriously. The Fair grounds, so extensive and so lively, may well be called "the Columbian city."

The following explains itself:—

Washington, D. C., July 21st.

The following proclamation was issued this afternoon by the President of the United States of America:

"A proclamation.—Whereas, By a joint resolution approved June 30th, 1892, it was resolved by the senate of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled: 'That the president of the United States be authorized and directed to issue a proclamation recommending to the people the observance in all their localities of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, on the 21st day of Oct., 1492, by public demonstration and by suitable exercises in their schools and other places of assembly:'

"Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, president of the United States of America, in pursuance of the aforesaid resolution, do hereby appoint Friday, Oct. 21, 1892, the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus, as a general holiday for the people of the United States. On that day let the people, so far as possible, cease all toil and devote themselves to such exercises as may best express honour to the discoverer and their appreciation of the great achievements of the four completed centuries of American life.

"Columbus stood in his age as the pioneer of progress and enlightenment. The system of universal education is in our age the most prominent and salutary feature of the spirit of enlightenment, and it is peculiarly appropriate that the schools be made by the people the centre of the day's demonstration. Let the national flag float over every schoolhouse in the country and the exercises be such as shall impress upon our youth the patriotic duties of American citizenship.

"In the churches and in the other places of assembly of the people let there be expression of gratitude to the divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people.

"BENJAMIN HARRISON.

The date of the dedicatory exercises will probably be changed from October 12th to October 21st. How far the public will be admitted to those ceremonies is not yet known; but the press will be generously welcomed. Arrangements are to be made to seat 2,000 persons in the press gallery. This is said to exceed by far all records made in "this or any other country."

The first of the World's Fair Congress to meet will be that of Charities, Correction, and Philanthropy, to be held during the week beginning June 18th, 1893. Ex-President R. B. Hayes will preside. This Congress will be organized in sections as follows:—

1. A section on the prevention and relief of pauperism.
2. A section on the care of neglected, abandoned, and dependent children.

3. A section on the care and treatment of juvenile delinquents of both sexes.

4. A section on the hospital care of the sick, the training of nurses, dispensary work, and first aid to the injured.

5. A section on the commitment, detention, cure, and treatment of the insane.

6. A section on the custodial care and the training and development of idiots and feeble-minded children.

7. A section on the prevention and repression of crime, and the punishment and reformation of criminals.

8. A section on the organization and affiliation of charities in cities, towns, and villages.

9. A section on the introduction of sociology as a special topic of investigation and tracing into the curriculum of institutions of learning.

The W. C. T. U. of this city has adopted a novel way of furnishing a harmless drink to the public. In the post-office building it has set up a penny-in-the-slot machine which supplies wild cherry phosphate!

It is estimated, that the Homestead affair has already (in one month) cost over \$1,000,000, besides the sacrifice of half a score of human lives and serious injuries to many times that number of persons. A few of the items are as follows:—State militia, \$320,000; workmen's wages, \$180,000; Homestead mills on account of idleness, \$180,000; wages of workmen on "sympathy strike" in Beaver Falls, Duquesne, and Pittsburgh, \$100,000; loss to mills at those places, \$100,000. Besides these large matters, there are innumerable small items which will easily bring the total up to \$1,000,000. To offset this, is there any gain?

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., July 27th.

While the home-stayers are sweltering in the dust and heat, and wishing they were richer—just rich enough to travel to the North Pole, the go-aways in some places are flying from ills that beset and annoy. In one watering place, the typhoid fever menaces, the result of impure water, and in another famous resort where are twenty or thirty hotels, small-pox has appeared and the guests are hurrying away. The hotel-keeper who lives on the summer boarder, mourns his lot and mutters, "When the weather favours and drives the people from the city, something's sure to happen to drive them home." The heat in Boston and throughout New England is intense—the highest temperature known, ranging from 96 to 110 in the shade. Sunstroke is frequent and hot weather fevers are on the increase.

The Senate of the United States, as reported in a former letter, appropriated five million dollars for the World's Fair on the condition that the Fair should be closed on Sundays. It was also attempted to add the proviso that no intoxicating liquors be sold in the Fair grounds. This was first adopted by a vote of 28 to 26, but on the next day, several Senators changed their votes, and now liquor will be sold probably on the grounds of the Fair, for the House is not likely to change this. It is provided that liquor shall be sold at restaurants and at meals. The temperance and the prohibition party cry out against this license. It is supposed that the license is given on account of income. But the Fair will get ten millions from the National Treasury, probably more, and since it has ten million dollars from the State of Illinois, it may appear that funds enough are at hand without bidding for the gains that come from the liquor traffic. Providing liquor at meals is the same as selling it all the time, for the man who wishes to drink every hour will have ostensibly as many meal times. That kind of license has been tried in Massachusetts. A man takes a seat at a table calls for pretzel and herring to make him more thirsty and drinks till he is under the table. Although the Sunday proviso has passed the Senate, it has not been acted upon in the house. A great hue and cry has been raised against it. The Germans in Chicago feel the worst. A meeting of German societies called to consider the "evils" of Sunday closing, advise that the appropriation be rejected with "scorn," if given on the condition that the Fair be closed on Sunday. The Germans find it hard work to enjoy themselves without Sunday as a holiday and without beer.

There is prospect of a little "rumpus" with Canada. Our people send their grain crops to the east by lake and canal and by concurrent railways for export. These crops pass in great volume by way of the lakes and canals during the season of water supply, the passage from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario being by the Welland Canal. By our treaty with Great Britain we are entitled to the use of that canal on terms of equality with the inhabitants of the Dominion of Canada. For that we pay a good price. We give in return for equality in the use of the Welland and St. Lawrence canals, the use of the great canals at St. Mary's, connecting Lake Superior with Lake Huron, and the St. Clair flats, connecting Lake

Huron with Lake Erie, upon which the government has expended millions of dollars—more than one million in a single year. But every ton of cargo that passes through the Welland Canal to an American port for export is now charged ten times the toll that is exacted upon the cargo that is to be exported from a Canadian port. To retaliate, a bill has been introduced into the United States Senate providing for a tax of fifty cents a ton to be levied on all Canadian vessels passing through Sault St. Mary canal, that an entrance fee and a clearance fee of fifty cents a ton be levied upon all Canadian vessels entering or leaving our lake ports, that coffee imported by the way of Canada shall be dutiable at eight cents a pound to twelve cents a pound, and that duties on other merchandise imported from Canada shall be double what they are when imported from other foreign countries.

The Department of State at Washington has been exchanging courtesies with the King of Italy. The Italian citizens of New York will present to the United States for the World's Fair a statue of Columbus. This is to come from Italy, and it is now learned that the ship that will bring it will be accompanied by an Italian man-of-war. It is expected that the Italian cruiser will be in New York harbour by the first of October when there will be "ceremonies" in New York incident to the World's Fair.

In June more than 90,000 persons visited the World's Fair grounds. There was a daily average of 3,000, and on one day in May the visitors numbered 12,038. More than one thousand men are at work on the Manufacturer's Building. The total number of workmen employed on the Fair grounds is about ten thousand, and this number will be increased probably that the buildings may be ready for dedication in October.

W. K. Vanderbilt's yacht, *Alva*, was run down on Nantucket Shoals by a steamer and sunk within a few minutes. The yacht cost one million dollars, and was perhaps the most palatial pleasure craft afloat. A thick fog prevailed at the time. Vanderbilt was on board, but escaped with his guests and his crew.

In the last letter an account was given of the strike and the riot in Homestead in the State of Pennsylvania. The troops are still in position. The Carnegie company offered to take back the strikers if they applied on or before a fixed date, but none applied. There is not much sympathy for the strikers. Some of them, experts, working with complicated machinery, earned \$8.40 a day, and none received less than \$2.50 a day. They want the earth. A few days ago, Frick, the manager of the Carnegie Mills was shot and stabbed by a man named Bergman who entered Frick's office for the purpose. Frick received seven wounds, but strange to say he was not dangerously injured and will recover. It is annoying to have these shooting anarchists popping around, but until they have a little more practice with firearms, they will not reduce the population very fast. The man Bergman is a Russian and an anarchist, a loafer and vagabond of the kind of which we have too large a number. The strikers at Homestead have no sympathy for Bergman and declare that he has no connection with them. Bergman glories in his work and expresses regret that he did not kill Frick.

A member of the militia at Homestead, when he heard that Frick had been shot, threw up his hat and cheered. He was strung up by his thumbs left to meditate a while, and then was drummed out of camp. Other mills of the Carnegie company are now closed on account of the workmen leaving, not because they are dissatisfied with wages, but out of sympathy with the Homestead strikers. The fight begun with capital may be long and may involve concurrent interests. It is reported that railway men will strike and leave their trains wherever they happen to be, if the railway companies attempt to transport the products of the Carnegie Mills.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, July 19th, 1892.

During the absence of the Emperor on his cruise to the North, the Press controversy between Bismarck and the government is continuing with increased hostility. Whilst in the beginning only the semi-official papers were engaged on the government side, there have now appeared publications in the *Reichsanzeiger* or Imperial Gazette, which show that the government has at last adopted the plan of openly repulsing its adversary by documentary evidence. The official paper, in its issue of the 7th instant published despatches which throw considerable light on the origin of the

present feud and the conciliatory views of the Emperor. It is worth while to give the documents in extenso, as showing not only the attitude taken up in the beginning by the Imperial Government, but also because they give an insight into the manner in which delicate diplomatic matters are managed by the Imperial Foreign Office. The first despatch is an identical letter of instructions to all German and Prussian missions, dated the 23rd May, 1891. It is as follows:—

"Your Excellency (or the corresponding title of the Chef de Mission) will not have failed to notice that the present views and sentiments of Prince Bismarck, Duke of Lauenburg, were recently publicly brought forward in the Press. His Majesty's Government in taking into consideration to the fullest extent the immortal services rendered by the great statesman, have hitherto adopted the course of keeping silent as long as these statements had reference only to personal affairs or to questions of internal policy. From the moment, however, when they began to embrace questions connected with our foreign policy, it became imperative on H.M. Government to examine whether the continuance of silence on our part might not be falsely interpreted or become detrimental to our foreign relations.

"His Majesty the Emperor is, however, of opinion that a gradually calming down of the present attitude of Prince Bismarck may be looked forward to, whilst in the meantime the actual [i.e. insignificant] value of the statements appearing in the public papers, will be more and correctly appreciated abroad. In consideration of the fact that the reports of the subjective opinions of the Prince are not only more or less incorrectly rendered by his interviewers but appear sometimes intentionally misrepresented; and in view of the fact that they were sometimes confided to persons of undoubted hostility to Germany, it is to be assumed that they cannot produce any lasting injury on our foreign relations. His Majesty distinguishes also between the Bismarck of former times and the Bismarck of to-day, and is entirely averse to any steps being taken by His Imperial Majesty's Government which might to any extent tend to lower the high estimation in which our greatest statesman is held by the German nation.

"In authorizing your Excellency to express yourself in conformity with the above, whenever it would seem necessary, I beg to express the hope that the government to which you are accredited will, on its part, not attach any real value to the Press accounts of Prince Bismarck's opinions."

The above instructions were given at the time when Bismarck was entering upon his Press campaign against the Government. Then came a time of calm and a suspension of hostilities, and soon after followed the engagement of Count Herbert to Countess Hayos, his report of the interesting fact to the Emperor, and His Majesty's gracious reply. He was expecting a reconciliation, and doubtless some of the friends of Bismarck were anxious to bring it about. What the difficulties were has not transpired, though it is not improbable that Bismarck refused to take the first step, and demanded a reinstatement in the Imperial Council. But matters were not by any means so easy of settlement, as the following Despatch shows:—

This document, dated the 9th June, 1892, was addressed to Prince Reuss, the Imperial Ambassador at Vienna. It is worded:—

"With reference to the projected marriage of Count Herbert Bismarck in Vienna, I have the honour, consequent upon a personal report to His Majesty, to inform your Serene Highness to the following effect:—With respect to the rumours of a rapprochement between Prince Bismarck and his Majesty, there is wanting in the first place the essential condition of an initial step being taken by the ex-Chancellor himself. This rapprochement however, if it took place at all, could never reach the extent of giving any grounds to public opinion to assume that Prince Bismarck had again gained any influence whatsoever on the conduct of public affairs. Should the prince or his family think it proper to approach your Serene Highness, I request you to confine yourself in return to the necessary conventional forms only, and to avoid accepting any invitation to the wedding. This instruction for your conduct applies also to the members of the Embassy. I beg to add that His Majesty intends to take no notice of the wedding. Your Highness is authorized to take such means as you may think expedient to give immediate communication of the above to Count Kalnoky."

"Signed

Count v. CAPRIVI."

This communication was undoubtedly made, and when Bismarck applied for an audience of the Emperor of Austria he found the doors closed. It is useless to conjecture whether the Emperor would have received him without this communication, but it is at any rate highly improbable.

On the other hand, the mortification and rage of the former Diplomatic Dictator of Europe are not difficult to understand, though not easy to excuse. The outburst of popularity which met him step by step, the demonstrative enthusiasm which the crowded masses around his carriage showed in every city he entered, and at every railway station he passed through, gave him a false idea of power and influence which in fact he had altogether lost by the disgrace he has fallen into. In a cooler mood he would have maintained the dignified silence observed by him in Berlin, but, just at the time he was smarting under the blow of being refused an audience of the Austrian Emperor, the interviewers came upon him and he could not close his angry lips. Hence the disclosures, grievances, and personal attacks on his successor. Hence the contradictions of his former statements in which he had fully admitted the gentlemanly character and fair play of Count Caprivi. Thus the breach widened between the present and former chancellors, and what is still worse between a master of whose generous and conciliatory tendencies there is full evidence, and a well deserving servant whom the German nation had raised to the pedestal of a national idol. It would be altogether wrong to attribute the motives of these popular demonstrations to a protest against the new régime. They simply showed a feeling of pity with the old man whom many thought hardly used. But this feeling must be dying away in face of the documentary evidence that the Emperor did everything he could to preserve the ex-Chancellor from exposure and public disappointment, and that it was only his continued bitterness and wanton hostility against his successors that brought on him the painful consequences, which he has himself correctly described as a kind of "boycotting." Supposing even that the Emperor of Austria was influenced to refuse receiving Bismarck, and admitting also that a sort of political boycotting was established against him wherever he went—it may be fully justified by the fact that a man of the enormous influence and power of the ex-Chancellor, being in the most aggravated of tempers, could scarcely be trusted to run from Count to Count, sowing perhaps by his ill restrained invectives against his successor seeds of doubt and distrust which could scarcely promote the objects of peaceful harmony or the interests of the fatherland.

The only straight and open course for Bismarck was to make use of his parliamentary privileges in the Reichstag. But here he lacks the first essential of a leader of opposition, namely, a party. All through his long and successful political career he not only failed to form a parliamentary Party, but did his best to reduce the influence which such a body could exercise on the Government. Of the four great parties in the Imperial Parliament he formed by his superior ability combinations and instruments for his policy, and they were willing, not to say yielding, enough to accept the position which it pleased him to attribute to them.

The only party that was always in opposition, and which he fought from the beginning of his career to the last day he was in office, is the "Freisinnige" or liberal party; the only party which now remains in opposition though much calmed down since Bismarck's retirement. It would indeed be a matter of humiliation to the great statesman if he was forced now to associate himself with their tactics. Besides it would be absolutely out of the question for him to do so, for of all his former political antagonists, and there are many of them, none have preserved such a good memory of his persecutions as this party, and its press organs contribute everything in their power to increase the breach between him and the Government. To rise unsupported in Parliament in order to attack the Government "en vizière ouverte" would in all probability be to the former leader of Germany's destinies the greatest of all the disappointments he has yet suffered.

INQUEST.

We received information on Wednesday morning that Mr. Drummond Anderson had been found in his bath in a semi-unconscious condition with his throat cut, but at that time he was still alive, surgical aid having been at once obtained and the wound stitched up. He had sustained the loss of an immense quantity of blood, however, and only lingered a few hours when placed in bed after everything was done for him that doctors and nurses could do. On his death being brought to the notice of the British authorities, Mr. R. de B. Layard, acting as Coroner, summoned as a jury Messrs. Showler, Russell, and Bunting, but the latter, mistaking the hour mentioned by the summoning officer, did not appear in time, and his place was taken by Mr. Hay, when the following evidence was given:—

Edwin Wheeler, M.D., sworn, said—I was called at about 25 minutes to 9 by a coolie to come quickly to No. 43, Bluff. I was met in the hall by a boy who told me to go upstairs, who conveyed me to a bath-room off Mr. Anderson's room, where I found him sitting in a tub of water and blood and a large gash in the left side of his neck about three inches below the left ear. The wound measured between 4 and 5 inches, and was gaping considerably. Just immediately after I got into the bath-room the Staff Surgeon of the German Hospital arrived and told me he had brought the instruments. We had him conveyed out of the bath-room and placed on the bed, and Dr. Kunknitz and I proceeded to ligature the different bleeding vessels. When we lifted him on to the bed he was quite pulseless, but rallied somewhat after the hypodermic injection of some ether. This went on until a little before eleven, when life began to flicker and then expired—about a quarter to 11 I think. I may say he was entirely unconscious from the time I saw him, and he must have been bleeding for some time judging by the clots of blood—it may have been as long as twenty minutes or half an hour. Dr. Kunknitz had one of the hospital nurses there all the time until he died. There were no signs of blood outside the bath, but on the sides and inside. He was sitting on the round part of the bath as if on an arm chair with the blood oozing out of the wound at every breath he took. The wound was self-inflicted, and on draining the bath the boy found a razor in the bottom of it. I was there when the boy found it. (Razor produced and handed in.)

To Mr. Showler—The door of the bath-room was open when I came, but I don't know who found out the matter first.

To Mr. Hay—He had nothing on but the trouser part of his pyjamas—otherwise he was perfectly naked.

To the Coroner—I have known the deceased all the time he has been here. He has been here about 17 or nearly 18 years. He came here in 1874. He never gave me cause to think he was mentally deranged. He complained about being tired and unwell, and I advised him to go into the country for ten days. I have always attended him, but have given him no prescription for some months, except on one occasion when he complained of head-ache about six weeks ago. He thought he had got a slight attack of the sun. I made him keep quiet and he got all right again.

Charles G. Conyngham, sworn, said—About 8.30 this morning I was in my bath-room in this house when Mr. Lionel, Mr. Anderson's son, came and told me that his father was in his bath and had cut his throat. I immediately went with him to his father's room, and there I saw his father in his bath with his throat cut. After that I told the house boy to fetch the Doctor of the German Hospital, because it was the nearest place where there was a doctor. About ten minutes after, the German doctor arrived, when I showed him up to Mr. Anderson's room. From that time, with the exception of about half an hour, I remained in Mr. Anderson's room until he died.

To the Coroner—When Mr. Lionel called me the room doors were open, but no one was there when I went in. The deceased was sitting in his bath with his back against the side. I should say he was perfectly unconscious. The bath was an oval one of wood—a Japanese one. The sides of the bath came up to about his shoulder blade.

To Mr. Showler—Mr. Anderson never spoke.

To Mr. Russell—I think he shaved himself every morning.

To Mr. Hay—Mr. Anderson was in no way moved, as he was in the same position when Dr. Wheeler saw it as when I saw it.

To the Coroner—My first impression was that of a cut by a knife. I could see no weapon. The deceased's hands I think, when I saw him, were on the edges of the bath, but of this I can't be perfectly certain.

To Mr. Showler—My opinion is that the wound was self-inflicted, but I have no reason to suppose so beyond the fact that nobody was in the room before I went in. The last time I saw Mr. Anderson alive must have been ten days ago. I am a resident in the house, but within the last ten days I have not seen him in the house myself, but he may have been here.

William Bourne, sworn, said—I live here, but my daughter is the proprietress of the house. About 8.30 this morning, I heard Lionel, the deceased's son, calling out excitedly for the boy. I called out to Mr. Conyngham to ask him what was the matter. He said, "Come upstairs, there's something the matter with Mr. Anderson," or words to that effect. Others went up with him into the room and saw the deceased in his bath with his throat cut. We had some talk as to what to do, and found out the doctors had been sent for. I went out as far as the German Hospital gate and met the doctor, who

said he would come as speedily as possible, which he did, bringing with him two hospital nurses and his instruments. Dr. Wheeler arrived almost as soon as the German doctor. He was taken out of the bath, placed on the bed, and the doctors proceeded to dress the wound. I went down town on business, and came back a little before eleven, when I found him dying.

To the Coroner—The deceased was quite unconscious when I saw him in the morning. I did not see him the night before. The last time I saw him was about 4 or 5 days ago. I remember distinctly asking him then whether he was going to have breakfast, when he replied he was going to Schwabe's to have breakfast. Since then I have not seen him till this morning. Sometime previously I heard him complain about the work in the office. I never noticed that he was in any way deranged, but he complained of overwork. I noticed nothing excitable in his manner.

To Mr. Russell—I know of no reason why he should not have come home. I presume he came home every night, but cannot say for certain whether he was away every night. For about a week I don't think he has been here for his meals. Thought it strange, but had no reason to think so. I can't think of any trouble that would have led him to commit suicide.

To the Coroner—I knew of no troubles that may have been on his mind.

Herbert William Bell, sworn, said—I am employed in Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s office. I arrived here about two months ago, but have known Mr. Anderson for three years. I saw him yesterday afternoon at the Club at 5.30. He was very well then. I had about 10 minutes conversation with him, and arranged to go to the circus to-night. He did not seem at all excited, but particularly well. He complained of too much work when I first arrived. He seemed to be a little depressed at times. He spoke of not enough time to do the work in the office. He used to complain about his head troubling him sometimes.

Lionel John Crossley Anderson, sworn, said—I was going down to the office at about 8.20, when I heard a noise in my father's room. Wondering why he hadn't gone down yet, I went in and I saw him sitting in his bath with his neck cut. I then came downstairs and finding no one in this room (dining room) I called the boy. Then knowing that Mr. Conyngham was upstairs, I went to him and called him. After that I went again into my father's room. Soon afterwards Mr. Thompson and the boy came in. I left them and went to the German Hospital. I called the doctor, and then stayed downstairs and did not see my father after that. Mr. Thompson is a lodger in this house.

To the Coroner—By the noise I heard I mean the sound of snoring. When I went into the room the door leading to the passage was closed; the bath-room door was shut to, but not closed. Lately my father has gone down early—he left the house about 7.30. I have not been in the habit of going into his room before he was fully dressed. I did not see him yesterday, the last time I saw him I think was Saturday. Can't say whether he was the same or not, as I only saw him a short time.

Dr. Wheeler, recalled, in answer to Mr. Hay—I don't think anything could be done pending the arrival of the doctors. Others could do nothing, seeing that ligatures were necessary. When we lifted him up, he seemed to be entirely drained of blood. The cause of death was hemorrhage, and consequent heart failure occasioned by a wound in the throat. There were no other wounds on the body. There was no possibility of its being an accident. The wound gaped so much it looked shallow, but it had cut right through the sterno-mastoid muscle and the external jugular vein, besides wounding many smaller vessels, but the main artery, the carotid, was untouched.

The Coroner then addressed a few words to the jury, who found as follows:—

We find that Drummond Anderson died between the hours of ten and eleven o'clock in the forenoon of August 24th, 1892, at No. 43, Bluff, Yokohama, from a wound caused by a razor; that said wound was inflicted by his own hand while in a condition of temporary insanity.

How few women who like oxtail soup know that the dainty was first invented by the aristocratic emigrants who came to London at the time of the French Revolution. They were very poor, but soup is a necessity to the Gallic stomach. In those days, when the English butchers slaughtered beef, they were accustomed to throw away the tails with the refuse. The French women had the bright idea of buying the tails, since they could get them for next to nothing, and making soup of them. And thus they gave to England the popular oxtail soup, which Englishmen now consider an essential national dish.

CO-OPERATION IN CHINA.

I.

The principle of co-operation is one which enters largely into the life of the nations of the West, and although within the present century it has produced wonderful fruit, it is probable that other and even more important of its results are to be witnessed in the not distant future.

There is reason to suppose that the Chinese were practically familiar with the principle of co-operation, at a time when the communities which ultimately developed into what are now the great nations of the West, were still in a primitive state. The Chinese discovered for themselves this principle as they discovered gunpowder, the art of printing, and the compass. In the application of all the latter discoveries, they have been greatly surpassed by the men of the West, but in China co-operation so far as it goes, possesses a quality of efficiency which is not equalled by anything to be found in Occidental lands. In what it is able to accomplish, as well as in what it fails to accomplish, Chinese co-operation is an interesting study, likely to repay the attention which may be bestowed upon it, by those who are interested in the China people. Hitherto this subject appears to have attracted the attention of foreigners in China, mainly in its commercial aspects. An interesting paper on "Chinese Guilds or Chambers of Commerce, and Trades Unions" by Dr. D. J. Macgowan, was printed in the Journal of the China Branch of Royal Asiatic Society (Vol. XXI, No. 3, 1886), in a footnote appended to which, may be found references to many reports, and articles more or less relevant to this branch of our topic, by commissioners of Customs, consuls, sinologists, and publicists. An elaborate essay on the Commercial law of the Chinese was published several years since in the *China Mail*, and reprinted during the past year.

Fully to comprehend the workings of co-operation in China, is to understand fully the Chinese and all their ways, a task to which not only no one foreigner, but no combination of foreigners is as yet equal. Without attempting anything so rash as a comprehensive account of Chinese co-operation, it is sufficient to offer a few notes upon this broad topic. The reader will bear in mind, that as was long ago remarked by Mr. T. T. Meadows, a "note" upon a subject is by no means a full account of it, and he will no doubt be able to amplify or to correct such examples of Chinese co-operation as may be hereinafter cited. The Chinese share with the rest of the human race, a desire to make a marriage ceremony an occasion of joy. One of the most frequent periphrases for a wedding, is the expression "joyful event." It is in China pre-eminently true that the highest forms of "joy," find expression in eating. While marriage feasts are no doubt to be found in all lands at all times, they are especially Oriental, and are characteristic of the Chinese. Owing to the extent and the intricate ramifications of Chinese relationships, the number of persons who must be invited to a wedding is very large. In some regions it is customary for women only to contribute a "share" (*feitsau*) to a wedding, while the men give a present at that part of the ceremony when the bridegroom salutes the guests in turn with a prostration. As the name of each guest is called to be thus honoured, he hands over the amount of his offering. But in other places men and women contribute in the same way. Of two things, however, one may be confident; that nearly all those invited will be present either in person or by a representative; and that nearly every woman will be accompanied by children, who contribute nothing to the revenues, but add enormously to the expenses. Marriage customs in China certainly vary widely, but of such a thing as being present at "the ceremony," but not at "the wedding breakfast," we have never heard. Indeed, it can scarcely be said, that in our sense of the word, there is any "ceremony." Whatever may be added or subtracted from the performances, the essence of a Chinese wedding seems to consist in the arrival of the bride at her future home. The "feast" is the main feature of the occasion. Sometimes the relatives are not invited at all upon the wedding day, but at a subsequent one, yet it is not the less true that when the guests do come the "feast" is the centre and soul of the occasion. If there is anything which the Chinese have reduced to an exact science, it is the business of eating. The sign of real friendship is to invite a man to a meal, and it is a proverbial saying that he who comes bearing a vessel of wine on his shoulder, and leading a sheep, is the truly hospitable man, for he shows by his acts that his invitation is a real one. The great mass of the Chinese spend their days in a condition which is very remote from affluence, but the expenses of weddings and funerals in the mere matter of eating, are such as must, from the extent of such expenses and the frequency of the occasion which they are required,

reduce any but a very affluent family, to utter poverty. Under the pressure of these inexorable circumstances, the Chinese have long ago an application of the share principle, by means of which wedding and funeral feasts become quite practicable, which would otherwise remain an utter impossibility. It can seldom be known with certainty how many guests will attend a wedding, or funeral, but the provision must be made upon the basis of the largest number likely to appear. Each guest or rather each family is not only expected, but by a rigid code of social etiquette required, as already mentioned, to contribute to the expenses of the occasion by a "share." This will sometimes be in food, but the general practice is to bring money, according to a scale which is perfectly understood by every one. The amount varies greatly in different places, from a trifling sum of the value of about five or six cents, up to a quarter of a dollar, or more, according to the degree of intimacy between the persons, and the ability of the guests to contribute. In some parts of China, the ordinary amount taken to such a feast, seems to be twice as great as in others. Sometimes the standard is so well understood, that the phrase "a share," has a local meaning as definite as if (for example) the sum of two hundred and fifty cash were expressly named.

In some places while the rate of "a share" for a funeral is two hundred and fifty cash, that for a wedding is just double. This is because the food at a funeral is "plain" (*shu*), while that for the wedding is of meat (*huu*) and much more expensive. It is not uncommon to find that "a share" for a person who comes from another city or district is two or three times that of a native of the place where the feast is given. To give only the same as a native would do, would for the person from a distance, be considered as a loss of "face"!

It is a characteristic example of Chinese procedure that the sums contributed upon occasions of this sort, are seldom in reality what they profess to be. If local custom considers ninety-eight or ninety-six cash as a hundred, the temptation to put in a less number as a contribution is generally too strong to be resisted; the more so, as in the confusion of receiving the numerous amounts, it is generally difficult to tell which particular string of cash was sent in by which persons, although the amounts are all entered in an "account," to be presently noticed. Those householders who are very anxious to keep exact track of the relative honesty of the respective contributors, sometimes do so, by having ready a long cord to which each successive sum of cash is tied by its string, after for the sum is entered on the account. When the proceedings are ended, it will then be possible the master of the house to go over the multitudinous strings of cash, ascertaining how much each one is short, and tracing it to its donor by its place on the cord, corresponding to the order of entry in the account-book. But this plan is not regarded with favour by the guests and is not generally adopted, if for no other reason because it makes so much trouble. The advantage of it is, that it enables the householder to pay off the debt to the family which gave short cash, at exactly the same rate, whenever they invite him to a wedding or a funeral. It is worth noticing also, that this practice of making deductions from contributions applies not only to the sums paid at weddings and funerals, but in like manner to subscriptions to temples. In some places it is well understood, that though each guest contributes "a share" of two hundred and fifty cash, it will take five "shares" to make a thousand, since every "hundred cash" is in reality only eighty.

II.

In cities and large towns, the business of managing a wedding or a funeral feast, is conducted much as it would be in any country of the West. A food shop contracts to deliver so many bowls of food, of a definite quality and at a fixed price. Provision is also made for additional supplies should the number of guests be unexpectedly great. But if the feast is to be on a large scale, it is not unlikely that the cooking will be done on the premises by the provisional caterers. It is usual to speak of an affair of this sort as embracing so many feasts, a "feast" denoting not a single individual, as might be supposed, but the number who can sit at one table. This number, like everything Chinese, varies in different places. Sometimes it is eight, and the phrase, "eight fairy table" is the common designation of the articles of furniture required for the purpose. In other regions all the tables are of the same size and shape as these, one side is left open for convenience of passing the food, and a "feast" signifies six persons only. When the feasts are provided by contract, the establishment also furnishes waiters, who convey the food to the guests, and to these waiters a small gratuity is given at the original feast. But the number of fami-

lies who are within reach of facilities such as these, is but a small proportion of those who are obliged to arrange for feasts at weddings and funerals. For those to whom no such resource is open, there is no other way but to put the matter into the hands of experts of great experience in such matters, a class of persons to be found everywhere. Every village or group of villages can furnish a professional cook, who devotes the most of his time to the conduct of affairs of this sort. If he is a man of wide reputation, and employed by rich families, he will have a number of assistants who work under his direction, all of whom at the close of the feast will be rewarded with suitable gratuities. The staff of persons into whose hands the business of arranging for a feast is committed, is divided into three departments or committees, the Stewards (*chih fang*), the Culinary Department (*ch'u-fang*), and Finance Department (*chang-fang*). Each of them is a check upon the other two, although in the smaller and less expensive affairs, all three will naturally run together and be merged in a single head. The Stewards purchase such supplies as are supposed to be necessary, embracing the best which the local market affords. In the northern part of the China, the two items which are most expensive, are wheat bread-cakes (*man-t'ou*) and wine. If the accommodation of the dwelling admit of it, the articles which have been bought for the feast, are placed in a separate apartment, under the exclusive charge of one of Stewards, by whose order alone can anything be paid out to the kitchen, on demand of the head cook. But in practice it is found that at this point there is always a serious leak, for many of the relatives and neighbours of the family which is to have the feast, will send over their children to the store-room to "borrow" a few bread-cakes, or a few cups of wine. For a steward to refuse (as a foreigner would be likely to do), is to incur the ill-will of the family which wishes to "borrow," and the only advantage to the Steward would be that he would to reviled, which no Chinese relishes. As a matter of practice therefore, it is customary to "give to him that asketh," and from him that would "borrow" not to turn away, even though, as the old English saying runs, "Broad things are cut out of other people's leather." It not infrequently happens that the Stewards who are in charge of the entertainment, are smokers of opium, in which case the expenses are sure to be much heavier than otherwise. It has also come to be a custom in some regions, to furnish opium to the guests at weddings, and this may become an item of a very elastic nature. Besides this, a man who smokes opium, is naturally incapacitated from taking even ordinary care of the stores under his charge. If he is himself a smoker, and if opium is one of the articles provided for the occasion, it will not be strange if all his opium-smoking comrades embrace the opportunity to visit him, when the must be invited to take a pipe—of course at the expense of the master of the ceremonies. The disappearance of wine and bread-cakes, on occasions of this sort, even before a single bowl of food has been set before a guest, suggests the evaporation of water on a hot summer day. It was reported to the writer not long since, that on the occasion of a funeral in a neighbour's about sixty catties of wine vanished, without leaving behind any trace of its devious course. The reason for such occurrences, which are of universal notoriety, is not that the stewards are not able to do that which they are set to do, nor is the explanation necessarily to be found in their indifference to the interests of the host. The real seat of the difficulty is, that every family sufficiently well-to-do to have a large feast, is surrounded with a swarm of poor relatives, who have no other opportunities than these to make their connection of any service to themselves, and who on such occasions are determined not to be ignored. A poor family of the same surname as the host, will stand at the door of the mansion where a great feast is in preparation, with bowls in hand, demanding that a share of the good things in course of being served shall be apportioned. Even if the master of the house should absolutely refuse his consent, and if the Stewards should follow his directions, and give nothing, it would be of no avail, for the poor family would raise such an uproar as practically to prevent further proceedings, and all the guests would take the part of the poor relatives, exhorting the host to give them what they asked. The habit of levying tribute upon those who happen to be in a position to pay it, is, as already remarked, deeply rooted in Chinese life. To what this practice leads, may be seen in the extreme cases of which one now and then hears, such as the following detailed to the writer, by the principal sufferer. A man had a dispute with one of his uncles about a tree, the value of which did not amount to three thousand cash. As he was a person without force of character, and unable to get

his rights, he was obliged to 'eat loss.' This enraged his wife to such an extent that she hung herself. It was now open to her husband to bring a suit at law, accusing the other party of 'harrying to death' (*pi-sui*) the deceased wife. Perhaps this would have been the best plan for the injured husband, the 'peace-talkers' persuaded him to compromise the matter for a money payment. The other party had a powerful advocate in a relative who was a notorious black-leg expert in law-suits, and who freely gave his advice. Even under these advantages, the middlemen into whose hands the matter was put, decided that the uncle should pay thirty thousand cash to the family of the woman, as a contribution to the funeral, which was done. It is not usual to make much parades, unless the sum to be expended is exacted from those who are supposed to have impelled to the suicide. In this instance, half the amount paid would have been amply sufficient for the funeral and for all its expenses. The 'family friends' of the husband, uncles, cousins, nephews, etc., took charge of the proceedings, which they contrived to drag out for more than a week, and when the funeral was over, the husband whose crops had been that year totally destroyed by floods, ascertained that these 'family friends' had not only made away with thirty thousand cash awarded as a fine, but that he was saddled with a debt of immediate urgency amounting to twenty thousand more for 'bread-cakes' and 'wine,' which had been consumed 'as alleged' by the 'family friends' during the protracted negotiations. The clear accounts of the expenditure were not to be had, and the only thing of which the poor husband was sure, was that he was practically ruined by his 'family friends.'

It is always taken for granted by the Chinese, that any family rich enough to spend a large amount of money on the funeral of a parent, will be mercilessly pillaged on that particular occasion. The reason for this is, that at such a time the master of the house (theoretically) overcome by grief, and ordinary propriety requires that he himself should take no part in the management of affairs, but should give his exclusive attention to the mourning rites. Even though he clearly perceives that everything is going wrong, he must act if he were blind, and deaf, and also dumb. Long practice has made the Chinese very expert in such an accomplishment, which, it is needless to say, would be for an Occidental difficult, not to say impossible. If the householder is a man for any reason generally unpopular, his disadvantages will be greatly increased, as is illustrated by the following case, narrated to the writer by a man who lived within two miles of the village in which the event occurred.

A wealthy man lost his father, and made preparations for an expensive funeral. He took a hundred strings of cash in a large farm-cart, and went to a market to buy swine to be slaughtered for the feast. On the way he was waylaid by a party of his own relatives, and robbed of all the money, in such a way as to render recovery of it hopeless. Having afterwards bought four swine and an ox (a most generous provision for the feast), the arrangements were put into the hands of managers (*tsung-ti*), as usual. These persons found themselves wholly unable to restrain the raids upon the stores by 'friends,' neighbours, and others, and the night before the funeral was to occur, thieves broke into the 'store-room' and carried off every scrap of meat, leaving nothing whatever for the feast. The managers were frightened and ran away. The feast was of necessity laid with nothing but vegetables, and was of a sort to bring the householder into disgrace. As a result he was afraid to try to have any more funerals, and there are at present in his premises two unburied coffins awaiting sepulture, perhaps by the next generation. It is the duty of the committee which looks after the finances, to take charge of all sums which may be brought by the guests, and to keep a record of the amount paid by each. This is a matter of great importance, as every such contribution occupies the double position of a repayment of some similar gift to the family of the giver, by the family which now receives the gift, and also a precursor of similar return gifts in time to come. The amount which is sent by each person will depend upon the relations existing between the families, and especially upon the amount received by them on some former similar occasion. To disregard the unwritten code which demands from guests proportional contributions, is regarded as a grave offence against decorum, because of its serious consequences to the family concerned in diminishing their receipts. To attend a feast, but not to bring any contribution, either in money or in kind, seems to be practically unknown, though it constantly happens that the quantity of food which on certain occasions may be substituted for money, is less than half of what is eaten by the donor. This is especially the case when the giver

is a woman, who, as already mentioned, is likely to bring one or more voracious children, who must be pacified by food at every stage of the performance, their capacities being apparently absolutely unlimited.—*N. C. Daily News.*

BASEBALL.

A game at baseball was played yesterday between teams from Yokohama and the U.S.S. Marion, when the latter made an awful example of the residents—14 to 3. It is true that the beaten side has had little or no practice for a considerable period, but probably the same might be urged on behalf of the victors. Details are appended:—

Marion.		Pos.	Bat.	Runs.	P.O.	A.
Mr. Nalis	.....	SS	6	0	0	0
Mr. Dixon	.....	2B	0	3	0	0
Mr. Maloney	.....	3B	0	1	0	0
Mr. Block	.....	LF	0	1	0	0
Mr. Everett	.....	CF	5	1	0	0
Mr. Anderson	.....	RF	5	0	0	0
Mr. Kelliber	.....	P	0	3	0	0
Mr. Mehrrens	.....	RF	4	2	0	0
Mr. Conroy	.....	C	5	1	16	0
Total	.....		14	3	16	0

Yokohama.		Pos.	Bat.	Runs.	P.O.	A.
Mr. Smith	.....	1B	4	2	0	0
Mr. Nash	.....	2B	4	0	0	0
Mr. Howard	.....	3B	4	0	0	0
Mr. Stone	.....	LF	4	0	0	0
Mr. Tilden	.....	CF	4	0	0	0
Mr. Belshaw	.....	P	3	0	0	0
Mr. Shirasu	.....	C	3	0	10	0
Mr. Morse	.....	RF	3	0	0	0
Mr. Gibbs	.....	SS	3	1	0	0
Total	.....		3	3	10	0

INNINGS.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Marion	.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yokohama	.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SOME PETS OF THE C.M.S.

The Ainu of Japan: The Religion, Superstitions, and General History of the Hairy Aborigines of Japan. By the Rev. JOHN BATCHELOR, C.M.S., Missionary to the Ainu. London: The Religious Tract Society.

THE Ainu is the Caliban of Japan. He cometh none knoweth whence. He goeth but too rapidly, alas! into the state "Poknamoshiri," the Intermediate, and there his spirit is at once relieved of anxiety and responsibility; or, as Mr. Batchelor quaintly puts it, is told where to go and what to do. It is devoutly to be hoped, in the aforesaid spirit is bidden to wash; for the exact complexion of the Ainu is still uncertain, his traditions reverting to the Flood, and his last ablutions being contemporaneous therewith. Now and again an accident occurs, for the Hokkaido abounds in streams; but the resulting discomfort to the hairy unfortunate is too horrible to contemplate. His relations with his gods are charmingly intimate. Ever and anon do these prow down from their mountain fastnesses, and scent out—not a difficult task, by the way—and devour some succulent votary. On the other hand, the Ainu worships with much unctuous ceremony, and, in return for the mortuary favours conferred on his forefathers, now and again slays a stray deity, and divides him up into divers little pieces—for your Ainu is nothing if not polytheistic—and after many salaams will wash him down with copious libations of rice-spirit. The Ainu holds that the roof of his religion lies in the eating, and there be worse things than Yezo bear-chops. For certain reasons, not wholly unconnected with civilization and the concomitant saké bottle, he will soon be as dead as a door-nail. In the meantime, Mr. Batchelor has caught him before the final vanishing, and has succeeded, much to our edification, in unrolling his record in one of the Religious Tract Society's most piquant publications.

It is commonly supposed that it was Miss Bird who discovered and classified the Ainu. This is a great mistake. In the first place she called her aborigines 'Aino,' which, being interpreted, means mongrel; and this is just what the Ainu is not. In the second place, he had been discovered before. Fully three centuries ere our author began the study of his pets, the Jesuit missionary, Father Lodovick Brojus, told the world of the Salvage People which are cloth'd in the Skins of Wild Beasts, Hairy all over their Bodies, having exceeding great Beards, and long Whiskers or Moustachios, which they turn up with sticks made for that purpose when they drink. 'They covet,' he adds, 'and are very desirous of Wine; also Valiant in War, and therefore much fear'd by the Japanese.' Not one jot nor tittle has the Ainu changed since those merry, comfortable days. He is still wholly fascinating, wholly, dirty, and, we have Mr. Batchelor's authority for saying so, wholly drunken. For what does he tell us?

Original from

'Fully ninety-five per cent. get drunk whatever they can obtain enough saké, and to be drunk is their ideal of supreme happiness.' (Their apologist will certainly make us a present of the odd five per cent.) In this connection we regret to say that Mr. Batchelor makes his remarks on the tipping instincts of the race an occasion for an altogether uncalled-for attack on Japanese saké. He compares it to very bad sherry. Some that have squatted with understanding before the cup-bearing maidens at a Japanese feast will haste to congratulate him on his wine-merchant.

One feature in a deeply interesting book is the charming rendering of Ainu legends and tales. Not only will these be found vastly amusing by the seeker after tit-bits, but they cannot fail to prove of profound interest to the student of folklore. Outside the covers of the yellow-back the Ainu is the quaintest child of nature left us. His ideas are few, but, such as they are, illimitable: when he soars, three heavens scarce content him; when he descends, six worlds are required to hold his exuberant fancy; he fights 'riding upon a sound like thunder,' and, when he dies, he 'rides upon the setting sun.' The sun, by the way, comes in at times for some curious treatment at his hands; for, during an eclipse, he is wont to sprinkle water in the direction of the paling light to revive the fainting luminary: which considering his obstinate unbelief in the hygienic virtues of that liquid, appears to show that even in Ainu-land logic is not an article to conjure with on an emergency.

It would be absurd to do more than comment on Mr. Batchelor's fascinating account of the Ainu, for no other white man has a title of his knowledge. He has made the race, the language, the history and mythology, entirely his own. Into a dictionary has he hatched the Ainu vocabulary, into a grammar the Ainu forms of speech, and now, in the pages of this encyclopædic volume, he has photographed the hairy one himself. But to the C.M.S. we would, in all humility, appeal not to appoint a successor to Mr. Batchelor, when, in the future, he shall have retired from his work. He is one in a thousand. The Ainu cannot await the passing of the nine hundred and ninety-nine. He is not an Ahirman among savages to be fought with the shekels of a multitude of benevolent busybodies. For these (it cannot be too often urged) an even spottier prey lies close at hand, and the Oriental may be scraped much nearer home. But to him, who, nevertheless, desireth to gild the Ainu, we would recommend the perusal of Mr. Batchelor's account of the results of mission work in Yezo, and, thereafter, the consideration of the following passage—written, it is true, in another connection, but of these very same people, some centuries ago: 'Yet, after long searching and far travelling through rough and untraced Wilds, sometimes climbing steep Ascents, oft engaged in amazing Precipices, they found their labour in vain, and no end, only seeing some few Salvages hairy all over with slovenly Beards.' We pray you let the Salvages depart in peace.

OBSERVATIONS ON DR. TSUBOI'S DISCOVERY OF ARTIFICIAL CAVES IN JAPAN.

By W. G. ASTON, C.M.G.,

Late Japanese Secretary, H.M.'s Legation, Tokyo.

Dr. Tsuboi's discovery of a number of artificial caves at Nishi Yoshimi in Eastern Japan will breed with much interest by all who have given attention to Japanese archaeology. A few of these monuments of antiquity had been already examined by others, but it was reserved for him to explore them on an extensive scale and to supply many interesting details which throw much light on their character and object. Perhaps he may on some future occasion favour us with a similar report on the thirty other cave districts which he has visited.

But, while rendering justice to the value of the facts collected by Dr. Tsuboi, it may be permitted to question some of his conclusions, more specially his view that these excavations were primarily intended as dwellings. There appears, from the evidence he himself has furnished, good reason to think that they were meant in the first place for sepulchres, although some of them were doubtless used as shelters by beggars or outlaws at a later period.

First of all it strikes one as improbable that so much labour should have been expended merely to provide a dark and narrow cell (2 or 2½ metres square), so wet that gutters were necessary to carry off the leakage, and with sleeping accommodation for only one, two, or occasionally three persons. This too is in a country where wood and other building materials are abundant. It is not easy to see how the ordinary occupations of a household be carried on in such a narrow space, with

doors opening on a precipitous hillside. The improbability becomes more glaring when it is remembered that from the earliest times the Japanese have been an agricultural race, and that accommodation was required not only for their families but for their implements of husbandry, their crops, and their domestic animals. Nor is this all. A glance at the drawings given in the work showing the modes of closing the entrances, will convince anyone that the roof of the entrance, with its drop near the middle, was so constructed purposely that it might be closed from the outside with a slab of stone, an arrangement which alone leads irresistibly to the conclusion that these excavations could not have been primarily meant for dwellings.

Dr. Tsuboi very justly points out that the fragments of Iwaibe (sacrificial vessels) found close to the caves must be contemporaneous with their use as tombs. It is a pity he could not have found space for a more detailed description of this pottery. I presume it is of the same character as that called Giōgi yaki—viz., unglazed vessels of certain well-defined shapes, turned on a wheel, and ornamented with wavy lines made by a stick or wooden comb. The larger specimens have mat-impressions outside, and within are marked by a curious stamped circular pattern which has been called the Korean wheel.* Popular tradition has it that this kind of pottery was introduced into Japan in the eighth century A.D. by a Buddhist priest of Korean extraction, named Giōgi, who is also credited *inter alia* with the invention of the potter's wheel. There is good reason, however, to think that this instrument became known to the Japanese some centuries before Giōgi's time. A guild of Korean potters, who can hardly have been ignorant of the use of the wheel, was established in Japan in the fifth century. They were probably the first makers of the so-called Giōgi ware, which, be it observed, is identical in character with the older Korean pottery. The inference as to the date of the pottery found by Dr. Tsuboi, and of the caves with which it is associated is obvious.

The clay cylinders† found near the caves belong to a different category. They are not wheel-made, but shaped in a mould, and are more like terracotta than pottery. They are not Korean in style, and probably represent the type of pottery in use in Japan before the establishment of the Korean manufacture. There is therefore no reason to limit their age to the date just mentioned, and, in fact, they are found surrounding the tombs of emperors who must go back to the beginning of the Christian era if not further. But these cylinders are appurtenances of a tumulus of the first or second class. Their object was, partly at least, to prevent the soil from being washed away by rain, and they have no *raison d'être* in connection with caves dug in a rock. Their presence at Nishi Yoshimi, if there is no mistake as to the description, points not doubtfully to the existence of a large sepulchral mound in the immediate vicinity. This supposition is rendered more probable by the fact that Mr. Satow in the paper above referred to describes some such mounds, which are situated a few miles farther north. Would it be possible for Dr. Tsuboi to have this suggestion verified?

A short description of the ordinary system of interment practised by the upper classes in Ancient Japan may throw some light on the relation in which these cave-tombs stand towards it. The most ancient tomb seems to have been a plain circular tumulus of no great size erected on an elevation. At least, some of the more ancient Emperors were buried in mounds of this character. At some time, however, not far distant from the Christian Epoch, a highly specialized form of tumulus came into fashion for the interment of sovereigns. It consists of two mounds, one having a circular base, the other shaped like a truncated isosceles triangle, the two being joined together so that the ground-plan resembles a keyhole in form. This double mound is surrounded by one or sometimes two moats of a horse-shoe shape. Many of these tumuli are of enormous size, varying in height from twenty to sixty feet. That of the Emperor Nintoku near Sakai, measures 2,494 yards round the outer of the two moats by which it is surrounded. They do not face any particular point of the horizon. The slope is not even, but is broken by terraces, along each each of which, as well as on the margin of the moats, is placed a row of the clay cylinders above mentioned.

It is uncertain at what time it became the practice to construct a vaulted stone chamber within the tumulus. We know, however, that some of these chambers date from the sixth century A.D. The entrance to them is by a long gallery, which always opens toward the south.

* Numerous drawings of this pottery are given in a paper by Mr. E. M. Satow in vol. vii. of the *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan*. There is a good collection in the British Museum—the Gwondan Collection.

† There is a specimen in the Pitt-Rivers Museum at Oxford.

Princes and other persons of high rank were buried in circular mounds of smaller size, with one or two terraces provided with rows of clay cylinders, and usually surrounded by a small moat. Those of later date contain a stone chamber.

The tumuli of the nobility and officials may still be seen in great numbers in the provinces near Kyoto, known as the Gokinal. They are plain circular mounds without moat, terraces, or clay cylinders, and are generally found in groups on the lower slope of a hill. Like the others, they contain a chamber, which is entered by a gallery opening to the south—the same aspect as the Nishi Yoshimi caves. The walls of the chamber converge towards the top, which is then roofed in by a few rough blocks of stone often many tons in weight. The gallery is roofed in a similar manner. Sometimes it was adapted for being closed by a large slab of rock in a similar manner to the entrances to the caves at Nishi Yoshimi, but more commonly it was simply closed by blocks of stone thrown in anyhow.

An edict has come down to us dated A.D. 646, which regulates minutely the construction of these tombs. It is too long to quote *in extenso*; but I may mention that it provides that in the case of a functionary of the highest rank, the vault should be 9 feet long by 5 feet wide, and the covering mound 7 fathoms square and 3 fathoms high. It was also enacted that the tumuli should be built on uncultivated hill-sides, and grouped in cemeteries, instead of each family burying where they found it most convenient.

Tombs answering the above description are not unfrequent in the near neighbourhood of Nishi Yoshimi, as shown by Mr. Satow's paper already referred to; and I think it will appear a probable conjecture that the artificial caves discovered by Dr. Tsuboi are an adaptation to circumstances of this form of burial. It was found that the sandstone rock lent itself more readily to excavation than to the splitting off of the great slabs of stone required for the roofing of the mound-enclosed vaults. Their situation in groups on a barren hillside may well have been in order to comply with the enactment above quoted. That they belong to about the same period is shown by the character of the pottery found in and about them.

The building of costly mounds began to fall into disuse in the eighth century, and after the capital was transferred to Kyoto in A.D. 794 was only occasionally practised—at least, in the case of sovereigns and grandees. For persons of inferior rank it may possibly have remained the custom for some little time longer. Its abandonment was due to the spread of Buddhist ideas of the worthlessness of these mortal frames of ours, and also, no doubt, to desire to spare the people what had become the very onerous burden of their construction.

Everything considered, I would suggest the 8th century A.D. as not far from the date of the excavations at Nishi Yoshimi. Further investigations may enable us to establish it with greater precision. For the additional data which are necessary in order to do so, we must depend on explorers who, like Dr. Tsuboi, are able to conduct their inquiries in Japan itself. A wide field is open to them.

A few words about the Tsuchigumo. What little is known of them is contained in three passages of the Nihongi and one passage of the Kojiki, all of which belong to the highly legendary period of Japanese History. We gather from them that the Tsuchigumo were usually, though not invariably, outlaws who defied the Imperial authority. They had Japanese names, and inhabited such long-settled provinces as Yamato, Harima, and Bungo. There is nothing to suggest that they were not of Japanese race beyond the statement in the Nihongi that some of them had short bodies and long arms and legs, and were of the same class as pigmies. This, however, I take to be nothing more than a product of the popular imagination working on the hint contained in the name *tsuchigumo* which is literally "earth-spider." Some etymologists prefer the derivation which connects *kumo* (or *gumo*) with *komori* to hide, thus making *tsuchigumo* the "Earth-hiders." But this is probably a distinction without a difference, these two words containing the same root, and the animal which we call the spider, i.e., spinner, being in Japan termed the "hider," an epithet of which no one who has observed its habits will dispute the appropriateness. An ancient Japanese book says *Tsuchigumo* is a mere nickname. It is therefore to be compared with our *clod-hopper* or *bog-trotter*.

One of the passages above referred to speaks of *Tsuchigumo* who lived in a rock-cave, but there is nothing to show whether it was natural or artificial. The *Kojiki* tells us of a band of *Tsuchigumo* who occupied a *muro*. This *muro* was large enough to hold 160 persons, so it could have had little in common with the Nishi-Yoshimi excavations. But it was not only *Tsuchigumo* who in-

Original from

habited muro. Allusions to these dwellings are frequent in the older Japanese literature long after the period assigned to the Tsuchi-gumo, and from the way they are spoken of they were plainly not uncommon. It results from a comparison of numerous passages in which muro are mentioned that they were houses consisting of a wooden frame lashed together by ropes of a creeping vine, thatched with reeds and built in a pit several feet deep, to which steps led down. The walls had sedge or reeds by way of faths which were also fastened with cords of creepers, and were probably plastered with a mixture of clay and grass. Within there was a wooden platform for sleeping on.

Now it will be obvious that the epithet "Earth-hider" is more appropriate to dwellers in such pit-houses than to the inhabitants of rock-caves. Tsuchi is earth, not rock. Probably the muro inhabited by the Tsuchi-gumo were of a ruder kind than those described, perhaps resembling one which I have seen used as a lodging by the poorer class of pilgrims to Mount Oyama, and which was a square pit three or four feet deep covered with a thatched roof, the ends which rested on the edge of the pit. There were no walls. At the present day the word muro is applied to gardeners' for-cing-pits and to ice-houses, so that the original meaning of the word has not been altogether lost sight of.

It seems difficult to trace any connection between the Tsuchi-gumo or their habitations and the caves discovered by Dr. Tsuboi. It may be, however, that the muro was the type after which the first mound-enclosed vaults were constructed.

THE ANCIENT PIT-DWELLERS OF YEZO.

By ROMYEN HITCHCOCK.

When the first Emperor of Japan, known by the posthumous title Jimmu Tenno, whose traditional reign begun 660 B.C., was on his imperial journey eastward from ancient Tsukushi, to establish the seat of government in Yamato, he came to a great "cave" or "apartment", in which eight *tsuchi-gumo* or cave-dwelling savages were awaiting him. The word *tsuchi-gumo* is usually translated "earth-spiders," but Prof. B. H. Chamberlain regards it as a corruption of *tsuchi-gumori*, or "earth-hiders." Whatever the original meaning may have been, there can be no doubt that it was applied to a savage people, who inhabited Japan before the coming of the Japanese.

The ancient records of the Japanese contain many allusions to these dwellers under ground. In the reign of the Emperor Keiko two Kumasos braves were killed in a cave by Yamato-take. The Empress Jingo Kogo was wrecked among *tsuchi-gumo*. They are said to have been numerous in Bungo in other western provinces, in Oni, in Yamato, and in other localities.

The character of their dwellings is not clearly defined, owing to the ambiguous meaning of the Chinese character translated "cave." In certain parts of Japan natural caves are numerous, but they are not common throughout the country. Artificial caves are not uncommon, but I have endeavoured to show, in an article treating of ancient Japanese burial customs, read before section H of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Toronto in 1889, that such caves were constructed for interment of the dead and not for dwellings. Still other structures, chambers made by piling up huge rocks and heaping up mounds of earth to cover them, are also numerous in southern Japan, and these have been designated as caves by von Siebold, rather carelessly it seems to me. But these also were only burial chambers. Granting that mere opinions concerning such a subject are not of much value, I would only add that until some stronger evidence than von Siebold has adduced gives colour to the idea that the early inhabitants of Japan lived in true caves, I hold that their dwellings were more probably of the character of the pit-dwellings to be described in this article. It is true we do not find the ruins of such dwellings in the south, although they are numerous in Yezo. This is doubtless because all such ruins have been destroyed in the more populous island, where every available plot of ground has long been under cultivation.

The fact is not to be overlooked, however, that the idea of cave life was familiar to the ancient Japanese. The well-known myth of the sun-god, who retired into a cave and closed the entrance with a stone, is significant of the truth of this assumption. It is not unlikely that the idea came from China, and that true cave life was never practiced in Japan.

There are still other people mentioned in the Japanese records, distinguished as Ebisu or hairy savages, who were contemporaneous with the earth-hiders. It is not difficult to recognize in these the

ancestors of the Ainos, who are now confined to Yezo. Not only is the historic evidence clear that the Ainos once lived in the main island as far south as Sendai, but we have numerous facts in support of the further conclusion that, in more ancient times, they occupied the coast as far south as the extreme end of Kinshu. Such evidence we find in the distribution of geographical place-names, which are obviously of Aino origin, in the names of famous characters in Japanese mythology, which are certainly of Aino derivation, and in the contents of kitchen-middens or shell-heaps, which are numerous here and there along the coast.

The writer has briefly summarized the evidence of Aino occupancy of Japan in the paper following this one. The character of the pottery found in shell-heaps is entirely different from any pottery made by the ancient Japanese. The material is the same as that of the Japanese sepulchral pottery, but the shapes of the vessels are not the same and the decoration upon them is absolutely distinctive. Strange as it may seem, the pottery of the shell-heaps is far more elaborately decorated than any ancient pottery of Japanese origin. Many of these are covered with complex designs, such as are absolutely unknown on Japanese pottery. The small fragments representing parts of human figures are, so far as I am aware, unique. Owing to the absence from home of the collector, I was unable to learn anything about them.

The ancient Japanese pottery comes from burial mounds which are prehistoric, or at least which date from a time before the year A.D. 400, when the authentic records of Japan begin. The pottery of the shell-heaps, often designated as Aino pottery, although more elaborately decorated, must be older than this, and it would seem to afford indisputable evidence that the Japanese were preceded by an aboriginal people who were potters. We find the same kind of pottery in Yezo, in the shell-heaps at Otaru, Sapporo, on the small island Bentenjima, Nemuro harbour, about ancient pits in Kushiro, and about similar places on the Island of Yeterof. Associated with it everywhere are found arrow-heads and other implements, such as may be found scattered over many parts of Yezo in the surface mold at the present day.

The question then arises, to what people shall we attribute this spoil? It has been supposed that the shell mounds were left by the Ainos. This is the opinion of Prof. John Milne. But we immediately come face to face with the fact that the Ainos of the present day do not make pottery. The claim is made, upon the rather insufficient ground it seems to me, that the Ainos formerly did make pots; but if so, it is strange that in all my journeying among them I found no indications of such handiwork, nor of their need of such utensils. I cannot bring myself to believe that a people who not only possessed that useful art but who also acquired such a degree of artistic skill in decorating their productions, could have absolutely lost it. Certainly it could not have disappeared within a century, as we must suppose if we accept all the evidence we possess of Aino pot making.

It would be a bold assumption indeed to suppose that the dwellers in earth houses, the *tsuchi-gumo*, made the pottery. We have no evidence of this further than the fact that here and there fragments of pottery, and occasionally well-preserved vessels, are found about pits in Yezo and Yeterof, which, as I shall endeavour to show, are probably the ruins of a kind of pit-dwellings corresponding in the opinion of the present writer to those of the traditional *tsuchi-gumo*. The pottery is there, and it assuredly was not made by the Japanese. It may be much older than we think, older than the Aino occupancy; older than even the traditions of the Japanese; whoever were the people who made it, they spread over the whole country from southern Kinshu to the bleak shores of Yezo and the adjacent islands.

Who were the pit-dwellers of Yezo? I have supposed them to be the *tsuchi-gumo* of tradition, but our only knowledge concerning these if found in the Japanese accounts unreliable enough, but at the same time not without some bearing on the question. For one would scarcely expect such circumstantial and numerous accounts of meetings and combats with dwellers in burrows or caves to be pure inventions. The word "cave" translated means "apartment." They were not cave dwellers in the ordinary sense, for in nearly all the accounts of the people they seem to have lived in holes dug in the ground. We have the less reason to doubt this, since it is known that the Smolenkur of Saghalin construct earth-covered dwellings on the sides of hills, not in any sense caves, and houses of another form will shortly be described which may, with still more probability, represent the dwellings of the *tsuchi-gumo*.

Mr. T. W. Blakiston first brought prominently into notice certain remarkable depressions or pits in the ground which he had observed in various

parts of Yezo, and which he believed to be the remains of human habitations. In the summer of 1888 I made an extended journey in the island, covering a distance of more than 800 miles on horseback, visiting the Ainos and always looking for pits. The pits are numerous in places, usually on elevated land near the coast, or overlooking the mouths of rivers, presumably that the people might readily sight shoals of fish. The island known Bentenjima, which forms a breakwater to Nemuro harbour, is covered with numerous pits. Just at the back of some sheds or storehouses bordering on the water, where the bank is falling away, there are indications of a shell-mound. It was at this spot that Prof. John Milne, in 1881, found some fragments of pottery, several arrow-heads, and one complete vase. I was only able to find a few broken shells, not having the means with me for digging.

About 4 miles from Nemuro, in a north-easterly direction, on a bluff overlooking the sea, near the mouth of a small stream, there are seven pits, approximately square in shape, varying in length from 10 to 20 feet. They are not well preserved, but it was thought worth while to dig a trench across one of them in the hope of finding some pottery or arrow-heads. The trench was dug two feet wide down to a stratum of clay, but nothing was found.

On the island of Yeterof there are many hundred of such pits on elevated knolls some distance from the coast, but overlooking a broad valley, through which a stream meanders for a long distance nearly parallel to the coast. It seemed to me quite possible that at the time the dwellings represented by these pits were inhabited, the present river valley was an immense arm of the sea, and a rich fishing-ground. It was about these pits that Mr. Blakiston says fragments of pottery were picked up. I was therefore quite anxious to explore one of them with a spade, and leaving my companions, Mr. Leroux and Mr. Odium, I set off in search for a habitation. After a long walk I found an Aino hut occupied by an old woman, and there obtained a dilapidated old Japanese instrument which was used for digging. It was the best the country afforded, so I carried it back and we dug over the whole bottom of the pit, and also in several places outside, without finding a single article to reward us. We made some measurements of the pits in the vicinity, which were large and well preserved. Two pits gave the following results:

SOUTHEAST AND NORTHEAST.	NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST.	DEPTH.	
		Meters.	Centimeters.
4	3.8	3.8	53
4	4.5	4.5	73

Although I have not yet found a single piece of pottery, nor a chipped flint in any pit where I have dug, it does not follow that nothing of the kind is to be found about them. Other explorers have been more fortunate. The most promising locality for such explorations is at Kushiro, on the southeast coast of Yezo. Only want of the necessary time prevented me from digging about the pits there. In walking over the ground I picked up several small bits of old pottery which the rains had washed out, and the Japanese local officers showed me a small collection of vessels, tolerably well preserved, that had been found there. Some of the Kushiro pits are very large. I measured one which was 32 feet across and 8 feet deep.

The Ainos have a tradition concerning a race of dwellers under ground called *horo-poh-guru*, who formerly occupied the country. The Ainos claim to have subdued and exterminated them. We have no means of knowing whether this is a genuine tradition, or a late invention to explain the existence of the pits. Presuming it to be the former, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the Aino account of dwarfs, who lived under ground, and the Japanese tales of earth spiders or *tsuchi-gumo*, refers to the same people. In the light of the observations related further on, it would seem probable that the pits of Yezo are the ruins of the dwellings once occupied by them, now affording landmarks whereby we may trace the migrations of a once numerous people to their disappearance and oblivion.

In the year 1878 Prof. John Milne* visited Shumushu or Perai Island, the most northern of the Kuriles. There, at the village of Myrup, he found a small colony of migratory people who made huts over excavations. His account of them is short. He writes:

Here there were three wooden houses which had been built by the Russians, and quite a number (perhaps a score) of half underground dwellings. On landing we found that all these were deserted, and in many cases even difficult to find, owing to the growth of wormwood and wild grasses.

The inhabitants of the island, who call themselves Kurisky, are twenty-three in number. They chiefly live at a place called Seleno, about 4 miles distant. I mention these people, as they seem to the only inhabitants of the Kuriles north of Iturup (Yeterof).

It appears that the dwellers in the deserted houses were migratory. Professor Milne has elsewhere

*Trans. Seismological Soc. of Japan, IX, 1886, pp. 277, 288.

declared that "these excavations have a striking resemblance to the pits which we find further south."

A Japanese author, Mr. Y. Hashiba, has published a description of some peculiar dwellings built over pits, which he found in Shionai, on the west coast of the northern part of the main island of Japan. I am indebted to Mr. P. Jaisohn for a partial translation of this article, which is written in Japanese. There are two huts, built over circular pits about 1 foot in depth by 2 to 3 yards in diameter. The framework of one is of reeds, that of the other of branches, over which there is a covering of earth 2 feet thick. In the middle of the floor is a triangular fireplace. Other pits were found in the vicinity and fragments of pottery, but the pottery is said to differ from that found in Yezo. The points of difference I have been unable to learn.

The Aleuts build also over excavations in the earth, erecting a framework of wood over which they pile a covering of sods. The entrance to such dwellings is through a low passage along which one must crawl.

When the Japanese obtained the Kurile Islands from Russia in exchange for Saghalin, they determined to transfer the few inhabitants they found there to a more accessible spot. The selected island of Shikotan, and although the people did not wish to change their abode, a steamer was sent to take them away, and thus a colony of about one hundred persons was established on Shikotan. This island is situated nearly east of the extreme eastern limit of Yezo and south of Kunashiri. It is small, mountainous, not of much importance, and difficult to reach.

Professor Milne was the first to tell me of these people, but he had not seen them. At Nemuro I made inquiries about them and resolved to visit them if possible. My Japanese servant bargained for a native fishing-boat to carry me over, and the lowest price offered was \$30 for the trip. In such a craft the trip would not be without danger, and it might be a voyage of either a day or a week. Fortunately I had already made the acquaintance of two other foreigners who were travelling for pleasure and observation, and as we happened to be together in Nemuro, they had become interested in my proposed visit to Shikotan. But the fishing-boat plan did not seem to be well received by either of them. M. Leroux, chef de musique at Tokyo, one day halted me on the street with the news that in four days a steamer was going to Yeterof and would stop for us at Shikotan. Mr. Odum, a botanist, joined us, and at 3.45 a.m., on August 9, the *Yoshino Maru* with her three foreign passengers and a load of salt for the fisheries of Yeterof, steamed from her anchorage in the harbour. I was on deck before sunrise, but already we were out on the heaving water. Toward the south the terraced shores of Yezo could be dimly traced as far as the eye could reach. Toward the north the volcanic range of the Menoshi Peninsula was capped with snow. At half-past eight we were abreast of Kunashiri at the point where Chia-chia towers as a regular volcanic cone and slopes on one side in graceful, unbroken concave to the sea. Shikotan had already been sighted and now lay close at hand on the starboard bow, while Yeterof was visible in the distance. But it was noon before we anchored in the harbour, entering through a beautiful narrow passage between high, bold, gray cliffs of sandstone, concealed here and there with patches of green. Within lies a quiet bay with a verdant valley, inclosed on every hand by mountains and brush covered hills.

The settlement at this place consists of eighteen houses arranged on opposite sides of a single street which runs directly back from the sandy beach. The number of inhabitants is at present uncertain—one informant told us sixty, another sixty-five. They are in appearance a well-formed, hardly people, but they are fast dying off. Subsisting on the most miserable food, bulbous roots, green tops of plants, and a pittance of rice from the Japanese Government; not properly clothed, and unable to obtain the fish and other things which in their native isles were so abundant, disease, especially consumption, has made fearful havoc among them. In five years their number has decreased one-third. The Japanese are now trying to better their condition, but past neglect has done its work. The people cannot subsist without aid where they now live, and in any event they will soon disappear from the face of the earth. The people were clothed in European dress. This is because they have so long been under Russian influences. In winter they are accustomed to dress in skins, but whether they are able to provide themselves with such warm clothing from the resources of Shikotan is very doubtful.

In a general way it may be said that each dwelling is composed of two parts, a front, thatched house, occupied in summer, and a winter earth

house connected with the former by a covered passage.

The thatched house very much resembles the houses of the Ainos. There is a low front part used for storage and as a hall or passage-way, and the main portion constitutes the living room. This room is usually nearly square, with a low door in front and a small door at the back opening into the passage which leads to the winter house. Entering from the front we find in the main room a rude and very dirty floor of boards, raised six inches from the ground, leaving a small inclosed space near the entrance from which one may step up on to the floor. There is a large, rectangular fireplace sunk in the floor about the middle, on which pieces of wood fitfully burn and fill the house with smoke. The rafters and cross-beams are covered with a shiny coating of oily soot. There is a smoke-hole in the roof, but only the excess of smoke escapes. There are usually two small windows, one on each side, perhaps a foot square, and on one side a raised bunk with high side boards.

Above the fire hangs a Japanese iron pot containing a more or less unsavory stew. The pot is coated with accumulated deposits within and soot without, and is probably never washed, if it is ever quite emptied.

Around the walls hang articles of clothing, such as fur-lined gloves and shoes of fish-skin, rude baskets, skins of small animals, strips of hide for thongs, articles of dried fruit, etc.

The winter house is of greater interest, because it probably represents the early pit dwellings of Yezo. These are at the upper end of the village, and they are only ones not connected with thatched houses. They are dome-shaped mounds of earth, with windows and a sort of chimney.

The mounds are built over shallow excavations or pits in the ground about 12 to 18 inches deep. The room of the earth-covered house on the left measured 2 metres wide 2.25 metres deep, and 1.30 metres from the floor to the highest part of the ceiling. The beds were simply bunks, 38 centimetres from the floor and 60 centimetres wide. The entrance is through a small, low doorway from the covered passage. This passage may run quite across the back of the thatched house and extend some distance beyond it. As one descends into the hut, it seems very damp and gloomy. There is nothing to be seen but the bare floor, the sleeping bunks on the sides, and the fire-place made by piling up rounded stones in one corner.

I have expressed the belief that these Shikotan huts are the modern representatives of the ancient pit-dwellings of Yezo. Perhaps it will be very difficult, or even impossible, to prove this connection; certainly the huts I saw were much smaller than many of the pits of Yezo, but I do not know what kind of a pit would be left by the falling in of one of these houses. I should think, after weathering a few years, it might not be very unlike the pits. On the other hand, it may be that the people, having learned to build better above ground, no longer require such large and deep subterranean huts as in the past, and that these shallow excavations are but survivals of the old plan of construction, which is no longer useful. However this may be, it would seem that the ancient pit-dwellers were driven from Yezo, perhaps by the Ainos, to the Kuriles, for the pits can be traced through Yeterof, and perhaps in the smaller islands beyond. The existence of the pits in Yeterof, the finding by Professor Milne of a small remnant of people on the same chain of islands who build houses over pits, and the finding of still others on Shikotan, may be fairly taken to indicate a connection between the people who dug the ancient pits and those who live in such dwellings at the present time.

There was very little to collect in the way of specimens to represent the people. M. Leroux was so fortunate as to find a single musical instrument. Not another could be found of the same shape, which was recognized as of Russian design. The people were making other of different shape, evidently in imitation of the Japanese *samisen*.

We left Shikotan towards evening, bound for Yeterof. The rocky bluffs rose clear and sharp behind us, soon to be shrouded in a veil of mist, which in this region is constantly forming and reforming with endless changes in the scenery of shore and mountain. Early next morning we arrived at Shiana, a small fishing-station on the island, where a few Ainos and Japanese were found. At noon we were on board ready to start again, when suddenly a dense fog shut in around and held us, damp, cold, and miserable, in the little steamer until midnight. At half-past five the next morning we anchored at Bettobu, where we visited the pits already described, and then returned to Nemuro.

THE PAMIRS.

The recent rumours of Chinese activity on the western outskirts of Eastern Turkistan ought to interest all Englishmen in India. The almost romantic account of his last expedition into the Pamirs given by Colonel Grombchevsky before the Russian Imperial Geographical Society—in January, 1891—for which English readers are under great obligations to the admirable translation of Captain McSwiney—evidently did something more than stir British Indian surveying parties into emulation. It aroused the jealousy of the Imperial Court at Peking, which, ever since the downfall of Yakub Beg, the Atalik Ghazi, as he used to be called, of Yarkand, and the resumption of Chinese authority over Kashgar, had been very sensitive regarding the outlying Chinese territories touching the Aksu river. Grombchevsky left no doubt in the minds of his readers that, unless forbidden by his official superiors, his second expedition, to which history and science alike owe so much, would not be his last; and students of history and Asiatic geography will be equally concerned with Mandarin diplomats in the precise character and extent of any precaution which M. De Giers may have enjoined on the explorer. Indian readers will remember that, some time after the period when M. Grombchevsky's last expedition naturally came to a close, the *St. James's Gazette* started a report—upon which some Indian newspapers have been living ever since—that the Foreign Office at St. Petersburg had passed a severe censure on Col. Yanoff, Komaroff's successor in Russian Turkistan, for the treatment which Captain Younghouseband had received at the hands of Grombchevsky. No intelligent student of Central Asian politics can have failed to note that, while making a great deal of this alleged censure, which was conveniently treated as a formal apology to Britain for an imaginary outrage on her survey parties, the *St. James's Gazette* carefully withheld all authority for its comical statements, and no less carefully refrained from quoting a line from the alleged dispatch to the British Foreign Office, which if it had had any existence outside the imagination of the newspaper, would have been readily communicated to the press. Lord Salisbury is too eager to publish any diplomatic triumph over Russia, that has ever been really secured, to admit of any faith being placed in the nonsensical concoctions of military writers in London. We may be sure that if Colonel Yanoff had really been censured for anything that happened to Younghouseband's survey party in the Tagdumbash Pamir, and the fact had been officially communicated to the British Foreign Office, not only would the terms of the dispatch have been published long ere now, but Grombchevsky himself would not have been permitted to resume the discredited expedition so soon and in so open a manner. We have little hope, considering the free hand that has apparently been given to the Foreign Office under its present exclusively military inspiration, along the entire line of the North-Western Frontier, that the Viceroy, whose interest in the country is said to be already decaying, in view of his early retirement from it, will care now to acquire an intelligent familiarity with the history of that frontier; or, if his Excellency did so inform himself, that he would care to assert himself at the close of his career against a current of prejudice which has been slowly acquiring the proportion of a torrent, and may be expected some day to hurl itself beyond the frontier at the first foe that may offer. But Lord Lansdowne has still the opportunity of acquainting himself with the wrong that has been done during his Viceroyalty, and of preventing its perpetuation in the next; and at any rate history will have to be written some day, whether any particular Indian ruler cares to secure its approval or its blame.

It is almost amusing, since the result of Grombchevsky's explorations have been given to the world, to read the cautious manner in which the few Indian newspapers that make any pretence of treating Central Asian difficulties seriously, refer to the claims of the Afghan Ameer to the principalities of Roshan and Shignan, which only a year ago were unblushingly claimed as undoubted possessions of Afghanistan. When the occasion offered some months ago, we quoted Vambéry in disproof of this latter pretension; and the crying off of partizan writers may, we suppose, be regarded as an act of deference to a public opinion growing better informed regarding once little known facts. But a responsible ruler like a Viceroy will scarcely claim the shelter of public ignorance for deliberately neglected Imperial responsibilities; and it may be hoped that the resumption of the temporarily suspended Russian expedition to the Pamirs will conspire with the natural Chinese jealousy on the subject to bring England into the position of an umpire who might

if appealed to to judge between two rival disputants without being involved in complications with either.

It has never been doubted by any honest student of Central Asian history that Russia has come into practical possession of all the territory that was ever in any sense Bokhariot, with the exception of the portions of the Khanates which lie on the left bank of the Abi-Panja. Upon these, though his theoretical sovereignty over them may be questioned, —and indeed always has been questioned, alike when Shere Ali overran Wakhan and Badakshan in 1869, and when Abdur Rahman repeated the performance on a smaller scale twenty years later—Abdur Rahman, like Shere Ali, has undoubtedly made some impression. The fact, perhaps, is that, in strict right, neither Bokhara nor Afghanistan can lay actual claim to the sovereignty of the larger of these Khanates. Even where the claim of Bokhara has been made good by years of military supremacy, as in Darwaz, Gromchevsky bears witness that the people prefer their own Khan to the Ameer of Bokhara. So also, if another Wood were to visit the Khanates, skirting the southern bank of the Oxus from Sarhad to Bosaga, we should find the races inhabiting those territories more loyal to their petty chiefs than to the distant Ameer at Cabul. What England, however, has evidently to do in all such cases is to divide roughly between the territories possessed by Bokhara and Afghanistan respectively, and to restrain Abdur Rahman from getting up disgraceful repetitions of the Panjdeh affair along the boundary line. One conclusion to which even military critics, not lost to all sense of decency, appear now to be tardily inclining—*viz.*, that it would be well if a 'scientific frontier' were once for all properly delimited—is, be it remembered, the conclusion to which Russia has for years in vain endeavoured to bring up British diplomacy. When the Indian Foreign Office accepts the inevitable in this matter, and realises that protests offered against Russian aggression in Central Asia will be meaningless in the face of our own strangely obstinate refusal to carry on the work of the Delimitation Commission, —which was most unaccountably suspended at Bosaga, there may be some hope of a cessation of these immoral squabbles which arise from time to time, not apparently, so far as any one can judge, because Russia encroaches on Afghan territory, but because the Ameer of Afghanistan seems to have received hints from somewhere to allow his territory, as *The Times* once oddly expressed it, to "mature to his own interests," and Russia does not appear to relish this kind of unlicensed aggrandisement any more than we do. That Russia will continue to extend her dominions eastward under compulsion, which she neither has created nor can resist, must, as we have before shown, be evident to every reader of history. It is a repetition of the British progress in India. That results disastrous to civilisation and to Asia would result from any unnecessary conflict between England and Russia in Asia, is a truth so obvious to any thoughtful mind that the whole weight of public opinion ought to be directed against the abandonment of the final decision on this important question to mere chance or the unconscious immorality of military sentiment.—*Statesman*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 19th.
The following changes have been made in the Cabinet recently formed:—

The Earl of KIMBERLEY (President of the Privy Council and Secretary of State for the Home Department) has been appointed Secretary of State for India and Lord President of the Privy Council.

The Right Hon. HERBERT H. ASQUITH, Q.C. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), has been appointed Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir WILLIAM VERNON-HARCOURT (Secretary of State for the Colonial Department) has been appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Marquis of RIFON (Secretary of State for the War Department) has been appointed Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

The Right Hon. H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN (Secretary of State for the Indian Department) has been appointed Secretary of State for the War Department.

The Right Hon. JOHN MORLEY (Vice-President of the Committee of the Council on Education) has been appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Lord HOUGHTON (Chief Secretary for Ireland) has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Mr. ARTHUR H. D. ACLAND has been appointed Vice-President of the Committee of the Council on Education.

Mr. SYDNEY CHARLES BUXTON has been appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies.

Parliament has been prorogued.

London, August 22nd.

It is stated that the Queen objected to Mr. Labouchere's being appointed to a seat in the Cabinet.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMMERCE.")

Madrid, July 29th.

Cholera decreases in France and increases in Russia; it has invaded Turkey and Poland.

Madrid, August 2nd.

Cholera has appeared in Austria. The cholera in Russia during the month of July last has claimed 50,000 victims. In Paris, during the last week, 140 deaths were recorded. Sr. Romero Kobledo, Minister for the Colonies, left to-day for St. Sebastian.

The "state of siege" declared in Pontevedra and Barcellona has come to an end.

Madrid, August 5th.

The enfranchisement of all the ports of Mindanao is under consideration.

A tax of one cent is imposed on every hundred matches sold in Cuba.

Vice-Admiral Rafael Rodriguez de Arias y Villavicencio is dead.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, 6th August.

Mr. J. Keir Hardie, Labour member for West Ham (South), drove to the House of Commons on Friday in a waggone, with a band playing the "Marseillaise." He wore a tweed suit and a cap in the House, and only removed the latter when called to order by the Speaker.

London, August 8th.

Next Session Sir Charles Dilke intends to move a resolution in the House of Commons to neutralise Egypt and to place that country under European guarantee.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

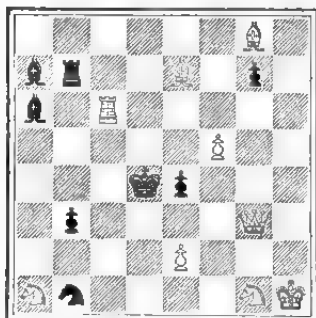
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 31.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to R 8 1—B x Q
2—Kt to K 5 mate
2—Q to K 4 mate if 1—K to B 4
2—Q to K Kt 8 mate if 1—Kt to K 3
2—Q to K 8 mate if 1—K to B 2

Correct solution received from Scacchi, W.H.S., J.W.E., J.D., O. Balk, Omega, Omicron, and Delta. Omega describes this problem as "a magnificent specimen of the old Doctor's handicraft."

Additional correct solution of Problem No. 25 received from B.R.B. (San Francisco).

PROBLEM No. 33.
By GODFREY HEATHCOTE.
BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The recent phenomenal successes of the young Prussian Chess player, Emanuel Lasker, recall

the excitement which invaded European Chess circles 34 years ago, when the brilliant Morphy travelled over to the Old World and paralysed the masters of the day. Morphy at the time was only 21 years old, and carried all before him against such renowned players as Lowenthal, Andersen, Harrwitz, etc. We give two smart little games in the great match with Andersen played in Paris, December, 1858; it will be interesting to compare the style of these games with those in the recent Steinitz-Tschigorin contest. (The notes are by Howard Staunton, the English champion of 40 years ago.)

THIRD GAME.

"RUY LOPEZ."

WHITE (M.) BLACK (A.)
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to KB 3 2—Kt to QB 3
3—B to Q Kt 5 3—Kt to RB 3
4—P to Q 4

This or Castling is undoubtedly preferable to 4—P to Q 3.

5—Kt x Kt 4—Q Kt x Q P
6—P to K 5 5—P x Kt
6—P to QB 3

The last move of Black (which was first given in the German Handbuch and has been analysed by Mr. Lange in his *Schach-partien*), is not commendable.

7—Castles 7—P x B
8—B to K Kt 5 8—K B to K 2
9—P x Kt 9—B x P
10—R to K sq. (ch.) 10—K to B sq.
11—B x B 11—Q x B
12—P to QB 3 12—P to Q 4
13—P x P 13—Q B to K 3
14—Kt to Q 3 14—P to R 3
15—R to K 5 15—R to Q sq.
16—Q to Q Kt 3 16—Q to K 2
17—Q R to K sq. 17—P to K Kt 4
18—Q to Q sq. 18—Q to KB 3
19—Q R to K 3

The purpose of this is so manifest that Mr. Andersen in his best form would have detected it at a glance.

19—K R to K Kt sq.
Completely unmindful of the snare! Black should have played 19—P to K Kt 5 and he would then have had at least as good a game as White.

20—R x B 20—P x R
21—R to KB 3 winning.

NINTH GAME.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE (M.) BLACK (A.)
1—P to K 4 1—P to QB 4
2—P to Q 4 2—P x P
3—Kt to KB 3 3—Kt to QB 3
4—Kt x P 4—P to K 3
5—Kt to Q Kt 5

Late experience has shown 5—Kt to Q Kt 5 to be dangerous, if not fatal, to the Sicilian defence, as no one knows better than Mr. Andersen: why then adopt this defence?

6—Q B to KB 4 5—P to Q 3
7—B to K 3 6—P to K 4
8—Q Kt to QB 3 7—P to KB 4
8—P to KB 5

Already Black has a lost game. If instead of this move he had played 8—P to Q 3 he would have fared no better.

9—Kt to Q 5

White now finishes off the game with uncommon brilliancy in a very few moves.

10—K Kt to QB 7 (ch.) 9—P x B
11—Q to KB 3 (ch.) 10—K to B 2
12—B to QB 4 11—Kt to KB 3
13—Kt x Kt (dis. ch.) 12—Kt to Q 5
14—B x Q P (ch.) 13—P to Q 4
14—K to Kt 3

The only hope was in taking Bishop with Queen, and that was a forlorn one.

15—Q to KR 5 (ch.) 15—K x Kt
16—P x P 16—Kt x QB P (ch.)
17—K to K 2
and Black resigned.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STAMERS.

Camelot, British steamer, 1,164, Thomas, 19th August,—Glasgow via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 1,556, G. L. Gratton, 22nd August,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 23rd August,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,085, Selby, 21st August,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Cummin, 8th July,—New York via ports 1st May, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yangtse, French steamer, 2,371, Schmitz, 18th August,—Marseilles 10th July, Hongkong 10th August, Shanghai 14th, and Kobe 17th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 2nd.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 4th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 28th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 28th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 2nd.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Sept. 7th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 11th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 12th.

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 16th.
† *Perona* left Nagasaki on August 24th. † *Empress of China* left Hongkong on August 26th. † *Mabrouk* (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 24th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 28th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 29th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 30th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 30th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 3rd.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 8th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Sept. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 20th August.—San Francisco 4th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Rennie, 20th August.—Hakodate 18th August, Rice and Timber.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 20th August.—Kobe 19th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 21st August.—Vancouver, B.C., 7th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Selby, 21st August.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, Hilderbrandt, 21st August.—Kobe 20th August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 21st August.—Hakodate via Miyako 18th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 21st August.—Otaru and ports 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ching Wo, British steamer, 1,556, G. L. Gratton, 22nd August.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 22nd August.—Kobe 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Phra Chow Klao, British steamer, 1,011, J. Fowler, 22nd August.—Hongkong, Sugar and Molasses.—Butterfield & Swire.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd August.—Mojito 20th August, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 23rd August.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 23rd August.—Yokkaichi 22nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Shimadzu, 24th August.—Otaru 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 24th August.—Kobe 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. Wilson, 24th August.—Otaru and ports 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 25th August.—Hongkong 20th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, Payne, 26th August.—Hilo via China and Japan ports 12th August, Sugar and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 26th August.—Kobe 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 26th August.—Shanghai and ports 20th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Thompson, 27th August.—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 20th August.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. Pender, 20th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 20th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 21st August.—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 21st August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Rennie, 22nd August.—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 22nd August.—Hongkong via ports Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
E. Sang, British steamer, 1,127, Payne, 22nd August.—Hongkong via Moji, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 22nd August.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 22nd August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 23rd August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 23rd August.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 24th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 24th August.—Moji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Phra Chow Klao, British steamer, 1,011, Fowler, 24th August.—Hongkong and ports, Light.—Butterfield & Swire.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Shimadzu, 25th August.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, Hilderbrandt, 26th August.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. Pender, 26th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 26th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Mr. M. Beloborodoff, Mr. John Barber, Captain Ripper, Mr. F. Baumeier, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mrs. Towey, Captain Elliott, U.S.N., Mr. Smul Morris, and Mr. J. E. Rhoads in cabin.
Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. E. R. Atwater, Mrs. E. R. Atwater and two children, Miss Andrews, Mr. Arthur L. Brown, Miss Brown, Major Bennett, Mr. Barton, Mr. J. C. Burbank, Miss Burbank, Miss W. T. Burbank, Rev. F. C. Colbald, Mr. Philip Codman, Mr. R. A. Consens, Mr. W. S. De Winton, Mr. J. H. Doran, Mr. M. Doran, Mr. Fred Deuss, Capt. Dumbleton, Dr. J. P. Dake, Dr. C. Dake, Mr. J. C. Edmonds, Mrs. Garrett, The Messrs. Garrett (3), Mr. T. J. Hamilton, Mrs. W. H. Hart, Mrs. C. D. Hart, Mr. F. E. Hughes, Mr. F. Ashton Jonson, Mr. F. Leslie, Mr. C. H. McGee, Mr. C. D. Mitchell, Miss Moss, Mr. R. L. Myrick, Mr. Platt, Miss Paine, Miss Read, Mr. R. B. Roney, Miss Rankin, Mr. Chas. Rogg, Prof. Sargent, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Turner, Mr. Jno. C. Ulrhaub, Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Wilson, Rev. S. I. Woodbridge, Mrs. Woodbridge and children, and Miss F. G. Young in cabin; and Miss K. Adams, Captain Carving, Mr. J. M. Drentel, Mr. Watura Mayashima, Mr. Walter Pile, and Miss Rosa Staples in second class.
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Kikuchi and Mr. S. Kuroda in second class and 28 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Hakodate via Miyako:—14 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Mitke Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. L. Leitch, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Beale, Mr. J. M. C. Fonseca, Mr. McKirdy, and Mr. W. G. Robinson in cabin; and 14 passengers in steerage. For Hakodate: 3 passengers in steerage. For Otaru: 2 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—Mr. A. Nakamura, in cabin; and 21 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. A. Buschel, Miss A. N. Killogg, Mr. O. Scalto, Dr. C. Hoderply, Rev. Beckmann, and Mr. H. Sloda in cabin; the Misses N. Takahashi, Miss H. Yamanaka, T. Hirata, Y. Yamazaki, and K. Kashiwabara in second class, and 46 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Mr. G. K. Dinsdale in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 32 passengers in steerage.
Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong:—Mr. E. Kentgen, Mr. G. F. Miller and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Mr. Home, Mr. and Mrs. Von Bose, 4 children, 2 European maids, and 1 native, Mr. Brockelmann, and Mr. A. J. Lawson in cabin; and 1 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. Wm. H. Seabury, Mr. J. Wood, Mrs. E. J. Grant, Mr. L. R. Ellis, Mr. R. W. Brown, and Mr. Henry V. Deane in cabin; and 3 Europeans, 1 Indian, and 198 Chinese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—73 passengers in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss Jamieson, Miss Kopeck, Mr. and Mrs. H. Snelhage, Mr. M. S. Johnson, Mr. C. A. Pennington, Mrs. Uyematsu, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mr. S. Nagata, Mr. H. Masaki, Mr. E. L. Conan, Mr. Otto Hamberg, and Mrs. M. Wheeler in cabin; Mrs. Nagata and 3 children, Mrs. Masaki and child, Messrs. Sasaki, Komuro, John Mace, F. J. Black, E. Braake, J. A. Nicolle, and D. and J. Fraser in second class, and 66 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. White, Mr. Jones, and Miss Jones in cabin; 3 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Otaru via ports:—Mr. John Milne, in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Burris, the Misses A. and L. Moore, Miss S. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hok Am, Mr. and Mrs. R. Teicher and child, Miss Tucker, Miss Seeds, Miss Payne, Mrs. Ogasawara, Miss Furber, Mrs. Yamaguchi, Mrs. Yamada, Lieut. Ide, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Captain F. E. Elliott, and Mr. T. B. Glover in cabin; Mrs. Matsunaga, Mrs. Matsunaga and 3 children, Miss Nagamatsu, Messrs. Nagagawa, Sekikura, Kwong Chee, Isobe, Ishida, and Ono and child in second class, and 74 passengers in steerage.
Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. R. Fraser-Smith and native servant, Mr. Loo Tsu Chong and native servant in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$200,000.00.
Per British steamer *Phra Nang*, for Tacoma, Wash via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ..	405	781	3,707	993	5,796
Amoy	76	3,204	564	764	4,608
Hyogo	—	874	510	613	1,997
Yokohama ..	436	—	617	1,384	2,437
Foochow	175	378	903	1,171	2,627
Total	1,092	5,237	6,301	4,835	17,465

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	86	—	86
Yokohama	127	—	127
Total	213	—	213

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 704 bales; Waste Silk, 15 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 4th August; had moderate winds, weather foggy and misty, sea generally smooth. Nothing spoken.
The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th August at noon; passed Oshima at 9.17 p.m., made Rock Island at 11.53 a.m. on the 20th; had fine weather and hazy with smooth sea and light S. and E. breeze throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th August at 6.12 p.m.
The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Hakodate the 18th August at 7.11 p.m.; had gentle southerly wind with fine clear weather to arrival at Miyako the 19th at 10.10 a.m. and left the 20th at 1.45 a.m.; passed Kinkasan at 9.40 a.m. and Inuboye at 11.45 p.m.; had light variable winds with fine clear weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st August at 10.28 a.m.
The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Otaru the 17th August at 1 p.m.; had light variable airs and fine weather to Cape Komai, which was passed at 7 p.m., moderate breeze with passing rain squalls from the S.S.E.; at 10 p.m. strong breeze with heavy rain squalls and lightning continuing to midnight, when cleared away, wind shifting to the westward with moderate breeze and fine clear weather; on the

18th at 0.45 a.m. met steamer *Wakanoura Maru* going with at 8 a.m. passed Shirakami Light; thence gentle breeze and fine clear weather. Arriving at Hakodate the 18th at 11 a.m. and left the 19th at noon; had gentle S.W. breeze and fine clear weather; at 3.38 p.m. passed Shiriya-saki Light; thence to port light to gentle variable breezes and cloudy weather. Arriving at Oginohama the 20th at 10 p.m. and left the same day at 2 p.m.; had gentle easterly breeze and fine weather; at midnight light variable airs and fine weather; on the 21st at 1.30 a.m. met *Yamashiro Maru* going north; passed Inuboye Light at 5.10 a.m.; thence to port light variable airs and calm with very fair weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st August at 3.10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Kobe the August 21st at 5.20 p.m.; passed Oshima the 21st at 3.10 p.m.; arriving at Yokohama the 22nd at 1.30 p.m.; experienced fine weather and smooth sea to Omai-saki; thence to Vries Islands thick foggy weather; thence to Port fine weather; at 5 p.m. the 21st observed a burning wreck 22 miles E.N.E. of Oshima, which was found to be the lower part of a small wooden screw steamer, only the stem and stern post and the machinery remaining that were visible.

The Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 23rd August at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th August at 5.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Otaru the 20th August at 1 p.m.; had gentle S.W. winds to Hakodate, arriving the 21st at 9.05 a.m. Left the 22nd at noon; had light to moderate southerly winds and fine weather to Oginohama, arriving the 23rd at 0.20 p.m. Left the same day at 2.51 p.m.; thence to port had light S. to S.W. winds with fine weather and smooth sea. Arriving at Yokohama the 24th August at 6.45 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th August; from Hongkong to Lamocks, light S.E. winds and heavy rains; thence to Yokohama, light airs, and calms, fine weather, smooth seas, no well. Time, 4 days, 17 hours, and 42 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Senda Maru*, Captain Tipler, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th August at midnight; passed Rock Island the 26th at 0.50 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the same day at 7.30 a.m.; had light variable winds with fine clear weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 20th August at 10 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 22nd. Left again the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Kobe the 24th at 6 a.m. Left the 25th at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 26th August at 4 p.m.; experienced fresh to moderate S.E. winds and fine weather to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe had light variable winds with fine clear weather; thence to Yokohama N.E. winds with cloudy squally weather to Rock Island; thence to port fine and clear.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been more doing generally during the past week, not only in spot cargo but for arrival, especially in Yarns and Grey Shirtings, and in these latter buyers have been able to obtain considerable concessions on current quotations, owing the very depressed condition of the Manchester market, which has doubtless induced the large business reported. Piece Goods generally have been in improved demand, and in many cases holders refuse to accept previous prices, with prospects of full crops, trade being good, and supplies on a reduced scale. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10 1/2 for Bank on demand. Sales for the week comprise 1,500 bales English Yarn, 20 bales Bombays, 17,500 pieces glb. Shirtings, 500 pieces Washed Shirtings, 850 pieces 8 1/2 lb. Shirtings, 2,500 pieces T. Cloth, 5,000 pieces Turkey Reds, 2,000 pieces Indigo Shirtings, 2,000 pieces Prints, 1,500 pieces Silks, 500 pieces Cotton Italians, 1,800 dozen Handkerchiefs, 1,200 pieces Velvets, 250 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 2,000 pieces Italian Cloth, 5,000 pieces Mousseline de Laine, and 10,000 pairs Blankets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 41 inches	1.85 to 2.55
T. Cloth—7 1/2 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 41 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italiana and Satteens Black, 39 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	5.65 to 6.90
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds, 42 1/2 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetas—12 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25

Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 1/2, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.25 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.21 to 0.24
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18 to 0.20
Cloths—Pilot, 34 @ 36 inches	0.24 to 0.47
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47 to 0.52
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.60
	0.55 to 0.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Medium	\$11.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 32/36, Medium to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 32/36, Two-fold	33.75 to 35.00
No. 32, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Iron generally is dull, with the exception of Wire Nails. Business having been so unsatisfactory for some time, dealers have not loaded up to a great extent, with the result that now, as the nail demand has set in and there are no old goods on hand, buyers are paying full prices.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.70 to 4.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Good demand, and holders strong. Stock is gradually being reduced, and should there be no fresh arrivals within a short time, prices ought to show a decided advance.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	—
Comet	\$1.57 1/2 to 1.60
Devon	1.52 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52 1/2 to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52 1/2

SUGAR.

The demand noted in our last has continued, with the result that some descriptions of Browns are exhausted, and buyers have been content to take such stock as remained at full rates. White is also in demand. Supplies soon expected.

Brown Takao	PER PICUL.
Brown Daitong	\$4.30 to 4.30
Brown Canton	4.40 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	3.60 to 3.70
White refined	6.25 to 6.40
	5.50 to 7.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 19th instant. Since that date there has been a very large business on this market, settlements reaching 2,287 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 266 piculs; *Filatures*, 924 piculs; *Re-reels*, 832 piculs; *Kakeda*, 175 piculs; *Oshu*, 90 piculs. There has been no direct export this week, so that the total business remains as above noted—2,287 piculs.

A very heavy business has been done, and sellers have been masters of the situation. Prices rise apparently with every fresh sale made, and buyers seem ready to pay whatever holders ask. Best grades are again about \$30 dearer on the week, and stand at \$200 per picul more than they did this day last year. Of course we have now a lower exchange; but when all allowance is made for this, the difference in the two markets is very pronounced.

A great feature in the trade this year is the very large business done for Europe so early in the season. This proves that a good quality of silk must be at a premium in Europe, as best *Filatures* destined for Lyons have been weighed up at \$800. Medium grades have also been pushed up considerably in price and are now nearly approaching their relative value, as compared with the best silks.

There have been two shipping opportunities

since we last wrote. The English mail steamer *Ancona*, on the 19th instant, carried 704 bales for Europe, and the steamer *Phra Nang*, which left port on the 20th instant for Tacoma, took 127 bales en route for New York. These departures bring the present export figures up to 6,091 piculs, against 7,088 piculs last year and 2,133 piculs at the same date in 1890. There must be in foreigners' godowns fully 3,000 bales awaiting shipment by the outgoing mail steamers.

Hanks.—These have been largely bought for Europe during the week, but the quality is far from satisfactory this season; still prices advance. \$600 is reported paid for a small lot of good *Shinshu*, while plenty of good medium silks are sold at \$550. Common *Hachioji* have advanced to \$500, at which price there appear to be more buyers than sellers.

Filatures.—As usual, these have been the first favourites in demand, and several parcels fine size have been booked at \$800. Some dealers now ask more, holding out for the fancy price of \$820. In coarse sizes, Extras are held for \$790, \$785 having been paid a day or two ago. Other sorts have risen in proportion; in fact, we must chronicle a general advance all along the line.

Re-reels.—These have had their turn at last, buyers investing heavily in medium grades. "Five Girl" have sold at \$715, with other good silks in proportion. Medium grades have been freely done at an advance of \$20 upon the rates current ten days ago.

Kakeda.—A steady business goes on; prices have been pushed up in sympathy with other classes. Daruma chop, \$740; Horsehead, \$700, are some of the latest purchases made.

Oshu.—Considerable demand for these at the beginning of the week, one parcel prime *Hama-tsuki* bringing \$560, with other grades at \$530 and \$500.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

<i>Hanks</i> —No. 16	—
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 2 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	\$600 to 610
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 2 (<i>Joshu</i>)	570 to 580
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (<i>Shinshu</i>)	580 to 570
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 (<i>Joshu</i>)	550 to 560
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 24 to 3	530 to 540
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 3	510 to 520
<i>Hanks</i> —No. 34	490 to 500
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 10/12 deniers	800 to 810
<i>Filatures</i> —Extra 13/15 deniers	785 to 795
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 10/13 deniers	780 to 790
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	760 to 770
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	740 to 750
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 10/15 deniers	740 to 750
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
<i>Filatures</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	680 to 700
<i>Re-reels</i> —Extra	770 to 780
<i>Re-reels</i> —(<i>Oshu</i>) Best No. 1	740 to 750
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	730 to 735
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	710 to 720
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	660 to 670
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to 640
<i>Re-reels</i> —No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 620
<i>Kakedas</i> —Extra	740 to 750
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 1	710 to 720
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 11	700 to 705
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 2	670 to 680
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 24	640 to 650
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 3	620 to 630
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 34	600 to 610
<i>Kakedas</i> —No. 4	580 to 590
<i>Oshu Sendai</i> —No. 24	—
<i>Hama-tsuki</i> —No. 1, 2	540 to 560
<i>Hama-tsuki</i> —No. 3, 4	500 to 530
<i>Soda</i> —No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 26th Aug., 1892:—

	1890	1891	1892
Europe	3,456	2,314	3,666
America	2,551	4,493	1,515
Total	6,007	6,807	2,681
Settlements and Direct	6,091	7,088	2,133
Export from 1st July	9,500	7,950	2,350
Stock, 26th August	4,500	7,000	8,600
Available supplies to date	14,000	14,950	10,950

WASTE SILK.

Business in this branch has been confined to sales of 317 piculs, all *Kibiso*.

Arrivals continue and the stock shows an increase of 1,400 piculs on the week. Buyers still complain that holders require too much for their goods, while these latter appear perfectly content to continue waiting. Meanwhile, advices from consumers are by no means rosy, and only time can solve the enigma as to higher or lower prices.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the English mail steamer *Ancona* taking 15 bales for Europe. The present export figures are therefore 1,795 piculs, against 709 piculs last year and 765 to the same date in 1890.

Perced Cocoons.—The situation remains unchanged. Holders will not reduce their quotations and offers from foreign markets are for the moment quite "out of it."

Noshi.—Nothing has been done this week. Here again shippers complain that holders require

too much for their wares, and the consequence is that no transactions take place.

Kibiso.—The business done is all confined to this class and consists of about 120 piculs *Filatures* at prices ranging from \$80 to \$97½. The balance of the settlements are on line of *Foshu* ordinary *Kibiso*; price \$27 to \$30 according to quality.

Nothing whatever passing in other descriptions.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	\$10 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best.....	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	\$58 to 70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	30 to 25
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good.....	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low.....	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 26th Aug., 1892:—

	SEASON 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk.....	1,795	709	765
Pierced Cocoons.....	—	—	—
	1,795	709	765
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July }	1,400	1,450	800
Stock, 26th August.....	11,500	9,350	9,500
Available supplies to date.....	12,900	10,800	10,300

Exchange has fluctuated from day to day with the news of Silver from home. We quote as under:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/10½; New YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$70½; 4m/s. U.S. \$71½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.71.

Estimated Silk Stock, 26th Aug., 1892:—

	RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	180	—	—	—
Filatures.....	1,670	—	—	1,770
Re-reels.....	1,860	—	—	5,850
Kakada.....	610	—	—	3,700
Oshu.....	180	—	—	50
Tayssam Kinds.....	—	—	—	130
Total piculs.....	4,500	—	—	11,500

TEA.

No new feature to note. Market well supplied, and, if anything, prices show a weakening tendency. Shippers complain of scarcity of freight accommodation, the outgoing steamers being full.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest.....	\$32 to 33
Choice.....	29 to 31
Finest.....	25 to 27
Fine.....	22 to 24
Good Medium.....	19 to 21
Medium.....	17 to 18
Good Common.....	14 to 16
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Fluctuations have been slight during the week, the latest move being a small advance.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3.61
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3.73
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	2½ % dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	2½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight.....	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	60½
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	71½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	72½
Silver.....	38½

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TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

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"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
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1y.

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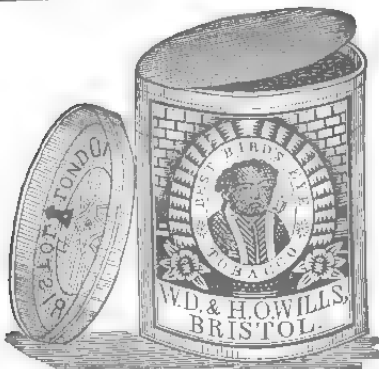
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17.

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OF JAPAN

(REGISTERED)



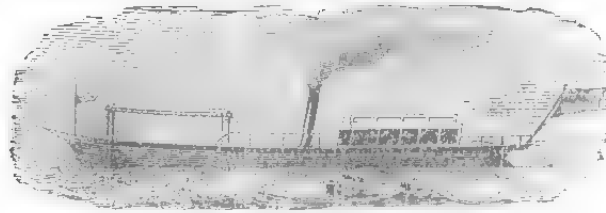
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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No. 10.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可認者信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 3RD, 1892.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st August, 1892, at H.B.M. Consulate, Yokohama, before R. de B. Lazard, Esq., Acting Consul, and afterwards at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, M.A., ROBERT W. BORTHWICK, of Yokohama, eldest son of Mr. Thomas Richardson Borthwick, Bathgate, Scotland, to EMILY, elder daughter of Mr. E. J. Moss, Woolside, Yokohama, and Cirencester, England.

On Tuesday, the 30th August, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. C. Irvine, M.A., assisted by the Rev. C. G. Gardner, B.A., EDITH ISABELL, youngest daughter of the late Mr. James Brown, Banbury Road, Oxford, to OSCAR BALK, of Yokohama.

DEATH.

On the August 31st, at 2 a.m., Miss M. E. V. PARDOX, at No. 13, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE first snow this year fell on Fuji on the 26th ult.

THE Jigan-in, a Buddhist temple at Koishikawa, Tokyo, was burnt on the morning of the 26th ult.

THE regular general meeting of Shareholders of the Yokohama Specie Bank will take place on the 10th inst.

SOME 350 residents in the North and South Tama Districts of Kanagawa Prefecture have become members of the National Union.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has been pleased to decorate Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister for Education, with the Second Class Order of the Mirror.

THE death of Mr. Tayama Yakichi, manager of the Hakodate Branch of the Third National Bank, is announced to have taken place at Hakodate on the 24th ult.

COUNT INOUE, Minister of State for Home Affairs, proceeded to the Metropolitan Police Bureau on the 27th ult., and accompanied by Superintendent-General Sonoda and Chief Police

Inspector Takahashi, made a general inspection of the Bureau. The Count afterwards visited the Kajibashi Prison.

MORE than one hundred students of the Noble's School for Boys, who have been indulging in sea-bathing at Katase for some time, returned to the capital on the 25th ult.

VISCOUNT SUGI, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M., the Empress-Dowager, proceeded to Odawara on the 26th ult., to inquire into the condition of the father of Count Ito.

DURING a violent gale on the night of the 14th ult. an outbreak of fire took place at Hisazumimura in the Naoiri District, Oita Prefecture, and 28 dwellings, 11 stables, and 5 out-houses were burnt.

STEAMSHIP communication between Yokohama and Yokosuka, which had been suspended for some time, was resumed on the 28th ult. Steamers will run four times a day between the two ports.

A NOTIFICATION is issued by the Minister of State for Finance to the effect that a drawing of the Six per cent. Capitalized Pension Bonds to the amount of 6,000,000 yen will take place this month.

SHORTLY after midnight on the 27th ult. a fire broke out in a building within the enclosure of the Shimbashi Railway Station. The flames, however, were got under control before the fire had time to extend.

THE 30th ult. being the birthday of H.I.H. the Crown Prince, officials of *chokunin* and *sonin* rank in the Imperial Household Department proceeded to the Akasaka Palace to congratulate His Highness on the occasion.

IT is stated that the Cabinet has decided to grant sums of yen 30,000 and yen 20,000 from the Treasury in aid of the funds for repairing the damage caused by the recent inundations in Hyogo and Tokushima Prefectures respectively.

A PETITION for the transfer of Governor Utsumi, of Kanagawa, signed by more than one hundred and forty Headmen of villages and towns in the South Tama District of the Prefecture, was presented to the Home Minister on the 24th ult.

A FIRE broke out in a residence at Tsuwata in the Kaboku District of Ishikawa Prefecture, on the 26th ult. at 2 p.m., and before firemen could successfully grapple with it, 102 houses were destroyed and 2 considerably damaged; 2 telegraph posts were also burnt down.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU, who proceeded to witness the review of the artillery of the Imperial Guards, which took place at Shizuhara in Chiba Prefecture lately, returned to Tokyo on the 29th ult. The Prince had an interview with the Emperor the following day, and reported to his Majesty the details of the review.

DURING the month of July last 1,412 applications for patents were made to the Patents Bureau and 1,391 patents were granted, for which fees to the amount of yen 1,727.838 were received. The above is a decrease of 87 applications, 396 patents granted, and yen 261.652 paid in fees as compared with the previous year.

THE total number of steamships and sailing vessels that arrived and left Kobe during the three months ended June last was 235. The particulars are as follows:—Arrivals: 95 British steamships and 76 sailing vessels; 13 French steamers; 19 German steamers; 3 American

sailing vessels, and 3 Norwegian steamers; departures: 76 British steamers and 1 sailing vessel; 8 French steamers, 13 German steamers, 1 American sailing vessel, and 1 Norwegian steamer.

MR. ITO Juzo, father of the Prime Minister, who has been suffering from a dangerous illness at Odawara, is said to be making slow progress towards recovery. Count Ito, who has been in almost constant attendance on his father, will probably return to the capital in a day or two. Dr. Baelz was requested on the 29th ult. to visit the patient.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made by the members of the Young Men's Progressive Party to give a banquet to Mr. Takata Sanae, editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and a well-known *Kai-shin-to* representative in the Lower House, on the 30th ult. at the *Kinki-kan*, Kanda, Tokyo, to congratulate him upon his recovery from the wound which he received during the last session of the Imperial Diet.

LIEUTENANT SERATA, of the *Katsuragi Kan*, has been appointed Captain of the *Manju Kan*, and Lieutenant Ito, of the *Yamato Kan* has been appointed to the *Manju Kan*. Captain Sawa, of the *Yamato Kan*, and Captain Kawamura, of the *Manju Kan*, have been released from their posts. Chief Gunner Ishiura, of the *Ryugo Kan*, has been made Adjutant to the Commandant at the Port of Yokosuka.

A DESPATCH from Okinawa gives details of the most violent storm that has been experienced there for over sixty years, and which visited the neighbourhood of Nagomagiri in Jito province, on the 10th ult. The wind rose at about 3 p.m., and gradually increasing in violence, was at its height at 11 p.m., raging heavily from 7 p.m. up to that hour. Shortly before midnight there was a lull for twenty or thirty minutes, after which the tempest was renewed with redoubled force lasting for nearly three hours. About two hundred houses were blown down, and one hundred and fifty considerably damaged at Nagomagiri, several lives being lost, and many persons injured. Much damage was done to the crops.

THE improvement noted in the Import trade last week has been maintained, and has in certain directions been extended, the operations of Japanese dealers being stimulated by the idea that stocks are not large and that prices are likely to be higher before they are lower than present rates. The demand has extended over a variety of goods, and a large business has been done in special lines at full, and in certain cases higher, rates. There has been some enquiry for Metals, and the quotations for Wire Nails have been raised. There has not been a great deal passing in Kerosene, but this is more due to the attitude of holders than of buyers, the latter being choked off by the prices asked, while the former are very firm. Sales of Sugar have been made at full rates, and, stocks being small, there is more likelihood of a rise than a decline in values. Notwithstanding the daily rise in the prices demanded for Silk, there has been a "boom" in this market, and, including 370 piculs direct shipment, the trade of the week mounts up to 2,316 piculs. Prices have advanced daily during the week, but actual business yesterday was a little quiet, though there is no sign of lower rates. Only a small business in Waste Silk, and the stock increases rapidly. The Tea trade is fairly large, and prices are well maintained for the leaf in request, namely, lower grades. Exchange has fluctuated as usual, but is still

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "JIJI" ON KOREA.

THE necessity for adopting a definite policy towards Korea furnished the text of many a leading article in the vernacular press a short time ago. Some writers contended that Japan ought to join with England in maintaining Korean independence, while others deemed it more advisable to unite with Russia for the same purpose. The *Jiji Shimpō* now undertakes a crusade against both views. It acknowledges that England and Russia are eminently influential in the East, and it thinks that England has always supported China, and helped the latter to extend her sway in Korea, whereas, on the other hand, Russia is most anxious to stand up for Korea, and to establish her independence. Yet it would be wrong for the Japanese to ally themselves with either, for so surely as she does so, the other will become her enemy; a contingency which she cannot afford to regard with indifference. England's commercial influence is paramount throughout the civilized world, and if Japan wishes to become wealthy and influential by means of commerce, she must by all means avoid making an enemy of England. Again, though with Russia Japan has no commercial relations, the former is the latter's neighbour, and when the Siberian Railway is completed, this empire—we quote the *Jiji*—will have a formidable foe on her borders. Therefore to identify herself with either Russia or England would be to Japan's disadvantage. Nevertheless, Korea's condition calls for some change, and the only method of changing it satisfactorily is to remove the feeling of estrangement that now exists between Japan and China with respect to the little kingdom; to annul that most inconvenient treaty of Tientsin, and to take a strong stand in securing Korean independence. The *Jiji* sees no other way to solve the Korean problem without provoking the enmity of any country.

* * *

It is not easy to discover the precise import of the epithet which the *Jiji Shimpō* applies to the Tientsin Treaty, but we gather that our contemporary regards that agreement as an objectionable obstacle to the carrying out of the programme which it now advocates. We should like to receive from the *Jiji Shimpō* some analysis of the position which Japan would occupy towards Korea to-day had not this very Treaty of Tientsin been concluded. It is true that the Treaty precludes either of the high contracting parties from sending an armed force to Korea without giving previous information of the fact to the other, and it is also true that the effect of that proviso is to prevent both Powers alike from independently pursuing any strong policy towards the peninsular kingdom. But this is precisely the clause which places Japan on a pedestal of equality with China in respect of Korea. China's steadily pursued though unostentatious policy is to hold Korea perpetually in a state of vassalage, but if the necessity arose to assert that policy by methods more trenchant than the resources of peaceful diplomacy, the Tientsin Treaty would stand effectually in the path. In short, it is to the Tientsin Treaty that Japan owes her right of opening the Korean question at any moment with China. Instead of applying to the Treaty condemnatory epithets, we should have expected a journal like the *Jiji Shimpō* to appreciate its true value.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

THE reorganization of the Japan Mail Steamship Company so far as concerns its foreign staff was referred to by us in a previous issue. The *Jiji Shimpō* and some other vernacular journals give further and more comprehensive accounts of the matter. In the first place, we are told the reasons of the reorganization. These are pretty much as previously explained by ourselves and so long as there were no railways in the country, all steamship companies prospered more or less; but the gradual extension of railways has so largely encroached upon

the business of marine transport that the days of great revenues for steamship enterprises are over. The only way to maintain an establishment like that of the Japan Mail Steamship Company is to decrease its expenditure as much as possible. Secondly, as to the policy of reconstruction, it is stated that since the Company in the years 1889 and 1891, adopted every possible measure, short of interfering with its *personnel*, to effect economy, nothing now remains, in the face of further necessity to economise the expenditure of each branch by as much as 40 per cent.—except to reduce the number of officers and diminish the salaries of those remaining. In the next place, with regard to the extent of these dismissals and reductions, we read that the number of officers whose services are dispensed with is 56 Japanese and 53 Foreigners. More than half of that number were in receipt of high salaries, and among them were included several who possessed ripe experience or were near relations of the principal officers. But no considerations of this nature were allowed to interfere with the programme. As for those remaining, from managers of branch offices to day labourers, their salaries were cut down from 10 to 25 per cent. In respect of the salaries of the principal officers, no reduction is made in the cases of the President, Vice-President, and Directors, because, on the occasion of the last reconstruction in 1891, the above mentioned officers agreed to receive 25 per cent. less than salary, in order that the money might be employed to secure the services of ten experts who were needed at the time. Further, we read that in addition to reductions of staff and salaries, various changes in the distribution of officers have been made. For instance, whereas hitherto European engineers were employed in the Yokohama Stores Department and Engine Works, they are now replaced by Japanese engineers. Moreover, economies are to be effected in various contingent allowances, as for stationary, ink, and so forth. It appears, however, that the above reduction of over a hundred employes is, in a certain sense only nominal. For by their dismissal a need arises to replace eighty of them. In short, the word dismissal is only a method of saying "engagement at lower rates." The chance of resuming work at reduced salaries is offered to 80 per cent. of those who have received their *congé*, and failing their acceptance, either the junior officials of the company are engaged, or outsiders are taken. Finally, the Directors explain that since these measures are rendered imperatively necessary by adverse circumstances, and have been adopted with much reluctance, there is no desire to hold any to their engagements against their will. If reductions of salary have created discontent among the officials remaining, the discontented are informed that they may leave the Company at any moment.

* * *

It is a little singular that the newspapers which set forth the above details with so much apparent accuracy should, one and all, have fallen into the error of greatly over-stating the number of the foreign employes whose services were dispensed with by the Company. That number is not 53, as stated by our Tokyo contemporaries, but 12.

THE EXAMINATION DAY.

THE *Choya Shimbun*, under the above title, says that Count Inouye has fixed the 5th instant for the assembly of all the local governors at the Department of Home Affairs, when they are to be subjected to sundry inquiries. Many of them, hearing the news, are said to feel extremely uneasy and to be looking greatly depressed. One is even reported to have avowed his apprehension that in the sequel of the examination he will receive his *congé*. Reminded that many local Governors have come to Tokyo on many occasions to exercise their patronage on account of their *protégés*, or for other purposes, and that the present should be regarded as a fine opportunity for offering valuable advice and assistance to the new Minister of Home Affairs, the solicitous official replied that the new Minister is not like

his predecessors, and that an unnecessary word addressed to him may cost a man his position. The most courageous, therefore, must be disconcerted by the prospect of such an ordeal. It is certain, says the *Choya* in conclusion, that those sharp and piercing eyes of Count Inouye will speedily gauge the ability of each Governor who comes before him, and estimate his true value. No wonder the local officials regard the 5th of September as the great examination day of their lives.

AN UNRECOGNISED WRECK.

VERY peculiar circumstances in connection with the wreck of a steamer are reported from Shanghai, the stranded vessel having been seen by several steamers that have arrived at that port, but none were able to make out her name or give a clue to her identity through her general appearance. In reference to this the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 20th inst. has the following:—"Up till a late hour this afternoon nothing had been heard in Shanghai to lead to the identification of the vessel seen ashore on the Hieshans by Captain Hutchison of the *Whampoa*, and speculation has been rife all day as to what she could be. Several steamers were mentioned as likely to have been in that neighbourhood about the times the luckless steamer is supposed to have come to grief, and many were of opinion that she might be the *Bengloe* or *Guthrie*, but on making enquiries of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., the agents for both these vessels, we were informed that it was altogether improbable if not impossible that she could be either of them. In the first place both of them, being British steamers, were bound to have their names conspicuously displayed on the bow, a thing which Captain Hutchison was careful to note was not the case with the steamer he saw. Then as to the *Guthrie*, she only left Kobe yesterday and that of course disposes of all possibility that the derelict should turn out to be her. The *Bengloe* left Moji for Hongkong on the 14th inst., and as her course would be well outside the Hieshan group it is almost impossible to conceive that she could so far get out of the proper track as to be found where the wrecked steamer lies. Besides she has not so many derricks on deck as Captain Hutchison describes on the vessel he saw. The Chinese telegraph steamer *Fecheu* was also mentioned, but it is quite as unlikely that the wreck should prove to be her. All the probabilities point to the luckless unknown being a total stranger in these waters. Further information is anxiously awaited."

* * *

The *N.C. Daily News* of the 22nd ult. thus refers to the wrecked steamer:—"Speculation is still rife as to the name of the vessel that the *Whampoa* saw wrecked on the Hieshans on Thursday last. The *Cathay* passed the islands on the following day at 1 p.m. but did not see her. The *Haeslin*, which always keeps a sharp look-out after storms for wrecks or disabled vessels, failed to sight her, though of course at the time, it was not known there was a wreck on the island, and the *Puensang* which passed the Hieshans on Friday evening knew nothing of the wreck till she arrived at Shanghai. The *Benvenue*, which left Hongkong on Saturday week for Japan may be the vessel, and there was also a suggestion that the wreck is that of an oil ship, the *Hounslow*, from Batoum and bound to Shanghai. The *Hounslow*, which is a sister ship to the *Windsor*, now in port, has a black funnel, whereas the wreck is said to have a buff-coloured funnel. Fortunately the rumour that the wreck was the *Hounslow* was discredited yesterday by the arrival of that vessel at Wusung, where she is detained in consequence of insufficient depth of water to cross the bar. The *Glennear* passed the ill-fated vessel on Friday morning, and describes it as a total wreck. The name could not be made out, neither the colour of the funnel." The same journal of the following day says:—"It seems most extraordinary that a vessel should be lost within less than two hundred miles of Shanghai, and this too in the track of steamers coming to Shanghai from the southern ports, and her name not be known for four or five days. Yet such

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is the case, as the name of the steamer which is wrecked on the Hieshans is not yet known, neither is the fate of her crew. The *Benglos* has not reached Hongkong yet, and it is beginning to be believed that is the vessel. There is a steamer with timber from Singapore for Taku, and she is said to be overdue. The *Kwang-lee* was about two miles off the wreck on Sunday at 2 a.m. and saw lots of lights about, but not knowing there was a wreck in the vicinity did not stop to investigate. The *Canton*, which also arrived here yesterday, did not see the wreck."

YOKOHAMA TRADERS' GUILD.

SOME days ago we reported that trouble had arisen among the members of the Yokohama Traders' Guild. The complications seem to have gone from bad to worse, and at present there is every sign of the Guild's disintegration. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Mr. Ono, President of the Guild, formed a party in conjunction with Messrs. Moji, Anzai, Ikeda, Asada, and other members, and without obtaining the concurrence of their remaining associates, constructed public godowns and granted subsidies to newspapers in Yokohama out of the fund collected from the regular commissions on mercantile transactions. These gentlemen are further accused of scheming to get the whole of the silk business into their own hands, to which end they proposed that the amount of security deposited by members should be 5,000 yen, whereas at present any one wishing to enter the Guild is required to furnish security to the amount of 2,000 yen only. Such an arrangement would effectually prevent any new silk-men from joining the Guild. Mr. Adachi, therefore, stoutly opposed the idea, and finally Notification No. 56, issued by the Kencho, declared a uniform amount of security for all. This just enactment, however, being an abstacle to the prosecution of the schemes in question, the plotters raised objections to the new Regulations, and prepared and presented to the Kencho various questions on minor points. On the other hand, Mr. Kimura and others, who are displeased with the management of Mr. Ono and his party, thinking that they saw their opportunity, presented a document to the President of the Guild, requesting him to call a special meeting for the purpose of abolishing the system of collecting commissions to form a maintenance fund for the Guild. But the Ono Party, apprehensive lest the proposal should pass, despatched telegrams to various watering-places, where some of their supporters are staying during the summer vacation. Meanwhile, the opposition declared that though the Kencho's new Rules present some inconvenient features, they are better for them than the old rules, and that the wisest plan would be to reorganise the Guild on the basis of the amended rules. The time allowed for organization is only 15 days from the day of the publication of the Regulations, so that very little interval remains available. In the reorganized guild there will be not only Messrs. Kimura, Suzuki, Nakajima, Yamada, Adachi, Kashiwagi, and other wholesale merchants, but also Messrs. Hara, Shibusawa, and other well known independent merchants. It is confidently predicted that the dissolution of the present Guild will take place within a week.

THE YOKOHAMA SILK MERCHANTS' GUILD.

THESE has for some time past been a great deal of disorganisation in the Yokohama Silk Merchants' Guild, owing to the refusal of Mr. Adachi Shoten, a seller of silk, to submit to the control of the Guild. The object of the establishment of the Guild, as stated by its leading members, was to render membership compulsory in the case of all persons who wish to deal with foreigners, and the assistance of the Prefectural authorities has been repeatedly solicited for the attainment of this object. Mr. Adachi defied the Guild and carried on his business in opposition to its rules. The Guild took legal proceedings against him. The police authorities before whom the case was first heard gave it against Mr. Adachi. But in the District Court this decision was reversed, and it was ruled that the Guild had no right to en-

force rules compelling membership. This verdict, as may be imagined, was welcomed by a great many silk merchants who had joined the Guild under the impression that no other course was open to them, and they at once signified their intention to withdraw. To save the situation, those interested in the continued existence of the Guild applied to the Governor of Kanagawa and succeeded in obtaining his consent to a new body of rules, which have been drafted so as to render it compulsory for every person engaging in the silk trade to join the guild. Imprisonment is now the penalty for such obstinacy as that shown by Mr. Adachi.

Though there is no denying that the guild is intended to fulfil some useful purposes and that some of its rules are such as no honest trader could object to, we cannot approve of the action of the Kencho authorities in this matter. To require that a trader shall submit to the control of a voluntarily organised body consisting of fellow-traders, or, in the alternative, be debarred from carrying on his business, is, to our minds, a dangerous concession to the claims of the majority to coerce the minority. Further, to make imprisonment the penalty for business transactions, of however honourable a kind, carried on without reference to a body of traders possessing self-constituted authority, is surely of the nature of despotism and is certainly out of all harmony with the spirit of modern Japanese laws. It is astonishing how despotic the men who clamour for more liberty are apt to become directly they are entrusted with authority. Personal liberty is all the cry when the vociferators feel the weight of their chains, but the fetters which bind their neighbours they are not concerned to remove. Witness the persistency with which the guild of silk traders have solicited government aid in order to enforce obedience to their rules.

THE 50 "SEN" PIECE.

SOME months ago the Department of Finance propounded to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce a question relating to the utility of the 50 sen silver-coin, and the question is one of those now awaiting discussion by the Chamber. The same query being addressed to the Bankers' Association, elicited an opinion that the coin is inconvenient and useless. The financial section of the Chamber of Commerce also considered the half-yen piece superfluous, and at the same time passed a resolution advising the manufacture of 25 sen coins, and the revocation of the 5 sen silver coins, the 2 sen copper-coins, and the 1 rin copper-coins. The following is a translation of the draft of the answer to the Government, which will be laid before the Chamber for approval:—

Str.—In your despatch of 30th May, you ask our opinion as to the necessity of keeping the 50 sen silver-coin in circulation, and at the same time address to us other cognate queries: We have carefully investigated the matter, and ascertained that the 50 sen silver-coin, being too bulky and too heavy to be conveniently used, is generally disliked by the public. The Chamber of Commerce has therefore passed a resolution to the effect that the coin is absolutely unnecessary. This first and principal question having been thus settled, there does not appear to be any occasion to answer the correlated enquiries. We entertain, however, some views about the currency which we desire to submit herewith for your consideration. We remain, etc.,

(Signed) SHIBUSAWA YUICHI (President).
For the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce.
To Matsuno Oniy-shi, Esq.,
Director of the Accountant's Bureau, Financial Department."

OPINIONS ON THE SUBSIDIARY CURRENCY.

We have elsewhere stated that the 50 sen silver-coin is inconvenient and unnecessary. If it were re-cast of 900 fineness, its value would not change, but its size and weight will be diminished a little. Since, however, we find that it is inconvenient for purposes of carriage and disliked in trade transactions, we believe that a trifling change in its dimensions would not materially improve its popularity. Therefore we conclude that it is unnecessary. Besides, since the total amount of 50 sen silver-coins in circulation is over 2,000,000 yen, much expense would be involved in the operation of re-casting, and further, if the coin were finer, it would wear out more rapidly. Therefore the existing 20 and 10 sen silver-coins seem sufficient for present purposes, and, should it be found expedient,

the 50 sen coins may be re-cast into 20 and 10 sen coins. Again, the existing 5 sen silver-coin is so small as to be extremely inconvenient. It ought to be totally abolished. At present there are four kinds of subsidiary silver-coins in circulation, namely 50, 20, 10, and 5 sen. Among these, however, the 50 and 5 sen coins are unnecessary for the reasons assigned above. On the other hand, if 25 sen silver-coins were cast, we believe that the measure would conduce to the convenience of exchange, as was the case when the *ichibu* was issued under the Tokugawa Government. If it be deemed necessary to re-cast the existing 50 sen coin, perhaps the best plan would be to make them into 25 sen silver-coins of 800 fineness, instead of into 50 sen of 900 fineness. In the former case, the 20 sen coins should be called in gradually.

Further, there are four kinds of copper-coins in circulation:—the 2 sen and 1 sen, and 5 rin and 8 rin. Among these the 2 sen copper-coin is so bulky as to be very inconvenient, and the 1 rin is so small as to be equally inconvenient. Since there are 5 sen nickel-coins, and 1 sen copper-coins in circulation on the one hand, while we have also the old cash less than 2 rin in value, it would seem that neither the 2 sen nor the 1 rin copper-coin is required. We think that these ought not to be increased, and that the coins already in circulation should be gradually called in. Such are the opinions held by the Chamber of Commerce with respect to subsidiary coins. We desire to submit them in the sequel of our reply to the question relating to the 50 sen silver-coin.

LAND ASSESSMENT.

At a recent meeting of members of the Diet who are in favour of re-assessing the taxable value of land, a committee of six was elected, namely, Messrs. Amakasu Bunye, Inouye Kakugoro, Kawashima Jun, Ishida Kannosuke, Murayama Rihei, and Morino Tamegoro. They compiled rules, and another meeting was held on Tuesday last, when over 30 members assembled. The following rules were adopted:—

1. Members of the Diet who are in favour of reassessing the taxable value of land shall subscribe to the following rules with the view of accomplishing their aim.
2. Every member who expresses his agreement with these rules shall pledge himself to harmonious co-operation, disregarding any slight differences of view that may exist between him and the rest.
3. A committee of 7 members shall be elected to determine the method of co-operation.
4. From among the members one or more commissioners from each Prefecture shall be elected, to assist the Committee in carrying out the above duty.
5. The principal methods to be adopted for bringing about the reassessment of the taxable value of land shall be as follow:—
 - (a) Members shall unite with public-spirited men throughout the empire, and investigate the best way of carrying out re-assessment.
 - (b) By questions and other means the opinion of the Government on the subject shall be ascertained in the 4th session of the Diet.
 - (c) For the purpose of achieving the object in view, the expenditures for public works not urgently required shall be cut down as much as possible, and large reductions shall be effected in salaries, office-expenses, cost of repairs, and so forth.
6. All persons, to whatever political party they belong, shall co-operate harmoniously in this scheme, provided only that they are in favour of re-assessment.

The seven members of the Committee have not yet been elected, but Messrs. Amakasu Bunye and Higashio Heitaro are managing the affairs of the Association. If the Government decides not to introduce a Bill for re-assessment, these seven members will do so. The above rules have been circulated among all the members of the House in their respective provinces, and it is expected that pressure will be brought to bear upon some of the members by their constituents.

IDENTIFICATION BY PHOTOGRAPH.

THE camera seems likely to play an important part in the Homestead troubles. While the fight was in progress between the strikers and the Pinkerton detectives, agents of the Steel Company, disguised as workmen, were on the battle field, armed with Kodaks. They succeeded in taking several pictures in which a number of men are shown in the act of shooting down the unfortunate detectives, who were imprisoned in a barge without any means of escape. The pictures have been developed, and it is stated that by their means not a few of the most bloodthirsty among the strikers can be identified. Arrests have already begun, and the prospect of sternly administered justice, backed by strong military force, seems to cow the desperadoes effectually. The affair was a terrible example of sanguinary lawlessness and cruelty.

Such ferocity as the strikers displayed against the unfortunate Pinkerton men who were simply doing their duty, has deservedly alienated from them every sentiment of mercy or sympathy. It is to be observed that if the riot and its incidents stand to the permanent discredit of the State, the action subsequently taken by the authorities showed thorough promptitude and efficiency. The militia were soon in full control of the district, and their manner of going to work immediately taught the rioters that further attempts at intimidation were out of the question.

Nothing is more astonishing in connection with this memorable strike than the wages of which the strikers were in receipt. We read that under the scale of 1889, "roller No. 1 in twenty-four days earned \$259.05; roller No. 2 in twenty-four days earned \$278; roller No. 3 in twenty-three days earned \$279.30." This gives an average of over \$11 per diem for each roller. In Australia at present labourers refuse to work for seven shillings a day, and in America it appears that even ordinary mill hands earn from \$2 to \$3 daily, yet they are not content—so discontented, indeed, that they resort to murder and arson to emphasize their supposed grievances. Any of us who have reached middle life can recall the days when a shilling per diem was the wage of an able-bodied labourer. In Ireland, as late as the year 1865, ten pence satisfied a good farm hand. But they have changed all that. A skilled workman at the Homestead Mills receives at least \$144 per month; a shear helper \$2.64 for eight hours work; a heater, \$130 per month, and so on. The Company, however, having spent from five to six million dollars on machinery, and thus equipped the mill in such a manner that, according to their claim, the hands could turn out more produce than is possible in any other mills, and were thus enabled to earn proportionately larger pay—for they are paid by task—the Company having done this, thought themselves entitled to alter the scale so as to bring their rates of wages to something like the general level of the mills throughout the country. But one feature of the labour agitation of these curious times is that while labourers are always striking for higher pay, they will never under any circumstances consent to a reduction. Times may be bad, employers may be in difficulties, great sums may be expended to improve the producing capacity of machinery, but the workman's earnings must never suffer: they alone are sacred.

John McLuckie, Burgess of Homestead, one of the leading spirits of the Amalgamated Association and an *employé* in the works, who is now locked up in Allegheny jail on a charge of having counselled the mob, was examined before the Investigation Committee. He gave evidence well worth perusal:—

"I wish to be put on record to this effect. I think it a gigantic conspiracy on the part of this company and its representatives, aided and abetted by violent legislation, created with a view of depriving the workmen of this country of their most sacred rights under the Constitution to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I think that fact has been pretty clearly demonstrated, and if an opportunity were afforded, I think we would have no difficulty in establishing the truth.

"Three years ago, at this same mill, we had trouble of a similar character. The capacity of the mill at that time was quite limited. Then came the McKinley tariff bill, reducing the tariff on this very identical article on which our wages were based, viz., steel billets, and raising the tariff on all other articles of production. It was a gigantic conspiracy to rob the labouring man of a fair day's wages for a fair day's work. The Carnegie Company holds the mortgages on their employes' property to a considerable extent. There are employes who have bank deposits, to what extent I do not know. Our people, as a general thing, believe the Pinkertons to be a horde of cutthroats, thugs, and lawless invaders."

Mr. Oates—Your idea, then, is that the company, after having obtained a scale of wages based on the market value of steel billets, caused the duty on steel billets to be reduced?

Mr. McLuckie—es, sir; they shortly converted the Duquesne works into a billet plant, increased the production, flooded the country so that prices may be reduced, and thus affect our wages. The Duquesne produce large amounts of billets.

Judge Taylor—I cannot understand how they can

make money by selling billets at a less price than before?

Mr. McLuckie—The Duquesne is not a union mill, and they have no defence there. They have no regular scale of wages. At any time the company wishes to reduce these men's wages they have no defence. They can run billets down to almost any price, so as to compel them to go down with them, and then bring it to the Homestead plant also. We make some billets at Homestead also, but while we may possibly make 100 tons of steel billets, we will make 5,000 tons of beams, &c."

Question—Why should the firm want this reduction when they certainly lose by it?

Answer—Because every article produced is based on that particular item of steel billets.

Judge Taylor—You think this conspiracy consisted of whom?

Mr. McLuckie—I think the Pacific Railroad people were connected.

"And who else?"

"H. C. Frick and the Carnegie interest. I think there was quite a large circle if you cared to gather them up."

"Any members of Congress?"

"The bill was passed."

"The majority of Congressmen must have been in it."

"I did not say so. I am not here for the purpose of insulting this committee."

* * *

The latest move contemplated by the strikers is remarkable. We read in a New York journal that "Mr. Brennan, the attorney of the Amalgamated Association, has advised the association officials to communicate with the State Department with a view to securing the arrest in Scotland and extradition of Mr. Andrew Carnegie. Mr. Brennan is of the opinion that Mr. Carnegie can be held on the charge of treason in maintaining a force of unauthorized armed men, without constitutional right to do so, and, if a warrant in his case is granted, a strong effort will be made to have him brought to America for trial. The Advisory Committee of the strikers claims to have in its possession evidence sufficient to prove that not only the Carnegie Company brought a large number of men into Pennsylvania for an illegal purpose, but also that it imported weapons sufficient to arm the entire force. The bringing of a force of armed men into one State from another is a violation of the Federal Constitution, and the committee has been advised that it has a good case against the Carnegie Company."

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

On Friday last at 11 a.m. the members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held a special committee meeting at the Bankers' Rooms in Sakamoto-cho to discuss the Mining Regulations. In the afternoon a general meeting was held, at which twenty-six members were present. Mr. Shibusawa, President, took the chair, and the following resolutions were passed:—

1.—In accordance with the provisions of Art. 19 sec. 2 of the Regulations of the Chamber of Commerce, it was resolved that members who failed to pay their subscriptions upon demand should be sued in Court.

2.—It was decided to postpone the amendment of the Bye laws of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce till the next meeting, there being an insufficient number of members present to pass a resolution on the subject.

3.—Representations relating to the amendment of the Regulations of the Railway Council (*Tetsudo Kaigi*), and of the Public Works Council (*Doboku Kai*). Resolutions were passed approving the drafts prepared by the Committee which shall be presented to the Minister of State for Home Affairs and the Minister of State for Finance, respectively. The following is a draft of the Representations:—

According to the Rules relating to the Railway Council and Public Works Council, each Council shall consist of a President, 20 ordinary members, and a certain number of special members; and out of these 20 ordinary members, 10 shall be elected from among high officials of the various Departments. As the Railways and Public Works are affairs of national importance, it is absolutely necessary to have some high administrative officials in the Council, but as the methods and processes of constructing railways and harbour works, etc., have very important bearings on commerce, the questions involved may be considered commercial rather than administrative. We are disappointed, therefore, to find that in neither Council is provision made for the appointment of practical men as members. Although 10 members out of the 20 ordinary members are to be elected from amongst administrative officials, nothing is said as to the character of the other 10 members. Besides, as there is no limit in the Regulations as to the number of

special members, any number of practical men may therefore be appointed; and since practical men are necessary factors in such organisations, some express provision for them ought to be made in the Regulations. We accordingly venture to propose the election of commercial members from amongst the Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire. These Chambers were organised under the Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce, promulgated on the 11th day of September, 1890, and have power to decide upon the best means for the development of commerce, and the prevention of its decline; and also to convey to offices or boards their opinion as to the enactment, amendment, abolition, and mode of carrying into practice, the laws and regulations relating to all matters of commercial interest. Thus as they represent the commercial world it is both just and convenient that members of the Railway Council and Public Works Council should be chosen from amongst them. We pray that those Regulations may be amended so as to provide for the attendance of at least three members from each Chamber of Commerce at the Council meetings. The mode of their election shall be decided by the respective Ministers of State.

4.—The proposition made by the Kansai Chamber of Commerce to hold a united General Meeting of the various Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire was rejected by a large majority.

5.—It was decided to abolish the 50 *sen* silver coin. The representation on this subject was published in a previous issue.

6.—Questions relating to rafts were left over till the next meeting.

7.—Mr. Shibusawa Yeichu was elected to represent the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce at the Miners' Conference.

The meeting closed at 9 p.m.

REMARKABLE WORDS OF MR. OHIGASHI.

THE *Nippon*, now becoming noted for publishing poetically composed conversations between official and political magnates, once more fills its columns with some remarkable words attributed to Mr. Ohigashi Giteisu who is known as the Sage of Goshu, and who was formerly President of Committee of the Whole in the House of Representatives. Speaking of political parties, Mr. Ohigashi is made to say that the time has arrived to dissolve the old parties, such as the *Kaishin-to*, and to organize new political associations adapted to the requirements of constitutional institutions. For the Government has begun to act constitutionally, whereas the existing political parties have been long despised. Hence, if a new party be formed at this juncture, there will be no more occasion for the service of *soshi*. Politicians may then throw away the sticks and swords that are still necessary for self-protection. With reference to a rumour that the Popular Party is collecting materials to re-open the attack on the new Cabinet, he declared that these are not times to return evil for evil. He himself had often suffered at the hands of the *Meiji* Government, and he had ample cause to complain in the Diet. But if the nation is to obey the Imperial command and labour for the establishment of a perfect constitutional system, these old grievances must be forgotten. As to the alleged difficulty of assuming the reins of administration, he admitted that to defeat the united strength of Satsuma and Choshu is difficult, but his own experience convinced him that the bonds which bind the two together may easily be loosed. To intrigue for that purpose, however, is not allowable under a constitutional government. Referring to the *Hakushi* (scholars possessing the highest degree in various sciences), whose numbers have so largely increased, he contemptuously avowed his surprise to find them so valueless, and charged them with lacking spirit and independence. They are, he said, no better than a set of living-dictionaries; and yet they are unable to educate the rising generation. He also severely criticised the ambition of students to become officials on the completion of their scholastic course. Concerning this a story is put into his mouth:—"Once upon a time a certain scholar went to visit Count Soyejima, and setting forth his extreme poverty, implored the Count to give him an official post, however mean. The Count listened to the youth's appeal, and having heard him to the end, said:—"You may remember that Yen-hoi was extremely poor, but he did not complain of it to his Master Confucius, nor did his master recommend him to seek an official post. What did Confucius say? 'Yen-hoi takes pleasure in the doctrine and is content with his poverty; and the Master is pleased with his pleasure in the doctrine, and satisfied

with his content in his poverty.' How feeble is your mind by contrast!" The youths of the present day, according to Mr. Oligashi's view are no better than that despicable and spiritless lad who became the object of the Count's scorn. As for the so-called "politicians" of the day, he declared that they worship sharpness, and take no heed of virtue, though the latter is the true pillar of the nation, and the only efficient oil of administrative machinery. These are brave words.

IRELAND AT CHICAGO.

Mrs. ERNEST HART, who recently published such admirable papers on Japanese industries, is now engaged, in conjunction with the Countess of Aberdeen, in getting up an Irish village for the World's Fair at Chicago. The following is an account of the affair, by Mrs. Hart:—

"We shall have seven cottages in which peasant girls and lads from Donegal and elsewhere will be seen at work, weaving, spinning, dyeing, sprigging, carving, etc. The girls will look very pretty in Connemara red petticoats, fishwife skirts and blouses, and scarlet cloaks. In the first cottage will be a precise model of a cottage in Donegal, with undressed walls of granite, with a hooded fireplace and dresser full of bright crockery: a girl will be seen dyeing and spinning our famous Hand-and-Heart Home-spuns, the wool of which she gets from the lichens and heather of her native bog outside. There will be an imitation peat fire, and on this the dyer will from time to time place her iron potato-pot, and proceed to dye the wool. This operation is certain to prove immensely attractive to sight-seers, and, as well as the carding, spinning, and bobbin-filling, which will be shown here, is an extremely interesting process.

"In the second cottage there will be linen weaving and embroidering of the famous Kells Art Embroidery; whilst linen damask weaving on a Jacquard handloom and fringe-knotting will go on in the third cottage. Between this and the next cottage there will be a model dairy, in which dairymaids will be at work churning and butter-making. I can assure our American cousins they will have a chance of some good butter, as we shall send over some of the world-famed Kerry cows, which will be stabled at the rear. There will also be a pleasant, cool spot here where visitors can rest and drink iced milk.

"In the fourth cottage, which is under the especial care of the Irish Industries Association, every description of Irish lace will be shown. There will be a Limerick lace worker at her frame, the Torchon lace worker at the pillow, the numerous varieties of point lace, and so forth.

"Sprigging and veining, which are employed in the production of the beautiful hemstitched handkerchiefs of Belfast, will be shown in the next cottage. The girls of Donegal are especially noted for their exquisite and delicate work. We have not quite definitely decided about the two remaining cottages, but we shall probably show in the seventh the wood-carving industry in Ireland, which has reached a really remarkable degree of development when one remembers the workers and teachers are peasant lads. You should see the set of owls carved by some of my own boys for Lady Aberdeen last year. The expression of the owls' faces, as well as the execution, was excellent. Other features of our Irish industrial villages will be a replica of Donegal castle, an old well, and other interesting Celtic memorials. I believe the Irish village will be successful; we shall certainly do our best to make it so."

EMIGRATION.

It is not a little astonishing to find a paper like the *Kokkai* decrying Viscount Yenomoto's emigration scheme, on the ground that the so-called emigrants are in truth nothing more than people who go abroad to labour, and as such are virtually a species of slaves. This shortsighted sentimentality does not convey a very flattering idea of the *Kokkai's* good sense. According to our contemporary's method of viewing things, everyone who works for wages is in effect a slave. There may be some reason in the contention that until Hokkaido is fully developed the Japanese should not entertain any schemes of emigration to foreign lands, through truly we fail to appreciate the force of such an argument, seeing that, if the Japanese decline to emigrate to Hokkaido, it becomes a more waste of time to talk about sending them there. But when we are told that to go abroad and accept an engagement to work for a certain time in return for a certain stipend is to sell oneself into slavery (*batto*), we are constrained to wonder how things would have fared with Englishmen and Scotchmen in all these centuries had they been governed by such romance.

JAPANESE STEERAGE PASSENGERS.

We find the following item in an American journal:—

"I left San Francisco a few days after the arrival in port of the ship *John C. Potter* with a condition of affairs on board that is a disgrace to the American flag," said John H. Grew at the Palmer yesterday.

"Down in the hold, among the sacks of ill-smelling raw sugar, were more than fifty human beings in such a pitiful plight, that even the Customs officials, as

as they are to woful sighs, were struck with horror. The unfortunate creatures were Japanese, who had been brought all the way from the Hawaiian Islands in quarters unfit for an American hog. They had been tossed into the hold and given the same treatment as the sacks of sugar, and no more.

"If they slept it was on the timbers of the ship or the cargo. No bunks were put in the dark hole for them. There was no chance for them to sit down. Even the ordinary toilet requisites were lacking.

"All this was bad enough even in fine weather, but when it is understood that the ship *John C. Potter* had to weather a gale on the passage, the full measure of misery accorded the poor heathens can be realized.

"Crude or raw sugar is dirty, foul-smelling stuff, and so disagreeable on all accounts that the harbour master will allow it to be unloaded only on one wharf in the city.

"The Japanese were put on board at Honolulu twenty-one days before they reached San Francisco. Just below the hatch aft an opening was left between the sacks of sugar. It was a sort of an alley running across the ship's hold, with the sugar piled up within a foot or two of the deck on both sides. Part of the Japanese were dumped into this hole. Forward the portion of the hold between the fore hatch and the bow of the ship was left unfilled, and the rest of the poor Orientals were tossed in that cave and left to shift for themselves as best they could.

"On June 19 the gale blew with fearful fury. A tremendous high sea was running. The ship was in a serious predicament for a time, as was plain from the fact that all the iron work about was carried away.

"If the hatches had not been fastened down the hold would have contained a liquid mixture of sugar, and the Japanese would have been forced to swim for their lives.

"These openings had to be closed to save them, but in that stifling place their situation must have been terrible. It was the black hole of Calcutta over again.

"There is some doubt whether there is any law that will put a stop to this disagreeable traffic. In the case of the ship *John C. Potter* for instance, each of the passengers had the number of cubic feet of air space that the law fixes as the minimum.

"A general exodus of the Japanese from the Hawaiian Islands has begun, most of them being ignorant labourers."

THE POLICY OF THE CABINET.

The members of the new Cabinet, says the *Kokkai* finally determined their policy on Thursday 17th ult. and settled what reforms are to be made. The following are reported to be the principal steps contemplated:—

(1) Vice-Ministers of State—At present four Vice-Ministers only will be changed, viz—the Vice-Ministers of War, of Justice, of Communications, and of Foreign Affairs. The candidates for these posts are not known, but it is rumoured that General Kodama will become Vice-Minister for War, Mr. Makino, Governor of Fukui, Vice-Minister for Communications, Mr. Kiyoura, member of the House of Peers, Vice-Minister for Justice, and a certain *Hakushi*, member of the House of Commons, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(2) Local Governors—About 8 or 9 local governors will be removed from their office, among whom 4 or 5 will simply be transferred to other localities, while others will have to retire; and will perhaps be nominated members of the House of Peers. Some able officials from the Departments of Home Affairs and of Finance will fill the vacant seats.

(3) Diplomats—There will be some changes in the diplomatic corps. Mr. Kajiyama, Resident Minister in Seoul, will return to Japan soon, and Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, will succeed him as Minister Plenipotentiary; or may perhaps be despatched to Austria to succeed Mr. Watanabe.

(4) Judicial Officials—If Mr. Matsuoaka resigns his present office in deference to the advice of Count Yamagata, Mr. Kawazu, Vice-Minister for Communications, will succeed him as Chief Public Prosecutor and Mr. Ozaki, Director of the Legislative Bureau, may be appointed a Privy Councillor, being succeeded by a certain *Hakushi*, member of the House of Representatives.

It will be observed that the above was written before the announcement of the appointments of Mr. Kioura Keigo and Major-General Kodama to be Vice-Ministers of Justice and War respectively, and before the appearance of the *Gazette* announcing changes of the Local Governors. The fact that the *Kokkai's* forecast proved so accurate in these respects invests the whole of its information with a claim to confidence, but we are nevertheless persuaded that it makes some errors.

Major-General Kodama Gentaro served in the rank of Major during the Satsuma Rebellion (1877) and was promoted to be Lieut.-Colonel and Colonel a short time afterwards. Subsequently he was raised to the rank of Major-General.

General, and received the appointment of Chief of the *Kangunbun* (Inspection Department) in the General Staff. He has but just returned from Europe whither he had been sent on official business. It is said that he stands very high in the estimation of the present Minister of State for War as well as in that of Count Yamagata, and that, in military circles, his ultimate promotion to the post of Minister of State for War is looked upon as assured.

COUNT KURODA.

In olden times, says the *Nippon*, Count Kuroda squandered millions of money in Hokkaido, built a gigantic palatial mansion in Sapporo, and sold the country's property to Satsuma men. All this is only too well known. Such doings earned for him an unenviable reputation. But now we see a totally different man in the new Minister of Communications. He is no longer careless and rough, but extremely thoughtful. For instance, since he accepted the portfolio of Communications he has been engaged examining the Budget for next fiscal year. Each Director of a Bureau has submitted his estimates, and given the necessary explanations. The section relating to ordinary expenditure was completed without difficulty, but when the Count came to look through the extraordinary expenditures, he noticed an appropriation of some hundred thousand yen on account of the construction of a submarine cable to Okinawa Prefecture (Loochoo). After hearing the explanation, he said that lately he had heard much talk among young officials about maritime defences, and that he himself had meditated on the subject seriously, and was prepared to cast his vote for strengthening the Navy. Hence he was averse to sanctioning any expenditure without full regard to this important national need. Doubtless the proposed construction of a cablegraph was desirable, but unless the country possessed a spare man-of-war to station in the neighbourhood of Okinawa, no submarine cable could be of much use. There were no such ships to spare at present, and he therefore thought that the cable might be deferred. So saying he took up a pen and erased the item. "Changed indeed is the character of Count Kuroda."

COUNT SAIGO.

COUNT SAIGO, if we may credit the News Agency's account, is progressing very favourably with his political tour in the north. At Fukuoka, at Hachinohe, and at Sanbongi, he and his travelling companions organized successful meetings and were well received. At Aomori, however, he was conspicuously fortunate, for an audience came together such as had never greeted either Count Itagaki or Count Goto. The News Agency attributes this to the fact that practical men in Aomori have hitherto been unwilling to associate themselves with any party movements, and have consequently stood aloof from the *Kaishin-to* and *Fuyu-to* demonstrations; but Count Saigo's reputation for thorough honesty and practicality attracted them, and drew them in crowds to the meeting. It does not speak well for the enterprise of the vernacular press that we have no detailed account of the speeches made by either Count Saigo or Viscount Shinagawa on their tour.

AN UNEXPECTED MARRIAGE.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* states that Mr. Masuda Yoshimatsu, a young man who has been educated abroad, fell in love with a Boston girl, "with blue eyes, auburn hair, and a fine complexion," named Sarah Barley (?), while the two were studying the beauties of rural nature on Coney Island. Deeming that consultations with relations and friends as to the suitability of the match would spoil its romance, there and then the happy pair agreed to be married. They applied to the Roman Catholic priest in charge of the village church for the performance of the necessary ceremony, the lady being a Roman Catholic. Before consenting to act, the priest demanded that Mr. Masuda should become a Catholic and take a solemn oath that he would ever remain faithful. "Although," says the *Fiji*, "Mr. Masuda had never professed belief in any religion

before, he consented to fulfil the required condition of his marriage." The knot was tied in the presence of a few witnesses, and Mr. Masuda is said to be well satisfied with the object of his choice. The rites of his newly adopted religion he will study in interesting company.

SILK.

The Yokohama silk market, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, is becoming very active. The departure of the mail for Europe on Sunday last, and the Canadian mail on the day following, caused large transactions to be made on Sunday with Messrs. Marius, Giraud & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Griffin & Co. Prices are going up very rapidly. Messrs. Griffin & Co. purchased a lot of Shinsu at \$815 per bale, and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., some Uzen at \$824, which is the highest price recorded this year. On Monday, Messrs. Marius, Giraud & Co. again began to purchase fine silk in considerable quantities for the French market. Among the various transactions were Goshu Yamanaka at \$800, Yetchu Nakamura at \$790, and Kyoto Nagamura at \$760. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. purchased some Sanshu Shinyosha at \$780, and Bushu Mori at \$755. Messrs. Nabholz and Osenbruggen; Siber and Brennwald, and others were also among the buyers. It is reported that Messrs. Siber and Brennwald have more orders on hand so that further business may be looked for.

MURDER IN NIIGATA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Nippon* writes from Niigata that some time ago a foreign wrestler by the name of Webster, an American subject, came to Niigata to exhibit his prowess. After squandering all his money, he found himself unable to return home. The authorities applied for assistance to the American Consul at Hakodate, who, however, declined to recognise him as a citizen of the United States, and pending reference to the Foreign Office, Webster was kept in a Japanese inn. Recently, he seems to have quarrelled with one Kazama Yoichiro, who has died from the effects of a blow received from a heavy stick in an encounter with the wrestler. Oddly enough, the murderer has not been arrested, and there is much indignation over this laxity on the part of the police. The story as related by our contemporary, is somewhat vague, but more will doubtless soon be heard of it.

The Japanese press furnish a few more details of the alleged murder committed by the man Webster in Niigata. The case is probably the outcome of a drunken brawl. Webster is reported to have gone to the police station and there made a statement that he had been attacked while out for a walk, in proof of which he showed some wounds on his back. These are said to be very slight, and in the opinion of the police probably self-inflicted.

RELIEF FUNDS.

THERE has been much discussion on the disbursement of the Treasury fund for the relief of sufferers by the recent inundations in the Tokushima, Okayama, and Hyogo Prefectures. It was stated that the Government was unwilling to disburse any sum unless ascertained to be absolutely necessary. But in the case of repairing river-courses the expenditure will be so enormous that it cannot be defrayed out of the local taxes, and must therefore be undertaken by the Government. As for the damage done to fields, etc., there is a Famine Reserve in each Prefecture specially set aside for such emergencies. It is now, however, stated that though the total amount of the Famine Reserve in Tokushima Prefecture is yen 234,970.60 only 5 per cent. of the same is available for the recent disaster. Out of that small sum some yen 650 have already been spent, and the balance is far from sufficient to repair the damages. The Governor of Tokushima has requested the Government to make a special grant of yen 60,000 and the Governor of Hyogo has applied for another disbursement of yen 90,000. Pending investigations into the amount of damage in

these Prefectures, the Financial Department has authorised a grant of yen 30,000 to Hyogo, and yen 20,000 to Tokushima.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for July, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, 1891.		1892.	
SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	6,075,292.090	.....	6,903,322.480
Imports	4,985,175.310	.....	5,598,190.430
Total exports and imports	12,501,512.910	.....	12,501,512.910
Excess of exports	1,315,132.050	.....	1,315,132.050
CUSTOMS DUTIES, 1891.		1892.	
SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	195,917.332	.....	195,917.332
Imports	207,287.398	.....	207,287.398
Miscellaneous	10,191.105	.....	10,191.105
Total	413,395.835	.....	413,395.835

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.			
	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	3,019,302.160	695,676.390	3,714,978.550
Hongkong	1,074,058.830	632,338.780	1,706,397.610
Great Britain	3,514,300.000	1,231,005.000	4,745,305.000
France	1,108,271.000	350,414.430	1,458,685.430
China	457,601.800	198,379.000	655,980.800
British India	124,361.130	80,353.000	204,714.130
Germany	671,806.000	563,312.440	1,235,118.440
Korea	70,480.540	276,710.910	347,191.450
Canada & other British America	164,578.550	128,800	293,378.550
Italy	60,010.000	50,614.000	110,624.000
Switzerland	15,180.000	52,020.500	67,200.500
Russia	60,680.800	724.110	61,404.910
Belgium	2,757.500	47,521.040	49,278.540
Australia	25,971.940	23,008.130	48,980.070
Philippine Islands	7,748.270	24,311.050	32,059.320
Austria	19,454.350	535.840	20,000.190
Spain	160.000	5,030.150	5,190.150
Holland	1,811.800	1,411.400	3,223.200
Sweden & Norway	1,349.780	743.000	2,092.780
Peru	1,367.600	1,405.740	2,773.340
Siam	—	676.180	676.180
Portugal	673.020	—	673.020
Hawaii	124.400	139.000	263.400
Turkey	—	60.000	60.000
Denmark	80,261.630	130,021.170	210,282.800
Other Countries	—	—	—
Total	6,747,551.730	5,598,190.430	12,345,742.160

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.			
	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	4,368,693.350	2,180,697.790	6,549,391.140
Kobe	1,914,031.270	2,585,770.320	4,499,801.590
Osaka	66,501.300	48,181.910	114,683.210
Nagasaki	318,331.050	291,851.050	610,182.100
Hakodate	31,158.660	731.840	31,890.500
Shimonoseki	34,310.740	60,377.240	94,687.980
Moji	73,267.030	—	73,267.030
Hakata	1,000	1,598.200	2,598.200
Kanemi	12,710.000	—	12,710.000
Kuchinotsu	80,570.000	—	80,570.000
Idemigahara	961.550	8,952.090	9,913.640
Shishimi	2,041.060	793.870	2,834.930
Sasuma	554.390	570.120	1,124.510
Specie and Bullion { Exports	295,225.890		
{ Imports	3,248,060.530		
Total	3,543,286.430		
Excess of imports	2,952,834.650		

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.			
	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
By Japanese Merchants { Exports	669,630.690		
{ Imports	1,213,355.710		
Imported by Government	24,306.660		

LAW OF ADMONITION.

THE Law of Admonition was once more enforced by the Metropolitan Police Bureau on Tuesday last. Some 17 men were immediately communicated with, and it is stated that a large number will receive the usual notice in a day or two. It is satisfactory to see that the Government do not intend to relax their efforts in any way to crush the baneful power exercised by the bands of *soshi* who still roam at will about the country. The number of these gentry in the capital has been increasing daily, their presence being marked by acts of intimidation worthy of the worst class of desperadoes. Now that the Metropolitan Police have succeeded in tracing the major portion of the offenders, it is to be hoped that we have seen about the last of the nuisance.

THE KOKKAI ON GENERAL LE GENDRE'S TREATISE. REFERRING to the chapter now in course of publication from General Le Gendre's treatise on "The Human Race and its Growth from a Common Centre," the *Kokkai* writes thus:—"The first chapter of General Le Gendre's treatise on 'the Human Race and its Growth from a Common Centre' was published in the *Japan Mail* yesterday. Its continuation will no doubt appear in the same paper. But the General declared that the Japanese race came not only from the north of Asia, but also from Australia through the south of India. Whether

such a conclusion be correct or not, we must express our admiration of General Le Gendre's research. For though we have had scholars who declared that the banner of Prince Shotoku, preserved at Nara, came from Assyria, and that the demon by the side of Buddha's image is of Dravidian origin, no one previous to General Le Gendre had ventured to declare that our race sprang from such sources. It is to be especially observed that this new scientific opinion is published during the time while the General is commissioned to Japan to negotiate with our Government on Korea's behalf about the revision of the Quelpart Fishery Treaty, a mission which has not been successful, and has not obtained for the General any very kind reception from our Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. It might be supposed that the General's mind is fully occupied with his important project, but evidently he is a man much out of the common.

We admire the spryness of the *Kokkai*, but are at the same time reminded by that journal's writing of the old aphorism that the sharpest folks run most risk of getting cut. If the *Kokkai* could only have exercised sufficient patience to wait for the publication of the whole chapter which it undertakes to criticise—not the "first chapter" by the way, as our contemporary erroneously states—it would have learned that the book from which our extract is made was compiled by General Le Gendre years ago, and was concluded before he entered the Korean service. It has not occupied any part of the author's time during his present mission to Japan, and if a chapter of it happens to see the light to-day, it is simply because General Le Gendre yielded to the solicitations of folks who have had an opportunity of examining the work. But even if this were not so, how captious would be the *Kokkai's* comments? What would that journal say about Mr. Gladstone, we wonder, who, at the very moment when State affairs press most heavily on his attention, finds leisure to compose a long essay discussing, with infinite research and minute reference to mediæval records, the chances for and against Dante's having visited Oxford; or about Mr. Disraeli, who composed works of fiction in the study of the Prime Minister's residence in Downing Street. The idea which chiefly occurs to one reading our Tokyo contemporary's remark is that, if statesmen can find time to conduct scientific research, it is a pity that journalists cannot make time to read to the end of the matter they criticise.

THE SURPLUS.

DURING the second session of the Diet, countless propositions were made for disposing of the surplus. The members of the Popular Party hoped to utilise it by reducing the land-tax and re-assessing the taxable value of land, while the Government intended to employ it in building men-of-war and in carrying out enterprises calculated to develop the national strength. One of the most noteworthy schemes was that of Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, who proposed that the surplus should be spent by the Emperor in visiting Europe and America. But, it will be remembered, except for a small grant towards the Earthquake Relief Fund in Gifu and Aichi, it remained untouched. In the special session the question seemed to be almost forgotten; indeed, the only mention of it was the Representation relating to the Management of Surplus Funds presented by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and others. It was handed over to a special committee, and nothing has since been heard of it. Now, however, according to the *Hochi Shimbun* the question is once more brought forward. Our contemporary states that the total amount of the Surplus Funds which will be dealt with next session, is over fifteen million yen. Already the following Departments have applied for a share in its distribution. (1) The Naval Department demands a sum of yen 2,800,000 for the construction of men-of-war; and another sum of yen 2,000,000 for the establishment of a Steel Foundry. But the latter item is not considered very urgent. (2) A sum of yen 1,800,000 is required by the

Department for Home Affairs for the improvement of the Tone, Shinano, Yoshino, and other great river courses. (3) The Department of Education wishes to have as large a portion as possible kept in reserve for the Imperial University. In order, ultimately, to render the University an independent institution. (4) The Department of Agriculture and Commerce demands a sum of yen 40,000 or yen 50,000 for the investigation of deep-sea fisheries. Thus every Department hopes to obtain a big share, but since a sum of yen 4,000,000 must be granted for the repair of damage done by the recent inundations in the Tokushima, Okayama, and Hyogo Prefectures, there is sure to be keen competition amongst the claimants when the question arises.

SETTLEMENT OF THE ASHIO MINERAL POISON QUESTION.

THE above question has been a topic of discussion for quite a long time. It has inspired leading articles in newspapers, and prompted the diatribes of Mr. Tanaka Shozo, but no prospect of settlement offered. Now, at last, a committee of arbitrators has evolved a basis of arrangement between the injured parties and Mr. Furukawa, owner of the mine. The agreement was signed on the 24th ultimo to the following effect:—

The mineral poison which escapes from the Ashio Copper mine, the property of Furukawa Ichibei, having caused much damage to the villagers along the Watarase River, a committee of arbitrators elected to settle the consequent dispute, has now drawn up the following agreement between Furukawa and the villagers, to which both parties have signified their assent.

Art. 1.—Though Furukawa Ichibei claims that he has not yet fully investigated the amount of damage done, the arbitrators, in accordance with the authority vested in them, declare that the following sums of money shall be paid to the villagers:—

- (1). A sum of 2,497,973 yen for various expenses connected with the conduct of the present case.
- (2). A sum of 18,500 yen by way of compensation for the injuries caused.
- (3). A sum of 26,400 yen for the preservation of river banks, which sum shall be paid from October 1893 to October 1894.
- (4). The sums mentioned in the 1st and 2nd clauses shall be paid immediately.
- (5). Although, owing to some cause now unforeseen, the repairs of river banks contemplated in the 3rd clause be not fully carried out, the full sum mentioned in that clause shall nevertheless be paid to the villagers.

Art. 2.—Inasmuch as Furukawa Ichibei agrees to pay the sums mentioned in the foregoing article, the period from the present time until the 30th day of June, 1895, is hereby allowed for the purpose of ascertaining by experiment the results obtainable by means of new machines for collecting mineral dust, and during that period no discussion shall be raised between parties to this agreement nor will any one be at liberty to institute legal proceedings in our Administrative or Judicial Court.

Art. 3.—After the 30th June, 1895, if the above mentioned machines are found to give satisfactory results, the parties to this agreement shall remain on friendly terms.

Art. 4.—Should the above machines prove unsuccessful, fresh negotiations shall be undertaken, in which event the damage shall be assessed from 1895.

Art. 5.—Furukawa Ichibei shall be at liberty to cut down trees on the mountains among which the Watarase River rises, but he shall take care not to decrease the water of the river thereby, neither shall he fail to plant young trees in the place of those felled.

Art. 6.—Should the Mine be sold or given away, the existence of the present agreement shall be made known to the purchaser or recipient, and he shall be pledged to observe its stipulations. And in the event of the name of the proprietary being changed by Furukawa Ichibei, this agreement shall be equally binding.

Art. 7.—The district concerned in the present agreement is fixed by the annexed plans and by a minute memorandum appended hereto.

(Dated) 24th August, 1892.

Signed by the parties to the Agreement.

PRESERVATION OF OLD RELICS.

MR. AOYAMA YUIGAKU, who was recently despatched to Kiushu to conduct investigations as to the old relics in the temples and shrines there, is reported to have tendered advice of a character such as might have been anticipated. He says that the art treasures of the country have been gradually exported abroad, or lost through carelessness. In 1888 a Treasure Investigation Bureau was established in the Imperial Household to preserve them, but previously to that time the priests had regarded the treasures in each temple or shrine as their own private property, and had freely pawned, mortgaged, or even sold them. Since the establishment of the above Bureau, however, the art treasures in Kyoto, Nara, Kamakura, etc., have been examined, and their shapes, sizes, materials, makers, dates, etc., carefully recorded in the book of the Bureau, so that even if any of them be abstracted, it can

easily be traced. For example, some years ago an image of Buddha suddenly disappeared from its place, but owing to the accurate details entered in the official record, it was easily recovered by the police. Mr. Aoyama does not hesitate to assert, that among articles worthy to be valued as national treasures there are some which were made during the past thirty years, while, on the other hand, many antique objects, though originally preserved at the temples as valuable, have no real title to a place in the official records. He instances paintings of Sesshu or Motonobu, which, though undoubtedly genuine, are too badly executed to possess any value, and, despite the great names of their painters, do not bear comparison with many pictures by Togan, Mitsuoki, Yeioku, or Tanyu. The same is true of glyptic works. Teicho and Unkei were certainly Japan's greatest sculptors, but sometimes the figures of Buddha carved by them are far inferior to the works of Tankei or Zenkei. We are glad to find that this discrimination is made by a responsible authority. The great majority of Japanese connoisseurs deem it high treason to breathe a word against any picture from the brush of Sesshu or Motonobu, and are, on the whole, slaves to the singular creed that established antiquity constitutes excellence. Mr. Aoyama gives a list showing the nature of the objects which, in his opinion, ought to be recorded in the official catalogue and the order to be observed in entering them:—

- (1). Ancient documents.
- (2). Paintings.
- (3). Carvings.
- (4). Works of Art other than the above.
- (5). Buildings.
- (6). Ancient autographs.

He explains the objects that fall under above categories as follows:—

- (1).—Any document relating to the history of the country or to that of foreign countries belongs to the first category.
- (2).—Paintings by Kose, Kasuga, the Tosa school, Sesshu, the Kano school, Sumiyoshi, Korin, Tani, Hishikawa, Utakawa, Maruyama, the Shijo school, and so forth, should be included in the second category, provided that their execution justifies such a distinction.
- (3).—Carvings of Buddha, above ornaments, netsuke, and other works shaped with the knife belong to the third category.
- (4).—Lacquered writing boxes, medicine cases, incense trays, objects of carved red or black lacquer, incense caskets, porcelain wine-jars, plates, dishes, cups, tea-coal holders, iron water-kettles, swords, daggers, sadoles, brocades, etc., constitute the works of art referred to in the fourth category.
- (5).—Temple or palace buildings.
- (6).—Ancient autographs do not owe their value to the nature of the composition, but to the quality of the calligraphy. Thus copies of the Horke Scripture or of the Kanon Scripture, written by Kobo Daishi, Sugawara Michizane or Ono-no Tofu are esteemed chiefly on account of the beauty of their writing and not because of their language or the doctrine they inculcate.

THE JUVENILE RADICAL PARTY.

STILL another political association makes its appearance under the name of the *Seinen Jiyu-to* (Juvenile Radical Party). It is probably largely composed of *soshi*, if we take its grandiloquent programme as an index of its character. The vernacular press attribute the organisation of the party to Mr. Takata Yataro, member for Ibaraki Prefecture, who has succeeded in obtaining forty adherents, and establishing a central office in Kanda. There is nothing startlingly novel in its statement of motives and policy, and we are glad to observe one touch of modesty in it—a virtue strangely unfamiliar to such documents. Our object, it says, is to educate the young and rising politicians of the empire so that they may become thoroughly qualified to succeed the present radical leaders when the time comes. Is this an indication of better things? Hitherto, we thought every youthful radical looked upon himself as a born statesman.

AN ENGLISHMAN ON THE JAPANESE STAGE.

THE late performances by members of the story-telling guild at the Harukiza Theatre in Hongo deserve placing on record if only for the appearance of, probably, the first foreigner on the Japanese boards. Mr. Black, a son of the author of "Young Japan," and already favourably known as one of the *hanashika*, or story-tellers of Tokyo, made his debut a few days ago, in *Bansuiri Chobei*, in a scene taken from the "Story of the Otokodate of

Yedo," familiar to all readers of Mitford's admirable little volume. The unique spectacle of an Englishman essaying such a rôle drew large audiences, who showed their feelings in ways thoroughly characteristic of the people. Black had evidently made a study of Danjuro in the part, and every successful imitation of that popular actor evoked a spontaneous burst of applause; on the other hand, any marked lapse from the stereotyped rendering caused the house to shake from end to end with irrepressible mirth. And it may well be imagined such instances were neither few nor far between. Amateurs may evidently take any liberties they please on the Japanese stage; they do not pose as the real article, and hence what would only be tolerated as burlesque in the West is here accepted simply for what it achieves. Hakuem, the noted *hanashika*, a stout-built man apparently on the wrong side of fifty, as the maiden *Yaegaki Hime* in the drama of "Nijushiko" was a ridiculous spectacle, but after the first shock of surprise, the audience listened to him with sympathetic attention. Black's acting, however, was far removed from any suspicion of caricature; it was a clever and conscientious rendering of a difficult part and has been deservedly praised by the Japanese press and play-going public.

THE SPECIE BANK.

THE general meeting of the Yokohama Specie Bank, says the Tokyo News Agency, is fixed for the 10th of next month. The profits of the Bank during the first six-monthly period of this year have been large, and, in view of this fact, the shareholders, naturally desirous not only to obtain a good return on their money but also to see the Bank's scrip quoted at a high price in the market, are anxious that a dividend of sixteen per cent. should be declared, as in former years. The Directors, however, are in favour of a fourteen per cent. dividend only, as they consider it the duty of every bank in such times as the present to add as much as possible to its reserve fund. This difference of opinion has not yet been settled, but according to the source from which we quote, a compromise is likely to be effected, by the dividend being fixed at 15 per cent.

FUJI.

OWING to the facilities afforded by the railway, the ascent of the redoubtable mountain has become quite a commonplace incident; indeed, we hear of an enthusiast from Tokyo who makes the trip once a week, and this, too, without being obliged to dine outside his own doors. It is accomplished in this way. Taking the 9.50 p.m. train from Shimbashi, he arrives at Gotemba at 1.24 a.m., snatching a little sleep by the way. An hour or so is required at Gotemba in making arrangements for horses and guide, and the summit is reached by 10 a.m., just twelve hours from Tokyo. It will thus be seen how easily Gotemba can be regained in time for the 5.54 p.m. train which arrives in Tokyo at 9.45 p.m.—a rather late hour for dinner, it is true, but that is a minor consideration.

THE PORTUGUESE AND EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

THE alleged recent arrival of intelligence on the above subject is commented on by several of the leading Tokyo dailies. It is stated that no sooner was the news of the abolition of Portuguese extraterritorial jurisdiction communicated to the Portuguese Government by Mr. Nomura, the Japanese Minister in Paris, than steps were taken by Portugal to place its subjects in this country under the protection of France. As a condition of accepting this responsibility France is reported to have demanded that Macao should be sold to her at a nominal price. The Japanese Foreign Office is said to have been informed that the French Chargé d'Affaires will, in the absence of the Minister, take charge of Portuguese interests in this country. Our contemporaries are by no means certain that the new departure is intended to indicate that Portugal expects to recover extraterritorial jurisdiction. To such a proposition the Japa-

nese Foreign Office would certainly object. There is no way open to Portuguese subjects of escaping Japanese jurisdiction other than a change of nationality, and according to French law a foreigner has to reside on French territory for three years before becoming naturalised. With this condition, of course, Portuguese in Japan could not comply. Hence, supposing that the above version of the intelligence received by the Japanese Foreign Office is correct, it is not to be inferred, say the Tokyo journals, that the situation of Portuguese residents in Japan *vis-à-vis* Japanese jurisdiction will be materially altered thereby. That part of the above account which refers to the cession of Macao to France by Portugal is unlikely to be true, as the latter power, if report be correct, has promised to restore the place to China should she decide to relinquish it.

SUSPENSION OF A THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE.

It will be remembered by our readers that last year a great deal of sensation was caused by the discovery that a man called Tsujimura Kura, who had been acting as a judge in a district court, was a fugitive from justice. Tsujimura's life has been written, and a Nagasaki theatrical manager, perceiving that the story was calculated to prove attractive if represented on the stage, applied for permission to introduce the play at the Maizuru-ya. Permission was granted and the necessary costumes were prepared at considerable expense. After the performance had been advertised and just when the Nagasaki theatre-goers were on the tip-toe of expectation, an order was issued by the police forbidding the entertainment, on the ground that it was not desirable that the acts of a man who had occupied a seat on the bench should be held up to ridicule. The manager conferred with the police, and, by consenting to withdraw certain parts of the play, obtained their consent to his placing the remainder on the stage. On the appointed day, the theatre was crowded. The acting, however, had not proceeded far before orders to close the performance were given and the actors were taken into custody. This is the first instance, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, that a stage play has been interrupted by the interference of the police. We (*Japan Mail*) fail to understand why the police acted in such a hesitating manner. That the moral effect of the play which it was proposed to put on the stage must be bad would, we should say, be admitted by all thoughtful persons. In the eyes of most of the attendants at the theatre, Tsujimura would have figured as a hero; while on the minds of many, his clever methods of evading justice could have anything but a salutary influence.

DR. SCUDDER'S SUICIDE.

The New York *Sun* gives the following account of the suicide of Dr. Scudder:—

Two men stepped off from the 9 o'clock morning train from here Northport yesterday July 19th. One leaned on the other's arm. Both looked worried, and one had a strange look in his eyes. They were Edward M. Scudder, a New York lawyer, and his brother, Dr. Charles D. Scudder, the well-known New York physician, whose wife is a daughter of ex-Senator William M. Everts. A carriage was waiting for the men at the railroad station. They got into it and were driven to the Scudder summer home, about two miles away. Many persons greeted them during the drive, for every one in this part of Long Island knows the Scudders. They have made Northport their home for many years. "Dr. Scudder is looking bad," commented a neighbour. "The poor fellow looks as if his mind is giving way."

News had got here that Dr. Scudder was in poor health, and the sympathy of the community had been aroused. Every summer he has been a familiar figure here. Yesterday afternoon he was seen walking about, driving, and boating, either his brother Edward or his other brother, the Rev. Henry T. Scudder, being with him. The summer sojourners and the residents noticed that he seemed to be depressed. They felt sorry for him and his family.

Every one in the place was shocked this morning to hear that Dr. Scudder had killed himself. The news spread rapidly. Last night, after half a day's outing, Dr. Scudder and his brother Edward went to the house for dinner. Their mother, Mrs. Emma Scudder, and his wife, were there and all had dinner together. Dr. Scudder seemed to be in good spirits. During dinner he chatted and joked. His relatives were delighted

over the change in his demeanor, for he had been in depressed spirits during the day.

After dinner the family spent a few hours on the lawn. It was noticed then that Dr. Scudder was becoming melancholy again, and it was arranged that the Rev. T. Henry Scudder should spend the rest of the night with him. About 10 o'clock Dr. Scudder and the Rev. Henry T. Scudder went to a room in the upper part of the house. Dr. Scudder would not go to bed. He paced the floor and acted as if he were alone in the room. He paid no attention to his brother. Frequently he clasped his hands to his head and muttered: "My head's going. This is killing me."

Shortly after 2 o'clock this morning he lay down on the bed. He took off only a part of his clothing, but he went to sleep. His brother sat by the bedside. He watched the Doctor closely, for he was afraid that he might do himself harm. Several times Dr. Scudder stirred as if he intended to get out of bed. At first his brother was inclined to assist him, but when he saw that the motion was the result of disturbed sleep, he kept quite so as not to arouse him. At 5 o'clock Dr. Scudder stirred and moaned. Then he jumped from the bed. His brother put his arms around him, but Dr. Scudder, with an unexpected display of strength, threw him aside. Then the half-clad man darted to the room door, threw it open, and dashed down stairs, three steps at a time. His brother was close behind him, but was not so quick as the fleeing maniac.

Dr. Scudder ran into the kitchen, seized a big carving knife, and dashed out through a back door on the beautiful grounds surrounding house. By this time his brother had aroused the other members of the family, and they hurried out of their rooms. The Rev. Henry T. Scudder lost sight of the brother who had awakened him for a few moments, and when he and the other members of the family and the servants rushed to where he stood they did not once comprehend what had happened. Just as he started to tell them he caught sight of his maniac brother about 300 yards away in a clump of trees. He ran to the spot, while the others remained at the door.

As he did so Dr. Scudder made his way further into the grounds. Finally he sat down, twined his legs around a tree, placed the point of the blade of the big knife against his breast with the handle against the tree, and putting his arms around the tree he drew himself toward it. The knife was thus forced into his breast. When his brother reached him he had released his hold, and was lying back dead at the foot of the tree. The knife had pierced his heart.

His mother and the others were not allowed to look at his body. Fortunately the trees had shut the dreadful scene from them.

Dr. Scudder's remains were brought into the house. Later in the day Coroner Koldman viewed the body. Dr. Scudder's wife was in Windsor, Vt. A telegram was sent to her. It did not say that he had killed himself. She sent word she would start from Windsor at once. A reporter of the *Sun* called at the Scudder home this afternoon and saw the madman's brother, Willard Scudder, he said, had worked very hard all the winter. In June he resolved to take a long vacation. Ten days ago, while he was resting in Windsor at the summer home of his father-in-law, he began to be troubled with melancholia. Then he decided that it would be best to come down to the old family place here. He did not show pronounced signs of his trouble until the night before he killed himself.

The arrangements for the funeral have not been completed yet. It was been decided, however, that the interment shall take place in Windsor.

Ex-Senator Everts is in Windsor, where his daughter, the wife of Dr. Scudder, is staying with her child, a seven-year-old girl. Mr. Allen W. Everts, the son of the Ex-Senator, was at the office of Everts, Choate & Beaman yesterday afternoon. He said that the first news of Dr. Scudder's death came to his uncle, Hewlett Scudder, early yesterday morning. Mr. Scudder and Charles C. Beaman left for Northport at once, and Mr. Sherman Everts went to Windsor. Mr. Allen Everts said that, as far as he knew, Dr. Scudder's health had been good recently, and he had not heard of any mental derangement.

Dr. Scudder was born in 1855. He comes of an old Long Island family. His father, Henry T. Scudder, was born in Northport, which was his son's country home. Henry T. Scudder served a term in Congress and for many years and the law partner of James C. Carter. His son graduated from Trinity College in 1875, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons three years later. He has been in active practice in New York since. Nine years ago he married Miss Louisa Everts, the daughter of Ex-Senator Everts. He lived at East Thirty-third street. He was a member of the University Club. Dr. Scudder's father died about six years ago. His mother's home is at 21, East Twenty-second street, but she has been at Northport for the summer.

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN" ON FOREIGN POLICY.

The *Choya Shimbun* discusses Japan's foreign policy in a leading article. The public, it says, always declare that the empire's foreign policy is unsettled, but what they really mean is that the problem of treaty revision is not yet solved. In that sense however, the policy of the Government has been settled ever since Viscount Aoki

became Minister for Foreign Affairs. The one object has been a treaty of equality. On the other hand, the opinion of the majority of the people is also settled. They, too, desire a treaty of equality. It is true that a certain small section of conservatives are opposed to mixed residence, but they count for little, if anything. Even the members of the *Kaishin-to* who approved every provision of Count Okuma's unequal treaty have now changed their minds and are in favour of equality. Thus the only difference that will be observable between Viscount Aoki, Viscount Enomoto, and Mr. Mutsu is one of method: their fashions of negotiation may be diverse. But that is a matter which ought to be left to the judgment of the Minister himself, especially when, as in the case of the present Minister, Mr. Mutsu, he is known to be one of the shrewdest and most competent statesmen in the empire. Meanwhile, the nation has been so anxious to conclude treaty revision that it forgets the existence of other important matters which also belong to the category of foreign policy. For example the Korean question, which is growing more and more critical daily, or the problem of emigration. These must be attended to without a moment's delay, for their importance is scarcely less than that of treaty revision. The *Choya* frankly expresses its opinion that unless these vital problems are duly remembered and solved in good season, indifference and neglect may involve something like national disaster.

THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

On the 23rd ultimo the Osaka Chamber of Commerce held its general meeting, and the accounts for the previous year having been passed, questions submitted by the Government relating to the 50 *sen* silver-coin were discussed, and the following resolutions were adopted:—

The 50 *sen* silver-coin is necessary.

Reason—If the 50 *sen* silver-coin be called in, and the 20 and 10 *sen* coins alone remain in circulation, considerable inconvenience will be entailed.

(1.) The quantity of 50 *sen* silver-coins already issued is sufficient.

(2.) When the 50 *sen* notes are all redeemed, the amount of 50 *sen* silver-coins required in the market will be about 4,000,000 *yen*.

Reason—As the silver-coin is not so convenient for carrying as the paper-note, when the latter is redeemed people will carry fewer fifty-*sen* tokens. On the other hand, there will be a tendency to hoard the coins, and probably the amount hoarded will be about the same as the amount of notes redeemed. Thus four million *yen* worth should suffice. At present the 50 *sen* silver-coins in circulation aggregate about 3,514,000 *yen* and the 50 *sen* notes about 1,958,000 *yen* the sum of the two being about 5½ million *yen*. The hypothesis of this chamber is that a reduction of 1,500,000 *yen* will be possible when the notes are withdrawn, the difference being made up by 10 and 20 *sen* silver-coins.

(3.) The existing 50 *sen* silver-coin is too large and too heavy. It is inconvenient from both of these points of view.

(4.) The chamber considers that the coin should be recast of good fineness; and that its design should be changed, so as to prevent counterfeiting. The 1 *sen* copper-coin can easily be plated to represent a 50 *sen* silver-coin, the sizes of the two being virtually the same.

(5.) The existing 50 *sen* silver-coin should be called in at once when the new coin is struck.

Reason—It would be exceedingly inconvenient to have two coins of different appearance and different intrinsic value circulating as tokens money of the same denomination.

TRANSVAAL AND THE POSTAL UNION.

The following notification has been issued by the Department of Communications:—

The Transvaal, a Republicans State in South Africa, joined the International Postal Union on July 1st, 1892.

Postal matter despatched from this country to the Transvaal will be charged in accordance with the rates determined by the Postal Union Regulations.

(Signed) KURODA KIYOTAKA, Count,

Minister of State for Communications.

(Dated) 26th August, 1892.

A LEPROS HOSPITAL IN PEKING.

We find in the *Hochi Shimbun* a statement to the effect that a certain Chinese gentleman, by name Lo Kui-fwan, having been treated for leprosy by Dr. Arai Saku of the *Shusai* Hospital in the Komagome suburb of Tokyo, and having derived great benefit from the treatment, has given a sum of ten thousand dollars towards establishing a Lepros Hospital in Peking, and further proposes to subscribe twenty thousand *yen* next year for the rebuilding of the *Shusai* Hospital.

Hospital. This is indeed generosity. But surely if we may look for a glow of generous liberality anywhere, it should be in the bosom of a man who has been cured of such a terrible disease as leprosy, and Mr. Lo is said to have been completely cured by Dr. Arai's treatment.

PRISON INSPECTION.

COUNT INOUE would seem to be setting about the duties connected with his office with much vigour. On Saturday forenoon he made an inspection of the Metropolitan Police Bureau and various prisons, and discussed with Mr. Sonoda, the Superintendent, the future policy of the Department. After lunch, he visited the fire-proof godowns, the Fire Brigade Department, the Kajibashi, Koishikawa, and Ichigaya Prisons. No Minister of State has ever inspected the prisons before, and the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, which reports Count Inoue's proceedings, remarks that the prisoners were no doubt delighted to find the new Minister come in person to see the wretched condition of their cells.

COPPER AND IRON MINES IN NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.

THE *Nippon* reports that Mr. Ide Udoki has discovered valuable deposits of copper and iron in the Kawara Section and at several other places in Nishisonoki District, Nagasaki Prefecture. The area of the copper mine is stated to be 278,400 *tsubo*, and the aggregate area of the various iron mines 1,246,948 *tsubo*. It is to be hoped that this story will not prove baseless, as has hitherto been the case with the reputed discoveries of iron deposits in Japan. An iron mine in Nagasaki Prefecture in the very midst of the coal fields, would be invaluable to Japan.

ANTHRAX AMONG HORSES.

AN extremely contagious disease known as anthrax which has for some time been carrying off three or four horses a day has broken out in the southern Sayetama district. The complaint is known in different parts of the world and invariably is found very difficult to suppress. We remember that in 1886 the cows and sheep of the same district were attacked by this disease. On that occasion Dr. Janson got rid of the complaint by means of inoculation. The lymph used at that time by Dr. Janson is now being applied to the horses of the infected district and there is every reason to think that it will prove successful. Several veterinary surgeons have gone down to the seat of the disease, and are taking precautions against its further spread.

AN ELABORATE HISTORY OF YOKOHAMA.

THE fullest history of this port that has ever appeared in Japanese has just been published. Mr. Ota Hisayoshi is the author. We have not yet seen the book, but judging from the praise bestowed on it by the *Yiji Shimpō*, we should say that it will prove a valuable work of reference to foreign and native writers alike. Mr. Ota was for many years connected with the Yokohama district offices, and, we understand, has had various official documents placed at his disposal while compiling the work. The Japanese title of the book is *Yokohama no Yenkakushi*. It embraces the period from 1859-1890. The *Yiji* remarks that, though professedly only a history of Yokohama, the book gives a minute account of Japan's foreign relations during the thirty years under review.

PROFESSOR E. S. MORSE.

THE *Nation* says that Professor Morse's essay "On the Older Forms of Terra-cotta Roofing-tiles," originally communicated to the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., and afterwards printed serially in the *American Architect*, has been reprinted in the Bulletin of the Essex Institute and also separately. It is a study of great interest and practical and artistic value, and among the many illustrations are some drawn from the author's favourite Japan.

A JAPANESE BAZAAR IN SHANGHAI.

MR. ARAO SEI, who established a commercial school for Japanese in Shanghai, now proposes to open a Japanese Bazaar in that settlement.

For that purpose he has returned to Tokyo, and consulted with various persons who have an interest in China. All the necessary preparations are said to be completed, and it is expected that Mr. Arai will soon start for Shanghai, purchasing in Osaka and Kyoto *en route* various objects of art to stock the Bazaar.

STATISTICS OF DISEASE IN 1891.

STATISTICS relating to contagious diseases prevalent in Japan during 1891 are published as follows:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera.....	11,142	77,60
Typhus.....	43,957	96 14
Dysentery	46,358	11,208
Diphtheria	3,429	1,974
Eruptive Typhus...	1,194	203
Small-pox	3,608	721
Total.....	18,968	31,480

A DENTIST DECORATED.

WE read in the *Yiji Shimpō* that Mr. Ogawa, a dentist residing in Ogawa-machi, in the Kanda district of Tokyo, has received a decoration from the Emperor of Russia, in which country he resided for several years, studying the practice of his profession. Mr. Ogawa probably enjoys the distinction of being the only decorated dentist in Japan.

ALTERATION OF TRAINS.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued by the Railway Department suspending the train which hitherto left Yokohama at 6.5 a.m. for Kozu. A train connecting with the 9 a.m. train from Shimbashi, will henceforth leave Yokohama at 10 a.m. and arrive at Kozu at 11.45 a.m.; and an up train leaving Kozu at noon will arrive at Yokohama at 1.45 p.m.

ARREST OF A "SOSHI" LEADER.

SUGENO MICHICHIKI, a well-known *soshi* leader, was arrested on the 30th ultimo on suspicion of being concerned in sending the dynamite bombs to Mr. Kono and Count Okuma some weeks ago. The police are now on the track of his accomplices.

MR. T. B. CLARKE-THORNHILL.

MR. T. B. CLARKE-THORNHILL, formerly second Secretary of the British Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed the official delegate and representative of the Japan Society of London to the Oriental Congress which is to be held in Lisbon next month.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT.

MR. TAKASAKI CHIKAAKI, Secretary of the Osaka Kencho, has been appointed Vice-Director of the Bureau for Police Affairs, and Mr. Oura Kanetake, again takes up his former office as Secretary of the Osaka Kencho.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

THE Post Office authorities will make up a mail for despatch by the Northern Pacific steamer *Victoria*, sailing on the 6th September, and we understand that this is likely to become a permanent arrangement.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

It is an interesting study to observe the varying moods of the Opposition press in regard to the existing Ministry. When it was first known that the Camera statesmen had consented to take over the Administration, the organs of the *Yiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* hastened to express their unfeigned pleasure and satisfaction "at the formation of a Cabinet which will pursue a constitutional and liberal line of policy." They were even betrayed by their sudden transport of joy into avowing that they would henceforth give up that policy of wanton opposition to the Government measures, which they had pursued during the past few years with such disastrous effects. In a few days, however, these papers, as if suddenly awakened to their senses, began to look about and explain in an apologetic strain that whatever good things they might

have said about the new Cabinet were not to be taken as an indication of their satisfaction with the new rulers of the country. They stated that they were only pleased with the new Ministry as it seemed to be stronger than its predecessors, and that their attitude towards it would remain as antagonistic as ever. But in spite of their explanations, it was rumoured in well informed circles that the Opposition journals, especially those belonging to the Radical party, were really well disposed towards the Ito Ministry. This report seemed to be confirmed by the manner in which the news of the recent changes in the *personnel* of local Governors was received. The Opposition papers again returned to their amiable mood and expressed great joy at "the punishment meted out to the obnoxious Governors who interfered in the elections of February last." This was during the preceding week; and during the one under review the mood has again changed, and the Opposition papers are once more parading their courage to fight with the present Ministry. But while both the Radical and Progressionist organs equally pretend to be dissatisfied with the reluctance of the Government "to follow up its policy of punishing the offensive Governors to the utmost extent," a significant difference is to be noted in the tone of the papers of the two parties. The Progressionist organs maintain an ominous reserve in pointing out particular phases of the Cabinet's measures with which they are dissatisfied. Their tone is that of men who are waiting for an opportunity to vent their pent up passion. The Radical papers are very different. They are loud and frank in criticizing the apparent unwillingness of the Government to carry out any decisive reforms. The reforms which the Radicals require the Government to undertake are the reduction of public expenses; the revision of the Publications, Newspapers, and Public Meetings Regulations; the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, and the Admonition Law; the amendment of the Law of the Houses, and the Law of Elections; the alteration of the Organization (*Kwansei*) of the various branches of the Administration; reforms in the Military and Naval administrations; and, above all, a frank confession and apology for the past errors and abuses of the Meiji Government. If you do all this, we will pardon you and give you what support we can. Such, in brief, is the price for which the goodwill of the Radicals is to be bought. The way in which these reforms are demanded of the Government leads one to believe that the Radicals are not without hopes of some at least being taken up by those in power. At all events there is no reason why we should change our oft-repeated opinion that the Radicals will be more amenable to reason in the next session of the Diet than their allies of the Progressionist party.

Our view about the probable attitude of the *Yiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* in the coming session of the Diet is shared by many of the metropolitan papers, of which the *Choya Shinbun* is one of the most conspicuous. Our contemporary observes that the Radicals have during the past few years made great progress. From the destructive and desperate party of former years, it has gradually changed into the comparatively rational and well-disciplined party of the present day. That it will become more amenable to reason in the next session of the Diet is tolerably certain, for, says our contemporary, its leader, Count Itagaki, is doing all in his power to restrain the excesses of his inexperienced followers. He has been of late telling them that they must abandon their negative policy in favour of a positive and constructive policy. Moreover, the Radicals, according to our contemporary, have done nothing to drive them into incorrigible hostility to the Government. Their attitude in the fourth session of the Diet is consequently believed to be more or less well disposed to the Cabinet. The Progressionists have made a retrogressive motion. Formerly they laughed at the destructive tendency of the Radicals, but they have entirely changed character with the latter, being now hopelessly pledged

to a policy of violent and unreasoning opposition to the Government. Between them and their adversaries in power, there are, says the *Choya*, several historical impediments against their reconciliation. The gradual approach of their allies, the Radicals, is not calculated to sooth their already irritated mind. On what grounds are the Progressionists going to oppose the Government? Their cant about want of confidence will no longer serve their purpose; for how can they stand up to declare want of confidence in the Cabinet when they know very well that they themselves enjoy but little of the confidence of the nation? The Progressionists, concludes our contemporary, are thus in an extremely awkward position.

The *Kokkai* has been informed of a singular circumstance. It has been told that some of these Opposition politicians entertain an audacious scheme of discrediting the Government. That scheme is said to consist in applauding whatever the Government may undertake and thus to lead it to the belief that it has nothing to fear from the Opposition, when on a sudden they will spring upon it and force it to yield up its power. Needless to say that the absurdity of such a scheme is ruthlessly criticized by the Tokyo papers. Our contemporary, however, fears that this may simply be a device with which certain politicians hope to screen from public condemnation the business to be bought forward by those in power.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* calls attention to the inconsistency of the Opposition journals in demanding of the Cabinet the pursuance of some extravagant and showy policy. Had they not condemned the first Ito Cabinet for the pursuance of just such a policy? But that circumstance is apparently quite lost sight of by the Radical and the Progressionist organs which are now loud in their clamour for something dazzling and brilliant. How absurd it is to cry that the people are getting tired of the new Cabinet, when it has been in existence only for about twenty days. What is really required, continues our contemporary, is that the Cabinet, instead of wasting time over glittering manifestoes and picturesque reforms, should persevere in doing solid and steady work. It hopes that those in power will not suffer themselves to be carried away by the incessant clamours of the Opposition papers.

The Opposition journals continue to regard the recent changes in the *personnel* of local Governors in the light of punishment for the part which those Governors took in the elections of February last. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* finds it necessary to explain once more the absurdity of this contention. We do not, however, think it necessary to reproduce these articles. Suffice it to say that while, on the one hand, the *Nichi Nichi* regards these changes as the results of purely administrative convenience, the Opposition journals, on the other, refuse to look at the matter in that light, and persist in urging upon the Minister of Home Affairs the necessity of disgracing several others who still remain at their posts to the great disgust of the local inhabitants.

It has been customary to call together the local Governors in the capital whenever there has been a change of Ministry. In pursuance of this custom, Count Inouye, it is stated, has issued a summons to the *Chiji* throughout the country. The *Mainichi Shimbun* seizes this opportunity of urging the importance of completing the changes in the *personnel* of the local authorities before summoning them to the capital; for our contemporary, like the rest of the Opposition papers, cannot get over the illusion that more changes are going to be effected to please the Radicals and the Progressionists. The *Aijun* does not evidently labour under such a delusion. It, however, goes very hard against the local Governors, whom it denounces to be indifferent to the interests of the people under their care. Many of

them leave the control of local affairs in the hands of their subordinates. As the result of this indifference, they are profoundly ignorant of the condition of things under their jurisdiction. In the matters of local legislation, agricultural improvement, and so forth, there remains much to be effected by local Governors. They are advised to devote themselves in the future more to the promotion of the interests of their respective localities. As they are at present, our contemporary wonders what good can be attained by their periodical visit to the capital.

The question of the Budget is beginning to attract the attention of the metropolitan journals, and a rumour has been circulated to the effect that the Budget for the 26th fiscal year would exceed that for the current year by about six million *yen*. This report has caused some excitement among the Opposition journals. They state that, it having been generally supposed that the Ito Cabinet would effect a large reduction in public expenses, the report in question has been a surprise to them. They tell the Ministry that the only chance of its meeting with a friendly reception by the Diet consists in presenting a Budget in which every item of expenditure will have been cut down to the lowest figures. There being a surplus of about ten million *yen*, the Ministers of State are said to be competing with each other in order to secure as much of it as possible for the use of their respective Departments. Has the surplus been effected by the Diet, ask these papers, so as to satisfy the whims of enterprising Ministers of State? These Ministers state that such and such undertakings are of paramount importance to the country's interest or safety; why then did they not take earlier steps to effect reductions to carry out measures of such importance? On the contrary, they did all in their power to oppose the creation of the very surplus which they are now so anxious to employ for the carrying out of their pet schemes. The Opposition papers claim that this surplus and the annual surplus of about 4 million *yen* having been attained by the efforts of the Popular party, these amounts must be employed for reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. It is obvious from these articles, that the fight between the new Cabinet and the Opposition, if there is to be a fight, will take place over the Budget.

The Law of Admonition (懲戒令) was recently put in force upon 16 or 17 *soshi* who had given much annoyance to some rich merchants. This law is not popular with the Opposition journals, but they are, upon the whole, satisfied with the manner in which it has been enforced on the present occasion. When the order was first carried out in February last, the Opposition journals were loud in condemnation of the impartiality of the authorities, for it so happened that the *soshi* of the Popular party were the principal sufferers by the measure. On the present occasion, no such charge of impartiality is preferred against the Government. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, while refraining from adversely criticizing the measure in itself, is yet disposed to doubt its efficiency, for the real leaders of these obnoxious youths always escape unpunished. So long as there are men who support the *soshi* with funds, the evil can never be eradicated by simply putting in force the Admonition Law upon the comparatively insignificant and irresponsible members of the fraternity. Until a month or two ago, says our contemporary, there were several members of the Cabinet who had intimate relations with some of these *soshi*. The *Mainichi* hints that even now there are one or two Ministers against whom similar charges may justly be brought. You must, concludes our contemporary, strike at the root if you wish to do away with the evil in an effective manner.

The *Choya Shimbun* has two very interesting articles on the importance of directing the energies of the nation to some foreign enterprise. Our contemporary, like the *Yiji Shimpō* and

several others, is convinced that the only escape from the fruitless struggles over domestic affairs is to turn the energies of the people abroad. There are signs, says the *Choya*, that the nation is impatient to try its fortune in some foreign adventure. This tendency grows stronger and stronger, and those who have the reins of Government are advised to ride on the tide and carry out some daring and aggressive foreign policy. Treaty Revision may for some time serve to unite the people; but this cannot be a permanent question. Our contemporary does not define the policy which is to be pursued; but it seems to advocate colonization on a grand scale.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It speaks well for the independence and zeal of the native workers that the summer issues of the Christian religious journals continue to present attractive tables of contents notwithstanding the absence at mountain summer-resorts of the great majority of the foreign missionaries. There is a marked absence of the controversy which distinguished the religious press about this time last year, and no particularly important issues are being mooted. The summer-schools of both leading cults are absorbing the chief attention of all workers, and the interchange of thought which there occurs is one of the most important influences on the policy of the coming year. Japanese action is always the resultant of individual forces; and the occasions when all can meet and quietly test in personal intercourse the general trend of opinion are those which determine the future course of the whole body. The only writing that can be considered as having anything of a momentous character is the remarkable utterance (perhaps the most remarkable since Mr. Fukuzawa's advocacy of official Christianity) of Mr. Nakanishi Goro, entitled "A Comparison between Buddhism and Christianity." Mr. Nakanishi, it will be remembered, is one of the most prominent of the New Buddhists, and the author of "The New Buddhism," some time ago summarized in our columns. What will come of this declaration we do not know. If all could believe as he does, the religious millenium would indeed be at hand. But nobody need expect that he is preparing to cross over to the Christian camp; he is too independent for that. Nor can we hope that his views are shared by any considerable number of the Buddhist clergy; there is about them, as in all religions, too great a weight of history and tradition and cherished association to permit as free a search for universal truth as Mr. Nakanishi has found himself able to undertake.

In the *Kirtukyo Shimbun* (Congregationalist) there is an interchange of letters between a Mr. Taketomi, who criticizes a passage in Mr. Yokoi's recent article on "The Religion of this Life," and Mr. Yokoi, who replies. The critic asks for an explanation of passage in which Mr. Yokoi said that when Christ, at the beginning of his ministry, came into Galilee, he preached of a future worldly bliss, founding his hopes on this world's future alone; but when his opponents became powerful and danger threatened and he saw that a worldly kingdom was impossible, he placed his hope on another world; he was to come again with angels and establish his kingdom. Now the critic is unwilling to regard Christ as a defeated coward, who abandoned his faith when its realization became impossible; and he asks if this was Mr. Yokoi's meaning. The latter skillfully avoids the trap. He begins by positing the axiom that man's being is constantly developing; no person can always remain the same; night and day he changes. Some progress by listening to teachers; others by the study of great writers; still others by mastering nature's varied lessons through their own intuitive genius. The first are of the lowest order; the last of the highest; and to the last belongs Christ. He was constantly, as he tells us, learning from his Hea-

venly Father. It is thus that we see him progressing from lower to higher truths. We must not make the mistake of ignoring his humanity and thinking only of his divinity, there was undoubtedly some change of opinion on his part as to the nature of the future kingdom of happiness, and no doubt the change came after he realized that he must die without the visible realization of his hopes. But Mr. Taketomis hard epithets have no application to this change of opinion.

The *Rikugo Zasshi* (Congregationalist) presents us with the following dish of culture spiced with religion; "Yokoi Shonan" (the father of the present preacher); "Reforms in Pronouncing Chinese Characters," by Professor Oshima; "The Cultivation of Eloquence," by Mr. Miyagawa; together with Dr. Ladd's Tokyo lectures on "Religious Philosophy," and Professor Ely's "German Universities from the American standpoint." We find a review of Mr. Kanamori's recent translation of Dr. Pfeiderer's "Philosophy of Religion," published under the title "Liberal Theology." The religious world is congratulated on having such a valuable work brought to their knowledge in Japanese; and Mr. Kanamori's skill in rendering difficult terms is especially praised. But the reviewer deplores the omission of three leading chapters on "The Origin of Religion," "The Idea of God," and "The Development of the Religious Idea." In the reviewer's mind, it seems, the times demand Fabian caution rather than Paulsenian zeal, for he declines to express any opinion (even under the shield of anonymity) as to the correctness or incorrectness of Pfeiderer's views. We wonder whether the rest of Japan's religious thinkers will observe the same policy.

The *Fukui Shimpō* (Presbyterian) writes about "Fatalism in Christian Work." The warning is against losing heart because Christianity does not grow as fast as was expected, and then declaring that after all it is fate and cannot be helped. It is not fate; it is the fault of the Christian workers. If there were more zeal, there would be greater results. The same journal publishes some views upon the plan to be followed at the great Christian Conference to be held next year. The best time is on all hands regarded as summer. The place, it is admitted, should be a central one; but some resort having natural attractions of scenery, etc. (Hakone, for instance) is recommended in preference to Osaka.

The *Yūyū Kiristukyo Shimbun* (Universalist), using the title "Orthodox Bigotry," declares it narrow and ungenerous that the Liberal Christians are not to be invited to this Conference, and that a similar course has been followed by the managers of the Christian Summer School at Hakone. It would seem that they are afraid to let their hearers listen to the words of the Liberal missionaries, and hence have gone back to the Catholic methods of the Middle Ages of refusing to listen to non-orthodox argument. It is difficult to believe that the Japanese people themselves are inclined to such methods. Certain orthodox journals call themselves liberal; but where is their orthodoxy, if they refuse to associate with good Christians? In the *Shinri* (German) Mr. Maruyama concludes his article on "The Progress of Christianity." He analyzes the idea of "faith," as commonly accepted by Christians, and finds it to have for its object chiefly a number of traditions or doctrines stated as facts. These have really been the growth of centuries, and it takes considerable acquaintance with literature even to understand many of them. They are really outside of the true Christianity, and a sort of palace in the air. What is real Christianity? Not old traditions, not systematic theology; but a very simple thing, religious morality. The Catholics cry, "The Church will give you happiness and peace." Protestants cry, "The Bible and our Creeds will give you happiness and peace." But the true source of the blessing they seek is nothing more nor less than Christ himself. Some people are given to talking of

Christianity as a time-worn edifice tottering to its fall. But they confound Christianity with the framework of Catholic and Protestant theology built around it. While reverence for God and love for man are to be found, Christianity is still living and growing. In the *Shukyo* (Unitarian) we find, among others articles on "The Province of Religion," and "Woman's Education," with Dr. Ladd's lecture on Liberal Theology.

In the *Bukkyō* (Tendai sect; but also under Zen influence) is given a report of an interview recently held between Sir Edwin Arnold and a delegation of priests. The views elicited are interesting, and are summarized as follows, Sir Edwin being the questioner:—

Q.—Among the old Indian monks there exists a magical power of communicating with distant persons. Does that exist among Japanese Buddhists? A.—There are among us 12 great sects; but we have never heard of this power. Doubtless there are many saintly persons who by their character and learning have attained certain spiritual powers. But they are spiritual powers which come from the heights of sanctity which these persons have reached; they could never be attained merely by seeking them for themselves. Moreover, they are not gross tricks of magic, but qualities of the spirit. Powers contrary to our nature, and other than these spiritual qualities, we cannot get. Once in Ceylon I met Colonel Olcott, who told me that he could make his handkerchief into a Bible, could get a letter from London in one day, and could work in the air as well as along the earth. Those things can may perhaps be done by magic, but certainly not by any study of Buddha.

Q.—You speak well. But do you think that Buddha did these things? A.—Yes, Shaka Muni had those powers naturally; but with him it was no miracle; it was as natural an effect of natural powers as carrying water in a bucket is with us.

Q.—Now, in the Buddhist records it says "Outside of our mind there is nothing." What is your explanation of that? A.—That was said by the old saint Rinzi. The fool thinks that Mind and Nature are two; but they are only one. Where mind exists, there we find space and the laws of the universe; where mind is destroyed, nothing exists. Trying to get away from mind is the beginning of misery, for it is seeking something in nothing.

Q.—But if a man can reach this supreme knowledge, there must be a method. A.—Yes; by meditation only. Of course I am of the Zen sect and I know only their ways. One is the "sitting-contemplation" (*sa zen*),—as Buddha learned, sitting under the Tree. If we reach that knowledge of the Infinite Eternal Mind, then we can realize the unity and variety of the whole world; then the universe is ours.

Q.—But what practical results can you reach, and how? A.—Their practical effect—which is nothing but to attain a knowledge of the Infinite Eternal Mind—is that we are able to turn the world upside down, build towers on a hair, and do other such things. Yet to describe it to one who has it is not as difficult as to explain to you how water tastes to me. I can make my white hair give forth a great and glorious light; yet to you I am nothing but a beggarly monk talking in the Teikoku Hotel.

Q.—But can you communicate with the spirits of the dead? A.—In my faith there is no life and no death. The spirit of life is quenchless, eternal. As Buddha says, life and death in Nirvana are like yesterday's dream." And thus ended the interview.

In the *Dento* (Shingon) sect) Mr. Nakanishi Goro makes "A Comparison between Buddhism and Christianity." When I look, he says, at the great influence of Christianity, its glory seems to fill the world and the flag of the cross to be the sign of victory everywhere. Yet when it reaches a certain point it must stop. This checking of its progress has already begun, and, though it is still powerful, its Kingdom is destined to disappear, like those of Rome and Macedonia of old. But its victories have been awed to the truth it has wielded. Let us see what is this truth. First, it lies in Christianity's emphasis of the existence of one Absolute Infinite, creator of all creation, father of Love, source of all things, pure spirit, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent. To prove this truth there is nothing so potent as Christianity in all the world. To identify the Father of Love with the Source of the Universe is to have emphasized one of the most important truths for

mankind. It is the revelation of this pure Spirit which unites man and God, and this uniting of man to God is one of the great doctrines of Christianity. In Buddhism this truth is accepted in substantially the same form. But Buddhism expounds the attributes of God more minutely. It sees more of God in nature. *Shinnee* is Absolute Infinite Pure Spirit, beyond and above all other imaginable things. There is nothing in the universe but God; and the universe is identified with God. Nor does this blaspheme the divine honour, in our opinion. But, furthermore, this omniscience, omnipresence, and omnipotence, which Buddhists also postulate, is by us not directly predicated of the perfect Absolute Being, but of Buddha, our highest exemplar. What we term Buddha corresponds to the what Christian conceive as God. Christians attribute to God the human capacities of feeling and thinking, as we do to Buddha; only we are more logical, for if God has human impulses of good, he must also have capacity, however small, for bad, and thus he could not be perfect. We avoid this by seeing this culmination of human faculties in Buddha, while transcendental perfection is to be imagined in the Absolute Being only. Yet here Christianity, though not so strictly logical, is but one step behind Buddhism. Another great truth emphasized by Christianity is the imperishability of the moral law. Our deeds of to-day will bear fruit in the future, reward and punishment, not only in this life but in another. This doctrine of inevitable punishment and reward is also held by Buddhism; only the Christian idea of the nature of the future life and of its single judgment day with a final sentence will not stand the test of argument; the Buddhist idea of a succession of future lives, of a gradual improvement or deterioration in the transmigrant souls, is much nearer to reason. Again, the influence of Christianity is due chiefly to the purity and nobility of ideal life. Christ sacrificed himself for the benefit of the world, and that act forever glorified the possibilities of humanity. The moral influence of Christianity, like that of Confucianism, is strong in its practicality; doing, not knowing only, is it great theme. The teachings of Christ embody everlasting truths, fervent, noble, flashing upon us like lightning, startling and illuminating us. The teaching of the Four Gospels is the most perfect, most noble, most practical moral doctrine below heaven; and it is most easy to understand and most simple to follow. The central principle of Christian morality is, "Love God, love man." The personality of Christ, this is the magnetic power of Christianity. I have now described what seems to me the great truths of Christianity and the reasons on which its influence rests; and in all this there is nothing that conflicts with what a Buddhist believes. But Christian doctrines have another side, a side of superstition, and ignorance. Like the sickness of a healthy man, it will cause the end of Christianity, if it is not cured. Chief among these doctrines is that of the Trinity. Christianity calls itself monotheistic, and yet sets up a Trinity—Three Gods in One. Of course no one can really explain this. Either the Trinity is meaningless, or they are not monotheists. Even if you say there are Three in One, this is not pure monotheism. If three may be as one, why may not all be found in one, as in pantheism? The fact is that the doctrine of the Trinity dates back to Eastern traditions (Philo of Alexandria had it), and was kept in the Christian system, as history shows, because it helped out another of the unsound Christian doctrines—that of salvation. If either of these goes, the other must go too. The present age is one of progress; and if Christianity continues to cling to these antiquated doctrines of the Trinity and Salvation, it will lose its hold on the world. Thus we have surveyed Christian truth and Christian error. Can Christianity progress further? I answer, If it is to progress, it must first cast away its errors; otherwise it will decline. But if it does cast away its errors and continues on its path of progress,—it will progress into Buddhism!

COUNT ITO.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of a recent date publishes an interesting open letter addressed to Count ITO. The epistle was penned a short time previous to the Change of Ministry, but that fact does not detract from the value of the document. It is a significant circumstance that whereas when Count ITO sealed the fate of Count OKUMA'S treaty revision programme by resigning the post of President of the Privy Council, this very periodical pronounced a funeral oration on him as a statesman, it now publishes a highly eulogistic article, calling him the first statesman of the day and urging him to return to power. "Speaking plainly," says the *Kokumin*, "we are not in the habit of admiring Your Excellency. But when family affairs become deranged, one begins to think of a good wife, and in a political crisis men's minds turn towards a capable statesman. . . . Were we called upon to indicate an ideal statesman, we should not name Your Excellency, and if we now venture to appeal to you, it is simply because you alone are competent, and in some respects bound, to assume the direction of affairs at the present critical juncture." The Tokyo periodical goes on to describe the dangerous state of politics, and to impress upon Count ITO the necessity of speedily taking office. Of all Japanese statesmen, whether in the Government or in the Opposition, there are, in our contemporary's opinion, only two who deserve the name and are competent to be Minister President. They are Count ITO and Count OKUMA. The latter is now in the Opposition and has no opportunity to take office, whereas Count ITO enjoys the boundless confidence of the EMPEROR, is respected by his colleagues, and surrounded by a number of capable followers, while the mass of the people are impatient to see him assume the reins of government. He is essentially the right man in the right time. Moreover, he is under a moral obligation to take office. For the present political difficulties may be said to have had the origin on the day when he compelled Count OKUMA to leave the Government in 1881. Together with Count OKUMA and Count INOUE, he had considered it no longer advisable to treat with indifference the incessant claims of the people for the fulfilment of the Imperial promise as to the establishment of a constitutional Government. The three statesmen had set themselves to investigate the subject, and their united efforts were on the point of assuming practical shape, where Count ITO and Count INOUE suddenly threw Count OKUMA overboard and forced him to resign. The *Kokumin* refuses to enter into the causes of this alleged sudden change of mind on the part of Counts ITO and INOUE. But it charges the former with having at that time evolved a plan of maintaining the Government by

an exclusive coalition of the Sasshu and Choshu clans. One consequence of the adoption of such a policy was that the establishment of a National Assembly, which had reached the verge of attainment, was deferred for a period of ten weary years. Other important results of the new policy were that all the progressive elements outside the Sat-Cho combination disappeared from the ranks of the Government; that the greatest restraints were placed upon liberty of speech and public meeting, and that the so-called German method was zealously adopted in all branches of the Administration. In short, Count ITO and others are accused by the *Kokumin* of having devoted the interregnum of ten years, not to winning the hearts of the people, as they ought to have done if only in their own interest, but to alienating popular sympathy by opposing the aspirations of the people. In 1888, a temporary change of policy for the better took place by the return to power of Count OKUMA, and the Constitution, in the framing of which Count ITO had the largest share, was in the following year promulgated in the midst of universal rejoicing. At that time a hope of reconciliation between the Government and the Opposition presented itself, but the complications that arose in connection with the question of Treaty Revision again brought about a return to the old obnoxious system of clan Administration. In the failure of Count OKUMA'S revision programme, Count ITO is stated to have had the largest share; and being therefore held principally responsible for the present difficulties between the Government and the Opposition, he is challenged by the Tokyo periodical to come forward and remedy the evils occasioned by his own acts. He may complain of the difficulty of managing the so-called Military party, but our contemporary reminds him that the leaders of that party are all soldiers of simple minds, who have honestly assimilated some of the principles of the German administrative methods which nobody has been more active than he himself in inculcating. Therefore from this point of view also the responsibility devolves on him of converting the military politicians from the error of their ways. He may perhaps say that he has no more desire for political honours and glory. Indeed he has attained all the renown that lies within reach of a Japanese subject, and in proof of this the *Kokumin* briefly reviews his past career, referring, among other things, to his boyhood when his master, the great KIDO, declared that "the lad named ITO RISUKE, though of humble birth, is eager to study under me; he is slow in intelligence and backward in learning, but I love him, as he is docile and unaffected;" to his burning of the British Legation at Gotenyama, in company with KUSAKA and TAKASUGI; to his adventurous voyage to Europe together with INOUE, in the course of

which he confessed to his companion the impossibility of "excluding barbarians" from this country; to his share in assisting the inauguration of the present era; to his appointment as Governor of Hyogo, when "Hyogo opinion" was the watch-word of the progressive party in the Government; to his subsequent transfer to Tokyo, where, in concert with OKUBO and others, he became the fountain of reform in all departments of national life; to his travels in the West in company with KIDO and OKUBO; to his influence over OKUBO; to his appointment to the Home Office on the assassination of OKUBO; to his power in the Government since then; and finally to his elevation in 1885 to the post of Minister President of State, a post hitherto invariably held by Court nobles of the very highest rank, the only exceptions being ASHIKAGA YOSHIMITSU, TOYOTOMI HIDEYOSHI, and TOKUGAWA IYENARI. With such a brilliant record, he may naturally be indifferent to political honours. But political honour is only one of the objects of a statesman. Duty to the SOVEREIGN and the country should be a more potent incentive, and in obedience to it the Count is strongly urged to assume the responsibility of directing the Government. Some allege that Count ITO is more skilful in devising than in carrying out a policy. But there has never been a perfect statesman; and speaking comparatively, no Japanese of the present day surpasses the Count in the qualities that go to make statesmanship; nay, it is doubtful whether he has many peers in this respect. The strongest point in his character is clear and comprehensive vision. Count INOUE is certainly quick-sighted, but his horizon is not wide enough. Evidence of this trait in Count ITO'S character is furnished by the manner in which he has quietly and almost imperceptibly strengthened his position by making the nobles and the graduates of the Imperial University his staunchest supporters. Besides, he has obtained the sympathy of men of letters by freely associating with them; while his loyal opinions have excited the admiration of conservatives. Thus he possesses supporters of more varied description than those of Count OKUMA, who nevertheless has spared no pains to procure followers in all stations of society. Count ITO is believed by some persons to be crooked in his policy. The *Kokumin* declares this to be a gross misrepresentation. He is neither so daring as Count INOUE, nor so courageous as Count OKUMA, nor so plain and straightforward as Count ITAGAKI, but crookedness can never be proved against him. Our contemporary makes an admission that he is open to the charge of shirking responsibility in a difficult crisis. So too NOBUNAGA was noted for his propensity to escape from the field of battle. But he completely retrieved his honour by the gallant stand he made at Okehazama.

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Count ITO is advised to profit by NOBUNAGA'S example, and to close his splendid career with a similarly gallant stand at the present juncture. In conclusion, the *Kokumin* recommends him, should he assume power, to sever all connection with the National Unionists, and pursue a neutral (*chosen*) policy, at the same time anticipating the wishes of the Opposition by carrying out the reforms which they have advocated for the past ten years.

Our readers will doubtless agree that this is an interesting analysis of Count ITO'S character, and of the incidents that have culminated in the state of affairs now before us. The Tokyo periodical does not use laudatory language *con amore*. Between the lines of its writing is everywhere apparent the desire to extol Count OKUMA at Count ITO'S expense. That it would prefer to say bitter things were choice free, is plain enough, and we may therefore regard its praise as at least the testimony of a witness not biased by friendly sentiment. There can in truth be no doubt that the nation at large regards the present Cabinet as the last and best hope of a peaceful issue from the crippled condition into which politics have drifted. If Counts ITO and INOUE fail, who can succeed? That is what men ask each other. Assuredly if Counts ITO and INOUE fail, Counts OKUMA and ITAKAKI cannot succeed, even if they could be induced to try the experiment, which is doubtful. There is no abler or bolder man in Japan than Count OKUMA, but it is impossible to doubt the correctness of the *Kokumin's* assertion that his following cannot compare with that of Count ITO. Indeed Count OKUMA stands to-day more or less isolated. His immediate supporters, the *Kaishin-to*, can show more talent and competence in proportion to their numbers than any other association of politicians in Japan, but their practical influence is virtually *nil*. Only by combination with the *Fiyu-to* can they exercise any power, and that is a combination which can never be stable, and which, owing to the great numerical disparity of the two parties, tends to lower the prestige of the weaker. Count ITO, therefore, is the only possible saviour of the situation, and we cannot wonder that the career of his Cabinet is watched with the keenest anxiety by the nation. Even those who view him with not over friendly eyes, like the periodical from which we have quoted, recognise his great qualities and understand that the crowning effort of his life is to be made now.

The amount of Government paper in currency and bank notes in circulation on the 1st of August last was yen 47,338,855.85, of which, yen 17,545,277.50 represented Government notes above 1-yen face value, and yen 5,511,120.85 Government notes under 50-sen face value, and yen 24,282,457.50 bank notes. As compared with the previous month the above figures show a decrease of yen 700,757.55 in Government paper and yen 87,297.00 in bank notes.—*Official Gazette*.

A DETACHED CHAPTER

FROM AN UNPUBLISHED MS. ON "THE HUMAN RACE AND ITS GROWTH FROM A COMMON CENTRE."

BY CHAS. W. LE GENDRE.

CHAPTER I.

FROM the facts brought to light in the foregoing Chapters, we see that, before becoming the one national group of to-day, the Japanese people, or rather the peoples of the Japanese Archipelago, included a number of diverse races, divided into separate and distinct political organisations, each with its own laws, institutions, and peculiar customs. These laws, institutions, etc., had not been introduced from one point, *i.e.* China, by way of Korea, as has hitherto been generally believed, but came from several points here and there in the West, so far away as the base of the Celestial Mountains. Here, in this north-western part of Asia, for the first time, we find the Aryans—leaving their one-time isolation in Northern Asia—mixing freely with Melanian and Finnish races, and entering, with the hybrid offspring of their marriages with these two races, upon that stage of unrest, continual change, overthrow and sorrow, which we call "history." In their turn, again, these masses of humanity, having thus been made to move from this initial point, gradually wandered from each other, calling upon other Finnish and Melanian races to take part in their social life; here, in a north-easterly direction, by way of Tartary; there in a south-westerly direction, by way of Babylonia to Japan. So two great human currents were begotten, through whose agency the blood and primitive civilisation of their ancestors reached the uttermost limits of the Far East. This movement of humanity, starting in other directions with like results, combined, with the currents of the winds and waves, in keeping up the great work of constantly modifying the life-conditions of man on the surface of this our planet.

It was thus that the great northern current sent out subsidiary streams of humanity as far as Japan, by way of Foukoué and Kiaotchi, on the one hand, and Tibet and India on the other. The great southern current, for its part, having reached Babylonia, split up into two human streams. One of these went west, by way of Asia Minor, Upper Egypt, North Africa and Western Europe, to the eastern coasts of Central America; the other drifted eastward, by way of the Ganges region and that of the Indus, Arabia, East Africa, Malabar, the Gulf of Bengal, and Malasia. At this last-named point, the sub-current divided into three minor streams, which found their way to three quite different quarters. These were (1) Borneo, Papuanasia, the Celebes, the Moluccas, the Carolines, the Mariannes, Formosa, the Riu-kiu Islands, and finally Japan, where it became amalgamated with the great northern current, which, by way of the northern seas and North-Eastern Asia, had continued travelling eastward until it reached that part of North America lying between the 35° and 45° of north latitude; (2) by way of the Polynesian and Micronesian isles to several localities in the

two Americas, between the 30° of north and the 50° of south latitude; and finally (3), by way of the islands and archipelagos of the South Pacific, to New Zealand.

At the same period of time that the civilising influences which, under the foregoing conditions, had been produced by the agency of the mixed peoples born on that vast territory, lying along the base of the Celestial Mountains, during the last days of the antediluvian era of Central Asia, and shedding their first potent glimmerings on our planet—at the same time it was that the arcadian civilisation of the primeval home of the white race—traces of which civilisation we have found in the philosophy of LAO-TSZE—entered, in the northern part of the Asiatic Continent, upon the last stage of its decline. It was then also that ideas peculiar to the progressive party, inspiring a party which had sprung into existence near the close of the antediluvian period in this same portion of Asia—in the very midst of the Aryan race while it still occupied the territory of the White Island—were carried by the northern and south-west currents both to China and Babylon. Together with serpent-worship, we find very distinct traces of these ideas in the philosophies of the precursors of FOHE and OANNES, and also in that philosophical system which VAYCIA transmitted to us in the Vedas during his sojourn in Bactria. Finally, about the beginning of the post-diluvian epoch in Western Asia—according to the traditions of the Hindus as preserved in the *Padma-puran*, those of Babylonia as found in the fragments of BEROSUS, and those of the Jews as embodied in the Bible—the different branches of the Aryan race settled down into three great human groups: the Shemites, the Hamites or Kushites, and the Japhetites. All the notions and ideas peculiar to each of these three groups, were, together with the blood of the races they represented, transmitted in diverse epochs by means of the two great currents above referred to, either to the north, the east, the west, or the south of the region situated at the foot of the Celestial Mountains. Thus the system of concubinage peculiar to the Shemites was introduced at one time into the Hindú branch of the Aryan race and among the Chinese, taking in both cases the place of that monogamy which had preceded this system among these two peoples. The Tartar race, which through its white parent stock is connected with the Japhetic group, whose civilisation it possessed at the outset, also adopted the practice of concubinage. Later on, coming under the race-influences of the Kushite group through the agency of the great northern current, these influences helped to modify the characteristic features that the Tartar civilisation had borrowed from the two preceding classes of race-influences; and this resulted in the mixed civilisation now peculiar to the Tartars, the characteristic traits of which even the adoption of the Buddhist creed has not been able to efface.

Thanks again to these diffusory agents, the blood and civilisation of the Kushite race were first carried to India and Babylonia and thence to Asia Minor, Arabia, Africa, Europe, and the eastern littoral of Central America, on the one hand, and to Eastern Asia, Malasia, the Pacific Isles and the western half of the New World, on the other. By these agencies, Brahminism flowed from the blood of the Japhetites to the north-west of

(* This chapter embodies some of the principal conclusions arrived at by the author in an exhaustive and interesting work. It bears detachment from its context, and we have therefore obtained permission to publish it independently, though the complete work of which it forms a part has not yet appeared.—Ed. J.W.M.)

India; and Europe was Aryanised before the Kushite and Aryo-Hindû branches of the white race reached that continent. It is again owing to these agencies that the Sacca race, addicted to sun-worship and the practice of magic, reached China (coming from Bactria) about the 23rd century B.C.; Scandinavia and Western Europe in a very ancient epoch which can no longer be determined with exactitude, and finally India, about the 14th century B.C. Long before the Saccas arrived in India, these same diffusory agencies had carried the religion of Zoroaster to Persia, traces of which may still be found in Judean Christianity. By them, one-and-twenty centuries ago, Buddhism was introduced from India into China, by way of Shansi; and in the same manner, this creed, a little later on, went eastward to the Pacific, by way of Ceylon, Cochin-china, Java, and Siam. Finally, it is owing to these agencies that the civilisation of MAHOMET spread throughout Asia, Africa, and Polynesia, where everything tends to show that it became the substitute for the civilisation of its forerunners, and flourished in that distant part of our globe until Aryan Europe came to stop its progress.

Of all the race-influences brought into play by the great northern current of humanity, those of Tartary have left the most unmistakable traces in the customs and habits of the Japanese Archipelago; while among those who reached Japan by means of the great southern current, it is the Kushite influences which antedate all others and which existed for the longest time and were most vigorous. And this is only what we should expect, for this Kushite civilisation, starting out in the dawn of the days when our planet began to teem with human life, had monopolised the territory both east and west of India, where it had preceded the civilisation of the Aryan Hindus. From India it went on to Arabia, where, thirty-five centuries before our era, we find the race of *Afrikes*, or *Afriks*, making North Africa the field of its enterprise, and perhaps Central America as well. We have seen that the port of *Acla*, in the Gulf of Uraba in the last named region, is easily connected with *Atlan*, and moreover points to that part of Africa which had been colonised by the Kushites; that *Aztlan* was no other than this port of *Acla*, which was reached by the parent stock of the Nahua races, coming westward to America, after one hundred and forty years of wandering aimlessly hither and thither. From this place the parent races of the Nahua started out on their colonising migration to the region of the Mexican lake in the year 2,700 B.C. VOTAN, who had himself set out from one of the Mediterranean ports, landed at San Domingo and passed thence on to the land of the Chiapas, on the eastern coast of Central America. Owing to the absence of any precise details whatever, we are tempted, with HUMBOLDT, to make the epoch in which this event occurred coeval with the extension of the Kushite race in Western Europe. The place from which this enterprising race of colonists set out was *Opira* (from *aphar*, "west,") situated in *Abhira*, province of Guzerat, Western India. While they still occupied this part of Asia and prior to the advent of the Aryan Hindûs from the region of the Celestial Mountains, *Opira* had, for a long time, been the most westerly of their Indian possessions. Thence, possibly under the leadership of adventurous voyagers, they

they reached *Atlan*, their last colony in the west. This they managed to do with the aid of a succession of *ophir*, or "western stations," viz., that of Arabia, between Musa and Aden; then that of *Aparica*, or the Atlantic region, the name of which is also derived from *Ophir*; *Apar*, *Aphar*, etc.

But though they dispersed so far in a westerly direction, they did not, for that reason, give less attention to the Orient. We have already spoken of the enormous trade carried on between India, the Persian Gulf, Arabia, and the Mediterranean ports. Of this trade the adventurous Kushites had the monopoly until the 20th century B.C., when their original ancestors still ruled in Babylonia; and we know that everything tends to show that the commerce kept up between China and *Yue-shang* (the site of the Canton of our own days,) in the early part of the 24th century B.C., was also in their management. So thoroughly was the trade control in their hands that the importance of this eastern commerce and especially that of their establishments in the Persian Gulf—by means of which, together with the Hindû *Ophir*, the eastern trade had connection with that of the west—became so great that, in the 16th century B.C., they made arrangements to have a prince of their race on the throne of Babylon, while this ancient metropolis was under the dominance of their allies, the Kings of Egypt.

It was in their exploits in following up the eastern branch of this vast trade that the Sabaeans, whom AGATHARCIDES depicts as surpassing all other peoples in the world in wealth and splendour, amassed their treasure. This trade supplied them with the prime articles most eagerly sought for by the manufacturing establishments of their Phœnician brethren in the Gulf of Persia and the Mediterranean. That is why the Phœnician Kushites never abandoned these Oriental stations of their trade. To tell the truth, they looked upon them as a veritable place of safety wherein they might find a refuge and shelter in case they should lose their Mediterranean establishments. In order to make sure of preserving the monopoly of these places, they kept their very existence as long as possible a secret from the rest of the world. It was for this reason that, in the Orient, they spread the report that all the products which they brought from Bengal, Malasia, and China by way of Siam, and which they carried to their purchasers either in a crude state or else in the varied forms of manufacture produced in their establishments or depôts in the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean, both to those customers in Western Asia by way of their ports in the Persian Gulf, and those in Africa and Europe, by way of their Arabian and Mediterranean stations,—that all these products came exclusively from India. And when, after the appearance in the Mediterranean of the Pelagians, a rival sea-faring people, in the 16th century B.C., the Phœnicians found themselves compelled to give up their one-time supremacy in Grecian waters, they fell back on Africa and Western Europe, well knowing that, in case of need, by means of the marts which they had possessed, from the remote past, on the eastern coast of this continent and on the Arabian littoral, they might easily keep up their trade communications with Oriental regions. This explains how it was that of the two hundred colonies they possessed, about the 6th century B.C., in the western part of our planet, no less than one hundred

and forty-six were located on the West African coast. They began this great work of colonisation in the 12th century B.C., and about the 7th century before our era, NECHO, King of Egypt, undertook upon their advice, and accomplished with their aid, the circumnavigation of Africa.

We are not in possession of any details concerning the number of establishments of this kind which they had on the east coast of Africa in India, Cochin-China, Malasia and other places in this eastern direction. None the less, the number must have been very great. Among them the ports of Yemen and Ceylon, as substitutes for the more ancient Bahrein Islands of the Persian Gulf and *Ophir* in Guzerat, must have been the great centres of the distribution of the products gathered together and selected in other secondary ports in the Gulf of Bengal, Acheen, Java, and *Yue-shang* in Kiaotchi. We are thus enabled to explain how it came about that, a little later on (11th century B.C.), the very people who had always been most careful to conceal from the knowledge of the vulgar crowd all that related to the Hindu *Ophir*,—so long as it served as the general depôt of this Oriental trade—did not hesitate to conduct thither their allies, the Jews, in ships modelled after the adventurous barks which they had formerly made use of in sailing the Atlantic.

What is certain is that in this same epoch, i.e., in the year 1109 B.C., we hear of the arrival in China of ships coming from the port of *Yue-shang*; and this occurrence caused as great a commotion at the Court of the Son of Heaven as did, twenty-nine centuries later, the appearance of European fleets in Cantonese waters. In fact, everything indicates that, in those times, the Indian seas had long ceased to be exclusively in the possession of Kushite races. Grown wise by their experience, the Aryo-Hindû nation, who supplanted the Kushites as arbiters of India, were then already carrying on a vast maritime trade in these seas. Hence came their colonisation of Malabar in 1167, and of Java, ten years later. In this position, the sea-faring Kushites—who thought very little of any marts of which they did not enjoy the monopoly—foreseeing the possibility of such changes, had long before travelled farther to the East, whither neither their rivals nor the Jews whom they had voluntarily initiated into their commercial secrets, could promptly follow their footsteps. It was in this manner that, during several epochs, the Kushites reached first Kiaotchi, then Northern China, and finally the shores of Japan. There is reason to believe that when the forerunners of the IZANAGI of CHAUMEN'S account, arrived in Kiushiu at the date given in that narration, the early Kushite explorers of the Pacific and the Chinese seas had already long known of the existence of this region. While the seafaring Kushites were thus going to places ever nearer the source of their eastern trade, and consequently were compelled to shift, in a corresponding manner, the base of this trade in order to keep it a secret from their rivals, carrying it first from the Hindû *Ophir* to Ceylon and thence successively to Acheen, Java, and possibly to *Yue-shang*; while, too, the Aryo-Hindûs, following in their wake, found their way to Java, and the Jews established themselves in *Ophir*,—the original time Europe continued to be profoundly ignorant of the circum-

stances attendant upon these distant enterprises. It was not until the second century of our era that Roman vessels found their way to Malabar, and it was apparently very much later on that Roman merchants found a footing in Ceylon. In fact, when, four centuries later, Persians arrived in Ceylon, the great western metropolis did not seem to have as yet obtained any preponderating influence in that island. After the fall of Rome, in consequence of the invasion of Europe by Asiatic Aryans, the fruit of the Imperial City's discoveries was lost to the Occident. It was owing to this fact that, at the close of the 15th century, nothing was any longer known concerning the routes leading to the Pacific by way of the East. It was not until 1508 that the Portuguese rediscovered Ceylon, and that only by accident, despite the fact that they had ten years before established themselves in Malabar,—only a few steps away. The account which they gave of their discovery shows that, at the time, the island was still a vast commercial centre. We may thus understand how it was that the art of navigation had made much greater progress in that part of the world than in Europe. True, five thousand years before this date, the art of navigation in Europe had attained a degree of development not incomparable with that of which the Cingalese ships were then examples; but the art had rapidly decayed in the Occident, to be, centuries upon centuries later, revived again with the results referred to. Indeed, we may call to mind that when the Portuguese arrived in Malabar, they found there Cingalese vessels six times the size of their own.

But although the Kushite race-influence had caused itself, almost uninterruptedly, to be appreciated throughout such a vast expanse of lands and seas, it was very far from having continuously monopolised the whole of this space. This was particularly the case in the east in the VAYCIA epoch, when the Brahmins—who had reached the period of their utmost authority in India,—began to found stations in the Pacific. If during this long period the sectarians of Shiva gained the upper hand in all that concerned race-influence, and, in consequence, the influence of the Kushite civilisation regained its pristine vigour in this eastern sea, it was for a limited time only. Thus, in the 16th century before our era, just at the very moment when the Shivaic influence had attained its highest point of development in Brahminic India, we find the Brahmins, aided by the Saccas whom they had called from Bactria, suddenly rising superior to their rivals, while these same Saccas thereafter went to the south-east of the Ganges valley and thence to Arracan and Siam, into which countries they introduced the sun-worship they had brought with them from their native land. From this base their race-influence must have spread out, concurrently with that of Brahminic India, in opposition to that brought into operation by the Kushite civilisation, for we find its trace even at the outmost point of the great southern current in America. Finally, in 559 B.C., upon the Brahminic influence having regained all its one-time vigour in India, it must have neutralised the other rival race-influences; and thence spreading out towards the Pacific, it must more than ever have disputed the possession of these island territories by the Kushites. The situation did not become any better, so far as the Kushites were concerned,

when, six centuries later, Buddhism appeared on the scene; for not only did this creed almost entirely usurp the place until then held by Brahminism, but it went also to work with a vigour and intensity such as were unknown to the older religion. This is amply demonstrated by the fact that, in 465 A.D., Buddhism travelled, without meeting with any impediment, by sea to China, which land it had reached, six centuries, earlier by way of Tartary and Shensi. This never occurred in the case of Brahminism, which reached the Chinese Empire by the land-route only in the 12th century B.C. Buddhism managed to establish itself so firmly in this Empire that, when all trace of the influence of the older creeds had vanished, it became so ripe a source of serious political embarrassment to the ruling power that one of the Imperial Ministers deemed it his duty to memorialise the Dragon Throne against it. The doctrine of Shakyamuni had not less thoroughly established itself in Pegu at that time, for it boasted there of one hundred temples, all resplendent with gold and silver. There is no reason to believe that the Jewish element, which had found its way to India in the 11th century B.C. and to China about the first century of our era, in which Empire it held an isolated post at Kaifou in the province of Honan, ever spread so far in the direction of the Pacific as to be able to exercise any dominant influence whatever. The same holds good of Christianity, which, in the first century A.D., reached the Cranganore by way of Syria, and China, in 635, by way of Tartary, for Malabar appears to have been the southernmost land in which this religion took deep root. Although the introduction of Mahomedanism into Malabar about the year 800, and into Acheen in 1204, had very marked influence on the civilisation of Malasia, there is no reason to presume that it in any way affected the development of the civilisation of the Japanese Archipelago, for the progress it made in Acheen, both in a southerly and north-easterly direction, was very slow. It found no foothold in Java until the year 1450, nor did it reach the Philippines until some fifty years later. In these islands, whence it might easily have gone on to Japan by way of Formosa, it was completely thrown into the shade, together with the other creeds that had preceded it, by the influence of Europe—an influence which ever since then has not ceased to be predominant. But until the 12th century of our era, all these civilising agencies, rivals of the Kushite race-influences, moving incessantly hither and thither over the territory in which Kushite ideas had primarily been established beyond the limits of the Dravidian region, must have more or less counteracted the efforts made by the Kushite form of civilisation to direct or control the intellectual and moral development of the numerous peoples dwelling in that vast region which stretches from the east and north-east of India to Japan.

It is particularly in the geography and among the ruins of this immense expanse of territory that we come across traces of these intrusive agencies in the domain peculiarly affected by Kushite race-influences. These traces are, as we have stated in the 10th volume of this work, clearly marked on the map in the names of the commercial or trading stations which the Kushites established all the way from Africa to Western America. These ancient trading posts still bear their old names, all of which—as we have seen—

where demonstrated—are derived from *Onady*, the name uniformly given in the earliest ages of the Kushite dominance, to spots in the deserts of Egypt, Lybia, and Arabia where the traveller, wending his way on the patient camel—his "land-ship" (*el wah*)—might find abundant water, food, and repose. Such names were *Saba* (a synonym of *Yava*, *Yaba*, *Zaba*, *Jawa*, *Sawa*, and *Hawa*) in Arabia; *Saba*, in Malabar; *Ava*, *Taway*, which, for many ages, were centres of Kushite commerce (especially the trade in rubies and other precious stones) in the Gulf of Bengal; *Yava*, *Saba*, or *Jawa* in the island of Java, where, in one epoch, there was a Kushite centre for exchange or barter between the East and the West; *Jawaka*, or "Little Jawa," a name which the Bugis gave to the Moluccas, doubtless owing to their having been a secondary depot for commercial exchange. The Polynesians say *sawaki*, "Little Sawai," and *ko* in Japanese means "child," or "small." Then we find *Sawai* in Ceram; *Taway*, the name given to New Zealand by its inhabitants; *Hawaii* in the Sandwich Islands, and an almost infinite number of *Sawai* in Polynesia. In Japan we must note the *Kuro-shiwo*, from *kuro*, "black," and *shiwo*, "a current of water;" also *Sawa*, on the line of this current. A fact to which we have called particular attention is that, among all these peoples, this root *wa*—which is at the bottom of all these names—expresses the idea of *water*, *food*, or *peace and comfort*. The root has the self-same signification in all the languages derived from Sanskrit, as for example in English, German, and French, where we have *water*, *wasser*, *eau*. *Purwa* in Sanskrit signifies a "spring," and recalls *wai*, "water," and *ua*, "rain;" in the Hawaiian tongue, *wai* is "water," *wha* means "rain," in Tonga; *wai* is water and *ua* is "rain," in Samoa. These ideas are expressed respectively by *wai*, *vai*, and *wa* in Fiji and Rotuma; by *vai* and *ua* in New Zealand; by *nwai* and *vai* in the New Hebrides. In the ceremonial language of Java, *sawa* means "running water," the same idea being expressed in the vulgar tongue by *wada*, *ouau*, and *sawa*. In Japanese we have the word *sawa* meaning "a marshy tract of land;" and in the Nahuatl tongue of Central America the word *a* was connected with water. From this *a* comes *Atlan*, the name of a people in that north-eastern part of Africa which was colonised by the Kushite of the earliest ages; then *Atlantic*, the name of the great ocean between the Old and New Worlds, and *Atlan*, a port on the eastern coast of Central America and the most westerly of all the stations of the Kushite people. We may call to mind the fact that *Toah* among the hyperborean Apaches of North America is similar to *wai*, with the same signification which this word has in Hawaii. In Arabic *nabata* means to drip or run like water; *nabatha*, "to germinate," and *bathara* "to sow seed." *Saba*, the great metropolis of Kushite trade, was itself a kind of *oasis* in the Arabian desert, and derived its importance from the immense reservoir there, so much so, indeed, that after the destruction of this reservoir, the city was abandoned. A very particular species of millet was cultivated there. This had probably been imported from Africa where it was called *dura*, a name which reminds one of *jowara*, "grain," and *wara*, "rice from the rice-fields," in the language of Hindustan, as also of *jawa*, "millet," and *para*, "rice straw,"

awa, "millet," *waraya*, "a thatched house," *warabe*, "an infant," and *warau*, "to laugh," in Japanese. In Arabic *wady* is "a little valley with running water" and also "the bed of a torrent," and in Japanese *awai* signifies an "interval" or "space between;" *sawa*, "a marshy tract of land," *sawasawa-to*, "the soft murmur of running water," *sawa-te*, "stained by water," *sawayaka*, "serene, cheerful, fluent." *Sabha* signified a religious congregation in the archaic diction of Beloot-Tag, and *sab-bath* in Armenian, "peace and repose in the reunions of humanity." The traces of this great Kushite current are no less striking in the ruins which lie along the line of its course. Thus we observe the custom of building with dry (*i.e.*, without mortar) stones—which was the peculiar usage of the race of Kush—in the Upper Nile Valley; in Arabia, India, Ceylon, Martaban; in the Pacific isles, particularly Tonga, Tahiti, Java; at Osaka, Tokyo, etc., in Japan; in South America; and North America. In the ruins of Soukou, Java, there are bas-reliefs which in their general style bear resemblance to those of Egypt and also, as we have shown, to those of Arabia. Then there is a stature of Typhon, a carved figure which at once recalls the Egyptian dog-headed Anubis. In these bas-reliefs we find also a crane like the Egyptian ibis, palm-trees, the serpent—a sacred symbol common to both Arabia and Egypt—and statues holding a trident in either hand, which weapon was the symbol of supreme power in the representations of Poseidon among the Mediterranean Kushites and of Shiva among those of India. Another statue is still more conspicuous owing to its phallus being six feet in length and bearing a long inscription. Others excite attention by means of their clubs, the favourite weapon of HERCULES, who was himself a Kushite prince. In the ruins of the Presidency of Pattaronang, are numerous traces of Kushite India: among others a Mandi bull; a statue of Maha Deva with the trident, with an inscription in Devanagari; and a statue of the Sun in his chariot, drawn by seven horses. In the ruins of Djoejocarta and Souracarta, we meet with crosses which at once remind us of similar phallic emblems in the caves of Elephanta and Ellora, in India. In Egypt we meet with the *crux ansata*, or *tau* cross, which was carried by all the deities in their left hands, and which, in consequence of its phallic origin, expressed the word *anch* or "life." It is the first hieroglyph immediately following the cartouche of a reigning Egyptian monarch, in the phrase *anch, uja, seneb*, or "Life, health, prosperity." Phalli are found in other parts of the island of Java, notably on the tombs. Such symbols are also found graven on the tombs of Kakas, one of the Celebes group; among the Baitas of Sumatra and in the temple of Dorey on the north coast of New Guinea. Many parts of these islands have names of evidently Kushite origin. Such a name is, for instance, that of the kingdom of *Ande-las* in Sumatra, which would seem to have been derived from the same root as *Andalusia*: the name which the Arabs gave to one of the Spanish provinces, which is retained to this day.

These traces of Kushite civilisation in Malasia, as found in the ruins of that region, are met with farther on in the Pacific and the two Americas on the one hand, and in Japan, on the other. In connection with this subject we may remark

that phalli are found placed on old Japanese tombs, and that certain stones of oblong shape and rounded at one end, *i.e.* looking like real phalli, which are occasionally to be met with in the river-beds of this country, are made objects of worship. The same kind of stones are also observed in Fiji, where they are similarly venerated. A superstition of like nature seems to have prevailed in the Philippines among the Zymboles, the Ilayas, the Iglotts and Tenglians. Among the Mayas of Central America the feast of seed-sowing was kept high in honour. This was a purely phallic ceremony, during the course of which practices similar to those prevalent in India were a prominent feature.

A large number of other customs, institutions, and superstitions belonging to the various countries lying along the line of the great southern current, also have evident connection with the Kushite form of civilisation. Among other usages, we may refer to the cult of sacred trees which, by way of Arabia, Keddah, and the Malayan Peninsula, reached both Japan and Korea, coming originally from the region lying at the base of the Celestial Mountains; then the custom of human sacrifices, which, starting out from the same original point, reached Japan by way of Egypt, India, Malabar, Arracan, the Philippines, Lombok, Borneo, the Celebes, and Formosa, and, by way of the Pacific, accomplished the long journey to Central America. Then comes the habit of going barefoot, observed both in Japan and America. To the former country it came from Arabia by way of India, Malabar, Ceylon, Java, the Philippines, the Moluccas, and the Celebes; by crossing the Pacific, the latter terminus was reached. Finally, among many others, are the customs of tattooing and of confirming or verifying the virginity of young women upon their marriage. We may follow, step by step—so to speak—the gradual eastward advance made by the former of these customs from Babylonia, where it seems to have originated, to the farthest N.E. of Asia and N.W. of North America. The route taken was the following:—India, Bengal, the Cochinchinese Peninsula, the Philippines, Japan, Yesso, the Lower Amoor, Kam-schatka and the west coast of North-western America, whence it spread to the region of the lakes and Virginia. Coming back to Borneo, we may follow it by way of the Pacific isles to California, on the one hand, and South America on the other, whence the practice travelled as far as Mexico. We thus meet with this custom in Arabia; Bengal; Martaban; Arracan; Sumatra; the New Hebrides; New Ireland; Australia; New Zealand; Borneo; the Island of Hainan; among the Ngai-lao of Yunnan; in Formosa; the Celebes; the Philippines; the Carolines; among the Wha; the Ainos; in the Kuriles; among the Ouen-Chin; the Tunguses; the Ostiacks; the Koriacks and Tchukches; the Hyperborean American tribes; the Tinnels and Kutchins; the Koniagas; the Esquimaux; the Haidahs of Columbia; the Columbians; the Kutchin-Chepewyans, etc. in Virginia; the Ayenes of the lake region of North America; New Guinea; the Solomon Islands; the Cook Archipelago; Mendana; Hamoa; Tonga; Rotuma; Tahiti; the Sandwich Islands; Easter Island; Terra Ferma; Central America; among the Mayas; in Nicaragua; Yucatan; Mexico; New Mexico; among the Californians; the Chinooks; the Kodiacks; French Guiana; Hayti; and Brazil and Buenos Ayres. The ceremony of verifying the virginity of brides was known in

Arabia under the name of *Wad-el-binat*, and we meet with it in an almost identical form among the Egyptians and Samoans, and in an unknown form among the Mexicans.

In contrast to the traces of Kushite race-influence as found in the ruins and geography of the Island of Java, we meet there with quite another class of vestiges evidently of Brahminic dominance. Relics of this nature are found in the ruins of Panataran, in which the existence of BRAHMA worship is plainly apparent by reason of special features which we have taken to represent a sort of protest against the practice of the phallus cult as existing in the immediate vicinity of this locality. Moreover, the geography itself of the region in which these ruins are met with, shows connection with Aryan India. Thus we find there Mounts Arjou, Indroklo, Indrorowah, Semai, and volcano Kawi, all of which form the culminating points of one and the same chain, in full view of the ruins. Farther away lie Mounts Bromo and Sumeru. Then we have the stone-heaps of the Malasian Peninsula, the Island of Java and Polynesia. These stone-heaps are found on the tops of the highest mountains. The stones composing them are called *balai* in the Malasian region, and are known under the style of *Patapa-an* or *Pamugalian* (two words of Hindû origin meaning "place of penitence" or "place of adoration") to the west of Java. In Malasia these stone-heaps date back to the times anterior to Mahomedanism, known as *sasakala alam Buda*, or "vestiges of the age of Buddhism," in which the Brahminic age is included, which was the forerunner of the former. Evidently they carry us back to those epochs in which Aryan India was engaged in the work of proselytising Malasia and the Pacific isles. This is all the more probable as the name of *balai*, given to these stone-heaps, reminds one of *Malai*, the style under which sacred places were known in the Island of Tonga, and *Morai*, the name applied to such localities in Tahiti and other islands of the Pacific. It is quite on the cards that some of the missionaries who first carried the Brahminic and then the Buddhist creed to the island world of the Pacific, came originally from Malabar, for in Sumatra there is a river called *Sungei Malayu*, which rises in Mount *Maha Meru*, the name given to the Himalayas in India. Prior to the arrival of Hindû colonists in Sumatra, this island was called *Pulo Percha*, a name devoid of any Hindû characteristic. *Sumatra*, on the contrary, is evidently derived from the Sanskrit: it may come from *Sumitra*, the name of the twenty-eighth king of the "Dynasty of the Sun" in the fourth age; or it may be connected with *sumadr*, meaning "ocean" in Sanskrit; or, finally, it may be compounded of *Su*, "excellence of gold" and *matra*, the root *mtr* of which, in the same tongue, has the sense of "that which comes from the sun."

A number of these names derived from Sanskrit are to be met with in the Polynesian isles. The mountains in this island world, represented as being the dwelling-places of gods, or of princes who, according to a custom which obtained both in India and Arabia, have been deified, are all called *Meru*. One of the princes who founded the Sandwich Island monarchy, was named Miru (pronounced *Méru* in Polynesian.) In the most ancient tongue of this island world, *Varuna*—the name of the great marine deity of

the Aryans of the White Island—used to express the idea of "god" and "spirit." In the same language, *Vaiti*, which reminds one of *Valeni*—the name of a Hindu deity—also means "spirit." There are no traces whatever of Brahminism to be found beside those of Kushite race-influence in the ruins of Central America. In their place we note, in very clearly marked forms, vestiges of that mixed influence which, as we have seen above, in the 14th century B.C., became predominant in India, and thanks to whose agency the cult of SHIVA, blended with the worship of BRAHMA, KRISHNA, and the Sun, was carried to the east. It is perhaps to the same class of influences that we should ascribe the appearance of Aryo-Indian indications recognisable in such names as *Diwa*, *Dawato* and *Anito*, given, the first, by the natives of the Island of *Sambawa*, the second by the *Bisayas* of the Philippines, and the third by the *Tagallos*, to their respective divinities. We must, however, acknowledge the existence of Brahminic creed-influence in the names given to princes or their followers, all the way from Western Asia to the uttermost confines of Polynesia, via India. These titles are evidently derived, without exception, from *Arya*, "honourable,"—the name borne by the Aryans of the antediluvian epoch. Thus we have *Arii*, *Arya*, *Arioi*, *Aria*, *Ariana*, in Western Asia; then *Arya*, in India; *Aru*, *Arang*, among the Bugis; *Arang*, *Pangerang* and *Aria*, in Java; *Arocha*, *Banabe*, and *Turanga*, in Viti; *Ariti*, *Aliti*, at Ceram and Amboyna; *Ta* or *La*, in Nawaii; *Arii*, *Eree*, *Tinara*, *Orihi*, *Aru*, *Rangatira*, *Ranakira*, in Polynesia; *Allah* (the name of the Supreme Being in Arabic), *Takarea*, ("sun"), *Arinan* and *Alai* ("day"), in Formosa; *Ra*, *Phra*, in Madagascar and Egypt; *Radama*, *Ranavula*, *Raseralala*, in Burmah and Siam; *Raja*, *Rama*, in India; *Ratu*, *Latu*, *Datu*, *Radin*, *Rajin*: all of these being probably derived from the name of the sun. The same in the Egyptian *Irich*, the Polynesian *La*, *Ra*, and still preserved in the Hindu *Ravi*; the Malayan *Rarak* ("sun"), *Ari*, *Hari* ("day"); *Heli*, in Greek; *Sol*, in Latin; *Sun*, in Saxon; *San*, *Naga*, *Tchang*, *Chung*, *Magana*, together with the nasal terminations *Rang*, *Lang*, *Lunga*, *Ulunga*, *Langi*, *Langit*, *Langits*, etc., all these being names of the sun, the celestial vault, or of the Deity in several languages of Africa, India, Trans-Indian countries, and the great insular region east and south of Asia. The fundamental idea of all these names is the worship of the Sun, the deification of chieftains, and the application of the style of the orb of day as a title equivalent to "god," "lord," "king," etc. The Polynesian *Ariki* or *Arii* appears to signify literally "son," or "child," "of the sun," meaning thereby the members of the royal line. The deity of the inhabitants is styled *Usinemu*, "Lord of the Sun," and *shujin*, *nushi*, *aruji* mean respectively "master" and "lord" in Japanese, while *hara-(ru)* signifies "to grow clear and bright." Hence came the habit, universal along all this long line, of inferiors kneeling in the presence of their superiors whenever they had any communications to make or commands to receive. While those of low rank assumed thus a posture of abject submission, their superiors affected an air of indulgence and unparalleled gentleness. It was not until the inferior forgot himself so far as to defy his master that the latter dropped his rôle of good-natured reverend; and in

so doing he let fall on the imprudent being, as a god might treat his own creation, the full weight of his omnipotence, and killed the audacious one on the spot. This is the reason why, all the way from Malabar to Japan, we find the governing classes ever sword in hand; nor did they hesitate to use their trenchant blades against those whom they caught in flagrant disobedience to the rule. The fact that the spirits of deified chieftains were called *Aritis* in the Marianne Islands and the members of the royal family were styled *anai* in the Riukiu Archipelago is confirmatory of the hypothesis that, by way of these two island groups, the Aryan influences brought into active operation first by Brahminism and thereafter by Buddhism, found the route to Japan; in the case of the former creed somewhere between the 12th and 7th centuries B.C., when the Aryan Hindus colonised Dekkan,—where they supplanted the Kushites—Brahmaputra, Java, and Bali; and in the case of the latter, a little before the Christian era, when Buddhism was introduced into the Island of Java.

We may thus at once explain the presence of Sanskrit roots in the Japanese language, as attested by Mr. ASTON in a paper read before the Asiatic Society of Japan in 1874. Although in fact Buddhism did not obtain a footing in Japan until the sixth century of our era, and that by way of Korea, yet as this doctrine had been brought to Java by Aryo-Indian propagandists, it continued to give support to the linguistic influences introduced in Malasia by the elder Brahminism. Spreading out thence towards the Japanese isles, by the above indicated route, this doctrine necessarily brought about the adoption, by the Japanese tongue, of terms derived from Sanskrit. But Japan being the most northerly point reached by these Aryan influences, their action was consequently very feeble, and this explains how it is that the traces which they left behind them are not of a more marked nature; all the more as the influence of the Chinese tongue, which became so eminent in the Japanese Archipelago from the 3rd century of our era, must have contributed to weakening them still further.

The modifying Aryan influences, of Dravidian character, which succeeded in affecting the Japanese tongue by the aid of the great Kushite current, were joined by others coming originally from Bengal. From this region proceeded that mixed doctrinal and linguistic influence which arose in India in the 14th century B.C., and which produced effects, though of a very limited nature, in a north-easterly direction. The Aryan influences were furthermore conjoined with those hailing from Nan-youé, which, contrary to their Bengal congeners, must have been quite vigorous and emphatic, if we may form an opinion of them by means of the impressions they have left upon the habits, institutions, and religion of Japan. It is perhaps owing to the energetic intervention of this last class of influences that the Japanese language does not show a greater similarity to the dialects of the Dravidian region.

It is on account of this western origin of nearly everything connected with the religion, government, habits, and usages in general of that part of the Japanese Archipelago which was colonised by the *Wha* race, the counterpart of which religions, etc., is to be found in Polynesia and Micronesia in general—all of which local institutions, etc., had come to these different

regions by the ocean route—that we may explain the great importance given to the idea of "water" among all these peoples.

In Polynesia so far north as Formosa the most frequent reply made in answer to the question as to the origin of the natives is "that they came hither in canoes." We have seen that nearly everywhere the teeth of whales and tortoise-shell are the most acceptable offerings that can be made to the gods. The road to heaven is the sea, and the last ordeal to which the soul is subjected before being definitely admitted into the abode of bliss consists in walking along an oar which the chief of the gods places across a yawning precipice. At the bottom of this terrible gulf are deep-waters in which the unhappy spirit which fails to pass the ordeal in triumph is drowned. Among the gods of Hawaii, we may note in particular deities endowed with power of moving, without fear of mishap, over the seas. But when the ocean is no longer spoken of in the legends which treat of these deities, it is the sun which takes its place. And so the princes of those islands, as is invariably the case in the Japanese Archipelago, come to be considered celestial beings. We hear thus in Hawaii of a prince of Tahiti who, upon being offended by the inhabitants of the former island, deprived them of the light of the sun; just as *Tensho Daijin* did in consequence of the insulting treatment she suffered at the hands of her brother SUSANOWO. The Hawaiian prince gave back the sun-beams after having left the offenders for a time in darkness, exactly as did the Japanese Goddess.

Among the children born to the IZANAGI and IZANAMI of the Kojiki* there were several who received the waters of the ocean as their peculiar domain. Such was the case with the ancestors of *Utsushi-higamasa*, himself a marine deity, from whom the lords of Adzumi were descended, whose vassals were fishermen. *Take-haya-Susanowo-no-Mikoto*, more simply styled *Susanowo*, received from his father the empire of the ocean (*una-hara*), in part. *Izuruko*, who, in the legend of IZANAMI, appears to symbolise the inferiority of the offspring begotten in the contact of barbarian races with the more highly civilised races of the Archipelago, is despatched to the sea. Like YEBISU, the ancestor of the Ainos, he is the god of fishermen in Shinto mythology. Indeed, it is quite possible that IZURUKO and YEBISU were one and the same personage. At all events, like SUSANOWO, he is an essentially marine being. *Shiho-tsuchi-no-Kami*, "Deity-Salt-Possessor," who appears in the legend of HOWORI, mentioned elsewhere above, is also evidently a marine divinity; while *Wata-tsunino-Kami*, of whom mention has also been made and to whom *Shiho-tsuchi-no-Kami* sent HOWORI, was the king of the high sea. In fact if we subtract from the legendary history of Japan that which the story of *Oho-kuni-nushi* and

* As distinguished from the Izanagi (伊弉諾) of Chaumen's (倉然) narrative. Chaumen was a Buddhist priest dispatched in 984 A.D., by the Emperor Shunhai (Tenno of Japanese annals) (970-984 A.D.), as that prince's ambassador to the Chinese Emperor Tai-Tsong (太宗) of the Song dynasty, upon the request of Tai-Tsong, Chaumen gave an elaborate written account of Japan, its Sovereigns from the remotest times upwards, its political divisions, &c. In the list of Japanese Sovereigns given in that account, Izanagi no longer stands as the progenitor of the Japanese race, but merely as one of the predecessors of Jimmu Ten-o, i.e. the first Japanese Emperor of the dynasty. Jimmu Ten-o being the 3rd, i.e. the 1st, Emperor of the dynasty.

Nuna-kaha proves to have come from Northern Asia, together with that which we know to have been taken from China, all that remains is only a Polynesian and Malasian panorama, *i.e.* essentially marine.

IZANAGI, the progenitor of the Japanese race, according to the *Kojiki*, is represented in this work, as a sea-faring warrior, who, upon fecundating the waves by striking them with his lance armed with a head made of a red precious stone, caused the first islands of which his empire was thereafter composed to appear above the surface of the watery abyss. In the annals of Polynesia it is a divine fisherman who industriously draws the islands of the Pacific one after the other out of the blue waves, attached to the end of his rod. We have seen that in the Polynesian legends the gods venture upon the path across the clouds in order to reach the earth and, in certain cases, land on the coast by means of a suspending bridge. This was also the case in Japan. This celestial bridge is mentioned at the outset of all the voyages of discovery, of all the colonisations or invasions effected by the gods of the race of the Sun-Goddess, IZANAGI, SUSANOWO, AME-NO-OSHI-HO-MIMI, HIKO-HO-NO-NINIGI, OHO-KUNI-NUSHI, all of whom were navigators of consummate ability. The last named divinity traversed the western sea of the Archipelago in a tall and light vessel, with a bird's head on its prow; while the dwarfish SAKUMA-BIKO-NO-KAMI voyaged thither in a skiff made out of the rind of the *kagami*-fruit. While the bark of the former deities remind us of those great ships which we know were used in the Pacific at a very early date, and while the boat of OHO-KUNI-NUSHI recalls those of the Tunguse colonisers of North-eastern Asia and the north-west of North America—which races the Polynesians, from whom they adopted the practice of tattooing, may perhaps have instructed in the art of navigation—the skiff of SAKUMA-BIKO is the counterpart of those canoes which the inhabitants of the Kuriles use to this day, and with which people the “Little-Prince-Famous-Deity” is readily identifiable, by reason of his diminutive stature and his clothing made of the skins of birds. The “Crocodiles” of the Ocean King, for their part, had staunch boats, which gave them marine characteristics of such striking nature that all the races which contributed their early civilisations to that of the Archipelago appear, from the very outset, to have been in possession of a very thorough knowledge of the art of navigating the high sea—a fact which would appear to indicate that these settlers brought their knowledge with them from their native lands.

Much weight is given to this hypothesis by the prominence—in all the legends relating to the primitive civilising races—of the worship of fish-gods or marine deities, as well as of the “talismans” of peculiar efficacy while on the sea, all of which were introduced into the Archipelago by these people. The cult of fish-deities is particularly noticeable in the legend of the Empress JINGO. The story of this Great Queen's invasion of Korea abounds with scenes in which the genii of the seas—from ancient days dwellers of the Japanese coasts—play a most striking rôle. Talismans are met with in the legends of and after the epoch of the colonisation of Kiusiu by HIKO-HO-NO-NINIGI until the accession of OJIN TEN-O, in the narrative of whose reign we hear of eight of these *magical* beings.

compass and marine charts being included in the number. That with which HIKO-HO-NO-NINIGI had been provided, helped him to find his way across the light beds of celestial clouds in *Amz-no-ih-kura*, one of the “ships of stone,” *i.e.*, ships of a solidity and strength unknown to the natives prior to the arrival from the south, of those who sailed in them. We have seen that one of the ancestors of JIMMU TEN-O made a second conquest of the Empire with the aid of a talisman given him by the Ocean King. This again recalls the “pearls of the ebb and flood,” brought for JINGO from the “Castle of the Dragons” by ISORA, the pilgrim of the bottom of the sea. In both cases, these talismans imply a most consummate knowledge of the tides, on the part of those who had obtained them. We know that the tides are exceptionally high and dangerous in Oriental Asia, so that it was very much in the interest of any navigator, intending to make an invasion—as JINGO did in the case of Korea—to be thoroughly familiar with their rise and fall. It is ISORA who appears as the directing and inspiring agent in this undertaking. We may also call to mind these double-decked ships, of which JINGO made use on this occasion. The very possession of such vessels is proof positive of a very great advance in the art of navigation, and points to indubitable relations with the maritime races of either Malasia or Polynesia, who, from days of the remotest antiquity, had ever been enterprising and fond of distant adventures.

Among these various races some Kushite Arabs and Malabarians were to be found. We have already stated that the former had taught the Shemites the roadways to the Far East, and that there is every reason to believe that they themselves had been acquainted with these routes ever since the 15th century B.C., and probably for some time previous to that date. The Malabarians, on the other hand, seem to have colonised the Marianes in very ancient times. To this is due the presence of numerous Arabic roots in the languages of the Japanese, the Carolinians, the Formosans, and of many other peoples in the Pacific. Shemitic types are frequent among these varied peoples, and even in America. We know that the Shemitic and Arabic tongues are closely related. These Arabic characteristics, introduced into the islands of the Indian and Southern Pacific Oceans, went thereafter on to Japan and America, there to mingle and meet with others of the same kind, which had originated in Western Asia and travelled thither by way of Kiaotchi, Upper Asia, and particularly Tartary, where they are of quite frequent occurrence. We see thus that it is not only in religion, government, habits, and language that traces are met with of that great human stir and bustle, which began at the base of the Celestial Mountains under the circumstances set forth in the first part of this chapter. We find such deep-lying racial traces in the characters and physiques of those dwelling along the great line marking the eastward advance of this movement of humanity, all the way from its starting point to the New World, by way of Polynesia and Japan. The Shemite, Kushite, and Japhetite forms which these two great human currents and their branches—the result of the primordial movement at the base of the Celestial Mountains—bore here and there to different localities along this line, into the midst

of Finnish and Melanian peoples, gave birth to composite forms which, like those conglomerates made up of fragments of well known different rocks, were self-descriptive of the elements to the combination of which they owed their existence. Hence it is that we so frequently find, in Asia and America, in the very midst of peoples evidently descended from a Finnish ancestry, upon mixed forms, pointing to the presence, in these two Continents, of Melanian or Aryan modifying race-elements: Shemites, Kushites, or Japhetites.

One of the most remarkable of these forms is the Malasian type, met chiefly in the region whence it has received its name. North, south east and west of this region there are other forms which sometimes closely approach that of the Malay, without, however, being ever quite the same. And wherever in these directions either of the two great meridional and northern currents of humanity did not reach, or, if they did reach, left but insignificant marks of their passage behind them, we find either Melanian or Finnish barbarism predominant—in the physical as well as the moral aspects of man. Hence those transitions, either gradual or abrupt, from Melanian or Finnish types—of either pure or mutually mixed descent—to those other types in which are visible the influence of the various branches of the Aryan race. It is with groups of this transitional nature that we meet everywhere in that vast expanse of territory, radiating from the common focus of the region at the base of the Celestial Mountains. Such types are frequent in Kouenloun, India, China, Malasia itself, Polynesia, Micronesia, Japan, and other Pacific isles to the very coasts of America.

At both ends of the lines followed by the southern current of humanity and its northern branch, from South-western Asia and India to North-eastern Asia and the western part of the American Continent, do we meet with almost perfectly pure representatives of the three great parent races. We observe them in the Western Himalays, in Assam, and Hindu-Koo. Such are the negroid tribes still living in Cashmere, certain parts of Kouen-loun, Nepal and Assam; also the Finnish races found here and there from Hindu-Koo to the frontier of China, and from the sources of the Ganges to the mouths of the Godavery; the Siah-Posh, whose territory adjoins the Pamirs, and who are pure Aryans, as well as numbers of Brahmins in India who very closely approach the pure Aryan type; in the Andaman Islands; among certain hill-tribes in Sumatra; in the interior of Borneo; in the Celebes and Papuanasia, where we sometimes meet with negroes of a more abject status even than the Bheels of Hindustan.

The same thing is true of certain Manchoo tribes, and of the inhabitants of North-western Korea as also of those of Mandana in North America, where Aryan types are abundant. Not only do we know that the negro race once existed in the purest state in America, but we also still meet with indubitable traces of the blood of this race in the peoples inhabiting that Continent. Finally we have in the Esquimaux of North America the most perfect known representatives of the Finnish type, while several Indian tribes in Mexico, California, and Peru present the most striking resemblance to certain branches of the Chinese race.

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find among them a series of forms which, by sometimes almost insensible gradations, show a degeneration into that state of primitive barbarism, represented in the above-cited localities by Finnish and Melanian types of the present description. Owing to the intermedium of the mixed races, which were more or less related to the Aryan stock of Indo-China—the Burmese, for example, who are so closely related to the Malays of Binna and Daya—through the agency of the Dyaks of Borneo, the Malays of Keddah, of Sumatra, the Celebes and the Philippines; and through the natives of Hawaii, Formosa and the Marianne Islands,—the Finnish and Melanian types of the Himalayas fuse themselves, so to speak, in the finest types of the Japanese Archipelago, so rich in Aryan blood; while through the lowest types of this Island Empire, and through the Aleuts, the Kamschadals, the Esquimaux, and certain Californian peoples strongly impregnated with Melanian blood, we are gradually brought back to the observation of that state of primitive barbarism of which the Himalayan types are the exponents.

Such is the scene which meets our gaze everywhere along the lines followed by these two great human currents. But so soon as we look beyond them and wherever in this vast region we no longer meet with the waters of the Pacific or the arid deserts of Asia, we come suddenly face to face with the abject primitive barbarism of the Finns or Melanians, just as it was when, ages upon ages ago, it prevailed in Yamala, or Lemuria, its cradle.

The same condition of stagnation is observable in the state of morals. Throughout this vast expanse of peninsular, insular, or continental lands, all those peoples who, either owing to the effect of the geographical position of the lands inhabited by them, or to the circumstances of the times in which they lived, remained forever or only temporarily, completely or only partially, outside of the elevating influences set to work by the two great human currents, appear before us in the possession of intellectual and moral traits reproductive of those of the Finnish and Melanian races, either pure or mixed, in a measure or in direct ratio to the duration and rigour of the seclusion in which they were kept away from the influx of these elevated race influences. It is quite easy to prove this proposition by citing examples. We have said that there is every reason to believe that the immense region known as "Lemuria," which, once upon a time, stretched along the equator from Africa to a very distant point, in the opposite direction, in the Pacific, was originally peopled by a race of negroes hardly four feet high. The Gougous of Sumatra, who are covered with hair like apes, are possibly the last representatives of this once mighty race. Somewhat above these stood the Endamenes, who are still to be found in the mountains of Southern Asia, Sumatra, Borneo, New Guinea, and several other islands. It is most likely that these Endamene negroes owe their elevation above the level of the Gougous, to having mingled with Finnish races more or less imbued with Aryan blood. These impure Finns must have descended from the heights of the Himalayas in an unknown epoch, and their type is perhaps preserved in the Punans of Borneo, who belong to the order of sea-faring races. So far our investigation of this subject has been based on conjecture merely, but we now enter into the domain

of facts. Just as the Gougous of Lemuria may, according to our hypothesis, very well have been elevated to a higher rank in the human hierarchy by admixture with the Punans of Borneo, so the Endamenes, who, according to the same hypothesis, were the offspring of these racial marriages, evidently must have been elevated by mingling with races coming from India and Arabia. They begot thus a new race, viz., the Malays. The more intimate and longer continued these intertribal minglings were, the more marked became the elevation of this negro race. The Malacca Peninsula, Sumatra and Java are the places in which the Hindû and Arabian colonists appears to have settled most numerous. And it is just there where the Malayan type is most accentuated. Leaving in its turn its original habitat, this Malayan race spread out in the direction of the Pacific, and grafted itself upon the Endamenes, who had not yet been elevated by the admixture of Hindu and Arabian blood. Sea-farers of the region once covered by Nan-youé have for 1,800 or 2,000 years traded with the same negroid peoples with whom the Malay race mixed; and wherever these two races had relations with Melanian peoples, they gave to the latter the physical and moral characteristics peculiarly their own. In New Britain, New Ireland, the Solomon Islands, the Charlotte Islands, the New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Loyalty Island and New Guinea—where we know that the Chinese and Malays have long been accustomed to carry on trade—the blacks, especially those dwelling on the coasts, strongly resemble the two races in question. This is particularly the case at Guebes, Waigeon, Salwati, Gammen, and Bulenta. At Santa Isabella, one of the Solomon Group, Chinese characteristics are of so marked a nature among the indigenous Melanians, that they go by the name of "Black Chinese." But at certain places in the Philippines, which we know by tradition to have been colonised by Malays coming from Borneo and Malacca, the native blacks look wholly like Malays, while their language bears many points of resemblance to the Malay tongue. These blacks have been given the name of Tagalos. In the central archipelago comprising the Mulgrave, Marshall and Gilbert groups, often visited by Malay and Chinese traders in ancient times, the complexion of the autochthonous negroes has come to be a dusky copper, with the exception of those living on the two harbourless atolls, unapproachable to stranger merchants: these isolated negroes have consequently kept their primitive black type. There is the same striking contrast between the races of the New Hebrides, who are tall, with well-developed foreheads and almost aquiline noses, and the wholly unadulterated Melanians of the other islands not far from this group, one of which boasts of the very ugliest negroes in the whole of Oceania. In Ceylon, which was for so long a time the principal depôt of the trade between the Occident and Orient, and where we have found successively, engaged in trade, the Kushite Arabs, the Aryan Hindûs, the Persians and the Romans, the native Melanian population gradually assimilated Aryan features of a very pronounced type. The people of the Malacca Peninsula, which seems to have been the gathering-ground of the first civilisers of the Endamenes of Malasia and other Pacific islands, reveal, especially in the case of the women, characteristic features of a much

superior kind than those possessed by the inhabitants of the neighbouring islands. For these islands, owing to their insignificance, were not of a sufficiently tempting nature to cause the first civilisers, who were, beyond doubt sea-faring warriors and traders, to make a stay there. The same train of reasoning holds good in the case of the little harbourless islands off the coast of Sumatra. The islets have remained almost as isolated from the rest of the world as the wild mountains of Sumatra, where the Mishmees still dwell, and are inhabited by pure-blooded Endamenes.

It is particularly on the coasts of Sumatra that the autochthonous negro races must have undergone the most far-reaching racial modifications, by mixing with colonists coming from the north and west; and it is, indeed, in just such localities where we find the most complete effacement of the primitive Endamene type. The Abungs are probably all that remain of these early hybrid coast-dwellers. They represent the position of those who were later on driven from the coast to the interior, or confined to the mouths of certain streams of water, where they led a wandering life. The oppressors in this instance were a new race of colonists, coming this time apparently from India. The Endamene characteristics of the Abungs are less obliterated than those of the other aborigines who mixed freely with the colonists. To the latter groups belong the Batas, among whom traces of Hindu civilisation are visible. These Batas having, in their turn, been forced to seek refuge in the interior, owing to the encroachments of other invaders, did not make the same degree of progress as those who, keeping to the coasts, mingled with the encroaching strangers. Like the Endamenes, the Abungs, from the very day on which they condemned themselves to a life of isolation, either remained stationary or else retrograded in civilisation.

An analogous spectacle meets our eyes much farther north, in the Marianne Islands and Japan, for instance. The Finnish races do not appear to have gone from the north of Asia in the direction of the Pacific isles—after arriving there from their birthplace on the high plateaus whence the Yangtse Kiang rises and the great rivers take their source—beyond the limits of the Marianne Islands; while the northern colonies of the Melanian races of Lemuria were not of any magnitude beyond the boundaries of the Philippines, except in archaic times. Indeed, in most cases, whatever portion of the blood of these Melanians found its way farther north, was completely neutralised by that of other immigrants belonging to highly Aryanised races, coming both from the north and south; in consequence of which, all the characteristics peculiar to the first class of colonists were almost entirely effaced. This is why it is so difficult to affirm the presence of any Melanian traces among the Marianne Islanders and other northern Pacific insular peoples. We may explain after a like fashion how it is that the traces of Indian civilisation—which we know to have reached both of these island peoples—are also of so circumscribed a nature. Traces of Hindû civilisation were obliterated in Japan by other race-influences which originated in the north-west, i.e. those of China, Tartary, and the Fouyu region. But as these race-influences did not get as far as the Mariannes, the institutions, habits and customs of these islanders preserved the

same general features which they owed to the civilisation of Malabar, until the epoch in which this group was discovered by Europeans, in the 16th century of our era. On the other hand, in the same period of time, the characteristics of like origin traceable in the institutions, habits, and usages of the Japanese, were so greatly changed in kind that the discovery of their source has been made in consequence one of the most arduous of tasks.

In Europe, where at a very early period Aryan races were found in large numbers, coming from the north and west of the Asiatic Continent, we meet with no other vestiges of the one-time presence of the Finnish race than those of a fossil nature which have been brought to light in several places. In America, on the contrary, we come across this race of yellow dwarfs in not a few places. It reappears in the guise of Esquimaux, who, shut out from the rest of the world by the icy solitudes they inhabit, have ever been almost completely free from blood-relationship with other racial groups coming from Asia. The territory of the more southern brethren of the Esquimaux has, however, quite often been invaded by such racial influences, resulting in the birth of the Aleuts, the Tinnah Kinai, and Koniagas, all of whom are of well-nigh gigantic stature.

All the races, tribes, and people of Southern Asia and the Pacific isles in whose veins Finnish or Melanian blood, or a mixture of the two in various proportions, predominates, with or without an addition of an Aryan strain, are universally addicted to anthropophagy or tattooing and frequently to both customs. Some of them have no social organisation worthy of the name; several live in a condition not far removed from that of the beasts. But all the people living either in the immediate vicinity of the regions thus still in a barbarous or semi-barbarous state, or in places more or less distant from these unregenerated races, who have, on the contrary, been subjected to the various racial distinctions brought into energetic exhibition by the one or the other of the two great currents of humanity, enjoy a certain degree of civilization, corresponding, in each case, to the more or less favourable circumstances attendant upon the development of those influences which have thus happily affected them. Of such a description are the Aryanised peoples of India, Ava, Pegu, Martaban, Malacca, the coasts of Sumatra, Java, the Celebes, some parts of the Borneo littoral, the Philippines, Formosa, the Carolines, the now no longer extant Marianne Islands, the inhabitants of the Riukin Archipelago, and lastly the Japanese themselves.

A study of the legends of Japan leads to the conclusion that, before being subjected to the race-dominance of the northern currents, the inhabitants of some portions of this Island Empire were in a condition analogous to that of the Esquimaux or certain peoples of the Pacific isles. The inhabitants of Hawaii have several times experienced changes in their social condition, under the influence of the southern current of humanity. The barbarian ancestors of these two insular peoples were cannibals and practiced tattooing, as we have seen above.

Among the common institutions, usages, prejudices and superstitions which serve to illustrate the social condition of some of those peoples, between India and North America, along the road followed by the southern current—the social status

appearing to be the same as that elaborated by their semi-barbaric ancestors—we may note, besides certain more or less modified forms of cannibalism and tattooing, the use of poisoned arrows, government by women, phallus-worship, human sacrifices, the fear of the spirits of the dead and the consequent custom of changing one's residence upon the decease of relatives, the belief in dreams being communications of the gods, the habit of pulling out the hairs of the beard, the fondness for believing man to be descended from certain animals, and the custom, derived from this superstition, of wearing artificial tails and elongating the ears.

As we find this predilection for long ears prevalent also among the Finnish nations of Northern Asia, we are tempted to conclude that the superstition with which we connect this strange fancy was called into existence by the explanations given by some of their early civilisers, of the theory of the successive evolutions of eternal matter,—a theory which is at the base of the cosmogony of the navigator OANNES. The one point in this cosmogony which struck these credulous barbarians was that in which it culminates, i.e. the derivation of the human type from the highest animal forms. In consequence of this, they made that theory the basis of their social organisation. So true is it, as the Brahmins and Jesuits tell us, that when we fail to keep elevated religious ideas on the level of the inferior races whom we desire to instruct, they do this of their own accord, owing to a natural tendency which has the same fatal results among them as has the law of gravitation with regard to the whole universe. It is with the aid of this fatal tendency among the races that we may explain how it is that, after Brahminism had travelled throughout Indo-China and the Pacific Isles and the teachings which had originated in Upper Asia had found ready listeners as far as the Japanese Archipelago, upon the institution of marriage being introduced into these two regions, it prevailed only in such forms as were most likely to suit the intellectual and moral tendencies innate in these peoples. The wife has never been among them anything more than the first of those female slaves with whom the man was pleased to see himself surrounded. While the youngest and the most beautiful of these slaves served to gratify the passions of their lords under the style of concubines, the healthiest and strongest of all, and perhaps those of the noblest lineage, were chosen to perpetuate the family name in their offspring, under the style of wives. And this is why, of all the institutions we find among these peoples, marriage is the one connected with the least number of ceremonies. The celebration of the nuptial bond, when compared with the ceremonies observed on the occasion of funerals, the birth of children, or of the choice of names for such offspring at a given period, or even of their reaching the age of puberty, as a rule, is but an insignificant ceremony. We ascribe the origin of the institution of marriage itself to the same racial influences of those people to whom we are also inclined to attribute the excessive use of baths as an extension of the idea of purification by water; also the habit of counting by years of five or seven months, the fundamental idea of which was based on the solar influence, in connection with the bi-annual harvests reaped in Malasia and Japan. The introduction of

this latter innovation was perhaps the result of these peoples having been initiated in the arts of agriculture by those who imposed their civilisation upon them,—be it that they came from Upper Asia, or that they were natives of India.

We come then to the institution of slavery, in divers forms and as a substitute for the practice of devouring prisoners-of-war; the custom of paying a certain price for a wife, which is a modification of that of carrying women off by force; the abolition of the sanction given by custom to the gratification of the lusts of the flesh in an unnatural manner. But as the reformers aimed too high for these people, there was an unavoidable reaction among them. Hence came those artifices to which these peoples had recourse in order to veil their moral weakness, of which they were fully conscious though feeling unable to combat successfully against them. Such is, for example, the institution of keeping young pages, whom until quite recently the nobles of Sumatra and other Pacific Isles liked to have about them, and who wore proudly on their dress the coats-of-arms of the masters whose unnatural lusts they served to gratify.

These civilisers appear to have met with better fortune in another sphere of influence. We meet thus here and there, among the same peoples, with useful, precious or specially valued possessions—for instance, certain animals eaten by man, as the pig or fowl, and even wine—sometimes even of human figures of baked clay, used as substitutes for human sacrifices in the offerings made to the gods. This custom is most strongly expressed in the Polynesian *taboo*. Prior to this innovation, the custom of immolating human beings, either on the altars of the gods or at the tomb of the dead in funeral ceremonies, seems to have existed along the line which stretches from Phœnicia to Japan by way of India, Malasia, and Polynesia. It has not even yet been abolished in a number of localities.

A fact which should be particularly noticed in connection with these changes is that they were accomplished among these peoples with such rapidity that the last one adopted invariably effaced the traces of those by which it had been preceded. It would seem that, admirably as these peoples have been endowed with all that appertains to intelligence, they are nevertheless organically inferior to the Aryan races of Europe and America, so far as their creative abilities are concerned. A special aptitude for assimilation takes, in their case, the place of inventive genius; and they are thus doomed to reflect, as in a mirror, all that which, in the course of the ages, has gone beyond them, consequent upon the progress of civilisation, of which the Aryan races still lead the van. Hence the erratic and impersonal character of all the progress they make, as well as the sudden ebullitions to which this character gives rise, despite their great conservatism. This is connected with the fact that they are in possession of remarkable powers of clairvoyance. And whenever their racial pride—which is much more developed than in the case of the Aryan races; or their interests—to which their practical good sense, bequeathed to them by their Finnish ancestors, makes them so thoroughly alive—are at stake, so long as they may be urged to action by the sight of a model or the exhortations of a teacher,

they never hesitated to step out of the rut in which, in all other circumstances, they would infallibly have been content to remain. This is the secret of those far-reaching and rapid changes which took place among the nations of Malasia consequent upon the introduction of Mohammedanism in the beginning of the 16th century; and also of those marvellous metamorphoses in Japan after the opening of this country to foreign commerce in our own days. Being thus constituted by nature, these peoples no sooner find themselves face to face with a civilisation superior to their own, than they know no rest until they succeed in assimilating it, being well aware that their national independence depends solely upon their success in so doing. But if left to themselves, they would remain stationary. And this is why at the same time we observe spasmodic progressive tendencies among them, we find them strongly averse to all change, and condemning it in principal in the most emphatic and pre-emptory manner.

The abolition of human sacrifices, as noted above, had probably something to do with Brahminic India. But long before the Aryo-Hindûs came to India, from which time dates the diffusion of Brahminic dogmas in the world of the Pacific, the sun of civilisation had shone on this great ocean, along the course taken by the southern current of humanity and its northern arm. Civilisation had come hither, as above pointed out, from the Himalayas, and thereafter from Kushite India, probably by way of Burma, Ava, Pegu, Martaban, and Malacca. It is to this early civilisation that nearly all of the arts known in these island regions, is attributable. Such arts included the use of a calendar, which must have undergone frequent alterations in later ages, as is shown by the calendar in use among the Battas, which is evidently connected with Brahminic India; the custom of keeping a register of the great phenomena occurring either in the heavens or on earth, and also of the most noteworthy events of the political and social history of each reign; the art of weaving the patterns of dress-stuffs and the method of dyeing by rubbing in the colours; the use of several kinds of musical instruments; dramatic celebrations; the domestication of the majority of the domestic animals; metallurgy and working in iron; and the manufacture of those large vases or jars of which we have elsewhere spoken at length. We remember that the use of such jars or vases would appear to have been unknown in Western India in the epoch in which the Rajah MARONG MAHA WANG-SA reached Keddah from South-western India. It was at this spot in the Malacca Peninsula that he heard of them for the first time, or, at all events, that he received them direct from the manufacturers; while everything tends to show that he was the first coloniser coming from Malabar, or, in any case, personifies the first colonies planted by the Malabarians in this part of Indo-China. Immediately after landing in this latter region, we find him sending to the north for these vases, to a place which, to judge by the description of this incident as given in the "Annals of Keddah," we believe to have been located in the basin of the Irrawaddy, probably Ava.

The custom of colouring the teeth, which is still kept up by both sexes all the way from India to Japan, was also introduced probably from Indo-China into the north and east of the Pacific, by way of Tong-

king, Siam, Malasia, and the Marianne Islands. This curious custom would appear to have originated in India, where it seems to indicate an Aryan reaction against the tendency of certain barbarous peoples to imitate animal forms by artificial means. Although the Hindu ladies used to elongate their ears, they told one of the first European explorers of their country, in the 16th century, that they blackened their teeth by chewing betel-nut, "in order to keep from looking like monkeys." We meet with this practice in Venezuela; the Marianne Islands; New Charlotte Island; Tongking; Siam; the Kuriles, where the lips are always painted black when the teeth are not; among the Mayas; in the Celebes, where the teeth are painted black and red, and those which have been extracted are replaced by artificial teeth of gold; in the Philippines where the natives colour their teeth black or red or incrust them with gold; in Java, where the teeth are not only coloured but filed to a point. The custom of covering the teeth with gold seems to have come from Szechuen. It is a noteworthy fact, in connection with the above, that, upon the introduction of modern dentistry into Japan, several atavistic tendencies made their appearance. Not only are extracted teeth frequently replaced by solid gold ones, particularly in the case of the incisors and cuspids and therefore most conspicuous, but even artificial plates are quite often provided with teeth of solid metal, in places where they are most likely to strike the eye. The interstices between the upper incisors are also frequently filled up with gold.

The custom of erecting wooden dwellings on high piles in the rivers came perhaps also from the west by way Indo-China. At all events, it seems certain that the ordinary interior arrangements of houses and the shape of their roofs are the same all the way from Malasia to Japan. And as the use of these characteristic dwellings would appear to have been general, ever since the days of the remotest past, around the hearth of the primordial civilisation of Central Asia, there is reason to believe that this style of architecture originated in that place. We met with traces of this description of building among several semi-civilised peoples in India, Indo-China, and the Pacific Isles, while Chinese and Japanese authors speak of such dwellings as having been used in their respective lands in archaic days. There is tangible proof of their having been built on the banks of the Nile, in Switzerland and other parts of Europe, in epochs dating back to the last days of the diluvian age in this Continent. Until that time the people seem to have lived, as a general rule, in huts built in the trees or in caves: the latter class of homes having given rise to the idea of subterranean dwellings, while the airy tree-huts evidently suggest the construction of houses on piles. These pile-dwellings had moreover the great economic advantage of being placed above streams, which, in ancient times, must have been to semi-barbaric peoples what they still are, *i.e.* almost the only roadways by which access was comparatively easy either to the mountains or the sea, from which, either by hunting or fishing, the inhabitants obtained all that they needed with which to clothe and feed themselves. Dwellings built on piles are to be met with among the Haidahs of Columbia; the Mayas; in New Zealand; Borneo; in Sumatra, among the Lampongs in Java;

among the Sabanos of the Philippines; and the inhabitants of Venezuela. We find them also in the island of Mindanao, which belongs to the Philippine group, where they are of exceptional size and beauty, while their plank floors are covered with matting. The habit of settling by preference on the banks of rivers still prevails in a number of countries: in Malasia; Kamtschatka; New Caledonia; and among the Columbian Haidahs. The inhabitants of Foukoue had the same marked predilection. The subject of various styles of buildings as being substitutes for the most primitive habitations of the human race, leads us to mention two other usages, very wide-spread throughout the Pacific. These are (1) the practice of letting the smoke of the household fireplace or hearth pass out through an aperture in the roof, and (2) the erection of dwellings with dry stones. The former is noticeable in the lacustrine region of North America; among the Bayagoulas of the same Continent; the Mayas of Central America; in Ceylon, where the smoke is made to pass out through the doors and—a noteworthy exception—no aperture in the roof is made for the purpose; among the Hyperborean Koniagas; the Tinnch; the Thiankeets; the Aleuts; the Nookas of Columbia; the Haidahs; the Californian tribes; the Esquimaux; the Samoyeds, who live in tents instead of houses of wood or stone; the Ostiacks; the Euluth Tartars; the Tartars in the neighbourhood of Krasnoyarsk; the Kamtschadals; the Moho, who lived in caves with an opening at the top, which seems also to have been the case in Japan, particularly in the vicinity of Osaka.

Houses built of dry stones, *i.e.* laid without mortar, are found all the way from Arabia to the American Continent, passing through India and the Pacific Isles, including Japan. We meet with them in Arizona; among the Mound-builders; at Xochicalco, Mexico; at Oajaca and Guerrero; in Guatemala; Peru, in the district of San Tomaso; the citadel of Cuzco at Aymarae, where dry stones only are used; in North Guatemala, in Foukoue, Tonga, Tahiti, in the ruins of Martaban, Arabia, Java, Ceylon, where those in which this style building is traceable date, it is believed, from the beginning of the Christian era; at Mavalipura, on the Coromandel coast, in Greece, Italy, Sicily, and Egypt in the Upper Nile Valley. A Stonehenge in miniature is to be found in this last-named region, besides which there are ruins which appear to date from a day anterior to the arrival of the Aryan Hindûs in India. They look very much like the Arabian, Syrian and Phœnician ruins of North Africa and North and South Europe. The remains of ancient buildings made of dry stones at Newgrange, Ireland, are very much like those found at Mycænæ. Similar buildings were formerly to be seen in Phœnicia, the inhabitants of which land (according to LUCAN) followed the Egyptian style of architecture; and we may still meet with such specimens at Costa, in Italy; in Boeotia, Cirgalos, and Mycænæ. The famous *Teocalli* of Anahuac, Mexico, resembles, according to HUMBOLDT, the no less celebrated mausoleum of Belus in Ancient Babylon. The custom of perpetuating in poetry, as a vehicle of oral tradition, the great deeds of ancestors, belongs most probably, as we have seen elsewhere, to the most ancient period of the Aryan race, and may very well have reached the Pacific by way of Kushite

Original from

India. We may remember that the same custom existed in Archaic Arabia and in India; thereafter among the Komrings of Sumatra; and in the other islands of Malasia, Polynesia, and Micronesia; in the Japanese Archipelago, and the region of the North American lakes. The liking for handsome mats must have originated in Arabia. The skill displayed in manufacturing such articles by the majority of the semi-civilised nations of Malasia, Polynesia and other Pacific islands, including Formosa, the inhabitants of the Riukiu Group; also highly civilized Japan, and the Korean Peninsula, is simply astonishing. The different customs alluded to in the following list are of unknown origin, but would appear to have connection with the Kushite order of civilisation, and are to be met with along the course of the southern current of humanity, crossing the Pacific to Japan. These are (1) the custom of keeping in hostels a number of women of easy virtue, whom the guests of the inn may use at their convenience, by recompensing them with some little gift; (2) that, of not considering a woman one's concubine until she has been permitted to take up her residence in one's own house; (3) that principally practised by warriors, of choosing a made friend with the intent of gratifying unnatural desires, and the ceremony attendant upon the choice of this friend. This custom is to be met with in both North and Central America, and as such men-women have been observed in Tartary, Korea, and Japan, it is quite on the cards that the unnatural practice reached the Pacific by way of both North-eastern Asia and Malasia; (4) the custom of celebrating the attaining of the age of puberty by one's daughters. This ceremony is conducted with all the pomp the family is able to make, and numerous presents are distributed on the occasion of its celebration. The belief that all maladies are visitations of the god, and the custom of erecting little hillocks or mounds over the graves of the dead and of placing in these graves, with the deceased, the objects most frequently used or most highly valued by him or her;—all these seem to have been introduced from the West both by way of North-eastern Asia, Arabia, and India. It is, however, difficult to trace up the origin of the usage of presents upon the loss of a relative, one which obtains in the Pacific and at several places in America. The institution of caste came to the East through the agency of the two great currents; to China by way of the north-east; to Japan by the same route and also from the south-west. The superstition with regard to volcanoes seems to have reached the Far East along a southerly route. The same holds good perhaps in the case of the prostitution of slaves, and their giving up a certain portion of their earnings to their master. We have already stated that the employment in clothing of a sort of dress-material made out of the bark of the paper-mulberry should be ascribed to Java and Egypt; while that of fermented liquors made by the process of mastication is unknown. No longer traceable is, moreover, the origin of the custom of a husband passing a necklace around the neck of his wife on the day of their marriage.

The period during which the western portion of our hemisphere thus exercised an influence over the Japanese Archipelago, by way of India, Bengal, Malasia, Kiaotchi and other maritime states of Cochinchina and Nanyoué, was of very great length, for it began—as we stated

on the first page of this chapter—in those days in which the Kushite form of civilisation commenced to make way in the Orient of our globe. It is owing to the influences set at work, under these conditions, by the great southern current, that the peoples of the southern portion of the Japanese Archipelago were endowed with those physical, intellectual, and moral traits in the possession of which we find them in the "Wha (X) Age" of Chinese authors; while those which at once attract our attention in the west and north of this island group, were introduced into those portions by the great northern current. When, later on, these two classes of racial influences began to react upon each other, a series of mixed traits were produced throughout the whole extent of these isles, and there they prevailed until the moment in which Chinese race-influences, reaching the Archipelago by means of the great northern current, gave birth to types of race and forms of civilisation which were perpetuated until the appearance of the Aryan element coming from Europe and America in the 16th century of our era. This Aryan element was introduced from all sides, i.e. by the great southern current and its western branch—interrupted for ages but originally brought into movement by this same Aryan race-element—and by the great northern current, which, from the very beginning of civilised life on the surface of our globe, has never ceased to exert an influence in the direction of the north-east.

We ought to add, perhaps, that the work from which this chapter is extracted was compiled several years ago, though arrangements for its publication are not yet completed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE LATE PORTUGUESE CONSUL-GENERAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."
SIR,—Friends in Tokyo were good enough to send me, by the last mail from Japan, copies of the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 3rd instant, containing the article you were so kind as to write, contradicting the many false and scandalous accusations that have been made against me since I left Japan, through the medium of several newspapers both in Japan and Shanghai, and more particularly in a letter published by the *Kobe Herald* of the 26th July, under the signature of "One Aggrieved."

The charges brought against me both in my private and official capacity are so plainly extravagant that no right-minded and conscientious person, even though unacquainted with the facts and my humble person, could believe them, except on the supposition that I had been temporarily deprived of my senses. I might consequently treat my traducers with the contempt they deserve. Still, it is necessary to remember that the object really in view has never been, I am persuaded, to attack me personally—for I am conscious of not being such an important individual that newspaper editors would think it worth while to devote time and space to writing about me. The true origin of the trouble is to be sought in the animus of those who are ever ready to seize every possible chance of attacking the Japanese Government. These persons have detected in the suppression of the Portuguese Consulate-General in Tokyo, an opportunity to make political capital. They understand very well that without a breach of official confidence the general public, both in Japan and elsewhere, could not possibly be made acquainted with the truth; while, on the other hand, the gravity of the affair naturally attracts attention to everything written about it. Prompted, therefore, by their own bias, and misled by unscrupulous informants, they have given publicity to falsehoods involving not only my reputation as a Portuguese Government official and as a man who has striven to do his duty conscientiously, but

also the good name of His Excellency Viscount Enomoto, late Minister for Foreign Affairs in Japan, as well as the fair fame of the Japanese Government.

I apprehend that the promoters of this iniquitous campaign, apparently directed against me but in reality inspired by a desire to bring discredit on the Japanese Government, thought that they could pursue their plans with impunity. They trusted that considerations which I need not define would deter me, far removed as I am from the scene of attack, from instituting legal proceedings against my traducers. But in justice to my good name as well as to the reputation of the Japanese Government, at whose hands I have always received the highest consideration, I shall not let the matter rest, but will adopt speedy steps to obtain legal redress against the newspapers which, regardless of journalistic propriety, have circulated grossly libellous accusations against me since my departure from Japan.

I thank you, Sir, for having, in the cause of justice and unsolicited, stood forward to defend an absent man who has the consciousness of never having given cause for such cowardly and unjust attacks. Public opinion, I am persuaded, will not hesitate to pass sentence on journalists who, instead of seeking to be guided by the strict truth in matters of general interest, have degraded their honourable profession by conspiring to persecute a man who, through no fault of his own, but in consequence of the economical embarrassments of the country he has served for many years without reproach, finds himself suddenly placed in serious difficulties. The accusations preferred against me by these writers would, if left unrefuted, greatly accentuate my embarrassment by closing to me all avenues of access to honourable employment for the support of my family and myself. Diplomatic reserve, however, forbids me to enter into full explanations in the public press. I shall have recourse to other and more efficacious means.

I authorise you to give publicity to this letter if you deem it advisable, in order that my friends in Japan may know that I do not remain indifferent to the scandalous charges advanced against me.

I remain, yours truly,

J. LOUREIRO.

Macau, August 18th, 1892.

THE MOENCHENSTEIN BRIDGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to "German Subject's" remarks anent bridge failure at Moenchenstein, I beg to inform him, through your paper, that I have had the following information sent me by my friends in Europe:—

"Bridge failure at Moenchenstein.—This bridge was originally stated, though how we do not remember, to have been built of material made in Germany, but the statement though widely accepted at the time, was doubtless an error. In the Official Report made by experts afterwards to the Swiss Government it is stated that the original design by —, was modified by Messrs. —, the well known —Engineers, and the construction of the Bridge was carried out by them.

In the Summary of the Report, Professors W. Ritter and L. Tetmayer give their answer to the question as to the cause of the fall of the Moenchenstein Bridge, put to them by the Federal Government, as follows:—

"The Bridge was originally too weak in several parts, and defective in construction.

"The iron used was in great part not equal to the necessary requirements in respect of strength and toughness.

"The stability of the bridge was permanently weakened by the flood of 1881.

"The strengthening works, in 1890 were confined to a few parts, leaving other important weaknesses remaining.

"The train did not leave the rails before the fall of the Bridge.

"The principal cause of the accident was the weakness of the middle struts, the eccentricity of the connection of the struts with the main girders, and the inferior quality of the iron having contributed the result."

The Report is dated Zurich, August 24th, 1891.

You will thus see, Sir, that there is no proof that the material for this bridge was made in Germany, and I am sorry that I helped to circulate the report that it was.

A correspondent of yours, in doggerel verse some time ago, was witty at my expense, but I have heard of German business men putting forth, and wishing their clients to believe, quite as unlikely events as girdstones floating and worms devouring steel rails.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

F.B.S.

August 26th, 1892.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To your kind appeal to my countrymen on my behalf, I am thankful to say that a very hearty response was made, not only by American citizens, but by residents of all nationalities in Yokohama. I take this opportunity to thank you for the *Mail's* effective efforts on my behalf, and the public who so readily put their hands in their pockets on behalf of my wife and young family. I shall always remember the kindness of the Yokohama community.

Yours, etc.,

GEORGE N. ARMSTRONG.

August 26th, 1892.

KARUIZAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It has occurred to me that a few lines on Karuizawa might be acceptable to the readers of your paper.

The popularity of the place as a health resort is evidently on the increase. With the railway over the Usui Pass, promised to be completed by the end of this year, a further incentive to this resort will be furnished. This railway in itself will be the finest piece of engineering as yet attempted in Japan, and will be a monument to Japanese talent in this direction. Running underground more than half the distance through the wild and precipitous gorge in some 25 tunnels, on a gradient requiring the cog-wheel traction system, the railway which thus connects the E. and N. Coasts, will add to the delight and comfort in reaching this place, though it may detract from its rural quietness. The weather has, if possible, exceeded its favourable record of years past, cool, bracing, and free from dampness, mist, and rain to a remarkable degree, it affords what the foreigner in Japan is in search of. The visitors to the place, most of whom stay during the entire season of from two to three months, number nearly 200 thus far. An accurate account makes the number as follows:—Families 34, children 63, single ladies and gentlemen 55. To this number we may add 9 who live about a mile from here at Usui Toge-mura. The number of houses built and furnished in part foreign style is 24, to which 4 ought to be added. These 4 have been built by a Japanese in the place where a veterinary school formerly existed, but which was discarded a year or so ago.

Just at present, Karuizawa affords an added interest, in the shape of a conference similar to the Arima conference, reported in your columns of last year. The first meeting was opened with an attendance of about 60 persons, in the gymnasium, which affords a pleasant assembly hall. The conference enjoys the presidency of the same person who presided over the Arima conference of last year, the Rev. R. O. Grinnan. Mr. Grinnan appeared first on the programme with a full and able paper on "The Qualifications of the successful Missionary." A few of the points are presented here. The successful missionary is "born not made," born, not only naturally, but especially spiritually. No one without this spiritual experience is equal to the task of turning the nations "For Christ's sake"—no other motive will bear one through the trials and discouragements. Every other motive must perform end in disappointment. The chief object of his work is to "form Christ" in the hearts and characters of those appealed to. Missionaries must join hands in presence of a common foe, and preach only Christ and him crucified. Thus laying himself on the altar of service for life will only insure full success. The sacrifices are various. In Japan outward afflictions do not count for much. But the missionary must drop into insignificance. Though settled and positive in his views, he must learn forbearance with the opinions of others. He is not to sacrifice truth and principles, but there is a time for silence which must be watched. The Japanese is not to be over-bearingly silenced, but gentlemanly forbearance will win the day if it is to be won. Elasticity of mind, so as to get broad views of questions and situations, but also stability so as not to lose bearings and be swayed by every wind and wave of doctrine, are requisites. The doctrines of Christ, not mere moral or sentimental reasonings, are the theme and centre of work. Japanese speculation on the pulpit here infect us readily. The fact that the Cross of Christ and miracles are often discounted is no reason for our wavering. We are servants of God, not of the people, in preaching. Hence be independent and do not become tools in the hands of others. For as tools to be used for pet schemes, and then to be discarded when better tools are found, we gain no man's love and respect. Be ready to work on all occasions, however small, for thus opportunities will offer more

important things, and the Japanese will give you their trust and respect.

Each ought to do what he is best fitted for, to preach, or to teach, or both as the case may be, and knowledge of the language is imperative for best success. To get at the heart of the Japanese is the thing needed, and this can be done only by meeting them in the heart's own language. Old and ruling Japan is to be known only thus. Through English, only new Japan, i.e., the student class is touched and there but on the surface often. The *obasan* is a most important person to get hold of. The advice of some Japanese that the missionary is only needed to teach them English, is a great mistake. Whole-hearted time for 10 years will conquer the language somewhat. Sacrifice outside work to do this. Practice constantly. Example of children is the work here. The language must be first and always. A number of detailed suggestions followed here.

Relations to the Japanese. We must be one with them, must love them and sacrifice all for them. Foreigners, especially at present, have great difficulty in conquering here, but love will conquer. Despising or looking down upon others never wins confidence. Get at their ways of thinking—mingle with the people,—the masses and their leaders.

Difficult to know how to treat visitors. To sit, eat, and sleep as they do is a help here. Japanese customs and laws are to be respected. Japanese plainness often fails to understand the complexity of missionaries' houses. Yet we should not live too meanly so as to forfeit their respect. Never show temper. The strength of the national spirit occasions much difficulty, and forbearance is here needed. Be not hard in money matters. Missionaries, as they are responsible to donors, and as Japanese are often bad financiers, must exercise oversight, but as we are foreigners we must not be unwilling to suffer for it.

Wisdom and love is the gist of all—wise as serpents—harmless as doves.

The evening was taken up by an address by the Rev. S. Swann on "Apprehending Faith" founded on Mark 11, 24. It is not the purpose to write at length on the evening service, as this is more devotional in its character. This audience bore abundant testimony to the excellence and zeal of the address.

According to our programme, Rev. J. W. Sawin should have addressed the conference this morning, but as he was hindered by circumstances beyond his control, Dr. J. C. Hepburn kindly addressed the conference on his and Mrs. Hepburn's personal experiences in Mission fields. The speaker began in his modest way, by stating that he was not a clergyman, and so had no text: he had been requested to give a talk on the best methods for acquiring the Japanese language, but as every student has his own method it seemed best to him to give instead a general talk on experiences of the past. The Bible had always been his comfort and only sure guide. The doctor stated that he was now in his 78th year and had been engaged in Mission work since 1840 (fifty-two years), and as God led the children of Israel through the wilderness by the pillar of fire and the cloud, so has the Heavenly Father graciously led him; as God faithfully kept his promises to Moses and Joshua, in like manner have the Divine promises been kept with reference to him, and during all these years His presence had been with him and his wife. When a student in the University of Pennsylvania he became a Christian and soon after he consecrated himself wholly to the Lord's work, and he never had an occasion to regret the step taken. His father was a lawyer and greatly desired that he should follow the same profession, but lacking fluency of speech, he chose the medical profession instead, but this was all ordered of the Lord, for had he become a lawyer he would never have come to these ends of the earth as a Missionary of the Cross.

While a student he was thrown into the company of two men who became earnest missionaries, and their influence helped him to decide to become a Missionary. One of these men was Richard Armstrong, the father of General Armstrong, who is now teaching in the institution for coloured people at Hampton. Richard Armstrong was one of the first missionaries to the Sandwich Islands. The other, Rev. Matthew Loyard went to Africa where he died after a short, but earnest ministry. Dr. Hepburn's mother had the Missionary spirit and was the president of a ladies' missionary society. These and other circumstances gave his mind a certain bent, and after practising medicine for three years in America, and after marrying his beloved partner, who had shared with him life's burdens and joys for fifty-three years, he cheerfully accepted a call to labour in Siam and left America in 1840. They were detained, however, in Singapore and spent two years there. When China was

opened, at the close of the opium war, many missionaries went to China from Siam, Malacca, and other places in the East. Six families of the Presbyterian Church, also went, and Mrs. H. and the Dr. were of the number. In a very short time four of the six ladies became ill and died, the Doctor's wife and Mrs. Young being the only ones spared.

He opened Hospital Work in Amoy in connection with Dr. Cumming, an independent missionary. Two of the male missionaries were drowned, one of whom, Walter Lowrie, was thrown in the sea by Chinese pirates. The malaria attacked all until at last Mrs. H. was reduced to 87lbs. weight, and so after six years of labour they were ordered to America and made New York city their home. Here three nice boys were born to them, all of whom died. In New York he renewed the medical profession, but also engaged in church work and spent two cholera seasons in administering to the sick.

After the opening of Japan, Mr. Wells Williams sent an urgent appeal that a medical man and one of experience be sent to Japan, and in the providence of God they were sent. They were 146 days in reaching the place of destination. Arriving in Japan they met at Nagasaki Messrs. Higgins and Williams, now Bishop Williams.

On arriving at Kanagawa, they noticed the white godown buildings and thought they would make good houses to live in. They knew of the strong antipathy of the Japanese to Christianity, and did not know that they would be permitted to land; on going to see the American Consul, they were told that missionaries were neither needed nor wanted, that the treaties were made for merchants, not for missionaries, and that the only way he could secure a residence for them in the country, was to register Dr. H. as physician to the Consulate and this was done. The Governor of the province set aside a temple for their use, (an old building that the Dutch Consul had rejected as a place not fit for a stable); however, the temple was made very comfortable by a little carpentering. The furniture that they brought with them consisted of only a few pieces, and they had to get along as best they could. The Governor sent servants, who came nearly naked and who constantly prostrated themselves whenever we returned to our house. In those days there was no meat, no potatoes, and no bread. The only meat we got came from the ships, and was kindly sent from time to time by generous captains. They could buy Japanese rice, fish, and sweet potatoes, eggs, and sometimes fowl.

There was no such thing as soap, and the wash board was practically introduced into Japan then by Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn. There was only one Japanese phrase that he learned before coming to Japan, and this was taught him by Dr. Williams, viz. *Kore wa nanni?* Dr. Williams had taught him to say *Kore wa nanto iu mono?* but the shorter form was easier to remember.

The first word that he learned in Japan was *Abunai!* The carpenters had built a fire near the straw roof of the temple, and the Dr. said in English "that is dangerous!" whereupon the carpenter understanding the motions, if not the words said, *Abunai?* Very many of the first words that he learned have some historic connection.

There were no grammars nor dictionaries in those days, and the only help at hand, in the way of books, was a vocabulary, translated from the Dutch, by Dr. Medhurst, who resided in Batavia. The only teachers to be had were the servants, carpenters, workmen generally, and visitors who came from curiosity, but whom they made use of. Dr. S. R. Brown and Dr. G. P. Verbeck and Dr. Simmons came out as Missionaries soon after, under the Dutch Board, and excepting Dr. Verbeck, who stopped in Nagasaki, they formed a part of the circle at Kanagawa. After a while Hoffman's Grammar was sent them leaf by leaf from Nagasaki. The learning of Japanese was found especially difficult.

Dr. Brown came running in one day and said, "I have found the future tense for I have just heard a man say *Miyonichi ame furimasho*."

It was not until a year had passed that they succeeded in securing a teacher. One day a man named Sadajiro came and said he would teach Japanese for English. This man became quite noted in Japan and died only a few years ago. With him the translation of Matthew was begun, but when they had finished translating about a chapter the man refused to translate more, as it would cost him his life. This man, and also the men who were sent as guards were spies who doubtless reported to the Government every thing that was done. The doctor's teacher soon left him on account of fear, and then he secured another. In 1861 he opened a dispensary and carried it on for only a few months when it was suddenly stopped by the government. He had made the mistake of beginning it without

first asking permission. He then gave himself up for some time to the study of the language, and in acquiring a vocabulary for his own use gradually began the work of preparing a dictionary. Some merchants hearing of the work that was done urged him to print the book, promising to defray the cost of printing themselves; so, in 1870 the doctor went to Shanghai and published there the first edition of the dictionary. This work has now gone through four editions, and has served and is still serving a good purpose. The doctor said that he never thought that a man of his poor ability should ever accomplish such a thing, and the work was accomplished simply by perseverance. "If you would accomplish any good thing in life, my young friends learn to stick to your work!" In 1863 he began a dispensary in Yokohama and continued it for fifteen years. The walls of the dispensary were covered with prominent scripture texts and from these he preached to the patients who came for medicine. He also took charge of the Sumi-oshicho Church, the third Christian Church that was organized in Japan. The first Convention that met to consider the matter of Bible translation met in this dispensary, and as the result of this convention the following were appointed to translate the New Testament into Japanese:—Dr. V. R. Brown, Dr. D. C. Green, Dr. Hepburn, Dr. R. S. MacLay, and Dr. Nathan Brown afterwards joined the committee; others were invited but took no part in the work. The onus of the work fell on the first three members. Dr. Hepburn also was one of the three to translate the Old Testament. The Dr. said that the Japanese translation of the Bible is as good as the English translation made from the Original Hebrew and Greek, and this Japanese translation is destined to be a very important factor in its influence upon the language of this land.

There was no need that he should give an address on how to learn the language of the Japanese. "You have all the needed helps now and are young," said the speaker, "and so should succeed. I was a young man when I went to China, and learned more Chinese in two years than I did Japanese in ten years, but then I was forty-five when I came to Japan. My work is now finished here, and we feel that we are relics of the past, and soon we expect to leave Japan, not for long knowing what is before us, but fully trusting Him who has so faithfully guided us hitherto. We leave our unfinished work to you. Be not discouraged—stick to your work! You have a great Saviour and Captain who will bring you to certain victory, helping you to overcome all difficulties. "You will live, I think, to see this land brought to Christ, Japan made a Christian country indeed. The Lord be with you all."

The conference unanimously voted sincere thanks for the very interesting address of Dr. Hepburn. Dr. Hepburn also made some interesting remarks on the History of attempts at Bible translation into the Japanese language, but these we omit for the present.

Mrs. Hepburn then gave some amusing reminiscences, after which the meeting adjourned.

August 26th, 1892.

The third day of the conference opened with an address from one of two members of the Society of Friends, Mr. Samuel Morris, of Philadelphia. This gentleman and Mr. J. E. Rhoads being on a tour of inspection of missions deemed such an occasion to meet with missionaries of sufficient value to justify their journey to this summer resort. On the basis of Christ's words, in Ep. 17, 23,—"In them, and them in me, that they may all be one," &c., the speaker said,—these words are true in the present, and this oneness is a confirming evidence. Union with Christ and with one another, notwithstanding failures, is yet in great measure realized. Missionaries here all unite irrespective of denominational lines, as disciples of one Master. Hence our thought was to join with them, not as strangers but as brethren. This oneness in Christ's cause is needed, and in all essentials we do agree. We are near to one another in the highest and deepest sense. The remark that the professing church is full of antagonism and strife is much too severe, and sceptic and scoffer make the most of it. The nearer to Christ, the nearer to one another we are. Differences and divisions become less pronounced, and thus an undivided Christ becomes a growing strength in the Church. In mission work, this oneness is needed so that the people do not stumble, are not puzzled and dismayed by our differences. The comforter's work makes Christ more real, present, living, and will guide us out of intricacies into all truth. The Holy Spirit's work was here dwelt upon. Of this loving gentle teacher, we should be growing, deepening pupils. The worship of God is simple in proportion as it is "in spirit and in truth." Reverential stillness before God is deepest, truest worship and communion with God. The Holy spirit is needed to prepare the heart for prayer, short prayers like the

publican's reach the throne of grace very quickly. Thus we grow more simple and more reverent. The Holy spirit is mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance in the ministry of the word. The call to the ministry is very precious, deep and involves much. "Without me ye can do nothing." Poor words are often astonishingly used. The Holy Spirit is a guide for daily life giving quickness of understanding in all things. Go not to neighbours rather to God for advice.

The work of God appears at times to go on slowly, full of weakness as if God had forgotten his work. The need of a deeper tone in spiritual life impresses us and a desire for a deeper work of grace pervades the church. The time since Christ came is long, and yet millions have not yet heard his name, and the work looks hopeless. But Christ's work in the Holy spirit is not confined to the Church but is for the world, and God's witness is in every heart. To this powerful witness we can appeal, though an unknown god to them. Hence God works with them as well as with us.

We have not mere doctrine to teach. Life must go hand in hand. As Dr. Hepburn so truly stated, there is such a thing as being led about guided and taught of God. Thus learn to live a day at a time in God's fear, favour, and blessing, and however long the way, there will be many Ebenezers. And thus we unite in St. Paul's prayer, Eph. 3 14-21.

This impressive address was followed by Mr. Rhoads in some fitting remarks on Christian experience and growth in grace, and the truth as it is in Jesus as known by Christian experience.

A short discussion closed the morning session. The evening meeting was led by Mr. Landis who spoke on the Return of Jesus, or more definitely, the mystical union of the believer with Christ.

August 27th, 1892.

The weather here continues clear, and fresh breezes from the mountains keep us cool and refreshed while your folks in Tokyo and Yokohama must be sorely tried by the heat.

Yesterday an excellent sermon was preached by Dr. Geo. Cochran to a very crowded house, on "The Unchanging Christ." After the preaching service the Holy Communion was administered by Dr. Cochran, Dr. Thompson, and Rev. M. S. Vail. In the evening the Conference was addressed by the Rev. A. G. Taylor on "Our Encouragement." This morning Dr. Cochran addressed the Conference on "The Holy Spirit in Relation to Service."

The Dr. said:—"I shall not read you a paper this morning, but rather in an easy conversational way, making a free use of the Bible, let us approach this subject of deep interest to us all as Christian workers. In the first place, then, is the Holy Spirit a person? And does He possess knowledge and freedom to choose? From various acts ascribed to the Holy Spirit, and the use of the personal pronoun we must conclude that He must be regarded as a person, and from the Baptismal formula and from the Apostolic Benediction we must regard Him coequal with the Father and the Son. The second point was the relation of the Holy Spirit to the Father and to the Son. According to statements in the Gospel of John He proceedeth from the Father and is sent by the Son. The Doctor remarked that he thought the great controversy concerning the origin of the Holy Spirit might have been avoided if the fathers had kept closely to the text of the Scriptures. The third point was the relation of the Spirit to the redemptive work of Christ. And in (a) He reveals Christ, (b) He vindicates Christ and convicts the world of sin, (c) He is the life of believers, and bears witness to their adoption, (d) He prepares Christ's agents for their work, (e) He is our helper in prayer, (f) He ministers to our joy, hope, comfort, and guidance.

All of the above points were quite fully discussed and proof texts were adduced in every case.

Various interesting questions were asked and answered, and altogether this meeting has proved to be one of the most profitable of the meetings yet held, and this evening the discussion on this subject of vital interest will be continued.

Yours truly,

Karuizawa, August 29th, 1892.

GAMMA.

THOMAS PAINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The unpublished anonymous letter recently sent you called to mind a few items I had gathered which, I think, can be relied upon in estimating the moral character of Thomas Paine. From what I am able to find, I cheerfully acknowledge that my quotation from Dr. McIlvaine is not supported by the now known facts in the Bonneville case. As to Paine's services in the cause of Independence, I have nothing to say that would in the least diminish his fame. There were, no doubt, two Paines.

G. Vale, whose life of Paine is apologetic, says

he only fault he can find in his subject's character is that at one time his weekly supply of rum was a quart. This information is from Mr. Barger, a clerk in a store which furnished Paine his liquor.

Corner at that time said: "Paine was like other men, he would sometimes take too much." While Corner said this in an angry letter he never withdrew it, though he afterwards had a splendid opportunity in Cleetham's own house:

His "Common Sense" and "Rights of Man" were conceived while "sitting over some punch after a game at bowls."—(Vale.)

"In 1760 he obtained a place in the excise at Thetford, and subsequently at Lewes in Sussex, where he also carried on business as a grocer and tobacconist. Being accused of smuggling in connection with his business as a grocer, he was dismissed from the excise."—*American Cyclopaedia*.

"In 1777 he was elected secretary to the Commission on Foreign Affairs, but was censured by Congress and obliged to resign for making improper use of official secrets in his letters in the *Pennsylvania Packet* against Silas Deane."—*Am. Cyclopaedia*.

Hon. William Jay, son of John Jay who was a member of Congress at the time, furnished from his father's private papers a document which Dr. McIlvaine quotes on the same subject.

"Appleton's Cyclo. of American Biography" says of Paine:—"His first wife lived but a short time, from his second wife he soon separated, an irregular attachment to the wife of a Paris publisher did not improve his character."

"Schaff-Herzog Cyclo. of Religious Knowledge" says of him:—"Comparison of contemporary biographies, both of friends and foes, seems to show these facts: Paine was through life a harsh, unfeeling, vain, and disagreeable man. He was wanting in a sense of honour, and therefore could not be trusted. But it was not until after his return from France, when he was sixty-five years old, very much broken by his long sufferings and the strain of the great excitement in which he had lived for years, and for the first time in his life above want, that he developed those traits which rendered him in his last days such a miserable object. The charge of matrimonial infidelity and of seduction are probably unfounded; but that he was in his old age penurious, unclearly, drunken, unscrupulous, may be accepted as true."

Col. Ingersoll, in his eulogy on Paine in a recent *North American Review*, paints the pathetic scene of his death and burial. This is the Col. Ingersoll who cursed and threatened to thrash Joseph Cook when they once met at Saratoga, and about whom there recently appeared in the public print that he had sued a Baptist preacher for slander because the preacher had said that the Col. had used his mighty power to influence legislation in the interest of immoral literature. However, when the case was tried the Colonel was the loser. The way of the transgressor is hard. No man who sets himself to battle against Christianity can expect other than the inevitable. His name will pass either into oblivion, or will only be remembered for the evil done. The name of every noted dead infidel only suggests the vanity of his efforts to overthrow truth. Somehow or other it seems decreed that their good shall be forgotten on account of their evil. They were fighting on the wrong side.

For those who wish to look further into the life of Thomas Paine I quote from "Schaff-Herzog Enc. of Religious Knowledge":—"His life has been written by Francis Oldys (pseudonym for George Chalmers), continued by William Cobbett, 1796 (abusive); James Cleetham, 1809 (written by one who knew him in his last days); this is the source of all the damaging stories about Paine: Cleetham meant to be fair, yet was prejudiced; Thomas Clio Rickman, 1814 (apologetic, but honest, a good corrective of Cleetham's exaggerations, was friendly to Paine, but is compelled to give him, on the whole, a bad character); W. V. Sherwin, 1819 (apologetic); J. S. Harford, 1820; G. Vale, 1841 (apologetic and largely copied from Sherwin); Charles Blanchard, 1860 (a thorough-going defence of Paine, written in a careless style, and interlarded with irrelevant and questionable matter; it is prefixed to the edition of Paine's theological works).

I must offer an apology for mentioning this subject again. I know it is quite displeasing to a number of friends. It has come to such a pass that the bare mention of an infidel's name in the foreign press of Japan immediately calls out in its defence those chosen few who for strategic effect are forced occasionally to vary their ensign. *Fins*, Thanking the Editor for his indulgence, I am, yours respectfully,

E. SNODGRASS.

Tokyo, August 29th, 1892.

AU FUJIYAMA.

Salut, roi des monts et des âges,
Toi dont l'auguste front domine les nuages,
Dont la magnificence à la gloire répond,
Salut, monarque du Nippon !
O toi, dont l'image ornemente,
Et la pauvre chaumière et le palais puissant,
O toi, que le poète chante,
Et que révère le croyant,
Dont le trône repose au centre de la terre,
Que dans son sein la nature forma,—
Qui surpasse ta grâce et ta grandeur altière ?
O superbe Fujiyama !

Le souvenir toujours vivace
Des troubles souterrains dont tu portes la trace,
Ta naissance soudaine en une nuit d'horreur,
Nous glaçant encor de frayer :
La terre et la mer se soulèvent,
S'entrouvrent en formant des abîmes béants,
Les cataractes du ciel crévent
Les laves tombent à torrents ;—
Est-ce la fin d'un monde, un autre qui commence ?—
A ce moment la terre l'enfante.—
Qui jamais décrira l'heure de ta naissance ?
O terrible Fujiyama !

Autour de ton auguste épaule
Quand vient se déchainer le vent glacé du pôle,
Tu tiens ta cour cachée au sein des ouragans ;
Mais si, las du règne des vents,
Et du cortège des orages,
Dans ton manteau d'hermine aux bords étincelants,
Tu nous montres dans les nuages
Ton diadème de diamants—
Par un beau jour d'hiver, au clair soleil d'automne,
Ah ! quel mortel jamais n'admirera
Ta fière majesté, l'éclat qui s'environne ?
O redouté Fujiyama !

Sous l'haleine du Pacifique,
La nature a repris sa parure magique,
La flore du Nippon sa grâce et ses couleurs ;
Désarmant soudain tes rigueurs,
Et comme épris de son sourire,—
Tu déposes ton sceptre et ton royal manteau ;
Ton aspect riant nous attire,
Te voyant si grand et si beau,
Qui n'élève vers toi les yeux et la pensée ?
Quel voyageur ne s'enthousiasme,
En contemplant tes traits dans la voûte éthérée ?
O radieux Fujiyama !

Conserve ton règne paisible
Que jamais ton courroux ne s'éveille terrible.
En répandant partout la mort et le chagrin ;
Reste le guide du marin,
L'idéal de la beauté pure ;
Reste pour ces régions de l'Extrême Orient,
Le souverain de la nature,
La gloire du Soleil Levant ;
Lorsque tout à tes pieds passe on se renouvelle,
Toi que jamais nul trouble n'ébranla,
Conserve ta grandeur, ta couronne immortelle,
O sublime Fujiyama !

Salut, roi des monts et des âges,
Toi, dont l'auguste front domine les nuages,
Dont la magnificence à la gloire répond,
Salut, monarque du Nippon !
O toi, dont l'image ornemente,
Et la pauvre chaumière et le palais puissant,
O toi, que le poète chante,
Et que révère le croyant,
Dont le trône repose au centre de la terre,—
Que dans son sein la nature forma,—
Qui surpasse ta grâce et ta grandeur altière ?
O superbe Fujiyama !

A. M.

Tôkyô, Août 1892.

WEDDING AT CHRIST CHURCH.

The marriage was celebrated on Wednesday of Miss Moss, daughter of one of the oldest and best known residents of Yokohama, and Mr. R. W. Bortliwick, manager of the North & Rae Company, Limited. By the time appointed the number of friends assembled nearly filled the church, and the bridegroom entered supported by Mr. K. F. Crawford, who acted as best man, being shortly followed by Mrs. E. J. Moss, mother of the bride, who wore a dress of mauve embroidered crape and black lace and a mauve bonnet trimmed with jet. Then came the bride, who is pretty and petite, looking very daintily in a rich robe of white corded silk embroidered with silver thistles and trimmed with silver cord, accompanied by her father, Mr. E. J. Moss, and followed by Miss Annie Moss, as bridesmaid, who wore a pretty costume of pale blue figured silk and a white crinoline hat trimmed with lace and forget-me-nots. The ladies carried handsome bouquets

provided by Mr. Manley, and were followed by their brothers, Edward and Pen Moss, as pages, dressed in white sailor suits. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. E. C. Irwine, M.A., after which a hymn was sung, and Mr. Choep played the "Wedding March." The wedding party then drove to Woodside, the residence of the bride's parents, where they received the congratulations of a host of friends and well wishers, the number of whom may be estimated by the unusually long list of wedding presents given below :—

Mr. E. J. Moss, complete bedroom and boudoir suite; Mrs. E. J. Moss, house linen, Maltese silk lace handkerchief; Miss Annie Moss, fancy-work; Master Teddy Moss, tea service; Masters Willie and Johnny Moss, shell vase; Bridegroom, piano and manicure set; Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Moss, dinner service; Miss Aebersold, chrysoleum; Mr. and Mrs. Wyckoff, shawl, head-wrap, and silver tea-strainer; Mr. McKinnell, marble clock; Mr. Woodruff, pair of vases; Miss Young, silk table square and mats; Mr. and Mrs. H. Box, saddle bag cushion; Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Irish linen handworked tea-cloth; Mrs. Mitchell, silver tea-spoons and sugar tongs; Miss Mitchell, felt table cloth; Mr. A. Mitchell, silver mounted umbrella; Mrs. Pound, brass table-gong; Miss H. Pound, tea cloth; Mrs. and Miss Woodward, toilet stand; Mr. and Mrs. A. Crawford, two jewel caskets; Mr. and Mrs. Noble, hand-painted table scarf; Miss Griffin, electro-plated card receiver; Mr. and Mrs. Roth, tea set; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, pearl bracelet; Captain and Mrs. Steedman, set of silk Maltese lace; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cain, electroplated card-tray; Mrs. Cain, two porcelain plaques; Captain and Mrs. Kenderdine, electro-plate ruby jam stand; the Misses Vincent, ivory and lace fan; Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler, cloisonné vases; Miss Grant, silk table cover and cushion; Mrs. Cooper, bread fork; Mrs. and Miss Hickson, books; Mrs. Cruickshank, Tartan rug; Miss Martin, picture; Capt. Pender, pearl brooch; Mr. W. S. Edwards, pearl name pin; Mr. and Mrs. Mullendorf, tea cloth and serviettes; Capt. and Mrs. Efford, fancy night light stand and silver sugar tongs; Mrs. Brinkworth, silver salt spoons, and fancy-work stool; Mr. and Mrs. Esdale, silver jam spoon; Mr. North, epergne; Mr. and Mrs. Watson, serviette rings; Mr. O. Keil, treadle sewing machine; Capt. and Mrs. Walker, silver coin tea spoons; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis, scent stand; Mr. and Mrs. Truscott, butter knife and jam spoon; Capt. Martin, electro-plate and ruby butter dish; Mr. and Mrs. Rustace, cruet stand; Mr. and Mrs. McArthur, painted screen; Mr. Clark, tea-cosy; Mr. Wilson, cloisonné mounted in plush; Rev. and Mrs. Booth, tray; Miss Deyo, quaint iron kettle; Mr. and Mrs. G. Booth, ice bucket and tongs; Misses Booth, embroidered table scarf; Mr. and Mrs. Hay, nut crackers; Mrs. Black, gold bracelet; Miss Black, shawl; Mr. and Mrs. Mayer, picture in cherry lacquer frame; Dr. and Mrs. Eldridge, cloisonné vases; Mr. McKenzie, electro-plate butter dish; Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, clock; Mr. and Mrs. Jensen, porcelain flower stand; Mr. and Mrs. Retz, gold bracelet; Mr. Duncan, butter dish; Miss Bourne, crumb brush and tray and antimacassar; Mr. Marcus, 1 doz. silver tea spoons; Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, embroidered cushion and tea cosy; Misses and Masters Cameron, lacquer trays; Miss Efford, six hand-painted mats; Mr. Efford, hand painted picture; Mr. Coulson and Miss Swain, biscuit jar; Capt. and Mrs. Carter, electro and ruby preserve stand; Mr. Patterson, brass kettle and spirit lamp; Mr. and Mrs. Barrie, Bible; Mr. and Mrs. Towley, 2 silver salt cellars and spoons; Messrs. North and Rae, cheque; Rev. and Mrs. Buxton, ruby brooch; Mr. and Mrs. Tresize, 3 silver serviette rings; Mr. J. Hall, fish knives and forks; Mr. and Mrs. Hegt, photo frames; Mr. Meiklejohn, photo album; Mr. G. Brinkworth, pair of vases; Mr. Litchfield, electro-plated fruit dish; Mr. and Mrs. Crowe, 1 doz. silver tea-spoons, and silver tea-strainer; Mr. A. H. Cole Watson, 2 butter dishes and knives in case; Mr. Barrett, ivory paper knife; Mr. and Mrs. Yamaguchi, piece of silk crape; Mr. Witkowski, cloisonné vases; Mr. and Mrs. Balk, sugar tongs, butter knife, jam spoon, and fork; Mr. K. F. Crawford, dessert knives and forks; Miss Thorn, sugar bowl and sifter; Mr. Sarda, 2 cloisonné plaques; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Gibbs, lace handkerchief and case; Mr. Powys, cafetière; Mr. and Mrs. Boag, tea-cosy; Mr. J. Johnstone, breakfast cruet; Mr. and Mrs. Smedley, photo frame; Mr. and Mrs. Bond, porcelain vase; Capt. and Mrs. James Harrison, bread knife and fork; Mr. Charlesworth, breakfast cruet; O Haru-san, embroidered dressing jacket; Mr. Forrest, birthday book and thimble case; Mr. and Mrs. Rose, glass flower bowl; Nisa, fir tree in porcelain pot; Mr. and Mrs. Johns, hand painted vase; Mr. and Mrs. Bunting, six lace handkerchiefs and piece of

Maltese lace; Mr. Peyre, cloisonné box; Mr. Littlewood, plush work case; Mr. and Mrs. Egert, porcelain flower stand; Misses Sale, pair of vases; Kani, fan; Mr. G. Booth, electro-plated bread fork; Nozawaya, Japanese wedding gift, O-Hana-san embroidered dressing jacket, etc., etc.

THE DEVELOPMENT AND SETTLEMENT OF THE HOKKAIDO.

[An address delivered before a public meeting held at Sapporo on August 15th, 1892 (during the continuation of the Hokkaido Exhibition), by Arthur A. Brigham, of the Sapporo Agricultural College, Rev. M. Oshima acting as interpreter.]

We are met to-day to consider the conditions and adaptations of the Hokkaido in relation to its settlement and development by the people of Japan. The conditions of the Hokkaido which invite our attention may be readily grouped under the general divisions of Fishers, Mining, Forestry, and Agriculture.

If Japan has her Ito, the great statesman to whom her people are looking hopefully expecting that he will safely guide the ship of State, so also has the Hokkaido her Ito, the magnetic, energetic fisherman, who is in all places at once, who can hatch for you a million salmon in the twinkling of an eye, or tell you the champion fish-story of the East with a twinkle in his eye. If you seek information as to the fishery-resources of the Hokkaido rivers, lakes, and surrounding seas, you have only to ask our Hokkaido Ito, and before the question is well out of your mouth, you will have your answer, full, plain, and explicit.

If you seek to know the possibilities of the Yezo mineral deposits we have our Jimbo, the Hokkaido geologist who, though loving a quiet life, has travelled this island all over and through and can tell you where is located every mass of coal, every bed of sulphur, and every speck of silver. If you do not care to travel over the island in the summer's heat, to be pestered with *obu*, mosquitoes, and sand-flies, to find these minerals, our geologist will show you all these items on his maps and in his books, all in the quiet of your room at home.

In forestry we are looking for the coming of a Hokkaido Gladstone, some one, who, with statesman-like qualities, shall yet, like the "Grand Old Man" have a love for the beautiful and useful trees and such a practical belief in the dignity of manual labour, that he shall not, on occasion, consider it beneath his dignity to actually wield the axe in felling a ripe "monarch of the forest," by sturdy and repeated blows, reducing and preparing the tree for the common needs of man. The Hokkaido should profit by the expensive and instructive experiences of other countries in the maintenance and management of her forests.

But it is the agriculture of the Hokkaido which to-day most needs a leader, yes, many leaders and workers with muscles and brains. The agricultural resources of the island demand development.

According to statistics which have been furnished me, the area of land under cultivation in 1889 in the Hokkaido was 414,532 *tan*. In 1891 the area available for immediate cultivation was over 3,000,000 *tan*; the area available for cultivation after draining was about 1,000,000 *tan*; the area available for cultivation after great improvement was over 1,000,000 *tan*, while the area available for grazing was nearly 4,000,000 *tan*.

The soil of the island is fairly fertile and with proper husbanding of its resources by rational rotation of crops and fertilizing, will produce continuous good crops and may be increased in fertility and excellence of agricultural condition.

In clearing the wild land, the work is partially and sometimes wholly remunerated at once by the value of the products removed. The trees especially are of use for charcoal, fuel, lumber, and ashes.

The climate deters many of the people of the South from seeking a farm and home in this North land, but the experience of the actual settlers here in the past twenty years, proves that healthy persons, settling in the Hokkaido grow stronger, more healthy, and more hardy after the first year of acclimation. The climate is bracing and invigorating.

After the land is prepared for agriculture, all of the crops of the Northern portion of the temperate zone may be cultivated successfully. The list of crops includes the cereal grains, the best pasture and meadow grasses and fodder plants, the best Northern fruits, the garden vegetables, several industrial plants, in all more than fifty useful crops. Here in breadth enough to satisfy the desires of any one truly interested in agriculture, and room enough to choose a branch of agriculture according to one's tastes.

Three branches of farming are especially adapted to the Hokkaido. They are grain growing, fruit culture, and live stock husbandry. Wheat, barley, oats, rape, and maize all succeed well and are adapted for the people's food and for feeding

live stock. Wheat, barley, and maize are in good demand and bring good prices. Hokkaido wheat is wanted in the south. Buckwheat, millet, and beans are as successfully cultivated as the cereal grains.

I have been told that fifteen years ago the farmers here would not accept apple trees as a gift for planting in their land. To-day the farmers in large numbers are demanding apple trees at good prices in larger quantities than they are supplied. Apples are consumed and exported in considerable quantities and in both cases command high prices. The outlook for apple-culture is bright, for both consumption and exportation of this best of fruits are increasing. Plums and cherries share to a considerable extent the favourable condition of the apple, while the pear, peach, quince, and the numerous small fruits, especially the strawberry, have yet to be developed in their culture here.

But it is in live stock husbandry that the Hokkaido ought to excel. Notice the area adapted for grazing—nearly 4,000,000 *tan*; bear in mind that the best grasses, which are the foundation of all live stock husbandry, may be grown here in great luxuriance, also that several wild forage plants, including the nutritious *wetch*, are already growing here in abundance; further, the grains, especially the oat and maize by their seeds and foliage contribute to the certainty of success in stock-farming. Horses, cattle, swine, and poultry thrive here exceedingly well, and sleep can be adapted by proper management. Consider how easily all of these domestic animals increase in numbers under the fostering care of the farmer, and then consider how thus the wealth of the Hokkaido and of the Empire may be increased in developing a department of agriculture greatly neglected in Japan.

What are the essentials for securing success in the practical development of these and other branches of farming in the Hokkaido? Can the peasants of the South immigrate here and with the *hand kuma* and Southern methods secure profitable returns for their labour? Yes, by the kind indulgence of Nature they may, but only to a limited extent. This is the way in which the agricultural resources of the island have been developing for twenty years. The agricultural progress actually made, has for the most part, been dug out with the *kuma* by the hard manual labour of the peasants. When you come to consider the time elapsed—twenty years—the area of land brought into cultivation—less than 500,000 *tan*—and the area that remains to be redeemed—over 9,000,000 *tan*—how little has really been done. We can truly say it is only a beginning.

Why not now substitute the plough for the *kuma* where practicable, and the power of the horse and ox for human muscles where possible? Great progress in agriculture in Western countries has been associated with wonderful and ingenious development and use of agricultural implements and machines. Why not use the simplest and most practically and profitably useful of these aids of modern farming in the Hokkaido?

Furthermore the advancement of the agriculture of the world has received an enormous impetus through the education of the agricultural classes and the use of brains in farming raising "the most useful, most healthful, and most noble employment of man" to its proper position. To emphasize these two things would be enough for to-day—the use of helpful apparatus and animal power in farming operations and to educate the farming class in a knowledge of their business.

After all the great need of the agriculture of the Hokkaido is *leaders* who are *workers*. We need young men who can and will labour with hands and heads. We need middle-aged men of experience who have the requisite wisdom to adopt their methods of farming to the new conditions of the Hokkaido. We need brawny labourers. We need men with capital, not "two cent" capitalists, who invest a few pennies in securing documents which shall give them vast tracts of land as free grants from the government and then allow their land to lie unredeemed from its wild state, until by the persevering labour of workers on adjoining lands the idle land gains a large unearned increment of value, and is then sold by the speculator at an immense profit. Not such capitalists, but men who with their money, their brains, and their hands shall work to help to redeem the wild lands and cause them to produce the fruitful, useful products of agriculture. The philosopher Emerson says of the farmer "He is the continuous benefactor. He who digs a well, constructs a stone fountain, plants a grove of trees by the wayside, plants an orchard, builds a durable house, reclaims a swamp, or so much as puts a stone seat by the wayside, makes the land so far lovely and desirable, makes a fortune which he cannot carry away with him but which is useful to his country long afterwards." The man

that works at home helps society at large with somewhat more of certainty than he who devotes himself to charities."

There is room for 100,000 homes in the Hokkaido now.

The Hokkaido appeals to the people of Japan to settle this land and make those homes for the sake of honourable financial gain. The rewards of agriculture are slow but they are sure, and they give a man that priceless blessing—a home.

The Hokkaido appeals to you in the name of independence and manhood. Who is so independent and manly as the progressive educated farmer? "In the great household of Nature, the farmer stands at the door of the bread-room and weighs to each his loaf."

Again, the appeal is for the sake of the self-defence both of Yezo and of Japan. For this reason the island should be full of homes. For who, in case of war, are so valiant and strong as men fighting in defence of their homes and their lands?

For the sake of your national pride you should promptly develop this promising land. You forbid other people inhabiting the Hokkaido. If you keep others out, then it behoves you to make use of the splendid natural resources and opportunities from which others are excluded. Not until you have filled the Hokkaido with homes should any schemes find favour in Japan for the sending of colonists to Mexico, Canada, and the isles of the Pacific.

And the Hokkaido appeals to you finally, as patriots for the love of your country, to develop this land because such development means a more wealthy Japan, a more strongly defended Japan, a more progressive, independent, and happier people.

What I would most strongly urge here in the Hokkaido is a concentration of policy and an expansion of the work. Let us have a settled policy and then proceed to put it into persevering practice.

In conclusion, allow me to emphasize what I have said by urging—

First—The providing of a good and effective system of road and bridge maintenance for easy communication and transportation purposes in the Hokkaido.

Second—The arranging for more easy and less expensive transportation and communication between the Hokkaido and all other parts of the Empire.

Third—The encouragement of the use of all the modern mechanical helps and profitable systems of farming so far as they are adapted to the agricultural conditions of the Hokkaido.

Fourth—That in the common schools and higher schools the elementary principles of the practice of agriculture be taught and that by every possible means the farmers and their children and the young men of the Hokkaido be educated and trained into an enlightened and progressive agriculture.

BASEBALL.

The return match, "Marion" v. Yokohama, was played yesterday, the mariners being again successful. This game, which occupied one hour and forty minutes, was closer than the last, though the scores were small—6 to 4. Details are appended:—

Marion.	Pos.	Bat.	Runs.	P.O.	A.
Mr. Nais	5	0	0	0
Mr. Dixon	4	3	10	0
Mr. Maloney	4	2	3	0
Mr. Block	3	0	0	0
Mr. Everett	4	2	2	0
Mr. Day	4	0	0	0
Mr. Kelliber	4	0	0	0
Mr. Mehrten	3	0	0	0
Mr. Conroy	3	0	0	0
Total	34	6	27	0
Yokohama.	Pos.	Bat.	Runs.	P.O.	A.
Mr. Nash	4	1	3	0
Mr. Smith	3	1	3	0
Mr. Shirasu	3	0	2	0
Mr. Meriman	4	1	2	0
Mr. Tilden	4	0	0	0
Mr. Gibbs	4	0	3	0
Mr. Howard	4	0	0	0
Mr. Wigmore	4	0	0	0
Mr. Belslow	4	0	2	0
Total	34	4	24	0
INNINGS.					
Marion	1	2	3	4	5
Yokohama	1	0	0	0	0

MEXICO.

A Lecture given on the 25th June, 1892, in the Rooms of the Japanese Society of the French language, by His Excellency M. J. KASCON, Envoyé Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Mexico to Japan.

(Translated from the *Revue Française du Japon*.)

GENTLEMEN,—It is so long since I have had the pleasure of making a speech in French, that I would certainly not have dared to appear before you, if it were not a question of speaking of my country; and I hope your indulgence. To describe a whole country and to describe it well in the few minutes at my disposal, seems to me to be impossible. To do it I would have to start from several centuries prior to the present period and to make a study of the races that to-day people Mexico, of their history and of their social, religious, and political evolution; but, time not permitting that, I shall have, very much against my will, to content myself with making general observations upon the condition in which my country finds itself at present, principally from a point of view as to the development of its natural resources. The present population springs from aborigines that inhabited the country at the time of the discovery of America and from the Spaniards that made its conquest. The two races had certain common qualities which, from that very fact, have not disappeared. It is, thanks to these qualities, that all foreigners are well received by us, and, if I point out the fact it is because it is fitting that all those who may wish to visit us, should know that they will be received everywhere as friends, whatever be their nationality, their religion, or their occupation. Of the political constitution of the country, I will simply tell you, that to-day it is a federative republic composed of 27 States, 2 territories, and of the federal district wherein the General Government resides. Each State conducts its own local affairs, whereas all are bound together by the Federal Constitution and by the laws voted by the Congress of the Union. The supreme power is divided into the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. The legislative is composed of two Chambers. Each State chooses two senators and every forty thousand inhabitants, one deputy; the first are elected for four, and the second for two years. The members of the two Chambers have each a salary of \$3,000 a year. The President of the Republic is elected by electors who are themselves named by universal suffrage; the length of his functions is four years. The President appoints his Ministers of State independently of Congress. The State makes profession of no religion and protects the exercise of all kinds of worship, so that every one can follow the one of his choice. The dominant religion is Roman Catholicism, but there are about 120 Protestant churches in the land. Education is obligatory; there are about 11,000 primary schools. The Constitution gives to foreigners all the civil rights and the same guarantees as to Mexicans: they can freely trade all over the Republic, follow their respective occupations, acquire landed and mining property like any Mexican, with the single exception of the lands situated in a zone of 80 kilometers in breadth upon the frontiers of the United States. The Mexican Courts are the only ones that have cognizance of actions that concern foreigners living in the country; consequently diplomatic intervention can occur only in case of denial of justice perfectly proved and after all legal resources have been exhausted. Peace and security have long since reigned in this country; to-day its credit in America comes immediately after that of the United States, it is surpassed upon the monetary markets of Europe only by that of the three or four great powers of the World. It will be proper, perhaps, to notice the privileges granted to immigrants that come as such to Mexico. Every colonist wishing to avail himself of the law upon the subject, must naturally present a certificate of good conduct and make declaration of the occupation he followed in his own country. Colonists who settle there are exempt from all military service and from all taxes except federal ones; they enjoy, besides, the following advantages. Exemption from import duties and town dues upon provisions, instruments of husbandry, tools, machinery, food for men or animals, furniture, animals for service or for breeding, intended for the colonies; personal and untransmissible exemption from export duties upon produce raised by colonists; bounties upon notable works; bounties and special protection for the introduction of new kinds of husbandry and of industries; exemption from fees for the authentication of signatures upon passports delivered by consular agents to persons coming to Mexico as colonists, by virtue of contracts between the Government and an authorized company. The colonies are established

Original from

under the municipal régime in vogue in the confederation of the States; colonists enjoy, in general all the civil rights granted by the Constitution. National lands are provided to colonists under the following conditions: 1st, by sale at the tariff rate, payable in ten yearly instalments commencing from the second year of the settlement; 2nd, by sale for ready money; 3rd, gratuitously, and, in this case, the land given can not have an area of more than a hundred hectares and the final title-deeds therefor can be delivered to the colonist only after he has proved he has kept it in his possession and has cultivated at least a tenth part of it for five consecutive years. Lands for sale are divided into 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class, and the price of them varies according to the State wherein they are situated. I believe, Gentlemen, that no other country of the world offers to every comer 100 hectares of land gratuitously, and very few possess the conditions of climate and of fertility, of which we shall speak presently, and the mineral riches of which, for want of time, we shall be unable to give any idea. Throughout the whole country, agriculture and industry are intimately connected with the people and the Constitution that governs it, and are so much, and more so, with its geography and with its physical and geological constitution. Let us look at Mexico from the latter standpoint. Mexico extends from the 15th to the 32nd degree of North latitude and from the 89th to the 120th degree of longitude West of Paris. Bounded on the North by the United States, on the East by the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, on the South by Guatemala, and on the West by the Pacific Ocean, its greatest length is about 1,900 miles and its greatest breadth 750. Its superficial area is about 778,590 square miles with a population of 12 million souls, say 15 inhabitants per square mile. Japan has, I believe, a population of 40 million souls, over an area of 147,526 square miles, say some 271 inhabitants per square mile, some regions in the West having as many as 435. According to its geographical position, Mexico ought to be three quarters of it tropical, the rest of it semi-tropical, which however is not the case. The cause of this phenomenon is the immense mountain formation that traverses the two Americas, North and South. In that chain there are two depressions and two narrowings, at Panama and at Tehuantepec; which explains the colossal project of uniting the two oceans, the Pacific and the Atlantic. The isthmus of Tehuantepec belongs to Mexico; a railroad is being built there and it is there that the great American engineer Eads, formed the project of making his ship railway. From Tehuantepec, this chain of mountains once more resumes its colossal grandeur, rising abruptly and bifurcating into two immense chains which, while tending towards the North, separate further and further, the one following the coast-line of the Gulf of Mexico, the other that of the Pacific Ocean. The two branches rise to heights of from 17 to 18,000 feet, like the Peak of Orizaba upon the eastern formation. These two chains, in raising themselves, have also raised the ground comprised between them, forming in this way, a high plateau upon which are situated the capital, at an altitude of 7,300 feet, and most of our large cities. It results from this geological upheaval, as you will see upon the altimetric map which is before you, a series of heights from the level of the sea, which is the tropical region, up to eternal snow. And, whoever says different heights, says different climates, which, besides, are divided into three, namely, tropical, temperate, and cold regions. The average temperature of each one is about 27, 21, and 16 degrees centigrade respectively. Nothing is more interesting, more picturesque, more imposing than the journey from the port of Vera Cruz upon the Gulf, to the City of Mexico, over a railroad that is only 423 kilometres long, but which rises in a very short time, by grades of up to 4 per cent, incline, to a height of 8,300 feet. It is one of the finest railroads in the world and one of the most daringly laid out. In a few hours one passes through a series of various temperatures and through all the different vegetations of the globe. In going from the City of Mexico to the Pacific there is the same height to be descended and the variation of climate to be met with. I think, however, that this western slope is drier and warmer than the eastern one, which is bathed by the moist winds that blow from the Gulf. We thus have the two principal elements of the remarkable climate, or remarkable climates, rather, of Mexico; its geographical situation on the one hand and its physical conformation on the other; tropical heat cooled by various altitudes of the ground. You have here a map that, in different colours, denotes the climates of the country. There are other causes that affect the temperature of these regions: for instance, the East and North-East trade winds that blow continually from the tropics, especially in summer.

sea and deposit their humidity upon the slopes of the great mountains, cool themselves there and reach the central plateau so fresh and cool that the summer of these regions is entirely modified by them and remains mild and pleasant all the year. At the same time, the moisture that comes from the East makes these slopes very fertile. The direction of the secondary chains and their geological formation also affects the climate and vegetation. Thus the valleys that run East and West have a better climate than those that run North and South. Naturally too, lands of calcareous origin are less moist and hence less rich than those in which clay predominates. Here is a map that will give you a general idea of the geology of the country. It is necessary to well examine this altimetric chart, for upon the physical constitution of the country depends not only its climate, that allows almost every plant of the globe to flourish there, but also the general condition of the country: its agriculture, its industries, and its social and political constitution even, are affected thereby. The abrupt elevation of the central plateau does not allow the existence of large navigable rivers, which are found only upon the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. In return, these rapid waters can be utilized as motive power and for irrigation. This configuration of the land, makes the construction of roads costly and difficult: so we have no easy modes of communication nor transportation at cheap rates; that is to say that commerce is expensive, that our provision markets are difficult to reach and, consequently, that agriculture lacks stimulant and industry more so. But railroads are now in process of changing that state of things, by opening up a market for every kind of agricultural and industrial production and by bringing with them, throughout their long lines, life and comfort. In those regions, railroads have cost more than they have elsewhere, but the profits on their return are by so much the greater. See the map of the railroads already in existence three years ago, a map that does not show the roads under construction.* Ten years ago we had scarcely 500 kilometres of railroad, to-day we have 11,000, and as many under construction. The principal lines run from the South to the North: the length of the longest is 2,000 kilometres and puts the whole central plateau in communication with the United States. From these lines, roads start at right angles and connect various regions with the coast. These latter lines, three of which reach the Gulf, open the temperate and the warm regions, to the markets of America and of Europe; unfortunately, the construction of the lines that run towards the Pacific coast, was begun later than the others and is not yet finished, but there are five of them. The Tehuantepec line will probably be the first that will unite our Pacific shores to those of the Atlantic; the one that goes from the port of Guaymas upon the Gulf of California or of Cortes, in the North, is the only one, up to now, which, by connection with the American roads, puts our Western coast in communication with the vast system of the continent. For the commercial relations of Mexico with Japan and with China, the roads that terminate at the Pacific are of great importance since they place us in direct communication with those countries, whilst now, we are obliged for the exchange of our products, to make use of the way of San Francisco, which naturally makes merchandise dearer. Whilst in the past and until the commencement of this century Mexico imported direct the silks, porcelains, and tea of China and Japan, we go for those articles to-day to San Francisco, London, or New York, having to pay, in consequence, considerable commissions and freight charges. What we really lacked formerly, to enable us to increase our riches, were easy and cheap modes of communication. Since they have come into existence, the aspect of the country has changed: its population increases continuously; capital is attracted by the ever increasing facility of finding sure and lucrative employment; the revenues of the State and the export of our productions have doubled. However, there is much left for us to do. As I have just pointed out to you, Gentlemen, we are far from having the population necessary for the development of our natural riches; we require a large immigration of people accustomed to work. To have every kind of climate, is as much as to say that every kind of cultivation can be carried on, that of the warm, that of the temperate, and that of the cold regions. For strangers who may desire to visit us, the most interesting kinds of cultivation to know, are those of the following plants, that offer the greatest future and profit for cultivators. Coffee, which sells to-day at 25 cents a pound, the cost of which does not exceed 8 cents; the India-rubber tree, that yields a profit in a few years; Textile plants, such as hennequen, a

fibrous plant, which grows in the arid regions and makes the richness of our largest States; tobacco, the quality of which is exceptionally good in the warm lands. I mention these plants because their products are in great demand in the markets of the world, and that their consumption seems to increase more rapidly than does their production; but there are others which return handsome profits upon the markets of the country itself, such as, the sugar cane, cotton and rice, the high price of which arises from a pretty bad method of cultivation and from the fact that their production is below the needs of the country. There is, too, in Mexico a fine future for the cultivation of tea, for the reason that we import it from the United States of America and from England, paying the exorbitant duty of 50 cents a kilo. There is a similar future for the cultivation of bamboo and for the innumerable articles manufactured out of this product. But Mexico is perhaps the most protectionist country there is, I am sorry to say, and the duties are levied without regard to the origin of the goods, that is to say, for instance, that silk from Japan or from China pays the same duty as does silk from France. I would have liked to speak to you a little about our industries, but time does not permit it; and I will limit myself to saying that they are as yet young and limited, notwithstanding the enormous import duties that protect them. The mining industry is the only one that for a length of time has been of great importance, Mexico having furnished about two-thirds of the silver that exists in the World. This year, the production will, without doubt, be in the neighbourhood of 50 million dollars. Perhaps, Gentlemen, I might have made this little talk less dry, by relating to you either the history of the country or by giving you an account of the habits and life of the people, but I wished above all to profit by this occasion to endeavour to give you a glimpse of the physical side of the country. Besides, I shall be happy to give you, at all times, all the information at my command that you may be pleased to ask of me. I think that Mexico can only gain by being known, especially by you, Gentlemen, our new but already good friends.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

On the 20th inst. a meeting of the creditors of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited, was held in the Great Hall, Winchester House, the object being to select three creditors to represent English and Irish claims, in conjunction with three gentlemen representative of the Scotch creditors, who, combined, are to form a committee to assist the liquidator in guarding the interests of all concerned. The attendance was large.

Mr. T. A. Welton, the liquidator, who presided, said that before asking the committee to consider which three gentlemen they would choose to represent them, they might like to hear a few remarks from him. The gentlemen chosen by the Scotch creditors to sit on the committee were Mr. John Blair, Writer to the Signet, Mr. Pitman, Writer to the Signet, and Mr. Horsbrough, chartered accountant. He had seen these gentlemen, who had come as a deputation from Edinburgh, and believed them to be able men of business. He might also mention that a number of proxies had been sent in supporting Mr. Low as a candidate at the present meeting. Their position, so far as he had been able to gather it in the short time that had elapsed, was that the creditors' claims were likely to amount to four and a half millions. The assets included about one and a half millions of total banking assets which would become cash in four or six months' time, another one and a half millions that it would take time to realise, and assets to the extent of £1,847,000, the realisation of which would take considerable time, and the result of which was doubtful. At the very extreme they ought not to reckon that more than £55 in the pound would come to the creditors of the corporation. He was very sorry that this would be so, but the condition of trade in the East did not justify one in hoping for any brilliant recovery, and it was better to acquaint them with the conclusion at which he had arrived. He had allowed the Scotch committee to have absolute power to decide what money remuneration it should propose, and to make whatever inquiry it desired in investigating the way in which the Bank came to its present position. Two out of the three Scotch representatives were lawyers—able men, who desired to make all possible investigation into this matter, so far as it could be done without disadvantage to the interests of the Bank. With regard to some of the questions that would come before them, one would be whether, the situation being such as it was, it would

* The maps in question in this lecture have been presented by M. Rascon to the Japanese Society of the French Language.

be desirable that there should be what was called a reorganisation; whether, in their interests—not in the interests of the shareholders, which were too remote—it were better to reopen at certain places and reconstitute the concern as a creditors' company. That was a question on which the committee would have to be very nearly unanimous before he considered himself warranted in putting forward such a scheme, but if they were practically unanimous he would submit the result of their deliberations to all that it concerned. Nothing could be done except by the vote of three-fourths of the value of the whole of the creditors. This committee would be of their own flesh and blood, and their advice could be followed with safety. If he had any doubt as to the proper course to pursue in any other matter, such as the question of realising the premises, which he believed were worth more than the amount of the debentures placed on them, he would go to the committee. In the ordinary course of procedure if this committee acted as the statutory committee of the English Bank of the River Plate did they would leave him pretty much to follow his own course, not considering themselves called on to direct, but to simply hear what he proposed to do. He thought that this would probably be a wise course, and he would be very careful in no way to excite the hostility of the committee. The committee in the case of the old Oriental Bank had a right to appear before the judge, and, having differed on one or two points, the minority did so appear, and the judge decided that he was in the right and they were in the wrong. The result was that they saw that better treatment could be got for the concern than by simply slaughtering the assets, and came to an understanding with him that up to a reasonable point his policy should prevail, and from that time forward they were always able to agree on a temperate and reasonable course, which ended in a result that far exceeded their anticipations. With regard to creditors at a distance, it was obviously impossible to take them into council at present, and if the committee appointed to-day were able to sit down and at once formulate a scheme, it would require to be laid before the whole of the creditors, and sufficient time would have to be provided by the Court so that a circular could reach the remotest creditor in Japan. But the time would be well spent in obtaining a reasonable and well-matured scheme. He had received a letter from a creditor, who objected to the supervisory order under which he was now acting, and no doubt it was a fashionable thing to attack an auditor, but he felt absolutely easy in mind as to any attack of the kind, as the directors who were chiefly responsible for whatever had happened of a preventible character had ceased for some time to be on the board, and those who remained had had an anxious regard for their interests, and had worked as if they had been creditors. He did not press them in the slightest degree to choose one man more than another, and he hoped that they would act with absolute freedom in selecting those whom they believed to be competent men.

Mr. Hile at once proceeded to propose the name of Mr. Drury. Mr. Drury, he said, was connected with commercial matters in India for over thirty years, and was a depositor in the bank to the extent of over £7,000.

A Voice—Who is Mr. Drury?

A Gentleman, rising in the front seats—I am Mr. Drury—(Cheers and laughter.) My position is this. I have been connected with railways in India for thirty-one years, and am home now on sick leave, my doctor stating that it is death for me to go back to India. I put my savings for thirty-one years, to the amount of £7,000, into the bank. Two thousand pounds were due on the day after the bank stopped; £5,000 were due in August on my fiftieth birthday, when I had arranged to purchase a joint annuity for myself and my wife. If you elect me you will have an honest man on the committee to look after your interests, whose great endeavour will be to do the best for himself, and what he does for himself he does for all.—(Cheers.) I am quite prepared to tell you that I would come to Mr. Welton and work as a clerk if necessary without any expectation of remuneration.—(Hear, hear.)

The nomination of Mr. Drury was seconded by several gentlemen.

A Creditor asked if the committee were to work gratuitously or for an honorarium, and, if the latter, at what rate and out of what money.

The Chairman said that no proposal had been made, but precedent showed that if the committee did its work in a manner satisfactory to the company and the creditors, the chairman would sanction some reasonable proposal for remuneration in due time.

A Depositor of £4,500 and another of £4,000 objected to taking any new shares in a reconstituted company.

Chairman said that he had not the slightest personal interest in the proposal, but it was concerning the interest of the creditors. Some of the branches were in very good order, especially those in Mauritius and Ceylon, which were the cause of the failure of the old Oriental Bank. The mischief in this case came from the Straits and Singapore way; from Australia, where there had been a very serious lock-up of assets; and from China and Japan, where trade was in a state of extreme collapse. India was in much better order than they might imagine. It would be open to the committee to consider the merits of every one of the branches, and if any good could be done by keeping alive a partial extension of their business.

A Depositor said that neither the branches nor the central office should be opened until they were paid two thirds of the money invested on deposit.

The Chairman—To whom do you look to pay the two-thirds?

The Depositor—That was proposed when we were invited to go into voluntary liquidation.

The Chairman—I know nothing about that, and it is quite certain that the hands of this meeting are perfectly free. You can only be paid out of the assets, and they are your property. (A Voice: "When we get them.") You have them practically. ("No, we have not got them.")

That's the point, and cries of "Order." You are yourselves masters, and it is for you as masters to determine what is to be done. But this is a matter for the committee to consider; we cannot debate these points in a meeting like this. You may take it that they will not propose anything that is not to the majority of your interests.

Mr. Long said that the failure took place through the lunacy of somebody in Australia, and he thought that there must have been a good deal of lunacy in the board in London. He suggested that the palatial buildings as large as the Cannon-street Hotel—(A Voice: "With salaries to match")—erected as branch offices in places where there was no business to be done, should be sold to Messrs. Cook for hotels.

The Chairman—It is to our interest to make the most of these premises if they exist.

Proposals to nominate Mr. Rohde, the late general manager, and Mr. Shaw, the late chairman—the latter gentleman receiving Mr. Low's support—were not favourably entertained, and ultimately the meeting elected Mr. Drury and Mr. Low, leaving it to these gentlemen to select a third committee-man, subject to the approval of Mr. Welton.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Welton terminated the proceedings.—*L. & C. Express.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. E., Digma, and M. A. W.—Your solutions of No. 32 are wrong. If Black plays 11 to 11 sq., how are you to mate next move?

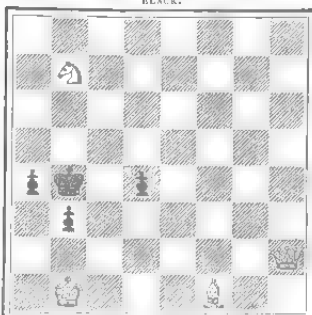
Ed. B.—You have also fallen into the snare laid by the composer. Regret your name was omitted from the list of solvers last week.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 32.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q Kt 4	1—B to B sq.
2—Kt to K Kt 8 mate	if 1—K x Kt
2—R x P mate	if 1—P to Kt 4
2—Kt to Kt 8 mate	if 1—Q 11 moves
2—Q x P mate	

Correct solution received from Omega, Scacchi, W.H.S., Omicron, and J.D.

PROBLEM No. 34. BY W. A. SHINKMAN.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

We notice that a match by correspondence has been arranged between Mr. P. A. Reuten, as representing Singapore, and Mr. T. T. Hazeland, for Hongkong.

The only event worth noting in local Chess circles is the auspicious marriage of Mr. Oscar Balk, the well known Secretary of the Yokohama Chess Club. This took place on Tuesday, 30th ultimo; the President and several members of the Club attended at Christ Church and are prepared to certify that the Secretary was duly mated with a Queen on the occasion.

As usual in this climate the Yokohama Chess Club has suspended its meetings during the summer months, but the new season will open on the first Monday in October and there is every prospect of a brilliant winter session. Our enthusiastic friend and member Mr. Keil has generously provided a magnificent specimen of the silversmith's art in a large Champion Cup which will be contended for "vi et armis." All conditions for gaining and holding the Championship will be circulated among the members in due time.

Chess in England seems also to have languished somewhat during the customary holiday season there; but we give two very interesting games clipped from the *Illustrated London News* of 23rd July.

CHESS IN THE CITY.

Game played at the City Club between Mr. Herbert Jacobs and Mr. Owen Jones in a match now in progress.

(QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.)

WHITE. (Mr. Jones.)	BLACK. (Mr. Jacobs.)
1—P to Q 4th	1—P to Q 4th
2—P to Q B 4th	2—P to K 3rd
3—Kt to Q B 3rd	3—Kt to K B 3rd
4—P to K 3rd	4—P to Q 4th
5—Kt to K B 3rd	5—Kt to Q B 3rd
6—B to K 2nd	6—B to K 2nd
7—P takes Q P	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B takes P
9—Castles.	9—Castles.
10—P to Q Kt 3rd	10—P to K R 3rd

In an opening of this kind, where development of force is the object chiefly aimed, this is waste of time. 11 to Kt 5th or P to Q Kt 3rd might be played with advantage.

11—B to Kt 2nd	11—B to K 3rd
12—Q R to B sq.	12—B to K 2nd
13—B to Q 3rd	13—Kt to K sq.
14—B to Kt sq.	

A fine reply to Black's last move.

15—Kt to K 2nd	14—P to K B 4th.
16—Kt (K 2nd) to Q 4th	15—B to Q 3rd
17—Kt takes Kt	16—Kt takes Kt
18—Kt to Kt 5th	17—B to Q 2nd

A very clever move, against which it is difficult to find a satisfactory defence.

18—B takes R P (ch.)

Ingenuous, and apparently turning to his own advantage White's last stroke. In reality, however, it loses the game, the open way for the K R being presently of fatal consequence.

19—K takes B	19—B takes Kt
20—K R to R sq.	20—B to B 3rd
21—Q to Q 4th	21—Q to Kt 4th
22—K to Kt sq.	22—Kt to B 3rd
23—R to R 3rd	23—R to B 2nd
24—Kt to Kt 3rd	24—Kt to Kt 5th
25—B takes P	25—Q takes B
26—R takes Kt	26—Q takes P (ch.)
27—K to R sq., and wins.	

Black has tried hard to maintain his compromised position, but White now quickly obtains a credible victory.

CHESS IN BRIGHTON.

Consultation game between Messrs. Moriau and Curriock, blindfold, against Messrs. Rup Stevens and Percy Healey.

(HAMPE-ALLGAIER GAMBIT.)

WHITE. (Messrs. M. and C.)	BLACK. (The Allies.)
1—P to K 4th	1—P to K 4th
2—Kt to Q B 3rd	2—Kt to Q B 3rd
3—P to K B 4th	3—P takes P
4—Kt to K B 3rd	4—P to K Q 4th
5—P to K R 4th	5—P to Kt 5th
6—Kt to Kt 5th	6—P to K R 3rd
7—Kt takes P	7—K takes Kt
8—P to Q 4th	8—B to Kt 5th

This is an old and abandoned line of play, which modern analysis generally regards as fatal. P to Q 3rd or P to Q 4th is safe, and, properly followed, ultimately gives advantage to the defence.

9—B takes K B P	9—P to Q 4th
10—B to Q Kt 5th	

An excellent move, which appears a novelty, and is certainly equal to B to K 2nd, the usual play at this point.

11—P takes B	10—B takes Kt (ch.)
Kt to K and seems somewhat a better move.	11—Kt to K B 3rd

12—Castles
13—P takes P
14—B takes Kt
15—B to K 5th
16—Q to Q 3rd

Another well-timed move. The blindfold allies play with an accuracy worthy of a Blackburne.

17—P to R 5th
18—Q to Kt 6th (ch.)
19—Q takes P (ch.)
20—Q to Kt 6th (ch.)
21—B takes Kt (ch.)
22—Q takes R (ch.)
23—Q to Kt 6th
24—R to B 2nd

Worse than useless; but their game is utterly hopeless.

25—R to B 3rd
26—Q to B 6th (ch.)
27—R takes P.
28—Q to B 7th (ch.)
29—Q takes R, and wins.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 28th.

The Right Hon. John Morley has been re-elected for Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The cholera is increasing on the Continent, and has appeared in England.

London, September 1st.

A terrible epidemic of cholera has broken out in Hamburg, and a ghastly confusion prevails, the doctors and nurses being totally inadequate to the occasion. A thousand deaths have already occurred, and the corridors of the cholera hospital are blocked with corpses, besides 400 dead bodies lying unburied in one shed.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMERCIO.")

Madrid, August 6th.

Sr. Bergamin has left for San Sebastian to study, together with Sr. Romero Robledo, at scheme of reforms in the Philippines.

Cholera is spreading to an alarming extent in France and Russia.

Madrid, August 9th.

Cholera is invading St. Petersburg and Piedmont.

The solicited canonization of Christopher Columbus has been refused at Rome.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, August 16th.

It is understood that, notwithstanding her apparent composure, China has made a strong protest to St. Petersburg regarding the advance of the Russian force in the Pamirs.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 9th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 4th.*
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 12th.†
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Sept. 5th.‡
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Monday, Sept. 5th.§
From Canada, &c. via C. P. M. Co.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 11th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 11th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 16th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 18th.

* Oceanic left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 16th.
† City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on August 17th. 1 Bel-
gie (with English mail) left Hongkong via Amoy on August 30th.
‡ Nuremberg left Hongkong on August 31st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 6th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 8th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Sept. 9th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 11th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 17th.
For Canada, &c. via C. P. M. Co.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 27th August.—Otaru and ports 23d August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 27th August.—Kobe 26th August; General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 28th August.—Hongkong and ports 20th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co. *Verona*, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 28th August.—Hongkong via ports 20th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 30th August.—Otaru via ports 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Boutiller, 30th August.—Hongkong 24th August, Sugar and Molasses.—Comes & Co.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 30th August.—Hongkong via ports.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 31st August.—Marseilles via ports 27th July, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Devawongse, British steamer, 1,057, Anderson, 1st September.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 14th August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Ardgay, British steamer, 1,080, Thom, 1st September.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Pinkham, 2nd September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 2nd September.—Shanghai and ports 26th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pulmas, British steamer, 1,560, Taylor, 3rd September.—Portland via Victoria, B.C., Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Rattler (6), gunboat, Captain J. G. Heugh, 27th August.—Hongkong via ports.

Yangtsé, French steamer, 2,371, Schmitz, 28th August.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Ching Wo, British steamer, 1,556, Gratton, 29th August.—New York via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 29th August.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 29th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 29th August.—Otaru and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 30th August.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 30th August.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Fasana (4), Austro-Hungarian corvette, Captain Ripper, 30th August.—Kobe.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 30th August.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Evesham Abbey, British ship, 1,613, F. H. Crotty, 31st August.—San Francisco, Ballast.—Captain.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 1st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Devawongse, British steamer, 1,057, Anderson, 2nd September.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Ardgay, British steamer, 1,080, Thom, 2nd September.—Mojito and Hongkong, Light.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, Boutillier, 2nd September.—Hongkong via Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Camelot, British steamer, 1,864, Thomas, 2nd September.—New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hyacinth (8), cruiser, Captain R. W. Craigie, 2nd September.—Vancouver, B.C.

Timandra, British ship, 1,500, Mowatt, 3rd September.—Tacoma, Wash., Tea.—Mouillyan, Heinaum & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 3rd September.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru via ports.—Mr. F. Steanes, Miss M. Pease, and Mr. Tomohara in cabin; 27 passengers in steerage. For Oginohama: Mr. Caldwell in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports.—Rev. Dean Warren, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Webber, Miss Farwell, Miss Owen, Miss Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. H. McC. Price, Messrs. A. A. Thomas, Bieber, Stewart, W. R.

Garrison, McCorkell, and Stern in cabin; Mr. Webber's servant, Mr. Kwong Chi, Captain J. Witt, Mr. and Mrs. Wimbury, Messrs. E. M. Bier, Graffunder, and C. Morgan, Jim., in second class, and 5 European and 146 Asiatics in steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.: Mr. and Mrs. Lingle, Mr. H. Wallis, R.N., Mr. Brandtgar, Miss Hu King Suy, Mrs. Sites, son, and daughter, Miss A. K. Murray, Miss M. D. Murray, Mr. Murray, Miss Hilton, Mr. N. Takasugi, Prof. C. M. Cody, and Mrs. Cody and family in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports.—Vet. Captain J. A. Nunn, Mr. C. D. Pennant, Mr. W. D. Llewellyn, Mr. C. H. Hobart Hampden, Mr. and Mrs. Cuthbertson, Miss Gush, Messrs. Theodore Morrison, J. Pestonjee and servant, D. Nowrajee and servant, and Howie in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru via ports.—Mr. Hyam and Mrs. Hyam in cabin; and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles via ports.—Mr. Tanabashi, family, and infant, Mr. Ichiku, Miss Read, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Sommers, the Misses Sommers, Mr. G. de Bruyn, Mr. and Mrs. Mess, Messrs. Huggett, Yoshi, Aigi, H. Veaux, Consul Guycyraud, family, 4 children, and 2 servants, Lieut. Millard, Messrs. Annot Reid, de Gungburg, Kerr, Mrs. Isogai, Mr. Kan-nojo, and Mr. I. Xavier in cabin; 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Devawongse*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—2 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports.—Messrs. H. F. Biyan, B. E. Thurston, Diack, M. Beigan, Captain R. N. Walker, Mr. J. R. Cornish, and Mr. R. Ingles in cabin; Mr. Y. Shiraiishi and Mr. Y. Wakamatsu in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yangtsé*, for Shanghai via Kobe.—Messrs. Welton, Rosenzweig, Nicolas Wasili, André Zanacopoulos, Philippe, Blanchard, Mrs. X. Salabelle, Mr. Kwan Kinn, Mr. Kwan Che Kwong, Lieut. Colonel Cogan, Lieut. Colonel H. B. Wilbraham, and Mr. J. M. Dientel in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss Buchanan, Mr. A. S. Broadwood, Mr. C. G. Broadwood, Mr. Brandtgar, Dr. Cookling, Mr. Cookling, Miss Cookling, Mr. H. Coulson, Mr. Couch, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cady and 3 children, Mr. W. G. Dawson, Miss Hu King Eng, Mrs. T. H. Garrett, Mr. J. W. Garrett, Mr. H. W. Garrett, Mr. R. Garrett, Jun., Miss Hilton, Mr. Luis Holé and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Lingle, Dr. and Mrs. Lefferts, Prof. G. T. Ladd, Mr. W. D. Murray, Miss R. K. Murray, Miss M. D. Murray, Messrs. J. B. McCue, J. Nugent, J. Ono, C. A. Pennington, Paterson, Colonel and Mrs. Rennick, Mr. and Mrs. B. Rawle, Mr. H. de Raasloff, Mrs. Sites, Master Sites, Miss Sites, Mr. Takasugi, and Mr. H. Wallis in cabin; Miss H. Adams, Messrs. Aoki, Adachi, Chivoret, Collins, F. Graffunder, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, Messrs. C. Morgan, McBrier, Nakayama, W. Pile, Miss R. Staples, and Mr. Ukita in second class.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu.—Mr. C. S. Bragg, Mr. C. F. Bragg, Mr. R. W. Brown, Mr. H. Beale, Mr. R. Blunt, Captain B. C. Greenman, Mr. D. McCune, Mr. H. Y. Dean, Mr. L. R. Ellis, Mr. D. Fraser, Mr. J. Fraser, Miss Fincher, Lieut. C. A. Foster, U.S.N., Mrs. Godfrey-Belt, Miss Godfrey, Mr. J. A. Gasser, Mrs. E. J. Grant, Mr. J. B. Gaylord, Mr. Wm. Haly, Dr. Hopendyl, Mr. Otto Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Mr. Heinaum Jensen, Mrs. M. A. Kellog, Mr. M. Kuru, Mr. I. Kumao, Mr. and Mrs. L. von Kapff, Mrs. S. Montgomerie, Mr. Marsh, Mr. H. S. Miller, Mr. John Nelson, Lieut. Commander B. F. Richards, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. W. Simpson, Mr. Percy Simpson, Mr. Earl Scott, Mr. Jas. Steward, Mr. S. Southam, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mr. W. H. Seabury, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. J. Turcas, Master Sydney Wheeler, Rev. Dr. Woodhull, Mrs. M. Wheeler, Miss Wilcox, Mr. T. Uchida, Mr. J. Wood, and Mr. Y. Yaube in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports.—Miss Little, Mrs. D. Muddust, Miss Bielfield, Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs, Miss M. M. Canthy, Dr. Harris, Messrs. J. Barber, W. B. Johnduff, D. E. Brown, M. Hillier, and Rev. D. Murray in cabin; Mrs. Shibata, Messrs. Tomita, F. J. Black, J. Miyaki, and Kovaki in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports.—Miss Carrie Rose, Vet. Surgeon J. A. Nunn, Baron Luitwitz and servant, Miss and Miss Paterson, Surgeon-Colonel Paterson, Lieut. W. H. Paterson, Lieut. Carey, R.A., Messrs. G. Campbell, A. H. Groom and servant, A. S. Garfit, W. F. Madley, P. Sturdee, J. Xavier, and Raury, Lieut. W. G. H. Stirling and native servant, Mr. J. Robertson, Madame Sathon, child, and native

servant, Miss Webb, Captain Hawkins, R.A., Rev. F. T. Beckwith, Mrs. Beckwith, 2 children, and 2 servants, Miss French, and Mrs. Ah Yow in cabin; 5 Chinese and 1 Japanese boy in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$130,000.00.

Per French steamer *Yangtze*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 860 bales. Waste Silk for France, 59 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TRA.	NEW YORK		PACIFIC	TOTAL.
	CANADA AND WEST.	EAST COAST.		
Hongkong	—	38	—	38
Foochow	350	—	414	1,080
Shanghai	620	1,091	3,266	6,553
Nagasaki	114	—	—	114
Hyogo	3,030	1,180	1,051	5,261
Yokohama	4,264	1,171	917	6,352
Total	8,360	4,342	5,658	18,360

NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	95	95
Shanghai	218	218
Yokohama	777	777
Total	1,090	1,090

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—

TRA.	NEW YORK		OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
	CANADA AND WEST.	EAST COAST.		
Shanghai	682	—	333	1,015
Hyogo	—	319	1,597	1,916
Yokohama	2,989	—	160	3,149
Hongkong	358	—	14	372
Foochow	2,147	—	—	2,147
Amoy	59	—	—	59
Calcutta	123	—	—	123
Colombo	13	—	—	13
Total	6,371	319	2,099	8,789

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$2,496.83.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 427 bales; Waste Silk, 65 bales.

REPORTS.

The French steamer *Melbourne*, Captain Vimont, reports:—Left Marseilles the 24th July at 4 p.m.; called at Alexandria the 29th and the same day at Port Said; entered the Suez Canal the 30th at 7.04 p.m.; experienced very fine weather during the passage throughout the Red Sea. Arrived at Aden the 3rd August at 8 p.m. and left the 4th at 7.40 a.m.; passed Socatra the 5th at 11 p.m., had light monsoon and rough sea for two days; thence to port fine weather. Called at Colombo the 10th at 7 p.m. and left the 11th at 2.01 p.m.; had fine weather and light W.S.W. breeze with a favourable current and smooth water. Arrived at Singapore the 16th at 11.30 a.m. and left the same day at 10.30 p.m.; thence to Cape St. James calm; anchored at Cape St. James the 18th at 7 p.m., awaiting the slack water to pass through the canal shoal where there are dredgers. Proceeded to Saigon the 18th at 11.04 p.m. and came along side the M.M. wharf the 19th at 3.30 p.m., and left the 20th at 11.30 a.m.; had fine weather and smooth water till the day before arrival in Hongkong, during which we experienced strong wind with moderate sea from E.N.E. Arrived in Hongkong the 23rd at 6.30 a.m. and left the 24th at 2 a.m.; passed Green Island at 2.30 a.m. and Waglan Island at 3.40 a.m., had fine weather and N.E. breeze with rain squalls; thence to Woosung fine weather and smooth sea; passed Turnabout the 25th at 7 a.m., Steep Island the 26th at 7 a.m., Guizaff at 10.30 a.m., and anchored at 2.30 p.m. at Woosung. Left the 27th at 3.30 p.m.; fine weather but hazy on the approach of the Goto Islands; passed Iki-shima the 29th at 1 a.m. and Shimonoseki at 7.30 a.m. Arriving at Kobe the 30th at 1 a.m. and left the same day at 4 p.m.; had fine weather and light breeze; passed Tomagai-shima at 6.8 p.m., head wind and a little pitching and rolling; passed Oshima the 31st at 12.14 a.m., heavy current against us with clear weather to Rocky Island, passing at 1.12 p.m. Arriving at Yokohama the 31st August at 6 p.m.

The British steamer *Devapangsa*, Captain Anderson, reports:—Left Victoria, B.C., the 15th August at 3 p.m.; experienced for the most part moderate westerly winds and overcast weather; on the 20th and 21st strong westerly gale and heavy head sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at midnight.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 26th August

at 1 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 28th at 7.30 a.m.; had fine pleasant weather. Left Nagasaki the 29th at 5 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 30th at 7 a.m. and left the same day at 11 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 31st at 9 a.m.; had fine weather throughout the passage. Left Kobe the 1st September at noon; had moderate easterly winds with heavy swell throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd September at 7.20 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improvement in the market reported last week has continued in other directions, and it would almost seem that Japanese dealers were beginning to realise that the supplies of Goods this season are small, and with every prospect of good trade that prices are more likely to advance than to decline, which has stimulated operations recently. In Italian Cloths rather a large business has been reported at improved prices, and there has been a fair enquiry for various Fancy Cottons. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10½ for demand Bank draft on London. Sales for the week comprise 1,000 bales English Yarn, 30 bales Bombays, 5,250 pieces glb. Shirtings, 100 pieces Washed Shirtings, 250 pieces White Shirtings, 2,000 pieces Turkey Reds, 450 pieces Velvets, and 7,500 pieces Italian Cloth.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
I. Cloth—7 lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Ludger Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 39 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	5.65 to 6.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffeta—12 yards, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb. 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb. 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb. 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb. 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb. 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches best	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to .28
Medium	0.21 to .23
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to .20
Common	0.14 to .17
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.47 to 0.52
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.47
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 38 lb. per lb.	—

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$41.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reserve	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 30.25
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 35.00
No. 38, Two-fold	32.75 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

We raise quotations to-day on Wire Nails by 10 cents, buyers being free takers at the advance. Other metals are enquired for, and prices are gradually showing an improvement on recent rates.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1½ inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Not so much business has been done owing to the firmness of sellers, who continue to be masters of the situation. Even with further supplies prices are not likely to recede much as the native demand must commence shortly, which will act as a check to any serious fall in quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.57½ to 1.60
Devon	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Anchor	1.52½ to 1.55
Russian Moon	1.50 to 1.52½

SUGAR.

Sales have continued at full rates, and, with small supplies, holders have been able to keep the market up to good figures.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daitong	3.40 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.60 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.25 to 6.40
White Refined	5.50 to 7.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 26th August. Since that date, the large business has continued, settlements during the interval amounting to 1,946 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 110 piculs; Filatures, 1,186 piculs; Rereels 358 piculs; Kakeda, 292 piculs. In addition to these, direct shipments have been 370 piculs, making the total business for the week for export 2,316 piculs.

As will be seen from the above figures, a very heavy business has been done, and our quotation list will show that prices have still further advanced. We have apparently reached, however, the top notch. Shippers are very cautious about going on at present rates; and if we should see a quiet market for a few days prices would probably decline a little. Exchange and the scarcity of dollars work against shippers and tend to make the market more quiet.

The business done has been pretty equally divided between Europe and America, good silks being most in demand, best Filatures destined for Lyons reaching the price of \$830 per picul. \$815 has also been paid for something extra in full sizes, but it has not been, so far, repeated.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The French mail steamer *Yangtze*, on the 28th August took 860 bales for Europe; the Canadian mail *Empress of China*, on the 29th August, had 777 bales for New York, and the Pacific mail steamer *China*, leaving on the 30th August, carried 1,162 bales for the same destination. These departures bring the present export figures up to 8,949 piculs, against 8,752 piculs last year and 2,767 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—There has been less doing in these, but long prices have been paid. Best *Shinshu* are held for \$610, and a parcel of *Chichibu* has actually been weighed at \$585; *Shibukawa*, \$575; ordinary *Shinshu*, \$560 and others in proportion. The quality of Hanks leaves much to be desired this year, and it seems in every succeeding season that all the best cocoons will be taken up for Filatures, leaving only the inferior kinds to be reeled into Hanks sorts.

Filatures.—These have again enjoyed the lion's share of buyers' patronage, more than half the settlements taking place in this department. Fine size and full size have alike been sought after, prices being advanced to a very high basis. In European sorts plenty of sales at prices ranging from \$830 to \$740, those at the latter figure being of medium quality and poor colour. In full sizes, one purchase of extra quality *Shinshu* was made at \$815. This seemed to check the advance. *Rujokan* have been done at \$780; *Tokosha* is held for the same figure—(probably some slight reduction might be made on this); *Kameisha*, *Hakusuru*, and similar silks are quoted \$810. Probably with a firm offer in hand something better could be done.

Rereels.—A fair amount of business took place in these, \$720 being paid for silk equal to *Five Girl* chop. Holders now ask \$725 for similar silk, but without any takers at the moment. Medium grades, both *Foshu* and *Bushu*, have been in rather strong demand, with prices a fraction higher than those of last week.

Kakeda.—Another smart rise here upon the best classes. The latest transactions are as follows: *Daruma*, \$770; *Single Horsehead*, \$740; *Double Horsehead*, \$690. It remains to be seen whether things can be maintained on this basis.

Oshu.—Nothing done this week, the pretensions of holders being exorbitant. The price asked for best *Hamatsuki* is now \$600, which no one seems able or willing to pay.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2 (Foshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	560 to 570
Hanks—No. 24 (Foshu)	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	530 to 540
Hanks—No. 3	510 to 520
Hanks—No. 34	490 to 500
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	830
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 745

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Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to	720
Re-reels—Extra	780 to	790
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	780 to	770
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	735 to	745
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	730 to	730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	660 to	670
Re-reels—No. 21, 14/18 deniers	630 to	640
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	660 to	640
Kakedas—Extra	780 to	790
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to	770
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to	750
Kakedas—No. 21	710 to	720
Kakedas—No. 24	680 to	690
Kakedas—No. 3	650 to	660
Kakedas—No. 14	620 to	630
Kakedas—No. 4	600 to	610
Oshu Sendai—No. 21	—	—
Hamatuki—No. 1, 2	—	—
Hamatuki—No. 3, 4	530 to	540
Sodai—No. 24	—	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 2nd Sept., 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Europe	4,376	3,234	537
America	4,490	5,371	2,050
Total	8,866	8,605	2,587
	8,949	8,752	2,767

Settlements and Direct	11,800	8,900	2,900
Export from 1st July	5,100	8,400	8,550
Stock, 2nd September	16,900	17,300	11,450

WASTE SILK.

A small business only, amounting to 363 piculs, of which 245 piculs *Noshi* and 118 piculs *Kibiso*.

Arrivals come in freely from day to day and the stock is now over 13,000 piculs. The general features of the market are unchanged. Holders are very strong and persist in asking figures much above shippers' limits. Our Japanese friends do not seem to recognize the fact that fashion in Europe and America is at present adverse to articles which are made of anything but pure silk; consequently while Raw Silk is at a premium, Waste is at a discount for the time being.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the French mail *Yangtse* taking 102 bales for Europe. Her departure brings the present export figures up to 2,083 piculs, against 1,010 piculs last year and 908 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—The dead lock still continues, and nothing has been done. Holders affirm that they cannot sell at the present price offered by shippers, and the consequence is there is no business whatever done. It remains to be seen which side will give way. Stocks are larger now than they were at the same date last year, but as then the market still remains unopened.

Noshi.—A fair amount of business was done, principally *Yoshu Noshi*, at from \$63 to \$68 per picul. This is represented to be a fair assortment without being anything special.

Kibiso.—Business in *Filatures* still goes on, prices ranging from \$87 to \$97 per picul, according to quality. In *Yoshu Hira*, a small parcel has been taken up at \$29, and this ends the record.

In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi—Filature, Best	—	—	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	\$110 to	120	—
Noshi—Filature, Medium	100 to	105	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—	—	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—	—	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Medium	—	—	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good to Best	100 to	115	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—	—	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—	—	—
Noshi—Oshu, Ordinary	60 to	70	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	95 to	100	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to	90	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—	—	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—	—	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Fair	—	—	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Middling to Common	30 to	25	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—	—	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—	—	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—	—	—
Wawata—Good to Best	—	—	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 2nd Sept., 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Waste Silk	2,083	1,010	908
Pierced Cocoons	2,083	1,010	908
Settlements and Direct	1,800	2,900	950
Export from 1st July	13,100	10,100	9,850
Available supplies to date	14,900	13,000	10,800

Exchange has fluctuated from day to day but keeps always on the high side with reference to the price of Silver. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits,

2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71¼; 4m/s. U.S. \$72¼; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3-73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 2nd Sept., 1892:—

Raw.	PICULS.	Waste.	PICULS.
Hanks	270	Cocoons	2,100
Filatures	1,650	Noshi-ito	6,434
Re-reels	2,340	Kibiso	4,370
Kakeda	588	Mawata	60
Oshu	252	Sundries	136
Yaysam Kinds	—		

Total piculs 5,100 Total piculs 13,100

TEA.

Sales have been fairly large, demand being principally for lower grades, at full prices. Quotations are unchanged. Total shipments to date are about 22,000,000lb.

	PER PICUL.
Choice	\$12 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Finest	25 to 27
Finest	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated as usual, but closes strong at quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3/6
On Paris—Private 1 months' sight	3/7½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	21 ¾ dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	21 ¾ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	72½
Silver	38½

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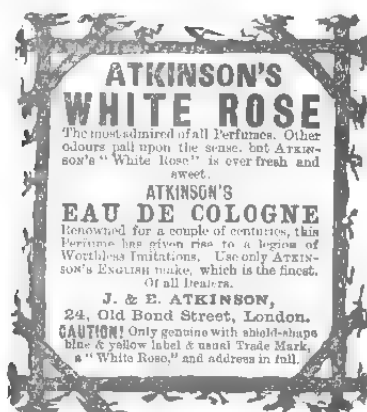
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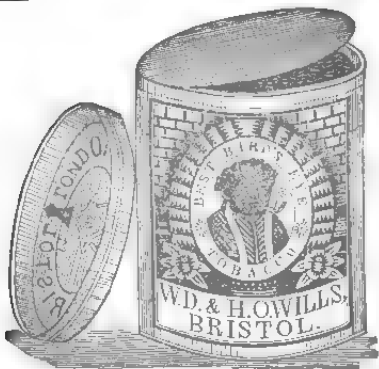
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
可認寄信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE VOUS DEVEZ: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 10TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KOMATSU left the capital on the 5th inst. for Sano.

A JAPANESE coolie was murdered on Monday at Honmoku by a foreign sailor. The man is in custody.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE proceeded to the Botanical Garden of the Imperial University at Koishikawa on the 4th inst.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUMI, who has been staying at Miyanosita for some time, is expected to return to the capital at the close of this month.

THE government has granted a charter to the Kushiro Railway Company for opening the section between Chaato and Sato for traffic.

THE shareholders of the Sangu Railway Company propose to extend the Company's line to Maruyama by way of Mazuta.

A COMPETITIVE exhibition of lacquer will be opened at the Nishi Honganji Temple, Tokyo, for twenty days, commencing on the 19th inst.

A FALL of hail-stones occurred at Kanazawa, Senhoku-gun, Akita on the afternoon of the 28th ult., lasting for nearly twenty minutes.

A FIRE broke out on the 28th ult. at 11 a.m. in a house at Orikabe-mura in the East Iwai District of Iwate Prefecture, destroying 39 houses.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Lady Mitsuko, second daughter of Prince Shimadzu Tadayoshi, and Mr. Matsudaira Naosuke, ex-chief of the Yatsuye clan.

COUNT GOTO, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, who was for some time confined to his residence through illness, has been able to attend business since the 3rd inst.

H.I.H. THE EMPEROR will leave the capital on the 22nd on the 23rd October to witness the

Autumn Manœuvres of the Imperial Body Guards, which will take place in the north.

THE property of the Shinagawa Glass Company, Tokyo, has been attached by Mr. Nishimura Minosuke, a coal merchant, for a debt amounting to yen 750.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by the members of the Japan Fine Art Society to open an exhibition of pictures in the gallery of the Society in Ueno Park for thirty days, commencing on the 1st prox.

DURING a severe thunder storm on the 27th ult. a destructive forest fire occurred on Aso-san in Kumamoto Prefecture, and the flames had not died out by ten o'clock on the following morning. A large number of trees were destroyed.

THE annual trial of the pyx will take place in the Osaka Mint about the 11th inst. Mr. Arishima, Chief Commissioner of the National Debt Bureau in the Finance Department, left the capital on the 6th inst. to witness the examination.

VICE-ADMIRAL ARICHI, Commander-in-Chief, Captains Ichiji and Togo, and some twenty-six other officers of the Japanese Standing Squadron, who lately returned from a visit to various Chinese and Korean ports, were admitted to Imperial audience on the 5th inst. at 10 a.m.

THE price of ice in the capital is steadily increasing. The following are the quotations for the 2nd inst. as compared with the previous day:—Natural ice, yen 3.50 per hundred *hin* on the 2nd inst. and yen 2.50 on the 1st, artificial ice, yen 3.00 on the 2nd inst. and yen 2.10 on the 1st.

ABOUT five o'clock on the afternoon of the 27th ult. lightning descended at Donagawa-mura in the East Kubiki District of Niigata Prefecture, and six residences and one godown were burnt. A man and a woman were struck by lightning, and killed at Tatsumine-mura, Yatsushiro-gun, Kumamoto Prefecture, the same day.

SOME 6,048 visitors were admitted to the Tokyo Library during last month, of whom 5,455 were ordinary and 593 special visitors. The above total shows an increase of 836 as compared with the previous month. The number of books inspected during the month was 39,143, of which 2,244 were foreign, and 36,899 were Japanese and Chinese works.

CAPTAIN H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO of the *Takao Kan*, has been transferred to the *Chiyoda Kan*, his place in the former ship having been taken by Captain Nakamizo, a Sectional Chief in the Second Bureau in the Naval Department, who has been succeeded by Lieutenant Hayasaki Gengo. Captain Ichiji, of the *Takachiho Kan*, has been transferred to the *Itsukushima Kan*, and his position has been given to Captain Chidzumi, of the *Chiyoda Kan*.

ON learning the spread of an infectious disease among cattle in various parts of Keisho-do, Korea, the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police has issued instructions to the effect that cow-hides imported from the district should undergo examination and be disinfected at the Police Station within whose jurisdiction the purchaser resides, in order to prevent the introduction of the disease.

MESSERS. MURATA TEI, Katsura Jiro, and several others have decided to establish a shipping company to be called the Kominato Kisen Kaisha at Kominato in Aomori Prefecture, with

a capital of 150,000 yen, the object of the Company being the transport of Hokkaido products. It will be remembered that investigations have been made by the authorities with the view of establishing a naval port at Kominato. The future prosperity of the port is believed in by the leading merchants.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Hagi Tomogoro, Manager of the Nineteenth National Bank and a Director of the Tokyo Godown Company, took place in the capital on Sunday, and was attended by a large body of merchants, including Messrs. Fukuzawa Ichitaro, who represented Mr. Fukugawa Yakichi, Iwasaki Kyuya, who represented Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke; Obata Takujiro, Yoshikawa Taijiro, Nakakamigawa Hikojiro, Soda Heigoro, Abe Taizo, and several officers of the Mitsubishi Kaisha. The interment took place at the Cemetery attached to the Kaianji Temple at Shinagawa, the ceremony being conducted in accordance with Buddhist rites.

A JAPANESE named Nakahara, settled at Quel-part, in Korea, in order to catch *namako* (sea-cucumbers) with permission of the Authorities. He is said to be very skilful, and was making much money. This, however, did not please the Governor of Hakusei-Shimpo, who, it is stated, instigated the people of the district to interrupt the business of the Japanese fisherman. Early in the month of August last a large number of Koreans made a sudden attack upon the Japanese and endeavoured to seize his diving apparatus. Nakahara and seven other fishermen fought their assailants, but being out-numbered could not protect themselves, and were ultimately obliged to make their escape, leaving all their property with the exception of the diving arrangement. They at once made their way to the Japanese Consulate and gave the Consul a full report of the occurrence, with the intention of seeking redress.

THE Import trade continues in a healthy condition, and the critical period of the rice crop having passed to the satisfaction of the farmers, a bountiful harvest is anticipated which inspires great confidence in dealers. The consequence is that buyers are tumbling in with orders, and, besides taking supplies that have been recently landed, have entered into contracts for future arrival; and, much to the satisfaction of holders, have cleared out a lot of ancient goods that have been an eyesore to their owners for a long time. Prices are generally higher, and where no distinct rise has taken place, are full and firm—but with one exception, namely, Yarns, which are freely offered to arrive at low figures. In the Metal trade, the past firm attitude of holders has had its effect, and there is a steady current business, though not of great dimensions, and the feeling is that there must shortly be a fair demand. There is a distinct rise in Kerosene, and even at improved rates holders are not pushing, as there is every indication of higher values close at hand. The Sugar trade is in fair condition, prices being higher for certain Browns and all sorts being firm. There has been a decline in the quantity of Silk taken, the late high rates and large quantities sold having produced their natural effect. The market is in this condition, however, that another "boom" might come at a moment's notice, indeed, a sensible reduction in the present rates demanded could not fail to stimulate purchases. There has been more done in Waste, mainly owing to one buyer having taken several big parcels of Cocoons, but there is a tremendous stock on hand. The Tea trade is quieter, with plenty of leaf on offer, and buyers holding off. Exchange has been steady and firm during the week, and remains so at the close.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE JAPAN BEER BREWERY COMPANY.

ON Monday last the Japan Beer Brewery (*Yebisu*) Company held a general meeting in the Nihonbashi Club. Mr. Umakoshi Kyohei took the chair, and stated that in the accounts as published in the seventh report, the profit realised by the Company was put down as 761,058 *yen*, but a careful examination had produced quite another result; the Company had actually incurred a loss of 1,591,283 *yen* for the period in question. The present committee who were elected in May last had fully investigated the previous accounts, and had found that the total loss amounted to 18,712,547 *yen*, and their debts to 12,011,955 *yen*. Several shareholders rose to demand particulars, and the meeting became somewhat noisy, but finally settled down with a request for the committee to get them out of their difficulties. The Report for the first half of the present year, which showed a loss of 921,333 *yen*, was then read. The shareholders appeared surprised and disappointed, and two or three questions were asked, after which the future policy of the company was discussed, and the meeting separated.

The shareholders had some justification for their surprise at the result of the half-year's working. The *Yebisu* Beer is generally acknowledged to be one of the best in the market, and has grown greatly in public favour during the last twelve months. It is now found in every nook and corner of the empire, and together with *Kirin* Beer, has absolutely usurped the field formerly held by the ubiquitous "Stock." Doubtless the accounts for the second half of 1892 will have a more soothing effect upon the shareholders.

THE GRIEVANCE OF JAPANESE MERCHANTS IN KOREA.

IT is now three years since the Korean Government, without any previous notice, issued an order forbidding the export of grain. It is true that there was an urgent reason for taking this step. A famine existed at the time, which demanded extreme measures. But, on the other hand, the Japanese export merchants of Gensan, who had advanced large sums of money on corn, suddenly found themselves in serious difficulties. They could neither obtain the money advanced nor corn in lieu thereof. The amount owing to them is stated to have been 170,000 *yen*. This sum the Korean Government was asked to refund. It was argued that it was the duty of the Government to give notice before issuing such an order or to make good the losses caused by it. The Korean Government, after tedious delay, commanded the officials who had issued the order forbidding export to pay the money claimed by the Japanese. But this policy was condemned by public opinion in Korea, which maintained that no State could require officials to make good losses incident to the carrying out of measures calculated to benefit the nation. Mr. Kajiyama, the Japanese Minister, has suggested to the Gensan merchants that they should reduce their demands and be prepared to take any sum that Korea may offer. Naturally, they object to such a method of settling the question. They argue that their claim is just and ought to be met, and that the Korean Government is well able to pay. The *Fiji Shimo* writes earnestly on the subject, urging the Foreign Office to insist on a speedy settlement of this much discussed question.

A LAW SUIT AGAINST THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO.

MR. TOMITA TETSUNOSUKE, Governor of Tokyo, issued a notification in June last relating to the method of collecting taxes on business, and the Headmen of *Gun, Cho, and Son* proceeded to put this method into force. According to the notification, every member of a bank or company is required to pay the tax individually. This provision being considered unjust, Marquis Ikeda, Director of the Fifteenth National Bank and 75 other bankers, have now instituted a

suit against the Governor, in the Administrative Court. The plaintiffs are represented by Mr. Okayama Kanekichi and Mr. Okamura Teuhiko. The notification in question runs as follows:—"Every officer of a business firm, falling under the Commercial Code's appellation of *Gomei-kaisha* (joint name company), or *Goshi-kaisha* (joint-stock company), and every superintendent of a *Kabushiki-kaisha* (shareholders' company), shall pay a business tax according to the value of his dwelling, which tax shall be levied from the latter half of the 25th year of *Meiji*." One of the principal objections advanced by the plaintiffs against this notification is that their appointment as bank directors is made either by the Government or by the shareholders, and that, as holders of such an office, they do not belong to the category of business men contemplated by the imposers of the tax. Moreover, they claim that Art. 9 of the Commercial Code, determines the class of men who are to be called business men, and that they, the plaintiffs, cannot possibly be included in that class. These facts are published by the *Choya Shimbun*.

THE LAND TAX IN JAPAN.

WE observe that Mr. Garrett Droppers, whose interesting essays on the Japanese fiscal system have been the subject of some comment and criticism in this country, repeats, in the July number of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, his statement as to the ratio of land tax to the net produce of the land. "This land-tax," he writes, "is by far the most important source of revenue in Japan, generally yielding about 40,000,000 *yen* out of a total of 75,000,000 *yen*. The tax amounts to about 25 per cent. and in some cases to 30 or 35 per cent. of the net crop, and its reduction to 2 per cent. is striven for by the representatives of the farming class." We find it impossible to credit this statement. It has been combated by writers in the local English press and Mr. Droppers has answered them. But neither he nor his critics seem to have examined one signification of his estimate. Taking the lowest figure given by Mr. Droppers we have this equation

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{ of the assessed value of the land} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ of the net produce} \\ \text{or the assessed value of the land} = 10 \text{ times the net produce.}$$

This means that the arable and building land throughout Japan is assessed at ten years' purchase for purposes of taxation, that being also the minimum assessment. We cannot pretend to say that the conclusion thus obtained from Mr. Droppers' estimate is absolutely incorrect, for, strange to say, Japanese statisticians have never collected figures sufficiently full and accurate to establish the point one way or the other. But if we understand what Mr. Droppers has advanced on the subject, he relies chiefly on information furnished by farmers in certain districts of the country, and it is impossible to feel that isolated assertions coming from such an obviously biased source and unchecked by independent research can be accepted as conclusive. To attach faith to Mr. Droppers' figures is to assume that the total net income derived by the Japanese people from arable and building lands throughout the empire does not exceed a hundred and fifty million *yen*, or, say, twenty-five millions sterling. Is that credible? We cannot think so. In our opinion the question of the Japanese Land Tax requires wider and more minute investigation than it has hitherto received.

CRIMINAL WOMEN AND CRIMINAL MEN.

PSYCHOLOGISTS have often propounded the question, are women more or less prone to crime than men. It seems, at first sight, a singular question, seeing that the number of male criminals is everywhere so much larger than that of female. Thus in Germany, 100 men are convicted by the courts for every 19 women; in France and England the figures are 100 to 20, and in Austria 100 to 14.8. Differences in national laws and social customs make it impossible to draw any safe deductions from these figures as to the various countries concerned, but their general teaching is unmistakable, namely, that incomparably fewer women violate the laws than men.

Does it follow, then, that the moral sense of the female is higher than that of the male? This is precisely what psychologists have long desired to determine, and Mr. Ludwig Fuld now answers very decisively that the weaker sex has no such advantage. He sets the plea aside altogether as quite untenable. "Woman's restriction to domestic life," he writes, "her non-participation in politics, her fewer opportunities and temptations, and finally her want of physical strength, are the chief causes of the comparative freedom of her sex from participation in crime. Whenever social conditions become unfavourable for women, the percentage of women criminals increases. Whenever the woman has to take part in the bread-winning and to compete with man in the struggle for existence, the disparity rapidly diminishes." Indeed, Mr. Fuld pronounces a still stronger verdict on the subject, for we find him writing, later on:—"Participation in the struggle for existence does not operate favourably on woman; her powers of resistance are not strong enough to withstand the temptations and dangers of her position victoriously, when principle and self-interest are opposed; and it may be safely concluded that, if woman were subjected to precisely the same conditions as man, she would contribute more than her full complement to the statistics of crime. Once embarked on the downward course, woman glides rapidly to its close, she sinks deeper and deeper; and the number of women criminals capable of redemption and of social regeneration is extremely small. In spite of the comparatively small number of female convictions, there is no very great disparity in the actual numbers of male and female habitual criminals. The figures of criminal statistics should, however, be not only counted, they must be weighed also; and to estimate the problem fairly it is necessary to take account of the offences in which women participate. We gather, then, from the German official statistics, that the majority of offences for which women are convicted, are against person and property, there being but few convictions for offences against the State or public order. A close investigation shows that the greater number of offences of which women are convicted, are among the more grievous, while as regards the most grievous offences against life, the number of women concerned is actually greater than that of men. The offences against life of which women are guilty, consist for the most part of the murder of children and family connections, near or remote. This fact alone constitutes a very decisive reply to the widely promulgated view that the altruistic sentiment is more highly developed in woman than in man. This view is confirmed neither by statistics nor by history. On the contrary, they both afford irrefragable evidence that woman outstrips man in utter want of feeling, and in the revolting nature of her crimes. We need only refer, in evidence, to the first French Revolution and the Paris Commune. In the absence of feeling during the perpetration of murder, in cold-blooded thoughtfulness in concealing the traces, in lying and deceit after the deed, woman far exceeds man; and rarely, indeed, are the motives of men-murders so demoniac as those of women-murderers.

COUNT OKUMA AS THE LEADER OF A POLITICAL PARTY.

THE *Keisei Shimo* writes a powerful article eulogising Count Okuma. It says that politics are neither more nor less than war in time of peace, and that the leader of a political party is a captain conducting a veritable campaign. The qualifications required in a perfect leader of a party are first that his spirit should be dauntless in the face of difficulties, however great; secondly this liability should be so conspicuous as to attract all able men to his standard; thirdly, that his chivalry should go the length of devoting all his wealth to his cause; fourthly, that his erudition should guide him to a full understanding of the times; and fifthly, that his strategic skill should suffice to deceive and baffle his adversaries. Count Ito's learning is extensive, and his knowledge suits the times. He is one of Japan's ablest and most

Original from

prominent statesmen in these constitutional days. But has he ever shown that he possesses the qualifications necessary for the leader of a political party? Count Inouye, on the other hand, is conspicuously competent to fight single-handed like a brave general, but is he gifted with the qualifications necessary in the leader of a political party? Count Itagaki of the *Fuyu-to*, Viscount Torio of the Conservatives, and Count Saigo of the National Union—these are all actual leaders of political parties. Count Itagaki, has the gift of winning popular sympathy, but he is without the art of collecting able men about him. Viscount Torio has the courage of attack, but he, too, lacks the faculty of attracting able supporters. And Count Saigo has influence and spirit, but his knowledge is limited. What then is to be said of Count Okuma? His natural talent is not very great; his learning is not very extensive, and his ability not very exceptional. Yet none will deny that he is one of the best leaders of a political party in Japan. In 1881 he resigned his office in the Government, and at once the *Kaishin-to* was organized. Into its ranks were speedily gathered numbers of men whose abilities had either been proved already or recognised as full of promise, who at once conferred great power on their leader. Evidently, therefore, the Count is endowed with the faculty of winning clever followers. He then directed his weapons against the *Sai-Cho* Government, and little by little his power and influence increased until, when Count Ito failed in 1888, he became Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. No sooner had he attained that position than he plunged into treaty revision. Every member of the Cabinet hesitated, but the Count stood undaunted. Finally his leg was shattered by a bomb, but his spirit was not enfeebled. He continued to fight bravely with the Government. Evidently, therefore, he possesses spirit to struggle against any difficulty. Lying on his sick bed he patiently bided his time, and when the Diet assembled and his party was strong enough, he arranged a meeting with Count Itagaki, and the union of the *Kaishin-to* and the *Fuyu-to* was effected. Therefore he evidently possesses strategic talent to baffle his opponents. His wealth was lessened by the bankruptcy of Mr. Nakamura, and he incurred debts of some 500,000 *yen* to distribute to his followers. Therefore he evidently possesses a chivalric disposition. So far as erudition and talent are concerned, he is not, perhaps, to be reckoned among the ablest Minister Presidents of State which the country can furnish, but no one is greater as a leader of a political party.

JAPANESE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

It is only within the last two years that the Japanese have begun to realise the value of Fire Insurance Companies. The earliest Japanese Company was, if we are not mistaken, founded in 1886. But for the first few years of its existence it had little business to do. Four years ago a second Company was formed, which is reported to be doing well. As a rule it has been the experience of these companies that the application for policies have been more numerous in the winter than in the summer. But this year the reverse is the case. The reason alleged is that the Japanese have discovered that by insuring houses they qualify them to be offered as security for money borrowed. The value of a house for mortgaging purposes has hitherto been practically *nil* in Japan.

THE TOKYO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held on the 1st inst. at 8.0 a.m. About 400 persons were present. After the reading of the report by Dr. Osoma Kenji, and the transaction of the usual business, addresses were delivered by several members of the Society. Dr. Takata Koan spoke on "Vaccination." He said that, according to popular and even medical opinion in Europe and Japan, it was unnecessary for persons who have suffered from small-pox to undergo vaccination. This theory he believed to be false. He had taken the trouble to col-

lect statistics on the subject, some of which he would lay before the meeting. Out of 293 cases of small-pox under treatment in the Honjo and Komagome hospitals, in no less than 30 instances the patients suffered from a second attack of the disease. This was a very large percentage, and he believed that it was by no means an extraordinary occurrence. The establishment of the fact that persons are liable to be attacked twice by this virulent disease made it necessary for the Government to alter the rules relating to vaccination, so as to make it compulsory for all persons to undergo periodical vaccination. In order that they might have an idea of the kind of rules it was necessary to enforce, Dr. Takata said that he had translated and distributed among his friends the German Vaccination Regulations. The next address was on "Dysentery," Dr. Saigo Yoshiyoshi being the speaker. Dr. Saigo observed that this disease prevailed in Japan in an endemic form during the whole year. The number of cases in each province or district was regulated by the water supply. As a rule the Japanese constitution is much more seriously affected by an attack of dysentery than the constitution of foreigners. The type prevailing at the present time is virulent, and compared with last year the deaths have been numerous. Dr. Sakaki Junjiro followed with an Address on "Rice and Beriberi." He said that it was generally held that a rice diet was conducive to the development of *beriberi*, but this notion was not altogether accurate. Only certain kinds of rice produced *beriberi*. In order to test this question various experiments had been tried in the Tokyo *Beriberi* Hospital. Japanese rice may be classified according to the places where it is grown, as follows: (1) Tokyo and vicinity, (2) Tokaido, (3) Hokurikudo, (4) Uzen and Ugo, (5) Northern Japan and Hokkaido. By the experiments, which extended over 12 years (1869-1891), it was proved that only rice grown in the North or that produced in Ugo and Uzen is conducive to *beriberi*; the reason being that this grain contains more moisture than rice grown in other parts. There is every reason for thinking, the experiments on this point are not yet concluded, that rice cultivated in high dry land where there is no irrigation, would be perfectly free from any tendency to produce *beriberi*. The subject of the next address, delivered by Dr. Uno Ro, was Dr. Koch's Remedy. Dr. Uno said he had recently returned from Germany and hence was in a position to inform the meeting as to the state of medical opinion in Europe on the Koch cure. The general feeling among professionals is that the success of the remedy is doubtful.

ROUND THE CAPE.

A NORWEGIAN steamer, the *Guernsey*, Captain Olsen, has performed what has, since the opening of the Suez Canal, generally been considered to be a work of supererogation, having rounded the Cape. She arrived this morning, says the *Singapore Free Press* of the 24th ult., with a cargo of coals consigned to Messrs. Paterson, Simons & Co., from Barry Dock, which place she left on the 25th June. Leaving the Cape of Good Hope on the 25th ultimo, she arrived in the Rho Straits after 58 days 6 hours steaming, passing Anjer on the 10th instant. She reports all well. This is, however, a departure of no little significance—to the directors of the Suez Canal. As already stated the time occupied in coming out was something more than 58 days. The object, of course, was to save the canal dues, which are considerable, and in the case of the *Guernsey*, and including pilot's fees, the total charge would have been probably something like £500 or £600. The saving thus effected it was anticipated would more than cover the cost of the additional time occupied—about 15 days—rounding the Cape, and we have it on good authority that several other ships that are to follow, will come out by the same route. The departure, too, may ultimately prove of interest politically, especially in view of the motion to be moved by Sir Charles Dilke on the reassembling of Parliament for the evacuation of Egypt. It is interesting also in view of the determined

opposition which is being brought to bear against the carriage of petroleum in bulk through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, and the results of the experiments in the case of the steamers still to follow will doubtless be closely watched.

POVERTY IN THE PEERAGE.

Among the members of the House of Peers, the Princes and Marquises receive no salary, but the Counts, Viscounts, Barons, and all other members are paid. The Princes are in fairly good circumstances, as they received considerable grants of money from the Emperor some years ago. But many of the Marquises are as poor as the poorest noblemen of the lower ranks. Yet they are so loyal that they attend the House regularly, carrying their tiffin with them in a *dento* box. On the other hand, noblemen below the rank of Count attach pecuniary importance to their appointment as members of the House of Peers. Whenever there is an election to fill a vacancy in those orders, the competition is very spirited, and it is now actually rumoured that an association is to be formed for the purpose of entering into an agreement with any candidate who desires to be nominated. As such a proceeding would be a great disgrace to the Peers, a certain Prince and some other noblemen, says the Central New Agency, are consulting with the idea of introducing, in the next session of the Diet, a Bill to abolish the salaries of members. There is little chance however, that the Bill will be carried for the opponents muster very strong.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT ON MAYA-SAN.

LAST Tuesday night the annual festival on Maya-san (known among foreigners as the Moon Temple) was held, and the lights at the different rest-houses on the mountain were easily to be seen from Kobe. The weather being fine, a very large number of people made the ascent, and we regret to say that a very serious accident occurred near the summit. As those who have made the ascent know, the temple is approached by several flights of stone steps amounting to about two hundred and fifty in all. The steps are very steep, and rough and uneven, requiring some care even when there is no noisy jostling crowd, so that they are very dangerous when being ascended or descended by crowds of people many of them under the influence of *saké*. About half-past eleven on Tuesday night a man slipped and fell when near the top of these steps, and his fall brought down others until thirty people were rolling down the steps in a confused mass. Assistance was at once rendered to the unfortunate people, but of the thirty who fell we hear that five were killed instantly, one or two of these having fallen over the cliff at the side of the steps. Others had arms and legs broken, and their plight, far away from medical assistance, must have been terrible. These accidents in the night ascent of Maya-san occur almost every year, but they do not appear to diminish the attendance at the festival.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

THE main line from Tokyo to Amori having been completed, and the Muroran railway in Hokkaido having also been constructed, some people in Muroran propose to run a new service of steamers from Amori Harbour to Muroran *via* Tsugaru Bay, so as to enable passengers from Tokyo to reach Sapporo within 73 hours. If the above project be carried out, not only will much time be saved, but the cost of travel will also be much decreased. According to the estimate of the projectors, a third-class ticket from Ueno station to Sapporo will be only \$6.79. They have determined to establish a central goods office in Muroran, and a branch office in Amori, and they hope to secure the bulk of the goods hitherto carried by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamers. We take these details from the *Kokkai*.

A NEW PRACTICAL MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now reports that the "practical men" of Tokyo who failed to elect their representatives in the Chamber of

Commerce, have united with the members of the *Shodan-Kai*, and established a new association under the name of the *Dosei-Kai*, not the *Doyu-Kai* as was originally proposed. The details of the split amongst the members of the Chamber of Commerce were given in our Saturday's issue. Already some sixty five members out of whom sixteen are members of the Chamber of Commerce, have joined the new association. At a meeting held on Saturday last, Mr. Oku Saburobei was elected President, and Messrs. Nakazawa Hikokichi, Ii Kichinosuke, Takashima Kanroku, Kobayashi Yoshimori, and Katabami Heibei, a committee of management.

LARGE FIRE IN SHANGHAI.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* publishes the following account of the large fire which occurred there on the 22nd ultimo:—"In last night's issue we gave a short account of what was one of the most extensive fires that has occurred in Shanghai for a considerable time, but up to the hour we went to press the extent of the damage had not been fully ascertained, and the number of houses burned, then placed roughly at between fifty and sixty, is now known to have been much nearer if not quite, a hundred. It is on a day like yesterday, a stifling afternoon in the middle of summer, that the pluck, endurance and efficiency of our firemen are really put to the test, and we venture to say that whenever such an occasion has arisen, our red-shirted heroes have always proved themselves as equal to the emergency as they were yesterday. They are no carpet knights, our firemen, and though their frequently inestimable services are given voluntarily, and are sometimes, we fear not quite sufficiently appreciated, no motive but the high one of saving life and property from the fire-fiends ever actuates them when summoned to duty. No vain-glorious notions of show or desire to hear their praises sounded,—there is only one idea in the mind of the Shanghai fireman when a house is burning, and that is, go to work and put the fire out. Yesterday the bell rang about 11.30 a.m., and from that hour till near dinner time the members of the various companies stood at their posts like men. The blazing sun poured down on their heads all day long; they were frequently half suffocated by clouds of smoke and scalding steam arising from the hot debris among which they stood, the stenches of the Defence Creek and the unsavoury alleyways branching off Canton Road assailed them, and their lives were not infrequently imperilled by the falling walls and roofs, but still they worked on like Trojans, and did not take a moment's rest during all those fatiguing hours, until the fire was subdued, when the area cleared though large, was, thanks to their efforts much smaller than would have been the case had they given up a fight for which they will probably not be thanked. Commencing in a small Native shop close to the junction of the Canton and Yunnan Roads, the fire, aided by various circumstances, spread rapidly upwards towards the Creek. The wind was just strong enough to kindle the flames nicely among the timbers of which those small houses were principally composed. The wood itself was as dry and inflammable as tinder owing to the long spell of scorching weather we have had, and to cap all, when the firemen arrived (and a good many contrived to be on the spot before the somewhat refractory ponies got there) with their engines and hose-reels, the water supply was found to be inadequate. The four corners of the streets were blazing by the time the first streams began to play, and it soon was shown to be impossible to prevent the flames extending, for though the Mih-ho-loong and Deluge Companies worked away with a will on Yunnan Road, the smoke and steam were blown into their faces and they were compelled slowly to retire. The other companies were in the thick of the fray at an early period also, but the fire literally drove them up the Canton Road before it, both sides blazing so fiercely that looking from the Creek the thoroughfare appeared like an open furnace. At the corner of the Canton Road and the Defence Creek, the popular German pastor, Dr. Faber, had his residence. The Doctor evidently never counted upon his house being attacked

until it was too late to save many valuable books and part of a collection of botanical specimens which it had taken Dr. Faber years to acquire. These were partially destroyed; and we sympathise heartily with him in the loss of these literary and scientific treasures, for it will be next to impossible for him to replace them, especially the specimens. At length after blazing with unmitigated fury for hours the fire practically spent itself, and by half-past six the greater number of the firemen were enabled to take a well-earned rest. Fortunately, there are no casualties to report, but all those engaged in combating the flames suffered terribly from the heat; many of the firemen fainted and had to be carried away to some shady place, where upon the untimely application of ice, we are glad to say, they recovered without exception. The origin of the fire is at present unknown, but it is believed to have been caused by some joss-paper having been accidentally ignited in the small shop before-mentioned. Among the houses destroyed were the residences of quite a number of native police constables. A large number of insurance offices are interested in the fire, the damage being generally estimated at about Tls. 20,000; 86 houses altogether were destroyed. The contents of Dr. Faber's house were insured in the Transatlantic for Tls. 2,000, and among the other companies which will have to share the loss are the Royal, (Tls. 6,000) the North British and Mercantile (Tls. 2,000) the China Fire (Tls. 2,000) and the New Zealand (Tls. 3,000). Messrs. Cushing, Sassoon, W. Lang, and Chen Chuen-Sieh, we understand owned the bulk of the property. With the exception of Dr. Faber's policy all the insurances were on buildings, there being no insurance on the contents of the Chinese houses destroyed.

SILK INSPECTORS.

It is stated in the *Shogyo Shimpō* that among the items included in the Budget to be submitted to the Diet during its next session by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is one amounting to 30,000 yen for silk inspection. It is reported that the Department purposes establishing two inspecting offices; one at Yokohama and the other at Kobe, and that the services of foreign and Japanese experts will be sought, the aim being to render the silk stamped by the inspectors thoroughly trustworthy and to insure exporters against loss on their goods when sold abroad owing to portions of them proving to be of inferior quality. The promoters of the scheme are confident that they will be able to persuade even the most callous of members that it is the duty of the Diet to support a measure so essential to the further development of the silk trade.

THE STEAMER "BENGLOE'S" EXPERIENCE.

By the safe arrival last night, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 24th ult., of the *Bengloe*, one of the well-known "Ben" Line of steamships owned by Messrs. William Thomson & Co., of Leith, certain sinister rumours which had obtained currency during the day regarding her safety were set at rest. These rumours doubtless had their origin in a report which appeared in a Shanghai contemporary furnished by Captain Hutchison, of the *Whampoa*, who stated that at 3 p.m. on the 18th inst. he had observed a large steamer with a yellow funnel, flush deck, and straight stem on shore at the Hieshan Islands. This is an exact description of the *Bengloe* (though in several other particulars Captain Hutchison is at fault), and when in addition it was known that the vessel was at least two days overdue, the utmost anxiety was felt for the safety of Captain Farquhar and his crew. The *Bengloe* left Moji with a cargo of coals on the 14th, and having on board one European passenger, Mrs. Lyons. With a moderate breeze and a southerly swell all went well till the 17th, when a stiff gale and heavy south-easterly sea, with wind backing to the eastward, were experienced. At 11.30 a.m. the ship took several very heavy rolls, shifting the cargo to starboard and throwing her on her beam ends. The engines were immediately

slowed down and the trysail and jib were taken in, while the vessel's head was hauled to S.E. All hands were set to trimming the coal in the hold and bunkers. With a list of 28 degrees which submerged the deck 18 inches on the lee side, this was no light task. About 3 p.m. a tremendous sea swept over the ship filling the engine-room and stoke-hole bilges (on lee side) about 5 feet above flooring plates and with the heavy rolling and pressure of water in the bilges a considerable part of the flooring was burst up and the felting washed off the main boilers, and it was deemed necessary to cut the auxiliary pump suction pipe and reset it into the lee bilge to try and reduce the water. This sea also carried away the No. 3 boat, the gangway ladder, teak rails, the harness cask, and everything moveable on the starboard side of the deck. At 5 p.m., being unable to get the ship trimmed, a start was made to jettison the coal out of the starboard bunkers. Up till 9 p.m. heavy seas washed over the deck casing of the engine department, bursting in the donkey-house door and increasing the water in the bilges to the extent of washing the ashpits of the starboard wing furnaces. At 6 p.m., at which time the ship became somewhat steadier, the pumps were unable to reduce the water in the bilges, and through the rolling of the ship and the excessive list it was with much difficulty that 40 lbs. of steam could be maintained to work the engines at quarter speed. At 11.30 p.m. the ship was hove to, heading S.W., all hands (including the lady passenger, who worked with perfect composure and with an energy which the others could but emulate) working in the holds and jettisoning the coals out of the bunkers until 1.30 a.m. on the 18th. At 6.30 a.m. in 30 fathoms of water, the engines were stopped and fires cleaned, and at 7.55 the vessel made slowly for the Haeshin Islands, the crew continuing the jettisoning of the cargo. At half-past twelve she anchored in the North-West Bay of Sha-ho Island, with a list to starboard of 26 degrees. The deck hands continued all day trimming the coals, and the following morning an endeavour was made to arrange with the islanders to work in the vessel, but seeing the heavy list they were evidently afraid and the negotiations fell through. At half-past five the crew refused to work any longer having had a continuous spell of some 30 hours, and being tired and worn out. Next day's negotiations with the natives were more successful and fourteen were employed, who worked to such advantage that by 5 p.m. the ship was sufficiently upright to proceed with safety. The anchor was weighed, and without further misadventure Hongkong was reached last night.

THE WEATHER.

THE tail of the summer—or the *sansho*, as it is called in Japan—has been so hot this year that the impression of a generally hot season prevails among the public. But it would seem that, so far as maximum readings of the thermometer are concerned, there has been nothing special to complain of. The following table shows the highest readings of the thermometer and the days on which they were registered during the past sixteen years:—

Year.	Days.	Reading of Thermometer.
1877	July 8th	94° 5 F.
1878	August 31st	95° 2
1879	August 15th	93° 0
1880	August 1st	91° 8
1881	September 3rd	93° 6
1882	July 27th	93° 6
1883	August 13th	93° 6
1884	September 16th	91° 7
1885	August 31st	89° 2
1886	July 14th	97° 9
1887	August 28th	97° 1
1888	August 21st	91° 0
1889	August 3rd	89° 2
1890	June 25th	92° 0
1891	August 15th	93° 9
1892	August 16th	92° 5

It is possible, of course, that before the summer takes leave of us altogether, we may have a day hotter than the 16th of August was. But the presumption is to the contrary. Except as a matter of statistical curiosity, however, the above figures are of no special value. They do not convey any idea of the heat of the season as

a whole. The thermometer may register a great height of mercury on one particular day, and yet, speaking generally, the season may be cool. Persistent heat without a break, even though the range in degrees be not exceptionally high, is the really important factor in determining the nature of a season.

EXPORT OF OX-HIDES FROM KOREA.

MR. MUROTA YOSHIBUMI, Japanese Consul at Fusan in Korea, sends a disquieting report about the export of ox-hides, which constitute one of the principal staples of the Korean outward trade. He says that having heard rumours of the prevalence of a cattle plague in Korea, he endeavoured to obtain the facts of the case from Korean officials and from his own nationals trading at the ports, but met with no success. Nevertheless, while it was clearly ascertained that the number of cattle slaughtered was less than in the summer of last year, the export of hides showed no diminution, the quantity shipped from middle of July to the middle of August being 45,800 lbs., valued at 6,500 yen. Apprehending that among these 4,000 skins, a number of diseased cattle's hides might be included, the Consul had one examination made, with the result that he found about a fourth of the skins to be as he suspected. The report explains that in the case of cattle which have died of disease, the skins are always found to have more meat attaching to them than in the case of slaughtered cattle, the stench being often so great as to be distinctly insanitary, while the chances of curing the skins properly are doubtful. These evidences were present with respect to about a thousand skins. The destination of the hides is usually Osaka and Himeji. The report does not say what further steps, if any, were taken.

CRAFTY POACHERS.

A TALE, quaint in respect of some of its incidents, is recounted in the columns of the *Kokkai*. At a time not mentioned but presumably recent, a schooner having the appearance of a whaler put into Oshima in Wakayama Prefecture. Being warned by the local officials that the port was not open to foreign vessels, her master alleged that scarcity of fresh water and the necessity of repairing his vessel had compelled him to seek shelter. These excuses being unavoidably allowed, the crew commenced to amuse themselves, daily engaging the services of such Phrynes as the place could furnish. To these fair playmates, however, their maximum gift was ten sen, and as a rule they gave nothing at all, explaining that they intended presently to go out whaling, when they would certainly return furnished with ample means to be generous. Finally, the time came for departure, whereupon they produced six skins, and a pair of boots, which they valued at 40 yen. Leaving these behind in payment of all claims against the schooner, they sailed merrily away, having had their fun uncommonly cheap. For when the skins were brought to market, they proved to be the hides of dogs, of a total value of 2 yen, which was probably twice the realizable price of the abandoned boots. The *Kokkai* naturally suggests that steps be taken to check these graceless marauders, and mentions that the ports where their visits may be chiefly looked for are Oshima in Wakayama, Miura in Kanagawa, Tateyama in Chiba, Kinokuni in Myagi, and Shimoda in Shizuoka.

BAGGAGE OF RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

A warning is addressed by the *Fiji Shimpō* to travellers by rail. The rule on the Government lines, and indeed on all Japanese lines so far as we know, is to allow each first-class passenger to carry 100 catties of baggage without charge; each second-class passenger 60 catties, and each third-class passenger 30 catties. But it is presumed that baggage carried under this arrangement shall consist entirely of clothing and articles required for the journey, on which hypothesis the responsibility of the Railway Authorities in case of loss is limited to 50 yen. It appears that, ignoring this condition, people have been carrying all kinds of valuables, with

the assured conviction that if any loss occurred the Railway Authorities would make it good. A certain banker, the other day, took with him a parcel of several thousands of yen, and the *Fiji* says that the Railway people discovered the nature of the parcel and levied freight upon it. Pickpockets, too, having become aware of the license practised by travellers in this respect, frequent the carriages, especially those of the Japan Railway Company, where they find an excellent opportunity to ply their trade in the crowded state of the compartments and the multiplicity of hand baggage. It is evident from the *Fiji's* statement that the law which determines the responsibility of carriers for goods entrusted to their care is very different in Japan and England. In all parts of the world a pecuniary limit to such responsibility is necessarily fixed, but a limit of fifty yen, or some seven guineas, is almost ridiculously small. It barely represents the price of one evening suit or of a dozen shirts, to say nothing of jewel cases or other luxuries which fine folks carry about with them now-a-days. It has been ruled in the West that if a man gives a parcel to a friend to carry as a mere matter of courtesy, the latter can nevertheless be held legally responsible for the parcel's safe delivery. This is a somewhat violent stretching of the principle underlying the question, but the Japanese rule seems to err still more on the side of laxity. If a passenger is allowed to carry 133 lbs. of personal effects, the notion of valuing the whole lot at a maximum of 50 yen appears somewhat farcical.

PRAYERS FOR RAIN ANSWERED.

THE farming classes, never satisfied with the weather which heaven sends them, are crying out loudly about the long continued drought, and praying for rain. Invocations to the Deity to hasten or retard the processes of evaporation and precipitation by which the earth is watered, are resorted to with just as much zeal and trust in the West as in the East, and it may be taken for granted that an incident which occurred recently in Miyazaki Prefecture gave rise to not a few superstitious inferences. A number of people had collected to pray for rain, and were doubtless accompanying their prayers with beating of drums and other necessary performances supposed to propitiate heaven. While they were thus engaged the rumbling of thunder was heard, which presently grew louder, and at last a flash of lightning killed four of the suppliants. Had the much wished for rain followed, the farmers would probably have regarded this catastrophe as an intimation that the Deity exacted some sacrifice for his merciful concession to the wants of the parched fields, but, strange to say, with thunder cracking overhead and lightning in deadly proximity, the rain clouds refused to break and the drought continued as obdurate as ever. It is probable that the farmers of Ayamura, if they have any real faith in heavenly intervention in climatic arrangements, will hereafter hesitate to invoke special favours from a deity who sends such answers to supplications.

CONSULS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE.

THE term "Consul" has come to be so intimately associated by the Japanese with the exercise of judicial functions that the announcement contained in the *Official Gazette* of the 27th ultimo seems to have caused much misapprehension. That announcement said that the present Chargé d'Affaires of France had been appointed to discharge the duties of Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires and also of Portuguese Consul-General. Hence the conclusion was immediately formed that Japan had agreed to re-habilitate the extraterritorial clauses which, by an Imperial Ordinance issued in July, she publicly abrogated. But it ought to have been easily understood that the step taken by Japan last July was irrevocable. No doubt could be entertained on that point from the outset. The measure was adopted deliberately and in the most firmly binding fashion that could be chosen. At any time before the promulgation of the Imperial Ordinance it was within Portugal's competence to avert the loss of her nationals' extraterritorial privileges by taking a course precisely similar

to that which she has now taken. During the many months that intervened between the date of her decision to remove her Consul-General from Tokyo and the day of Japan's conclusive measure, Portugal could easily have arranged for the discharge of Consular-General functions by a qualified official of some other Treaty Power, and any Consul-General duly nominated by her at that time and recognised by Japan would have been competent, *de facto*, to exercise judicial duties. Such is not the case now however. So far as Portugal is concerned the extraterritorial clauses, by the authority of which her Consuls formerly discharged judicial functions, have no longer any existence, and when she delegates the French Chargé d'Affaires to act as her Consul-General in Japan, she no more invests him with judicial competence than does Great Britain invest with judicial competence her Consuls in France or Germany. It seems surprising that this should not be generally understood, and that the *Fiji Shimpō* should now be obliged to explain that a Consul-General is not necessarily a judicial officer, and that Portugal's Consul-General in Tokyo cannot possibly be a judicial official unless Japan publicly recedes from the position publicly taken by her six weeks ago.

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN'S" PROTEST.

THE *Choya Shimbun* justly protests against the idea that when the Japanese press and the Japanese people speak of a "treaty of equality," they mean a treaty which gives exactly as much as it gets, and exacts precisely as much as it concedes. That is not at all what they desire to convey, as, indeed, every one giving the matter a moment's serious thought must be well aware. The expression "*taito joyaku*" is employed in the sense of a treaty the parties to which stand on the same level of international rights and international recognition. It is obviously unwarrantable for Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers to speak of a "*taito joyaku*," because the Japan which they contemplate lacks one essential title to be classed with civilized and independent States. But the overwhelming majority of the nation, as represented by the *Choya Shimbun* and other leading journals, has no sympathy with Mr. Oi's exclusive fantasies, and is prepared to throw open the whole empire to foreign trade, travel, and residence. The men constituting this section, the comparative magnitude of which entitles it to be regarded as the whole nation, claim for Japan that she should be treated as an equal by Western States: not necessarily as an equal in respect of strength or resources, but only as an equal in respect of the sovereign rights universally recognised to be integral features of national independence. From this point of view the United States and England, for example, might approach each other with the object of concluding a *taito joyaku*, though the former should be minded to retain her protective tariff, her cabotage restrictions and so forth, in their integrity. What we have always understood Japanese journals or Japanese politicians to signify when they talk of a *taito joyaku* is a treaty recognising Japan's title to exercise to the full the sovereign rights of which she is at present deprived in the matters of jurisdiction and the tariff.

THE STATE OF TRADE IN YOKOHAMA.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* gives a very disheartening analysis of the state of trade in Yokohama, the origin of the trouble being attributed by it to the violent depreciation in the gold price of silver. Owing to the operation of this factor, the sale of imports has been greatly checked, for whereas the foreign merchant, dealing on a sterling basis, is obliged to obtain constantly increasing silver prices in order to cover the original gold cost of his goods, the consumer has no more silver to pay than he ever had, and finds just as much difficulty as ever in procuring it. All this is a familiar story, however. The interest of the *Fiji's* account is that it considers the export trade also to have been injuriously affected by the same cause, though it does not explain the particulars of the process. In point of fact the depreciation of gold ought to impart as much

impetus to the export trade as it imposes checks on the import, though that is small comfort to the importer. However, without entering into details, the *Fiji* says that tea-exporters are in a bad way, and that although the high prices they are paying and the quantities they are purchasing suggest a profitable trade, they are in fact confronted by the prospect of heavy losses. Our contemporary's idea seems to be that the whole course of commerce has been dislocated by fluctuations in exchange, and that foreign markets are in too unhealthy a condition to afford steady custom, but though this is true to some extent, we are inclined to think that the *Fiji* pushes its deductions too far. It is undoubtedly correct, however, when it notes that the losses suffered by banks trading with the East have compelled them to act with greater caution, and that the diminished accommodation obtainable by merchants is affecting the volume of transactions. But it is decidedly a novel piece of intelligence to learn that the local banks have sealed over a hundred godowns of foreign merchants since the spring, and that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will not purchase any bills of large amount. The *Fiji Shimpō* has been misled as to these items. If any godowns have been sealed up, it has been on a very small scale, and our information with regard to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is that it is prepared to undertake, and is actually undertaking, transactions as large as ever. Probably the East never passed through a worse time than the present, and it is not quite easy to see whence speedy help may be looked for. Great sums of money are locked up in imports not immediately salable, so that not only is the inward trade crippled, but the temporary fixing of this large amount of capital supplementing the operation of other factors, compels the banks to restrict their operations to an inconvenient extent.

PRICES AT NIKKO.

SOME very useful advice is given by the *Kokkai* to Japanese trades-people at Nikko. The beautiful scenery of the celebrated summer retreat, says our contemporary, its easy accessibility, and its coolness combine to attract a large number of foreign visitors. At no time during the present season have there been less than from 180 to 200 foreigners staying there, and it is not an excessive estimate to say that they spend a total of from two to three hundred thousand *yen* during the season. How much of this goes into the pockets of the Nikko folks it would be difficult to calculate exactly, but the sum cannot be inconsiderable. Blinded, however, by the prospect of immediate gain, they not only take no pains to cultivate and develop such a splendidly lucrative source of income, but are even sufficiently reckless in their covetousness to disgust the foreigner. Were they content with a profit of from thirty to forty per cent., there would be comparatively little to complain of, but they do not hesitate to charge twice, thrice or even four times the value of an article. A case is recorded of fifty *yen* being recently asked for a bear's skin which might have been purchased in Tokyo for seven. This system of extortion must ultimately have the effect of driving foreigners away, if not altogether at least in great part, and were Nikko deprived of its stream of foreign visitors in summer, it would soon be reduced to a condition of pecuniary sterility.

This is the *Kokkai's* view, and in a general sense it is valuable. But our contemporary does some injustice to the enterprise and foresight of the Nikko folks. In point of fact the chief necessities of life are decidedly cheap this year in Nikko. Beef and bread may be had at Tokyo prices, and milk is only 37 per cent. dearer than in the capital. Vegetables are proportionately the most costly item, which seems strange, for they might be grown at Nikko without much difficulty. The Japanese curio-dealer is always at hand to take the down off the wily tourist, and the Japanese coolie knows how to make hay while the sun shines. But there is an excuse for both the former and the latter. The curio-dealer has to procure all his goods from

Tokyo, though the silly traveller fancies them Nikko heirlooms, and the coolie knows that only for a very brief season of say three or four months can he hope to make anything by carrying tiffin-baskets, toiling along under *kagos* or in *jinrikisha*, and playing the part of horse-boy. In truth one has always to remember with reference to the prices charged at summer resorts, that they are the prices of summer resorts. Once the season is over the people have to hibernate. They must gain while the sun shines enough to sustain life while the snow falls.

A POACHER'S DODGE.

THE *Kokkai* says that a British schooner lately came to anchor off the shore of an unnamed prefecture in the north-east of Japan. The police immediately took steps to warn the master that he had come to an unopened port and that he must take his departure at once. But he, pretexting the necessity of obtaining a supply of fresh water, showed no signs of getting under way. The police then inquired further into the schooner's movements, and were informed by those on board that they had received from the British Consul, under authority from the Japanese Government, a permit to engage in fishing in Hokkaido, and that they had just arrived from thence. In proof of this assertion they showed a document measuring about six inches by four, but the police, though unable to read it, were convinced of its falseness since they knew that the Japanese Government had never invested any foreign Consul with such authority. They therefore fell back on the indisputable fact that the schooner was visiting a place not accessible under the treaties, and she finally had to take her departure. If all this be true, the master of the schooner must have been a person of resources more manifold than scrupulous. But is it all true? An English-speaking Japanese who is not also an English-reading Japanese, is a *rara avis*. We have met many Japanese who could read a foreign language, though their attempts to speak it were distinctly bad, but an individual conversely instructed has not come under our observation. If then the police of the unnamed port in an unnamed prefecture could hold converse with the master of the schooner, they ought to have been able to decipher the pretended permit; unless, indeed, we admit another hypothesis, scarcely less incredible, namely, that the master of the schooner knew enough Japanese to talk about permits from Consuls under Government authority.

COUNT ITO'S FATHER.

WE are glad to be able to state that, according to accounts published in the vernacular papers, Mr. Ito Juzo, the aged father of Count Ito, is very much better and, it is hoped, will soon be in the enjoyment of his usual health. The old gentleman is said to be extremely attached to his simple rural life. His tastes have not been in any way changed by the brilliant career of his son. Farming has been his delight from his youth up, and until very recently he was often to be seen with a mattock on his shoulder wending his way to the fields whose cultivation he still superintends with keen interest. When congratulated on the success of his son, he seems surprised, and speaks as though he could not conceive of any higher enjoyment than a simple agricultural life. Not long ago, one of his neighbours, a man of no rank or influence, saluted Mr. Ito as the latter was employed in the fields. In acknowledging the salutation, the old man said:—"I have to thank you for your great kindness to my son Hirobumi. I am deeply indebted to you for what you have done."

THE EASTERN RADICALS.

NOR much has been heard of the Eastern Radicals (*Toyo Ji-yu-to*) since their secession under the leadership of Mr. Oi Kentaro from the ranks of the *Ji-yu-to*. Beyond the fact that they are opposed to mixed residence, and would keep the interior closed against foreign ingress, no one outside their own circle seems to know very clearly what they contemplate or what principles they profess. Our own suspicion is that their only hope of making a political mark is either

to follow in the footsteps of the men whose Korean scheme attracted momentary attention and secured for themselves a term of imprisonment some years ago, or else to organize a campaign on *soshi* lines, as seemed to be contemplated by Mr. Oi's *apologia* at the time of his rupture with the *Ji-yu-to*. At all events the inaction of the little party since it became independent, has not greatly surprised any one. The News Agency now reports, however, that Mr. Oi and his lieutenants are making arrangements to commence a political campaign from the middle of this month. But apparently their methods of warfare will present none of the novelty or incisiveness that might be expected from such doughty champions of the *fortiter in re*. They are merely going to despatch delegates to stump the provinces after the approved though hackneyed fashion, and they further propose to publish a newspaper under the title of *Shintoyo*, or the "New Orient." The names of Messrs. Miyazaki Seiran, Jibiki Junzo, Fukuda Tomosaku, and Suzuki Shugo are mentioned in connection with this journal, and the first number is expected to appear on the 15th instant.

MR. PIGGOTT'S WORK ON EXTRATERRITORIALITY.

THE English press has accorded much praise to Mr. F. T. Piggott's work on extraterritoriality. The *Law Library* says that "the reputation already acquired by him as a sound and thoughtful writer upon questions of constitutional and international law will be materially enhanced by his latest publication." Mr. Piggott shines chiefly as an essayist; the enunciation of legal axioms and the compilation of authorities tempt him ever and again into the field of criticism and of speculation whither the reader cannot but follow him with interest and profit. "To those who study, and to those who administer, extraterritorial law, this book will be of great use." The subject dealt with is one of ever-increasing interest, both theoretical and practical; and jurists, whether English or foreign, are to be congratulated that it has been treated by so deep a thinker and so able a writer as Mr. Piggott. The *Solicitor's Journal* says:—"To handle the subject of extraterritoriality in its purely legal aspects without either touching the debatable points as to the justification of consular jurisdiction in the East and the probable term of its continuance, or undertaking a special review of the texts of the several treaties and Orders in Council which provide for the extraterritorial action of the English Courts, is a task of no common difficulty, and Mr. Piggott has accomplished it with conspicuous success. His book is a valuable monograph on a subject of great curiosity and public interest." Many other journalistic utterances, not less favourable, show that Mr. Piggott's work is fully appreciated by men of learning in England.

ALLEGED CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN KUMAMOTO.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* writes in indignant terms on an alleged case of Christian persecution. The facts given in a Kumamoto newspaper are that a policeman discovered one of the pupils of the Yamaga Elementary School in the act of reading the Christian Bible, and on this being reported to the Director of the school the pupil was summarily dismissed. The *Mainichi* not doubting the accuracy of the story, despite its improbability, goes on to draw the unwarrantable inference that the School Director was backed by the Governor of Kumamoto. This official, our incensed contemporary attacks stoutly. Is the Governor unaware that Art. XXVIII. of the Constitution provides that "Japanese subjects shall within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief?" Is the Governor ignorant of the fact that Mr. Miyoshi Taizo, formerly Vice-Minister of Justice, is a Christian, as was also the late Viscount Mori. Did not the Governor of Kumamoto when stationed in Sendai take an active part in establishing a Christian School? Thus the conduct of the Kumamoto Governor in sanctioning a flagrant case of persecution is no less unconstitutional than the original sin with his own professed belief.

The fact is that since last February (the time of the general elections) government in Kumamoto has been non-existent. So writes the *Mainichi*. But its last remark furnishes a clue to the whole story. The chief editor of the *Mainichi* is a prominent *Kaishin-to* politician and Christian, and the soreness displayed by the writer is, no doubt, due to the electioneering experiences of the party to which he belongs. The story looks as if it had been trumped up to annoy the Governor of Kumamoto, whose late political doings have not met the approval of the *Kaishin-to* leaders.

SILK.

BOTH the *Fiji Shimpō* and the *Kokkai* write about the Silk market and the very exceptional prices ruling at present in Yokohama. These two journals agree in attributing the high figures paid by foreign exporters to short crops in Europe and China as well as in Japan, the produce for the last named country this season being estimated at thirty per cent. less than an average crop. The *Kokkai* is further disposed to think that the duty imposed by France upon Italian silk has helped the situation, but of course that factor cannot be reckoned as more than a mere bagatelle, if it has any effect at all. Great satisfaction, according to the *Fiji*, is felt by the sericulturists in the interior as well as by the silk-brokers in Yokohama, for it is now evident that although the quantity of the staple available for export will be less than the figure for last year, the pecuniary result will be even better; and considering that Japan received over thirty-two million dollars for the silk which she sent abroad in 1891, this forecast is naturally welcome. The *Fiji* is very confident that prices will be sustained, and says that the boom in the silk market goes far to compensate the stagnation caused by the unwillingness of the banks to afford accommodation. It says that from six hundred to a thousand bales (Japanese) are daily coming into the settlement, and the stocks on hand are only 8,403 bales (Japanese), being 6,778 bales less than the stocks at the same time last season, which fact also it adduces as evidence of a prosperous state of affairs. But we cannot altogether endorse this last deduction, since the mere smallness of the stock on hand proves nothing unless it be shown at the same time that the quantity already disposed of is also proportionately large. However, as the returns published in our market report of last Saturday put the total Settlements and Direct Export from July 1st at 11,800 piculs against 8,900 piculs at the corresponding date last year, the *Fiji's* view of the situation may be warranted. What is certain, at all events, is that not for many a year has there been such a boom in the silk market. Possibly from this branch of the country's foreign trade is to come the medicine which shall heal the general debility of commerce at present.

SCANDAL AT A SCHOOL IN TOKYO.

WE mentioned some time ago that the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, ventilator of all kinds of incredible marvels and miserable scandals, had published a highly ornate account of certain immoral proceedings in which a foreign Professor and also the Principal of an important school in Tokyo were implicated. The names of the school and of the man concerned were not accurately given, but there could be no manner of doubt as to the identity of both the place and the persons. A considerable interval separated the original publication from our reference to it, and in that interval the natural expectation was that steps would have been taken to contradict the *Yomiuri's* assertions and to punish it for giving publicity to such a libel. But no step was taken in that direction, and what is still more astonishing, the same journal now recurs to the subject in an article which seems to indicate that the first scandal is neither to be punished nor to be fully withdrawn. The *Yomiuri*, in this latest article, indicates the Tokyo School of Music as the scene of the incidents previously related, but says that they occurred under the régime of the former Principal, and then proceeds to detail a story which cannot for a moment be said to justify the gross libel related

in the original article. According to this new version, the foreign Professor (whose name is given) desiring to marry one of the graduates (whose name also is published in full), submitted proposals to her relatives, who, however, did not return any immediate answer. Subsequently the proposals were repeated, and as they soon became public property, all sorts of damaging rumours were circulated about the relations that had existed between the Professor and the young lady. Matters remained *in statu quo* until the appointment of the present Principal, Mr. Muraoka, when the affairs of the School were placed on a very strict footing. The Professor now once more broached the subject, this time to the Principal himself, whom he asked to push his suit with the young lady's relatives. But the Principal declined to do so, and declared himself altogether opposed to marriages between Professors and pupils, whether the latter had graduated or were still going through their course. The Professor is represented as having accepted this decision, though disagreeing with it, and as having given up any further thoughts of the young lady, "despite his previous relations with her." The *Yomiuri* is good enough to add that under Mr. Muraoka's direction the school is now conducted according to the highest principles of strict morality, and that the publication of the story impugning its reputation had caused much concern to the faculty as well as to the students. We should think so, indeed, but what of the unfortunate foreign Professor who was the prominent figure in the sensational journal's first story and upon whom the villainous libel is now again fixed? His perfectly straightforward and reasonable conduct—pace Mr. Muraoka—in asking for the hand of a young lady whom he had doubtless learned to love and esteem, suggested to prurient, mischief-mongers rumours which the *Yomiuri Shimbun* prostituted its columns to ventilate, and this brutal attack upon his honour as well as upon the virtue of the lady whom he sought in marriage, is now deliberately renewed in the context of an explanation which, to casual readers, must inevitably convey the impression of having been inspired by the Principal of the School. It is hard to conceive any patient and deliberate course in the face of such an outrage. The lash seems to be the only weapon for dealing with a writer like the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* graphist. There is, of course, the alternative that the worst part of the story is based upon fact. But that is scarcely credible. What astonishes us most is that a scandal so abominable should be left legally unnoticed. When are Japanese journals of the *Yomiuri* stamp to be taught the nature of their responsibilities? They can never learn it if the victims of their outrages submit quietly to be libelled and traduced.

THE POLICY OF THE NEW CABINET.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* and several other journals express disappointment that as yet the new Cabinet has enunciated no radical change of policy. Beyond the removal of a few Governors, says the *Fiji*, the new Government has done nothing to satisfy popular expectations. The ability of the men in power has led people to anticipate that they would effect great changes. But these anticipations do not seem destined to be realised. The *Fiji* thinks it very important that the Government should declare its policy prior to the assembling of the Diet and give the country an opportunity of judging between it and the Opposition. In its opinion, if nothing is done to meet the wishes of the parties in opposition, the antagonism between the Government and the Diet will, in the coming session, be as great as ever.

JAPANESE IN HAWAII.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains a paragraph describing an incident which is said to have occurred in Hawaii. A Mr. Henry Cochy (?), who has a sugar plantation on the island of Kawaii, employed about 170 Japanese labourers, some under contract, others on the free system. When the change in the United States Tariff imposed a duty on Hawaiian sugar, the margin of profit derivable by the cultivators of that

staple became so narrow, that work had to be abandoned on several plantations, among them being that of the planter whose transliterated name assumes the above form. The whole of the hands employed by him were thus thrown out of work and have been subjected to the greatest suffering. Several of them have wives and children, and these, despite unremitting efforts to obtain employment are said to be in a starving condition. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not explain how it happened that contract labourers met with such a fate. We must assume that the contracts were different from those which, according to the system now existing between Japan and Hawaii, the Government of the latter is pledged to see carried out.

THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.

THE following information bearing on the above subject is published in the *Kokkai*. A short time ago a telegram was received by the Japanese Foreign Office from the Governor of Macao which announced that the French Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo had been appointed Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General for Portugal. The Foreign Office referred the matter to Lisbon, but before an answer could arrive, a telegram reached the Office confirming the intelligence communicated by the Governor of Macao. To this telegram the Foreign Minister replied *Shochi shimashita*, "we acquiesce." The *Kokkai* adds that the details will be published in the *Official Gazette* within a day or two. With the exception of the *Nihon*, the Tokyo journals which discuss the subject all maintain that the appointment does not affect the question of jurisdiction. The *Nihon* argues that undoubtedly the object of the step taken is to restore the right of extraterritorial jurisdiction to the Portuguese. Consul-Generals in the East invariably possess jurisdiction over their nationals and others who may be placed under their care, and there is no reason for thinking, says our contemporary, that the rule will be departed from in the present instance.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE "NIPPON."

A PERUSAL of the *Nippon* of the 31st ult. reveals the cause of its suspension. It publishes an article purporting to give the *ipsissima verba* of Count Okuma respecting the character and policy of the members of the present Cabinet. How far the *Nippon's* account of Count Okuma's private utterances is correct it is impossible to say. A correspondent in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* (a *laishin-to* organ), writing over the signature of mo-no-jo, seems to be of opinion that the *Nippon* has rightly represented the Count's views, and argues that the Authorities ought to take steps to prevent the expression of such opinions as those held by Count Okuma rather than suspend the newspaper which reproduces them. This is palpably absurd. It is for the editors of newspapers to exercise discretion as to the matter published by them. If they fail to do this the Authorities are obliged to interfere. Much of the criticism of the present Cabinet which the *Nihon* has put into Count Okuma's mouth is unworthy of that great statesman, and its reproduction in the columns of that paper for the sake of sensation is unexcusable. Some time ago, when the *Nihon* was under a similar ban, we pointed out how the inconvenience was avoided—rendered nugatory, in fact—by the proprietors having another paper called the *Dai Nihon*, which they published during the period of suspension of the *Nihon*. This ruse is to be allowed no longer; the *Dai Nihon* has also been suspended.

IMPERIAL NOMINEES OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

ACCORDING to the *Fiji*, there is considerable agitation with regard to the Imperial Nominees of the House of Peers. The Law of the Houses defines these Nominees to be men who have rendered meritorious services to the state, or men of distinguished erudition. The terms of this definition could not be said to have been violated by the nomination of the members of the former Senate, who might fairly be considered to possess both of the qualifications contemplated by the law. But the agitators

claim that nominations were subsequently directed chiefly with the object of obtaining Government supporters in the Upper House, and that the Chamber threatens, under these circumstances, to become a retreat for officials who have shown no special administrative aptitude and possess no qualification for membership except loyalty to the Cabinet which appoints them. Apparently the question has received prominence owing to the nomination of two retiring Governors of Prefectures who were regarded as among the principal offenders in the matter of official interference in elections. The idea of the agitators is that the law should be changed so as to limit the term of parliamentary service in the case of these nominees to seven years, thus placing them on the same footing as the highest tax-paying members, instead of making their life members as at present. The *Yiyu* says that pressure has been brought to induce the Government to introduce a Bill in the above sense, and that, failing Government action, a Representation will be submitted in the House by the members themselves. What is abundantly plain is that the exercise of the privilege of nomination, as provided by the present law, is sure to provoke hostile criticism among some sections of the official or political world. Even supposing, which is more than improbable—that the strictest care were invariably observed so as to comply rigorously with the intention of the law, it would still appear to some that favoritism or political interest had influenced the nominations. On the whole the Government itself should not entertain any special objection to altering the term from life to seven years, for where a power is obviously liable to abuse, the limits of its exercise ought not to be needlessly wide.

THE STORM OF THE 4TH INSTANT.

THE typhoon of the 4th instant seems to have wrought much injury in Shizuoka, Aichi, and Gumma Prefectures, reaching them in the order here set down. It began to develop destructive violence at 9 a.m. in Shizuoka, and continued raging until 6 p.m. when there was a lull, only to be followed, after night-fall, by another outburst. At Hamamatsu the Local Court-house, the Elementary School, sixty-two dwelling houses and two warehouses were blown down, the same fate overtaking the railway shed, although it was built of brick. Two persons were injured at the station, and more than ten were crushed to death. It is related that in one house six people, old and young, sleeping in the same room were all killed. A great number of trees were overturned, but so far from the crops being injured, the *Nichi Nichi* says that the farmers are pleased at the advent of the gale, since it has cleared away the insects from the rice. These figures of the *Nichi Nichi* are not, however, entirely confirmed by later intelligence, which puts the total number of deaths at seven. Many persons must have been wounded, but no record is to hand. The Tokyo News Agency, whose report was published at 4 p.m. on the 7th instant, says that the total number of dwelling houses completely overthrown throughout the Prefecture of Shizuoka was 413; the number partially destroyed, 389; the number of bridges washed away, 6; the number of embankments broken, 4; the number of houses swept away, 7; and the number of godowns and other stores destroyed, 71.

In Aichi Prefecture the fury of the gale began to be felt at 2 p.m., the district most affected being Mikawa Province, in the Atsumi Division of which five persons were killed and two wounded. At the reclaimed lands of Yoshida the embankment was broken, and seventy dwellings were swept away, the number of killed and injured being unknown. Much damage was done in other parts of the province also, houses and trees being overthrown and the crops laid. Eastward of Toyohashi the telegraph line was broken.

In Gumma Prefecture the trouble began at 5 p.m., the Kanru Division suffering most. Ten dwellings and four stores were completely overthrown, and eight persons were injured more or less severely. From all these accounts it is

evident that the storm was of a very exceptional character, scarcely second in violence to the tempest which, aided by the sea, recently wrought such terrible devastation in Tokushima.

THE LEADING MEN IN THE VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Keisei Shimpō* has compiled a list of the most distinguished men in various political parties and distributed the portfolios of State among them. There is a great deal of imagination about the distribution but it is decidedly interesting to observe who are considered the most influential men in each party:—

MINISTER PRESIDENT OF STATE.

Count Soyejima Tanemichi (Conservative).
Count Okuma Shigenobu (*Kaishin-to*).
Count Itagaki Taisuke (*Fuyu-to*).
Count Saigō Tsugumichi (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Viscount Tani Tateki (Conservative).
Count Okuma Shigenobu (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Matsuda Masahisa (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Watanabe Kunitake (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR HOME AFFAIRS.

Viscount Torio Kiyata (Conservative).
Mr. Inukai Ki (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu (*Fuyu-to*).
Viscount Takashima Tomonobu (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE.

Mr. Tomita Teisunosuke (Conservative).
Mr. Ozaki Yukio (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Yamada Bunio (*Fuyu-to*).
Viscount Shinagawa Yajiro (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WAR.

Viscount General Soga Sukenori (Conservative).
Viscount General Soga Sukenori (*Kaishin-to*).
General Yamaji Masaharu (*Fuyu-to*).
General Kawakami Soroku (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE NAVY.

Admiral Nakanuma Kuranosuke (Conservative).
Admiral Nakanuma Kuranosuke (*Kaishin-to*).
Admiral Arichi Shinanosuke (*Fuyu-to*).
Viscount Admiral Kabayama Sukenori (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR JUSTICE.

Mr. Inouye Ki (Conservative).
Mr. Kitabatake Harufusa (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Hoshii Toru (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Watanabe Koki (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Viscount Kaiyeda Nobuyoshi (Conservative).
Mr. Kono Togama (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Takenouchi Tsuna (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Matsudaira Masanao (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS.

Viscount General Miura Goro (Conservative).
Mr. Mayejima Mitsuru (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Oi Kentaro (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Toyama Mitsuru (National Union).

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION.

General Yamakawa Ko (Conservative).
Mr. Yano Fumio (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Kono Hironaka (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Sasa Tomofusa (National Union).

MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD.

Count Higashikaze Michitomo (Conservative).
Prince Konoye Atsumaro (*Kaishin-to*).
Marquis Saionji Kimochi (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Iwamura Michitoshi (National Union).

PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Count Oki Takao (Conservative).
Count Kuroda Kiyotaka (*Kaishin-to*).
Count Katsu Awa (*Fuyu-to*).
Count Matsugata Masayoshi (National Union).

PRESIDENT OF THE AUDIT BUREAU.

Mr. Maruyama Sakura (Conservative).
Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Ohigashi Giteisu (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Sone Arasuke (National Union).

SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL OF METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Mr. Ando Sokumei (Conservative).
Mr. Kawashima Jun (*Kaishin-to*).
Mr. Hayashi Yuzo (*Fuyu-to*).
Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu (National Union).

THE SAPPORO EXHIBITION.

PRIZES were given to the successful competitors at the Sapporo Exhibition on the 25th ult., in presence of the Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and various Hokkaido high officials. The exhibits which obtained medals or certificates of merit amounted to 10 per cent.

of the total number. First prizes consisting of gold medals were awarded to 15 exhibitors; second, consisting of silver medals to 130; and third, consisting of copper medals to 350; while 600 exhibitors received certificates of merit. The report read by the Chairman of the Committee of judges states that the Exhibition furnishes evidence of great progress in the growth of cereals and roots, but shows that mining in the Hokkaido is still in a backward state. Sericulture and the collection and preparation for export of marine products are said to have made rapid strides since the last exhibition. A lack of enterprise in the use of foreign agricultural implements and the slow development of manufactures and industries are referred to as among the discouraging features of business in the Hokkaido.

THE "SOSHI."

THE *Yiyu* writes in a spirit of sympathy with the difficulty of controlling the *soshi*. They are indeed a puzzling problem are these gentry, for the common law of the land contains no provisions suitable to their case, and whenever the Administration enacts any special regulations for dealing with them, the Diet speedily rebels. Much of the Secret Service Fund is employed in obtaining information about the *soshi* and retaining touch with their projects and affiliations. But the Secret Service Fund is hateful in the eyes of the Diet, as is very natural. The fact is that the *soshi* are altogether incongruous with constitutional institutions, and that constitutional methods cannot suffice to control them. The *Yiyu* talks of sending them to the South Sea Islands or to Mexico, and doubtless they would make excellent citizens were they once removed beyond the sphere of political influence. But the real trouble, we venture to think, is not with the *soshi* themselves, but with conditions that create them. It is within the power of Japanese politicians at any moment to kill this uncivilized excrescence simply by depriving it of nourishment. Nobody imagines that *soshi* could exist for a month if they received no pecuniary aid from those in whose interests they are supposed to waste their energies.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

SEVERAL changes of officials are announced in the Foreign Office. Mr. Kurino Shinichiro, Director of the Political Bureau, is relieved from his additional post of Director of the Law Bureau, and is succeeded in the latter office by Mr. Hara Kei, Director of the Commercial Bureau. Mr. Nakada Keigi, Chief of the Private Secretariat, is appointed a Counsellor of the Law Bureau. Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke, hitherto Secretary of Legation, becomes a Counsellor of the Foreign Office, and the following alterations also are announced:—

Mr. Kato Masao, hitherto Private Secretary, to be Counsellor.
Mr. Torii Tadabumi, hitherto Secretary of the Foreign Office, to be Secretary of Legation.
Mr. Yakiyama Masanosuke, Student Interpreter in England, to be a Probationer.
Mr. Sato Fu, Probationer, to be Counsellor.
Mr. Kure Keida, Probationer, to be Private Secretary.
Mr. Ijuin Hikokichi, Probationer, to be a Translator.
Mr. Hata Ryotaro, Probationer, to be a Diplomatic Probationer.
Mr. Sugimura Toraiichi, Counsellor (now in Russia), to be Secretary of Legation.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

In the World's Fair Notes we read that "a separate building at the World's Fair for the shoe and leather industry exhibit is now an assured fact, as the required \$100,000 has all been raised. Leather dealers and manufacturers in all parts of the country have contributed to the fund. The building will be one of the handsomest on the grounds, having been designed by Sandier, an eminent French architect, now connected with the Fair. It will measure 150 by 575 feet, and will contain everything in the way of leather and the products of leather, exhibited at the Fair. The most improved machinery used in leather manufacture will be shown, as also the manufacturing processes. The visitor may watch this from the raw hide to a

finished shoe or dainty slipper. It is likely, too, that rubber goods and their manufacture will be shown in this building. Altogether the exhibit will be far larger and more complete than anything of the sort ever before attempted."

COUNT OKUMA'S CRITICISM OF THE CABINET.

COUNT OKUMA'S strictures on the present Cabinet, for the publication of which the *Nippon* was suspended, have been commented on by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The following is the gist of our contemporary's remarks:—Among modern statesmen no one is to be compared to Count Katsu in the power of uttering incisive remarks. But to Count Katsu's home-thrusts no one objects, perceiving, as people do, how thoroughly disinterested is the speaker, and how far removed from the world of politics on which he comments is this venerable politician. Next to the criticisms of Count Katsu those of Count Goto are worthy of note. The asperity which they would otherwise bear is removed by the kindly disposition and unsophisticated nature of the speaker. Count Okuma is no mean critic, but it is impossible to overlook the fact that his observations are those of a man seeking his own interest. He has allowed to be published in a newspaper a violent attack against the Cabinet which is altogether unworthy of a man of his reputation for statesmanship. He has singled out Count Ito as a special target to shoot at. He has predicted various things concerning the Cabinet recently formed. These predictions are about as likely to be fulfilled as Mr. Takashima's divination by means of the *Peki*. He has accused Count Ito of being a man of limited ideas and aspirations and of lacking in courage. Much depends on the definition of these terms. If by courage is meant, adds the *Nichi Nichi*, a determination to carry out resolutions without regard to fitness of time and place, without considering the feelings and rights of others, then we are glad to know that Count Ito does not possess this characteristic. The courage which Count Okuma accuses the Minister-President of lacking is, we are inclined to think, a little out of date. No doubt Count Okuma considers himself more courageous than Count Ito, but the transactions in which the two statesmen have figured tend to show that rashness rather than courage would be the proper epithet to apply to the part which the Waseda Count has played in modern politics. Count Okuma can hardly expect that his strictures on Count Ito will be allowed to influence thoughtful people. So writes the *Nichi Nichi*. For our own part, we find it very regrettable that Count Okuma should have been made to figure in the rôle of a critic of his former and perhaps future colleagues.

THE "JIJI" ON BUDDHIST DISSENSION.

THE editor of the *Jiji Shimpō* is essentially a preacher. Of late years he seems to have taken considerable interest in Buddhism, and we now find the *Mita* prophet denouncing in strong terms the priests of the Zen sect for their lack of proper feeling and for their pettiness. The text for the *Jiji*'s sermon on the need of charity is a long existing contention between the priests of the Eihei-ji, in Echigo, and those of the Sojiji, in Hoto. Both these temples belong to the Soto-shyu, one of the Zen-shyu sub-sects. The Eihei-ji is the older temple. But of late years the power of the Sojiji has increased so much that its priests claim a title to be released from subordination to the parent establishment. In order to attain this end they have applied to the Home Minister. It is not the custom of the Bureau of the Home Office which exercises jurisdiction over ecclesiastics to mix itself up with their dissensions. Hence the applicants were informed that the relationship of which they wished to rid themselves could only be changed with the consent of the priests of the parent temple. This consent being withheld, nothing was gained by referring the case to the higher powers. The Sojiji priests, however, were not to be silenced. They appealed to public opinion by means of speeches and newspapers, and so great is the commotion they have made that they go by the name of the *Soto*.

noisy—instead of the Soto, sect. It is one of the boasts of the Zen Sect that it attaches far more importance to personal virtue in its priests than to preaching power. The two great sects, the Zen and the Shin, frame different methods of enforcing their doctrines. "Preach and you will make converts," say the Zen teachers. The great attention paid to personal piety and strictness of religious observance by the Zen teachers is well illustrated by a notice inscribed in large letters over many of the entrances to their temples: "Let no eaters of flesh, fish, vegetables of strong odours, or drinkers of saké enter here." The early hours at which they perform their devotions, the earnestness with which they make their alms-begging rounds in the coldest weather, are calculated to impress people with the reality of their self-renunciation. This semblance of zeal is very telling with the masses. There is much truth in the saying that the religion of the Zen priests is seen, while that of the Shin priests is only heard. Now is it not to be deeply regretted, asks the *Jiji*, that a body of men who wield so much influence should injure their reputation by descending to the petty bickerings and contentions for superiority which characterise ordinary folks. We do not advocate the austerity which these men practise, says our contemporary, but we cannot deny that they have obtained an immense power over their fellow-men, or refrain from expressing regret that they should be doing their best to lose this power by disputations on utterly insignificant points, such as the superiority of one temple to another. If priests have no higher sense of their position and duties than has been displayed in this stupid controversy, we, concludes the *Jiji*, would recommend them to give up the profession of religion altogether.

THE DISMISSAL OF 27 MAYORS.

THE head of the Tonami district, in Toyama-Ken, has dismissed the mayors of 27 places situated in the district for having sent letters to Mr. Kono Hironaka, of the *Jiyu-to*, and Mr. Shimada Saburo, of the *Kaishin-to*, congratulating them on the success of their efforts as popular representatives. These Mayors were informed that their conduct was to breach of the rule which required local officials to abstain from party politics, and it was suggested that they should publicly withdraw the letters they had sent. This they refused to do and were consequently dismissed. The organs of the parties concerned maintain that the head of the Tonami-gun has exceeded his rights and recommend the dismissed officers to take legal action against him.

MIRACLES.

HERE is a concise statement of the Orthodox Christian's view of miracles in this nationalistic age; it is by the Rev. M. L. Young:—

Those who deny the possibility of miracles, or place a low estimate upon them, ignore God's purpose and power in the plan of redemption. The objector who says: "After the development of the creation was completed, and the actual order of things definitely established, the Creator could not again interfere with His work without acknowledging it incomplete, and He himself imperfect," seems to forget the existence of a moral world and free agency. Because man is a free agent sin is possible; and sin, as an actual fact, demands Divine intervention, either for the destruction or salvation of the sinner. "It must be remembered," says Dr. F. Götze, "that the culminating point of the development of nature is a free and independent spirit—man. There are, then, two free beings face to face with each other—man and God; and any further intervention of God in the realm of nature, in which He has established man, must depend upon the future relation between these two free beings. If man takes the course which will lead him to the realization of the Divine idea, God can confine Himself to simply allowing the human race to develop in history, under the guidance of the Spirit, those multitudinous germs He has planted in it. But if man takes another course, and starts an abnormal development leading to his own ruin and frustrating the Divine purpose of the creation, God must either destroy that lost creature, replace him with another, or do something to draw him away from his bad course. In the latter case the door is opened for Divine intervention, even in the form of miracles; and no imperfection of God is thereby implied. On the contrary, that which makes His renewed intervention necessary—the human freedom—will still continue the most beautiful expression of the perfection of His works."

Miracles must be subjected to such tests as are ap-

plied to other facts of history. Among the necessary criteria are the number, honesty, and competency of the witnesses, their opportunity to know the facts, and the absence of motives for imposture.

There can be no doubt that Jesus Christ claimed supernatural power. When John's disciples came inquiring, "Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?" He answered, "Go and show John again those things which ye do hear and see; the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk," etc., etc. To the Jews he said, "The same works that I do bear witness of Me that the Father hath sent Me." Christ plainly says that He did work miracles. Can we believe Him? His own Resurrection, the greatest of all miracles, is the assurance that "all that in their graves shall His voice, and shall come forth." The miracles can never be separated from the Christian system. They are like stones built into the perfect arch of Christianity. Tear them away from their place, and the structure either falls into ruins, or stands, robbed of its beauty and strength, ready to fall. Take miracle out of Revelation, and the fundamental facts of Christianity are gone.

THE PHOENIX HALL.

WE learn that a part of the model of the Hōodo (Phoenix Hall) is to be shipped by the *Belgic* for the Chicago Exhibition. Our readers doubtless remember that the despatch of this building—which is intended to convey an idea of Japanese architecture to the western public—forms part of the World's Fair scheme as recommended by the House of Representatives. The original of the Hall is at Uji, and the model consists of a main building with two lean-to ends, the verandah supported by copper-covered posts ornamented with lotus blossoms of gilt metal in relief. The construction of the model was entrusted to the Doboku Kaisha, and the duty of shipping it to the Naigai Yotatsu Kaisha. Skilled workmen are to go from Japan for the purpose of erecting the edifice in the grounds of the World's Fair, where it is to remain permanently, Japan charging herself with the responsibility of keeping it in repair. The interior decoration is by the Fine Arts School (*Bijutsu Gakko*). It shows three ages of Japanese decorative art, as represented in the *chefs-d'œuvre* of the Ashikaga, Tokugawa, and Fujiwara Schools. The total cost is to be sixty thousand yen, and the portion which goes forward by the *Belgic* weighs 350 tons.

MR. SUEHIRO ON THE KOREAN FISHERY QUESTION.

MR. SUEHIRO, hitherto editor of the *Kokkai Shimbun*, who recently left Japan on an extensive tour, has written to the *Kokkai* relative to the Quelpart fishery question. Mr. Suehiro is unaware, he says, whether the negotiations between the Japanese Foreign Office and the Korean Government have gone beyond proposals. If not he advises the Japanese not to agree to the proposition that the right to fish at Quelpart be foregone on consideration of Korea's consenting to open the port of Taitong for settlement and trade. This port, observes Mr. Suehiro, who writes from Korea, is about 150 miles distant from Seoul. The trade there is almost exclusively in the hands of the Chinese, and Japanese would stand no chance whatever against such rivals. Even at Chemulpo, where Japanese traders are much more favourably situated, it is all they can do to hold their own against the Chinese. The Quelpart fisheries are a source of revenue to Japan for which it would not be easy to find a substitute, and Mr. Suehiro strongly recommends the Foreign Minister not to yield an inch on the point.

SILK.

It would certainly be a matter of much interest to know exactly to what extent and by what stages sericulture has increased in Japan since the opening of the country. The *Jiji Shimpō* refers briefly to the subject. It says that the business of sericulture has developed steadily during the *Meiji* era, and that the number of households now engaged in it is about eight hundred thousand, while the area of land under mulberry cultivation, which in 1886 was 350,000 acres, is shown by the statistics of last year to be 600,000 acres, being an increase of over 70 per cent in five years. Moreover, numbers of persons hitherto unconnected in any way with silk, hearing how profitable the occupation is, have lately begun to employ instructors and visiting

the regions of sericulture in order to obtain practical information, the consequence being a great development of general interest. As an evidence of growth in new directions, the *Yiji* refers to the Kurayoshi silk of Hakushu, which has been selling for such fine prices in Yokohama this season. Hitherto quite unknown, the Kurayoshi silk, which by its fineness and general quality is specially adapted to the French market, has won the palm from the well established products of Shinshu and Joshu, and has commanded as much as 800 *yen* per bale, whereas the highest figure for other varieties was 770 or 780 *yen*. It appears, from our contemporary's account, that the company by whom this Kurayoshi silk is put on the market, has exercised the greatest care in preparing it, every process from the hatching of the eggs onwards having been most accurately superintended. The result is an article of exceptional excellence, which fact, the *Yiji* adds, fully accounts for the high price commanded, without recourse to any of the curious theories advanced by certain brokers of Yokohama. The *Yiji* expects that as sericulture develops, similar incidents may be looked for in the history of the trade.

GALE IN OKINAWA PREFECTURE.

THE gale which swept over southern and central Japan last month, inflicting such terrible damage in Tokushima Prefecture, seems to have devastated the Riukiu Islands also. A report sent from Okinawa gives the following figures:—

Houses completely overthrown	1,549
Houses partially overthrown	1,106
Outhouses blown down	1,350
Outhouses injured	645
Schools overthrown	2
Boats swept out to sea (over 300 <i>koku</i>)	23
Sailors and passengers lost or missing	24
Persons crushed to death	400
Persons injured	1
Goats killed	79
Oxen killed	2
Horse killed	1
Trees blown down (1½ in diameter and upwards)	3,340

The crops also are said to have been greatly injured, and the above figures do not seem to include the devastation wrought in the smaller islands of the group.

A telegram from Hokkaido, dated at 4.15 p.m. on the 7th instant, says that owing to a tempest on the 1st instant, the Toyabeni River in the Yezashi District overflowed, inundating 241 houses and carrying away 2. During the night of the 3rd instant, also, Sapporo and Otaru were the scene of a storm of wind and rain, which caused heavy floods in the Kachifu and Okobachi Rivers, 9 houses being swept away, 8 partially broken, and 700 inundated. Four lives were lost and much damage was done to property. The railway and telegraphic services between Otaru and Sapporo were suspended, and though the latter service was again in working order at the time of the despatch of the telegram, it was expected that a day or two more would be required to re-open the railway.

A SIMPLE REMEDY.

PROFESSOR PARISI, of the University of Athens, whilst travelling in Abyssinia, suffered severely from tapeworm, and learned from native doctors that a very simple remedy would cure him, namely, the milk and substance of the ordinary cocoanut. It was not with much faith that Professor Parisi took his first draught of cocoanut milk, afterwards eating nearly the whole of a fresh nut, but his astonishment was great when the following morning he got rid of a large tapeworm, head and all. Since his return to Athens, Professor Parisi has prescribed the cocoanut in many cases, not one of which has failed.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.

APPARENTLY the rapid increase exhibited of recent years in the export of silk handkerchiefs has brought with it the usual temptation to adopt faulty methods of manufacture. The *Kokkai* says that the province of Echizen in Fukui Prefecture is the chief centre for the

weaving of the *habutaye* of which the handkerchiefs are made, and that, during the first six months of the present year, the people of the province wove three hundred thousand pieces (*hiki*) of that material, the total value of which was about eighteen hundred thousand *yen*. But on the arrival of the *habutaye* in Yokohama, it was found to be of inferior quality, so that not only is the price reduced, but also the reputation of the article will suffer abroad. The *Kokkai* wisely warns the weavers of Echizen that unless they correct this fault in good time, they may lose a fine permanent trade for the sake of a paltry and temporary gain.

THE BUDGET.

It is reported by the *Chuo Dempo-sha* (News Agency) that the Expenditure Estimates of all the Departments in the forthcoming Budget greatly exceed those of last year, and although reductions may be effected by the Cabinet there is sure to be a hot discussion over the figures in the next session. The following are some of the principal items:—

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

A sum of 40,000 *yen* is demanded for Colonization Investigation Expenditure. Viscount Enomoto projected this measure, which has met the approval of Mr. Mutsu, but as both the *Fiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* are opposed to it, a hard tussle in the Diet is anticipated.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

A sum of 1,890,000 *yen* is demanded for the improvement of the river courses. Both the Government and the Diet are in favour of this undertaking.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

No new enterprise of any importance is projected, but the ordinary expenditures for the Bureau for the Examination of Accounts, and for the Privy Council are somewhat increased.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

A sum of 90,000 *yen* is demanded for the establishment of a School of Industry in Osaka, and a certain sum as subsidies for other Industrial Schools throughout the empire.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

A sum of 253,000 *yen* is demanded for the Compilation of Registry Books. A sum of 1,200,000 *yen* is actually required for this undertaking, but it is proposed to spread the expenditure over a period of five years.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

A sum of 400,000 *yen* is demanded for the Land Survey expenditure, and another sum of 1,080,000 *yen* for the Construction of Fortresses. Hitherto the public have regarded the surveying of land as only of service for military purposes, but its public utility is now more generally recognized.

NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

The principal items are a sum of 2,802,700 *yen* for the Construction of men-of-war, and 580,000 *yen* for Public Works. These were rejected by the Diet last session so that another hot fight over them may be looked for.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The expenditure for the construction of a Submarine Cable to Okinawa Prefecture, and for the Parcel Post are the principal items.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Particulars of the requirements of this Department have not yet been ascertained.

MURDER AT HONMOKU.

A JAPANESE, who was subsequently recognised as a jinrikisha coolie named Shimizu Tetsugoro, was taken out of the water at Honmoku on Monday night, dead, with seven cut and stabs apparently inflicted with a knife, one alone—in the throat—being sufficient to have caused death. It appears that a foreigner was seen to come out of the water just prior to the finding of the body, who was heard to sing out "*Hito shin-danji*," and then make off. The foreigner and the Japanese had apparently been bathing, and the former in his hurry to get away, left behind him a shirt and other articles by which has since been traced. He is a native of Holland, named Peter Schoenberg, and deserted from the *Ti-mandra*, a vessel recently in this harbour. The man at present denies the charge, but the evidence that has been collected so far against him is considered quite sufficient for a charge of murder to be laid against him. Schoenberg engaged the deceased to take him to

Honmoku, as he said, to have a swim, and they were seen together on the way to that place, and at the scene of the tragedy, between the two bathing houses. About eight o'clock, some fishermen in the vicinity were startled by a scream, and on arriving at the water's edge were met by a foreigner coming out of the sea. He was understood to say some one was dying. They then went into the water, while the foreigner came ashore and disappeared. The body in the meantime was brought to land, and the police arriving shortly after, took possession of it and a shirt, collar, and necktie found on the beach. The latter were taken to various saloons in Yokohama, until a place was reached kept by a man named Keefe, where a man known as Antonio said the shirt belonged to him, adding that he had lent it to Schoenberg and that the necktie had been given him by Keefe. When Schoenberg returned the same evening shirtless, he was asked by Antonio what he had done with his shirt, when he replied that he had sold it for 20 cents. He came in shivering at about 10 o'clock, and when asked if anything was the matter with him, he replied in the negative, but thinking he was sick, they gave him some brandy and put him to bed. During the next day he expressed a desire of going on board some ship, and as it was suspected that he wanted to escape, he was shadowed by detectives, and finally arrested in the evening at his lodgings at No. 136. On being examined, scratches were found on his right breast, which Dr. Rokkaku said were caused by finger-nails. The police are very reticent, but they say they have all the evidence necessary to prove that they have the right man.

The preliminary evidence in the Honmoku murder has now been obtained, and the depositions were forwarded on Thursday by the Police to the Dutch Representative in Tokyo. It is not by any means certain, however, that the man Schoenberg will be recognised as a subject of Holland. His claims to such recognition have still to be considered, and if they are rejected, jurisdiction will devolve upon Her Britannic Majesty's Court in consideration of the fact that the man came to Japan in a British vessel. Under no circumstances, however, will the trial take place before a Dutch tribunal in Japan, for the judicial competence of the Netherlands Representative is limited to cases where the penalty does not exceed four years' penal servitude, and of course a charge of murder cannot be included in that category. Should Schoenberg's Dutch nationality be recognised, the course pursued will be merely to collect the evidence here, and submit it to Batavia, where an adequate sentence can be pronounced. A point seems to have been stretched to secure the man's arrest. The Japanese Police are not vested with authority to arrest any subject or citizen of a Treaty Power unless they take him in *flagrant delicto*: a Consular warrant has to be obtained by way of preliminary. Evidently, when the nationality of an offender is doubtful, a considerable interval may elapse before any Consul or Minister can be induced to issue a warrant, and in the interval it is quite on the cards that the offender may effect his escape from Japan. However, where all are anxious to further the ends of justice, as is the case in this country, no very serious inconvenience is likely to arise from this cause. We presume that, in Schoenberg's case, the Netherlands Representative, whom an emergency is not likely to find resourceless, waived ceremony in the interests of justice. Meanwhile, the mystery of the man's alleged crime remains. The story now runs that the murder was perpetrated at the instigation of a woman who owed money to the unfortunate *jinrikisha*-coolie. But is it credible that a motive so paltry can have inspired a crime so serious? The debt, if it existed at all, must have been very small; certainly not larger than the reward supposed to have been promised to Schoenberg for making away with the creditor. The current version of the affair is exceedingly incredible. It is curious that now for the

first time in the history of foreign relations with Japan, the murder of a Japanese by a foreigner on shore should be recorded. Deaths by violence have happened at sea, but we cannot recall any previous case of a murder on shore. And it is still more curious that two such cases should have occurred almost simultaneously, for if Schonenberger is lying in the Kanagawa jail awaiting trial for a capital offence, Webster is incarcerated at Niigata for the same offence, and will soon be cited before Mr. Consul Hall, who proceeds from Hakodate to Niigata for the purpose. Webster has now been travelling about Japan for several years in the capacity of a wrestler. He is a man of enormous corpulence and considerable strength, but when he appeared in the ring in Tokyo in 1889, he failed to stand against any Japanese wrestler of tolerable force. Coming to Japan from America, he has always hitherto been regarded as a United States citizen, and, indeed, unless we are mistaken, he obtained his passport through the United States Legation. However, Great Britain seems to have taken charge of him at the crisis of his career.

Matters in connection with this tragedy have advanced a stage. On Friday, the Netherlands Minister, Count von Bylandt, came down to Yokohama, and the man in custody was brought before him at the Netherlands Consulate, No. 92, Mr. van der Polder, Secretary of Legation, being also present. After an investigation into Schonenberger's claim to Dutch jurisdiction, His Excellency refused to recognize him as a national. The Japanese Police Authorities then took the matter into their own hands, and Schonenberger was removed to the Chihō Saibansho. Here a charge of wilful murder was preferred against him, and the Public Procurator remanded him to Tobe Prison pending the preliminary inquiry. It seems probable that the man's claim to Dutch nationality is well founded, for he speaks Dutch fluently, and shows a tolerably accurate knowledge of certain parts of Holland. But he has nothing whatever in the form of documentary evidence to establish his claim. The only papers in his possession are two discharges from ships in which he served during the past two years, and these of course, prove nothing as to his nationality. It does not follow, however, that because the Netherlands Minister has declined, at this stage, to recognise the man's alleged nationality, the case is definitely excluded from Dutch jurisdiction. Schonenberger, when arraigned before the Japanese Authorities, will doubtless repeat his claim of Dutch allegiance, and will have another opportunity, —which he may then be in a better position to utilize—of substantiating the allegation. If he succeeds in convincing the Japanese Court that he is Dutch, whether by procuring documentary proof or furnishing references, he will be handed over finally to the Netherlands tribunal, which would then, presumably, make no difficulty about assuming jurisdiction. Such a case as this strongly emphasizes the fact that the really practical and simple method of procedure in regard to all foreign offenders against the law is to entrust to the Japanese Authorities the duty, not only of arresting them, but also of determining their nationality. There ought to be no obstacle of any kind opposed to the speedy and certain apprehension of a culprit, and, for the rest, since the right of jurisdiction belongs originally to the territorial Authorities, it seems most natural and proper that they should decide, in the first place, their competence to exercise it. In the case of Schonenberger there has been a suggestion that, failing Dutch jurisdiction, the British Authorities might step in and claim him as a deserter from an English ship. But though he might possibly be cited before the British Court in respect of the offence of desertion, his connection with a British vessel, even though that connection had not been severed—as it has in the present instance—could not render him judiciable by a British tribunal on account of a crime committed on Japanese territory. The Ross case disposes of anything of that kind. Except as a British subject, the man cannot come under the juris-

isdiction of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan. His case rests with either the Dutch or the Japanese.

THE ST. LEGER.

On reading the telegram giving the result of the Leger, the first question that naturally occurs to one is—where was Orme? Not being in the first three, it is reasonable to suppose that he did not start, especially when his victory in the Eclipse Stakes is remembered, notwithstanding the fact that there are people who say that race was no gift, and that it was as much as he could do to get his nose in front on the post. There is something curious about the betting of the last few days of July, as on the 25th Orme was backed at 11 to 10 on, whereas on the 29th he had receded to 6 to 4 against, Watercress being quoted at 7 to 1, and Sir Hugo at 100 to 14, La Flèche not being in the quotations. This latter is also a curious circumstance, as Baron Hirsch's filly had an unbeaten record as a two-year old, and this year landed the One Thousand Guineas and the Oaks, besides running second to Sir Hugo in the Derby. However, the flying daughter of St. Simon and Quiver has turned the tables on her Epsom conqueror by repeating the performance of her full sister, Memoir, on the Town Moor two years ago, and following the footsteps of the Oaks winners Jannette, Apology, Marie Stuart, and Hannah. We have previously given the pedigree and performances of both La Flèche and Sir Hugo, but do not remember Watercress as a winner. He is a brown colt by Springfield—Wharfedale, and belongs to Baron Rothschild. He only ran once as a two-year-old, starting at the First October Meeting at Newmarket in the Rous Memorial Stakes and failing to get placed.

AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

It has been already announced that autumn manoeuvres, at which the Emperor himself will be present, are to take place in the north-east, the troops taking part in them being the Imperial Guards, and the First, Second, and Third Divisions. We now learn that the Guards and the First and Second Divisions will leave Tokyo about the 20th of next month, from which it may be inferred that the manoeuvres will take place about the 25th. The exact locality is kept secret.

THE NOBLES' SCHOOL.

We learn that the Faculty of the Nobles' School (Gakushū-in), Tokyo, have appointed Mr. John Trumbull Swift, B.A., to be Professor of English Language and Literature. Mr. Swift resides in Tsukiji, and has hitherto been discharging the duties of Secretary of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, New York. He is a graduate of Yale College, and was engaged, some years ago, as teacher in one of the Upper Middle Schools.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

The following changes are announced in the Department of Education:—

Mr. Kimura Masakoto, Secretary, to be an Instructor in the College of Literature.
Mr. Kataoka Naoteru, Secretary of the Home Department, to be Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Education.
Mr. Yanagisawa Masataro, Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Education, to be Secretary of the Department of Education.

THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.

The appointment of Mr. Collin de Plancy as Chargé d'Affaires and Acting Consul-General for Portugal is announced in the *Official Gazette*. The new arrangement does not affect the question of jurisdiction. While the Ordinance of the 14th July remains in operation, it seems almost superfluous to point out that all parties concerned must necessarily understand that judicial functions are not attached to the appointment.

A COSTLY EXPERIMENT.

A stupid attempt has just been made by a man named Sudo Jiro to defraud the Post Office of one cent. He received a post-card from a friend, obliterated the contents with Indian ink, and wrote his reply in red over it. This he returned to the Post Office with a slip attached to

say that the addressee had left. Two months imprisonment and police surveillance for six months is the reward of his ingenuity.

STEAMER ASHORE.

The *Hesperia* reports seeing a large two-masted steamer on the rocks close to the Lighthouse at Rock Island. Only the upper part of the vessel's topmasts were visible, with a pennant flying from one of them. It is thought that she must have got there recently as she was moving backwards and forwards with the heavy swell. The *Hesperia* passed Rock Island at 1 p.m. Sunday.

MR. HIRANUMA'S PERSECUTORS.

The *soshi* crusade against Mr. Hiranuma, the Yokohama usurer, continues, and unless stopped by the police, may bring about serious results. A band of these self-constituted mentors, to the number of over one hundred, threaten to make an attack on Mr. Hiranuma's house at Iseyama, Yokohama, at an early date.

THE PICTORIAL EXHIBITION.

It now appears that the Exhibition of Japanese pictures contemplated by the Fine Arts Society, will be held from the 7th of next month in Ueno Park, and that it was not opened on the 1st instant as previously stated.

THE "ANGERS."

The steamer referred to in the telegram as having been on shore, left here on Saturday last for Moji to load coal. She is a British vessel of 2,077 tons, and is under the command of Captain Pinkham.

MR. IWASAKI'S SMELTING WORKS.

On the 23rd ult. a fire broke out at Kitakata-mura, Higashiusuki-gori, Miyazaki, in Mr. Iwasaki's smelting works, damaging the machinery and other property to the extent of 20,000 yen.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Opposition papers continue to be impatient about the Cabinet's silence on the policy it intends to pursue. Article after article is published urging upon the Ministry the necessity of taking the people into its confidence at the earliest possible opportunity. A new development in the situation has been inaugurated by the Progressionist organs, which are gradually beginning to break the somewhat ominous silence hitherto observed by them as to the particular reforms they would have the Government carry out. This conspicuous silence seemed to confirm a report very generally circulated, that the Progressionist leader had avowed his Party's resolve not to entrust any part of its programme of reform to the direction of a Clan Cabinet. A significant circumstance is that a report of precisely opposite character is current about Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, and right-hand man of Count Itagaki. He is said to have declared that his party is ready to give friendly support to any Ministry, clan or otherwise, which consents to carry out the reforms demanded by the voice of the people. The frankness of the Radical papers, on the one hand, and the apparent reluctance of the Progressionist organs to speak out, on the other, seemed to confirm the truth of the reports just alluded to. Be that as it may, the Progressionist organs are beginning to assume an attitude of greater openness. For instance, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, now the leading organ of that Party, has commenced an interesting series of articles on the Policy of the Second Administration of Count Ito. The series is not yet finished, but what has thus far appeared amply warrants us in expecting that the whole criticism will be marked by the same excellent sense and moderation manifested in the opening articles. Our contemporary begins by according to Count Ito the foremost place among statesmen of clan complexion, and by acknowledging his conscientiousness and great ability. Further on it observes that the Count's defect is lack of decision, but admits that in strength of judgment he is far above every one of his colleagues, whom

he also surpasses in sincere anxiety to avoid mistakes of all kinds in the conduct of business. So much for personal character. The Count is then congratulated on his return to power at an extremely favourable opportunity. The nation, thoroughly weary of weak and incapable governments, was in a mood ready to welcome even a Clan Ministry provided it was better than its predecessor. Count Ito further found a Treasury, not indeed overflowing with surplus, but showing a substantial sum of 10 million yen ready to be used for some useful purpose. It is then natural, continues the *Mainichi*, that the public should expect his Cabinet to achieve something good and brilliant. But unfortunately the Count has not yet announced his programme, and since he declines to declare his policy, the Progressionist organ ventures to offer some hints as to the course he ought to pursue. First, with regard to the policy to be adopted towards the Diet, the *Mainichi* distinctly tells the Premier that it does not wish or expect him to follow the programme of the Popular party in every respect. It would, on the contrary, like to see him manfully reject such proposals of the Opposition as he may think injurious to the national interests. But in one matter he is told that it will be imperatively necessary for him to be guided by the popular wishes; namely, in the revision of the Public Meetings, Newspapers, and Publications, Regulations. Towards this question but one attitude is possible. If in this single direction he is ready to follow the lead of the Opposition, he may, according to the *Mainichi*, in all other matters use his own discretion in dealing with the Diet. Surely this is a moderate demand. Next, our contemporary proceeds to discuss the financial problem. It recommends the Premier to carry out the plan of economy so courageously announced by him in 1885. In the remaining articles the *Mainichi* proposes to discuss the policy that ought to be pursued with reference to the control of Local Authorities, the question of the Codes, and that of Treaty Revision.

In view of the incessant clamour on the part of Opposition papers for the announcement by the Government of some picturesque and dazzling policy, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks it necessary to repeat what it has already written to explode the illusion under which these journals labour. What is required is not an attractive programme, but the steady prosecution of solid and genuine work. The *Nichi Nichi* acknowledges that there are abuses and evils calling for effective remedy. But the undesirability of any hasty and precipitate action at the present juncture is amply illustrated by the past history of the Meiji Government. The *Nichi Nichi*, therefore, advises the members of the new Cabinet to be as deliberate and earnest as possible in carrying out reforms. It will of course take them some time to mature their schemes of reformation. Nothing, therefore, can be more absurd or unjust than to complain of their tardiness in announcing a programme. In short, the *Nichi Nichi*'s advice to the Ministers of State is that they should shun all heroic and brilliant performances and be contented with plain and substantial work.

The *Choya Shimbun* also points out the unreasonableness of demanding an early declaration of Ministerial policy. The Cabinet system of Japan being purely monarchical, no incoming Cabinet should be asked to announce its programme. The proper occasion for it to declare its policy is when the Diet assembles. This practice was invariably followed by the Yamagata and Matsukata Cabinets, and will be followed by the present one.

The activity of the Radicals attracts much attention. Their representatives in the Provinces of the northwest recently held a successful meeting at Morioka; while those in the localities round Tokyo are about to meet at Mito by way of counterblast to the movements of the Eastern Radicals under Mr. Oi Kentaro. The Radicals now enjoy a considerable amount of popular confidence, while their allies the Progressionists

are in a less enviable position. The consciousness of increasing strength seems to make the former more and more sober and rational in their attitude towards the Government, while an exactly opposite feeling produces correspondingly opposite results in the case of the latter. The Radicals now declare through their organ, the *Jiyu*, that the time has arrived when the destructive tactics of the past must be abandoned in favour of a constructive policy, and that "their aim is not to contend for political power but to effect political improvements." "A change," says the *Jiyu* further on, "has already taken place on the political stage, and political parties must now bid farewell to the tactics hitherto pursued by them." It is, we are told, to effect this desired reform in the attitude of the Radicals that they have of late been holding conferences in various places. No careful observer can fail to discern the true import of these significant declarations. There is no reason or necessity to suppose that any understanding exists between the Ito Cabinet and the Radicals, or even that there is a tendency to practical reconciliation between the two. But we may safely infer from the public avowals of the Radicals that they are ready to deal with the Ministry in an open and candid manner.

The Progressionist organs refrain from making any direct allusion to the above mentioned declarations of the Radicals. They have, already noticed, become somewhat more frank and open in their own criticisms of the present Cabinet. But there are indications that they do not view with equanimity the peaceful avowals of their allies, the Radicals. The *Hochi Shimbun*, for instance, finds fault with the members of the *Shichi Shu Kai* of the north-east and of the *Doshi Kai* of Kyushu. The two associations are composed of local politicians of progressive tendency, the majority of whom belong to the Radical party. The formation of the associations was avowedly preliminary to an alliance between the Radicals and the Progressionists. At first the members made it their common aim to attack Clan Government, but of late, influenced doubtless by the Radicals, they seem to be less ardent in their anti-official crusade. Such a state of things is peculiarly distasteful to the *Hochi Shimbun*, which roundly rebukes the members of the two associations for their indifference to the common aim that brought them together.

The dismissal of 27 Headmen in the Rural District of Tonami in Toyama Prefecture, on account of their having addressed a joint letter of thanks to Mr. Kono and Mr. Shimada, Parliamentary leaders of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* respectively, has evoked strong condemnation from the Opposition press. Such a step is declared to be a gross and unjustifiable encroachment upon the rights of self-government vested in rural communes. Not only is there no provision of law prohibiting the despatch of such letters to public men, but there have been instances in which similar acts on the part of Headmen were approved and even encouraged by the Local Authorities. One of these instances was the sending of a letter of condolence to the Russian Crown Prince at the time of the Otsu incident. Numerous other precedents are said to exist for the sending of letters of thanks to Governors by Headmen representing their respective communes. The Headmen in the present instance have appealed against the act of their *Guncho*, and the question may possibly come before the Court of Administrative Litigation. The vernacular press, in connection with this matter, fails to note the wholesome rule prevailing in the Occident, that all documentary combinations of officials for political purposes are strictly interdicted. It was precisely against the Headmen of Districts and Divisions that the Opposition railed on account of their supposed interference in the general elections of February last, and yet the Opposition organs would now encourage unions among these very Headmen for political purposes. It is predicted that the central Government will reinstate the dismissed Headmen, but

if it does, a very evil precedent will, in our opinion, be established.

The report of anti-Japanese demonstrations in Idaho has caused great excitement in Japan. The papers as yet hesitate to credit the accuracy of the story. If there be truth in the statement that the Japanese concealed cases of small-pox, it was natural that the people of Idaho should strongly object. But, continue the metropolitan papers, they had no justification for acting in the manner reported. Believing the tale to be essentially true, the vernacular papers still decline to think that an unreasonable prejudice against Japanese is found anywhere except in the lawless and unrefined States of the West. Nevertheless, the conduct of the mob in the present instance cannot be passed without notice by Japan. The Government is strongly urged to make investigations and take measures to prevent the repetition of such acts of lawlessness. It is feared that, should the anti-Japanese movement in the States be suffered by the Washington Authorities to grow unchecked, the Japanese will be forced to resort to acts of reprisal against Americans residents in this country. Such a result would be extremely awkward and regrettable, especially as the Japanese have hitherto regarded the Americans as the best of their foreign friends. The papers, therefore, call upon the Government to employ all reasonable honourable means of averting such a calamity. On the other hand, should things reach a stage where dignified and peaceful methods of remonstrance are unavailing, the Americans, say the Tokyo papers, will find the Japanese very different from the Chinese. There will be no hesitation in this country to make a manly stand against the American Republic.

The announcement that M. Collin de Plancy, French *Chargé d'Affaires*, had been appointed Portuguese *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim* and Consul-General at Tokyo, caused some papers to imagine that France had taken up the cause of Portuguese jurisdiction. Of course the appointment could not, in any way, affect that question, the abrogation of the jurisdiction clauses of the treaty having been irrevocably resorted to by Japan after mature consideration. But the present week has witnessed much parade of Japanese courage and patriotism. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* cautions its contemporaries against making any more fuss about this question, which it describes as a simple matter limited strictly to Japan and Portugal. The *Nichi Nichi* adds that the step taken by Japan was in the interests of the Portuguese residents no less than of Japanese subjects, and pooh-poohs the idea of the thing being taken up by any third Power.

The Korea problem has been discussed during the week by the *Hochi Shimbun*, which holds Counts Ito and Count Inouye principally responsible for the decline of Japanese influence in the peninsular Kingdom. That decline, we read, dates from the *émule* of 1884, in which the two statesmen are alleged to have been more or less implicated, and upon them, therefore, devolves the task of restoring the lost prestige of Japan in Korea.

The *Fumuri Shimbun* discusses the present condition of light literature in Japan. It is inclined to believe that a literature which at one time gave earnest of rivalling that of the eras of *Genroku* and *Kyôhô*, the Elizabethan Age of Japanese letters, now shows signs of decline. Men like Haru-no-ya Oboro, Kôyô, Bimyo, Kôson, Nansui, Roban (all *noms de plume*) and others are certainly novelists of whom any age or any country might be proud. But of late there is much dearth of originality in their work. The fact is that the sources from which they draw inspiration are limited, and they have already exhausted the narrow circle of their study. Their yield of observation has been confined to life among students and danseuses, with occasional excursions into historical romance. They are advised to turn to other departments of life, and also to peruse the masterpieces of European literature.

JAPANESE JUSTICE.

IT is pleasant to find that the *Hyogo News* claims to be "a sincere admirer of the Japanese race" and to be "willing to accord to them all the praise that is their due for the extraordinary strides they have made and are making towards placing themselves on a level with Western civilization." Readily accepting this declaration in its integrity, we are nevertheless constrained to point out the extreme difficulty of reconciling our contemporary's methods with the friendly and generous mood which it now professes. Among Japan's critics the severest have never previously gone farther than to assert that several years of training are needed before the Japanese Judiciary can be trusted to administer Codes framed after Western models and adapted to the requirements of modern trade and usages. But the *Hyogo News* attributes fundamental moral obliquity to the whole Japanese nation. The problem, according to our contemporary's showing, is not merely one of educating among Japanese Judges familiarity with codes of intricate provisions and novel structure. What has to be done is to radically change the moral nature of the nation. For not alone are the Judges incompetent to administer justice as Occidentals understand the term, but, what is incomparably more important, their deficiency is innate not accidental. They belong to a people who "view justice from an entirely different standpoint to Europeans," and whose "laws are fundamentally opposed to our notions of right and wrong." Now it would be difficult to advance a more injurious charge than this against any people. If the Japanese are lacking in the first element of civilized intelligence, the sense of justice, and if this fatal defect in their moral endowment is proved by their enactment of "laws fundamentally opposed to Western notions of right and wrong," they are in truth a barbarous people, not for a moment fit to associate with the nations of the Occident on anything like terms of equality. Surely it would not have been reasonable on our part to attribute any sentiment of friendliness to a critic whose condemnation so completely distanced the sentence of all previous writers, and who, on the strength of an exceedingly brief acquaintance with Japanese laws and the manner of their administration, pronounced a wholesale verdict of moral obliquity against the entire Japanese nation. However, we have no desire to insist ungraciously on the apparent discrepancy between our contemporary's practice and its professions. Its avowal of a friendly purpose to correct rather than to condemn must be accepted in the spirit that presumably dictated it. To one point only would we draw attention, namely, that even the language of this amicable avowal contains evidence of

the hyperbole which often obscures the professed intention of our contemporary's writing. "To tell the Japanese," says the *Hyogo News*, "that in thirty years they have achieved a position which it has taken Western nations centuries to attain is merely to pander to conceit and to puff pretension, a rôle far more pernicious than that of frank censure." When and by whom has such an extravagant statement been made to the Japanese; a statement worthy to be catalogued with the verdict of the *Hyogo News* itself, that the people of this country are incapable of understanding justice in the Western sense of the term, and that their laws are fundamentally opposed to our notions of right and wrong? Does the *Hyogo News* seriously intend the sentence we have quoted to be a true description of the attitude assumed by any rational critics towards Japan? If it so strangely and comically misinterprets the writings of its own countrymen, then indeed we cannot greatly wonder at the notions it has formed as to Japanese justice and the moral views of the Japanese people.

The whole interest of this question centered, as we very clearly stated at the outset, in the conclusion advanced by the *Hyogo News* with reference to the character of the Japanese nation. The premises on which that conclusion was based were examined by us simply with reference to the inference that the Japanese people are incapable of understanding justice in the Western sense of the term. It is an old experience that every suitor's estimate of a law court's impartiality and competence depends chiefly upon the success of his suit. Never yet did the party that was cast in a case avow confidence in the justice of the tribunal that tried it. There is nothing novel in the discontent of unsuccessful foreign plaintiffs in Japanese courts, neither is it surprising to find a local foreign newspaper invariably advocating the cause of its foreign clients. The ties of race are strong, and every one of us is naturally disposed to assume that his own countrymen must be right in a dispute with Orientals. Moreover, previously to the operation of the new Code of Civil Procedure, much injustice was undoubtedly suffered by foreign suitors in Japanese law courts; not because, as we think, the Judges were incompetent or unwilling to judge justly, but because the machinery for giving effect to verdicts was utterly inadequate. In point of fact, the foreign suitor usually obtained a verdict, but in the issue had only his trouble for his outlay. Even now we find it impossible to believe that, pending the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes, Japanese Courts are in a position to adjudicate efficiently and satisfactorily the various cases coming before them. Some discontent is therefore inevitable, and, as a rule, we should be the last to challenge its expression. But the

sweeping inferences of the *Hyogo News* as to the moral type of the Japanese race, carried the question into a different domain, and induced us to examine in detail the cases advanced by our contemporary. In the first of those cases a Japanese tribunal was denounced in the strongest terms for allowing a Japanese firm to plead that a certain foreigner was not its agent, and that a contract made by him did not bind it. This accusation is now repeated by our contemporary in even more unpromising language. "The setting up of such a defence, the permitting of such a plea to be urged and the decision on that plea, would never," we are told, "have been tolerated by any European Court unless it was wholly corrupt." We trust that the *Hyogo News* will not again accuse us of "sneaking out of the argument" if we confess our inability to understand this reasoning. That European Courts constantly admit a precisely similar plea—namely, the binding character of the relation between a firm and its self-professed agent—and constantly adjudicate cases on it, is a fact familiar to all. Further, that a contract concluded and signed by a foreigner cannot, under existing circumstances, be recognised by any Japanese Court as legally binding on a Japanese firm, is a fact familiar to every one who understands the treaties and their operation. Unless some other instrument existed pledging the *Nippon Semai Kaisha*, no legal responsibility devolved on it in respect of the contract concluded by WILKINSON. Those things are perfectly plain. The *Hyogo News* now alleges that "it did not matter whether WILKINSON was in the defendants' employ or not;" that "if he had been totally unconnected with the firm it would not have mattered;" that "the *Nippon Semai Kaisha* accepted the contract" and that "there the responsibility of WILKINSON ended." Here, then, we are on totally new ground. The charge is that the firm itself first accepted the contract and afterwards shuffled out of it by denying responsibility for WILKINSON'S act. How did the firm accept the contract, and what evidence that it had accepted it was submitted to the Court? We have only the *ipse dixit* of the *Hyogo News* in this matter, and that does not suffice. For, speaking frankly, we do not observe much disposition on our contemporary's part to be just. With reference to this very case we were careful to premise that we made no allegation whatever as to the conduct of the firm, and that, for ought we knew to the contrary, the action of the *Nippon Semai Kaisha* might have been entirely wanting in good faith. Yet the *Hyogo News* actually pretends to think that we defended the firm, and is so courteous as to express fear that "absence from England has developed obliquity in our moral vision."

We shall refer to one other point only.

It is connected with the kerosene oil case

recently tried in Yokohama. Concerning this we are accused of "sneaking out of the argument," the ground of the accusation being that we took advantage of our contemporary's general reference to "vouchers" whereas it ought to have specified "delivery order"? Truly we know not how to deal with such singular freaks of imagination. The terminology employed by the *Hyogo News* never entered for a moment into our argument. The facts are these:—When kerosene oil is lodged in the Official Warehouse, a document is handed to the owner of the oil setting forth the number of cases deposited and other particulars. Each delivery subsequently made is duly entered upon this document, and when the total of the deliveries equals the sum of the cases originally deposited, the document passes finally into the possession of the Warehouse Authorities. It remains in the hands of the owners of the oil just so long as any oil remains in the keeping of the Warehouse Authorities, and its final transfer from the former to the latter is *ipso facto* evidence that the whole of the oil has been delivered from the Warehouse. This document constitutes the sole evidence of deposit, and the plain duty of the depositor, through whatever agents he withdraws the oil, is to see that the delivery entries are correctly entered, that they tally with his own accounts of sales, and that the document does not finally leave his possession until he has recovered all the oil represented by it. On the other hand, the return of the document to the Warehouse Authorities is to them an assurance that all claims have been satisfied in respect of it, and inasmuch as, by parting with it, the original owner parts with his only evidence of title, the Warehouse people are no more bound to preserve the document than the Japanese Treasury is bound to preserve coupons representing payments of interest on Consolidated Bonds. When, therefore, the Yokohama Court was asked to order the production of a number of such documents by the Warehouse Authorities, it could only refuse the application, for obviously no legal tribunal is competent to order the production of documents which may or may not have been destroyed at the option of their holder, and the existence or non-existence of which does not affect their holder's position *vis-à-vis* the tribunal. We are persuaded that if the *Hyogo News* will dispassionately consider the nature of these documents and of the Court's position with regard to them, it will greatly modify its sweeping condemnation. For our own part, we entirely agree that the ends of justice would have been better served could the documents have been produced, but we cannot see how the Court could have acted differently under the circumstances.

But however opinions may differ as to these details, surely nothing could be more extravagant than to adduce such cases as

evidence of general moral obliquity on the part of the Japanese nation, innate incompetence on the part of Japanese Judges to administer justice according to the Western sense of the term, and inability on the part of Japanese legislators to frame laws that accord with the principles of right and wrong. There is no manner of proportion between such premises and conclusions, and the Japanese might well be excused if they retorted by telling their critics to obey the most ordinary dictates of justice and fairness themselves before uttering sweeping condemnations of the injustice of others.

A STRIKING EXAMPLE.

THE editor of the *Kobe Nippo* forwards to us copies of some issues of his journal, containing an account of an interview between a reporter and Judge YOSHIDA, who recently conducted the preliminary examination of a man called YAMAMOTO, accused of stealing tea. The *Hyogo News* has very frankly translated and published the interview, and we now proceed to describe the circumstances which it establishes. They will repay perusal, since they furnish an exceptionally striking example of the methods adopted by some local foreign journals in criticising Japanese tribunals.

Recently the *Hyogo News* collected a number of cases tried by Japanese Law Courts, and made them the basis of sweeping charges not alone against the Japanese Judiciary, but also against the Japanese people. It declared the former to be wholly incapable of administering "Justice," according to the Western acceptance of the term, and the latter to be equally incapable of appreciating it, and it rounded off this comprehensive denunciation by adding that Japanese laws are fundamentally opposed to European ideas of right and wrong. Among the cases cited in proof of this wholesale verdict, one related to a supposed attempt to steal tea from a foreign firm in Kobe. In respect of this case our contemporary was particularly confident, declaring it to be a palpable miscarriage of justice, and adding that it "eclipsed all the others in blundering stupidity." Reading the *Hyogo News*' comments, it struck us as somewhat remarkable, though by no means unprecedented in the East, that such criticisms should be penned about a Court whose proceedings were not published; that, in short, the verdict of a tribunal should be sweepingly condemned by a journal possessing no knowledge whatever of the evidence adduced before that tribunal. We ventured to point out this obvious flaw, and the reply of the *Hyogo News* was as follows:—

What we do not profess to know has nothing to do with our argument. What we do know is that a coolie, taken in the act of stealing and seen by three witnesses who gave evidence in Court, was acquitted. According to the evi-

dence of the *banto*, the coolie was not acting under his instructions, and the godown man gave similar testimony. If acquitting the man under such conditions is Japanese law and justice, then it is entirely foreign to European ideas, and that is all we wish to prove. But what was exceedingly mysterious in this mysterious case was that the Court agreed that the tea had been stolen from Messrs. Thomas & Co., and took the strange course of sending the key of the place back to an employé of the firm instead of to the principal who brought the charge. Thus the Court decided: first, that the coolie was not stealing; secondly, that though he was not stealing, the tea had been stolen; and thirdly, that to send the key direct would be a damaging admission. Consequently, they sent it back in a roundabout way! If the *Mail* thanks this is on the basis of European ideas of justice, all we can say is that it would be a charity for Japanese and foreigners to get up a subscription and send the editor on a tour through Europe, so that he might relearn much that he has apparently forgotten.

Here is a very clear statement. The *Hyogo News* declares its knowledge that a coolie was taken in the act of thieving; that three witnesses had seen him; that these witnesses gave evidence before the Court, and that the Court, nevertheless, acquitted him. Now observe. The Judge who tried the case is interviewed, and for the first time the public learns what really occurred, the interview being published, as we have said, in the *Kobe Nippo*. To begin with, no coolie was arrested at all. The man arrested was one YAMAMOTO, a tea-merchant. He was arrested at the suggestion of Mr. GREEN, a member of the firm of Messrs. A. A. THOMAS and Company, who, finding him apparently superintending the transportation of certain tea, a portion of which belonged to the firm, handed him over to the police on suspicion of being a thief. When YAMAMOTO was brought before Judge YOSHIDA for preliminary examination, five witnesses appeared. Two, Messrs. THOMAS and GREEN, were members of the prosecuting firm. They proved that five packages at least of the tea transported were the property of the firm. Two other witnesses, a Chinaman, LO, and a Japanese TAKIMOTO, were employés of the firm. LO declared that he himself had hired the house to which the tea was transported, and that it had been transported thither under the orders of three Japanese, of whom YAMAMOTO was not one. TAKIMOTO declared that a mistake had been made as to the destination of the tea, packages which should have been transferred to a different godown having been confounded with packages purchased by himself and others. Finally, the head of a guild of coolies declared that he had received orders from the Chinaman LO to carry the tea to the house in question. Thus there was not the smallest fragment of evidence to convict YAMAMOTO, and the Judge accordingly dismissed the case against him. So much then for the "what we do know" of the *Hyogo News*. So much for the "coolie taken in the act of thieving." So much for the "three witnesses who saw him and gave evidence in Court." All these things existed only in the imagination of the *Hyogo News*. But no: we do our contem-

porary an injustice. These things existed in the version given to it by Messrs. THOMAS and Company, which version, the *Hyogo News* frankly admits, "totally differs in nearly every respect" from the account given by the Judge who tried the case. Thus, then, the matter stands exactly as we suspected. On the strength of a story told by two foreigners, doubtless in all good faith, and without any information whatever as to the proceedings which took place in Court, the Kobe journal not only undertook to declare positively that a man had been arrested who never was arrested; that three witnesses had seen him stealing tea who never saw him do anything of the kind, and that certain evidence had been produced which never was produced at all, but also asserted positively that the verdict rendered by the Court was a parody of justice because it did not conform with evidence which had never been submitted to the Court at all! Is it possible to be more reckless in preferring accusations? Imagine a journal after indulging in such sweeping and wholesale condemnations of the Japanese Judiciary's incompetence to administer justice and of the Japanese people's incapacity to understand justice—imagine such a journal falling back on an excuse like the following:—"Messrs. THOMAS and GREEN made statements to us which were almost identical; Mr. YOSHIDA (the Judge)—and we believe his to be an accurate statement—gives altogether another story." In other words, the *Hyogo News* is compelled to admit that the story, on the strength of which it condemned the whole Judiciary of a nation and the whole nation too, "totally differs in nearly every respect" from the facts really elicited in Court. The comicality of the whole affair is increased, if that were possible, by the incident concerning the key. The "mysterious" action of the Court in sending back the key to Mr. GREEN is construed by the *Hyogo News* into a finding that "the tea had been stolen," but that, since "to send the key direct would have been a damaging admission," the Court "sent it back in a roundabout way." Now hear what the Judge has to say to this. "Mr. GREEN gave the key to the police originally. The law directs that when a charge is dismissed at the preliminary examination, any articles which may have been attached must be returned direct to the person or persons who gave them originally to the Court. Therefore the key was returned to Mr. GREEN." So much for the "exceedingly mysterious" feature discovered by the *Hyogo News*. So much for the contradictory conclusions deduced from this key. So much for the "damaging admission" which the Court sought to shirk. So much for the "roundabout way" chosen for sending back the key. Yet the bathos of the whole business does not end here. For even with the Judge's

statement before it—a statement which the *Hyogo News* "believes to be accurate"—our contemporary asserts that its own original "contention is substantiated in every point." We appear to be dealing with miracles. Radical and far reaching deductions are drawn from one version of a certain event. Then there comes to light another version which "totally differs in nearly every respect from the first," but which is nevertheless "believed to be accurate." Yet this second version substantiates the original deductions in every point. Evidently any story would fit the *Hyogo News* condemnatory theory. How is the trick managed? Simply by a fresh stretch of imagination. "By the Judge's own admission," writes our contemporary, "there were two witnesses to the fact that YAMAMOTO had in his house tea belonging to a foreign firm. In Europe this would be sufficient to convict him of harbouring stolen goods." So it would, doubtless, save for one slight difficulty, namely, that the house where the tea was found was not shown to belong to YAMAMOTO at all. On the contrary, the two witnesses LO and TAKIMOTO declared that the house had been hired by LO, and LO explained that YAMAMOTO'S connection with the place was limited to procuring a key at his (LO'S) request. So that even with the facts before it in black on white the *Hyogo News* cannot be accurate, and must needs base unjust charges on its own errors. Doubtless these details are wearisome, but they are also wonderful. This case of the *Hyogo News*, as our contemporary truly says, "eclipses all the others in its blundering stupidity," but our readers will have little hesitation in deciding by whom the perverse obtuseness and marvellous blundering have been displayed. And these are the judges of a nation! By such critics are the competence of the Japanese Judiciary and the morality of the Japanese race to be determined!

"I have no other but a woman's reason;
"I think him so, because I think him so."

THE TROUBLE IN TOYAMA PREFECTURE.

WE have already related in very brief outline the complication that has arisen in Toyama Prefecture. In the last session of the Diet, the leaders of the campaign against the Government on the subject of official interference in the general elections, were Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, representing the *Kaishin-to*, and Mr. KONO HIRONAKA, representing the *Fiyu-to*. After a defeat on the question of memorializing the Throne, these gentlemen succeeded in getting the House to pass a Representation which practically amounted to a Vote of Censure upon the Government. Thereupon the Headmen of thirty-five Urban and Rural Divisions of Tonami District in Toyama Prefecture, addressed a joint letter of

congratulation to Messrs. SHIMADA and KONO, applauding their exertions and expressing satisfaction with the result achieved. This singular procedure was not allowed to pass unchallenged. Mr. CHICHIIWA YEIICHI, Headman of the District, pointed out to the signatories of the letter that the step they had jointly taken was unbecoming their official position, and asked them to withdraw the document. This, however, they emphatically declined to do. They maintained, in the first place, that it was out of the question to talk of withdrawing a letter which had been signed, sealed, and publicly forwarded; and, in the second, that precedents existed for the course they had adopted, since on the occasion both of the *Normanton* affair and the attack on the *CZAREWITCH* in Otsu, local officials had attached their names to joint letters of condolence. From this position it proved impossible to move them, and finally Mr. CHICHIIWA, on the 31st of last month, addressed to twenty-seven of them a despatch, saying that, as they had behaved in a manner incompatible with their duty, and as they declined to reconsider their act, nothing remained for him except to exercise the power vested in him by the 128th Article of the Local Government system, and to remove them from office. We cannot tell how the original number of thirty-five dwindled to twenty-seven; but the point is immaterial. The dismissed Headmen are reported to be much discontented, and to have presented an appeal to the Prefectural Council. This is precisely one of those questions of principle which excite most interest in Japan, and we look to see much controversy before the public makes up its mind, especially as the dismissed Headmen of Divisions are popular nominees, whereas the District Headman by whom they have been dismissed is a Government official. Already, indeed, the *Fiyu* has expressed in very strong terms its dissatisfaction with the act of the District Headman, whose procedure it denounces as an unwarrantable interference with the rights of individuals. But the basis of the Radical organ's criticism seems to us to be singularly unsound. When these thirty-five Headmen set themselves to address a joint letter of approval and support to two leaders of political parties who were carrying on a crusade against the Cabinet in the Diet, they were themselves adopting a course precisely analogous to the action which they professed to condemn as so uncompromisingly in others. For by what subtle system of discrimination can a difference be established between attempts on the part of Divisional Headmen to influence the electors in their localities, and combined support publicly give by the same Headmen to the leaders of political parties in an anti-Government onset? The two things are not distinguishable in the light of any impartial judgment. If local officials are at liberty to unite for the

purpose of swaying the actions of the people's representatives in the Diet, then assuredly they are not less competent to exercise their influence for the purpose of securing the election of representatives whose principles they approve. One thing cannot be right and the other wrong. It cannot be right that local officials, as such, should seek to direct the voting of the members of the Diet, if it is wrong for them to seek to direct the voting of the men who elect those members. The *Fiyu's* failure to detect that precisely the same principle is involved in each case must be attributed to bias of a very blinding nature. But even though no political issue were at stake, a combination of officials for the purpose of addressing a document to public men in their public capacity, is entirely opposed to the ethics of official propriety as observed in Western states. Nothing of the kind would be tolerated in Great Britain, for example, and we fail to see why it should be tolerated in Japan. The twenty-seven Headmen having been elected by the people of their divisions, and the District Headman being an official of the Central Government, some superficial observers will probably construe the trouble into a struggle between liberty and officialdom. But it is in fact a conflict between plain propriety and palpable impropriety. If the people of Tonami District re-elect the dismissed officials, or if the Prefectural Council reverses the decision of the District Headman, Toyama Prefecture must henceforth maintain silence as to the necessity of a neutral attitude on the part of officials towards politics.

JAPANESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

THERE have been indications for some time past that the anti-Japanese movement in the United States may at any time become a source of trouble and anxiety to Japan. Intelligence from Idaho, which appears in the vernacular papers of the 4th instant, reports the existence of the bitterest animosity against the Japanese labourers who have been settled in different parts of that territory, and states that in various places they have been ordered to leave, and have been threatened with violence if they refuse. At a place called Nampa, 18 miles from Boise, great umbrage was given by the Japanese concealing three cases of small-pox, and about 100 Japanese labourers were collected and conveyed to an uninhabited part of the country, where they were left to fare as best they could. At Caldwell, a town about 30 miles from Boise, 50 Japanese were forced into a train bound for Portland, Oregon, and an anti-Japan Society has been organized called the "Cross Society." At Mountain Home 100 Japanese received orders to take their departure within 48 hours, violence being threatened in case of disobedience. The agitation in every

instance originated with workmen, who regard the Japanese as rivals. It is stated that the Japanese work for less wages than the Chinese, and that consequently they are greatly sought after. The movement is represented as rapidly spreading, and it is anticipated that no ordinary representations to the United States Government will lead to effective measure being taken for its suppression. The *Kokumin Shimbun* further reports that the anti-Japanese agitators in San Francisco are gaining ground, and that, though the better class Japanese residents have entered the lists against the stump orators who represent the American working men, it is difficult to foresee what the final issue may be.

We cannot at all wonder that the news of these occurrences has caused considerable excitement in Japan. Such a strong feeling of friendship has always been entertained by the Japanese people towards the citizens of the United States that it comes to the former as a sharp and most disagreeable surprise to find their nationals treated as the settlers in Idaho have been treated. Speaking generally, the American nation is under no conventional obligation to allow the free ingress of Japanese into its territory. The treaty between the United States and Japan contains a great many clauses providing for the unrestricted residence and trade of United States citizens in certain fixed portions of the Japanese empire. But it does not contain so much as one provision securing similar privileges for Japanese subjects in the United States. In this respect it is an essentially partial covenant. China is differently situated so far as international conventions are concerned. Her treaty of 1880 with the United States provides that, although the Government of the United States may regulate, limit, or suspend the coming or residence of Chinese labourers under certain circumstances, such coming or residence may not be absolutely prohibited; while for the rest, all Chinese subjects, proceeding to the United States as traders, students, merchants, or from curiosity, together with their body and household servants, "shall be allowed to go and come of their own free will and accord, and shall be accorded all the rights, privileges, immunities, and exemptions which are accorded to the citizens and subjects of the most favoured nations." The terms of this treaty confer very definite privileges on Chinese subjects within the territory of the United States. Japan has no such treaty, and it would therefore seem that if the Government of the United States were minded to exclude Japanese labourers, it might freely legislate in that sense. But before absolutely endorsing this inference, it is necessary to look at the matter a little more closely. When Western Powers conclude treaties for the first time with Oriental states, the idea of reciprocity

finds little if any expression. The dominant motive of the Occidental is to obtain access to the country of the Oriental and liberty to trade there. Moreover, since in all civilized Western countries aliens are free to come and go, trade, travel, or reside, on virtually the same terms as the people of the country, it seems a work of supererogation to formulate treaty stipulations in that sense. Hence we find that, as in the treaty of 1858 between Japan and the United States, so in the treaty of the same year between the latter and China, no provisions were introduced securing to either Japanese or Chinese subjects the privileges of trade, travel, or residence in American territory. This defect, if such it may be called, still exists to Japan's prejudice. But in China's case independent circumstances led to the conclusion, in 1868, of a convention containing articles supplementary to the original treaty, and in these articles, perhaps because they were drafted at Washington, beyond the reach of the atmosphere that generally pervades Occidental dealings with the Orient, perhaps because Chinese diplomats had become better educated, the principle of reciprocity found expression. In the sixth article it was laid down that "citizens of the United States visiting or residing in China, should enjoy the same privileges, immunities, or exemptions in respect to travel or residence as might there be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation; and reciprocally, Chinese subjects, visiting or residing in the United States, should enjoy the same privileges, immunities, or exemptions in respect to travel or residence as might be there enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation." Twelve years later, when the immigration of Chinese labour into the United States assumed such dimensions as to call for special control, the American Government, in view of the obligation imposed on it by the treaty of 1868, was obliged to open negotiations with China before enacting restrictive laws. Hence it is apparent, *inter alia*, that prior to the prominence of the labour problem there never was any reluctance on America's part to extend by treaty to Chinese subjects the same privileges of trade, travel, and residence as are enjoyed by her own citizens in China. If Japan does not enjoy similar privileges by convention, the fact is due to mere accident, not to any want of friendliness on America's part. When, therefore, we admit that America's hands are not tied by any treaty in this matter, and that she might unhesitatingly legislate to exclude all Japanese from her territories, we note, at the same time, that such a course would be to show less consideration towards Japan than has been showed towards China, and that the Government at Washington is most unlikely to adopt it. Meanwhile, however, no such legislation exists, and even though it did exist, the measures taken in

Idaho would be inexcusable, supposing them to have been accompanied by threats and violence as the telegrams state. In every civilized Western country Japanese subjects are just as much entitled to protection against mob intimidation and mob lawlessness as are the people of the country, and the American Authorities will be the last to deny this. It may prove that the accounts given by wire are exaggerated. Information has been sought, but not obtained, from both Washington and San Francisco, and the Japanese Consul at the latter place is now engaged conducting personal investigations. Pending the receipt of his report, judgment must be suspended. We anticipate, however, that this affair will probably bring conspicuously on the tapis the whole question of Japanese immigration into the States. In so far as concerns objectionable social habits, combinations for lawless purposes, opium smoking, and so forth, the Japanese are not open to any of the criticisms uttered in America against Chinese settlers. Indeed it will be at once conceded, and by none more readily than by the Americans, that the Japanese are in every respect most desirable immigrants. But all this is beside the real question. People who talk about "high binders," opium dens, slavery in prostitution, and so forth, only seek to find plausible excuses for antipathy which has its roots solely in the labour problem. Japanese and Chinese settlers are equally objectionable to the lower classes in America from the point of view that both alike will sell hard manual labour for a pittance utterly insignificant in the eyes of the United States citizen. Competition of that kind will not be brooked. The labouring people of the United States will rid themselves of it by any means, however violent, and the Japanese nation would be very unwise did it close its eyes to the fact. Of course there are many unpleasant inferences to be drawn and many awkward contrasts to be set up. Let them be frankly admitted. If at times the West preaches to the East some pretty creed of universal brotherhood and international liberality, let us not look for any corresponding practice on the part of the preacher. Human nature is the same everywhere. On the other hand, the Japanese will be mistaken if from these Idaho experiences they deduce any inference that American friendship has grown cold. The American working man never shared that friendship. The American working man knows little and cares less about international amity. He is bent solely on securing for himself good wages and easy circumstances, and against everything that interferes with the consummation of that programme, he will wage relentless war. Whether his inconvenient competitors be Japanese or Jews is a wholly trivial incident in his eyes. Everything standing in his light has "got to go:" the details or personalities are of

matters of supreme indifference. We trust, therefore, that the Japanese will view the matter philosophically, recognising it as part of the great problem which is perplexing the whole civilized world at present. If America declines to utilize Japanese cheap labour, and if other Western countries share the prejudice, what Japan has to do is not to grapple with impossibilities or fight against the inevitable, but to proceed with progressive measures at home, so that her own industries may profit by the economical and dextrous artisans of whom she possesses so many.

AN ENGLISH STATESMAN ON THE JAPANESE CONSTITUTION.

IT is curious and interesting to find a prominent English statesman making use of the Japanese Constitution to illustrate a political speech. The fact would be more gratifying had the Constitution been quoted in a complimentary sense. But unfortunately such was not the case. What happened was that Mr. JOHN MORLEY, criticising, in a speech delivered at Huddersfield, the provisions of the Irish Local Government Bill as introduced by the Conservatives, said that the Bill might be compared to the Japanese Constitution inasmuch as both instruments alike contained provisions enabling the Government to withdraw, at any moment, with one hand, what it had seemingly given with the other. We need not consider what particular clauses of the Irish Bill evoked this comment. It is enough to know that the portion of the Japanese Constitution which induced Mr. MORLEY to describe it vicariously as a sham and an unreality was the Article providing that, in cases of urgency, the EMPEROR has power to enact his own laws and vote his own supplies. Mr. MORLEY was not responsible for this rendering of the Constitution. He merely quoted, or imagined that he quoted, Mr. BRYCE. The latter, however, is not at all content to be thus interpreted. We have his authority for the explanation that what he really meant was this:—"The Irish Local Government Bill professed, and appeared, to give much more than it did actually give, and I compared it in that respect with the Japanese Constitution, which leaves a reserve of power in the hands of the SOVEREIGN. In the case of the Japanese Constitution, this is perfectly right and wise. But in the case of the Local Government Bill this was entirely wrong. The element of hostility or contempt whichever it be called, in this comparison, was directed towards the doing wrongly in that Bill what has been done perfectly properly, considering the difference of circumstances, in the case of Japan." It is not, perhaps, wonderful that Mr. MORLEY'S version of this somewhat delicate distinction departed slightly from the intention of Mr. BRYCE. Meanwhile, Mr. F. T.

PIGGOTT, writing in *The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review* for July, has entered very fully into a general discussion of the Japanese Constitution from the point of view of Messrs. BRYCE and MORLEY. How completely he disposes of the erroneous conceptions of these gentlemen, may be appreciated by anyone perusing his able essay. With Mr. BRYCE'S exposition, indeed, as now furnished by himself, there is less fault to be found. But whatever fine distinctions may have existed in the depths of Mr. BRYCE'S mind when (20th May, 1892) he addressed the House of Commons in the sense afterwards quoted by Mr. MORLEY, it was certainly unfortunate for the Japanese Constitution that he should have adduced it as an example of legislation which, in the case of his own country, he condemns as a sham and no reality. To illustrate one man's deformity by likening it to that of another is a proceeding which does not lose much of its sting by a subsequent explanation that, in the case of the second person, deformity is quite right and proper since he lives in a country fitted only for cripples. A comparison derives its point chiefly from the saliency of the standard's attributes. We say that a thing is as bright as the sun, or as chilly as ice, because our hearers are perfectly familiar with the brilliancy of the former and the coldness of the latter. If the sun were not bright or ice cold, it would be absurd to choose them as standards for such a purpose. Similarly, if the leading idea in Mr. BRYCE'S mind had not been that the Japanese Constitution is a deceptive and specious piece of legislation, he would have been both illogical and inartistic in attempting to fix the faults of unreality and hypocrisy upon an English Bill by likening it to the Japanese Constitution. That must have been the impression produced on the minds of his audience, and that is the impression that will remain—the burr that sticks, as Mr. PIGGOTT pithily puts it. It seems to us, further, that Mr. PIGGOTT is justified when he observes that this "feebly facile" criticism of Mr. BRYCE'S would never have been uttered had the Constitution of a Western country been in question. Being very cognisant of the somewhat morbid tendency of the Japanese people at present to suspect national disparagement where, perhaps, impartial criticism alone is intended, we do not readily read Mr. BRYCE'S comment in such a sense. But Mr. BRYCE cannot possibly have assumed that his hearers had any knowledge of the Japanese Constitution. He cannot possibly have imagined that their own private researches had taught them to regard it as a flagrant specimen of sham and unreal legislation. When he cited it as a standard of those bad qualities, he must have relied not on the House's knowledge of its actual merits, but principally on the fact that it was Japanese. Every Oriental State is a kind of Galilee to the average

Occidental. He does not believe that anything good can come out of it, and Mr. BRYCE doubtless felt that to associate the Irish Local Government Bill with an effort of Oriental legislation would at once discredit the Bill in the sight of the House of Commons. It is a pity that this prejudice should exist: a still greater pity that it should blunt the faculty of discrimination in the minds of men like Mr. BRYCE. Happily Mr. PIGGOTT was at hand to protest against the injustice and to dispel the delusion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

KARUIZAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—The sixth day of the conference gave us a paper on methods of evangelization by Dr. Thompson, in substance as follows:—

No one uniform method is to be insisted on. As in the early church, so now, each one is to use his own special gifts, and mission work shows a great variety of methods. Christ himself adopted a variety of methods, as he taught in the open air, in synagogues, in private houses, in the temple, and to individuals wherever they happened to be. The disciples, especially Paul, show like variety. There was much field preaching during the Reformation and during the great revivals of more modern times. Variety is inevitable, due to circumstances of custom, character, climate, civilization; street preaching is common in India, and China. Processions with music are often formed in India, akin to Salvation Army methods.

In Japan variety also is needed; medical missions were very useful in the past. Bible translation, colporteurage, education, charitable efforts, are examples of this good work.

Work done in and through organized churches. This work is often stationary and even retrograde, and there is much room for improvement, and yet organized churches may have to do the major part in evangelization. There is need for sound work in schools so as to give to the church good pastors, preachers, leaders, and officers. Thus educational work receives a great emphasis.

Lecture meetings have been successful but are attended with growing difficulty. Addresses often become political, philosophical, scientific, and have no vital relation to Christianity.

The passport system makes it difficult to improve on present methods. Evangelistic tours through the country, preaching in halls, theatres, &c., often lead to disorderly conduct, especially when *soshi* attend. A missionary may sometimes do well to keep silent and plead where possible legal restrictions on public meetings. The speaker mentioned an incident of a drunken lawyer coming unsolicited to his assistance. Missionaries ought to be thankful for protection hitherto accorded against dangers from crowds but should avoid all such occasions, as they give rise to international complications and criticism of missionary methods, as illustrated often in China. "If persecuted in one city, flee to another."

The speaker advised preaching places in Tokyo selected so as to take advantage of the *ennichi*. A suitable preaching place should face the street and have an open space for standing room between it and the street. Thus many classes may be reached. This method is sometimes criticised as not sufficiently dignified, but it is not incongruous with the customs of the people otherwise. The restraints often imposed by superiors against attending regular religious services, would on these *ennichi* evenings present no difficulty. Tract distribution might be united. Reference was made to a pamphlet compiled by Mr. Curtis from answers to questions sent out by him to various pastors and missionaries on methods of evangelizing. Miss Graham spoke at length on methods pursued in China:—Christians formed into bands would go out under leaders on set days week after week into surrounding towns. Large audiences had thus been gathered, and preached to. Tracts and books were distributed and on their return these bands would give a report to their church. The discussion took up subjects like suitable rooms for preaching places, rowdyism, tract distribution, attendance of missionaries on Japanese services, services on

Matsuri days, which were to be from 1 to 3 p.m., rather than in the evenings when disturbances from drunkenness would be likely to occur.

The meeting in the evening was led by Mr. Pierson, who spoke on the seven principal mountain experiences of Christ's life as illustrative of as many important stages in the Christian's life.

August 31st, 1892.

The last day of this conference was opened by Rev. E. Crumney who spoke on "The Holy Spirit in Character Building."

There are times when the words of man fail to introduce us into God's presence. God himself must appear in such supreme moments. The last step is that of simple trust in God's promise to make his presence felt. So there seems to reign at this moment a state of expectancy of a special manifestation of God.

The phrase *character building* is not a scriptural one. A plant is to be well rooted and nourished, but not built up by external additions. Hence we ought to use the phrase *character growing*.

According to his character, a Christian is strong or weak for work. As an example witness the sainted Morrison of Chelsea, so remarkably successful in impressing religious truths and experiences.

How does the Holy spirit assist in growth of character?

Power is one manifestation of his presence. This was Christ's special promise to the apostles, and naturally so, judging from their needs and their deep sense of weakness. We, though weak now and helpless in ourselves, have such a heritage of power in the Holy Spirit and his many manifestations in the church's past and present. Another manifestation is what is called *entire sanctification*. This must not contradict progress in sanctification here and hereafter. Paul's prayer is that we might be sanctified wholly, and that now. This rather lays the foundation for more rapid and real growth in grace, and means that our nature, as at present constituted, is entirely sanctified. Another term is *perfect love*, see 1 Cor. 13. This love, as described by Paul, cannot be improved and yet is capable of indefinite expansion.

Christian perfection is another term. This implies perfect cleansing from all sin.

There was a new and miraculous manifestation of the Holy spirit after Christ's departure. The speaker here gave the usual explanation of why miracles are needed to substantiate the advent of a new dispensation, rather than later. But when once perfect love and the Christian graces reign in the heart, no other miracles are needed, as none can be greater. Hence prophecy is the greatest of the spirit's gifts (see 1 Cor. 14).

Second blessing is still another term. As there is a difference between *sin in act* and *in state*, and a double meaning in *atonement* (see Rom 3, 25, and Eph. 5 25-27) so there is a two-fold salvation; 1, Repent and be converted; 2, Be perfect and holy. Do not label as ideal promises and commands which are unlabelled. The second blessing comes no doubt usually at a different time from the first, *eg.* Pentecost. Difference in Peter before and after, was not due to a more proper conception merely: higher power and manifestation are exemplified. Frequently, no doubt, because not believed in and so not accepted, the second blessing is not attained until death.

We do sin against the perfect law of righteousness, the Adamic law, through weakness of judgment at least, but we are under the new law of faith and love.

The testimony of the speaker on how after long seeking, since 1879, with many alternatives, he finally, during the late Methodist Conference at Aoyama, believed that he at length graciously received this second blessing. Bishop Wm. Taylor's words led on to this end. Now unimpeded growth is the step, or steps rather, to be yet taken. Internal opposition, sin, is not needed for growth, is indeed the greatest impediment. Compare Christ's life, who was without sin, "Is this vile world a friend to grace, to help me on to God." Enough opposition to stimulate growth is still left without sin.

The closing meeting was let by Rev. M. S. Vail, who on the subject "Jesus only," led the audience's mind to look to Jesus only and ever, if we are to be conformed to his likeness.

Thus ended the first session amid such universal satisfaction to all concerned, that it was thought best to appoint a committee at once of members resident in Tokyo, to prepare for a similar conference, God willing, next summer. This committee consists of Mr. Vail, chairman, Mr. Landis, secretary, Dr. Thompson, and Misses Goepf and Claggett.

Yours truly,

September 1st, 1892.

GAMMA.

YOKOSUKA RAILWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—I was down at Yokosuka yesterday and saw, at the station there, a notification in Japanese, saying "that, for the present, on Sundays, there would be a late train for Tokyo." I did not notice what time it was to leave Yokosuka, but, if I remember correctly, it was timed to leave Kamakura at 9.26 p.m. As I have not noticed this train mentioned in any of the papers, I thought you might like to call the attention of the travelling public to it. It must prove a boon to many this warm weather.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

E. F.

Tokyo, September 2nd, 1892.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., August 8th.

At this time the astronomical talent is directing its vision and its imagination toward the planet Mars. A good part of the educated community, and no small part of the uneducated are interested in the movements of the fiery planet that made us such a close visit on the third of this month, when at one o'clock in the morning, numbers of people were out of bed and gazing at the planet. A few days later, it was learned on the authority of a scientific astronomer that one o'clock on August 3 was not the time of nearest approach. Some remarkable discoveries are expected, or else the astronomers have wasted much blarney. The theory is set up that certain brightly illuminated spots on the face of Mars may show that the inhabitants are trying to communicate with us—building big bonfires, perhaps, to call attention. This is gravely discussed in the papers as a bare possibility—very bare. The Lick telescope will bring the planet within eighteen thousand miles. This is the opportune time of observation, for the planet will not call so near again for many years, and if we do not scrape an acquaintance with the inhabitants now, we must wait a long time for another chance, unless the big telescope, bigger than anything yet made, said to be in process of construction, may enable us or our vision to leap space and bring the planet Mars into our front yards. We can then find out all about it.

But things a little nearer claim our attention in this temperature heated to one hundred degrees of Fahrenheit in the shade. There was never in the history of the large cities so much sickness and so many deaths, especially among children. Shore and mountain places are crowded, and the down shore or the up country landlord is in good spirits. He gives his price and visitors may accept or not: it is of no consequence to the lord of all he surveys.

A terrible tragedy has been enacted in Fall River, this state, and all New England, if not a good part of the country, is interested and eager for details. Last week, Andrew Borden and wife, each about sixty years of age, wealthy, retired, respected, were murdered in their house in a public and much travelled street, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, each struck down and given twelve blows on the head with some instrument supposed to be an axe. No murderer has yet been found—no one was seen enter to the house or to leave it. A servant girl was in the house at the time and a daughter was in the barn near. Borden was observed to enter his house, and fifteen minutes later, his murder was announced by the daughter who discovered it on her return to the house. It is such an awful and mysterious deed that the interest is wide. It might be supposed that the murderer striking his victims each twelve blows, every blow cleaving the skull and every blow sufficient to cause death, would have been spattered and covered with blood, but if he was, he disappeared red-handed leaving no trace, not a drop of blood. The instrument with which the deed was committed has not been found. Fall River is in a fever of excitement. It is not reassuring to think that a man may enter a house in broad daylight, commit two murders and escape. Nothing so terrible and mysterious has disturbed the community for years. The Boston papers print columns about it and the public reads with increasing interest.

The new cruiser, No. 12, named *Columbia*, has just been launched at Cramp's ship-yard in Philadelphia. When completed the *Columbia* will be the most formidable engine of war in the possession of the United States. She is 400 feet long; 58 feet beam; displacement, 7,300 tons; speed, 21 knots; horse power, 20,500. The main battery consists of four six-inch breech loading rifles, eight four-inch breech loading rifles, and eighteen machine guns and six torpedo tubes. The *Columbia* is propelled by twelve screws, one placed amidships

as in ordinary vessels, and two a little farther forward. The vital parts of the ship are protected by four inch steel plates. The chief points of excellence of the *Columbia* are her speed and endurance. There are few coaling places for men-of-war, and in time of war a still less number. The *Columbia* can take on board coal enough to send her around the world if she is not more than 100 days in making the trip. We shall soon have a navy to compete with any nation in the world, if we have it not already.

The strike and the riot at Homestead, Pennsylvania, in the Carnegie mills, referred to in the last letter, have been kept down, but affairs in that place are in a "touchy" condition. Non-union men have been employed to take the place of the strikers, and they have been allowed to go to work, but this may be due to the fact that the militia are still in the field. Some of the strikers declare that as soon as the militia are withdrawn, they will blow up the Carnegie works. This shows the temper of a section of the strikers; but it is no indication of their courage, for they are abject cowards. It exhibits the anarchist, and assassin element, the element that controls the "foreign part of the strikers." Mr. Frick who was stabbed and shot several times by a crank and Russian anarchist, as reported in my last letter, has recovered sufficiently to attend to business. Several arrests have been made as the result of the killing that ensued on the arrival of the Pinkerton detectives. Strikers are under arrest charged with murder, and now Frick is threatened with arrest as responsible, primarily, for the riot and the murders. The soldier who cheered when he heard of the assault on Frick, was strung up by the thumbs and then drummed out of camp. He has caused the arrest of several officers of the regiment responsible for his ill treatment, and will prosecute in the courts. Matters are not settled at Homestead and the outcome, when the troops depart, is uncertain. At Duquesne, Pa., non-union men were assaulted as they were going to work and a detachment of troops was sent to preserve order.

In New York, the "building" strike is still in progress, and very little work is going on new buildings. This strike includes all workmen in iron, wood, or stone, or anything that goes into the construction of a building. Hundreds of cars and boats remain unloaded and will so remain till there is a compromise, or the strikers yield.

In my last letter, reference was made to possible complications with Canada in regard to the canal tolls and the use of waterways. The Canadian government apprehended trouble and took action to prevent it. For by a new order in council the Welland Canal is open to the United States to be used on the same terms as Canada uses it, and that little war cloud is no longer in the horizon.

The Cunard Steamship Company provided the following for the consumption of passengers while in transit in their steamers during one year: Fresh meat, 2,919,754 pounds; ham, 53 tons; bacon, 20 tons; poultry, 32,705; eggs, 831,693 dozen; tea, 21,000 pounds; coffee, 71,770 pounds; sugar, 208,100 pounds; mustard, one and a half tons; pickles, 7,216 bottles; sardines, 8,000 tins; salt fish, 30 tons; jam, 4,192 four pound jars; marmalade, 15 tons; raisins, 222 tons; peas, 18 tons; barley, 15 tons; rice, 17 tons; oatmeal, 34 tons; flour, 490 tons; biscuit, 23 tons; bread, 196,000 pounds; cheese, 15 tons; potatoes, 930 tons.

This is a free country, but the press is crying out against the too free speech of the anarchist loafer. A lot of these fellows met in New York after the man Bergman had made a murderous assault on Frick at Homestead and "talked." They spoke of Bergman as a "hero." The people demand that these enemies of peace and decency be first washed (that would be severe punishment for some of them) if there be soap enough to go around, and then be put to work in some of our institutions. Washing and a little hard work would soon rid the country of the foreign anarchist vagabonds.

The Treasury Department will soon issue five million half dollar pieces, souvenirs of the World's Fair, as authorized by Congress. The same bill also provides for the issue of fifty thousand bronze medals with appropriate emblems at a cost of \$60,000, and fifty thousand vellum impressions for diplomas.

The World's Fair machinery will be started by the only living descendant of Christopher Columbus. He is in Spain, too old or feeble to travel to this country, but by cable connection he will merely press a button in Palos, Spain, and the great motor at the World's Fair will be set in motion. On August 3 there was a celebration in Palos in memory of Columbus who on that day set sail for America four hundred years ago. The State official of Spain and our Secretary of State exchanged congratulatory telegrams on the occasion. Congress, the fifty-second, has adjourned. This

Congress appropriated money to the amount of five hundred and seven million dollars in round numbers. The appropriation for the World's Fair of five million dollars was cut down to two and a half millions. One of the closing acts of the House was the passage of a resolution inviting the King and Queen of Spain to be present at the opening of the World's Fair, and the same invitation was extended to the descendants of Christopher Columbus.

JAPAN AND HER CONSTITUTION.

By F. P. PIGGOTT,

(Late Legal Adviser to the Japanese Cabinet.)

I walked recently through the spacious halls of the king of auctioneers in London, and I saw upon the walls, waiting the fall of the hammer, a canvas on which was depicted the counterfeit presentment of a Japanese lady. A more gruesome counterfeit I never yet beheld. Her garments, and the colour of them: her features and the lines of them: her figure and the pose and draping of it, all were caricatured. Yet the picture was the work of somebody they call a "Master," and had helped to pass current in bygone days the fiction that Mr. Whistler knew something about Japanese art.

I read recently through the spacious columns of the king of newspapers in London, and I saw in a speech delivered at Huddersfield, to influence the fall of the beams in election vases, the counterfeit presentment of the Japanese Constitution. The words were not a less gruesome counterfeit of the spirit and the letter of that Constitution than the "Princesse du Pays de la Porcelaine" was of the ladies of Japan, of the art of Japan, and be it added also, of the art of Europe. The letter of that Charter and the meaning of it: the spirit of that Charter and the influence of it: the law laid down by both, and the Emperor's expressed intention to observe them, and his actual obedience to them, all were caricatured, in supercilious fashion. Yet the speech at Huddersfield was the speech of somebody we call a "Statesman," and will help to pass current, in the belief that he knew what he was talking about, the absurd parody of the Constitution which he uttered.

Mr. Morley was criticising the provisions of the Irish Local Government Bill; he was scoffing at the "safeguards" which the Bill contained, contending that they made the proposals a sham and no reality. To emphasize his meaning, to give an example of legislation which appeared real and yet was unreal, he had recourse to the new Constitution of Japan. He said—though it is fair to add that he did not speak as of his own knowledge, but quoted a dictum of Mr. Bryce—that this Bill reminded him of the provisions of that Constitution, "wherein, as Mr. Bryce tells us, 'among many very excellent provisions for the exercise of the franchise, is a 'little article' which enables the Mikado, in cases of urgency, he himself being the judge of urgency, to enact his own laws, and vote his own supplies.' Was anything more needed to show how unreal, what a sham, this Constitution was? Bah! let him pass quickly from this atmosphere of sham to the atmosphere of reality contained in his Huddersfield audience.

This present article, or rather, with the Editor's permission I should say, this series of articles, is not specially devoted to the refutation of Mr. Morley's and Mr. Bryce's pleasantries about Japan; but rather to a critical examination of the constitutional work which, after many years' preparation, was begun on the eleventh of February, 1889, with the promulgation of the Constitution, and which, with many developments, some natural and to be expected, some very unexpected, is going on at a very rapid rate in that far-distant Empire. Mr. Morley's utterance—I will not do him the injustice to call it a critical utterance—may however serve as a convenient peg whereon to hang certain remarks of a general nature which apply not only to the article in question, but to the whole Constitution.

I gather that the sinister, or from the sarcastic point of view, the dexterous, "little article" which destroys the value of the Imperial gift to the people of Japan, which takes back with one hand what has been given with the other, is the eighth. It is not hidden away in the remote recesses of seventy-eight articles, but stands out quite clearly and as near the beginning of the first chapter as it could be placed. It runs thus in the English translation:—"The Emperor, in consequence of an urgent necessity to maintain public safety, or to avert public calamities, issues, when the Imperial Diet is not sitting, Imperial ordinances in the place of law." Paraphrased, the principle is that the Emperor, while he has given to the

people a full constitutional voice in the legislation of their country, reserves to himself the power of issuing ordinances to deal with cases of great urgency which may arise when the Diet is not sitting. It is not stated in so many words, but I am quite willing to admit, that the Emperor himself may determine whether the urgency exists, and what amounts to urgency. The principle which is laid down in the eighth article with regard to general legislation, is, in the seventieth article, applied specially to financial affairs. This article runs thus:—"When the Imperial Diet cannot be convoked, owing to the external or internal condition of the country, in case of urgent need for the maintenance of public safety, the Government may take all necessary financial measures, by means of an Imperial ordinance." I am willing to admit, as before, that the question of "urgency" must be determined by the Emperor and his Government; and also, in this case, the question whether "the external or internal condition of the country" [one of those awkwardly literal translations of the original which unfortunately abound in the English version of the Constitution] is such that "the Imperial Diet cannot be convoked." Both to the eighth and the seventieth Articles, however, an identical and important proviso is attached. In the case of general laws—"Such Imperial ordinances are to be laid before the Imperial Diet its next Session, and when the Diet does not approve the said ordinances, the Government shall declare them to be invalid for the future": and in the case of the special financial legislation—"the matter shall be submitted to the Imperial Diet at its next Session, and its approbation shall be obtained thereto." The seventy-first article is also important in this connection, though it has a wider application: it runs thus: "When the Imperial Diet has not voted on the Budget, or when the Budget has not been brought into actual existence, the Government shall carry out the Budget of the preceding year." Here then is the actual verbal check to the Imperial abuse of the power which is retained in the Crown; the balance-weight in the hands of the people to prevent any kicking of the beam by too great a license in the exercise of the Imperial will and pleasure.

I pass over the fact that hasty and hap-hazard criticism has ignored the existence of these verbal checks. I will in fact refer its author, and its recapitulator, to the extraordinary powers which the Government possesses in the matter of proroguing either House of Parliament: "The Government may at any time order the prorogation of either House for a period of not more than fifteen days. When either House again meets after the termination of the prorogation, the debates of the last meeting shall be continued" [Article xxxiii. of the "Law of the Houses"]. I will go further and admit that the Government by successive uses of this power, might keep the meeting of the Diet in continued suspense, so that it should never have a chance of expressing an opinion adverse to the Emperor's "urgency ordinances": that the power contained in this Article might, on the face of it, be said to destroy the value of the verbal checks which the Constitution contains. But I say that in dealing with a great national charter, this is not the true critical spirit which a philosopher on Constitutions like Mr. Morley, or an analyst of Constitutions like Mr. Bryce, ought to adopt. Words are as bad almost as figures: they may be made to prove anything. But a Constitution, though a fundamental law, is in one sense not a law. As against the Imperial grantor it is to be construed rigorously, to the dotting of the "i's," and the crossing of the "t's"—the rights of the People, being in question: but in favour of the Imperial grantor, the words in which these rights have been granted must be allowed to expand under the influence of custom; custom itself being the creature of convenience, expediency, policy, and wisdom; and the words cannot be nor ever are, except in extreme cases, pushed to their extreme significance. The *vox populi* is in one sense, and in one sense only, divine. It holds, in its clamour, the ultimate sanction of the law of interpretation of all great charters—rebellion—and in such sense becomes the voice of the very devil.

These glib commentators of their People's rights, of other Sovereigns' charters, do they realize what the writing of a Constitution means, the struggle between language and intention which is always going on? Turn for a moment to the well-worn topic of our own Constitution, the veto of the Crown: The hardest democratic expositor would not go further than saying that its disuse for so many years warrants the statement that it is "practically extinct." But in settling a Constitution on the English model, would any statesman omit that cardinal doctrine from his draft? Would he not write down in so many words that the power of veto in all matters of legislation is, and

remains in, the Sovereign; trusting—and he would cease to be statesman if he could not trust—to the wisdom of Sovereign and of people, and chiefest of all, of the advisers of both who stand between, to build up an interpretation of the words; to create, out of mutual forbearances, a custom which shall wield a stronger power than any mere words can do.

Is not this precisely what we ourselves have done in granting what is practically legislative autonomy to the greater Colonies of our own Empire, and yet in making it subject to the veto of the Crown? Or, to take another instance of more modern application, the legislative functions of the Upper House. The Party of Progress is busy building, it can hardly be called a custom, but an interpretation of the power which the Constitution of England assigns to the House of Lords. It is not at present too clear how this interpretation is to be worded, but judging from the noise which any throwing out of Bills by the Lords creates, it will go to great lengths: but not the noisiest of the shouters, nor the hardest of the "neopoliticians," were he set down to write an exposition of the British Constitution, but would on this subject resort only to an interpretative "gloss"; he would explain how the legislative power exists, "but is," or "ought to be," "rarely exercised" adversely to the Commons: and he would support his statement by references to well-known examples of mutual forbearances of Lords and Commons which the solemn functions of "conferences" had fostered.

It was inevitable therefore that, in drafting a Constitution for Japan, this great difficulty of language should present itself: the difficulty of expressing accurately, and above all, concisely, in words, what words and custom combined had in other countries already effected.

Let me say this now distinctly: Whatever blemishes the Japanese Constitution may possess in its details, however imperfect it may be, admitting that there are both blemishes and imperfections, there was a wish to incorporate, so far as could be done, the fundamental principles which prevail in our own fair land of freedom. But those who had to frame the words were compelled to trust, and those who advised them, *quorum pars parvula fuit*, bade them so to trust, to a certain aftergrowth of custom, the lichen on the trunk which is incorporate with the tree we look upon, to goodwill on both sides which in cases of friction would promote mutual forbearances, which should make the Constitution what it was intended it should be.

And so first to repel the particular charge before establishing the general principle. The statement that the words bear the meaning so contemptuously assigned to them is not warranted: for, as I have shown, they have certain important provisos. And the suggestion that the Emperor, or the Government on his behalf, deliberately inserted a "little article" which—apparently harmless until some acute English observer discovered its true import and exposed it—was intended to nullify the effect of the grant of representative government, absurd. It is a deliberate insult to the Emperor, not so much as a ruler of men, but as a sane human being, endowed with a certain instinct of government, and surrounded by men of wisdom, of learning, and of experience in the craft of State.

If it had been the Constitution of any other country but Japan, this feeble facile criticism would never have been uttered. But for Japan, the pretty plaything of the globe-trotter from which no serious thing can come, for Japan the Oriental which can never change the crookedness of her mind, it was quite good enough. In most commonplace language, "it is too bad." Burrs stick. Years hence, if anybody is kind enough to bestow a passing thought on Japan and the Constitution, this particular burr of Mr. Bryce will be remembered and repeated, and will pass as sober and thoughtful criticism. Curiously enough, however, the principle of the "little article" was based on English precedents (see note A).

My general proposition then is this: That a written Constitution must be construed in the same way as an unwritten Constitution, that is to say, by the light of customary interpretation which grows up around it: and that there is no reason to suppose that this necessary growth of customary interpretation will be in any way checked in Japan by undue interference of the Imperial will. The constitutional spirit of all parties was shown in a remarkable manner in the very first debate in the Lower House. One of the members had been arrested on a charge of fraud: a question of privilege thereupon arose, and one of some nicety:—Should the question be raised before the House proceeded to elect its President? The debates were of a distinctly high order and compared very favourably with debates on similar subjects at Westminster. There were displayed both constitutional knowledge and legal acumen which were remarkable, without there being any

necessity to add "for the first parliamentary debate in the East." And so, in the recent dissolution of the Diet, which the hostile critics of the Government have called a high-handed proceeding. The Opposition had shown a hostility to the Government of a somewhat violent obstructionist type, not to one measure but to several. The Cabinet had the power, the hostile critics' case depends on this, to dissolve the Diet at the first signs of such opposition: but it was not until it had been borne with patiently for a long time that the moment arrived for striking blows. One of the measures which had been thrown out was the Government proposal to establish a large relief fund for the sufferers from the terrible Gifu Earthquake last year. After the dissolution the Government treated this matter as one of urgency and immediately voted the sums necessary for relief on a large scale? The bearing of this example on my general proposition is this: There was no high-handed dealing with the Diet, but in a constitutional spirit a dissolution was determined on to avoid a deadlock, and to enable the Ministers to appeal to the country.

It is time now to give a brief summary of the Constitution.

The first chapter deals with the prerogatives of the Emperor. As to those, one thing only calls for special remark: first the use of the term "Ordinance" as distinguished from "Law." The Ordinances are those enactments which proceed directly from the Sovereign. The Laws proceed from the Sovereign and the Diet. The Ordinances in case of urgency I have already dealt with. Article IX. reproduces the English principle that the Sovereign may, by proclamation, reinforce the law, may give vitality to a law by calling special attention to it. But in the case of all the Imperial Ordinances they may not in any way alter any of the existing laws. The doctrine that the Sovereign has no inherent power of legislation could not be expressed in any stronger way.

The second is the important chapter: it deals with the rights and duties of subjects. The following are among its chief provisions:

All Japanese subjects are equally eligible for all public offices, whether civil or military.

They are to have complete liberty in the choice of their abode. They are to be arrested, detained, tried, punished only according to law. They are to be tried only by the Judges appointed by law. The house of the Japanese is henceforth to be his castle. The secrecy of letters is not to be violated. The right of property shall be respected. Freedom of religious belief shall be enjoyed, and also liberty of speech, writing, publication, public meeting, and association. The right of presenting petitions is conferred. All these things are taken out of the sphere of interference of an autocratic Sovereign, and are put within the sphere of the law: that is, these liberties and rights can only be interfered with by the joint act of the people, through their representatives in the Diet, and the Sovereign. The Imperial Diet is constituted by Chapter III.: in the Upper House the principle of election is partially introduced. By the law of the House of Peers, Counts, Viscounts, and Barons are elected by their respective orders: and a certain number of Commoners, one for each City and one for each Prefecture, are to be elected by and from among the highest tax-payers. The Emperor also possesses the power of nominating members of the Upper House for meritorious services, or for erudition.

The share which the Diet has in the legislation is again stated: Every law requires its consent. The Diet is to be invoked every year, a session lasting three months: but this may be prolonged in case of necessity by Imperial order: and extraordinary sessions may be convoked by the same means. In the House of Representatives no debate can be opened, or vote taken, unless one-third of the members are present. The deliberations of both Houses are to be public, but the Government may demand, or the House may resolve to hold, secret sittings. Petitions may be presented to both Houses by subjects. Freedom of debates is ensured to members: but this does not cover the printing and the publishing of speeches delivered in the House, which are left subject to the general law. Freedom from arrest is also ensured, except in certain heinous crimes, unless either House assents to the arrest of one of its members.

The Ministry is distinct from the Diet, but members of the Government, or Delegates from the Government may sit and speak in either House.

Chapter V. deals with the Courts of Law and the Judges. Law is to be administered in the name of the Emperor, by judges appointed by law. The judges are not removable except by sentence of a Court of Discipline. Trials are to be conducted in public, except where such publicity may be prejudicial to peace and order, or to the maintenance of public morality. Infringements of rights of property, or of other rights, are to be dealt with solely by a "Court of Administrative Litigation."

dealt with solely by a "Court of Administrative Litigation."

Chapter IV. deals with the Privy Council and the responsibility of ministers: and Chapter VI. with Finances; but these may be conveniently left to the next article.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NOTE A.—The eighth and seventeenth articles which have been scoffed at were in reality based on certain statements made by writers of some authority as to what could in fact occur in England. The following two quotations are taken from Todd's "Parliamentary Government of England":

"Legislation of this kind [Acts of Indemnity] is a parliamentary acknowledgment of the principle that, in times of danger or emergency, the Crown, acting under the advice of responsible ministers, may properly anticipate the future action of Parliament, by a temporary suspension of certain classes of statutes. Abstractedly the Crown has no right to issue any such orders or proclamations: but in the words of Sir Robert Peel, 'Governments have assumed, and will assume, in extreme cases, unconstitutional power, and will trust to the good sense of the people, convinced by the necessity to obey the proclamation, and to Parliament to indemnify the issuers.' And again:

"In the words of Mr. Macaulay (Secretary to the Board of Audit), cases must constantly arise in so complicated a system of government as ours, where it becomes the duty of the executive authorities, in the exercise of their discretionary powers, boldly to set aside the requirements of the Legislature, trusting to the good sense of Parliament, when all the facts of the case shall have been explained, to acquit them of all blame; and it would be, not a public advantage, but a public calamity, if the Government were to be deprived of the means of so exercising their discretionary authority."

We have probably "seen the last" of the exercise of these discretionary powers; we have seen the last of so many things lately: England is "going so fast." But there was at least warrant for Japan desiring to establish the constitutional existence of a power which had not been entirely unknown in England.

THE BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HYOGO AND OSAKA FOR 1891.

Consul ENSLIE to the Marquis of SALISBURY.

Hyogo, April 8, 1892.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to furnish your Lordship with my Report on the Foreign Trade of this Consular District for the Year ended December 31, 1891, accompanied by the customary Returns based on Statistics compiled by the Bureau of Customs, and by a Return of the number of registered British and other foreign residents and of firms.

I have, &c. (Signed) J. J. ENSLIE.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF HYOGO FOR THE YEAR 1891.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The trade of the past year compares with that of 1890 as follows:—

	1891.	Value.	1890.
Imports	4,064,201	.....	5,740,503
Exports	3,657,781	.....	2,902,560
Total	8,621,982	.....	8,652,063
Decrease in imports			785,302
Increase in exports			755,221

Net decrease in 1891..... 30,081

The unsatisfactory nature of business generally during the past year is, with the exception of silk, exported in particularly large quantities from Yokohama, due to causes similar to those which affected the trade of 1890, namely, fluctuations in exchange, the high price of rice, tightness of the Japanese money markets, &c.

Notwithstanding temporary disadvantages the foreign trade of this district has during the past 10 years made considerable progress, greater, in fact, than that of Yokohama, as shown by the following return, which, owing to the impossibility of fixing a fair average exchange rate, is given in Mexican dollars or Japanese *yen*, the currency of this Empire.

	1881.	Value.	1891.
	Dollars.		Dollars.
Hyogo and Osaka	14,377,332	.....	52,600,027
Yokohama	42,626,090	.....	78,523,709

INCREASE DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS.

	Value.
	Dollars.
Hyogo and Osaka	38,222,695
Yokohama	35,807,019

The silk, silkworm egg, and cocoon trade is, owing to the power of the Japanese middleman, as explained in a former report, almost exclusively confined to Yokohama.

Table showing Value of Silk, &c., Exported during the under-mentioned Years.

	Value.	1881.	1891.
		Dollars.	Dollars.
Yokohama	12,978,161	.....	31,740,826
Hyogo and Osaka ...	3,922	.....	435,058

The increase in the volume of general business is, therefore, greatly in favour of Hyogo and Osaka.

In this connection it is well to state that the two ports of Hyogo and Osaka must, for the purposes of foreign trade statistics, be taken as one district,

all the business at Osaka being done by foreigners residing exclusively at Kobe (Hyogo).

The remarks regarding the frequent absence of commercial morality, made in last year's report in the interest of trade generally, were carefully worded, rest on their own merits, and are not confined to Kobe and Osaka only. They have attracted considerable attention, are endorsed by the Chambers of Commerce, and will, it is hoped, prove beneficial to honest Japanese and foreign merchants, whose duty and interest it is rigorously to ostracise the native or alien rogues, who break contracts, imitate trademarks and chops (notably one favourably known for many years in the Japanese market), flourish on "moral assets," or otherwise earn for themselves unenviable reputations.

IMPORTS.

Exceptional depression marked the opening of the year, and though now and again there were periods of slight improvement and activity, general disappointment is characteristic of the entire 12 months.

After a period of feeble inquiry, both in English and Bombay yarn, the market became fairly active, considerable attention being paid to Indian, and although operations seemed restricted to actual requirements, the sales compared favourably with the similar period in 1890. During June the market was greatly disturbed by fluctuations in exchange, but a small business was done at weaker quotations for English, with a slight improvement in Bombay; this state of things continued more or less during the remaining months of the year.

Business shows up very badly compared with 1890, there being a falling-off of upwards of 9,000,000 lbs., estimated at 400,000l.; this is due to increasing activity in the Japanese cotton spinning mills, some of which, however, suffered rather severely during the earthquake of October last.

Table showing Sales of Yarn during the under-mentioned Years.

Year.	Quantity. English.* Bales.	Indian. Bales.
1886	23,003	—
1887	39,697	—
1888	50,300	—
1889	50,416	—
1890	30,434	—
1891	15,780	—

* Reliable statistics not obtainable.

Business in cotton, raw and unspun, has increased very largely during the last 6 years, owing to the numerous spinning associations which have sprung up in this neighbourhood.

Imports of cotton during the last 6 years were—

	Lbs.
1886	4,691,621
1887	10,684,002
1888	24,434,453
1889	71,985,039
1890	55,780,886
1891	21,758,050

The accompanying return, showing the increase in the number of cotton spinning mills in Japan, will be of some interest.

At the opening of the year some little business was done, the demand being, however, chiefly confined to one or two qualities, while fancies were extremely dull, later on T-cloths were asked for at low prices, velvet showing a slight improvement, and there also being some inquiry for Italians, printed goods, and white shirtings. On the whole, this line of business has been insignificant as compared with former years, the only article showing a slight increase being Turkey-reds.

After much general dullness in woollen goods there was a considerable trade at low prices in Italians, as also a small demand for mousselines. As the season advanced a fair amount of mixtures changed hands, flannels also showing better results than were at first expected.

The total trade in these articles during the past year shows, however, a decrease of 130,000l.

The business of this port must be recorded as generally unsatisfactory, importers having had to contend with a weak and declining home market, as well as with the heavy falls in sterling exchange, which often seriously enhanced the cost of goods after sales were made, thus converting an expected profit into an actual loss.

The volume and value of bar and rod iron imported shows an improvement over previous years, and there is no reason why this increase should not continue, the Japanese trade requiring annually large quantities of manufactured iron, which can apparently be best supplied by the North of England rolling mills.

Pig-iron would seem to have fallen-off in importance, but the fact that some cargoes were overdue at the end of the year will explain this difference in the statistics as compared with 1890. The chief importations continue to be from Mid-

dlesborough, and Redcar No. 3 is the standard brand.

Wire nails show a small increase in the quantity imported as compared with last year; but the only feature of interest in the trade in this article is the fact that prices advanced about 10 per cent. in November, owing to the exceptional demand caused by the great earthquake.

Sheet zinc, chiefly used in lining the boxes in which matches are packed for export, does not occupy so important a place as it did last year, but as the manufacture of matches is steadily increasing, this article will, no doubt, continue to be required in large quantities.

The importation of metals, which has heretofore been in the hands of foreigners, has, it is to be remarked, been lately attempted by Japanese firms; but from what can be learned of the results of such ventures it seems quite evident that they are far from satisfactory.

Metals generally show a decrease in value of 150,000l.

The dullness in kerosene oil in the last two months of 1890 was, at the opening of this year, lessened by some excitement caused among importers and those generally interested in this branch of foreign trade, by a movement to compel the removal of heavy stocks from the warehouses at Onohama, considered and recognised, since the time when kerosene first became an article of import and consumption among Japanese, as the only site adapted for the storage of such inflammable merchandise; one of the causes which led to this movement was, it is believed, the danger to the houses, which of late years have been erected in rapidly increasing numbers in the neighbourhood of those warehouses.

The new scheme, to which the attention of importers was indirectly called at the close of 1890, contemplated the immediate removal of all stocks and the future storing of kerosene in warehouses erected by a local Japanese company, at a considerable distance from the centres of business, and objectionable in regard to surroundings, landing facilities, and insufficiency of storage room. This important matter having been promptly brought to the notice of the proper authorities, was during the course of the year satisfactorily settled.

During the next few months, the general features of the market were depression and inactivity, but towards October some improvement took place, and there was a marked increase in the quantity taken for distribution. The following return shows the movement in oil during the last two years:—

	CASES.
1890.—Stocks on January 1	356,445
Arrivals (American)	1,857,329
Arrivals (Russian)	258,370
Total	2,115,699

1891.—Stocks on January 1	653,623
Arrivals (American)	1,450,948
Arrivals (Russian)	313,387
Total	1,764,335

1891.—Stocks on December 31 740,105

The temporary decrease in the volume of trade is due to cheap and regular communication by sea between Yokohama and the important distributing centre of Owari.

Last year's imports show an increase of 500,000 cases over that of 1888.

Soon after the commencement of the new year a reaction occurred in a fall in the prices of sugar which had marked the close of 1890; considerable sales were effected at better values, but continued fluctuations in prices, and the requirements of dealers seriously affected business until August, when some heavy transactions were put through. Considerable activity at lower prices marked the close of the season.

The crop having been good, there was less demand for foreign rice; hence a falling-off of nearly 600,000l. in this commodity.

In volume the export trade for 1891 shows an increase of upwards of 755,000l. Rice alone being in excess by 83,000 tons, representing a sterling value of nearly 680,000l. The general results of transactions do not appear to be up to expectations.

The year opened with a scarcity of rice, and business was further prevented by the higher demands of dealers, though importations from Saigon continued on a large scale. The scarcity referred to was no doubt, in a great measure, due to the fact that the farmers were hoarding up their stocks, owing to a dread on their part that the exceptionally warm weather experienced towards the end of 1890 would bring about a failure of the wheat and barley crops, this created an exceedingly uneasy feeling, and a present disinclination to part with the recently harvested rice.

Early in February the grain came in more

freely and a fairly large business was done, but prices soon went up, owing doubtless to an active demand on a poorly supplied market. This caused much embarrassment to some importers, who, on the strength of reports about the prospects of a remarkably prolific crop had temporarily spoiled the foreign market by making contracts at ruinous prices.

Favourable weather for the growing wheat crop, together with considerable importations of Saigon and Rangoon rice, caused a slight decline in quotations, which resulted in a moderate amount of business during the following three months, although there was some stagnation in May, due to the marked difference of opinion between buyers and sellers, the former having evidently made up their minds that a heavy drop was going to take place.

Abundant rain in July to some extent compensated for the previous remarkably dry weather, still, though the young plants looked their best, prices went up all round, and there was no enquiry for undressed rice, with very little doing in mill-dressed.

A fair amount changed hands for America and Australia in August, and the weather continuing very propitious, growers in the principal rice district, Kiushiu, began to look forward to an excellent harvest. These hopes were, however, somewhat blighted by a disastrous storm in September, doing much damage to the growing crop. The early one was sufficiently far advanced to withstand the effects of the bad weather, but the later rice suffered severely, and the market was for a time wildly excited.

During the remaining portion of the year business was on a very moderate scale, with a constant upward tendency in prices, owing in a great measure to confirmation of reports about extensive damage to the late rice, by far the larger portion of the crop.

Export during the year was divided as follows:—

To Europe.	United States and Canada.	To the Colonies.
TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
72,315	21,742	10,300

The accompanying return gives the fluctuations in the price of rice, the total cereal crops, and an analysis of Japan rice.

Up to the end of February some 2,500 piculs of old tea were sold.

The new teas were first offered on April 27, and found buyers at prices ranging from 1 dol. to 3 dol. above what had been paid for early tea during the previous year. The crop from the best districts began to be offered during the second week in May, and by the middle of that month the market was fully supplied.

A very active business amounting to 127,000 piculs was done up to the end of July, when the common teas monopolised the attention of buyers. The enormous demand for these teas caused the teamen to hurry forward supplies, without paying care to the style in which they were brought to market, and for some time prices were higher than in 1890, whilst fine teas were no dearer.

The total quantity of tea sold during 1891 was 162,534 piculs, or about 5,000 piculs more than during the previous year, the average price paid being 17 dol. per picul, whereas a few years ago it was about 20 dol. per picul.

The quality of the crop generally was not so good as in 1890, and the teas also showed careless preparation.

Of late years there has been a falling-off in the style of the higher grades from the best districts, due in a measure, probably, to the diminished demand. It is advisable for those interested in the business to see that more care is taken in the growth and manipulation of these fine teas, in order to maintain the reputation they have enjoyed for many years in the consuming markets.

The increasing volume of the tea trade here is as follows:—

1882.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
96,790	137,000	144,000	157,154	162,534

The year opened with a dull and dragging camphor market, constant fluctuations in price, and a fair amount of business being the prominent features until August, when heavy purchases, principally for America, were made at well maintained quotations.

The next two months were exceedingly quiet, but later on there was rather more life, with a steady demand at advancing prices.

Reduced stocks and firm holders rendered transactions in vegetable wax at first impossible, but a reduction in prices resulted in some sales, which were, however, only of short duration, owing to rise in exchange.

Later on some business was done, chiefly for China, but a small advance being established dealers again became firm and operations ceased.

Very early in the year rates for antimony being

low and considerable purchases effected, nothing further of note occurred till the latter end of the year when heavy transactions were reported, and quotations rose rapidly, available stocks being almost nil.

Business in copper opened with a downward tendency in prices, and a good demand, chiefly for India, setting in, nearly all the available stocks were taken up at higher rates. Later on there were again large settlements, clearing the market, when prices became firm with but little on offer.

July was weaker in quotations, but there was very little doing, and no disposition to buy.

This continued to be the condition of things during the latter part of the year, dealers being disposed to accept lower prices, which were, however, still too high for business of any particular dimensions.

Owing to greater facilities offered to shippers at Moji, opposite Shimonosaki in the immediate vicinity of important coal districts, the export trade in coal from this port has been decreasing during the past two or three years, and will probably soon entirely cease.

While on the subject of coal, it may be well to state that the Hongay coal has been unfavourably reported on, as compared with English, Scotch, Welsh, Takashima, and Mike.

The report in my possession states that with every care and attention not more than 115 lbs. of steam were obtainable with 47 per cent. less horsepower, and of course a corresponding loss of revolutions and speed.

It is to be noticed with pleasure that the importance of the floor matting industry has nearly doubled during the past year, and there is every reason to believe that the demand from foreign countries is largely in excess of the present production.

The plant from which matting for export is made also supplies the mats universally used for the same purpose by the Japanese, and the chief producing districts are situated in the provinces of Bizen, Bitchu, and Bingo on the borders of the Inland Sea, and Bungo and Chikugo in Kiushiu.

The seed is planted in December, and the crop is gathered in June and July; the manufacture from the new grass, commencing in August, continues actively until early in the following year, during which interval the chief shipments are made.

An interesting feature in the making of this matting is the introduction of a warp of cotton threads, numbering in the finest qualities some 360 to the yard, thus producing a fabric which is almost as soft and pliable as cloth; in the cheaper kinds, however, native grown hemp is used for this purpose, and the difference in the finish is at once apparent. The machines on which the matting is made are all of home manufacture, and of rather complicated and ingenious construction; they are worked by the foot of the operator, two or three persons being required for each machine.

Aniline dyes are used in colouring, and such is the skill with which this work is done that there is seldom the slightest variation in shade in any number of rolls in the same order.

The beauty and variety of the designs offered to the foreign purchaser is somewhat surprising, considering that the trade may still be considered to be in its infancy, one foreign firm having stated that they sent away over 4,000 different patterns.

The Japanese are so clever and industrious in work of this description that they have before them the prospect of a very large and profitable trade, with little fear of injurious competition from Canton matting, which is altogether a different article.

Prices for a roll of 40 yards in length by 1 yard wide vary, according to quality and workmanship, from 3 dol. to 15 dol., the principal demand being for qualities costing from 6 dol. to 10 dol. The rolls vary in weight from 35 lbs. to 100 lbs. each.

The United States are by far the best customers at present, but shipments to the Australian market are becoming more and more important, and before long Japan matting will probably be in demand all over the world.

The following return shows the gradual increase in value of this article of export:—

	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
89	5,307	22,113	25,389	57,941	104,369	

The export of matches is increasing rapidly, the business being principally in the hands of Chinese. The value for the year under review was 283,703¹/₂, that for 1890 having been 239,715¹/₂.

In order to give some idea of the distribution of foreign trade in this district, I enclose a return showing the approximate percentage of some of the principal articles imported into and exported from Hyogo and Osaka by foreign firms and Japanese. I also enclose a return of imports showing origin and destination.

In the returns which accompany this report the value of the Mexican dollar has, under instructions, been taken for imports at 38.4d., and for exports at 38.2¹/₂d.

The accompanying return shows the fluctuations of exchange during 1891.

The increase in the total foreign shipping of 1891, as compared with 1890, is 13 ships of 24,311 tons; the increase in British tonnage is 3,249 tons, though there is a decrease of five in the number of ships.

The percentage of foreign ships entered during 1891 is as follows:—

Nationality.	Number.	Tons.
British.....	67,748	69,957
French.....	9,925	14,329
German.....	16,603	12,059
American.....	1,908	1,718
Norwegian.....	1,908	1,193
Austrian.....	9,954	0,435
Other nationalities..	0,954	0,309

During the year under review the principal increase in shipping is:—

	Tons.
Japanese.....	59,739
French.....	16,541
German.....	14,285
Norwegian.....	9,533
Austrian.....	3,805

There is a notable decrease in American shipping amounting to 25,500 tons.

The increase in French tonnage is due to the larger size of the subsidised mail steamers running on this line.

An important item in the general shipping of this district is the German, and the following return shows the increase, during the last 10 years, of the shipping of that Empire as compared with British:—

	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
British.....	114	125,743	355	610,642							
German.....	7	3,139	87	105,260							

This increase has been gradual but steady. It is mainly due to the fact that German ships compete very favourably with British, as they are run more economically and are exempt from restrictions with regard to load line and other matters, except in the case of deck-awning vessels.

The importance of the shipping in this district is shown by the following returns for 1891 compiled from customs statistics:—

TOTAL FOREIGN AND JAPANESE SHIPPING.

Consular District.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Hyogo and Osaka.....	852	1,178,549
Yokohama.....	470	826,018

TOTAL FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Consular District.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Hyogo and Osaka.....	524	872,870
Yokohama.....	408	734,269

BRITISH SHIPPING.

Consular District.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Hyogo and Osaka.....	355	610,641
Yokohama.....	209	496,020

I enclose a return of the registered foreign population of this Consular district.

Return of Principal Articles of Import to the Port of Hyogo during the Years 1891-90.

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
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Cotton manufactures—				
Handkerchiefs.....	99,831	6,221	97,023	6,257
Thread.....	82,504	6,816	90,051	4,404
Yarns.....	10,693,295	399,999	20,149,772	700,443

Piece goods—				
Chintzes.....	Yards 939,881	9,826	2,498,550	20,428
Satins.....	Yards 812,635	15,805	2,400,467	20,078
Shirtings.....	Yards 1,146,635	238,931	16,057,520	151,783
T-cloth.....	Yards 1,120,327	19,956	579,175	6,119
Turkey-reds.....	Yards 3,374,350	35,219	2,822,245	27,357
Velvets.....	Yards 790,135	29,485	839,718	20,288
Miscellaneous.....	—	17,243	—	13,782

Total.....	—	659,611	—	971,939
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Cotton, raw.....	Lbs. 51,948,971	944,061	21,443,535	406,217
Cotton, unginned.....	Lbs. 59,809,793	199,226	34,346,351	197,258
Total.....	—	1,143,287	55,789,886	603,475

Woolen manufactures—				
Blankets.....	Yards 947,953	26,775	554,771	35,172
Cloth.....	Yards 141,406	19,406	159,400	23,316
Flannels.....	Yards 805,337	39,572	1,289,270	66,615
Italian cloth.....	Yards 5,787,944	235,263	2,954,683	97,459

Mousseline de laine.....	Yards 6,491,090	243,636	20,394,804	246,100
Miscellaneous piece-goods.....	—	30,000	—	21,402
Yarn.....	Lbs. 61,156	8,618	156,707	24,140
Total.....	—	381,820	—	512,238

Metals—				
Iron, bar.....	Tons 9,408	62,689	7,551	52,171
Iron, nails.....	Tons 4,986	43,007	4,372	48,937
Iron, pig.....	Tons 7,362	20,720	7,818	22,282
Iron, plate.....	Tons 2,249	17,091	2,128	20,447
Iron, rail.....	Tons 4,497	21,629	12,212	65,507
Iron, wire.....	Tons —	30,163	—	110,618
Iron, sundry.....	Tons —	27,828	—	51,715
Lead.....	Tons 1,243	19,037	1,424	22,807
Nickel.....	Lbs. 8,913	866	163,660	17,343
Steel and steelware.....	Tons —	10,513	758	8,893
Tin.....	Tons 99	9,353	—	7,964
Zinc.....	Tons 1,269	28,663	587	7,964
Miscellaneous.....	Tons —	21,666	—	7,791
Total.....	—	325,992	—	483,500

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Miscellaneous.....	Tons —	21,666	—	7,791
Total.....	—	325,992	—	483,500

Kerosene oil.....	Gal. 17,829,380	332,662	22,433,050	415,725
Rice.....	Tons 66,850	435,096	130,050	2,011,060
Barley.....	Tons 2,270	56,789	539	2,130
Wheat.....	Tons 989	4,566	423	2,019
Other grains.....	Tons —	5,059	—	2,424
Total.....	—	499,770	—	2,018,026

Sugar—				
Brown.....	Tons 8,000	59,076	6,791	69,075
White.....	Tons 22,158	364,546	19,737	350,501
Miscellaneous.....	Tons 2,247	2,904	2,046	4,071
Total.....	—	29,205	426,566	28,574

Miscellaneous				
Arms and munitions of war.....	—	17,731	—	8,549
Alc, beer, & porter.....	—	6,260	—	9,907

Beans, peas, & pulse.....	Tons 46,034	214,102	31,075	182,663
Boilers, steam.....	—	8,735	—	25,147
Books & stationery.....	—	52,609	—	47,378
Carts.....	—	36	—	20,010
Clocks and watches.....	—	19,473	—	18,172
Clothing.....	—	16,531	—	25,179

Dried sardines (for manure).....	Tons 2,022	8,502	—	—
Drugs.....	—	—	—	—
Bicarbonate of soda.....	Tons 567	3,821	1,930	13,348
Caustic soda.....	Tons 2,786	67,724	10,344	10,079
Salicylic acid.....	Lbs. 38,639	10,112	—	—
Carolic acid.....	Lbs. 60,200	5,555	—	—
Potash.....	Lbs. 51,800	5,000	—	—

Phosphorus amorphous.....	Tons 211,700	21,527	—	—
Miscellaneous drugs.....	—	90,763	—	208,842
Dyes and paints—				
Aniline.....	Lbs. 249,873	28,646	244,989	15,055
Miscellaneous.....	—	44,474	—	41,206
Glass & glassware.....	—	37,121	—	35,332
Gunny bags.....	No. 972,100	15,124	559,300	8,314
Hats and caps.....	Dosen 40,599	39,406	30,907	25,582
Hides.....	—	38,498	—	86,270
Indiarubber ware.....	—	6,417	—	—
Lard and tallow.....	Tons 457	8,500	—	—
Leather.....	Lbs. 535,135	20,540	843,549	39,588
Locomotive engines, and parts of.....	—	50,322	—	—
Machinery, spinning.....	—	31,187	—	229,120
Machinery, other.....	—	62,355	—	87,544
Mats.....	—	6,828	—	—
Oil cakes.....	Tons 8,738	34,159	8,224	11,959
Oil cocoa nut.....	Lbs. 1,139,375	9,422	—	

Rapeseed.....Tons	2,711	21,692	466	4,322
Rapeseed oil.....Tons	1,170	30,698	511	1,178
Screens.....No.	123,826	59,602	77,565	40,183
Shells.....Tons	9,865	—	—	7,580
Silk, raw, waste, &c.....Tons	6,418	—	—	34,724
Silk manufactures.....Tons	27,300	—	—	35,801
Straw plait.....Bundles	116,386	14,037	112,351	8,308
Sulphuric acid.....Tons	—	4,736	—	4,086
Timber and planks.....Tons	17,140	—	—	16,666
Umberlans.....No.	608,241	23,322	574,083	30,094
Wax, vegetable.....Tons	1,514	48,568	1,160	43,566
Wheat.....Tons	1,564	9,863	—	4,271
Miscellaneous.....Tons	—	895,495	—	235,489
Total.....Tons	—	1,790,718	—	1,509,310

Recapitulation—				
Rice.....Tons	104,357	887,557	21,388	206,033
Tea.....Tons	27,360,713	435,515	21,630,431	440,831
Metals.....Tons	—	417,554	—	493,183
Dried fish.....Tons	3,008	104,635	3,480	187,120
Coal.....Tons	87,187	64,791	149,147	114,100
Miscellaneous.....Tons	—	7,790,718	—	1,509,310
Grand Total.....Tons	—	3,657,782	—	2,909,566

Return of all Shipping Entered at the Ports of Hyogo and Osaka during the Year 1891.

Nationality.	Sailing Number	Steam Number	Total Number	Tons.
Vessels.	Vessels.	Vessels.	Vessels.	Tons.
British.....	20	50,684	335	570,018
Japanese.....	288	325	305,447	328
French.....	—	52	195,073	—
German.....	3	3,193	84	105,937
American.....	16	15,000	10	15,000
Norwegian.....	—	—	10	10,123
Austrian.....	—	—	5	3,805
Dutch.....	—	—	2	1,344
Russian.....	—	—	2	16
Italian.....	1	107	—	807
Total.....	36	49,920	816	1,238,567

Return of Registered Foreign Residents and Firms at Hyogo and Osaka during the Year 1891.

Nationality.	Adults	Children	Total
Male.	Female.	Residents.	Residents.
British.....	159	16	57
Chinese.....	721	117	103
Danish.....	5	—	2
Dutch.....	9	3	13
French.....	39	16	7
German.....	58	—	10
Norwegian and Swedish.....	—	—	—
Portuguese.....	24	5	13
Russian.....	—	—	2
Swiss.....	—	—	—
American.....	43	41	105
Spanish.....	—	—	—
Austro-Hungarian.....	1	—	1
Italian.....	2	—	3
Belgian.....	1	—	2

Nationality.	Adults	Children	Total
Male.	Female.	Residents.	Residents.
British.....	159	16	57
Chinese.....	721	117	103
Danish.....	5	—	2
Dutch.....	9	3	13
French.....	39	16	7
German.....	58	—	10
Norwegian and Swedish.....	—	—	—
Portuguese.....	24	5	13
Russian.....	—	—	2
Swiss.....	—	—	—
American.....	43	41	105
Spanish.....	—	—	—
Austro-Hungarian.....	1	—	1
Italian.....	2	—	3
Belgian.....	1	—	2

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Male.	Female.	Residents.	Residents.
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Chinese.....	721	117	103
Danish.....	5	—	2
Dutch.....	9	3	13
French.....	39	16	7
German.....	58	—	10
Norwegian and Swedish.....	—	—	—
Portuguese.....	24	5	13
Russian.....	—	—	2
Swiss.....	—	—	—
American.....	43	41	105
Spanish.....	—	—	—
Austro-Hungarian.....	1	—	1
Italian.....	2	—	3
Belgian.....	1	—	2

Table showing the Approximate Percentage of some of the Principal Articles of Import into Hyogo and Osaka by British and Foreign Firms established at these Ports and by Japanese.

Description of Merchandise.	British.	German.	French.	American.	Belgian.	Japanese.	Chinese.
Cotton yarn, English.....	89	8	—	—	—	—	—
Cotton yarn, Bombay.....	96	1	—	—	—	—	—
Woolen yarn.....	33	75	—	—	—	—	—
Woolen yarn.....	16	40	—	—	—	—	—
Blankets.....	93	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cotton, twilled, &c.....	93	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flannel.....	13	68	—	—	—	—	—
Italian.....	62	26	—	—	—	—	—
Shirtings, grey.....	96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shirtings, white.....	81	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teletis.....	81	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkey-reds.....	57	38	—	—	—	—	—
Victoria lawns.....	92	1	—	—	—	—	—
Velvets, cottons.....	82	9	—	—	—	—	—
Dyes.....	8	80	—	—	—	—	—
Sugar.....	98	—	—	—	—	—	—
Molasses.....	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spirits and provisions.....	20	42	7	14	—	—	—
Iron, sheet, bar, pig, plate.....	21	44	6	26	—	—	—
Window glass.....	5	63	—	32	—	—	—
Nails.....	12	68	—	20	—	—	—
Steel.....	11	54	—	35	—	—	—
Iron wire.....	7	79	—	14	—	—	—
Zinc.....	40	24	—	34	—	—	—
Raw cotton.....	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cement.....	3	96	—	—	—	—	—
Handkerchiefs.....	30	30	—	—	—	—	—
Paint, varnish, red lead, &c.....	30	75	—	—	—	—	—
Acids.....	27	77	—	—	—	—	—

Machinery.....	33	4	7	11	—	40	—
Haberdashery.....	19	5	—	37	—	39	8
Manufactures.....	41	28	—	8	—	27	3
Drugs.....	24	22	—	14	—	23	15
Caster, machine, and cylinder oil.....	27	—	—	22	—	48	3
Seed cotton.....	—	—	—	1	—	20	88
Wax.....	23	53	—	21	—	1	—
Rice.....	5	—	—	—	—	34	60
Kerosene.....	29	7	—	70	—	—	—
Gunpowder, dynamite, blasting powder.....	25	2	—	73	—	—	—
Clocks and watches.....	43	—	—	56	—	—	—
Bleaching materials, chemicals, &c.....	31	32	—	35	—	1	—
Tim-plates.....	26	—	—	40	—	33	—
Muslin.....	20	28	—	15	—	9	—
Matchpaper.....	12	64	—	15	—	7	—
Satins.....	62	30	—	2	—	1	—
Cloth.....	37	12	—	—	—	26	17
Beans.....	—	—	—	—	—	15	85
Cow hides.....	1	5	—	1	—	80	15
Alcohol.....	25	59	—	9	—	6	—
Lead.....	30	10	—	59	—	14	25
Beancake.....	—	—	—	—	—	100	—
Oilcake.....	—	—	—	—	—	99	—
Spelter.....	93	—	—	6	—	—	—
Wool.....	60	—	—	—	—	33	7
Cotton thread.....	39	100	—	—	—	40	28
Flour.....	28	7	—	67	—	—	—
Lumber.....	100	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table showing the Approximate Percentage of some of the Principal Articles of Export from Hyogo and Osaka by British and Foreign Firms established at these Ports and by Japanese.

Description of Merchandise.	British.	German.	French.	American.	Belgian.	Japanese.	Chinese.
Silk.....	40	85	—	6	—	—	—
Tea.....	99	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tobacco.....	71	23	—	—	—	—	—
Rice.....	20	—	—	—	—	17	10
Copper.....	95	35	—	10	—	6	21
Lacquered bamboo, porcelain, woodware, fans, umbrellas, &c.....	25	12	—	23	—	11	16
Matching.....	18	32	—	48	—	—	—
Bamboo, bamboo blinds, &c.....	22	38	—	33	—	—	—
Matches.....	1	2	—	—	—	3	92
Camphor.....	22	72	—	2	—	—	—
Sulphuric acid.....	15	1	—	49	—	23	10
Camellia oil.....	1	86	—	—	—	—	—
Straw braid.....	23	19	—	63	—	—	—
Wax.....	3	44	—	7	—	4	32
Rags.....	3	23	—	76	—	—	—
Washing soap.....	—	—	—	—	—	72	27
Sulphur.....	43	—	—	—	—	56	—
Shells.....	32	60	—	—	—	—	—
Isinglass.....	—	94	—	—	—	—	—
Planks.....	9	—	—	—	—	97	—
Feathers.....	10	83	—	—	—	—	—
Rapeseed.....	33	03	—	—	—	—	—
Skins.....	4	22	—	—	—	16	83
Lamps and chimneys.....	2	80	—	4	—	—	—
Antimony.....	—	90	—	—	—	—	—
Bronze.....	—	97	—	—	—	—	—
Waste cotton.....	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waste cocoons.....	31	56	—	—	—	—	—
Wheat.....	33	66	—	—	—	—	—
Rapeseed oil.....	49	40	—	—	—	16	—

Return showing the Increase in Number of Cotton Spinning Mills in Japan during the last Three Years.

Periods.	Number of Mills.	Number of Spindles.	Cotton Consumed, Sums.	Yarn Spun, Sums.	Coal Consumed, Tons.
1888—	—	—	—	—	—
July-December.....	20	104,636	8,480,116	7,473,249	8,700
1889—	—	—	—	—	—
January-December.....	25	200,350	13,162,246	17,761,949	30,410
1890—	—	—	—	—	—
January-December.....	25	230,947	19,411,631	27,012,161	45,595
1891—	—	—	—	—	—
January-June.....	34	362,442	21,440,385	26,701,151	27,588

Cotton Spinning Mills working and in course of erection in Japan on June 30th, 1891.

Where situated.	Number of Mills.	Number of Spindles.	Average Number of Hands Employed Daily.
Osaka Prefecture.....	9	176,400	8,576
Okayama Prefecture.....	4	51,988	1,625
Aichi Prefecture.....	3	27,584	1,104
Tokyo Prefecture.....	2	39,632	9,909
Fukuoka Prefecture.....	2	15,598	85
Hyogo Prefecture.....	2	13,068	940
Shizuoka Prefecture.....	2	4,000	139
Kyoto Prefecture.....	1	1,136	63
Miyagi Prefecture.....	2	30,672	1,676
Hiroshima Prefecture.....	1	7,200	Temporarily stopped.
Wakayama Prefecture.....	1	5,868	—
Nagasaki Prefecture.....	1	4,144	Temporarily stopped.
Yehime Prefecture.....	1	4,120	167
Tochigi Prefecture.....	1	4,900	160
Kagoshima Prefecture.....	1	3,636	85
Yamanashi Prefecture.....	1	2,000	68
Miyagi Prefecture.....	1	2,000	38
Nara Prefecture.....	1	2,000	37
Kagawa Prefecture.....	1	2,000	168
Total.....	36	377,972	17,948

Price of Rice per Koku,* and Amount Exported during the undermentioned Years.

Year.	Lowest.	Highest.	Amount Exported.
Dol. c.	Dol. c.	Tons.	
1879.....	7 20	9 00	766
1880.....	8 40	12 50	—
1881.....	10 20	12 20	1,574
1882.....	7 10	10 50	21,722
1883.....	4 50	7 40	12,183
1884.....	4 40	6 10	33,426
1885.....	5 20	7 50	12,645
1886.....	5 10	5 90	38,729
1887.....	4 80	5 20	38,009
1888.....	4 50	5 20	155,082
1889.....	4 70	7 80	150,273
1890.....	7 30	10 80	21,288
1891.....	7 20	8 00	104,357

Return of all Cereals harvested in Japan during the undermentioned Years.

Article.	1891.	1890.	Average for 10 Years 1880-89.
Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Rice.....	4,876,000	6,122,600	4,856,000
Barley.....	1,145,000	766,100	945,000
Ory.....	900,000	402,000	664,000
Wheat.....	500,000	341,000	405,000
Total.....	7,421,000	7,631,700	6,870,000

Table of Analysis of Japan Rice.

Articles.	A. Common Rice.	B. Mountain Rice.	C. Giant Rice.	D. Glutinous Rice.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Raw protein.....	7'00 ...	8'75 ...	5'87 ...	8'89
Raw fat.....	2'29 ...	2'58 ...	3'44 ...	6'63
Raw fibre.....	4'58 ...	1'98 ...	5'19 ...	7'68
Starch				
Dextrine				
Sugar.....				
Ashes.....				
	84'76	85'53	83'89	76'98
				3'35
				8'65
	1'37	1'18	1'61	6'9

NOTE.—In the above A, B, and C refer to unhulled, and D to hulled rice.

longevity. Yet, I am convinced there is much to be said in favour of "a day in bed" now and then, as an aid to health in the middle-aged, and as a measure tending to prolong life in the old.

In bed, the whole muscular system is at ease, and the wear and tear of the body is reduced to a minimum. The processes of getting rid of waste matters are in abeyance; there is less waste to get rid of, and lungs, skin, and kidneys have a measure of comparative repose. The nervous system, above all, is soothed and comforted by the "day in bed." Anxieties and worries disappear after the rest, and the individual returns to the work-a-day world refreshed and renovated, physically and mentally, in a degree such as the action of no medicines could have accomplished. In a word, the person who enjoys "a day in bed" is in the position of an engine whose fires are damped down, and whose energies are recruiting for the renewal of the work of to-morrow.

There need be little hesitation, then, in saying that, for old persons, "a day in bed" is a health-measure of vast importance. If the aged person is wise, he (or she) will make it a regular practice to spend a couple of days per week in the repose which a sojourn in bed alone can give. Rest in a chair or on a sofa will not suffice. These procedures are too nearly akin to the every-day practice to be of any service. Countless temptations to exertion await the person who is out of bed; while conversely, if he is in bed, the idea of work or of labour and movement is essentially abolished. Such repose is absolute; and if rest is a great medicine, as all know it is, for old folks, "a day in bed," as a regular and not occasional practice, may be regarded as invaluable beyond comprehension.

I go further in my advocacy of "a day in bed" as a health-measure. I happen to know the case of a busy man whose life is one long period of physical and mental activity, and who has found, of late years, that no measure possesses anything like the recuperative effects which follow a day's rest in bed. Even in his holiday season this person is given to taking an occasional *siesta* in his bedroom. Provided with light literature he enjoys his repose as another man delights in an outing, and his mental and physical energy is recruited in an easy and satisfactory manner by this practice. Hence, not for the old alone, but for those in middle life, "a day in bed" may be recommended as a measure worth trying in the light of physiological experience of its value.

It will be seen that in this view of things one may go further than John G. Saxe, who despises and condemns the practice of early rising. Possibly a new generation of poets may be found to extol the value of repose as an aid to health. Poets are beginning to show a practical spirit nowadays. But whether aestheticism be found upon my side or not, I affirm, without fear of contradiction, that, when occasion offers and business allows, there is no measure which will repair the body and recruit the mind of the middle-aged more readily or more thoroughly than the simple expedient of remaining "a day in bed."—Dr. ANDREW WILSON in the *Herald of Health*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 33.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to B 7	1—R to Kt sq. or Kt 5
2—R to Q 7 mate	1—R to Kt 3
2—B to B 5 mate	1—R to Kt 4
2—R to B 5 mate	1—K B to Kt 3
2—Kt x P mate	Same B elsewhere
2—B to B 5 (x B) mate	1—B to Kt 4
2—Kt x P mate	1—B to B 5
2—R x B mate	1—B to Q 6
2—P to K 3 mate	1—B x P
2—Kt x B mate	Kt moves
2—Q to Q B 3 (x Kt) mate	1—P to Kt 3
2—B to B 6 mate	1—P to K 6
2—Q to B 4 mate	1—P to Kt 7
2—Kt to B 2 mate	

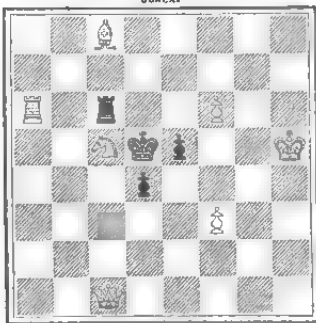
Correct solution received from Omicron, Scacchi, J.D., and Omega.

Other correspondents have overlooked Black's defence of R to K B 3 or R to Kt sq. in their proposed solutions of this intricate position.

PROBLEM No. 35.

By C. A. L. BULL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The *Field*, of July 23rd, gives a very interesting and full account of the play in progress in the Master's tournament at the Dresden Congress of the German Chess Association, which opened on the morning of July 18th. It seems that originally there were two dozen entries, but only eighteen competitors actually went into the combat. Some of the most recent notabilities were conspicuous by their absence, especially Tschigorin and Lasker. Very few English or American masters were on hand, in fact Blackburne and Mason were the only representatives of the Anglo-Saxon brigade. At the seventh round Tarrasch, Makovetz, and Winawer were leading, with Blackburne only half a game behind them.

We give a couple of smart games from the second round, both score and notes being copied from the *Field*.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE.	BLACK.
S. Winawer.	Th. v. Scheve.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—B to K 2
6—Kt to B 3	6—P to Q 3 (a)
7—B x Kt ch.	7—P x B
8—P to Q 4	8—P x P
9—Kt x P	9—B to Q 2
10—P to B 4	10—Castles.
11—P to K 5	11—Kt to K sq. (b)
12—Q to B 3	12—P to Q 4 (c)
13—P to B 5 (d)	13—B to B 4
14—B to K 3	14—R to Kt sq.
15—P to Q Kt 3	15—Q to K 2
16—Q to Kt 3 (e)	16—P to B 3
17—P to K 6	17—B x Kt
18—B x B	18—B to B sq.
19—Kt to R 4	19—R to Kt 4
20—Q to K 3	20—Kt to Q 3 (f)
21—Kt to B 5	21—R to K sq.
22—P to Q R 4	22—R to Kt 5
23—P to B 3	23—R to Kt sq.
24—P to K Kt 4 (g)	24—P to R 3
25—P to R 4	25—P to Q R 4
26—P to Kt 5	26—K to R 2
27—R to R 2	27—R to B sq.
28—P x B P	28—R x B P ch.
29—R to K Kt 2	29—B to Kt 3
30—B x R	30—P x B
31—Q to Kt 3	31—Resigns.

(a) P to Q Kt 4 yields an easier defence than that selected by Black.

(b) He has nothing better now than 11—P x P, 12—P x P; Kt to Kt 5, etc. Of course a player submits only to a double pawn or isolated pawn on the Q side under compulsion, but this is a case in point.

(c) Capture of the pawn was still compulsory.

(d) White's game may be considered won now.

(e) Forcing advance of the B pawn and preventing 16...Q to R 5.

(f) Under great difficulties Black seems at last to get some elbow-room, but White's next move paralyzes him again.

(g) It will be observed how carefully Herr Winawer played this game, even with the superiority of force he obtained in the early part of the development. Only now he commences the final attack, having left nothing to chance.

(h) If 27...P x P, then equally so—R to B Kt 3; R to K sq. 28—R to Kt 6; R x R. 29—P x R ch. and wins.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
J. H. Mieses.	J. H. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to K Kt 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 2	4—P to Q 3 (a)
5—P to Q 3	5—B to K 2
6—K Kt to K 2	6—Castles (b)
7—P to K R 3	7—Kt to K sq.
8—P to K Kt 4	8—P to K Kt 3 (c)
9—B to R 6	9—Kt to Kt 2
10—Q to Q 2	10—B to K 3
11—Castles Q R	11—Kt to Q 5
12—Kt x Kt	12—P x Kt
13—Kt to K 2	13—P to Q B 4

14—P to K B 4	14—P to B 3
15—P to B 5	15—B to B 2
16—P to K R 4	16—P to R 4
17—Kt to Kt 3 (d)	17—B x P
18—P x P (e)	18—P x P
19—P to R 5	19—P to K Kt 4
20—Kt to B 5 (f)	20—Kt x Kt (g)
21—B x R	21—Kt to K 6
22—B x B	22—Q x B
23—Q R to Kt sq. (h)	23—P to R 5
24—Q to K 2	24—B to K 3
25—K to Q 2	25—Q to Q sq.
26—R to R sq.	26—P to R 6
27—K R to Kt sq.	27—P to R 7
28—K R to K Kt sq.	28—Q to Kt 3
29—K to B sq.	29—P to B 5
30—P x P	30—Kt x B P
31—P to Kt 3	31—P to Q 6
32—P x P	32—Q x R ch.
33—B to B sq.	33—B x P
34—Q to K sq.	34—Q to Q 5 (i)

and White resigned.

(a) Mr. Blackburne wants to avoid the usual variations of this opening, to which Herr Mieses is very partial. The right move for Black is B to B 4.

(b) Castling seems premature; but he has nothing else. To develop for Castling, Q R, is not advisable, owing to the diagonal secured by White's bishop.

(c) Intending B to B 3, and Kt to Kt 2 which White obviously does not permit.

(d) He had plenty of time to play 17—K to Kt sq. with the better game.

(e) 18—P to Kt 3 offered better chances.

(f) Better would have been 20—B x Kt, 21—Kt to B 5 ch., etc.

(g) An ingenious resource which frees Black's game and gives him even the advantage. It is a position peculiarly suitable to Blackburne's style.

(h) Perhaps it would have been better to attack the Knight with Q R, and sacrifice the exchange.

(i) A pretty ending, played in Blackburne's old style.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, September 2nd.

The fear of cholera epidemic in New York has caused a panic on the Stock Exchange.

The deaths from cholera in Russia now total 150,000.

London, September 5th.

It has been officially declared that England is now free from cholera.

The cholera is spreading in Germany.

London, September 6th.

The Czar is indignant at Colonel Yanoff's aggression, and has wired an order to avoid a conflict with the Afghans and Chinese, and not to explore beyond the Mustags Mountains.

[The Mustags, or Mustagh, Mountains lie partly on the borders of Kashmir trending in a semi-circle towards Kabul and forming part of the Hindoo Koosh. These mountains are the principal barrier between Northern India and Turkestan.—Ed. J.M.]

London, September 7th.

The St. Leger Stakes, run this afternoon, resulted as follow:—

La Flèche 1

Sir Hugo 2

Watercress 3

The cholera has disappeared from Great Britain.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

Osaka, September 7th.

An earthquake occurred here this morning at 5.42.

Nagasaki, September 9th.

The steamship *Angers*, after being ashore in Owari Bay where she had sought refuge during the recent bad weather, has arrived here. She has sustained damage aft.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, August 23rd.

It is now confirmed that Her Majesty the Queen objected to Mr. Labouchere being included in the Cabinet. The Radicals of Northampton have convened a meeting to protest against their member being excluded from the Ministry.

A very acute trade depression is taking place in Lancashire.

The heat on the Continent is without precedent and a large number of deaths have occurred from sunstroke.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 16th.
From America... per P. M. Co.		Monday, Sept. 12th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Sept. 11th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Monday, Sept. 12th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 16th.
From America... per O. & O. Co.		Thursday, Sept. 12nd.
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Sept. 13th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Sept. 18th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'ay, Oct. 5th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on August 27th.
† Empress of Japan left Vancouver on August 31st. ‡ Ancona left Nagasaki on September 8th. § Sydney (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 7th. ¶ Oadic left San Francisco on September 6th. ¶ Peru left Hongkong on September 9th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 11th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 13th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Sept. 17th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Saturday, Sept. 17th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Sept. 19th.
For America... per O. & O. Co.		Thursday, Sept. 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Oct. 7th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Davies, 3rd September.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 3rd September.—Kobe 2nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 4th September.—San Francisco via Honolulu 16th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 4th September.—Hakodate 2nd September, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 4th September.—Yokkaichi 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Pantan, 4th September.—Glasgow via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.
Hesperia, German steamer, 1,050, H. Witt, 4th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Brown, 5th September.—Kobe 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Jas. Gray, 5th September.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 5th September.—Yokkaichi 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 5th September.—Hongkong via Amoy 30th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 5th September.—Hongkong 31st August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 5th September.—Kobe 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Pender, 6th September.—Hakodate 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Yoshizawa, 7th September.—Yokkaichi 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Electra, German steamer, 1,162, Matzin, 7th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 7th September.—Hachinohe 5th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Duke, 7th September.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 7th September.—Kobe 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 8th September.—Otaru 4th September, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Hussey, 8th September.—Otaru via ports 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Angers, British steamer, 2,077, Pinkham, 3rd September.—Mojji, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 3rd September.—Hakodate.
Palmas, British steamer, 1,560, Taylor, 3rd September.—Hongkong via ports, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 3rd September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 3rd September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 4th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 5th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 5th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Lieut.-Commander W. Goodwin, 6th September.—Hakodate.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 6th September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Hirosima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, MacMillan, 6th September.—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,981, J. Pantan, 6th September.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 6th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 7th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 7th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 7th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Davies, 7th September.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 8th September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 8th September.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 9th September.—Hakodate, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.
Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 9th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Hesperia, German steamer, 1,050, H. Witt, 9th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Duke, 9th September.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—35 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. R. Burtran in cabin; Messrs. Suzuki, Matsumura, and Shikara in second class, and 33 passengers in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—For Honolulu: Mrs. I. Gedge and Mrs. John Good in cabin. For Yokohama: Commodore J. S. Dickerson, Mrs. Dickerson, Miss Aline Dickerson, Mr. J. S. Dickerson, Jun., Miss M. J. Barrows, Miss Cora A. Stone, Miss Victoria C. Arbuckle, Rev. Graham A. Lee, Rev. Cameron Johnson, Mr. E. S. Bell, Lieut.-Commander Walton Goodwin, U.S.N., Mr. Geo. T. Marsh, Mrs. Marsh, Mr. Harry Marsh, Mr. H. P. Child, Mrs. Child, Mr. Wood Pesdick, Mr. W. Hancock, Rev. S. F. Moore, Mrs. Moore, and Mr. Geo. W. Wolde in cabin. For Hongkong: Miss Emma Hitchcock, Miss Anna King, Mr. Lawrence Hurlburt, Mrs. Hurlburt, Mrs. J. Mather Jones, Mrs. A. Dowe, Mrs. L. D. Lauman, Mr. Muir-Drew, Mrs. Muir-Drew, Mrs. Chapman, Miss Lucy Dunlop, and Miss Edna S. Cole in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss Lucilla Masters, M.D., Rev. J. H. Worley, Mrs. Worley and infant, Mildred Worley, Harry Worley, and Mrs. Clementa Schlichting in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Glasgow via ports:—Mr. W. A. Murison, Mr. M. Brown, and Mrs. Curtis and 2 children in cabin. For Tacoma: Mrs. J. Armadall and Dr. Lamb in cabin; 25 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—20 passengers in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Jessard, Mr. and Mrs. Dunby, Lieut. G.

Asborn, Lieut. A. D. Wyld, and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Porter in cabin; Mr. F. S. Hartford in steerage. To San Francisco: Mr. C. F. von Ganton in cabin. From Amoy: Mr. H. P. White in cabin; to San Francisco: Miss Birdsell in cabin.
 Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. Goosmann, Captain A. Tenckhoff, Mr. W. Klein, Mr. A. Seekamp, Miss Ah Tye, and Mr. von Vietinghoff in cabin; 14 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Hosokawa Bunjiro in second class and 37 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. P. Beall and Mr. Euyia in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 58 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. H. F. Bryan, B. E. Thurston, Diack, M. Bergan, Captain R. N. Walker, Mr. J. R. Coruish, and Mr. Ingles in cabin; Mr. Y. Shirashi and Mr. Y. Wakamatsu in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Miss Birdsell, Ensign H. F. Bryan, U.S.N., Mr. J. B. Livingstone, Mr. W. A. Murison, Mr. Arnot Reid, Mr. E. von Santon, Colonel-Surgeon C. Sibthorpe, R.A., Ensign B. E. Thurston, U.S.N., Mr. H. P. White, and Ensign W. B. Whittelsey, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Helps, child, and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Kleinwort, Mr. A. Cox, Major Howe, Mr. R. W. Bushan, Mr. M. Brown, Jun., Miss Nobu, and Dr. Baelz (from Nagasaki) in cabin; 1 Indian and 10 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC COAST	TEA.	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	OTHER CITIES	TOTAL
Shanghai	276	1,366	2,990	1,663	6,225	
Foochow	40	505	3,767	4,312		
Hyogo	—	744	2,368	772	3,894	
Yokohama	967	1,145	3,631	2,167	7,930	
Total	1,283	3,760	8,919	8,389	22,351	

	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES	TOTAL
Shanghai	128	—	128
Yokohama	207	—	207

Total 335 — 335

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES	TOTAL
Shanghai	542	—	—	542
Hyogo	80	205	354	729
Yokohama	8,955	749	1,420	11,124
Hongkong	55	—	—	55
Amoy	1,074	6,775	4,047	11,996
Total	10,706	7,819	5,821	24,346

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	HARTFORD	TOTAL
Shanghai	10	50	—	60
Hongkong	—	155	—	155
Yokohama	—	927	—	927
Total	10	1,132	—	1,142

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Yoshizawa, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 2nd September at 5 p.m.; had fine weather with south to easterly swell; passed Omai-saki the 3rd at 2.30 a.m. and Rock Island at 5.57 a.m.; had passing showers and moderate breeze. Arrived at Yokohama at 1.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 2nd September at noon; had moderate southerly and N.E. winds with strong southerly swell. Arriving at Yokohama the 3rd September at 7.20 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 16th August at 4.25 p.m. and Honolulu the 23rd at 7.5 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th September at 11.40 a.m.; experienced fine weather throughout the passage; met the steamer *China* at 9.30 p.m. on the 1st September. Passage from San Francisco, including detention at Honolulu 18 days, 1 hour, and 47 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 3rd September; had light variable winds and southerly swell; passed Oshima the same day at 9 p.m., same weather to 5 a.m. on the 4th wind east, increased to heavy gale; barometer falling to 29.28, high sea and heavy rain; at p.m. wind shifted to the south blown hard very high sea; at 5 p.m. wind S.W. decreasing, clearing off, sighted Omai-saki Light;

at 11 p.m. passed Rock Island Light. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th September at 6 a.m.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 30th August and Amoy the 1st September. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th September at 9:37 p.m. Passage from Amoy, 4 days, 14 hours, and 11 minutes. Had light N.E. winds to moderate gale and smooth sea; passed American ship 35 miles S.W. of Rock Island showing KGMW. The above ship is the *Robt. R. Belknap* from New York with oil to C. & J. Trading Co.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 31st August at 9:45 a.m.; at the commencement of the voyage had frequent rains with light variable winds and heavy S.E. swell; afterwards fine weather with light variable winds and heavy S.E.-N.E. swell. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th September at 7:50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th September at noon; had light E.N.E. winds, shifting shortly to W.N.W., and dying away freshening throughout the night to S.W. and blowing a moderate gale, moderating at day break and continuing fine until arrival at Yokohama the 5th September at 7:30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain R. Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th September at 1 p.m.; passed Oshima at 11:07 p.m. the same day, and Rock Island the 7th at 4:33 p.m. Arriving at Yokohama the 7th September at 11:23 p.m. Had fresh S.E. and easterly winds with heavy rain showers at times.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Hussey, reports:—Left Otaru the 4th September at 1 p.m.; had from gentle to fresh light breeze to midnight from N.W. and S.E. with cloudy weather; passed Okushiri Light at 11:30 p.m. the same day; thence to port light S.E. winds and heavy rains. Arriving at Hakodate the 5th at 11 a.m. and left the 6th at noon; had gentle S.E. breeze and fine clear weather; passed Shirai-saki at 3:28 p.m.; thence to port moderate breeze and heavy S.E. swell; passed Yamada Head the 7th at 2:30 a.m. Arriving at Ogiuohama the same day at 11:20 a.m. and left the same day at 1:15 p.m.; had gentle S.E. winds, fine weather, and heavy S.E. swell; passed Imboye Light the 8th at 5:50 a.m., head swell and ship rolling heavily, with moderate S.E. winds and fine clear weather; thence to Noshima, which was passed at 1 p.m.; had gentle breeze and fine weather and S.E. swell; thence to port light, similar weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 8th September at 4:15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The weather has been very favourable for the Rice Crop, the 210th day has been passed to the satisfaction of farmers, and so far as can be judged, there is every appearance of a bountiful harvest, which is a great factor in the trade of the country. Business has continued active, and some large lines have been booked of late, not only in contracts for arrival and in supplies recently landed, but considerable quantities of "welly old thing" in the shape of Yarns, Italians, etc., have been transferred to dealers' risk, and their clearance will leave a healthier market in the future. Prices, here and there, are slightly higher, and mostly firm where no actual advance has taken place, so that sellers have had the advantage generally, excepting as regards Yarns, which have been freely offered for arrival at low prices. Sterling Exchange has been steady at 2/10½ for Bank Bills on demand, Bar Silver 38½d. per oz. Including some omissions last week, sales reported comprise 1,000 bales English Yarn, 100 bales Bombays, 10,000 pieces glb. Shirtings, 1,000 pieces 8½lb. Shirtings, 1,500 pieces T.-Cloths, 1,600 pieces Velvets, 2,500 pieces Prints, 7,500 pieces Turkey Reds, 800 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 7,500 pieces Italian Cloth, 5,000 pieces Mousseline de Laine, and 12,000 pairs Blankets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PICE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds, 39½ inches	1.55 to 2.35
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 41 inches	1.85 to 2.55
1. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 40 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	0.10 to 0.15
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	5.65 to 6.90
Taffeta-lace, 12 yards, 44 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffeta-lace, 12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	PER PICE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 1.20
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.35
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.40 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.55 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8lb, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.26 to 0.28
Medium—Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.22 to 0.24
Common—Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.19 to 0.21
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 to 0.17
Cloths—Filots, 51 to 54 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 54 inches	0.47 to 0.54
Cloths—Union, 51 to 54 inches	0.40 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb.	0.35 to 0.47

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/14, Ordinary	\$1.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/14, Medium	27.00 to 27.50
Nos. 16/14, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.75
Nos. 16/14, Reverse	27.50 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	13.75 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	12.00 to 33.50
No. 428, Two-fold	15.50 to 37.75
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 16/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

The continued firmness of sellers has had its effect, and prices are gradually showing an improvement in their favour. While transactions cannot be considered large, the stagnation heretofore existing has given way to steady current trade at prices apparently remunerative to importers, and as the cold weather approaches a still better feeling will no doubt prevail.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

GROSGRINE.

We have heard of sales at full quotations given below—which are 10 sen up all round—but sellers are not anxious to dispose of stocks even at the prices now current, indications at the moment pointing to a still further advance. Deliveries are good, distributions through the country for winter days have commenced, and prospects are very encouraging.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	—
Comet	\$1.67½ to 1.70
Devoc	1.62½ to 1.65
Russian Anchor	1.62½ to 1.65
Russian Moon	1.60 to 1.62½

SUGAR.

Market for Browns still well maintained, with quotations up 10 sen on some brands. Whites are also enquired for, and sales fairly active.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.70 to 4.80
Brown Datong	1.50 to 1.70
Brown Canton	3.70 to 3.80
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Rehued	5.50 to 7.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 2nd instant. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 490 piculs, divided thus: *Filatures*, 137 piculs; *Re-reels*, 328 piculs; *Kakeda*, 15 piculs; *Oshu*, 10 piculs. In addition to these purchases direct shipments are 156 bales, weighing 160 piculs, so that the total export trade for the week is 650 piculs.

From the above figures it will be seen that there has been much less business doing during the week. Buyers seem to have stocked themselves fairly well for the present and are not eager for fresh purchases. It would look as though we had passed the top for the present, if not indeed for the season. Our expectations of last Circular have been fulfilled, and with a few days' quiet market, we see the prices for some classes of silk have declined \$20 per picul.

Arrivals come in on a free scale, and the stock shows an increase of 1,700 piculs. Holders are certainly a little nervous and would like to be moving; although they make a strong show of firmness, and say that at present quotations they would only sell a very small portion of their stocks. A few days more of calm may perhaps decide them upon selling more freely.

The demand for Europe has fallen off considerably, although in this direction prices are well maintained, the reduction noted above being almost confined to full-sized *Filatures* and *Re-reels*.

There have been four shipping opportunities

since we last wrote. The English mail steamer *Verona*, 3rd instant, took 427 bales for Europe; the N. P. steamer *Victoria*, on the 7th instant, took 207 bales for the New York trade, and the *Belgie*, which left port yesterday, had 927 bales for the same destination. The German mail steamer *Nuernberg*, which left port this morning, carried 55 bales for Genoa in transit. These several departures bring the present export figures up to 10,608 piculs, against 9,153 piculs last year and 3,011 to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Nothing done in these during the week. Prices are unchanged but nominal, in the absence of business.

Filatures.—These give very small settlements compared with previous weeks, buyers having come to a decided pause at the high level which prices had reached. In fine sizes for Europe many small parcels have been taken at very full rates, \$835 being marked for one small lot *Hakusei-sha*. *Mino* and *Tajima* have brought \$815; *Goshu*, \$810; *Bishu*, *Koshu*, and *Bushu*, \$800, with lower grades in proportion. As to silk suitable for the United States, no large transactions have been done. Just as the mail left, some good *Shinshu* were weighed up at \$760—a reduction of \$20 to \$30 upon the last price paid. Holders are not willing to go on at the same prices, they say, but we think a firm offer in hand would be acceptable. Medium and lower grades are also neglected at the moment, the heavy buyers standing out for the time. *Kaimisha*, *Hakusuru*, and similar sorts now quoted at \$780, and it is possible that this quotation may be slightly shaded for real business. Good second-class silks have been done to some extent at prices ranging from \$740 to \$720.

Re-reels.—This kind of silk has had the preference of late and half the settlements this present week have been in this class. *Five Girl* *Re-reels* are held for \$730; *Kanra* have been done at \$727½; medium grades of *Joslu* show even a slight advance, *Ichimurashia* being entered at \$660.

Kakeda.—A small business; prices well maintained. Probably *White Horsehead* could be bought at \$715, with other brands at proportionate prices. Holders do their best to maintain quotations in this department, but in the absence of important purchases they will have to give way.

Oshu.—A small business herein, holders being very strong. About 10 piculs good *Hamatsuki* have passed the scales at \$580 and this is the only recorded transaction.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	—	610
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom. \$600 to	590
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	Nom. 580 to	590
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom. 500 to	570
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	Nom. 550 to	560
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. 530 to	540
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 510 to	520
Hanks—No. 34	Nom. 490 to	500
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	830 to	835
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	780 to	790
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	810 to	820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	760 to	770
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	745 to	755
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	750 to	760
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to	745
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to	720
Re-reels—Extra	770 to	780
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	750 to	760
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	730 to	740
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	710 to	720
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	660 to	670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to	640
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	630 to	640
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to	610
Kakedas—Extra 10/12 deniers	600 to	620
Kakedas—No. 1	670 to	780
Kakedas—No. 14	730 to	740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to	720
Kakedas—No. 24	680 to	690
Kakedas—No. 3	650 to	660
Kakedas—No. 34	620 to	630
Kakedas—No. 4	600 to	610
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	580 to	600
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	530 to	540
Sodai—No. 24	—	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 9th Sept., 1892:—

	SEARCHED 1890 1891	1892 9a.	1892 9f.
	BALRS.	HACKS.	HACKS.
Europe	4,793	3,525	887
America	5,644	5,371	2,050
Total	10,437	8,896	2,937
	PICULS 10,608	9,153	3,011
Settlements and Direct	PICULS	PICULS	PICULS
Export from 1st July	12,450	10,500	3,300
Stock, 9th September	6,800	9,000	9,400
Available supplies to date	19,250	19,500	12,600

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more doing, principally in Cocoons, and settlements for the week are 611 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 377 piculs; *Noshi*, 81 piculs; *Kibiso*, 153 piculs.

The chief feature of the week has been the opening of the Cocoon market at prices which give about \$105 per picul for good *Shinshu* Cocoons.

One buyer has had the field all to himself, the price paid being generally considered dear.

The stock is still further increased and we have on hand 14,200 piculs of all descriptions. Shippers continue to complain that the market quotations here are beyond their reach and much above the limits which they received from their customers in Europe.

There have been two shipping opportunities, the English mail taking 66 bales for Europe, and the German mail of this morning 81 bales for an Italian port. These departures make the present export 2,554 piculs, against 1,820 piculs last year and 1,080 piculs at the 9th September, 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—The market has at last been opened by the settlement of about 400 piculs good *Shinshu* Cocoons at 14 *kahi*, which would give \$105 per picul for 75 per cent. yield. These prices appear dear when compared with other classes of Waste, and it remains to be seen whether they can be maintained or no.

Noshi.—A small business; *Hachoji*, \$117½, with medium *Joshu* at \$64. The stock is large; demand small. It looks as though prices must recede in the near future.

Kōiso.—A small business in *Filatures* at \$90; *Zaguri* at from \$55 to \$72; *Hachoji*, \$29.

Nothing done in other sorts.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	110 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	—
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best.....	100 to 115
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	\$68 to 70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	30 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good.....	30 to 28
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low.....	27 to 26
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 9th Sept., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	2,553	1,820	1,080
Pierced Cocoons.....	—	—	—
	2,554	1,820	1,080
Settlements and Direct }	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Export from 1st July }	2,400	3,500	1,400
Stock, 9th September	14,200	11,500	10,400
Available supplies to date	16,600	15,000	11,800

Exchange has remained very steady and firm all the week:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71½; 4m/s. U.S. \$72½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 9th Sept., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	350	Cocoons.....	1,950
Filatures	2,750	Noshi-ito.....	7,080
Re-reels	2,410	Kibiso.....	4,980
Kakada	940	Mawata.....	60
Oshu	330	Sundries.....	130
Taysam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	6,800	Total piculs	14,200

TEA.

Market is quieter since the departure of the mail. Stocks on offer are abundant, but buyers have held off to some extent. Prices unchanged.

Choicest	\$32 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been steady and firm, and close the same:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½ @ 2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½ @ 2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3.62
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.73
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2½ 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2½ 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	72½
Silver	38½

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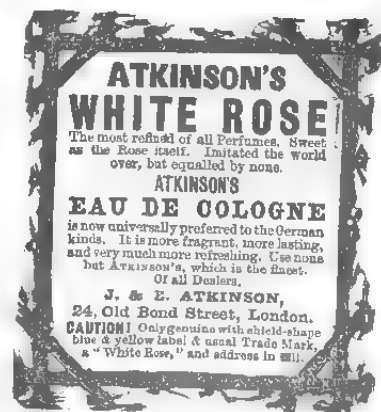
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No. 12.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
可照會諸通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and (cheques be made payable to same) and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 17TH, 1892.

MARRIAGES.

At Napanee, Ontario, on the 15th August, by the Rev. G. M. Meacham, D.D., assisted by the Rev. S. J. Shorey, M.A., CHARLES VINCENT, son of George Sale, of Yokohama, to MARY MAUD, daughter of W. A. Rose, of Napanee.

At Nagasaki, on the 9th instant, by the Rev. Henry Stout, BESSIE F. HOTCHKISS-WEBB and ARTHUR H. BOTTENHEIM.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Chishima Kan* left Alexandria on the 9th inst. for Japan.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE visited the Fukiage Garden on the 11th inst.

THE Yokohama Poor Asylum, which was lately established at Honmoku, will be opened on the 20th inst.

COUNT ITAGAKI is at present confined to his residence through illness said to be disease of the brain.

THE Government offices in the capital will be opened at 9 a.m. and be closed at 4 p.m. on and after the 12th inst.

It is stated that the carpenters of Tokyo are making preparations to go on strike in order to obtain a rise in wages.

MR. MUTSU, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, had an interview with H.I.M. the Emperor on the 9th inst. at 11 a.m.

H.E. THE MEXICAN MINISTER, and Mrs. Rascon, will leave for home shortly. H.E. is in mourning for the death of his elder brother.

A FIRE broke out on the 3rd inst. about 4 a.m. at West Kinami, Yoshiki District, Yamaguchi Prefecture, destroying 38 dwellings and 7 out-houses. Some 16 residences and 2 sheds were

burnt on the night of the 7th inst. at Myoko in the Nakakubiki District of Niigata Prefecture.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Kane and Tsune, who have been staying at Nikko for some time, returned to the capital on the 13th inst.

THE sum of yen 33,600 has been granted from the Famine Relief Fund towards the relief of sufferers in the inundated districts of Okayama Prefecture.

VISCOUNT INOUE, Chief Commissioner of the Railway Bureau, who had been on a tour of inspection in Hokkaido, returned to the capital on the 9th inst.

HIGH waves have rolled up on the shores of Nagasagun, Chiba Prefecture, since the 4th inst., and more than 30 houses were washed away at Kamogawacho.

COUNT YAMAGATA, Minister of State for Justice; Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M. the Empress; and Mr. Iwasaki have returned to the capital from the country.

THE postal and telegraph receipts throughout the Empire during the month of August last amounted to yen 451,367, showing an increase of yen 27,262 as compared with the previous month.

THE work of laying the lines of railway between Kokubuji in the North Tama District of Kanagawa Prefecture, and Kawagoye, Irumagun, Saitama Prefecture, was commenced on the 12th inst.

MESSES. Y. NAKAMURA, N. Osawa, and a few other promoters of the Musashino Bank have applied to the Kanagawa *Kencho* for permission to establish the bank at Hachioji with a capital of 50,000 yen.

THE receipts of the Sanyo Railway Company during the month of May last amounted to yen 40,827,088, of which yen 32,497,263 was realized in the shape of tickets and the remainder from freight.

MR. KUMASHIRO DENSUKE and two others claim to have discovered gold veins at Kusano and Yokoyama, in the Districts of Yamato and Kamidzuma, in Fukuoka Prefecture, and have applied to the Authorities for permission to mine.

THE business of the Honolulu agency of the Yokohama Specie Bank is increasing, and two officers of the Head Office in this port are under orders to proceed there to assist the two Japanese at present in charge of the Agency.

EARLY on the morning of the 3rd inst., a fire broke out in a public bath-house at Fukuramura, Adzumi-gori, Fukushima *Ken*, which involved the destruction of a post office, and twenty houses, while a police station and twenty dwellings were partly damaged.

THE Superintendent of Police in Toyama Prefecture has brought an action in the Tokyo Local Court against the *Hochi Shimun*, alleging that an article referring to him and relating to official interference in the last parliamentary elections in the Prefecture is libellous.

VISCOUNT HIGASHIZONO, who had been despatched by the Emperor to inspect the suffering in the inundated districts of Osaka, Hyogo, and Okayama, returned to the capital on the 13th inst., and proceeded to the Palace immediately to lay his report before His Majesty.

THE number of telegraphic messages and receipts throughout the Empire during August last, as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, were:—Inland: messages,

495,872 (an increase of 134,162), and receipts, yen 105,691,935 (an increase of yen 26,363,475); Foreign: messages, 4,023 (an increase of 543), and receipts, yen 10,368,474 (an increase of yen 1,683,524.)

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL KODAMA, who returned from Europe lately, Mr. Yoshida Masaharu, an Inspector of the Communications Department, who had been travelling through various parts of Korea on official business, and more than twenty officers of the *Musashi Kan* and the *Yayama Kan*, which arrived at Shinagawa lately, after visiting the ports in China and Korea, were received in audience by the Emperor on the 10th inst. at 10 a.m. They afterwards worshipped in the Imperial Sanctuary.

DETAILS of the damage caused in Aichi Prefecture by the violent storm on the 4th inst. have been received. The number of houses completely overturned was 791, houses partly blown down, 1,557, persons buried under the ruins of buildings 9, persons wounded 27, houses damaged 5,021 houses submerged 236, embankments destroyed 6,033 *ken* (one *ken*=6 ft.) in length, boats wrecked 82, bridges washed away 106, houses swept away 134 and telegraph posts blown down 33.

THE reports of the Gifu Meteorological Observatory on the severe earthquake which occurred in the town on the 7th inst. at 5h. 41m. 7s. show that strong tremors with quick vibrations were felt for three seconds after the commencement of the shock. This was followed by a violent horizontal motion having a range of 36 millimetres per second from N.E. to S.W. This was the severest movement. At the same moment a vertical motion, having velocity of 11.5 millimetre per second was felt. The whole duration, as recorded by seismograph, was 45 seconds. More than 20 feeble after-shocks were experienced.

THE Import trade continues in a healthy condition, and since the clearing out of the old stock referred to last week, a much more comfortable feeling prevails amongst holders, who are ready to commence a new lease of business. Yarns have been taken to the extent of fully 1,000 bales, only 50 of which were Bombays, and heavy Shirts have been in good demand at full rates, as have also Prints, Turkey Reds, and Velvets at a distinct advance. A large variety of other goods have also been sold, and the general feeling is that a strong and healthy autumn trade is being inaugurated. There is at last a good demand for Metals, but holders are very stiff and will make no concessions whatever, consequently the business actually concluded is not great. Steady sales continue in the Kerosene trade, and holders have the pull of the situation. The demand is good and is likely to continue so, notwithstanding the arrival of 82,000 cases during the week, which had no effect whatever on the market. The Sugar trade has been quieter, but prices are well maintained, and stocks are not heavy, though some arrivals have been landed. The Silk trade has again been large—close upon 2,000 piculs. Buyers have had to pay big figures, and holders are not pushing, having done a good stroke up to the present, settlements since July 1st having been close upon 15,000 piculs. There is a comparatively small stock actually on this market, though it is stated that a large quantity could be brought in if it suited the Japanese to place it on offer. Business in Waste has increased, mostly due to sales of Cocoons, of which over 1,000 piculs have been taken. The Tea trade is not very active, but shipments amount to 24,000,000 pounds, which is about the same as last year to date. Exchange, which has been steady, closes firm.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE STUDY OF ENGLISH IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

It will be remembered by many of our readers that it was owing principally to the influence of the late Viscount Mori that, some years ago, the study of English was made compulsory in all the higher elementary schools. During the past few years a reaction has set in, and it has been deemed unnecessary to insist on a foreign language being included in the curriculum of every elementary school. New regulations issued by the Department of Education on this subject have been in force since April 1st. According to these the study of English is optional. Where it is felt that the means of obtaining a livelihood demand that the pupils should know English, there is no objection to a local School Board including the subject in the curriculum, but otherwise its omission is considered preferable. The considerations which led the Department of Education to adopt this course were, first, that a large number of the teachers giving instruction in English were not qualified for the task, and hence much of what they taught had to be unlearned by the pupil in after years; and, secondly, that quite half of the pupils who learned a little English were too poor to continue their studies after leaving the elementary schools, and hence the time spent in puzzling out the meaning of a few simple foreign books would have been better employed in extending their knowledge of subjects likely to prove useful in their subsequent careers. One is disposed to think that the change inaugurated last April should find favour in the eyes of those whose burdens it was intended to lighten. But not so. Creatures of habit, the school teachers, the pupils, and their parents are stated by the *Fiji Shimpō* to be averse to the reform, and they regard those schools where English is excluded as inferior institutions. However badly taught, the English language is supposed to supply a standard to the school which it cannot obtain in any other way. This feeling it is that has led prefectural and village boards to speak in tones of deep regret of the necessity of abolishing English, and to the same sentiment is to be attributed an endeavour to find an excuse for retaining it among the subjects taught, wherever possible. Thus it has turned out that what was designed by the Department of Education as a relief has proved a source of complaint.

THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN" ON THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.

The following important article, which appeared recently in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, seems worth translating in full, more especially as exceedingly erroneous versions of it have been given in the columns of local English papers:—"The Portuguese Government, on the ground of unavoidable necessities of State, removed its Consul-General, who was invested with judicial authority in regard to the 140 Portuguese subjects residing in Japan. Accordingly, there being no properly qualified official to discharge the functions contemplated by the Treaty provisions relating to jurisdiction, the Government of this Empire informed Portugal that those provisions had ceased to be operative, and announced that an interval elapsing on the 1st of July would be allowed for the receipt of a reply. In the event of Portugal's failing to reply within that interval, it was plainly intimated that her silence would be construed as assent to the intentions of the Japanese Government. The allotted time passed, however, without any reply whatever. Nevertheless, the Government of this Empire, desirous of showing the utmost friendliness to Portugal, did not issue an Imperial Ordinance abrogating the jurisdiction clauses of the Treaty until two more weeks had elapsed, namely, on the 14th of July. Simultaneously with its issue, Minister Nomura was instructed to convey intelligence of the fact to the Portuguese Government. The gist of the communication made through him was that, inasmuch as, with reference to the exercise of the jurisdiction provided for by Treaty, no atten-

tion had been paid by Portugal to the request of the Japanese Government (preferred, from January 1st onwards, either through Minister Nomura direct to the Portuguese Government, or through the Portuguese Representative in Japan)—the request, that a properly qualified consul should be appointed to discharge judicial functions,—the Portuguese Government had forfeited the privilege of its subjects' exemption from Japanese jurisdiction. Still, our Government, anxious to avoid any detriment to the friendly relations existing with Portugal, had waited several days after the departure of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General, Mr. J. Loureiro, and had intimated to the Portuguese Government that the 1st of July was the time fixed for carrying out Japan's intentions in the matter. Even after the advent of that date, a further delay of two weeks had been made, and finally, on July 14th, the Imperial Ordinance had been issued. In the above sense the intimation was couched. Such having been the importance attached by the Government of this Empire to its relations with Portugal, and so deliberate having been its course of procedure, the Portuguese Government cannot reasonably raise any objection. Nevertheless, as it would be a matter of very great regret to our Government that any misapprehension, however small, should exist between the two countries, a memorandum, setting forth in detail the circumstances that necessitated this course and the precise views of our Government, has been prepared and presented to the Portuguese Government. Affairs having reached this stage, a communication was received from the French Government on or about the 25th of July, to the effect that the Chargé d'Affaires of France in Japan had been appointed Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General for Portugal, and at the same time a telegram came from the Japanese Minister to Portugal in Vienna, saying that the French Chargé d'Affaires had been directed to manage the affairs of the Portuguese Legation and Consulate-General in Japan. Of course it was out of the question that Japan should decline to recognise the Chargé d'Affaires or Consul-General of a friendly Power. On the contrary, she was bound to extend a hearty welcome to him. But, as stated above, one message spoke of the offices of Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General in Japan; the other spoke of managing the affairs of those offices—an obvious difference of meaning. Moreover, there existed also the doubt whether judicial functions were intended to be attached to the office of Consul-General. Accordingly, our Government asked the Portuguese Government for a distinct explanation. So far as concerned the office of Chargé d'Affaires, there was of course no question, and our Government therefore intimated, on the 27th ultimo, that it recognised the French Chargé d'Affaires in that capacity. But with regard to the office of Consul-General, an answer was returned that if, on the part of the Portuguese Government, there existed no intention of connecting the appointment with the discharge of judicial functions, then Japan would be glad to recognise it. Doubtless therefore, the notification of the appointment of the Consul-General, with this restriction, will appear in a day or two in the *Official Gazette*. At present there is no reason to apprehend any difficulty between this empire and Portugal. But should it happen that the latter country prefers a request to be again placed on the same footing as other Treaty States with regard to Consular Jurisdiction, it will suffice that our Government should reply distinctly that simultaneously with the loss of the privilege of Consular Jurisdiction provided by the Treaty, the equal privileges and immunities contemplated by the most-favoured-nation clause were also forfeited. Whoever may be Minister of Foreign Affairs, this view cannot be altered. We take the opportunity to add a few words. The *Dai Nippon* alleges with regard to our writing, that although, to outward appearances, the abolition of the jurisdictional stipulations is asserted, their restoration is being secretly arranged, and that the Government intends to lay the responsibility of the situation on the shoulders of the former Cabinet. In reply

to these evil suspicions, we have only to say that, if a pledge given by means of a State document to another Power and conveyed to the people at home by means of an Imperial Ordinance, were to be treated as waste paper because the responsibility for it devolves on one Cabinet only; or if one course were to be adopted openly and another in secret, we should be the first to attack such a Government. Again, the *Fiji Shimpō* writes as though all the Foreign Powers were prepared to assist Portugal in this matter, and talks of a prospect of strong negotiations being opened. We cannot learn that anything of the kind is really to be anticipated. Moreover, of the 140 Portuguese subjects residing in Japan, only one is a native of Portugal; the remaining 139 are not Europeans. From this point of view alone, it is doubtful whether all the Foreign Powers will act as Portugal's allies. The *Kokumin*, under the caption, "Improper demands must be rejected," writes as though the main question were to remove obstacles. But there has been nothing in the nature of preferring improper demands through the agency of the French Representative. (Here follow some other remarks disposing of blunders made by the *Kokumin*.)

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Since the above article appeared, the *Official Gazette* has contained the announcement that Japan recognises the French Chargé d'Affaires in the capacity of Consul-General for Portugal, but from what the *Nichi Nichi* says, as well as from our own independent information, there can be no doubt that the recognition was accompanied by a distinct proviso that judicial functions are not included in the office as recognised by Japan. With regard to the brief reference made in our contemporary's article to the most-favoured-nation clause, the elaboration of the argument advanced would appear to be, first, that a privilege abrogated by special legislation cannot possibly be recovered under the provisions of a general clause; and secondly, that, although the most-favoured-nation clause provides against unfair discrimination between the Powers to which it refers, it does not furnish to any country a title to recover privileges which she has forfeited through her own laches. The most-favoured-nation clause has always been a bug-bear to Japanese publicists. Even now they appear to forget that from the moment when the Mexican Treaty went into operation, the most-favoured-nation clause became as dead a letter as was ever buried in the pages of ancient history.

THE JAPANESE POLICE SYSTEM.

The Opposition organs have for some time past been agitating for a change in the police system. They are in favour of the abolition of the *Keishi-cho*, or Inspectors, and of placing the *Keibu* or Superintendents, under the control of provincial and district officers. Such a reform, say the *Min-to* journals, would render the improper interference of the police with elections and political meetings an impossibility. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a temperate article, traverses the arguments of the advocates of change. Our contemporary points out, in the first place, that the motive of those who wish to see the power hitherto wielded by the Central Government entrusted to local officials is by no means disinterested. The advocates of the change are of opinion that in the majority of cases local officials would side with the Opposition, and that were the police under their control the position of anti-government parties would be much better than it is now. The *Nichi Nichi* does not deny that the Police system is capable of improvement. There are not wanting cases of severity on the one hand and of excessive leniency on the other. But would abuses of this kind become less frequent were the superintendence of the police entrusted solely to the local authorities? On the contrary, they would certainly be increased a hundred-fold. The present inspectors of police are well versed in the laws which have to be enforced and are entirely free from party bias. In neither of these particulars are local officials or mayors worthy of the confidence of the public.

If, with the present stringent rules and close inspection, the latter conducted by specially trained men, abuses cannot be avoided, is it to be anticipated for a moment that anything but gross miscarriages of justice would result were the change advocated to be effected and were amateurs invested with the power now wielded by professionals? The evils, continues the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, of which the Opposition organs complain, are not to be got rid of by the abolition of inspectors and by compelling the police to follow the whims of local magnates. Where the police have acted unwisely it has been the result of ignorance. What is required is the education of the usually excellent men of which the service consists to the required standard. With this object in view a special training school has lately been opened, and by its means the new race of policemen are gradually learning the duties that pertain to their office in the new era on which the nation has entered. The popular cry, concludes our contemporary, has ever been "change the rules, reform the laws," but we say, "educate the men." Not new regulations, but men equal to the task of impartially observing of those in existence, are the desiderata of the age.

THE SPECIE BANK.

In the midst of the general depression from which local banking institutions are suffering, the Specie Bank has a bright record to show for the first six months of the year. Its profits are said to amount of over a million *yen*, which sum, if devoted entirely to the payment of dividend, would mean forty-six per cent. for the lucky shareholders. The Bank's fortunes during recent years have not always been unchequered, however, and the Directors are expected to refrain from any specially large allotment on account of dividend, so as to utilize the funds now at their disposal for the purpose of strengthening the Bank's position. The idea is that a sum of 310,000 *yen* will be devoted to the payment of a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, and that the greater part of the remainder will be carried to the reserve fund. No conjectures are hazarded as to the reasons of the Bank's remarkable success, but it is probable that the fall in the gold price of silver has contributed materially to the result. The Bank's policy for many years has been to reckon on the appreciation of gold, and its only unsuccessful seasons were when events militated against this forecast. But whatever may be the explanation, Mr. Sonoda, the Director, is to be heartily congratulated on a result which surprises no one conversant with his abilities and judgment.

ONE LAW FOR ME, ANOTHER FOR THEE.

THE extravagance into which some of our local writers are betrayed by the stern necessity of either ridiculing or denouncing the Japanese, from time to time, is well illustrated in the columns of the *Japan Gazette*. News having been received in Japan that at four places in the state of Idaho communities of peaceful and industrious Japanese settlers had been driven out with threats and at a few hours' notice, a Japanese journal referred to the matter in terms of some indignation, and expressed the very natural apprehension that unless the question were taken up diplomatically, strong anti-American feeling, and possibly even an anti-American demonstration, might be excited in Japan. Of course, if the folks subjected to such arbitrary and heartless conduct in Idaho had been British subjects, the whole of the United Kingdom would have rung with indignation. Everyone knows what effect is produced upon the patriotic Britain by the phrase "*civis Romanus sum*," the formula with which Palmerston so successfully conjured on the occasion of the disgraceful Don Pacifico incident. Everybody knows, too, what kind of flaming denunciations the press of the "tight little island" indulges in when even one hair of a British subject's head falls in foreign lands. That display of spirit is perfectly natural and proper. Long may the sentiment that dictates it prevail, for it is the sentiment underlying the greatness of the British Empire. But when it is

three to four hundred law-abiding Japanese settlers in an American state are suddenly ordered to clear out at a few hours' notice and under dire threats if they disobey, a hundred of them being driven into the Sage Bush Plains, the comparatively quiet remonstrances of a Japanese journal are declared by the *Japan Gazette* to be "a very fair sample indeed of pure distilled Japanese hysteria;" and are compared to the spitting of a kitten when its tail is trodden on by a Newfoundland dog; Japanese journals are told that they "would be a little more careful how they write if they knew how ridiculous their flustering, blustering indignation at a fanciful indignity and supposed insult are in European eyes;" their sentiments are dubbed "stilted, narrow-minded, and bombastic;" their editors are likened to "children firing up over a broken toy;" and the progress of the country is said to be "clogged with overweening and intolerable egotism and conceit." Our contemporary's mood when it penned this singular diatribe must have been strangely distraught. To call the forcible expulsion of four unoffending colonies of Japanese subjects "a fanciful indignity and a supposed insult;" to compare the ruin and suffering brought upon three hundred Japanese subjects in a civilized country to the breaking of a child's toy, is certainly one of the most extravagant and heartless criticisms ever penned. Every demonstration of national feeling on the part of the Japanese, even though it be not a tithe of the excitement which a similar incident would arouse in our own country, must be regarded, apparently, as "pure distilled hysteria;" the "spitting of a kitten;" "stilted, narrow-minded, bombastic sentiment;" "flustering, blustering indignation;" "overweening and intolerable egotism and conceit." It would be interesting to read the string of adjectives and epithets which would be ventilated by this same critic if half a dozen Europeans suffered at Japanese hands what some three hundred Japanese suffered at American.

ANNEXATION OF THE GILBERT ISLANDS.

News from Sydney, dated July 24, says:—Mr. H. Grosser, manager of the German line of steamers carrying on business in the Marshall Group, who is now in Sydney, confirms the news of the hoisting of the British flag at Gilbert Group, by Captain Davies, of H.M.S. *Royalist*, who had been commissioned by the Imperial Government through Admiral Scott. The British flag was hoisted at all the principal islands. Only at one island was any objection raised, that of the Butaritari, the king of which recently went to America to request that an American protectorate be proclaimed over the island. In the meantime the *Royalist* hoisted the British flag. The king threatened that an American cruiser would shortly arrive and annex the island, but Captain Davies informed him that it would now be useless. The *Royalist* also arrested and shot a native of the Gilbert group for the murder of a Chinaman some nine years ago. The man-of-war suppressed a native war which had broken out on one of the islands in consequence of the chief of one tribe being murdered by the men of another tribe. Previous to the suppression of the feud there was considerable bloodshed. A Mexican vessel was at the islands recruiting. Another vessel, which had previously recruited 400 natives for Mexico, capsized off the Californian coast, and all on board were drowned.

TYPHOONS.

THE remarkable accuracy of the divisions which long experience has taught the Japanese to make of the seasons, is well illustrated this year. The *Nihyaku-toka* (210th day) fell on the 31st ultimo, and the *Nihyaku-hatsuka* (220th day) falls to-day. On one or other of these days, or at some time in close proximity to them, the advent of storms is always anticipated, and is always especially dreaded, because the state of the crops at that period renders them particularly susceptible to damage. The *Nihyaku-toka* passed, this year, calmly and peacefully. But four days later (September 1st)

a violent gale suddenly sprang out of the Pacific, and striking Owari Bay, passed across Central Japan, making its way out to the West and North. Four days afterwards (September 8th), again another typhoon dashed against Shikoku, working much damage, and now it seems that we are on the eve of another bad blow, for a heavy barometric depression is announced from the south of Kiushu, and its northward course is very probable. The crops cannot fail to suffer considerably in the track of these three tempests.

NOTES FROM OKI.

A CORRESPONDENT who has lately visited this outlying and little visited portion of the empire writes as follows:—"I think the reason more people don't get to Oki is on account of the wretched little steamer that makes the journey—the most uncomfortable craft ever launched; however, she is swift and strong, and makes her trip of ninety-five miles from Sakai in between five and six hours. As the Izumo and Hoki mountains fade from sight, the high cliffs of Oki come into view, topped with clouds. Defining from grey to blue, and from blue to dull green, the coast appears as jagged and broken and grim as that of Izumo, approaching Kakura; but the rocks are a reddish grey instead of black. Steaming into this high archipelago one sees no sign of life; neither fields, paths, nor felled timber,—only naked grey cliffs sheering up from blue-black depths of water, and above sombre and savage vegetation. Nevertheless, there is beauty here. The sea becomes still as glass; and the steamer glides on between headed heights and sea-caves into a sort of interior sea, formed by the three islands of Chiburishima, Nishinoshima, and Nakashima;—these form the group called Dō-Zen. On the coast of Chiburishima, the steamer first touches at a tiny village called Chiburimura,—which comes quite suddenly into sight. Then she proceeds to Urago in Nishinoshima and stops an hour. Urago is a very pretty little town, with houses all facing the sea, and wharves of stones rising out of deep water. I dined at a hotel (Watanabe) and was astonished at the excellent dinner. I had not eaten a better Japanese meal anywhere. The price was only seven *sen*, and the landlord did not want to take what he was offered. The hotel itself was very pretty. Hishi-ura, in Nakanoshima, is the next port at which the *Oki-Saigo Maru* stops. This also resembles Mionoseki a little. Its semicircle of wharves face the clearest and most inviting seawater. The buildings are very neat. The best hotel is the Okazaki. It is a delightful little town. I think the scenery among these islands is much finer than that of the much boasted Inland Sea on the whole. The glimpses between high islands, opening of straits, vistas of tender blue distance between rugged high cliffs, are beautiful. Everything is high. Rice fields are scarcely visible. The steamer leaves Hishiura for Dogo across 8 *ri* of dangerous sea, passing Matsushima, Omori-shima, a number of small, lofty, steep, uninhabited islands on the way. Some of the scenery is fantastic. There are several remarkable sea caves,—one is a ragged hole and washes clear through a high promontory. The Oki Islands form four *ko*, Nishino-shima, and Chiburishima,—with the very small outlying Haka-shima from Chibu-gori; Naka-shima in Ama-gori, and the great Dogo island is divided into Ochi-gori and Shi-gori. Dogo is quite as steep and rugged as its neighbours. The harbour of Saigo has heights all round it. It is pretty, like all the Oki ports. Saigo is partly on a small river—the Yabigawa,—and it lines the bay and the mouth of the river in a most curious way, so that the streets twist about like snakes, to a prodigious length. It is quite a walk to go through the town. There are nearly 1,000 houses, and I suppose fully 5,000 "souls"—though the exact figure I have not yet been able to learn. There are no *kuruma*. There are many remarkably fine houses, one of which, the hospital, is probably the handsomest Japanese house of its size in all Shimane-Ken. The streets are handsome. Sakai is only a dirty hole compared with Saigo. The best hotel is the *Yabigawa*, and the food is very good. Fo-

reign cooking can be had. The city is fresh and new. It was burned to the ground a few years ago, and completely rebuilt for the better. The Oki house carpenters are skillful and tasteful. The depth of the harbour is complained of as an inconvenience; but Saigo is a busy and very prosperous port. Three hundred ships at a time may be seen riding in its harbour. Russian and English men-of-war have visited Saigo; but I am the first foreigner to enter a Saigo hotel and dwell in the town. Outside the city are a few rice-fields. The Island cannot feed itself: it imports much in the way of provisions. Cuttle-fishing is the great industry; cuttle fish, the great staple. The dialect of the people is peculiar. There are said to be 30,196 inhabitants in Oki. The three principal streets of Saigo are Nishimachi, Nakamachi, and Higashimachi; with many cross-streets. There are no remarkable temples in the city. Outside of it, however, are several celebrated shrines; and some curious places,—such as the Dangyo-taki, a famous water-fall in Ochigori, 5 *ri* from Saigo. But all these places are bad to go to. The paths are unspeakably bad, and there are no *kuruma*, and everything is rocks and mountains. Horses, however, abound. There is a celebrated lakelet,—about which exists the wonderful black stone—*bataiseki*, the *meibutsu* of Oki. Beautiful jet-like articles are cut from it. I bought a small cup made of it for \$2.35, and several other trifles. They are made in the prison. The distance from Sakai to Saigo by steamer is 39 *ri*, and the 1st class fare is 80 *sen*.

OZONE.

It is not so very many years since people first began to talk of ozone as a new discovery, and since it became the fashion to describe exercise in the open air as a process chiefly for removing the ozone in the blood. Things have marched, however, since these days. The advertising columns of newspapers now assure us that chemistry has succeeded in liberating ozone, and that the "soul of the air is at our call, even as its sister spirit, electricity, to do us service." Of course many flowers of rhetoric are employed to popularize this new health-giver. We are told that it is "the essence of life," "the breath of the pine-clad hills and of the freshening ocean brought to our firesides with healing on its wings, and that disease and drugs both vanish at its coming." But if ozone be what the physicists tell us, the benefits of being enabled to inhale it into the lungs in large quantities should need no eloquence to be welcome. The public, however, has come to be sceptical about advertised panacea. The art of advertising has been developed into a mere trick to exploit the ignorant and the credulous, just as newspapers themselves, in so many instances, have been perverted into vehicles for ventilating scandal, selling sensation, or gratifying private spite. Our first feeling is one of amused incredulity when we read an announcement like the following:—"The immediate effect of the inhalation of bi-ozone is a systematic disinfection of the blood. The circulation becomes freer, and as the congested and festering organs come under the influence of the regenerated, buoyant blood, the morbid irritants are gradually absorbed and cast out through the natural channels of secretion and excretion, and the general system becomes naturally energized and toned up to the ideal pitch of normal health." Yet, who knows? Perhaps in these days when bread-winning has become so difficult, when so many physical and mental wrecks are cast up by the fierce tide of competition, science may have really discovered something which will re-brace the limp nerves and renew the worn-out cells of gray tissue. In spite of rhetorical advertisements, perhaps!

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DIET.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* expresses anxiety on the subject of railway construction. The bill which was passed last session does not give sufficient power to the executive to decide on the order in which different lines shall be made, and the amount of money which shall be appropriated by each section. The necessity of consulting the Diet on every detail of the *Fiji* railway is

unmixed evil. It is far preferable to allow the specialists free scope. If the interest which members of the Diet take in certain sections is to be allowed to become a factor in deciding the course to be pursued, the complications resulting will render rapid progress impossible. Our contemporary believes the Diet is always apt to err on the side of claiming too much power. The sum of 60,000,000 *yen* has been voted for the construction of nine lines within twelve years, but the matter stands now, the Diet has to be consulted as to the manner and amount of the expenditure of each year. This leaves the door open for obstructionists, of whom there is no scarcity.

ETHICS AND THE NEW CODES.

For some time past certain prominent members of the Japanese Education Society have been turning their attention to the ethical bearings of the New Codes. Like the lawyers who have taken part in the Code controversy, educationalists are divided into two schools. The one school asserts that the tendency of the new laws is to undermine Japanese morality by changing the relations which the different members of the social body have hitherto borne to each other. The introduction of the individual principle and the subjugation of social rights to questions of property, say writers of this school, must prove injurious to the Japanese. Mr. Nose is its recognised leader. His chief opponent is Mr. Motoru Yujiro, who maintains that the Codes have been compiled so as not to do violence to Japanese moral sentiments. Mr. Motoru adds that the principles on which the law of persons rests are recognised in all Codes, and no canon of Japanese ancient morality can claim greater authority than these. It is said that the Council of the Japanese Education Society is about to discuss these two views, and that members will be expected to vote in favour of one or the other. We fail to see the utility of such discussions. It is highly improbable that the majority of the councillors are acquainted with the provisions of the New Codes. The voting is therefore not likely to amount to more than a blind following of the few councillors who have studied the subject, and will be no indication of the tendency of enlightened public opinion on the subject.

MESSINGERS FROM THE SKIES.

THE recently published news that diamonds have been found in meteorites recalls the fact that not very many years have elapsed since the idea of any solid body reaching our planet from space was scoffed at by scientific men. It is true that in very ancient times men never dreamed of disputing the advent of such bodies. The Greeks and the Romans, the Chinese and the Arabs, all placed on record accounts of falling meteorites, and in the middle ages a custom prevailed of committing to paper a statement of the time and place when and where a body of the kind found its way to earth. European museums contain meteorites accompanied by "pedigrees," the oldest of them being a very substantial mass that made its descent in Germany on November 7th, 1692. This meteorite fell near Ensisheim in Alsace, and not only was a precise account of the incident compiled and hung in the church at that place, but a poem also was composed to celebrate the event, and, as everything found Latin expression in those days, a legend was added "*De hoc lapide multi mulla, omnes aliquid, nemo satis*" (of this stone many know much, all something, and no one sufficient). Other meteorites subsequently received similar attestation, but despite all this accumulation of evidence, the theory that bodies fell to the earth through space was scouted by scientists from the middle till nearly the end of the 18th century; that age when reason made its memorable revolt against superstition. In 1794, however, Chladin of Göttingen published a work in which he declared, as a matter of scientific exactitude, that meteorites had fallen and might fall again. At first the thing was ridiculed and treated as a joke, but the great astronomer Zach announced his agreement with Chladin's views about

"world-splinters." Others followed suit, as did the geologist Werner, and Nature helped by sending a fall of meteorites. 'Chladin'—we quote from M. Falkenhorst's essay, 'now gained fresh adherents, and the opposition to his views was weakened, except in France. The Parisian Academy would not listen to any such absurdity as that stones could fall from heaven until the heaven itself bore testimony in favour of Chladin's view by the fall, near L'Aigle, in Normandy, of an enormous fiery meteor, which burst with a terrific noise, raining down about two thousand fragments. The Maire made an official communication of the occurrence, and one of the Parisian papers lamented that the Maire of L'Aigle was so sunk in superstition. The Academy of Sciences, however, sent out its youngest member, the acute Biot, to the scene; and Biot's report convinced the Academy that it must lay down its arms. And so as a contemporary (Benzenberg) pithily expressed it, the "enlightenment which denied the heavenly origin of the meteorites had to bow to the enlightenment which proclaimed it." Thus not a hundred years have passed since people scoffed at the phantasy that stones and iron masses could fall upon the earth from space. But now astronomers tell us of the perpetual occurrence of titanic cataclysms, one consequence of which is that from ten to twelve million solid bodies traverse our atmosphere daily, the larger rushing past as brilliant meteors, the smaller as falling stars, and that two or three meteoric stones strike the surface of the earth every twenty-four hours. And what is more, diamonds have been found in these meteorites, suggesting that the falling masses came from worlds which have been subjected to geological changes such as those that make our earth what it is; worlds where, perhaps, people burn coals and wear brilliants just as we do. Yet it has been said that science has no new realms to conquer!

TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE proceedings of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce at its general meeting on the 26th ultimo were published in our Tuesday's issue. Towards the end of the meeting, however, Mr. Masuda brought forward an urgent motion recommending an alteration in the train times between Tokyo and Osaka, which was carried unanimously. The representation was accordingly prepared and presented to Count Kuroda, Minister of State for Communications on Tuesday. Hitherto there have been three through trains from Tokyo, viz., at 6 a.m. 11.40 a.m. and 9.50 p.m. and from Osaka at 4.40 a.m., 1.07 p.m., and 10.46 p.m. But by this arrangement letters despatched from Tokyo during office hours do not reach Osaka in time for business on the following day, and *vice-versa*. The Chamber of Commerce hopes that one of these trains may be made to start between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. and thereby greatly facilitate business.

THE HAKUBUNSHA.

WE are glad to observe from the vernacular papers that Mr. Nagao, of the Hakubunsha, has succeeded in making an arrangement with his creditors whereby the business will be allowed to go on as heretofore. The debts of the firm are said to amount to 80,000 *yen*. One fourth of this sum is owing to the Mitsui Bank and the remainder to 19 creditors. The Bank is to be allowed to take over the buildings in Ginza and will henceforth rent them to the Hakubunsha. The proceeds of the books which have been sold since the levying of a distrait on the property of the firm is to be divided among the creditors and the balance of the debt to be paid off by annual instalments.

MEETING OF THE "JIYU-TO."

THE Radical members of the House of Representatives now in Tokyo, held a general meeting on the 9th instant, the principal attendants being Messrs. Hoshi, Tateishi, Kudo, Ito, Suzuki, Nishiyama, Saito, Yebara, Shiota, and Ishida. Two subjects came up for discussion. The first was a report compiled by Mr. Yeguchi on the Bourse Question. So far as

we can gather from the somewhat meagre details furnished by the vernacular press, the report—which received the endorsement of the meeting—did not recommend drastic measures in the sense of abolishing the present Exchanges and substituting Bourses. It maintained that, in order to correct the abuses now complained of, namely, trading by officials of the Exchanges, suspension of business owing to fluctuations in the market, and so forth, complete recasting of the Regulations was not necessary. The Exchanges might be continued as they are now, with the exception of the Rice Exchanges, concerning which some special suggestions seem to have been offered. It would suffice if slight modifications of the Regulations were made, though in what the proposed modifications consisted, we cannot discover.

The second subject of debate was peculiar. It appears that for some time back the Eastern Radicals (*Toyo Jiyu-to*), in other words the Radical section under the leadership of Mr. Oi Kentaro, have been making great efforts to spread their influence in Ibaraki Prefecture. To counteract this campaign, certain members of the Radical Party proper, conceived the idea of organizing a big friendly gathering (*Konshin-kai*) of their associates in that Prefecture, Count Itagaki and other prominent members being present. Hearing of this, Mr. Oi's followers adopted the unprecedented course of asking permission to be present at the same meeting. They addressed to the *Jiyu-to* proper the following letter, which was submitted for the consideration of the meeting on the 9th instant:—

GENTLEMEN—We learn from your newspaper organ that Count Itagaki, Messrs. Kono, Matsuda, Yamada and others, intend to be present at a friendly meeting to be held by the *Kwan-to Jiyu-to* at Mitochi in Ibaraki Prefecture. For our part, we entertain views more or less at variance with those of your Party, and it is our desire to be present at the meeting attended by the above gentlemen, and to deliver lectures there. This proposal being entirely consistent with the principles of constitutional institutions, we trust that it will elicit your unhesitating approval.

(Signed) KOKUBO KIMICHI, } of Ibaraki
IWASAKI HIRATAKO, } Prefecture.

The *Jiyu-to* naturally declined to accede to this bold proposal. The idea is quite novel in Japan, and would doubtless develop lively issues were it entertained.

A MUSICAL TREAT.

THE rather prolonged dearth of any form of musical entertainment in the colony, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, will shortly be relieved by a visit of some artistes whose fame is world wide. The concert company of Signor Foli, the great bass singer, is now on its way to Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama, in which places it is intended to give some concerts *en passant* to the States. The company has had a most flattering reception in Australia, the colonial papers speaking in high terms of praise of the performers. A glance at the names on an old programme we have received assures us that a very high class treat is in store for Hongkong. Mr. Orlando Harley, the famous American tenor, Madame Valleria, Madame Pechois, Madame Madeline Schiller, Madame Vander-vour-Green, the charming contralto, and others may be expected. Miss Bertha Rossow, who was here with Madame Patey some time ago, also accompanies the party, and will be cordially welcomed again in Hongkong. The announcement that "seats may now be booked," which will appear in due course, will no doubt cause a rush for places.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* relates the following good story of the shrewdness and common sense occasionally evinced by Li Hung-chang. When early in 1885 the complications with France which subsequently resulted in the blockade of Formosa and the destruction of the Chinese fleet at Pagoda Anchorage were pending, an enthusiastic American inventor sent the Viceroy a plan and specification of a new type of submarine boat which he had designed, and requested permission to come out to China and build

some of the boats at a Government dockyard at government expense. To this the Viceroy replied that the inventor might, if so disposed, build one boat at his own expense, which, if successful, the Viceroy would buy; and as an additional inducement it was added that the Viceroy would pay the inventor a bonus of Mexican \$100,000 for every French ironclad and Mexican \$50,000 for every French wooden ship that might be destroyed through the agency of this submarine boat. Somehow or other the boat appears not to have been built. Possibly the inventor was unable to raise the necessary funds. The Viceroy's suggestion as to payment by results was characteristic.

FLOODS IN HOKKAIDO.

By intelligence published in the *Fiji Shimpo*, dated the 7th instant, we observe that the Hokkaido suffered from severe gales and floods on the 1st and the 3rd instant. In the neighbourhood of Zesashi, the river Toyobenai overflowed its banks and 241 houses were flooded and 2 carried away, and great damage was done to roads and bridges. On the night of the 3rd instant a heavy gale, with rain, raged between Sapporo and Otaru, which did a good deal of damage to the railway and to ordinary roads, 9 railway and other bridges were carried away, 8 houses destroyed, and 700 flooded, 4 persons were drowned. The injury to the line has been considerable and it is anticipated that traffic will be interrupted for some days.

JAPAN'S EXHIBITS AT CHICAGO.

It would seem that Japan's preparations for the great World's Fair at Chicago have now reached a stage sufficiently advanced to warrant a detailed statement of the weight and value of the goods despatched from each principal manufacturing centre in the Empire. The following list is published by the News Agency:—

Place.	Weight of Exhibits.	Value of Exhibits.
	TONS.	YEN.
Tokyo	250	451,800
Kyoto	187	271,283
Saga	166	57,659
Aichi	153	491,024
Hyogo	140	58,114
Kanagawa	130	324,280
Osaka	111	100,994
Ishikawa	100	133,190
Shizuoka	33	42,622
Gifu	31	28,007
Wakayama	13	5,361
Fukuoka	11	6,746
Niigata	9	15,019
Kagawa	9	941
Fukushima	8	4,122
Chiba	8	4,084
Fukushima	8	3,839
Toyama	8	6,049
Hokkaido	8	51,197
Okayama	7	1,391
Yehime	7	46,010
Oita	6	Not declared.
Hiroshima	6	4,014
Nagano	6	13,480
Kochi	6	2,581
Gumma	6	11,722
Ibaraki	5	6,830
Tochigi	5	7,050
Saitama	5	4,158
Yamagata	4	6,080
Nara	4	4,487
Akita	4	1,681
Fukui	4	24,976
Nagasaki	4	6,820
Miyagi	3	2,844
Shiga	3	10,350
Okinawa	2	Not declared.
Tottori	2	3,305
Shimane	2	3,305
Yamaguchi	2	1,110
Miyazaki	2	2,328
Aomori	2	651
Iwate	2	1,992
Yamanashi	2	10,324
Totals	1,500	2,228,854

Among the above Exhibits, there are,

Silk and silk goods, 9,885 cattie.

Fine Arts and Manufactures 250 tons.

The exhibitors aggregate 6,923, of whom the art exhibitors are 223, and the miscellaneous exhibitors 6,700. With regard to the Art Exhibits, the following table is given:—Tokyo,

56 tons; Kyoto, 60 tons; Osaka, 7 tons; Kanagawa, 2 tons; Hyogo 16.6 cubic feet; Niigata, not declared; Saitama, 4.36 cubic feet; Gumma 29.2 cubic feet; Chiba, 1 ton; Tochigi 31.1 cubic feet; Nara 3 cubic feet; Miye 1 ton.

The above figures bear out the comment made by us when Japan's share in the World's Fair was first determined, namely, that the country will have to pay a great deal for advertising itself, since the returns directly obtained from the exhibits cannot aggregate more than a fraction of the total outlay. A considerable portion of the goods sent to the Fair will not be for sale. Out of the 2½ million yen given in the table, it is probably a very liberal estimate to say that fifteen hundred thousand represent articles likely to be offered for sale. Suppose the whole disposed of, and further suppose a profit of 20 per cent., then we have a return of three hundred thousand yen to set against the country's outlay of more than double that amount. However, no nation expects to recoup at once its expenditure on account of a World's Fair. The indirect advantages of opening up new markets and attracting new customers are supposed to make up the difference.

NEW P. AND O. STEAMER.

MESSRS. CAIRD and Co., of Greenock, launched from their yard on July 30th a new steamer of 7,000 tons for the P. and O. Steam Navigation Company, named the *Australia*. This vessel is 470ft. long, by 50ft. in breadth, and her engines indicate 10,000 horse-power, which will be capable of driving her at sea at a speed of 19 knots. The ship will be elaborately fitted up, and the different saloons, library, music-room, &c., will be ornamented with beautiful carvings by the famous Italian artist, Signor Cambi, of Siena, the designs having been executed by Mr. T. E. Colcutt, the architect of the Imperial Institute. This latest addition to the P. and O. Company's fleet will accommodate 413 saloon passengers, and is intended for the India, China, and Australian mail services carried on by the company. A special feature in the ship will be the spray-rooms, which are fitted with douche, spray, wave, and needle baths. She is a sister ship to the company's steamship *Himalaya*, which will shortly leave for India on her maiden voyage.

THE WAKEFUL GUILD.

HERE is another of the wonderful stories for the accuracy of which our truthful contemporary the *Pomfret* is responsible. In Fukuyama, Bingo, there has lately been formed an Association called the *Nenarenu-sha*, or Wakeful Guild. After the manner of more august bodies, the Society has issued its rules, which run as follow:—(1) The object of this Guild is the Commission of acts of violence. All persons approving of this object are free to join the Guild. (2) The enemies of the guild are humanity in general and policemen in particular. (3) Members should be residents of Fukuyama and between 16 and 24 years of age. (4) The head of the Guild, hereafter to be chosen, shall possess sufficient property to be able to pay for a legal defence of the members who may be arrested. (5) The meetings of the Guild will be held every night between midnight and day-break at Momen-bashi. (6) The business to be carried on at these meetings will be the attack of passers by—women in particular—and the insulting of policemen.

CURIOUS MARRIAGE CUSTOMS.

It is said that a very curious method of choosing a wife is followed in Kameshima, Bichiu. When a man has set his affections on a girl, he seizes her in some public thoroughfare and carries her off to his house. It is the duty of onlookers to report the circumstance to the girl's parents or near relatives. If the match is not approved of the girl is fetched home at once, but if it proves agreeable to the presents, they take a *sho* of rice and present it to the future husband, and arrangements for the wedding ceremony are forthwith made. A

similar practice has prevailed in various countries, especially in times of war, but as far as we are aware, this odd custom exists nowhere else in Japan. Another curious custom is said to be still observed at Kameshima, namely, that of smearing with ink the face of a young man who is about to marry into another family. This is done when the bridegroom is on his way to the house of the bride.

THE CANADIAN MAIL PASSENGERS.

THE Canadian mail steamer *Empress of Japan* arrived here Tuesday, bringing a very large number of passengers, amongst whom we notice the names of Mr. and Mrs. Montague Kirkwood, who have returned to Japan after a tour of the Continent and a visit to England. Many of the passengers by the *Empress*, some on business, some on pleasure, and some combining both, are visiting Japan for the first time, amongst whom are Professor Hirschberg, the famous oculist, of Berlin University; Mr. Louis Prosperi, the great caricaturist of *Vanity Fair*; the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the India Office, in the Marquis of Salisbury's late Government; Professor Raymond, who occupies the Chair of Elocution in Princeton College; Mr. Henry D. Pierce, special correspondent of the *Inter-Ocean*. Mr. Pierce, who is on a big holiday, and anticipates a very extensive tour in the East, was formerly Assistant District Attorney for Indiana, and late a partner of U. S. Senator Turpie, is a nephew of the late Vice-President Hendricks. Professor Jno. L. Stoddard is also among the passengers. Mr. Stoddard, who is in the front rank of the popular lecturers of the United States, is travelling to obtain material for an entirely new set of lectures, and will be absent from America for a lengthened period, his intention being to visit all the countries of the globe before he returns home.

MILITARY PUNISHMENT.

WHEN the news of Mr. Frick's attempted assassination reached Homestead, it was received with undisguised joy by some of the strikers, though others, more thoughtful, perceived that their cause must be seriously injured by the bad effect which such an act would produce on public opinion. The strangest and most graphic incident connected with the affair occurred in the camp at that place, the principal figure in it being Thomas Iams, a private soldier in Company K of the Tenth Regiment. This is the story, as told by a New York journal:—

Iams is less than 30 years of age and comes of a good family. His father was at one time Commissioner of Green county and quite wealthy. The young man is a drummer for a Pittsburgh house, and although his home is in Waynesburg he is in Pittsburgh most of the time and has a large circle of friends there. He was standing in front of his tent in the company street, cleaning his rifle. There were dozens of soldiers standing and sitting about in idleness. Lieut.-Col. Streater, while Col. Hawkins is acting as commander of the brigade, is in command of the Tenth Regiment. He approached a group of men and said:

"We've just heard terrible news from Homestead. Mr. Frick has been shot."

Other men approached the group. Iams stood his rifle against his tent and hastened to the group also. He said to the first man he met:

"What's that Streater says?"

"He says Frick was shot."

"Who did it?" Iams asked eagerly.

The soldier to whom he put the question did not know, and Iams returned to his tent, took up his rifle again, and stood for a moment buried in thought. Then he raised his voice and cried:

"Boys, let's give three cheers for the man who shot Frick. Hooley!"

All voices ceased and the men looked at one another in consternation. Col. Streater had started to walk off. He turned and looked Iams full in the face. Iams stared at him defiantly. The other members of the company, anticipating trouble, walked slowly away to be out of hearing. The Colonel walked to where Iams stood.

"Young man, what did you mean by that?" he asked. Iams looked down sulkily and answered, "I meant that I was glad that Frick was shot, and I am too."

"Now, my friend, you're a soldier and you have no business to make such remarks. Do you want to retract it?" Iams thought for a moment and then raised his head and said: "No, sir; I am glad that Mr. Frick was shot, and I cannot retract; anything I said I really meant."

The Colonel turned and left him. Five minutes

later he gave the order for the regiment to assemble without arms. The men of Company K felt what was coming and assembled with serious faces. The other companies, unaware of what had happened, answered the call; asking one another what was the matter. There had been no such order before since the organization of the camp.

When the regiment was finally assembled, Col. Streater addressed the men thus:

"When the news of the attempt on Mr. Frick's life was announced here a few minutes ago, a member of the regiment offered three cheers for the assassin. I want that man to advance two paces."

There was deep silence, but no one moved.

"I know the man," the Colonel continued, "and he can gain nothing by keeping silent. I order him to step forward at once."

There was another moment of suspense, and then Iams advanced two paces, saluted respectfully, and stood at attention. In spite of the severe discipline of the camp the other soldiers could not refrain from looking around at Iams. Col. Streater advanced to where Iams stood, took out his penknife, and, amid the most profound silence, cut the buttons from the soldier's uniform. When he had finished and retired a few paces to look at him Iams saluted again in a most respectful manner.

"Corporal of Company K," called the Colonel. A corporal advanced and saluted. "Take a guard and take this man to the guard tent. Ask the surgeons to stand by, and string this man up by his thumbs until he can stand it no longer."

Iams, who up to this point had stood flushed but entirely self-possessed, turned the colour of chalk and trembled, but he never flinched. With another salute to his Colonel he turned and followed the corporal to the guard tent. The men were dismissed, and with awed faces retired to their tents. They did not dare discuss what had taken place.

Three regimental surgeons followed Iams to the guard tent. The young man soon regained his self-possession, and held out his thumbs for one of his fellow soldiers to tie. A stout piece of twine was tied tightly to each thumb and Iams raised his arms while the corporal drew the line over the tent pole. The cord was pulled by three men until Iams stood on tiptoe, and then it was made fast. The surgeons took turns counting his pulse beats. They had to stand on a chair to do so. Not a word was spoken. The young man's face was deathly white, but his eyes were brilliant with determination. His arms were rigid with his weight. The twine was cutting into his flesh, but he pressed his lips firmly together and did not allow a moan to escape him. The soldiers and the corporal turned their faces away. The sight was too painful. The surgeons, watch in hand, kept their fingers on his pulse. The beats came faster, and slowly the man's head fell forward on his breast and his eyes closed. He could no longer press the ground with his toes. This dead weight hung heavy on the twine.

Minute after minute passed, and his pulse beats were constantly increasing. At last one surgeon said: "One hundred and twenty beats. Let him down." Iams had hung for nineteen minutes. A surgeon held him firmly while the soldiers cut the cord. The young man fell into his arms and was laid gently on the ground. His eyes opened soon, and Iams said: "Let me lie here. I feel sick."

They covered him with a blanket and withdrew, and Iams lay there in the guard tent all night. Col. Streater made his report to Col. Hawkins, who endorsed it, and sent it by an orderly across the river to Gen. Snowden. Gen. Snowden read it over carefully and endorsed it:

"Dismiss this man in disgrace from your regiment, and drum him out of camp to-morrow morning."

These were written orders. But to the orderly he added: "Tell Col. Hawkins to have the man's head shaved on one side before he is dismissed."

Early this morning the provisional brigade under the command of Col. Hawkins was ordered to assemble on parade. Three regiments of infantry and a battery of artillery turned out and drew up in two lines facing each other on the parade ground. The disgraced soldier was brought out by a corporal of the guard.

He presented a pitiable appearance. His uniform had been taken from him and he wore a pair of cheap overalls and a ragged coat, which could not hide his undershirt. He held a tattered straw hat in his hand. The top of his head, on the right side, had been shaved to the scalp, and had it not been for his pale face and his bruised thumbs the assembled soldiers could not have refrained from laughing.

The corporal turned him over to a Lieutenant, who with twenty men proceeded to march him from one end of the parade ground to the other and then back again. The soldiers looked at him curiously, but there was no anger or displeasure in their glances. They all pitied him. He was brought before Col. Hawkins and an Adjutant proceeded to read the report which had been submitted to Gen. Snowden and the orders which the General had given. Iams listened to it with an air of indifference. His face betrayed no emotion whatever. When it was finished, Col. Hawkins said to him: "My man, this has been an exceedingly painful duty for me to perform, but I think the punishment was just. You are now discharged in disgrace from the service. You will be escorted to the limits of the camp. If you ever dare enter it again you will be summarily dealt with."

The regimental drum corps then fell in line and began to play the Rogue's March. Iams was ordered to march behind them, and he was followed by his regiment. This strange parade moved over the hilltop and down for as the railroad station. A freight train was slowly passing, and Iams was told to jump aboard. He climbed into a box car and was soon lost to view. The drums and the fife ceased, and the men returned to camp in silence. No one here knows where Iams has gone. His discharge from the militia in disgrace deprives him of his franchise. He cannot cast a vote, nor can he ever hold public office. The soldiers will not discuss his case, and all that any officer will say is, "Well, discipline must be maintained."

COOLIES FOR HAWAII.

HITHERTO the labourers sent to the Sandwich Islands have come from Kumamoto, Yamaguchi, and Hiroshima prefectures. We now read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that it is proposed to substitute Niigata prefecture for Kumamoto as a place from which to export labourers. The disfavoured into which Kumamoto men have fallen is traced by the *Yomiuri* to three sources. (1) They lack perseverance. (2) They gamble. (3) They show a tendency to form guilds and hold out for high wages. The reason for selecting Niigata-Ken men rather than any others, as given by the *Yomiuri* is not very satisfactory. It is the result, we are told, of the interest taken in emigration by the late Prefect of Niigata, Mr. Senda, and the present secretary of the Prefecture, Mr. Murakami. Nothing is said by our contemporary as to the special suitability of Niigata men to become emigrants.

THE UNITED STATES RICE CROP.

DAN TALMAGE'S Sons Rice Crop Bulletin of August 15th, says:—The season of growth is rapidly merging into harvest time and planters are about to reap the fruit of their labours and justify their faith in this cereal. In the Carolinas the growth during the past month has been so rapid that the largest crop since the war is now in sight. In Georgia conditions have been such as to more than make up for the ground lost in the early part of the season. Florida, Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, though possibly indicating less interest in the culture than in the older rice states, report excellent prospects wherever planting has been entered upon. Louisiana, as noted in our last, is the banner state; prospects were flattering then, but now they exceed the most sanguine predictions of early spring and fully bear out our estimates of June. Harvesting will soon be general, and planters will have all they can do utilizing the labour at hand in taking care of the ripening grain, even if weather during cutting season should be in every way propitious. The most critical period is ahead, and during the next sixty days planters will watch wind and weather with as anxious an eye as ever did a sailor ploughing the waves, for disasters may arise from rain storms and gales very materially changing the present cheerful aspect.

ENTERTAINING AND BEING ENTERTAINED.

THE desire to see the world is very strong with most Japanese. So much so that it is not uncommon for a *fiurikisha*-man to suggest to his employer that he should be allowed to accompany his master to some foreign land. The capacities in which lovers of the world set out on foreign tours frequently display no small amount of ingenuity on the part of their projectors. A case in point is reported in the vernacular papers. About 20 of the pupils of the noted fencer Sakakibara Kenkichi, with that energetic foreign tourist Mr. Suzuki Keikun as their guide, have determined to explore the Western world. Having no funds to speak of at their disposal, they propose giving exhibitions of their fencing skill at the places visited and utilising the proceeds for travelling expenses.

SEQUAH.

SEQUAH is achieving great and deserved success among all classes of the Yokohama public. Every evening his stand, pitched opposite No. 272, is surrounded by large crowds of many nationalities, who derive both benefit and amusement from the exhibition. Dozens of teeth are drawn gratis every night, while several persons

who have been martyrs to rheumatism for many years have received immediate benefit from his hands. Possessing a distinguished, gentlemanly presence, with a winning and fine delivery, his orations are listened to with great interest, while his reputation as a *masseur* is soon demonstrated to rest on substantial grounds. The celerity and despatch with which he draws teeth borders on the marvellous. Last evening, just as a rheumatic patient had mounted the platform a heavy shower of rain came on, and the majority of the crowd incontinently fled, but those who remained had speedy proof of the efficacy of Sequah's treatment. Already his medicine and oils are attaining a large sale, and great satisfaction is expressed as to the benefit which each confer.

An audience numbering several hundred had assembled when Sequah drove down to 272 on Wednesday night, the crowd increasing as the performance proceeded. There seemed to be no end to the number of people who wanted teeth extracted, and nearly a hundred of them were accommodated in a very short space of time, a continuous stream—up one side of the carriage and down the other—being individually relieved of their troublesome ivories in a few seconds. Sequah places a band round his head, and from his forehead shines a brilliant electric light, by the aid of which the undesirable member is immediately detected. Then selecting the suitable instrument from a row laid out ready to hand, the operator had the tooth out in a second in scores of instances. Men, women, and children were relieved, not a slip or a breakage occurring in a single case. A peculiar feature of the performance was that the faces of those operated upon showed no sign of pain, not even those who had two teeth extracted, of which there were several. It was comical, however, to witness those who, not knowing the tooth was out, sat, mouth wide open, waiting for the operator to begin. After a few words from Sequah, which were repeated in Japanese by an interpreter, a *sendo* presented himself to be cured of lumbago. Sequah said that, though the man had been suffering for a year and had been unable to work for the past two months, and would be cured after four or five minutes' rubbing with the oil, he desired a more difficult case—a confirmed rheumatic for instance. A committee of two foreigners and two Japanese then mounted the car and witnessed the rubbing, and the patient was allowed to rest for ten minutes while the virtues of Sequah's remedies were diluted upon. After this the *sendo* was made to bend his back and sit Japanese fashion, which he could not do before being rubbed with the oil, and the patient said he felt all right. Shortly after this an old man, who had been cured of rheumatism several days ago, presented himself to say that he never felt better in his life. Sequah then proceeded to sell his remedies.

THE CONTROL OF ECCLESIASTICAL PROPERTY.

We read in the *Yiji Shimo* that the Home Department deems it necessary to draw up a new set of regulations relative to the control of temple property. From time to time it has transpired that such property has been mortgaged, and not infrequently land attached to temples has had to be sold to pay the debts of priests. In addition to this, increasing difficulty in keeping temples in a proper state of repair has been experienced of late years, and unless the Government comes to the rescue many fine old buildings will lapse into a state of ruin. The intention now is to draw up minute regulations, and to require local officials to undertake their enforcement.

METALS.

The following is extracted from Messrs. S. W. Royse & Co.'s Report of July 30:—This has been a dull month in the Iron Trade; little business has been done in Scotch Iron, but rather more activity is now noticeable, and shipments are showing somewhat better and prices have latterly improved slightly. Prices of Middlesborough Iron have, however, fallen about 2s. per ton during the month, transactions have been

limited, and for prompt delivery only. Shipments from Middlesborough are very low, being only 36,308 tons up to the 25th inst., as compared 49,886 tons for corresponding period of last year; still, stocks in the public stores have been reduced, and there is now a more extended feeling that prices can scarcely be expected to fall further, and there is some enquiry for forward delivery. Tin has dropped steadily, and is now more than £5 per ton lower than at the beginning of the month. Copper also has fallen slightly, but the reports as to the arrangements for the restriction of production should have a good effect. Lead has fluctuated a little, but is practically unchanged. Spelter is rather lower, and is easy.

"TRANSPORT."

We extract the following from a new weekly with the above title, published in the interests of Docks and Harbours, Canals and Railways:—The judgment of the Court in the inquiry into the loss of the *City of Chicago*, which lies a hopeless wreck off the Old Head of Kinsale, will commend itself to all who have watched the case. There was much to be said for the captain in the difficulty he had to contend with—that of navigating his vessel through a thick fog along a dangerous coast, upon which there were no fog signals—but it is impossible to exonerate him from blame. The Court thought the master was not justified in keeping the vessel at full speed, 14 to 14½ knots after passing Cape Clear, and as the lead was not used with sufficient frequency, proper efforts were not made from time to time to ascertain and verify the position of the vessel. The Court appears to have been satisfied that after the stranding the men took all proper measures for the safety of passengers and ship. The stranding, it was found, was due to the fact that the master, though he could not be certain of his position, altered the vessel's course at 7.25 p.m. to east-north-east, which led her towards the land, and continued that course at full speed without using the lead before 7.45 p.m. Having regard to the fact that the weather was an intermittent fog, very thick at times, that the vessel had again set nearer to the land than the master had expected, and the log showed that she was travelling faster than he calculated, the master was in default for not having used the lead with greater frequency, and for allowing the vessel to proceed in full speed upon a course approaching the land at a time when, as the Court believed, the weather was not such as to justify that proceeding. The Court suspended the certificate of the master, Captain Arthur Redford, for nine months. The presiding magistrate stated that the Court would make a suggestion to the Board of Trade that a fog signal should be placed on the Old Head of Kinsale, a matter which, I am glad to learn, has already been taken in hand by the local authorities.

It was announced at a meeting of the Channel Bridge Company held on Tuesday, that an inquiry by Schneider and Company, of Le Creusot, Mr. Hersent, and Sir Benjamin Baker, had been made on the basis of a new route, which gave the advantage of shorter communication and superior soil. The result has been that the number of piers has been reduced from 121 to 72, and that the spaces have been increased in size. They measure on the new plans 400 and 500 metres alternately from end to end. The company will now seek to obtain concessions which will enable them to carry out the work which has been before the public.

THE POLICE.

The Government is stated to be at present contemplating an important reform with regard to the police, namely, to deprive them altogether of judicial functions. If this change be effected, and according to the *Kokkai* it is likely to be, the executive duties of the police will be under the immediate direction of Headmen of Wards Districts, who in turn will be answerable to Governors of Prefectures, these latter being under the ultimate direction of the Home Department; while the judicial functions now dis-

charged by the police will be entrusted to the Public Procurators under the final direction of the Department of Justice. The statement does not convey a very clear meaning in this broad form, but apparently one result of the change would be to dispense with the office of Chief of Police, who is at present a very important functionary in the Government.

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION OF CHIEF TAX COLLECTORS.

For some time back the Chief Tax Collectors of the various Prefectures have been sitting as a Committee of Investigation at the Department of Finance. No details are published as to the precise points submitted for discussion by the Committee. We are only told that the members had to consider questions relating to the collecting of taxes and to taxation in general—a tolerably wide programme. However, it is stated that most satisfactory results were reached, and that the Minister of Finance expressed himself highly pleased with the labours of the Committee. His Excellency delivered a brief address when the session came to an end. A verbatim report is published by the News Agency, but as the speech does not travel beyond an enunciation of general principles, excellent enough, doubtless, but not specially interesting, we refrain from translating it.

ANOTHER OUTRAGE IN KORRA.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* reports another outrage against a Japanese subject in Korea. The particulars, as given by our contemporary, are these:—One Nakahara, a native of Tsushima, having obtained official permission, repaired to Poh-tsing Sinpo in Korea, and set himself to collect and cure *blêche-de-mer*. Three times the Governor of Poh-tsing issued instructions urging the people to obstruct his business, and finally several hundred persons assembled and invaded his house, seeking to carry off his implements and the *blêche-de-mer* he had collected. Nakahara, aided by seven Japanese boatmen, attempted to withstand the intruders, but the Japanese were borne down by weight of numbers, and compelled to beat a retreat, saving only their implements. They have lodged a complaint at the Japanese Consulate, claiming that not only were several thousand catties of *blêche-de-mer* stolen from them, but they themselves were badly beaten and their property was much injured. The frequent recurrence of these troubles between Japanese and Koreans must end by disturbing the friendly feeling between the two countries. Japan does not appear to make much outcry, or seek redress by peremptory methods, but her forbearance may reach its limit.

THE NEW MITSU BISHI BANK.

A very imposing building is in course of erection on a portion of the 80,000 *tsudo* of land purchased by Mr. Iwasaki from the Military Department a few years ago. The structure is to be four storeys high, and will be sufficiently large to allow of being let in flats. The Bank, it is said, will occupy the ground floor and make use of the underground cellar, while the upper part of the building will be let to the Yusen Kaisha, the Fire Insurance and Life Assurance Companies. According to present calculations, the building should be completed by the end of next year.

A HARD CASE.

The *Hochi Shimbun* reports a case of rare occurrence in Japan. A new Government school is to be erected in Nagaoka. A short time ago tenders from various contractors were solicited and it was stipulated that a certain sum of money should be paid in as security by the contractor whose tender was accepted. In accordance with this agreement, one Imata Gorokichi, the successful tenderer for the building, was required to pay to the prefectural authorities some thirteen or fourteen hundred *yen* as security. He paid one thousand *yen* and promised to bring the balance by a certain hour of a certain day or forfeit the money advanced. The account states that the unfortunate contractor resided at

some distance from the town, and that owing to floods he was 45 minutes late in paying in the money. In such cases the Japanese are usually considerate, but, from what cause it is hard to determine, the prefectural assembly by whom the affair was discussed, permeated with the spirit of Shylock, voted for the enforcement of the letter of the bond, and so the astounded contractor found that 45 minutes' delay had cost him the sum of one thousand yen and the loss of the job for which he had tendered.

THE MEETING OF GOVERNORS.

THE *Nihon* draws attention to the fact that this year the investigation of local government affairs by the Home Minister is being conducted in a different manner to that hitherto adopted. The old custom was for the Home Minister to consult the Vice-minister and the heads of Bureaux as to the subjects on which it was desirable the Governors should be interrogated. Questions were then drawn up, printed, and sent to the Governors some time before the Tokyo meeting. They were thus able to prepare their answers. This year the new Minister has called no meeting of officials, and has not informed the Governors of the business to be submitted to them. This change, according to our contemporary, has caused considerable uneasiness in some quarters, and not a few anxious faces are to be seen among the Governors whose prefectures have been the scene of disturbances of various kinds.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has the following comments on the meeting. Prior to Count Inouye's appointment to the Home Office the control exercised by the Central Government over provincial Governors was very imperfect. It was not at all uncommon for Governors to express in public, opinions directly opposed to those known to be held by their superior officers, and it not infrequently happened that Governors combined and originated measures without consulting the Home Minister, or that they advocated policies in public which had not been sanctioned by the Central Government. The whole system of local government, originally elaborated by Count Inouye and enforced with much ability by Count Yamagata, has become seriously disordered. Count Inouye is determined to restore things to their former state. The firmness he has already displayed has produced unmistakable results in the provinces. It is to be hoped that the Home Minister will not stay half way, but make the reform thorough. Irregularities have been numerous. We have had a case of the chief of a district dismissing 27 heads of villages. We have had an instance of a police inspector urging people to attend a pro-Government social meeting, and a case of the dismissal of a school teacher without adequate reason. Official interference with political meetings and elections has been notorious. This is all known to the new Minister, and we trust he will act up to his knowledge. Thus far it seems to us (*Kokumin Shimbun*) that the Home Minister has erred in the direction of over leniency, but we trust that the public has not yet seen the end of the reforms which he deems necessary.

RESCUING SHIPWRECKED SAILORS.

It is seldom indeed that sea-going folk meet such a string of opportunities of succouring their distressed and imperilled fellows, as those on board the *Sesshu Maru* met last Monday. When off Daio Misaki, and nearing the entrance to Owari Bay, a wreck was sighted on the south-eastern horizon and the course was altered to see if assistance could be of any avail. The steamer had not proceeded far, however, when 5 or 6 men were seen struggling in the water crying out for help. This was at 1.50 p.m. when the steamer was about 28 miles south of the point named. The struggling men proved to be the Captain, Chief Mate, and sailors of the foreign built sailing vessel named the *Handa Maru*, owned by one Mase Shotaro, of Kamezaki, Aichi Ken, and which was lost at 2 p.m. on Sunday the 4th, when on a voyage from Yokohama to Aisuta. When they reached the steamer's deck the men said that there were probably others still in the water. Further search was therefore made, with the re-

sult that another was found, but the unfortunate fellow died very shortly after being pulled on board. As there was much wreckage about, additional search was made, and within a short time others were caught sight of struggling in the water. These too were eventually rescued, and they proved to have belonged to the junk *Kompira Maru*, owned by Awa Ukichi, of Wakayama. Just at this time the steamer *Tamon Maru* passed and reported having rescued some men, and that she would proceed to the aid of the vessel on the horizon. The *Sesshu Maru* then remained in the vicinity of the spot where the first lot of survivors was found, recovering three more before resuming her course. There was quite a heavy sea running, and it was with much difficulty the men were got on board. Before these poor fellows were rescued it became evident that some one belonging to the crew would have to go overboard to the rescue if they were to be saved. Inouye Sakutaro, one of the sailors, a man noted for his powers as a swimmer, consented to go, and after a gallant effort succeeded in rescuing the three, who proved to have belonged to the first crew found, that of the foreign built vessel. By this time it was 4.30 p.m., and as there were apparently no others still afloat, a course was made for the land. On the way thither a vessel under jury masts was sighted. The alteration of course necessitated by a desire to succour her, led to three more men being saved from a watery grave, in the rescue of these also, the man Inouye further distinguishing himself. These men proved to have belonged to the junk *Tomifuku Maru* owned by Takemura Chotaro, of Tokoname, Aichi. The disabled vessel flying distress signals was found to be the *Torayoshi Maru*. The *Sesshu Maru* got out a line and started off for Hamashima with her in tow. On the way, however, the tow line parted, and it was thought best to push on and despatch aid to the vessel from Hamashima. Hamashima was reached at 6.50 p.m. and the matter was at once reported to the village officers, and request made that some vessel should be sent out to the assistance of the *Torayoshi Maru*. The rescued men, fourteen in all, including the dead sailor, were handed over to the local authorities, and the *Sesshu Maru* resumed her voyage to Shinagawa at daylight the following day, 6th inst.—*Kobe Herald*.

THE END OF THE TEH-HUA AFFAIR.

THE *Foochow Echo* contains the following:—

The concluding scene of the Teh-hua affair, which had been waited for patiently by the authorities for nine long months, took place outside the city on Tuesday last. The rebel chief had been taken and was executed. Although a reward of three thousand taels had been offered for his arrest, it was only on Monday last that he was brought in to the Provincial capital. On his arrival he was taken to the Provincial Judge and afterwards to the Viceroy. A telegram was at once sent to Peking announcing the capture; and instructions were received, in reply, that the man was to be beheaded. This order was partly carried out the following morning at 8 o'clock, that is to say on Tuesday last. Seven officials were present, and, besides a body of a thousand braves marched on to the ground, there were several thousands of citizens there as spectators of the proceedings. At the appointed time the doomed man refused to kneel down when requested by the executioner to do so. He stood, and stoutly denied that he was a party at all to the revolutionary movement; much less was it leader. He added that the people had put his name on their flags altogether against his wish, and that he had been powerless to prevent them. The execution was attended with the most painful circumstances. A veil must be drawn over the details. Suffice it to say that as the executioner could not prevail upon the man to kneel, he essayed to decapitate him while standing, and succeeded so badly that the sword was used seven times before the execution was complete. Of course it would have been otherwise had the man knelt, but he could not be induced to do so and it would have taken several ordinary men to have forced him into position, as he was a stalwart athlete of great physical power. There were murmurs amongst the lookers on at the ill manner in which the execution had been performed, but when the executioner was proceeding to carry out his further orders the uproar amongst the people was so great that the carrying out of this part of the sentence had to be abandoned. The head was sent to Teh-hua for exhibition in a public place as a warning to the people there. The story of the rising at Teh-hua is still fresh in the memory of most of us. For some time previous, there had been a marked falling off in the salt tax

revenue, and, suspecting smuggling, the authorities adopted the extreme measure of collecting it from the consumers instead of from the dealers, assessing each member of a family whether man, woman, or child on a scale of 5-lbs. of salt a month per head. New-born babes were counted in, and a register made which was to be subject to no alteration even though death occurred in a family. The indignation of the people knew no bounds, but they kept quite quiet, and agreed amongst themselves to petition the authorities to have this new regulation rescinded. The petition was drawn up and presented in person by the headman of the locality, a petty mandarin of large means (the native in fact, who has just been executed). The authorities, instead of taking the petition into their consideration, became furious, imprisoned the man who presented it and fined all those who had signed it, threatening the arrest of the whole lot if they dared to be so presumptuous in the future. Then the people rose: three thousand of them banded together, went straight to the *yamen*, released their headman by force and carried him back to his village. Shortly afterwards the authorities sent an officer with a few hundred soldiers, and a magistrate, to recapture their prisoner, but they were met by the large body of peasantry and defeated, the magistrate being killed in the fight. After this, there seemed to be no going back. Some sort of organisation of the force was at once made, and the district declared itself in a state of revolution. Their headman, just released by them from prison, was called upon to be their leader, but he refused. They declined to accept his refusal, notwithstanding that he would take no active part in the movement, put his name on their flags, and forced him to provide all the dollars they needed. They were mad with excitement, and he was powerless in their hands. At this juncture, he (the man who was beheaded on Tuesday) ran away and had nothing to do with that day's proceedings, or the subsequent more important events. Going off in a hurry, he left his family in his home. Every member of it and all his relations suffered death, later on, at the hands of the authorities. If this story is not correct in every particular, it is the one current amongst the people of Foochow as true, and has led to the feeling that an injustice has been done. They disapprove of the hasty execution without a proper investigation of the man's case. For ourselves, we think it is utterly impossible that the authorities can have made any mistake in the matter, although the people asserted that the real leader of the rebellious movement is still at large.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS CONGRESS AT DRESDEN.

THE International Chess Congress was concluded on 31st July. Dr. Tarrasch, the German champion, with a score of 12 games, has obtained the first prize. The second and third prizes are gained jointly by Herr Makovetz and M. Porges (Hungary), each with 10½ games. The fourth and fifth prizes fall similarly to Herr Marco (Vienna) and Herr Walbrodt, each with 10 games, and the sixth and seventh prizes are shared between Herr von Bardeleben and M. Winawer (Warsaw), each with 9 games. The special prize to the player who obtained the best score against the winners has been gained by Blackburne. Dr. Siegmund Tarrasch, the winner of the Dresden tournament, is a physician in active practice in Nuremberg. He was born in Breslau, and is thirty years of age. He learned chess in the first instance from an elementary book on the game, published in Germany. Later, however, he studied deeply from the profound German Handbook, and with the assistance of that excellent work on chess, and constant practice with the best players he could find, he mastered the intricate science of the game both theoretically as well as practically. Dr. Tarrasch has reduced tournament playing to an exact science. He seldom takes any risk, no matter who his opponent may be. He strives only for one minute advantage in the opening, and advances on his adversaries slowly but surely, taking care always to keep the drawn hand. If, however, at any stage of an encounter, a change presents itself to bring the game to a brilliant termination, by the sacrifice of a piece, or a pawn or two, he seldom fails to see it, and he may be relied upon in such cases to finish the battle in the most artistic expeditious manner. In 1883, the German Chess Association held their biennial congress at Nuremberg. Dr. Tarrasch, then twenty-one years of age, entered his name as a competitor for the Hauptturnier and won the first prize, and his mastership. In the following congress, held two years later in Hamburg, Tarrasch competed with the masters. At the finish he had an equal score with Blackburne, Mason, Weiss, and English, and divided the second, third, fourth, and fifth prizes with them, Gunsberg being first with only

half a point above the others. In the same year he participated in a tournament in Leipzig, but did not win a prize. He played somewhat recklessly, and suffered in consequence. He discovered then, to use his own expression, that to be successful in tournaments it is not only necessary to be a good player, but also to play well. His first great effort was at Breslau in 1887 in the Sixth International Congress of the German Association. In this tournament there were eighteen competitors, and Tarrasch won the first prize without losing a game. Mr. Amos Burn, of Liverpool, was second, Herr Mieses third, and Messrs Bauer, Bardeleben, Gunsberg, and Louis Paulsen, divided third, fourth, fifth, and sixth prizes. Other competitors in the Congress were Messrs. Blackburne, Mason, Alapin, Schiffers, and Taubenhaus, and Herren Schallopp, Metger, Harmonist, Frith, and Berger. Taken altogether, this is one of the strongest teams that ever participated together in any chess contest. In 1890 Dr. Tarrasch went over to Manchester to represent Germany in the International Congress of the British Chess Association. Here again the doctor won the first prize against nineteen opponents without suffering a single defeat. His score at the finish was 15½, Blackburne being second with 12½, Mackenzie and Bird third and fourth with 12, Gunsberg and Mason fifth and sixth with 11½, and Alapin, Von Scheve, and Tinsley seventh with 11 points each. In the Tournament just concluded, Tarrasch lost only one game, against Albin. The Vienna master caught the champion in a variation of the Giuoco Piano opening, which he (Albin) had previously analysed, but with which Tarrasch was evidently not familiar. Tarrasch misjudged the position in the early part of the game, and suffered defeat in consequence. This game only proves that no matter how strong a player may be, he is never infallible at chess. Tarrasch also scored a game in this tournament against Loman, because the latter had exceeded his time. It was proved afterwards that the ending was won for Loman on analysis; but it by no means follows that Tarrasch would have lost the game if it had been played out, for analysis is one thing, actual play over the board is quite another, and, as Mr Steinitz once remarked, when asked if a certain position was a win, 'It depends who plays it.' Now that Dr. Tarrasch has for the third time in succession won an important tournament, chess amateurs will be more eager than ever to see him pitted against some other strong player for a long series of games. What would probably prove of the greatest interest to the majority would be a match between Tarrasch and Lasker, and then to have the final winner of the match play Steinitz for the final championship. Herr Porges, the second prize winner in Dresden, competed for the first time in an international tournament. But he has long been known as one of the best players in Austria. Herr Marco also played for the first time with international masters; but he, like Herr Porges, has for some years enjoyed the reputation of being a very fine player. His performance in Dresden proved that this reputation is well deserved. M. Makovetz first distinguished himself at Graz in 1890, winning first honours in a tournament in which Herr Lasker competed. Herr Bardeleben's record as well as M. Winawer's is well known, and requires little comment. Both are very great tournament experts, and both have gained honours in nearly every contest in which they have taken part. Herr Walbrout, perhaps, is deserving of the greatest praise, for he is a mere boy, and the manner in which he has fought against masters of enormous experience is truly wonderful for one of his age. His victory is highly creditable.

SIR A. GEIKIE AT THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

THE *Spectator* says:—"Sir A. Geikie's address to the Edinburgh meeting of the British Association recently delivered, was one of the most popular and interesting for many years. Of course it was concerned with the subject of geology, and gave a very graphic and not too

technical *résumé* of the progress of that science. The most interesting portion of a very brilliant lecture concerned the origin of scenery. Sir A. Geikie brought out very effectively how vast an effect the rush of water has had in sculpturing for us the outlines of the mountains, and in washing away the softer and more friable materials which formerly filled the valleys up to the level of the mountain-summits. He gave a very striking verbal diorama retrospective of the scenery from the Castle Rock of Edinburgh, as the geologist now sees it in his mind's eye. As the busy streets of Edinburgh fade away, copse-wood and forest, with lakes that have long since vanished, gleaming through the woodland, take their place, and a rude canoe pushing to the shore startles the red-deer that have come down to drink. Then, looking further back, the picture changes to an Arctic scene, with great fields of snow, and glaciers in the remote north-west marking the lines of Highland mountains. Going further back, vast sheets of ice full two thousand feet in thickness, fill up the whole midland valley of Scotland, and are seen to creep slowly eastward towards the basin of the North Sea. Then there is a great hiatus which geologists have not yet learned to fill up; and behind that, again, the familiar hills and valleys of the Lothians have utterly disappeared; a great inland sea, marked with long lines of active volcanoes, covers the midland valley, some of these volcanoes several thousand feet in height. It was a remarkable review of revolution in scenery even more gigantic than any revolution which takes place in the habits and customs of men.

MISSIONARY WORK IN THE EARTHQUAKE DISTRICTS.

THE *Kobe Herald* publishes an article about "Matter-of-fact heroes," from which we quote the following, because it seems to us to give honour where honour is due:—

The two missionaries—a man and wife—who were the only foreigners imperilled in Gifu and near by, that fatal morning in October last, have stood manfully at their appointed posts throughout and are found there now. There were several others in Nagoya who doubtless deserve none the less the "well done" of their fellows, with hearts that beat to the impulse of humanity and love, and that can be stirred in admiration of, if they cannot practise, self-sacrifice and sustained heroism, but the cause of these thoughts is the news from Gifu, and at Gifu the loneliness of the despised workers' lot was most accentuated. Nothing more eloquent of true service, no more emphatic disproof of the stock charges we business men are so fond of casting at men and women we drift into treating with disdain because their ways are not our ways, and because their lot and surroundings sometimes help to develop narrowness and intolerance and a want of breadth and sympathy, than the calm, unyielding, unknown bravery with which the lady and gentleman we refer to stood to their posts. What the long and fearful strain was, can never be appreciated except by those who in Nagoya underwent like experience, and those who spent a few days in the torn and wrecked country on errands of succour and mercy. No one who felt the repeated shocks and the awesome sounds of each night and day, weeks after that fearful day of earthquake, fire, and death,—no one who knows the feeling of deep, glad relief of the first night passed beyond that seemingly doomed sphere of seismic force, without the hurried awakening and the rush for the open, will for a moment seek to lessen the force of these words. We are quite well aware that had the foreign workers vacated their posts it would have been fatal to all chances of evangelistic success in after years, but it must be remembered that in times of extreme peril, with minds and wills unnerved by exceptional physical and mental suffering, delicate considerations of duty and of possible consequences are not necessarily and invariably uppermost in one's mind. There is a lesson in the conduct of the missionaries in Aichi and Gifu during and since October of last year which must appeal to the judgment of every intelligent man whose education has not been of a dangerously one-sided character, and who is conscious of the fact that he has sensibilities and emotions as well as the power to think and reason, and the power to will. And it is a lesson which will, we trust, not be lost on the foreign strikers in the field of commerce and trade which has supplied and must supply the sinews of the war of peace whose motive power is persuasiveness and love, and its object the benefit of man.

REFORM OF JAPANESE CUSTOMS.

THE *Choya Shimbum*, in an article on the above subject, expresses the opinion that the present is an opportune moment for making an attempt to improve certain national customs, because of the absence of any strong prevailing anti-foreign or pro-foreign sentiment. The nation, according to our contemporary, is in one of its quiet, receptive moods and will listen to rational proposals. We cannot say much for the definiteness or the novelty of the measures which the *Choya* would see adopted. The first subject dealt with is dress. Regarded from the points

of view of quality, economy, health, and convenience Japanese costume is objectionable. All that can be said for it, is that it is picturesque. But, in our contemporary's opinion, it would be a mistake to substitute western costume for the native dress. There is a want of ease in foreign-made garments to which the Japanese will never be reconciled. A happy medium between the two modes of dress must be found. On Japanese pastimes the *Choya* remarks that they are calculated to increase that love of inactivity of which it is desirable to get rid. *Go, Shogi*, and cards, take the place of such manly exercises as shooting, rowing, riding, and the like, so popular with foreigners. Irregularity, observes our contemporary, is one of our national traits, which calls for reform. Japanese rise and retire to rest at uncertain hours. Their duties and their pleasures alike are governed by no fixed rules. The *Choya* passes severe strictures on the time wasted in the society of *geisha*. The remedy proposed for the above and kindred evils is no other than that universal panacea—the formation of a Society. Let there be called into existence a "Custom Reforming Society," which shall lead the fashion and establish a new standard, and we shall no longer have to complain of our national customs as being behind the age in which we live. Charity cannot flourish without a *Yisen-kai*, and art will languish without a *Bijutsu-kai*, so our customs must be brought under the magic control of that wonderful working instrument of modern times—a Society.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE following is the Report for presentation to the shareholders at the meeting to be held at Hongkong to day:—The directors have now the pleasure to lay before the shareholders a statement of the company's accounts for the year ended April 30th last. The net premia earned amount to \$772,278.92 as against \$721,867.47 collected during the previous twelve months. The working account shows a balance at credit of \$495,185.68, which sum the directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—A dividend of 18 per cent. to shareholders, \$108,000.00; a dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not, \$100,000.00; to be transferred to reserve fund, \$50,000.00; to be carried to new account, \$337,185.68—\$495,185.68. The reserve fund, with the above addition, will amount to \$750,000.00. Directors.—Messrs. L. Poesnecker, S. C. Michaelson and B. Schumacker retired from the Board on leaving the Colony, and Messrs. J. Kramer, C. Janzén, and P. Sachse have accepted invitations from the directors to fill the vacancies. These appointments will require the confirmation of the shareholders. Messrs. J. S. Moses and C. Jantzen retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election. Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries, who offer themselves for re-election.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

THE information relating to alleged communications from Paris to the French Representative in Tokyo respecting Consular jurisdiction over the Portuguese, which we reproduced from the vernacular papers yesterday, turns out to be inaccurate in several important details, and corrections appeared in most of the papers yesterday. According to the revised version of the story, the French *Chargé d'Affaires* telegraphed to his Government to ask what the appointment as Portuguese Consul-General implied, and was informed in reply, "the management and control of the commercial affairs of Portuguese subjects." This account of what took place, the *Nihon* says, was received by it from an employé of the French Legation. The News Agency is responsible for the circulation of the version we gave yesterday.

MURDER OF FIVE PERSONS IN ONE HOUSE.

A CRUEL murder is reported to have been committed at Munawatori, Nakugori, Ibaraki, on the 31st ult. The papers apply the term burglar to the murderer, but the facts stated go to show that private vengeance, and not a desire

to rob, was the incentive to the cruel deed. The bodies of Fukaya Usaburo, the owner of a mill, his second son, and three little daughters were found dead. The room in which the corpses were discovered was covered with blood, and the bodies were all very much lacerated. The mysterious part of the affair was that Fukaya's two eldest daughters, who had been sleeping in the house, escaped unhurt, while their little sisters were butchered in cold blood.

THE HONMOKU MURDER.

The woman, Patter, keeper of a drinking saloon, and said to be the instigator of the tragedy at Honmoku, was arrested on Saturday afternoon last by the Japanese Police Authorities, acting under instructions from the Chief Procurator of the Chihō Saibansho. Messrs. Masujima and Okamura have been retained for the defence. She has since undergone two examinations at the Saibansho, but still maintains her innocence of the charge preferred against her. The Authorities, with her sanction, have decided to sell by auction all the furniture and effects at her grogshop, with the exception of her personal clothing. This undoubtedly is the best means that could be adopted to preserve her property, and the Police consequently removed the effects and the house is now shut up. The man, Schonenberger, is lying at Tobe, awaiting trial. Much further evidence has been forthcoming during the last few days, and the chain of circumstances connecting the various personages in the tragedy is gradually approaching completion.

THE YOKOHAMA SILK MERCHANTS' GUILD.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regrets that the silk merchants of Yokohama have so little regard for national reputation and interest as to prolong their petty squabbles in the presence of keen foreign competitors. Our contemporary is of opinion that the Governor of Kanagawa has not handled the affair with sufficient skill. What is required is to call the members of the guild together and impress upon them the advisability of sinking minor individual differences for the sake of common interests. An appeal to the better instincts of the merchants should be made. Commands to unite are of little use at such times.

A MONSTER BOY.

It is stated in the vernacular papers that a boy of extraordinary size and weight was born in Yushima, Kanda, Tokyo last October. Though not yet a year old his limbs are of an enormous size and he weighs nearly 100 lbs. As is usual with such prodigies his parents are poor. The father, a crotch-mender by trade, has apprenticed the promising lad to Ikuzuchi Zondaiyu, the retired wrestler, who has predicted that the young Samson will, if he reaches maturity, accomplish feats which will place those of such wrestlers as Akasbi, Niwo, and Tanikaze in the shade.

THE CABINET AND THE GOVERNORS.

On the evening of the 13th inst., the Governors recently summoned to the capital were invited to dinner by Count Ito at his official residence. The party included all the Ministers of State. Before leading the Governors to the dining-room, Count Ito is said to have read them a very wholesome lesson on the duties of their official positions. The speech must have been very unpalatable to many of them, for if report can be trusted, the Minister President condemned in strong language the part said to have been taken by them in the elections of February last.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

The *Kokkai*, the *Fiji Shimpō*, and other papers state that a telegram has been received to the effect that France has been requested by Portugal to endeavour to obtain Consular jurisdiction over the latter's subjects in Japan, but that she refuses to accede to the request, and has communicated this fact to her representative in Tokyo.

A BUDDHIST LIBRARY.

We are glad to observe that an attempt is being made to collect and render accessible to students

Buddhist works which have hitherto been scattered all over the country. Messrs. Matsumoto Junzo and Ouchi Seiran, two Buddhist priests, have been engaged for some years in collecting books, and they have now obtained permission from the Education Society to make use of one of their buildings for a library. This library will be open to visitors at an early date.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 10th inst. were as follow:—

CONVERTIBLE NOTES.		RESERVE AND SECURITIES.	
YEN.		YEN.	
Notes issued.....	127,894,946	Gold coin and bullion.....	82,710,300
		Silver coin and bullion.....	47,753,774
		Public Loan Bonds.....	14,500,000
		Treasure Bills.....	—
		Government Bills.....	28,000,000
		Other securities.....	—
		Commercial Bills.....	30,330,972
	127,894,946		177,894,946

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of yen 5,523,376 is in the treasury of the Bank, yen 10,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and yen 95,771,570 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of yen 1,285,243 as compared with yen 94,486,327 at the end of the previous week.

THE PARCELS POST SYSTEM.

It was announced some time ago that the Department of Communications would be compelled, owing to want of funds, to curtail its original programme, in inaugurating the Parcel Post System. It now appears, according to the *Fiji Shimpō*, that of the 400,000 yen required for the purpose, the Finance Department is only able to spare 50,000 yen out of the means at its disposal this year, a sum which will admit of the system coming into operation in Tokyo alone on the 1st October, the day fixed by the Ordinance. It is estimated that about 800,000 yen will be wanted for extending the service throughout the Empire.

THE LEATHER TANNING COMPANY.

This company, which has its head-quarters in Kobe, found itself obliged, some time ago, to go into voluntary liquidation. A Committee was appointed to confer with the creditors, the principal of whom, the First National Bank, proved so amenable that Mr. Ito Chojiro and six others have now decided to continue the business of the Company with a capital of a hundred thousand yen, two-thirds of which the promoters will furnish. A charter has been applied for, the period named being twenty years.

SIR ROBERT JARDINE.

It is generally rumoured, says the *London and China Express*, that Sir Robert Jardine, of Castle Milk, Dumfriesshire, and Lanrick Castle, Perthshire, is to be raised to the peerage. Sir Robert who was made a baronet by Mr. Gladstone in 1885, sat in Parliament as a Liberal from 1865 until 1886, when he joined the Liberal Unionists. He, in June, resigned his seat for Dumfriesshire, which he had held since April, 1880.

PICTURES AND CARVINGS.

It is stated by the Tokyo News Agency that an exhibition of Japanese Paintings was opened under the auspices of the Japan Fine Arts Society in the gallery of that Society in Ueno Park, on the 1st instant, and that it will remain open until the 30th. From the same source we learn that the Association of Glyptic Artists of (*Tokyo Chokōkai*) will open an exhibition at the same place on the 10th of November, and keep it open for twenty days.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

We (*China Mail*) hear that the shares of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank rose £2 in London upon receipt of the news of the Chairman's statement at the last meeting.

THE CABINET AND THE LOCAL GOVERNORS.

The *Kokkai* furnishes a brief account of the meetings held at Count Ito's official residence on Tuesday last, when the speakers were the Minister President of State, and Mr. Kono,

Minister for Education. The address of Count Inouye to the Governors on the day following has already been alluded to in these columns. All the Governors were present except Mr. Kitagaki, the new Governor of the Hokkaido, Mr. Narabara of Okinawa Ken, and Mr. Yamauchi of Kumamoto.

MEETING OF GOVERNORS.

The Governors of the various Prefectures now assembled in Tokyo, have been summoned to meet at Count Ito's official residence to-day (Tuesday), to discuss matters relating to the administration of public affairs. All the members of the Cabinet will be present. On the 14th inst. and following days, meetings of the Heads of Departments will be held in the Home Office under the presidency of Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs.

THE KYUSHU RAILWAY.

The *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* says:—The survey of the proposed Nagasaki railway will be completed within this month. It is rumoured among native residents that land to the extent of about ten thousand *tsubo*, equal to 8½ acres, will be required for the station compound. But it being found very hard to get such an extensive piece of ground within the limits of the city, it is proposed to fill in a portion of the head of the bay for that purpose.

INSPECTION OF COIN AT THE OSAKA MINT.

ONE of the periodical inspections of the Osaka Mint and the coin produced there is to take place on the 11th instant. It is customary for the Minister of Finance to be present on these occasions, but it is stated in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that owing to pressure of public business, Mr. Arima, the head of the Public Bonds Bureau, has been appointed to represent the Minister of Finance and has already left the capital for Osaka.

THE "CITY OF CHICAGO."

CAPTAIN REDFORD, of the Inman liner *City of Chicago*, wrecked on the Old Head of Kinsale, has had his certificate suspended for nine months by the Liverpool Marine Court of Enquiry.

THE ENGLISH HARVEST.

A PRIVATE telegram dated at London on the 2nd inst., says that the "English harvest operations, have been hindered by bad weather."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Opposition papers continue to clamour loudly for a thorough-going reformation in the Government. Their love for exciting news, it seems, induces them to regard with little favour the steady and unostentatious method of work adopted by the present Ministry. The manner in which the great reformation of 1885 was carried out, very naturally produced in the minds of the Opposition journalists an almost insatiable desire for equally brilliant and stirring changes in every branch of the Administration. Above all, they expected to have had material for criticism and condemnation supplied to them by an early announcement of the policy of the new Cabinet. Needless to say, they have been signally disappointed in every respect, and needless also to state, that their disappointment constantly finds expression in whatever they write about the new Cabinet. The two chief points on which they find fault with the Cabinet, are that it does not announce its policy, and that it has not gone far enough in dealing with those Governors who made themselves obnoxious by the part they took in the elections of February last. In spite, however, of the clamour which these journals make on the subject, it is apparent that they are more or less reluctant to assume an attitude of irreconcilable opposition against the men in power.

The Governor now staying in the capital

were invited to dinner by Count Ito on the 13th instant, and received from him instructions as to the duties of their office. The metropolitan papers continue to discuss the desirability of introducing more changes in the *personnel* of the Governors. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, after alluding to the instructions given to the Governors by Count Ito, observes that such instructions avail nothing so long as there yet remain Governors who regard themselves as belonging to the Military party in the Government. The Military party is at present powerless, but should it ever recover its former footing, these Governors would at once cast off their mask and again set about embarrassing the people with their despotic interference. Consequently, in their own interest, if not in that of others, the members of the present Cabinet are strongly urged to remove such a dangerous element. The Progressionists organ, the *Hochi Shimbun*, pretends to believe that the conclusion of the conference now being held by the Governors in the Department of Home Affairs will be the signal for the carrying out of thorough changes in the *personnel* of the local authorities. The opportunity for introducing such changes, if not utilized, will have passed for ever. Our contemporary is firmly convinced that the Cabinet is positively bound to take this step; for how can it otherwise justly claim, as it is understood to claim, its freedom from responsibility for the policy of its predecessor. Some writers, observes the *Hochi*, in another article, have, as a set-off against the interference of local Government officials, triumphantly pointed to the part taken in the last general elections by the elected servants of the self-governing local communities. Our contemporary defends the latter's conduct by alleging first, that their position is essentially different from the position of local Government officials, and secondly, that they were compelled to take an active part in elections by the unjust and provoking interference on the part of officials and police. Our contemporary, however, acknowledges the undesirability of the active interference of local communal officers in elections, but suggests that the evil will disappear if the original offenders, viz., Governors, are properly dealt with. Another Progressionist organ, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, maintains that the Cabinet, whose path is at present apparently smooth, would at once find itself in a whirlpool of popular disaffection, if it should fail to remove the objectionable Governors.

The *Kokkai*, writing on the assemblage of Governors in Tokyo, draws their attention to the importance of introducing a thorough reform in the police service. The police, from the highest to the lowest grade, are recruited, in nine cases out of ten, from the *shizoku* or *samurai* class, and the whole service well deserves its exceptionally high reputation. Indeed, the Japanese police far surpass their *confères* in other parts of the world. But herein also lies their weakness; for they are intolerably proud and arrogant in dealing with the people. Since the general elections of February last, their arrogance has, if anything, increased, and they have even dared to disregard instructions of the Public Procurators. Nothing could be more pernicious than such a state of things; and every Governor who wishes to be a faithful servant of the Government is recommended to introduce radical reforms in the discipline of the police force under his control.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also admits that some Governors mixed themselves in party politics, and that the police force has become more or less demoralized. Our contemporary, however, seems to think that the evil can be remedied without introducing more changes in the *personnel* of the local authorities. Better supervision from head-quarters, and more zeal on the part of the Governors themselves, it believes, would be sufficient to bring about the desired reform. Our contemporary, consequently, recommends the Governors to carry out faithfully the instructions they have received from the new Ministry. Whether or not the policy of the Cabinet will succeed, depends largely upon the

zeal and judgment of the Governors, "who are to the Central Government what the hand and foot are to the body." They are further advised to show their capacity by actual deeds and not by plausible representations.

The report continues to be circulated that the Cabinet intends to introduce in the coming Diet a Bill for the reassessment of the taxable value of land. The object of this step is stated to be the purchase therewith of the goodwill of the House of Representatives. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is an ardent advocate of reassessment, is so perverse as to condemn in strong language the object for which the Cabinet is reported to bring in the Bill in question. However desirous our contemporary may be to have the reform carried out, it is constrained, it says, to oppose the measure being taken up by the Ministry from motives of policy. A Ministry which carries out a reform of such importance from motives of policy, cannot, in our contemporary's opinion be said to act in the best interests of the people. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* ridicules the perversity of the *Kokumin*. The *Nichi Nichi* does not believe in the accuracy of the report in question; but assuming its trustworthiness, what can be more absurd and incomprehensible than the line of argument adopted by the *Kokumin*? But such conduct is not very unnatural on the part of a journal which was loud in demanding a declaration of policy by the Premier, and when the latter gave instructions to the Governors, still found fault with him, maintaining that action was wanted, and not empty words.

The Railway question engages the attention of the vernacular press. The Railway Act, which was voted by the Diet in its last session, requires a certain number of lines to be constructed during 12 years. The Government decides which of these lines shall be built in particular years, but the raising of loans for the purpose has to be submitted to the Diet. Naturally each locality wishes to be the first dealt with, and there is keen competition among the people's representatives to present to the attention of the authorities the prior claims of their respective districts. The *Yiji Shimpō* sharply reproves the selfish conduct of those members of the House of Representatives, who go about from one Minister of State to another begging that the claims of their localities be not left unheeded. These members are even said to threaten that, unless their demands are acceded to, they will not vote for the raising of loans. These members are requested to reflect upon the grave responsibility of their position, and to desist from their pernicious attempts to restrain the freedom of the Executive.

The House of Peers is the subject of much anxious discussion on the part of the metropolitan papers. The Opposition journals and some of the independent papers believe that the House of Peers has, during the three years, been subservient to the Government. The *Nippon* remarks that Count Ito tried to place the Upper House on the same footing as the Lower House, but that the Peers have degraded themselves by becoming the instruments of those in power. They are reminded that their duty is to restrain the extravagance and partiality of the Lower House, but not to act as tools of the Executive. The *Yiyu*, writing on the same subject, observes that, of the members of the House of Peers, the new nobles and Imperial nominees are inseparably connected with the *Meiji* Government and are consequently incapable of maintaining an independent attitude. The old nobles (the former *Daimyo* and *Kuge*) and those members who are appointed from amongst the fifteen highest tax-payers in each locality, as they owe nothing either to those in power or to the mass of the people, are capable of pursuing a perfectly independent course of action. They are, therefore, appealed to by the Radical organ to obtain such influence as will retrieve the lost honour of the House.

Representatives for the Nihonbashi District of Tokyo, to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Mr. Fujita Mokichi, is keenly contested. There are several candidates, but the contest is practically between Mr. Kusumoto, ex-Senator and ex-Representative, and Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, a well-known banker. The polling was to close yesterday, but at the time of writing, the result of the election is unknown. Mr. Kusumoto is supported by the Progressionists, while Mr. Yasuda is backed by the Ministerialists, if such a term is applicable to the opponents of the *Yiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*. The contest is anxiously watched by papers of all parties, and it has led to an interesting controversy between the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The *Nichi Nichi* drew the attention of the electors of Nihonbashi to the importance of returning to the Diet men of independent means, and if possible, those engaged in business. The curse of modern politics in Japan is the ascendancy which professional politicians of empty purses have assumed in the absence of men of means willing to mix in politics. This called forth an indignant retort from the *Mainichi*, who defended the professional politicians of the Opposition by alleging that corruptible men have always been found, not among them, but among the followers of those in power. To this the *Nichi Nichi* at once replied that those politicians, whether belonging to the Opposition or not, who have been weak enough to succumb to the influence of money, have always been professional politicians. The rest of the professional politicians find it convenient to feed upon the earnings of their chiefs.

The *Kokkai* recommends the authorities to conclude a special treaty with the United States, securing to the Japanese the right to freely come and go in the trans-Pacific Republic. Our contemporary commences by enquiring into the causes of the anti-Japanese movement now going on in some parts of America. The sudden increase of the strength of the movement is ascribed to the machinations of politicians eager to obtain the votes of the working class. To the objection that the attempt to conclude such a treaty may make the situation worse than it is, our contemporary replies, that the movement is yet confined to a few States west of the Rocky Mountains and that, with the exception of some of the Congressmen from these regions, the Legislature at Washington will be found favourably disposed to the conclusion of a special treaty with Japan. Under such circumstances the Washington authorities may, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, be without difficulty induced to sign such a treaty. In conclusion, our contemporary strongly reproves those journals which indulge in violent language on this subject, either in recommending an alliance with China or threatening reprisals upon American residents in this country.

The *Choya Shimbun* advises its countrymen to go to Korea. The United States of America, Mexico, and Australia are no doubt hopeful fields for Japanese emigration; but our contemporary urges the Japanese to begin their career of foreign emigration in Korea. There are two reasons, besides its proximity to Japan, why Korea is specially advantageous for purposes of emigration, namely, its natural resources and its backward state of civilization. To the objection that there are treaty limits for the residence of Japanese in the peninsular kingdom, our contemporary replies that such limits may be very easily evaded if the Japanese emigrants are enterprising enough. They are referred to the manner in which foreigners evade treaty restrictions in this country, and the gradual ingress of Chinese into the interior of Korea. Shame to the Japanese, if they cannot do what the "pig-tails" are constantly doing.

Mr. Nakai Kitano, a writer on the staff of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and now on a visit to Korea, is contributing interesting articles on the position of Japanese trade in the peninsular kingdom.

THE "HYOGO NEWS" AND JAPANESE JUSTICE.

THE *Hyogo News* very frankly admits that the case of tea-stealing which it originally adduced as the worst in its repertoire of charges against the administration of Justice in Japan, has turned out, on the contrary, to be "the vulnerable point in the whole list." We quote this admission, not at all for the purpose of discrediting our southern contemporary, but simply with the object of emphasizing the propositions urged by us originally, namely, that it is hazardous to criticise the finding of a Law Court without possessing some information as to the evidence tendered to the Court. The story upon which the *Hyogo News* relied at the outset was doubtless given and accepted in perfect good faith, but it proved to be an entirely incorrect version, and of necessity the inferences drawn from it as to the action of the Court were equally erroneous. We agree that misconceptions of this nature are among the most disagreeable contingencies likely to occur in connection with Japanese jurisdiction over foreigners. Unless a man knows the language in which the proceedings of a Court are conducted, he is apt to fall into serious error when he undertakes to estimate the propriety of its findings, and this must often happen where the language is Japanese and the person interested is an American or a European. But surely such an objection cannot be advanced as a serious obstacle to Japan's recovery of judicial autonomy? No one will be so unreasonable as to pretend that she must assimilate her language to ours before her claim to exercise complete jurisdiction within her own territories is admitted. At any rate, the point lies entirely outside the original question, namely, whether Japanese justice is as Western justice. We venture to think that it is, though of course we do not dream of asserting that miscarriages of justice may not, and do not, often occur in Japan. The *Hyogo News* professes to think that we have entered this discussion because we "hold a brief from the Japanese Government." Will it never be possible to eliminate such persiflage from grave journalistic controversies in this country? We hold no brief from anyone, but even supposing that we did, how could the fact affect the value of our arguments? It should not be difficult for the editor of the *Hyogo News* to perceive that so soon as he begins to attribute unworthy motives to an opponent, he confesses the weakness of his own case. Above all it is incongruous that a writer, professing to estimate the quality of a nation's justice and the capacity of its judiciary, should show himself unable to distinguish personalities from argument. In this tea-stealing case our contemporary, even at the present stage, exhibits a looseness of method that does not inspire con-

fidence. "A firm," he complains, "which has suffered losses to the extent of \$2,000 has no redress, though the men concerned in the conspiracy are brought before a Court of Law." Now why is the plural number used here? Why speak of "men" being brought before the Court when, in point of fact, only one man was brought, and, so far as concerns the evidence adduced, that man appeared to be absolutely guiltless of all participation in the theft? A censor of justice ought at least to be accurate in details of a vital nature. For our own part, we fail to see how the ends of justice would have been furthered by either convicting or detaining a man against whom no evidence was forthcoming, and who was exonerated by the only testimony produced. But the action of the Court with regard to this man is an affair altogether apart from the question of the general failure to discover and punish the authors of the alleged theft. The *Hyogo News*, while undertaking to weigh the value of Japanese justice in delicate scales, seems itself incapable of such a small exercise of justice as to distinguish between endorsing a particular judicial act and approving a general result of which that act constitutes only an incident. Of course justice is not satisfied when thefts go unpunished and their victims unrequited. But neither is justice satisfied when innocent men are convicted. Enough of this controversy, however. We close it, on our side, with two remarks. The first is, that whereas miscarriages of justice, more or less gross and flagrant, occur in the most highly civilized countries over and over again, according to the view of the general public and above all of the particular individuals concerned, nay, occur under our very eyes here in Consular courts, no reasonable and moderate observer ventures to infer that the whole judiciary to which the erring judge belongs is incompetent to administer justice in the Western sense of the term, or that the whole nation of which the judge is a unit has no capacity to appreciate justice as Westerners appreciate it. These wholesale verdicts are unwarrantable and unfair. They sound almost ludicrous in the mouths of men setting themselves up as astute appraisers of justice. The second remark we have to make is, that we are not less anxious than the *Hyogo News* to obtain concrete evidence of the competence or incompetence of Japanese Law Courts, and that we are equally ready to estimate each item of evidence on its true merits. Had the editor of our Kobe contemporary been a reader of these columns two years ago, he would have found that a persevering attempt was made to collect and publish digests of cases actually tried and verdicts actually rendered by Japanese tribunals. A daily newspaper, however, cannot convert itself into a permanent statistical record. Other matters

extruded our law-case column, but it was continued long enough to furnish testimony which by no means bore out the sweeping condemnations now founded by the *Hyogo News* on a few very problematical examples of judicial procedure. All are equally interested in arriving at the truth of this question, and for our own part we welcome every assistance which the *Hyogo News* or any other journal can render, though we shall never hesitate to protest against deductions which we deem to be a travesty of this justice they profess to estimate.

THE MITSUI COMPANY AND THE MIIKE MINE.

IT is alleged that the Mitsui Company are preparing to take an action against the Government in connection with the Miike Coal Mine. This matter has been on the *tapis* for quite a long time. The point is that after the Company's tender for the Mine had been accepted, but before the installments of the purchase money had been fully paid, an earthquake destroyed one shaft—said to be the most prolific—of the mine, and thereby materially reduced the value of the property. The Mitsui Company claim that some reduction on this account ought to be made from the purchase money, which was much higher than the figure at which the general public estimated the mine. It is stated that the deed of sale contains a clause to the effect that under no circumstances shall the price be subsequently reduced (*ikanaru fijo aru mo genkakusezu*), and some people are of the opinion that this proviso would immediately nonsuit the Company in a Court of Law. But it is inconceivable that the clause can have been intended to include catastrophes of Nature. Suppose that the mine had been completely destroyed by the earthquake which demolished one of its three shafts—and obviously the hypothesis is not at all extravagant—suppose, in other words, that a property for which the Mitsui Company were pledged to pay upwards of four million *yen* by installments, had been rendered absolutely valueless before a third of the purchase money reached the Treasury vaults, is it for an instant conceivable that the Government could have insisted on the full payment of the remaining millions? Civilized Administrations do not deal with their people on such a basis; an ordinarily honest trader would not attempt such an exaction towards his least considered client. What is true with reference to the complete destruction of the mine must also be true with reference to its partial destruction. Unless it can be shown that the proviso quoted above was intended to contemplate catastrophes of Nature, and unless it can also be shown—which, we imagine, is scarcely possible—that liability to such catastrophes was taken into account when appraising the

selling price of the property, there can be little doubt that, as a matter of common equity, some reduction should be made in favour of the purchaser. Nor is it likely that the Government questions the propriety of this view. But unfortunately the Government is no longer in a position to give practical effect, of its independent competence, to questions of equity which involve pecuniary issues. The Diet has shown that it will not tolerate anything of the kind. With reference to this very affair of the Miike Mine, even when the prospect of some reduction being made was purely matter of irresponsible conjecture, the House of Representatives displayed a disposition to be worse than captious. Possibly the hesitation of the Government to give any definite reply to the petition of the Mitsui Company warranted a hypothesis that the claim was favourably considered. It is now stated, however, that the present Minister of Finance has dismissed the petition with the court formula which in Japan does duty for *non possumus* (*negai no omomuki kiki-todoki-gatashi*), and that nothing remains for the Mitsui Company except an appeal to a Court of Law. Their case is very hard, and they ought to have public sympathy on their side whatever course they adopt.

THE POLICE.

WE stated recently, on the authority of the vernacular press, that considerable changes are contemplated in the organization of the police force, the general line of reform followed being to deprive the police entirely of judicial functions and limit them strictly to executive duties. The *Kokkai*, writing on this subject, alleges that the project has been suggested in the sequel of investigations undertaken by Count INOUE with reference to the question of official interference in the elections of last spring. These investigations disclosed defects savouring of despotic government, and Count INOUE, finding a fellow-thinker in Mr. KIOURA KEIGO, formerly Chief of Police and now Vice-Minister of State for Justice, set himself, with his wonted energy and drastic courage, to devise reforms. It is not easy to gather from the *Kokkai's* writings where the defects of the present system make themselves most conspicuously apparent, but we infer that unnecessary delays in bringing prisoners to final trial result from entrusting judicial functions to the police; that abuses of power are attributed to the same cause; that the distribution of the force throughout the Prefectures is not uniform; and that not only are the burdens imposed on the localities unduly heavy, but also the practical application of the principle of local autonomy is impeded. It would be very interesting to have a detailed account of the manner in which these defects

operate, but the information is not forthcoming. The total expenditure on account of the police service is now 4,527,490 *yen* annually, of which sum only 925,438 *yen* is borne by the Treasury, the remaining 3,602,062 *yen* being defrayed by the localities. The view attributed to Count INOUE is that the localities ought not to be liable for any police expenses over and above those incurred in the discharge of the force's executive functions, and that outlays connected with higher police duties as well as with their judicial functions should be borne by the Treasury. According to this method of division, the Treasury's share would be about three-fourths of the whole. As to unequal distribution of the force, it is found that in some Prefectures one constable is allotted to every three thousand six hundred or four thousand of the population, while elsewhere the ratio is one constable to two thousand people. Last year, at the time of putting into operation the system of local government for towns and districts (*shichoson*), the Minister of Home Affairs gave instructions that in places where the system became operative, the force of police should be one constable to from five hundred to fifteen hundred people, and that, elsewhere, the ratio should be one to from fifteen hundred to three thousand. But it would appear that these instructions have not been carried out in almost any instance. Evidently if the proposed reform involves increased payments from the Treasury, it will encounter opposition in the Lower House. The transfer of Prison Expenditures from the charge of the localities to that of the Central Government, a change in favour of which many potent arguments could be advanced, while, on the other side, no valid reasons whatever existed against it, was negatived by the peoples' representatives on the frankly stated ground that they wanted the whole surplus in the Treasury for the purpose of reducing the Land Tax, and that they could not consent to divert any portion of it in other directions. It may be that the Diet will exhibit a different mood next session, but we are disposed to think that the idea of reducing the Land Tax has taken such hold of the people's minds that nothing will be allowed to interfere with it. Even on that hypothesis, however, the duty of the Government is obviously to propose whatever reforms it may deem essential, leaving to the House of Representatives the responsibility of rejecting or postponing them.

MM. Ed. Moreau and P. Monchicourt, the liquidators of the Comptoir d'Escompte, have sent a circular to the shareholders explaining the state of the liquidation. From this it appears that a third dividend, amounting to 1.25 a share, will be paid on the 16th inst. The money to provide this has been obtained from the reconstruction of the Société des Métaux.

COTTON.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an interesting paragraph on the subject of cotton in Japan. It appears from our contemporary's statistics that, adding together the total quantity of cotton grown in Japan and the quantity imported, whether in the form of raw cotton, yarns or cotton cloth, the consumption in 1882 amounted to seventy million catties (83 million lbs.), whereas the consumption in 1891 was a hundred and twelve million catties. This extraordinary increase—sixty per cent. in ten years—is indeed noteworthy, and it would be a matter of much interest to foreigners to hear the causes assigned for it by the Japanese. Among those causes would probably be placed a disposition to substitute cotton garments for silk, the great profit derived from the export of the latter having tended, according to some authorities, to diminish its home consumption. Indeed no feature of Japan's commercial development during recent years is more striking than the growth of the export of silk. In 1885—we take this year because the tables now lying before us do not refer to a more remote period—the value of the total exports of silk was 14,743,554 *yen*, whereas the corresponding figure for 1891 was 34,908,874 *yen*, an increase of over a hundred and forty per cent. In these totals the item of manufactured silk goods also furnishes food for reflection; for whereas in 1885 the value of the export was only 270,158 *yen*, in 1891 it had risen to 2,732,982 *yen*. With such splendid customers as Europe and America waiting to receive and pay handsomely for all the silk she can produce, it would not be surprising that Japan should be disposed to send the staple abroad instead of clothing her own people with it. But such an act of thrift is not easy to conceive. For the sericulturist is seldom a silk consumer. He offers the whole or virtually the whole, outcome of his industry for sale, and he gives himself not the slightest concern whether its ultimate destination be a foreign, or the home, market. Sufficient for him is the fact of finding a market. Thus, then, there is perfectly equal competition between the two classes of buyers, the caterers for the wants of western folks and the distributors who supply the Japanese consumer. The latter will not stand aside in favour of the former unless price forces their hand, and the question consequently resolves itself into this—do exporters of silk purchase it at figures which deter home consumption? There is nothing to suggest an affirmative answer. We are persuaded that the Japanese themselves wear silk garments at least as much as they ever did, and that the great export trade in silk which has grown up since the opening of the ports, represents so much additional and independent profit to the country. Japan's capacity for sericulture,

most imperfectly developed in pro-Restoration days, has been stimulated by foreign demand, and in addition to supplying her own people, she is now producing enough of the noble article to sell some thirty-five million *yen* worth annually to foreigners. She is not yet within measurable distance of her limit of profitable production, and we are persuaded that she will never reach that limit until foreigners are allowed to step in and radically reform the methods of her sericulturists. But in the meanwhile she is doing a splendid business for herself, and we see no reason to entertain the supposition—opposed, for the rest, to all the usual circumstances of prosperous trade—that her own people clothe themselves in rough, cheap raiment because tens of millions pour into their coffers every year from abroad. Not in any diminution of the domestic consumption of silk is to be sought the great growth in the consumption of cotton. We confess that we can discover no reason for the latter, except it be the very simple one, the country is growing richer and that its wants are consequently becoming larger. That is probably the true solution of the problem. For though we hear of times of depression and intervals when trade seems to have collapsed, the general prosperity of the masses seems to be steadily increasing, and the seasons of so-called distress are inclement only to the disappointed speculator and the unsatisfied capitalist. The *Nichi Nichi Shim-bun*, too, without expressing this view in definite terms, evidently looks forward to a steady development of the people's purchasing power. It says that the consumption of cotton per head of the Japanese population in 1891, amounted to 450 *momme* (3½ lbs. approximately), whereas the consumption in England is 700 *momme* and that in France 800 *momme*. The people of the last named countries require, of course, more clothing than do the people of Japan; but, on the other hand, the widespread use of woollen fabrics in the West more than compensates this difference. Cotton stuffs being the great staple of wear in Japan, there is no reason to suppose that the consumption of cotton by this nation will ultimately fall below the consumption in England or France. On this hypothesis the *Nichi Nichi* predicts that Japan, twenty years hence, will be paying to foreign countries for raw and manufactured cotton as much as she will be receiving from them for her silk. But we question the accuracy of such a prophecy. The total import of cotton, raw and manufactured, amounted in 1885 to 22,068,014 *yen*, whereas the import in 1891 was only 16,387,460 *yen*. Despite the growing consumption of cotton fabrics in Japan, the nation is beginning to manufacture so largely for itself that its indebtedness to foreign countries tends to diminish rather than to increase.

STRIKES IN TOKYO.

STRIKES have now become a common occurrence in Japan, especially in the capital, and up to the present they have ended almost invariably in favour of the strikers. The latest case is that of the bricklayers of Tokyo. The number of the bricklayers is as yet very small. They do not aggregate much over 500, and are under the control of about 40 *tōryō* (chiefs). The *tōryō* is found in every department of labour. He is the representative of the labourers under his care. He it is that, in accordance with time-honoured custom, maintains order and discipline among the labouring fraternity. In many instances he is looked up to by his *kobun* (children)—for so the labourers under his care are called—very much as the *otokodate* of former days was revered by his followers. In fact it is among these *tōryō* that the spirit of the *otokodate* still lingers to a more or less modified degree. Evidently such an organization greatly facilitates strikes, and, at the same time, affords machinery for dealing with them. The *tōryō* alone need combine. Their "children's" obedience many always be counted on. But if the "children" are unreasonable or over-obdurate, the *tōryō* may be expected to reason with them. The bricklayers of Tokyo originally received better wages than the majority of the labourers employed in other kinds of manual work. Subsequently, however, their wages were cut down, until they found it no longer possible to maintain themselves and their families. The hardest feature of their lot was that, instead of paying daily wages, the contractors, their immediate employers, instituted a system of task-work. The rate under this system was 25 to 30 *sen* for laying 1,000 bricks. Now it takes the best hands a whole day to lay 1,000 bricks, so that, by this scale, inferior labourers could not earn more than 15 or 20 *sen* per diem, a pittance naturally regarded as insufficient. On the 13th of last month, all the bricklayers of the capital ceased work, and held consultations at several places, the result of these conferences being that delegates waited upon their employers, the contractors, to demand an increase of wages according to the following scale: 65 *sen* for 1st class hands; 60 *sen* for 2nd class; 55 *sen* for 3rd class; 50 *sen* for 4th class; 45 *sen* for 5th class; and 40 *sen* for 6th class. This meant an increase of more than a hundred per cent. The contractors and the *tōryō* (some of whom seem to act as contractors) held meetings to consider the situation, and after much discussion it was finally agreed that the men's demands should be granted. An exchange of documents, in the nature of pledges, took place between the contractors and the bricklayers, and the strike was at an end. These documents, however, do not seem to be uniform: several important differences are observable. Thus, in the document pre-

sented to the bricklayers by the contractors, several items do not appear which are included in the document handed by the bricklayers to the contractors. But according to the *Keisai Zasshi* from which our information is derived, it may be presumed that the points mentioned in the two documents collectively represent the sum total of the conditions actually agreed to by both sides. On this hypothesis, the main elements of the agreement are that the wages of bricklayers shall be of six classes, ranging between 60 and 40 *sen*; that these wages shall be paid on the 1st and the 15th of each month; that the *tōryō* shall decide what class of wages each particular labourer is entitled to receive; that the length of time for daily work shall be 10 hours; that no bricklayer shall work for any contractor other than those signing the documents; that, in the event of the formation of a new guild by non-signers of the documents, the members of the existing guild shall combine to guard their common interests; that the contractors signing the documents shall not employ any bricklayer not belonging to the guild, unless he be supplied with a certificate from one of the members of the guild; and, finally that the *tōryō*, the officers, and the members of the guild shall always endeavour to maintain friendly relations with each other. Thus, so far as outward appearances go, the trouble has been settled. But in truth the difficulty is not yet over. For a majority of the contractors who are not *tōryō* refused to affix their names and seals to the documents, and it is feared that they may endeavour to form a new guild of bricklayers by inviting to the capital labourers from other localities. In that by no means improbable event, a lively state of affairs may be expected, for the members of the old guild will not be scrupulous in their opposition to the newcomers. The *Keisai Zasshi* believes, however, that the contractors will not resort to such a dangerous experiment, but will finally consent to employ hands at the new rates of wages. Our contemporary is further convinced that the result of this increase of wages and of the adoption of a system of day payments in lieu of task work will be beneficial to all parties concerned. The Tokyo periodical is convinced that the principal cause of the deterioration of brickwork during the past few years must be sought in the system of payment by the quantity of work done, and that reversion to the daily wages system will assuredly tend to improve the quality of bricks, and thus indirectly contribute to the increase of brick buildings. It is interesting to note Japan's first experiences of the labour question which now occupies such a prominent place on the Occidental horizon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THREE SUMMERS' RECORD ON AND NEAR USUI TOGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—During the past three years it has been my privilege to spend the summer vacation among these delightful mountains in Gumma Ken, or Kodzuke. The two previous summers were restfully and profitably spent at Irino-yu, above Kirizumi, some seven miles north-east of Usui Toge.

Two years ago when our party was making preparations in Tokyo to come up to these parts, we were warned by friends, and strangers even, that fog, mist, and rain beclouded every day of the season. Most discouraging and damaging reports were circulated likewise concerning this Pass of the Toge, when we were arranging two months ago to come up here for a few weeks' rest. This and other causes led me to keep a daily record of the weather these three summers past. This record presents facts of such a happy character, and so diametrically opposite to the opinion prevalent in the minds of many, that several friends have advised the publication of, at least, a brief summary of the record. Had I not jotted down daily the report of the weather, but trusted to memory, I could not have believed that we had experienced so many days of sunshine and beauty. With the average "pleasure seeker" in the summer, it usually requires about four days of bright sunshine to dissipate the dark impressions beclouding the mind by one day's rain.

The good we early forget,
While the ill to us firmly clings.

Old Dr. Johnson said:—"Facts are stubborn things." In the interest of truth and in justice to this section as a summer resort among these "delectable mountains," the following summary of facts is herewith given:—

We have enjoyed, up to present writing, forty (40) days this season here on this Pass, 4,000 feet above sea-level. Of these forty days—last nine (9) in July and thirty-one (31) in August—there has been rain or inclement weather, *all day*, on four (4) days.

Besides these, days on which rain has fallen, number seven (7). Of these seven, six (6) had only light showers (*yudachi*), and usually late in the afternoon, after the day's pleasure in open air had been enjoyed. Thus a total of only eleven (11) days on which any rain whatever fell.

Only nineteen (19) of the forty days had fog, but nine (9) of these had a little fog, early or late in the day, so that the day was practically one of *sunshine*. To summarize:—Only ten (10) of the 40 days could be designated as foggy days: or one fourth of the time as foggy weather.

Only one-tenth (1/10th) of the forty days were rainy days. The highest temperature reached was 77 degrees on August 23rd.

Last year (1891) at Irino-yu, seven miles North-East of this place, we spent forty-four (44) days, July 22nd to September 3rd. Of the 44, there was no rain on thirty-four (34). Of the remaining ten (10) only showers on six (6). Thus nearly five (5) out of seven (7) with no rain, and sunshine, all or part of the day, on forty (40) of the 44. Two years ago (1890) was the memorable summer of typhoons and floods, by which over one million dollars of railroad property was destroyed and large districts inundated. However, the record from July 16th to September 4th—total of fifty-one (51) days—kept by us at Irino-yu shows *no rain* on thirty (30) days. On twelve (12) of the remaining twenty-one (21) we had light showers. One period of eight successive days, and another of seven, with *no rain* whatever. Forty-two (42) of the fifty-one (51) the sun shone on part or all of the day. Deducting the three "typhoon periods" of 4, 3, and 5 days each respectively, beginning August 14, 21st, and 29th, we had an average, even that year, of nearly three (3) out of four days pleasant weather.

This communication I cannot close without speaking a word in commendation of the officials on the railway lines over which we travel to reach these various resorts. Travelling to Nikko, Miyanoshta, and other places during these three years past, the experience has been uniform in this regard. "Nowhere in England, America, or any other country of the Occident, can we find more polite, courteous railway officials, and more ready to gratify every wish of the traveller than here in Japan"—has been frequently the expression of my fellow travellers. In this opinion I fully acquiesce, and express my sincere appreciation

of the courtesy and kindness which I have ever received at the hand of these native officials, of all grades, conducting the transportation lines in this country. Especially the public is to be congratulated on having such an affable agent, in the person of Mr. Miyagi, at Yokokawa, whose fluency in speaking the English language, combined with his readiness to assist the passengers every way, enables him to render efficient service to foreigners.

Thanking you in advance for the courtesy extended in the use of your valuable columns,

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,

FREDERICK J. STANLEY.

Usui Toge, Gumma Ken,

September 1st, 1892.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I take the liberty to ask you if you would kindly, through the medium of your columns, give, from time to time, a few particulars relating to that plucky ride now being performed by Major Fukushima from Berlin to Shanghai. I have already seen a little information on this subject in your paper.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

ONE INTERESTED.

Yokohama, September 7th, 1892.

TO CYCLISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It may interest cyclists to know that a Pneumatic Tyre machine has been tried for the past two weeks, by me, on Japanese roads, with the result that I should advise all riders, thinking of ordering machines, to order nothing but the Pneumatic. A bicyclist who has not ridden a Pneumatic does not have the slightest conception of what pleasure there can be got out of one, the difference between it and the cushion tyre is very much more marked than between the cushion and the solid. There is, in fact, literally no jar. I expected to find that there would be a good deal of side slip on muddy roads, but I found none. I gave the tyre a very good test in riding the machine from Tokyo to Kamakura on a day when the roads were muddy, but the tyres have not a scratch on them. And as regards the risk of puncture I think in this country, where the jinrikisha men are naturally careful in seeing there is nothing hurtful for their feet left in the roads, that this risk is smaller in Japan than in Europe or America.

Many makers now are making their roadsters without mud guards, my machine has none, and for the much watered streets of Tokyo this is a mistake, and causes my back and front to be besprinkled with mud, my present machine has rat-trap pedals, and I must say they are easier to ride with than the rubber lined ones.

One objection to the Pneumatic is that you must use the brake on the tyre sparingly, but I find this no very great hardship, as by back pedalling I have ridden for days without touching it.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

Sept. 10th, 1892.

E.F.

THE JAPANESE IN IDAHO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As an American who spent some five years on what at that time was called the "frontier," amongst the class of men who recently expelled four colonies of Japanese in Idaho, I wish to state that the men who are the cause of this race trouble are miners, born and bred in Europe, and more-over entirely ignorant of American ideas. Most of them come from Cornwall and Wales, some from Ireland, others from Hungary, Bohemia, Germany, and various other European states, hardly any being natives of America or even educated there. Many of these men are old "Molloy Maguires" who have been driven out of Pennsylvania—not for their good qualities or amiable dispositions you may be sure—who had formerly been working in British collieries. It therefore seems to me rather hard to lay the blame on Americans for the actions of men whose native countries did not deem it worth while to educate them before turning them loose.

Very respectfully,

JOHN MURRAY BEAM.

Osaka, September 11th, 1892.

LETTERS FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, August 10th.

The August Century contains an account of "The Ascent of Fuji the Peerless" by Mabel Loomis Todd and Prof. D. P. Todd.

Rev. F. E. Clark, D.D., President of the Y.P.S.C.E., or Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, has started for a tour around the world, and will soon reach Japan. He is familiarly known as "Father Endeavour Clark."

Rev. H. G. Underwood, the Korean missionary, occupied the pulpit of one of the Presbyterian churches of this city last Sunday.

Five young Chinese, three young men and two young ladies, succeeded in passing the Detroit custom-house, and thus gaining admission to the United States. They were armed with credentials from U.S. Consul-General Leonard. They are students from the M.E. Mission in China, and are to enter the University of Michigan.

The Senate passed a resolution authorizing foreign exhibitors at the Exhibition to bring to this country foreign labourers for the purpose of preparing for and making their exhibits. This resolution was favorably reported to the House of Representatives; but, whether it came to a vote or not, I am unable to state.

The following letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury to Director-General Davis will be of interest to all foreign exhibitors:—

The department is in receipt by reference of a copy of a letter addressed to you by Lehnars Alquist, official representative of the Imperial German commission, dated Chicago, July 15, in which he inquires: 1. Whether, in case of exhibits sold at the exposition or delivered to the purchasers without the duty must be paid on the empty cases, a. Whether, if empty cases are destroyed by the heat or damp weather or any accident, duty must be paid thereon and, 5. Whether if an exhibitor has sold one piece out of a case containing, say fifty pieces of china, he will be required to pay duty on the remaining forty-nine pieces at the close of the exposition in order to get the exhibit out of the bonded warehouse. He also inquires whether there will be any charge for the time the empty cases remain in the store-house.

In reply to the first case, the duty must be paid on the value of exhibits, including charges of packing, and that no other duty will be charged on the empty cases left by the purchasers in the possession of the exhibition. 2. That the duty is on the exhibits imported, including the duty on the cases, and no refund or rebate of such duty can be made on account of the destruction of the case after the goods have been removed therefrom. 3. That exhibitors will be required to pay duty only on such articles as are not exported at the close of the exposition. The requirement in paragraph 18 of regulations of Nov. 5, 1891, which specify that withdrawn or bond can not be made for less than one entire package refer to articles withdrawn for bond for sale and delivery during course of the exposition, and not to exhibits sold to be delivered at the close of the exposition. No charge will be made for the storage of empty boxes.

It has been suggested that Hon. J. G. Blaine be sent as an official envoy to the leading crowned heads of the world to invite them to attend the Exposition. If that suggestion is carried out, you will have a visit from our second Henry Clay.

The post-office department is preparing designs for a special Columbian issue of stamps, of which probably the two cent stamp will contain the head of Columbus, and the others will have various appropriate scenes, such as the landing of Columbus, the convent of La Rabida, etc.

John B. Thacher, a World's Fair Commissioner from New York, has suggested that the Exposition be opened, not on May 1st, but on May 5th, 1893. He says that on May 5th, 1507, was printed a little book which first gave the name "America" to the newly discovered land; and thinks that a delay of four days in the opening of the Exposition would make no particular difference.

The Exposition Treasurer has received from the City Comptroller the last \$500,000 installment of the \$5,000,000 worth of bonds voted by the city of Chicago. This sum, together with stock subscriptions, is expected to last through this month.

The deadlock in the House of Representatives over the World's Fair appropriation was finally broken. The excessive heat persuaded both parties to accept a compromise, which on August 3 was suggested and voted in the Democratic caucus. By this arrangement, the matter of the special appropriation was taken out of the sundry civil bill, and was voted on by itself in the Durbin bill, which was, however, amended so as to give only \$2,500,000 to the Exposition. A very small squad of Southern Democrats, under the lead of two or three Texans, tried to defeat the compromise by filibustering and every conceivable scheme, but failed. On August 5 the bill passed the House of Representatives by a majority of 48; passed the Senate without a division; and about 8.45 p.m. was signed by President Harrison. It is a disappointment to the World's Fair managers to get only "half a loaf," but it is a satisfaction, that even with this amount the Exposition has been recognized as a public and national affair, which will surely be a grand success. The bill, as passed, reads as follows:—

Abill to aid in carrying out the act of Congress approved April 25, 1890, entitled "An act to provide for celebrating the four-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus and for holding an international exposition of art, etc."

dustry, manufactures and products of the soil, mine and sea in the city of Chicago, in the state of Illinois," and appropriating money therefor.

That for the purpose of aiding in defraying the cost of completing in a suitable manner the work of preparation for inaugurating the World's Columbian Exposition, authorized by the act of Congress approved April 25, 1890, to be held at the city of Chicago, in the state of Illinois, there shall be coined at the mints of the United States silver half dollars of the legal weight and fineness not to exceed five million pieces, to be known as the Columbian half dollar struck in commemoration of the World's Columbian Exposition, the devices and designs upon which shall be prescribed by the director of the mint with the approval of the secretary, and said silver coin shall be manufactured from uncurrent subsidiary silver now in the treasury, and all provisions of law relative to the coinage, legal tender quality and redemption of the present subsidiary silver coins shall be applicable to the coins issued under this act; and when so coined there is hereby appropriated from the treasury the said \$5,000,000 of souvenir half dollar, and the secretary of the treasury is authorized to pay the same to the World's Columbian commission, or, in his absence or inability to act, by the president thereof to the secretary of the treasury for labour done, materials furnished, and services performed in prosecuting said work of preparing said exposition for opening, as provided by said act approved April 25, 1890, until all such estimates and vouchers shall be made in duplicate, one to be filed with the secretary of the treasury, the other to be retained by the World's Columbian Exposition.

Provided, however, that before the secretary of the treasury shall pay to the World's Columbian Exposition the any part of said five million silver coins, satisfactory evidence shall be furnished showing that the sum of at least \$10,000,000 has been collected and disbursed as required by said act.

And provided that the said World's Columbian Exposition shall furnish a satisfactory guarantee to the secretary of the treasury that any further sum authorized by the act of Congress to be expended for the work of said exposition has been or will be provided by said World's Columbian Exposition; but nothing herein shall be so construed as to delay or postpone the preparation of the souvenir coins heretofore provided for; and there is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of \$50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to reimburse the treasury for loss on the coinage herein authorized.

Sec. 2. That the appropriation provided in this act shall be upon condition that the said World's Columbian Exposition shall maintain and pay all expenses, costs and charges of the great departments organized for the purpose of conducting the work of the exposition, said expenses, costs and charges to be paid out of the funds of the said World's Columbian Exposition.

Sec. 3. That 50,000 bronze medals and the necessary dies therefor, with appropriate devices, emblems and inscriptions, commemorative of said exposition celebrating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, shall be prepared under the supervision of the secretary of the treasury at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, and the bureau of engraving and printing, under the supervision of the secretary of the treasury, shall prepare plates and make therefrom 50,000 vellum impressions for diplomas; at a cost not to exceed \$20,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the expenditure authorized by this section, and authority may be granted by the secretary of the treasury to the holder of a medal, properly awarded to him, to have duplicates thereof made at any of the mints of the United States from gold or silver or bronze, at the expense of the person desiring the same.

Sec. 4. And it is hereby declared that all appropriations herein made for, or pertaining to, the World's Columbian Exposition are made upon the condition that the said exposition shall not be opened to the public on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday; and if the said appropriations be accepted by the corporation of the state of Illinois known as the World's Columbian Exposition, upon that condition, it shall be, and it is hereby made the duty of the World's Columbian Commission, created by the act of Congress of April 25, 1890, to make such rules of said corporation as shall require the closing of the exposition on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday.

Sec. 5. That nothing contained in the act shall be construed to supersede or in any manner alter or impair the force or validity of the provisions of section 15 of the act of Congress approved April 25, 1890.

The miscellaneous small appropriations were retained in the sundry civil bill, and were also compromised. For the government exhibit, instead of the Senate's \$500,000 and the House's \$316,000, the sum of \$480,000 was voted. For the national commission, instead of \$320,000 and \$25,000 respectively, \$220,000 were voted. The board of lady managers, instead of \$128,000 or only \$36,000, received \$110,000. The "incidental expenses" of the Director-General had been allowed by the Senate to the amount of \$10,000, but wholly disallowed by the House, and were finally fixed at \$5,000.

Among the representatives who voted against the World's Fair appropriation to the very last was Buckenridge, of Kentucky. Some time ago he was chosen orator of the day on the occasion of the dedication of the Exposition, Oct. 21st; but he is now likely to lose that honour, which may be given to Chauncey M. Depew, of New York.

After the passage of the World's Fair bill, the sundry civil bill and some miscellaneous measures, the Fifty Second Congress, at 11 p.m. of August 5th, adjourned its first session *sine die*. It has not made as creditable a record as was hoped from the large Democratic majority, which was, too large and unwieldy. It passed the regular appropriation bills, including a big fat sum for river and harbour improvements; but it laid the anti-option bill on the table till the next session in December. It passed a few tariff reform bills,—for free wool, free binding twine, free tin, free cotton bagging and free silver-lead ores: but these measures were all pigeon-holed by the Republican Senate. In general, the new members of the People's Party have conducted themselves in no ridiculous, but quite a creditable manner.

The political campaign is as yet rather quiet. The Republicans will have a branch head-quarters in Chicago in order, if possible, to save some of the Western States from impending loss. The recent state election in Alabama resulted in favour

of the regular Democratic ticket by about 10,000 majority; but the defeated candidate for Governor threatens to contest on the ground of fraud. General Bidwell was formally notified in San Francisco on August 5, that he had been nominated as the Prohibition candidate for President; and Dr. Cranfill will be officially notified soon of his nomination by the same party for Vice-President. General Weaver is the only Presidential candidate who has thus far made any campaign speeches.

The Canadian Government has surrendered on the question of canal tolls, and will hereafter make no discrimination against American vessels, by means of rebates to Canadian vessels, passing through the St. Lawrence and Welland Canals.

The United States will be represented at the coming international monetary conference by five able men:—Senators Allison and Jones, Representative McCreary, ex-Comptroller Henry W. Cannon, and General Francis A. Walker. Jones and McCreary are ardent silver advocates.

The situation at Homestead and Pittsburgh is quiet, and seems to be nearing a peaceable solution. The strikers have made a legal retaliation by securing the arrest of six officials of the Carnegie Company, Robert and William Pinkerton, and seven of the Pinkerton men. At the Duquesne mills there was one day a small riot between the strikers and non-union men who were going to work; but it was quelled by troops, and the day before yesterday almost all the old men returned to their work in those mills. This will probably hasten a settlement at the other Carnegie mills; in fact, it is now rumoured that the workmen's committee has been given authority to accept the new scale which calls for some reductions in wages. Mr. H. C. Frick has so far recovered from the murderous assault on him as to be able to go to his office and attend to business.

There is trouble again this year in the Transcontinental Railway Association over the enormous subsidy of \$850,000 paid to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company to get it to maintain rates. It looks now as if the association will dissolve, and thus the subsidy be lost. In that case, through rates between Japanese ports and Chicago, New York, etc., may take a tumble.

By-the-way, the following item appears in to-day's papers, which also note Mr. A. B. de Guerville's return to Chicago:—

[The Canadian Pacific, and Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul have just completed contracts with the Japanese government for the transportation of 2,000 middle-class Japanese from Yokohama to Chicago. The Japanese will be brought here during the World's Fair, their expenses both ways and while here being paid by the Japanese government.]

Another newspaper item informs us, that Rev. H. L. Hobart, of the North China Methodist Mission in Peking, spoke on the missionary work in China at the Des Plaines camp-meeting the other day.

The population of Alaska has been estimated at 31,795, of whom 2,287 are classed as Chinese and Japanese, and 12,784 are Esquimaux. The whites number in all only 4,303.

The Knights Templars are holding their annual convocation in Denver, Colorado. As the numerous railroads running to that place got into a war and cut rates tremendously low, there has been a big rush to that point. From Chicago to Denver freight cars have had to be brought into requisition to carry the enormous crowds. But I leave this matter for your Denver correspondent.

A special train, carrying 20,000,000 of gold coin, and guarded by U.S. soldiers and artillery, has safely made its way from San Francisco to Washington. This is said to be "the largest transcontinental shipment of specie ever made by the government or by any person or corporation." Inasmuch as its departure and progress were duly proclaimed in the daily press, it is almost a wonder that the train was not wrecked and plundered. The daily papers, by-the-way, are often a serious obstacle to the detection of crime.

Chicago, August 22nd.

The other day, in a second hand book-store, I came across a copy of Professor C. R. Lauman's "The Japanese in America," and have been greatly interested in reading about the visit of the Japanese Embassy to this country just 20 years ago. They reached Chicago, en route from San Francisco to Washington, on February 25th, and remained here till the 29th. As this was only a few months after our "great fire," they were enabled to see for themselves what devastation and suffering had been caused. With the usual Japanese kindness and generosity they left with Mayor Joseph Medill, editor of the *Tribune*, a donation of \$5,000 for the sufferers from the fire. At Washington they were honoured with a formal reception by the House of Representatives, whose Speaker, Hon. James G. Blaine, delivered a cordial address of welcome, as follows:—"Your Excellencies:—On behalf of the

House of Representatives I welcome your Imperial Embassy to this hall. The reception which is thus extended to you so unanimously and so cordially by the members of this body is significant of the interest which our people feel in the rapidly developing relations between the Japanese Empire and the American Republic. The course of migration for the human race has for many centuries been steadily westward—a course always marked by conquest, and too often by rapine. Reaching the boundary of our continent, we encountered a returning tide from your country setting eastward, seeking, not the trophies of war, but the more shining victories of peace; and these two currents of population appropriately meet and mingle on the shores of the great Pacific Sea. It will be my pleasure to present to you personally the representatives of the people; and I beg to assure you, for them and for myself, that during your stay at our capital you will be at all time welcome to the privileges and courtesies of this floor."

The September number of the *Magazine of Fiction* contains "Love in Nippon," by K. I. Takahashi.

Among the speakers one day at the Des Plaines camp-meeting was Mr. Y. Okano, who gave a talk on missionary work in Japan.

Dr. H. G. Underwood, of Korea, has several times supplied a Presbyterian pulpit in this city, and once took for his morning subject "Korea and the Koreans."

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Henry Martyn Scudder have taken up their residence in Winchester, a suburb of Boston, in the neighbourhood of Dr. Scudder's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ordway, and there they expect to make their future home. Dr. Doremus Scudder has left Chicago to visit his parents. What particular work he will take up on his return to Chicago he has not yet decided. It will, however, be akin to that with which he has been so faithfully identified at the Workers' Church of Christ.

H.M.S. *Warspite*, returning Aug. 14 to Esquimaux Harbour from a month's cruise during "the small-pox scare," ran over a sunken rock in Discovery Pass, and sustained injuries to the amount of from \$30,000 to \$50,000. She is now in the dry dock.

Hon. John G. Warwick, M.C., of Ohio, died August 14th in Washington. He had served as Lieut. Governor of Ohio, but was more famous because he defeated McKinley for Congress in 1890.

The state and congressional tickets are being rapidly put in nomination, so that by September 1st the campaign will be well under way. The "first gun" for the Republicans in Illinois was fired by Whitelaw Reid at Springfield, August 18th, under the auspices of the Republican League Clubs. There was a big demonstration with thousands in line in a torch-light parade. Mr. Reid made an eloquent and, from a Republican point of view, convincing speech. As a Vice-Presidential candidate, he is an improvement on Morton. Stevenson, too, is a good speaker.

Whitelaw Reid spent a day here on his way home, and was, of course, kept busy with receptions, public and private, a lunch at the Union League Club, and a visit to the World's Fair grounds.

It is quite probable that the World's Columbian Exposition will realize \$5,000,000 from the souvenir coins authorized by Congress. The authorities early received bids of \$4,000,000 and \$4,500,000 for the whole lot; and every day are receiving bids for smaller quantities at various rates, even as high as \$1.00 or \$1.10 apiece. For the first souvenir half-dollar coined the highest bid at present is \$1,000. The first public suggestion, that the 5,000,000 half-dollar souvenir coins be sold at one dollar each was made by the *Inter-Ocean* of this city, and has been received with favour by the authorities of the Exposition. The Executive Committee, without a dissenting vote, passed the following resolution:—

Resolved, By the board of directors of the World's Columbian Exposition, that the treasurer of this corporation be and is hereby authorized to dispose of souvenir coins provided to be issued by the United States in aid of the World's Columbian Exposition, by the act of Congress, approved August 5, 1892, at the price of \$1 for each of said coins as follows:

The treasurer shall sell the said coins in sums of fifty or multiples thereof only. He shall accept no order for said coins unless the said order is accompanied by the requisite amount of money to pay for the coins ordered or its equivalent in paper upon which the cash can be realized immediately in Chicago; he shall accept no order except upon the expressed condition that it shall be filed only in the event that the said coins so ordered are received from the United States; he shall comply with applications for said coins in the order in which the applications are received.

You had better send your order at once!

The report of the Exposition Treasurer to August 11th shows receipts to the sum of \$10,177,582.04, disbursements of \$8,216,981.99, with almost \$2,000,000 on hand. Auditor Ackerman's report

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on expenditures to July 31st shows that Japan had already spent almost \$10,000.

The Finance Committee has made an estimate, that a little more than \$18,000,000 will need to be expended before the opening of the Exposition, May 1st, 1893. It is pretty certain that the excess of that amount can be easily realized from admissions to the grounds; so that the sum of \$18,000,000 remains to be secured. The present available resources amount to \$10,500,000; and the souvenir coins at face value would bring \$2,500,000 more. There would thus be lacking \$5,000,000 to be raised by debenture bonds; but, if the souvenir coinage, as is expected, brings in \$5,000,000, the amount of debenture bonds will be reduced to \$2,500,000. Whatever the amount, it will be raised without any difficulty.

Mr. W. T. Baker, President of the World's Columbian Exposition, has been compelled by failing health to resign his position; and Mr. H. N. Higginbotham, of Marshall Field and Co., has been elected unanimously to fill out the unexpired term. Mr. F. W. Peck becomes First Vice-President. The lack of harmony between the national commission and the local directory has been the source of a great deal of trouble and delay in the prosecution of the work. But now, by means of a conference committee composed of members of both boards, compromise has been effected in the formation of a "Council of Administration," invested with "concentrated powers" which may be exercised "with promptitude" when and as occasion requires. The duties of Director-General Davis and of "Director of Works" Burnham have been carefully specified and distinguished. This new Council consists of Messrs. St. Clair and Massy of the National Commission, and Messrs. Higginbotham and Schwab of the Directory, and will expedite matters.

The dates for the dedication of the Exposition building have been formally changed, in accordance with the vote of Congress, to Oct. 20-22, with Oct. 29 as the day for the special ceremonies. There will be 50,000 invitations to the dedication issued and 70,000 complimentary cards, good only on Oct. 21, will be distributed. Each Member of Congress will receive 50 invitations.

It is quite probable that printed tickets, instead of 50 cent pieces, will be required for admission to the Exposition.

On the 20th inst., President Harrison issued a proclamation, dated the 18th, suspending the free navigation of St. Mary's Falls Canal, and imposing a toll of 20 cents a ton upon all freight passing through that canal from Canadian ports on and after Sept. 1. It has been publicly, though not officially known, as I stated in my last letter, that the Canadian government intend to stop their discrimination against American vessels passing through the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals, but not till next year; hence, the President issued his proclamation to bring the Canadians to time. At the request of Mr. M. H. Herbert, *Chargé d'Affaires* of the British Legation, Secretary John W. Foster held back the proclamation two days to give Mr. Herbert an opportunity to hear from the Canadian Cabinet. As no official answer came, the proclamation was promulgated; but it can easily be suspended or revoked, if the other party discontinues at once the objectionable toll. The President was authorized by Congress to levy in retaliation a toll "not to exceed \$2 per ton;" but he has directed that the sum be fixed at 20 cents, which is the amount charged by Canada through the Welland Canal.

The Sublime Porte is also in trouble with the United States over the lack of protection to American missionaries. Various outrages have compelled us to send two gunboats to the Bosphorus to demand reparation, indemnity, and protection. The Sultan "must doff his fez."

To thinking men, who are by no means pessimists, the continued contests between capital and labour, are a source of great anxiety. Since last writing, matters in Pennsylvania, with the exception of a conflict between union and non-union men in Pittsburg, have been very quiet. But there have been serious riots with bloodshed and destruction of property in Tennessee and in New York.

In Tennessee it was a renewal of the war against convict labour in the mines. At Tracy City on the 13th inst. a body of armed miners fired the stockade, disarmed the guards, and returned the convicts to prison. The next day the same thing was done at Inman; and on the 15th it was attempted, but failed, at Oliver Springs. The militia had to be ordered out and sent to Coal Creek, one scene of last year's trouble. Before their arrival the guards there had several times repulsed the miners; but their commander, Captain Anderson, had been treacherously captured from under a flag of truce. On the 18th, however, the troops under General Cornes came to the rescue, and fought a battle with the miners. Both sides had

killed and wounded; but the rioters were defeated, and had to give up Captain Anderson. The next day two or three leaders of the miners were captured; and since then about 450 men and boys have been arrested. At this writing "peace reigns temporarily;" but it is feared that the armistice will not last long.

Another scene of riot and ruin during the past week has been Buffalo, N.Y. The switchmen on the Reading road made a "strike" for higher wages, and went so far as to assault suspected "scabs," and to burn or wreck cars. As the police proved insufficient to maintain order, the State troops were called out on the 16th. The strike rapidly spread to the switchmen of other railroads running into Buffalo, and even to those in other places. The militia have been gathering from all parts of the State, and have had skirmishes with the strikers. The latter are hoping that the firemen and, perhaps, the engineers will go out on a "sympathy strike;" and that trainmen, conductors and telegraphers will follow. Even now great loss and inconvenience have been caused in the delay of traffic and travel; as it is only rarely and with great difficulty that a train can be moved out from Buffalo.

In all these cases the sympathy which might naturally flow to the cause of labour against monopoly is forfeited by acts of disorder and lawlessness. Whether in Tennessee, or New York, or Pennsylvania the authority of the State must be upheld and honoured.

It is gratifying to learn, that, in spite of the labour troubles, business is active, money is abundant and easy. The prospects for crops, and for the fall trade, are considered bright.

An important financial event of the past week was the redemption in gold of 1,000,000 in silver certificates, at the Sub-Treasury in New York City. But can the United States alone maintain long the parity of the two metals?

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Massachusetts, August 20th.

In my last letter, I gave an account of the murder of Andrew J. Borden and wife, of Fall River of this State. The murder was committed about eleven o'clock in the morning, August 4th. Between half-past ten and eleven o'clock, Mr. Borden was seen to enter the house. Fifteen or twenty minutes later the murder was discovered. It was the most frightful, the boldest, most mysterious murder in this country since the Nathan murder in New York. The facts are interesting—some of the details not given in the last letter. If the murder was not planned by some member of the family, the conjunction of circumstances favourable to the commission of the crime was at least remarkable. According to the testimony of members of the family, Mrs. Borden was not seen after nine o'clock, when she went to the upper part of the house. The stomachs of the murdered persons sent to a chemist, showed that Mrs. Borden was killed sometime before her husband. Both had breakfast at the same time and the process of digestion showed that one had been dead longer than the other. There was at first and is now, theories of poisoning and the contents of the stomachs were analyzed to determine. Some claim, even now, that the Bordenes were poisoned before they were murdered, but that could not have been the case with Mr. Borden. He went out after breakfast, and Mrs. Borden went to the upper part of the house to arrange the guest's chamber, then occupied by a man named Morse, a relative of the family, who was visiting there. Morse was practically under arrest after the murder, but has been discharged as he has proved where he was on that morning at the time of the murder. Was Mrs. Borden killed soon after nine o'clock, and then did the murderer wait for Mr. Borden who was expected to return about eleven o'clock? At all events Mr. Borden returns about eleven o'clock. Contrary to custom, he finds the front door locked and is obliged to ring for the servant, Bridget Sullivan. He enters, goes to the sitting room, lies down on a sofa to take his morning nap as usual. His daughter, Lizzie, arranges his pillows for him, and then goes to the barn, according to her story, to look for "sinkers," pieces of lead to weight a fishing line, for she is going to Marion, a summer resort, to stay for a time and will fish while there. She says that she stays in the barn twenty minutes looking for the sinkers, although the sinkers were found within three feet of the door after the murder, and only a moment would be required, apparently, to get a handful; but she says that she was here twenty minutes, although the barn on that unusually hot day was like an oven. Miss Borden returns to the house and finds her father lifeless on the sofa, where she left him twenty minutes before, with twelve hatchet cuts in the head. She rushes into the hall and

calls for Bridget Sullivan, who had been sent to the attic to wash windows. Miss Borden explains that she did not call for her mother because she supposed that she had left the house. Miss Borden relates that on that morning her mother (step-mother) received a letter from a friend asking her to visit her. This letter, however, has not been found, and the boy, who it is said brought the letter, or the person who sent it, have not been discovered.

Soon after the discovery of the body of the father, the mother is found in the guest chamber with twelve hatchet cuts in the head. The older daughter was out of the city at the time. It is not strange, then, that suspicion should be directed to Miss Borden. She was suspected at once and has been arrested, charged with the crime, and is now in Taunton jail awaiting trial. All Fall River is excited and divided. The Bordenes were rich and aristocratic, moving in the best society. Mr. Borden was miserly, some say almost to meanness, but he was also scrupulously honest,—perhaps a hard man in business. The daughters had in their own right ten thousand dollars. There was, according to all accounts, a lack of harmony in the family, although the younger daughter had not known any other mother, as her own mother died at her birth. But step-mothers, like mothers-in-law, are often crooked sticks in the family woodpile. There appears to be a lack of motive on the part of Lizzie Borden. Those who know her declare it impossible. She is represented to be modest, retiring, refined, liberally educated, and most active in the church. It is hard to believe that she committed these murders, but the evidence is against her. The hatchet with which the murders were committed was so sharp that it cut Mrs. Borden's hair as evenly and direct as though cut with shears—and cleft the skull at every stroke. It is claimed that the daughter had not sufficient strength to give these blows unless crazed or aroused to madness. But there is no clue to anyone else. In some States capital punishment has been abolished—was abolished long ago, but in Massachusetts the judge of the court in which the murderer is tried, sentences the murderer "to be hanged by your neck till you are dead."

The riot at Homestead has been quelled, but some of the strikers are still "exercising their functions,"—running down and maltreating the non-union men who apply for labour. The militia is still in the place; and this ill usage of newcomers must be done when it is not looking, and as it is looking most of the time, with guns loaded for business, only an occasional applicant is molested, but it shows the temper of the mob that it would be fatal to law and order to withdraw the militia. The people are beginning to think that this country may become an armed camp to keep order between capital and labour. But the Homestead affair pales just now before another similar outbreak. The switchmen of the Philadelphia and Reading system at Buffalo struck for higher wages a few days ago, and refuse to "handle" cars. Anyone familiar with the working of railways knows the result of a strike of switchmen at transfer centres, where hundreds, perhaps thousands of cars arrive and depart daily. It means that these cars must stay where they happen to be left till the company compromises with the strikers or secure others to take their places. The strike has extended to other roads and is still extending, and may draw into it all roads or their switchmen between New York and Chicago. The switchmen have not only struck and refused to work, which is sufficient to paralyze all freight operations centring at Buffalo and at other transfer points, but also they have begun to burn cars and their contents, to derail whole trains loaded with merchandise. The papers report the burning of one hundred and fifty loaded cars in one place. The hose of the fire companies was cut so that the cars must burn. There are or were one hundred and seventy three cars of live stock, sheep, hogs, and cattle, packed as they are usually so closely that they cannot move—so closely that the cattle, if they fall, cannot rise again and are trampled to death—this stock, standing in the sun, perishing for food and water, the switchmen refuse to move and would prevent, if possible, others from moving them. Humanity is not a trait of the striker. The switchmen claim that the incendiary acts are not theirs, but the acts of ruffians and thieves who make and take this opportunity to plunder. This has been the case sometimes, but there is doubt as to the truth of it now. The blockade of cars means the loss of all perishable merchandise in transit, and the loss is already enormous. Two regiments of militia are already on the ground in Buffalo, and a whole brigade is on the way, and their guns are loaded with powder and ball. The foreigner, the skulking vagabond from other countries, shows his hand in all disturbances of this kind.

Several years ago, a man moved from New England to Ohio, packing his household goods

in a railway car. He was well-to-do, and his goods filled one car. A strike took place at a transfer place, a railway centre somewhere in Pennsylvania. The strikers or somebody burnt cars and helped themselves to what they could get. Several months after, the man who moved from New England found by accident, in a store where second hand books were sold, near the place where the strike occurred, his family bible. That was all he ever saw of his carload of household goods.

The fastest horse in the world is a mare—Nancy Hanks by name. Maud S., "queen of the turf," at one time made a mile in two minutes and eight and three quarters seconds. Then Robert Bonner's Smol made a mile in two, eight and a quarter, and that was the "fastest mile" ever trotted in the world up to a few days ago. On the 17th of this month in Chicago, in the presence of twelve thousand people, Nancy Hanks trotted a mile in two, seven and a quarter. She made the first quarter in thirty one and a half seconds; half in one minute, three and three quarters seconds, and the third quarter in one minute thirty-six seconds and a half. Nancy had a "running helper," but not a running mate. Another horse driven by another jockey was driven a half length behind, yet along-side, so that Nancy "supposing" that another horse was about to go by her, made "extraordinary exertion" to keep ahead, and trotting against time, won without a break from start to finish in two minutes seven and a quarter seconds.

The mercury fluctuates between ninety and a hundred, and has most of the time a greater affinity for a hundred than for ninety. And we still live.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, August 2nd.

It is always instructive to hear retrospective declarations of great statesmen when out of office, because they are more likely to speak without reserve, and without fear of being compromised by their official relations. Of all the speeches Bismarck has made lately, there has scarcely been one more interesting than the discourse he held to the deputations from Baden, Hesse, Thuringia, and the Bavarian Palatinate, at Kissingen on the 24th ult. Not less than six special trains with 111 railway cars and 4,239 visitors had arrived at Kissingen in the forenoon. The crowd marched in the afternoon to the Saline, where Bismarck received them, and after listening to their addresses and orations, replied in the following manner: He began by expressing his thanks for the honours paid to him by the deputations,—honours, he said, which were of such magnitude as had to his knowledge never been shown to any German Minister before, in or out of office, and he had himself never experienced anything of the sort as long as he had been in office. He could only attribute this to the appreciation of the work he had accomplished with the assistance of others, and as he had the good fortune to be one of the last survivors, the merits of the achievement were now showered on him alone, though an essential part of it was really due to his co-operators who had now passed away. In looking backwards, he said, we must not forget that in the beginning of this century the dynastic interests were the paramount aim of politics, and the national interests began only to be the leading object during the present, or during the last, generation. He found that the individual cannot create the current of the times, he cannot only direct it when it is created; all he can do is to steer the vessel of state according to his firm convictions as to what is right; if he is fortunate, he will afterwards be considered as having merited well of his country, but if he is unskilful, he will be forgotten by posterity. Bismarck continued:—The movement for unity in the German nation commenced when I was born, namely, during the wars for the liberation of the Fatherland in 1830 and 1848; this movement was revived during the revolutionary events that originated with our western neighbour. The movement did not however succeed, for it was not fully comprehended by the people. To use a sportsman's expression, the gun missed fire, though the powder in the pan exploded. Looking backwards to the efforts of 1830, 1833, and 1848, those remembering the struggles in Baden and in the Palatinate for an Imperial Constitution in 1849, I can only say that they were premature and we are fortunate that they were not successful. If Prussia had been beaten on that occasion by the insurgents, no lasting condition of affairs could have been accomplished. It was equally providential that in 1866 also, the unitarian tendencies did not get the upper hand, for under the ordeal Germany had passed through, the unity would not have been accepted as satisfactory and permanent as is now the case.

We may assume that we found our unity and the Imperial crown amidst the French batallions. War was necessary for this object; we could only cut by the sword the entanglement of the old German Confederation, which was created under the malignant auspices of France. It was my task and duty to clear the way for the drawing of the German sword, a task I accomplished with my old master. When I was delegate to the Diet of Frankfurt, years ago, I was convinced that a national policy could only succeed if the King of Prussia and his army could be enlisted on its behalf. To my old master a war with Austria was difficult enough to decide upon, though it was impossible to avoid. And it was only natural that at the age of 73, the old Emperor should find it hard to go to war with France, though this war also was necessary for the establishment of the German Union. As long as France possessed Alsace and with it Strasburg, it was very powerful, a strength that could only be reduced by walking over Paris. It was fortunate that we were able to carry on this war by ourselves, for at the time no other Power would have cared to assist in creating a new great Power in Europe. In our political actions we had to count with and to oppose coalitions to which our military strength was no match. But now we may hope that this will no more be the case. The French war had to be watched and waited for until the French chose to lose their temper and to declare it. Just, as in the interest of Germany this war was unavoidable, so was there in the beginning the necessity for a degree of dictatorship.

After some allusion to the enemies which this dictatorship for the public good had brought on him, Bismarck referred to the present position of Germany in the following terms:—"We Germans, living in the centre of Europe are obliged to keep more closely together than any other nationality though we may feel it more difficult to do so. We must be united, otherwise we are lost! We have Russia behind us, covered by Asia; France in front secured by its ocean frontiers, but we have open country all around us, and must stand back to back if we are not to be run over. Against the outside we shall probably be united henceforth, but in our internal affairs this is more difficult, and we must expect to make mistakes from time to time. The desire for independence makes itself felt in individual persons as well as in political parties. Every political party is striving to obtain supremacy for itself, and will make no concession to others; it should be remembered, however, that the whole of our constitutional life consists in making mutual concessions. Extreme parties are not capable of exercising the duties of Government. We can make no use therefore of a Roman Catholic, nor of a Protestant theocracy. Confessional disputes are always to be regretted, and therefore we must renounce extreme opinions in order to possess a quiet and lasting Government. This should be in conformity with the average views of the educated German. I intentionally speak of the "educated German," for we can neither be ruled from the masses below us, nor by a theocracy above us—I therefore condemn begging for the votes of the masses.

When I was still in office I tried to overcome existing evils by an amalgamation of the middle parties. But the union established between the Conservatives and the National Liberals did not last. To all those who have an interest in strengthening our great work of unity, I beg to recommend the lessening of the antagonistic points between those parties who uphold the Empire. The Reichstag ought to be the culminating point of German unity, and should keep the high position it was created for. The authority of the Reichstag can only be raised by a still more complete union of the citizens, among whom I also include the first and highest placed of all. After again alluding to personal questions and vexations, and maintaining it as his personal right to continue speaking on political subjects, a right which his adversaries wished to deprive him of, Prince Bismarck concluded by proposing cheers for the Empire and the Emperor. This was responded to with much enthusiasm.

Critics of this speech cannot fail to notice that the ex-Chancellor now makes a point to revert to the necessity of upholding and strengthening the Reichstag. During his period of office he was rather impatient of the slightest manifestations of authority and opposition of Parliament. He may regret now that he did not in time think of the possibility of a retreat, and of securing a party there behind him. If he had now in the Reichstag anything of a party, he would have the satisfaction of hearing their applause, and of being able to give utterance to his opinions supported by the Representatives of the nation. The demonstrations of self-elected deputations from all classes of society may indeed be balm to his wounded feelings, but cannot restore to him what he may most desire—power—if

not to govern again, at least sufficient to crush his enemies.

The Government is keeping silence on all his last observations, and not only may this be the best policy, but it must be also granted that the last speeches of the Prince do not call for correction. As a rule all his direct utterances in public have not been of a kind to occasion any special retaliation. His conversations with newspaper reporters were very different, and these reports which cannot be traced actually to him, did more harm than he has perhaps been able to conceive.

On his way to his estates, Prince Bismarck stayed at Jena, where he received addresses, and made several speeches of a similar tenor to the above, but the report that he would pass a few days in Berlin turned out to be unfounded.

In the meantime, the Emperor has returned to Berlin, and if newspapers reports are true, his Majesty has strongly expressed himself against any further steps for the repression of the Ex-chancellor's opposition. Some papers believe and pretend, therefore, that Bismarck has powerful friends at Court. It would be, I believe, more correct to seek an explanation in the high feeling of the Emperor, who, as Caprivi's circular to the German Diplomatic agents expressed it, wishes everything to be avoided which could throw a shadow over Germany's greatest statesman. May we hope that this great statesman will now soon understand the present current of public opinion "among the educated classes" correctly, and not continue a critical opposition which gradually destroys his own pedestal, but as he has expressed it himself: "*naturam expellas furca tamen usque recurret.*"

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR KOREA FOR 1891.

Mr. HILLIER to the Marquis of SALISBURY.

Soul, April 20th, 1892.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a Report on the Trade of Korea for the year 1891, to which are annexed tabular returns.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WALTER C. HILLIER.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF KOREA FOR YEAR 1891.

The following figures give the values of the trade of Korea which came under the supervision of the maritime customs. I have, as usual, to record my indebtedness to the Chief Commissioner of Customs for the information from which my returns are compiled.

NOTE.—In the tables appended to this report the sterling value of the dollar is reckoned at 9s. 4d., which represents the average rate of exchange for the year 1891 as fixed by Her Majesty's Treasury.

	1891.	Value.	1890.
Exports to foreign countries.....	561,057	...	591,746
Imports from foreign countries.	876,078	...	790,261

Total value of foreign trade. 1,437,135 ... 1,382,007
This shows an increase in 1891 of 55,128*l.*, notwithstanding a decrease in the export trade of 30,689*l.*

	1891.	Value.	1890.
Exports of native produce to Korean ports	94,125	...	121,018
Imports of native produce to Korean ports	205,017	...	251,828

Total value of coast trade 299,142 ... 372,846
Decrease in 1891 73,704 ...

The causes to which the decrease in the foreign exports and in the native coast trade are probably attributable will be referred to later on.

SHIPPING.

In shipping (Annex I.) there has been an increase of 44,292 tons, which is partly accounted for by the appearance of the Russian flag in Korean waters.

A line of steamers subsidised by the Russian Government has been established between Vladivostok and Shanghai, calling at Nagasaki, Fusan, and Yuenan, and I believe the results of the enterprise have proved most encouraging.

Vladivostok is rapidly becoming a commercial terminus of great importance, and as the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway proceeds there is little doubt that trade will largely increase.

It is expected that a large portion of the brick-tea which now finds its way into Siberia via Tientsin and Kalgan, will eventually be shipped from Hankow to Vladivostok, while the extension of the railway cannot fail to open up new districts at present very sparsely inhabited, of which Vladivostok will become the centre. The

exports from Korea to Vladivostok now consist almost entirely of cattle and food-stuffs, but a native passenger traffic is being developed, which is likely to expand as the demand for labour increases. The growth of this little-known Russian port during the past few years has been very striking. Even in its present condition of isolation, and ice-bound as it is during at least 4 months in the year, it is astonishing to the visitor to see what progress has been made, and there is every reason to believe that when railway communication with the west is completed it will become one of the most important places in the far east. A large Chinese and Korean population is already established there, and vast tracts of apparently rich country remain to be opened up to the agriculturist.

One British ship appears in the returns, but after one trip under the British flag it was transferred to the Russian company above referred to. Rumours are current that two British firms are intending to place steamers on the Vladivostok line, which already affords employment for two large Japanese steamers.

I have referred in previous reports to the opening afforded for suitable steamers of light draught on the Han Kiang or Söul River. One small steamer under the Korean flag was put on last autumn, and the venture has, I believe, proved a very profitable one, but she is not of sufficient size or power, nor does she run with sufficient regularity, to divert much of the large traffic in passengers or goods that at present is carried on with the capital by road. This road is so bad as at times to be almost impassable, and I am convinced that steamers of suitable size and draught plying at fixed hours would attract the whole of the carrying trade between Chemulpo and Söul, and prove a profitable investment. This fact, I anticipate, cannot fail soon to be recognised, and it is a wonder to many that it has not been realised long ago. It seems almost hopeless to expect any improvement in the road between Chemulpo and Söul, or, indeed, of any roads in this country, although the need of better communication becomes daily more apparent. The maintenance and repair of roads is not regarded as an official duty. In fact it may safely be stated that public works generally are entirely neglected by the Government, the needs of the country in this direction being left to the people interested to carry out or not, as they please. It is not surprising, in view of the poverty of the people generally, and the official thralldom from which they suffer, that a state of apathy exists, and that public enterprise is conspicuous by its absence. It must be admitted that taxation, or at least direct and authorised taxation, is light; but it would be a dangerous experiment to place any increased power of legitimate taxation, however laudable the object for which it was imposed, in the hands of an official class who are notoriously underpaid, and who are obliged to support themselves and their numerous retainers by means of irregular levies from the districts under their control. It is by increased water communication, therefore, that the resources of this rich country must for the present be developed.

Unlike China, there are no artificial waterways, and to the best of my belief only four navigable rivers in the country, the Söul River, the Ping-yang River, the Yalu River, on the west coast, and the Nak-tong River near Fusan, on the east. By three of these rivers, at least, access can be secured to fertile areas, and steamers would give a great impetus to the export of grain. Ping-yang, unfortunately, still remains closed to foreign shipping, and the valuable coal-mine near the city, which is said to be capable of supplying an unlimited quantity of excellent steam coal, continues to be worked in the most primitive method. It is a matter of regret that the authorities have not yet realised the advantages to be gained by granting a concession to work this mine on scientific principles. Such a concession would secure a large revenue to the Government at no pecuniary risk, and confer a universal benefit.

EXPORTS.

In the list of exports (Annex II.) grain, as usual, figures for a large amount, the total export of all kinds being 93,755 tons. It was anticipated that the amount would have reached a higher figure, but over speculation on the part of exporters, and higher local prices consequent upon the depreciation of the cash currency, combined with a cattle epidemic of a very virulent type, which diminished the number of beasts of burden by over 50 per cent., acted as a powerful check to the quantities placed on the market. Another contingency arose, which was possibly unforeseen.

The demand for cereals has been so great that the price of food-stuffs in all the areas from which it was possible to send grain to the ports have risen to an abnormal height, with the result not only that prices were too high to make investments profitable, but that local consumers have been

caused much distress. Two years ago the price of rice, for instance, was 120 cash per picul; it is now 450, and with a depreciated cash currency the poorer classes have suffered severely.

The complaint amongst the people is very universal that the only result of foreign intercourse, as far as they are concerned, is the enhancement of the prices of all the necessities of life. The complaint is not an unnatural one. While there was no outlet for the products of the country, supply and demand remained at a more or less fixed ratio, but of late the prices of food-stuffs in particular have gradually assimilated themselves to those of the markets in adjoining countries, and, with a rise in the price of food, the value of everything else has increased in proportion. So primitive a people as the Koreans, who have been self-supporting for centuries, cannot appreciate any change, which means to them a harder struggle for existence, which it was difficult enough to support before, and they do not regard the clear gain of some 90,000% or more of revenue, none of which is devoted to their benefit, or the enrichment of a certain class of farmers, as an equivalent for the increased hardships to which they are subjected.

Herein lies the whole secret of the discontent. The ruler of the country benefits considerably by foreign intercourse. The people at present lose, and the burdens upon them remain the same as before. No doubt matters will right themselves in time, but as the distress I have referred to is confined to the neighbourhood of the treaty ports, and of this capital in particular, the immediate remedy seems to lie in the one direction in which the Government is slow to move, namely the improvement of the means of communication, which would afford an outlet for the products of inland districts, large tracts of which are at present uncultivated, simply because there is no means of getting surplus crops away. An element which contributes materially to the discontent is the steady influx of Chinese, and Japanese, who number in Söul alone about 1,300 and 1,000 respectively; while in Chemulpo there are 550 Chinese and 2,330 Japanese; the numbers at Fusan being—Japanese, 5,255; and Chinese, 138. The immigration is steadily continuing, and the value of house property in Söul is already double what it was 12 months ago, and five times higher than in the early days of foreign intercourse. The Japanese have occupied one quarter of the capital, where they have formed a settlement of their own; but the Chinese are spreading everywhere, and establishing themselves in the busiest quarters of the city, where by their thrift and industry they are gradually monopolising not only the retail trade in foreign imports, but that in native produce as well. Chinese pedlars are to be met with all over the country, as well as Japanese buyers of crops for export, and their operations are extending at so rapid a rate that Koreans are beginning to apprehend a gradual absorption of the industries of the country by these two classes of colonists. So far neither Chinese nor Japanese have turned their attention to agriculture, but the inducements to pursue this industry are great. With land so productive, and food, in spite of enhanced prices, still so cheap, there is no reason why the Chinese, with their natural genius for farming, should not abandon the less productive land of the Shantung province for the rich country that is lying waste in all parts of the kingdom. That they have not done so is probably due to the fact that there is a rooted objection on the part of all Chinese to break up their homes in their own country. Every Chinese clings to his ancestral place of domicile as a sort of sacred possession, and generally leaves his family there, returning to his home from time as funds and opportunities permit. This, and the fact that Korean farmers, knowing they cannot compete with the Chinese labourer, object to part with their land, seem to me the chief bars to Chinese immigration on an unlimited scale. Another obstacle is the fact that no capitalist will emigrate. A Chinese who comes to this country to farm must get his land for nothing, or next to nothing, and the Koreans will naturally not part with theirs on such terms.

To return to the export trade, the only other item that seems to call for notice is that of skins. A lucrative trade in wild cat, badger, and fox-skins is being gradually developed, and at the present rates, namely, 25c. for cats, 50c. for badgers, and 1 dol. for foxes, there are purchasers for all that can be put on the market. Tiger and leopard skins are to be had in fairly large quantities, but they are badly cured, and the prices are high; the price of a leopard skin being about 10 dol., and that of a tiger from 40 dol. to 60 dol., according to size. Sables are trapped in large numbers in the north, principally by Chinese, who send them across the border, but deer skins come down in large quantities. The export of cow-hides from Chemulpo has nearly doubled, but this increase is attributable to the epidemic of pleuro-pneumonia which prevailed in the autumn.

IMPORTS.

The import trade, a return of which will be found in Annex III., presents no novel features. In Annex IV., showing the total value of articles imported and exported, the imports are classified under three headings, namely, those from China, Japan, and Russian Manchuria. A large proportion of the imports from China and Japan are, however, as a matter of fact, goods of British origin landed in those countries, and re-exported from thence to Korea. I have been furnished with the following estimate of the actual share borne by each country in the import trade:—

Great Britain	£489,171
Japan	161,784
China	132,879
Germany	40,927
America	31,204
France	12,027
Holland	4,357
Austria	3,049
Belgium	521
Russia	159
	<hr/> £876,078

The demand for piece-goods continues steady, and is likely to increase in a direct ratio with the export trade, which, to repeat what I have said more than once, requires nothing but improved means of communication to grow at a rapid rate. That trade generally is expected to improve is demonstrated by the increasing demand for building sites at the treaty ports. At Chemulpo, in particular, holders of original lots are demanding five times the amount they paid, and a good deal of land has changed hands at these rates. A large proportion of the piece-goods imported are of British origin, but American drills continue to hold their own. I was recently informed by one of the largest importers of foreign piece-goods into Korea that he would prefer to buy English drills, which he considers better, and on the whole cheaper, but that orders for British drills are generally taken with a provision that strikes are to cancel contracts for delivery. This contingency is so possible as one that it is considered safer to buy in a surer if dearer market, where the fulfilment of contracts can be absolutely depended upon. In metal there is a falling-off. This is attributable to a diminution in the amount of copper cash manufactured during the year under review.

REVENUE.

The revenue collected was 91,590¹. After deducting salaries to customs officials and other costs of collection, the balance is paid over to the Royal exchequer. Some 3,000 dol. to 4,000 dol. a month, or, say 7,000¹. per annum, representing the salaries paid to the legal and financial advisers of the King, two American drill instructors, teachers in foreign schools, mint-master, &c., is said to be drawn from this fund, which has further to meet miscellaneous demands upon the privy purse; amongst others, the interest on debts to foreign firms purchase of arms, &c.

The amount of gold declared at the customs was valued at 114,846¹, but this can only represent a mere fraction of the amount exported. It is almost certain that 90 per cent. of the gold that leaves the country is not declared, in order to avoid the payment of freight.

GENERAL REMARKS.

As shown in the commencement of this report, imports from foreign countries have increased in 1891, while the export trade, together with the native coast trade, has fallen slightly behind that of the preceding year. A considerable increase was anticipated in all branches of trade, and that this anticipation was not realised is attributed to several causes, some of which have been already indicated. The summer was exceptionally wet, the rainfall being one of the heaviest on record; the country suffered from a virulent cattle plague; and the cash currency reached the lowest rate it has ever reached.

The heavy rainfall rendered the roads practically impassable for weeks together, and the rivers were so full that for a considerable period no boats could stem the currents. So high did the Söul River rise, that boats were anchored in the fields half-a-mile from the river bank, and on more than one occasion the country was under water for nearly 1 mile on either side of the ordinary channel.

The mortality amongst the cattle was phenomenal. This country, it should be explained, is noted for its fine breed of cattle, which are used exclusively in farm work, and share with the sturdy ponies—also an indigenous breed, small, but great weight carriers, with exceptional powers of endurance—the whole of the carrying trade. Hundreds of bulls enter this city alone every day with firewood, grain, and other commodities, and beef is a common article of food. The disease broke out in the early autumn, and as no measures

were taken to isolate the infected cattle spread with appalling rapidity. Dead and dying cattle were everywhere to be seen, and so great was the mortality and the risk of infection that animals worth 50 dol. or 60 dol. could be for 5 dol. of 6 dol., the value of their bones and hides. It is estimated by competent authorities that thousands of bulls must have died in the neighbourhood of the capital alone. In one instance there was said to be a loss of 63 head out of a herd of 65, in another five only out of 58 survived, and allowing for exaggeration I think the mortality might safely be computed at 60 per cent. or 70 per cent. The results of this epidemic very soon became apparent.

Firewood, an absolute necessity with all Koreans, who sleep on a heated floor all the year round, at once rose in price, until its cost was five times higher than usual, and this rate has been maintained ever since. Nothing can demonstrate the necessity for improvement of communications more forcibly than this fact. At a distance of 20 miles or 30 miles from Seoul the hill slopes are covered with dense scrub, which would fetch a high price in this market if it could only be brought down, but the cost of transport is so heavy that the price when laid down in the city would be prohibitive. The same remarks hold good in a less degree of grain.

Rice abounds, and is the staple article of Korean food, but the dearth of transport animals caused the price to rise from 120 cash to 130 cash per shing, or pint, in 1890, to 250 cash in 1891, while at the time of writing the price is 350 cash. The distress caused by this state of things was enhanced by the depreciation in the value of copper cash. As copper cash is practically the only currency medium in this country, and the salaries and wages of all classes are paid in cash, the distress caused by a depreciation of the value of this currency amongst receivers of fixed salaries, such as petty officials, soldiers, and the like, can easily be imagined. So keen did it become that there was a large exodus from the capital of the better classes, who preferred to vegetate in the country, where food and fuel were cheap, rather than to remain at head-quarters with enormous bills to pay for warmth and sustenance.

With regard to the depreciation in the value of copper cash, it should be explained that in Korea the standard of currency is not, as in China, sycee or lump silver, to which the cash coinage is subsidiary, but copper cash. These cash are modelled after the fashion of the Chinese coin, but were of somewhat better make and quality. In 1883 it was suggested to the Government that considerable profit might be made by the issue of 5-cash pieces in lieu of the existing 1 cash pieces. The suggestion was readily adopted, and a number of these 5 cash pieces, commonly known as "tangos" were forced into circulation in the capital and its neighbourhood, though their adoption has been successfully resisted in places remote from this city. The original "tangos," though of course not equal in weight or value to the number of 1-cash pieces they were supposed to represent—for therein lay the profit of the scheme—were none the less of fair quality, and exchanged for about 350, or 70 pieces, to the dollar. As the issue of these coins continued it was found more profitable to lease the privilege of making them to private speculators who paid a certain royalty per cent. As might have been anticipated, each new issue was inferior to the last, the latest specimens being made of brass instead of copper, with a large admixture of sand, and the value fell from 70 pieces, or 350 cash, to the dollar in 1883, to 680 pieces, or 3,400 cash, to the dollar in 1891. The difficulty of the situation was enhanced by the fluctuations of the market, a rise or fall of 10 per cent. in as many hours being no uncommon occurrence. Were it not for this latter peculiarity matters would not have been so bad as far as foreign trade was concerned, as higher rates could have been charged for imports in proportion to the fall in exchange, but foreign importers found it impossible to do business with so fluctuating a market, and for a time the import trade was almost at a standstill. The situation was, of course, worse for the Koreans themselves. So long as a Korean can get enough to eat and warm himself with, he is a very long-suffering individual, but cold and hunger not unnaturally render him desperate, and the Government were brought face to face with serious discontent, especially in the capital, where there are 5,000 soldiers to be maintained, not to mention a host of petty officials and their underlings, all in receipt of a fixed number of cash per mensem.

Various remedies were suggested, the most obvious being the recall of the debased cash and its replacement by a better coin, but as this would have involved the Government in heavy expenditure, a compromise was eventually adopted by the withdrawal for the time being of a certain amount

of the local currency, which was sent elsewhere and probably sold for its intrinsic value and melted down. The result was that exchange went up sufficiently to admit of a resumption of import business, though it was still low enough to bear hardly on the poorer classes, and the continuance of the depreciation, though less fluctuating, demonstrates the necessity for some improvement in the coinage. As I have said, the recall of the 5-cash piece and the resumption of a 1-cash coinage up to standard and weight is the obvious remedy, but the cost of such a change to the Government made them reluctant to face the question, and a compromise has now been effected which appears to be more economical, but will, it is to be feared, prove in the end expensive and ineffectual. It has been decided to make use of the foreign mint erected some years ago at great expense, but never used, and introduce a silver coinage. Arrangements have been made with a Japanese syndicate for a loan of 250,000 dol., which is to be devoted to the purchase of silver in Japan and its manufacture by a salaried agent of the syndicate into a coin which will be styled a 500-cash piece. This coin is to have a constant value of 500 cash, and subsidiary coins are to be struck bearing an equivalent cash value to the fraction of the 500-cash piece that they represent. Exchange offices, it is said, are to be established at the treaty ports, and the new coins issued to applicants, the cash presented for payment being gradually withdrawn from circulation. One obvious objection to the arrangement seems to be that it must result in heavy loss to the Government, who cannot possibly import silver and reissue it in the form of coinage at a rate which will compete favourably with the Japanese "yen" and Mexican dollar that have, under treaty, to be tendered in payment of maritime customs duties. Any departure from an absolute standard of purity will, I anticipate, be the ruin of the venture; while the new coin will probably be exported to China and melted down into sycee if it bears the value it is intended to represent.

Telegraphic communication was established between the capital and the northern treaty port of Yuensan on July 30th. It is intended to extend this line northward with a view to connecting eventually with the Russian land system.

I receive so many applications during the course of the year for information regarding the capabilities of this country in the matter of sport, and especially of big game shooting, that I venture to take the opportunity of offering a few remarks on the subject. That tigers, leopards, bears, and deer are to be found in large numbers in Korea, especially in the northern districts, is a fact beyond all manner of doubt; but although more than one sportsman has made an attempt to find tigers and leopards, none have as yet been shot. The word "tiger" has a painful significance to a Korean, for nearly every village in the north has a tragic story to tell of the ravages of this beast. In many places the people dare not venture out of doors after dark, and, when circumstances compel them to do so, they provide themselves with a plentiful supply of torches, and never travel singly, great reluctance being shown to taking the hindmost place in the procession. Tiger traps, built on the principle of a gigantic mouse-trap, are to be seen everywhere, and that they occasionally do work effectually is proved by the presence of raw tiger and leopard skins in the market in fairly large quantities. To shoot tigers, however, is a different matter. Koreans absolutely decline to act as beaters, and the only way the foreign sportsman can obtain a shot is to wait all night in a tree with a pig tied up at the foot. The darkness is generally an effectual obstacle to correct aim when the tiger does appear, and it may be that the watch has to be kept for many nights in succession in a lonely district, with accommodation of the most uncomfortable description. Bear and deer shooting also necessitate travel in almost uninhabited districts, involving the endurance of much hardship and the exercise of considerable patience, which is sorely tried by the laziness and trickery of porters and pony drivers.

Pheasants and wild fowl, on the other hand, can be shot in large quantities. The country near the coasts is the resort of millions of wild fowl, swans, geese, duck, and teal during the season; but the complaint of most sportsmen who have been amongst them is that the indiscriminate slaughter of birds that one cannot eat or carry away becomes wearisome very soon. Good pheasant shooting with the aid of a dog can be had anywhere within 50 miles of the capital, and improves as the traveller proceeds northwards, while trout and salmon are plentiful in the streams on the north-east coast. On the whole, however, the discomforts of travel in the interior are so great that they will deter all but the enthusiast.

Attention has been recently drawn by mission-

aries travelling in the interior to the prevalence of opium smoking near the Chinese border. The practice is, I imagine, purely local. The import of opium is forbidden by treaty, and there are no indications of indulgence in this habit by natives in these parts. It would be no difficult matter to smuggle opium into Korea if a demand for the drug existed; but it is not probable that so costly an indulgence will become prevalent in this country, where poverty is the rule, though actual want is happily the exception.

Annex I.—Return of all Shipping at the Open Ports of Korea in the Year 1891.

ENTERED.					
JENCHUAN (CHEMULPO).					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

FUSAN.					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

YUENSAN.					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

CLEARED.					
JENCHUAN (CHEMULPO).					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

FUSAN.					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

YUENSAN.					
Nationality.	Sailing.		Steam.		Total.
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	
British
Korean
Japanese
Russian
Chinese
German
Total
Total for the preceding year

Annex II.—Return of the Principal Articles of Export from the Open Ports of Korea during the Years 1891-90.

JENCHUAN (CHEMULPO).					
Articles.	1891.		1890.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
To foreign ports—					
Barley
Beans and Peas
Bones-de-mor
Bones, cow
Cattle & livestock
Fish of all kinds
Hides, cow
Millet
Paper
Rice
Rye
Seaweed
Sharks' fins
Skins of all kinds
Wheat
Other articles
Total to foreign ports
Exports to Korean ports
Total

FUSAN.			
Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
To foreign ports—			
Barley	3,400...	13,675...	1,814...
Beans and peas	13,400...	60,075...	15,274...
Beche-de-mer	615...	2,430...	814...
Bones, cow	76...	214...	224...
Cattle & livestock, head	37...	109...	219...
Fish of all kinds	884...	5,038...	9,458...
Hides, cow	294...	13,529...	186...
Millet .....	...	...	...
Paper	21...	1,350...	73...
Rice	32,349...	183,395...	20,090...
Rye .....	...	...	...
Seaweed .....	...	...	...
Sharks' fins	38...	2,119...	15...
Skins of all kinds .....	...	...	...
Wheat	443...	2,341...	1,831...
Other articles .....	...	...	...
Total to foreign ports .....	...	...	...
Exports to Korean ports .....	...	...	...
Total .....	...	...	...

YUENAN.			
Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
To foreign ports—			
Barley .....	...	...	...
Beans and peas	2,210...	9,284...	8,546...
Beche-de-mer	55...	132...	21...
Bones, cow	33...	61...	23...
Cattle & livestock, head	37...	109...	219...
Fish of all kinds	3,135...	18,315...	24...
Hides, cow .....	...	...	...
Millet .....	...	...	...
Paper .....	...	...	...
Rice	68...	555...	46...
Rye .....	...	...	...
Seaweed .....	...	...	...
Sharks' fins .....	...	...	...
Skins of all kinds	6,653...	233...	10,758...
Wheat	269...	802...	...
Other articles .....	...	...	...
Total to foreign ports .....	...	...	...
Exports to Korean ports .....	...	...	...
Total .....	...	...	...

Annex III.—Return of the Principal Articles of Import to the Open Ports of Korea during the Years 1891-90.

JENCHUAN (CHEMULPO).			
Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
From foreign countries—			
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings	307,348...	194,335...	271,505...
T-cloths	4,088...	1,127...	3,309...
Drills	13,233...	6,282...	4,007...
Jeans	14,706...	6,119...	8,660...
Turkey red cloth	6,834...	2,390...	1,701...
Lawns & muslins	10,046...	33,442...	25,876...
Lenos	69,037...	25,845...	30,736...
Sheetings	11,394...	5,717...	7,035...
Lastings	3,007...	1,584...	909...
Cotton goods (Chi-nese & Japanese) Pieces			
Yarn and thread	133,713...	4,535...	87,100...
Other cotton articles .....	...	...	...
Woollen goods .....	...	...	...
Miscellaneous .....	...	...	...
Metals—			
Copper (all kinds)	562...	24,076...	987...
Iron (all kinds)	664...	4,385...	438...
Lead	36...	301...	314...
Spelter and zinc	303...	1,803...	827...
Tin (all kinds)	68...	3,107...	30...
White metal	22...	1,888...	19...
Old brass metal	90...	2,584...	54...
Metals, manufactured .....	...	...	...
Other metals .....	...	...	...
Sundries—			
Arms and ammunition .....	...	...	...
Bags and ropes for packing .....	...	...	...
Clothing .....	...	...	...
Coal and coke .....	...	...	...
Cotton, raw, and wadding .....	...	...	...
Dyes and colours .....	...	...	...
Fish (all kinds) .....	...	...	...
Grass cloth .....	...	...	...
Horse-hair .....	...	...	...
Matches .....	...	...	...
Medicines .....	...	...	...
Needles .....	...	...	...
Oil (kerosene) .....	...	...	...
Paper .....	...	...	...
Porcelain .....	...	...	...
Provisions .....	...	...	...
Sake and samshu .....	...	...	...
Salt .....	...	...	...
Silk piece-goods .....	...	...	...
Skins and skin strips .....	...	...	...
Sugar .....	...	...	...
Timber (all kinds) .....	...	...	...
Tobacco (cigarettes, &c.) .....	...	...	...
Other sundries .....	...	...	...
Total from foreign ports .....	...	...	...
Imports of native produce .....	...	...	...
Total .....	...	...	...

FUSAN.			
Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
From foreign countries—			
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings	262,651...	177,056...	185,690...
T-cloths .....	...	...	...
Drills	10,186...	6,031...	7,614...
Jeans .....	...	...	...
Turkey red cloth .....	...	...	...
Lawns and muslins .....	...	...	...
Lenos .....	...	...	...
Sheetings .....	...	...	...

Lastings	Pieces	1,248...	606...	111...	111
Cotton goods (Chi-nese & Japanese) Pieces		129,769...	9,492...	65,203...	5,890
Yarn and thread	Lbs.	60,733...	2,154...	47,000...	1,493
Other cotton articles .....		...	...	...	...
Woollen goods .....		...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous .....		...	...	...	...
Metals—					
Copper (all kinds)	Tons	256...	8,021...	...	6,737
Iron (all kinds)	Tons	123...	...	...	...
Lead	Tons	...	...	...	...
Spelter and zinc	Tons	6...	186...	...	274
Tin (all kinds)	Tons	42...	4,190...	31...	3,349
White metal	Tons	13...	2,264...	20...	2,293
Old brass metal	Tons	...	...	...	...
Metals, manufactured	Tons	...	...	...	...
Other metals	Tons	...	...	...	...
Sundries—					
Arms and ammunition .....		...	...	...	...
Bags and ropes for packing .....		...	...	...	...
Clothing .....		...	...	...	...
Coal and coke	Tons	1,301...	1,801...	826...	328
Cotton, raw, and wadding	Tons	72...	1,805...	...	433
Dyes and colours	Tons	16...	3,644...	13...	3,433
Fish (all kinds)	Tons	75...	661...	199...	1,796
Grass cloth	Tons	...	1,944...	...	1,000
Horse-hair	Tons	...	917...	...	790
Matches	Gross	185,450...	6,291...	130,631...	4,205
Medicines .....		...	...	...	...
Needles	Millie	5,000...	193...	...	...
Oil (kerosene)	Gallons	236,880...	7,301...	...	4,891
Paper	Tons	15...	699...	3...	513
Porcelain .....		...	...	...	...
Provisions .....		...	...	...	...
Sake and samshu .....		...	...	...	...
Salt	Tons	5,273...	8,343...	3,000...	5,935
Silk piece-goods	Pieces	17,500...	9,046...	14,971...	7,994
Skins and skin strips .....		...	...	...	...
Sugar	Tons	74...	1,495...	70...	1,609
Timber (all kinds) .....		...	...	...	...
Tobacco (cigarettes, &c.) .....		...	...	...	...
Other sundries .....		...	...	...	...
Total from foreign ports .....		...	...	...	...
Imports of native produce .....		...	...	...	...
Total .....		...	...	...	...

YUENAN.			
Articles.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
From foreign countries—			
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings	Pieces	104,500...	53,844...
T-cloths	Pieces	2,868...	757...
Drills	Pieces	...	...
Jeans	Pieces	1,787...	690...
Turkey red cloth	Pieces	29,396...	5,446...
Lawns and muslins	Pieces	...	...
Lenos	Pieces	...	...
Sheetings	Pieces	...	...
Lastings	Pieces	...	...
Cotton goods (Chi-nese & Japanese) Pieces			
Yarn and thread	Lbs.	73,733...	2,070...
Other cotton articles .....		...	...
Woollen goods .....		...	...
Miscellaneous .....		...	...
Metals—			
Copper (all kinds)	Tons	63...	3,006...
Iron (all kinds)	Tons	48...	...
Lead	Tons	...	...
Spelter and zinc	Tons	...	...
Tin (all kinds)	Tons	14...	1,333...
White metal	Tons	...	...
Old brass metal	Tons	...	...
Metals, manufactured	Tons	...	...
Other metals	Tons	...	...
Sundries—			
Arms and ammunition .....		...	...
Bags and ropes for packing .....		...	...
Clothing .....		...	...
Coal and coke	Tons	58...	64...
Cotton, raw, and wadding	Tons	106...	5,637...
Dyes and colours	Tons	...	...
Fish (all kinds)	Tons	...	...
Grass cloth	Tons	...	...
Horse-hair	Tons	...	...
Matches	Gross	2,656...	193...
Medicines .....		...	...
Needles	Millie	...	...
Oil (kerosene)	Gallons	87,200...	3,055...
Paper	Tons	3...	170...
Porcelain .....		...	...
Provisions .....		...	...
Sake and samshu .....		...	...
Salt	Tons	1,733...	2,743...
Silk piece-goods	Pieces	...	...
Skins and skin strips .....		...	...
Sugar	Tons	9...	100...
Timber (all kinds) .....		...	...
Tobacco (cigarettes, &c.) .....		...	...
Other sundries .....		...	...
Total from foreign ports .....		...	...
Imports of native produce .....		...	...
Total .....		...	...

Total imports in Korea from foreign countries 876,078 790,261
Imports of native produce ... 203,017 251,838

Annex IV.—Table showing the Total Value of all Articles Exported from the Open Ports of Korea and Imported to the Open Ports of Korea, to and from Foreign Countries during the Years 1891-90.

EXPORTS.			
Country.	Korean Port.	1891.	1890.
Jenchuan			
China	(Chemulpo) ...	27,171...	8,812...
...	Fusan ...	4,803...	2,808...
...	Yuenan ...	680...	290...
Total		22,744...	11,820...
Japan			
...	(Chemulpo) ...	228,392...	228,513...
...	Fusan ...	801,135...	315,010...
...	Yuenan ...	85,274...	35,660...
Total		1,114,801...	579,483...

Russian	Jenchuan	...	...	...
Manchuria	(Chemulpo) ...	90...	...	554...
...	Fusan ...	480...	...	143...
...	Yuenan ...	1,089...	...	248...
Total .....		...	...	743...

IMPORTS.			
Country.	Korean Port.	1891.	1890.
Jenchuan			
China	(Chemulpo) ...	289,311...	217,849...
...	Fusan ...	6,975...	241...
...	Yuenan ...	44,456...	57,585...
Total		340,742...	275,675...
Japan			
...	(Chemulpo) ...	235,708...	208,477...
...	Fusan ...	258,982...	240,670...
...	Yuenan ...	59,058...	84,804...
Total		553,748...	514,011...
Russian			
Manchuria	(Chemulpo) ...	20...	42...
...	Fusan ...	143...	78...
...	Yuenan ...	1,124...	721...
Total		1,287...	835...

Annex V.—Return of Net Values of Direct Foreign Trade in Korea in the Years 1887-91.

Year.	Currency.	Sterling.
1887	3,620,437...	603,406
1888	3,913,501...	619,635
1889	4,611,656...	691,748
1890	8,292,042...	1,382,007
1891	8,622,812...	1,437,135

* The dollar is reckoned at 36.46 for the years 1890-91.

WATER FROLICS.

The swimming members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club afforded a most diverting afternoon's amusement to a large assemblage of friends—among whom were a considerable bevy of the fair sex—on Thursday. The programme included a sampan race, greased pole, tournament, and water polo match, but the complete enjoyment of the affair was marred by a slight laxity in the management. The weather was cool, the sea in harbour lying perfectly smooth under a dull, grey sky—conditions very favourable to the competitors. A band was in attendance, and when things flagged on the water the ladies took advantage of the occasion to indulge in a few dances on the broad club house floor,—indeed, this amusement was kept up for some time after the sports had ceased, coloured lanterns being called into requisition to light up the merry scene. During the course of the afternoon the club hospitably entertained its lady visitors to tea and ices, a courtesy which was greatly appreciated. The Captain, Mr. J. Rickett, and Mr. T. Brewer, judge, were the officials of the day. Details are appended:—

DOUBLE-SCULL DINGHY RACE.

Captain of the Bathing-barge and the new *Sendo* 1
Captain of the Boathouse and Club carpenter, 2
This race was in substitution of a tub race, and was got up to allow members more time to prepare for the ensuing events. The "Old Skipper's" victory was very popular.

SAMPAN RACE—(MEMBERS ONLY).

F. H. Abbey	1
A. J. Watts	1
W. W. Campbell	2
C. K. M. Martin	2

There were eight sampans altogether collected around the post when the gun fired, and their occupants managed to set them in motion to a very irregular start. Accidents were frequent, and fouls the order of the day, on the run down in the stake boat. Then the two leaders managed to get clear of the bunch and a good race ensued. It looked a good thing for Martin and Campbell for some time, but gradually Abbey and Watt passed them, and got in first with a clear two lengths to spare, the rest nowhere. The erratic steering and handling of the native craft induced a good many jocular remarks, especially from the *sandos* and other Japanese collected near by.

GREASED POLE.

H. F. Arthur

About a dozen went in for this competition, and many ungainly tumbles took place ere Arthur succeeded in liberating the duck. The chase for the startled bird by the swimmers, was greatly interfered with by a crowd of boats who hedged them in on every side; eventually a *sendo* secured the quarry.

TOURNAMENT.

This competition was not finished, one more heat having yet to be decided. J. Eytan, jun., managed to upset two of his rivals, and held his own very well in both encounters. Thirteen entered for the event.

WATER POLO.

Teams:—Goal-keeper King Kingdon, J. B. Gibbs, jun., F. H. Abbey, and A. S. Goddard. Goal-keeper—H. Goddard, J. Eytan, jun., A. B.

Smith, and H. F. Arthur. The teams were mounted on corpulent steeds and appeared to enjoy their sport immensely, but the gathering dusk and the close intermingling of the rivals prevented much of the game being seen from the shore. Neither side managed to obtain a goal, but the tide was greatly in favour of Eyton's team.

The match between the messes of No. 11 and No. 71 was struck out owing to darkness, but a scratch race home on the "horses" resulted in favour of W. W. Campbell, Edwards making a close second.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE."

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

By W. LAIRD CLOWES.

GOLD MEDALIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

The story of "The Captain of the Mary Rose," of which we now publish the first chapter, is a story told with a purpose. Great diversities of opinion have always existed since the advent of ironclad ships, concerning the methods likely to be adopted in naval warfare. These diversities have been called into being, no doubt, by the various estimates which naval officers, artillerymen, engineers, and shipbuilders have formed of the value of this or that particular feature. Thus, one party claims overwhelming superiority for ramming over all other means of attack; a second party claims at least equal merit for big guns and quick-firing artillery; while a third group holds that the torpedo will settle the result of the next or any succeeding action which may take place, at all events near those coasts which it is one great function of the British fleet to defend. Unfortunately, the discussions which have taken place on these subjects in endless profusion have been mostly academic in character. They have not presented to the world a complete homogeneous picture of the probable or possible events of a great naval war. The dry bones have had no vitality. The arguments of the speakers or writers have not only been one-sided, they have been incomplete. We have long held the opinion that it was desirable to place before the world a living and vigorous statement of the views held by men of experience as to some of the weak and of the strong points in that system of naval defence on which Great Britain depends, not only for mere safety, but for commercial prosperity. But difficulties stood in the way. The publication of a treatise on torpedo attack and defence, for example, could not bring out in the vivid light desirable the possibilities of the next naval war. It could only proceed on the old lines. Little or nothing could be added to papers which have been read and the articles which have been published times and again. Something more than this was wanting; and reflection convinced us that the best, if not the only method available for teaching a desirable lesson and putting truths of the utmost importance before our readers, lay in following the example first set years ago by the author of "The Battle of Dorking," and telling the story of certain episodes in a Naval war between this country and France as though they had really occurred. Mr. Laird Clowes has brought to the task he has undertaken for us a thorough knowledge of his subject, acquired under conditions most favourable for seeing all that a Naval officer can see, and hearing the opinion of the best informed naval officers in every branch of their profession.

The telling of the story of "The Captain of the Mary Rose" will gain much in value if those of our readers who possess the requisite knowledge of the subject will express their opinions through our correspondence columns concerning the course of action adopted by those in command of the British fleet. For example, disaster attends certain operations. What course should have been adopted to avoid it? In what way, again, could the work done by the "Mary Rose" have been improved upon? We can assure our Naval readers that they will have ample scope for criticism of this kind; and it may perhaps startle some who still believe that "Britannia Rules the Waves" as completely she did at the beginning of the present century, to be told that most competent Naval officers hold that the story of the "Captain of the Mary Rose" is in no shape or way an exaggerated or even fanciful picture of impossible events. Enough has been said, however; we must now leave our readers to form their own conclusions. It was due to them that we should explain the circumstances under which a work of fiction finds its way into the pages of *The Engineer*. Truth is stranger than fiction, and some truths can more easily be taught the world by the aid of fiction than by any other means.

I.—A BOLT FROM THE BLUE.

On the morning of Tuesday, April 28th, 189—, the publication in London of the following Reuter's telegram created no small amount of uneasiness and excitement in commercial, as well as in political circles. The telegram was dated, "Toulon, Monday Night," and it was thus worded:—

"This afternoon a bluejacket, belonging to the British Mediterranean Fleet, which arrived here yesterday, got into an altercation in a café with a French seaman. Other sailors, British, and French, who were present, took sides; the argument assumed the dimensions of a quarrel; blows were freely exchanged; and the British bluejackets were last driven into the street, and thence to their boats. In the course of the disturbance some revolver and rifle shots were fired, it is believed by the Frenchmen, and, unfortunately, there seems to have been bloodshed, and possibly loss of life. Owing, however, to the excited attitude of the local population, to the extreme reticence of the police, and to the fact that a military cordon has been drawn round the scene of the outbreak, it is as yet impossible to obtain any trustworthy particulars. The Mari-

time Prefect at once went on board the British flagship *Victoria*. It is supposed that his object was to offer or to ask for explanations; but, upon his return to the shore, no public announcement was made, and nothing definite is therefore known. The situation, without being serious, may at any moment become so. The local authorities are in brisk telegraphic communication with Paris."

This telegram was, in itself, alarming; but the gravity of its import was increased a thousand fold by an announcement which followed it in the columns of *The Times*.

"The above news," said that journal, "is, so far as we can learn, the latest that has been received from France. It reached *The Times* office shortly after eight o'clock last evening. We at once took steps to obtain further particulars. We were, however, informed that between half-past seven and half-past eight telegraphic communications with France had been totally interrupted, and that all the Channel cables, as well as the Irish cable from Havre to Water-ville, had ceased to work. There is reason, therefore, to fear that the Toulon affair is of graver importance than Reuter's agent seems to have suspected when he sent off the dispatch. Up to the hour of going to press no further intelligence bearing upon the matter has reached us. We hope, however, to receive further news in the course of the night by way of Belgium or Holland, communication with those countries being still open. A copy of Reuter's telegram was, immediately after the arrival of the message, posted up in all the clubs, and exhibited in the windows of several newspaper offices in Fleet-street. The news caused much speculation and excitement, and, for the remainder of the evening, formed everywhere the sole topic of conversation. It is a subject for congratulation that Parliament is sitting and that all the Ministers are in town. In the Commons, as will be seen on reference to our Parliamentary report, the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs rose at nine o'clock, and, apologising for interrupting the senior member for Northampton who at the moment was speaking in support of the motion for the appointment of a Royal Commission on International Arbitration, read the telegram to the House, which listened in hushed silence. In reply to several questions the right honourable gentleman stated that he had no further information, and that he trusted that, until further news should be forthcoming, the House and the country would, in deference to the susceptibilities of a friendly Power, refrain from demonstrations of any kind. He hoped that the affair would have no serious results; and he had every confidence, he said, that the French Government would act in the matter with absolute fairness. In answer to a question as to the alleged interruption of telegraphic communication, he replied that he had no information. At a late hour all the ministers met in informal conclave in the Prime Minister's room in the House of Lords. They had not separated when we went to press, and nothing, therefore, is known of the upshot of their deliberations. But in the lobbies, and among private members, the fact of the interruption of communications was definitely substantiated soon after ten o'clock, and it naturally excited much alarm. There is very little doubt that the cables have been deliberately cut; though a few sanguine people assert that the non-receipt of further news is due entirely to the effects of the storm which raged during the evening, and which, pitiless as it was, failed to disperse the crowds that thronged the neighbourhood of St. Stephen's in anxious expectation of hearing that some additional announcement had been made. The behaviour of the people was strikingly quiet and orderly. Strong feeling was, of course, general, but, for the most part, its exhibition was suppressed. That there were very few noisy demonstrations or patriotic harangues in the streets may, however, be partially attributed to the effect to the rain which fell in torrents.

"Upon inquiring at midnight at the French Embassy at Albert Gate, we were assured that no information as to the Toulon affair had been officially received.

"For the satisfaction of those who may be ignorant on the subject, we give in the next column the strength of that portion of the Mediterranean Fleet which anchored off Toulon on Sunday afternoon. (See Table A.)

"The rest of the Mediterranean Fleet consists exclusively of unarmoured cruisers and light vessels, and is composed of H.M. ships *Amphion*, *Dolphin*, *Cochetrice*, *Gannet*, *Hecla*, *Imogene*, *Landrail*, *Melita*, *Phaeton*, and *Sandfly*, with one or two stationary vessels. Several are in the Levant or the Red Sea, and none are nearer to Toulon than Malta or Gibraltar. Of the French ships at Toulon we have at present no particular information. We know, however, that there are at least twelve ironclads ready for, or actually in, commission,

several powerful cruisers, and a considerable number of torpedo boats, both large and small."

TABLE A.

	Tons.	H.P.	Guns.	Men.
Battleship, 1st class— <i>Agamemnon</i>	8,600	6,350	6	400
" <i>Sanspareil</i>	10,470	14,000	15	587
" <i>Colingwood</i>	9,550	9,370	10	459
" <i>Colossus</i>	9,430	7,500	9	385
" <i>Dreadnought</i>	10,220	8,120	4	440
" <i>Edinburgh</i>	9,430	7,500	9	445
" <i>Nile</i>	11,040	12,000	10	500
" <i>Inflexible</i>	11,880	8,020	13	460
" <i>Thunderer</i>	9,330	7,000	4	400
" <i>Trafalgar</i>	12,040	12,000	10	500
" <i>Victoria</i>	10,470	14,000	15	500
Belted cruiser— <i>Australia</i>	5,600	8,500	12	460
" <i>Undaunted</i>	5,600	8,500	12	460
Torpedo ram— <i>Polphemus</i>	2,040	5,550	—	134
Cruiser, 3rd class— <i>Parais</i>	1,580	3,200	4	140
" <i>Souf</i>	1,580	3,200	4	140
Dispatch vessel— <i>Surprise</i>	1,650	3,030	4	93

In a leading article on the Toulon affair, *The Times* advised its readers to suspend the formation of opinion until further news should be received; to abstain from any demonstrations which might make worse a state of things that was already sufficiently grave, and loyally to support the Government in whatever measures it might deem itself called upon to adopt. Much the same advice was given by all the other London morning papers, not one of which, it should be added, contained any more detailed news than appeared in *The Times*.

And, upon the whole, the advice was faithfully acted upon throughout that Tuesday of anxiety and agitation. A few roughs raised insulting shouts outside the French Embassy, and a truculent individual broke a window there with a stone; but in each case the police promptly interfered, and took the offenders into custody. No more news reached London until shortly before midday; but the early editions of all the evening papers contained the following telegram, which had been received by way of Brussels and the Middlekerke-Ramsgate cable:—

"Advices from Toulon report that, shortly after nine o'clock last night, the British Mediterranean Fleet, consisting of eleven battle ships, two belted cruisers, and four other vessels, quitted its anchorage off that port. A French squadron hastily put to sea at about the same time. The object of these movements is unknown, and in consequence, the most alarming rumours are current. Toulon is in a state of great excitement, and bodies of men patrol the streets singing patriotic songs. Several British blue-jackets were killed in yesterday's affray. The authorities refuse to give any information; but it is known here that last evening at a late hour all the submarine cables connecting the British Islands with France were cut by order of the French Government. All messages that cross the Franco-Belgian frontier are now jealously scrutinised, and several have been stopped."

During the day, with very brief intervals between them, many still more alarming telegrams poured in. The more important of them are quoted below:—

"Ostend, Tuesday, 12.15 p.m.—The British Ambassador to the French Republic has suddenly arrived here. Late last night he was roused from his bed and ordered to quit Paris at two hours' notice; and he was subsequently conducted by an armed escort to the Belgian frontier. He leaves at once by special steamer for England. The French Toulon Fleet, it is rumoured, put to sea yesterday evening, with orders to prevent the British Fleet from leaving until full satisfaction should be given for the alleged murders by British sailors during yesterday's riots. It is also rumoured that, in defiance of the Maritime Prefect's order to the contrary, the British Admiral has quitted his anchorage. The situation is regarded as most serious; and the dismissal of the Ambassador clearly points to a rupture. French troops are being rapidly concentrated at Cherbourg, Brest, Lorient, Dunquerque, and other coast towns; and it is whispered that, as a precautionary measure, a Belgian army corps is to be mobilised and is to occupy the frontier. Numerous British refugees from France have already reached this place."

"Dover, Tuesday, 12.58 p.m.—The passenger steamer *Victoria* started this morning as usual for Calais. When she was at a distance of about two miles from the French coast, a French gunboat hailed her and informed her captain that communication between England and France is forbidden, pending the issue of further direction from Paris. The *Victoria* had therefore no alternative but to return. Two other passenger steamers have been similarly treated. The excitement here is intense."

"Brussels, Tuesday, 1.50 p.m.—The French Government last night sent to the Admiral at Toulon orders which, if they be acted upon, can only bring about immediate war between France and Great Britain. The orders were to prevent, at all hazards, the British Fleet from putting to sea so long as the serious questions which were raised by yesterday's riot should remain unsettled. The exact nature of those questions lies in some obscurity. The pros-

Original from

pect of war is said to have already provoked unbounded enthusiasm in Paris."

"Flushing, Tuesday, 3.20 p.m.—It is reported that the formal declaration by France of war with Great Britain is only a question of hours; and it is believed that this precipitancy is due to the conviction which is entertained in French Government circles that England is just now very ill-prepared, particularly in the Mediterranean; and that France, by striking a sudden and unexpected blow, may produce results such as she could scarcely hope to attain, if ample time were allowed her adversary for the making of complete preparation."

"Portsmouth, Tuesday, 3.30 p.m.—Orders have just been received here for the immediate commissioning of every ship in harbour that can, by any exertion on the part of the dockyard officials, be made ready for the pennant, and for the hurried preparation of all rest, not excluding several old vessels that have recently been advertised as 'For Sale,' or even some obsolete gunboats. Similar orders have been telegraphed to each of the naval ports. The dockyard, where, until to-day, work was slack than it has been since the departure of the ships for last year's Naval Manœuvres, is already the scene of feverish activity. The coast-guard ironclads have been directed to assemble with all haste at Spithead, and not to wait for their full complements, but to leave their respective ports as soon as they can get up steam. Some of them are expected to-morrow. The Naval Commander-in-Chief is now concerting with the General in command of the Southern District elaborate measure for the defence, by means of mines, booms, and picket-boats, of the port and of the anchorage at Spithead, and to-night the carrying out of their plans will be begun. Masthead electric lights of novel design are being fitted to some of the larger battleships. These are so arranged as to shed a zone of illumination all around the vessel, but to leave the craft herself in comparative darkness, and it is confidently expected that they will be of great value should our squadrons be obliged to anchor at night within raiding distance of the enemy's torpedo boats. Some experienced officers, however, are of opinion that a ship which desires to remain exempt from attack should on no account exhibit a light of this kind, since it must of necessity be visible from a considerable distance to the foe, and they do not hesitate to say that, even if they be supplied with it, they will not use it. The advantage of the light lies in the fact that no ship so long as she employs it can possibly be closely approached by any enemy that does not expose himself to a very dangerous extent. On the other hand, it is pointed out that the apparatus is large, and offers so fine a mark for machine-gun fire, that it could doubtless be easily extinguished by moderately good gunners at 3,000 yards, or even more. Experts here are loud in their regrets that this device, which is quite new, in common with other electric lighting devices which are much older, has not been properly experimented with in peace time, and that, in consequence, no certainty exists as to either its practical utility or its vulnerability. Unfortunately there are symptoms of the existence of friction between the naval and military authorities, nor can this be wondered at when it is remembered by how vague and arbitrary a line their respective functions are divided. The feeling here is strongly to the effect that all the defences on the sea-front, should be unreservedly entrusted to the Navy and Royal Marines. On the other hand, there is an undoubted lack of both officers and men even for the manning of the vessels which are to be commissioned. So great, indeed, is the scarcity of stokers, seamen-gunners, and signalmen that only by calling out the reserves can even the immediate necessities of the situation be supplied. It is not certain, however, that the reserves will be of much use, seeing that the engines of modern men-of-war greatly differ, as a rule, from those of merchant vessels, that few men of the Royal Naval Reserve have any practical familiarity with heavy breech-loading guns, and that hardly any men, outside the service proper, are qualified as signalmen. There is also a scarcity of lieutenants, and a good many small craft will, if commissioned at all, apparently have to be commanded by gunners, carpenters, and boatswains. As for the local permanent defences, they are very imperfect. Many of the works on the land side have no guns at all, and the re-arming of Southsea Castle and the Spithead forts has not yet been completed. War is here regarded as good as declared. No one, and least of all naval men, can look forward to it with anything like light-heartedness, and many Portsmouth people regard the prospect with distinct apprehension, and propose to leave the town as soon as they can conveniently do so; yet the naval and military population here shows an admirable spirit, and numbers of retired officers of both services are offering their assistance to the Government."

"Brussels, Tuesday, 5.8 p.m.—There are grave reports from the South. It is said that a conflict of some nature has actually taken place between the British and French fleets off Toulon, but no details of any kind are given. There is also serious news from Paris. A declaration of war is undoubtedly by this time on its way to London. It was to have been dispatched at noon. The French capital is violently excited, and extremely enthusiastic. Very little news reaches this city, and that little slips through the fingers of very jealous French censors, dozens of whom must be employed along the frontier."

"Barcelona, Tuesday, 5.20 p.m.—The Italian steamer *Monte Pulciano*, which arrived here this afternoon, reports that very late last night, when off Toulon, she heard the sound of heavy firing, and saw in the sky the reflections of what seemed to be explosions on a very large scale. She did not, however call at any French port, and so brings no definite intelligence."

"Genoa, Tuesday, 6 p.m.—The news of difficulties having suddenly arisen at Toulon had scarcely reached this place ere rumours began to arrive to the effect that the French Admiral had received orders from Paris to destroy the British Fleet in case it should attempt to quit Toulon Roads. No one credited this report at first, but it must now be admitted that corroborative evidence of a kind is not lacking. A correspondent at Hyères telegraphs that most heavy firing took place late last night off that town, but, apparently, at a great distance out at sea, and that to-day some French men-of-war, which seemed to be somewhat damaged, entered Toulon. All messages from France are subjected to strict censorship, in consequence of the strained relations between that country and Great Britain. Too much reliance must not, therefore, be placed upon the trustworthiness of this news."

Then came the most unambiguous telegram of the eventful day.

"Dover, Tuesday, 6.20 p.m.—A French torpedo boat named the *Lance* has just entered the harbour under a flag of truce. The lieutenant in command of her brought dispatches which have already been sent on by train to the French Ambassador in London. Their purport is, however, no secret. They contain an announcement to the effect that the British Admiral having refused to consider the legitimate demand of the authorities at Toulon for apology and reparation in the matter of yesterday's riot, and having, in defiance of French orders to the contrary, quitted Toulon Roads while the grievances of the French Government remained unredressed, the French Republic declares war against Great Britain. There is intense excitement. The French lieutenant who was of course not allowed to land, departed as soon as he had communicated with the coastguard boat which went out to meet him. The civil population is apprehensive lest the town may be shelled to-night. Steam is being got up to work the turret on the Admiralty pier; and the men are to sleep beside their guns both there and in the various batteries on the heights. Stringent measures are to be adopted to preclude all possibility of a *coup de main*; and no vessels will in future be allowed to enter or leave the port until they have been searched. Very few people here are likely to sleep much to-night. Numbers of nervous folk are going inland without even waiting to pack up their effects. A large French man-of-war is now visible in the Strait, but her name is not known. It is hoped that she may be brought to action by the *Audacious* from Hull, the *Hotspur* from Harwich, or the *Iron Duke* from the Forth; for all these ships have been ordered to rendezvous at Spithead, and one or more of them is expected to pass Dover to-night. Here there is not so much as a gunboat; but it is believed that at the latest, by Friday, some of the coast defence ironclads will be assembled in the Downs, where, in case of need, they will be within easy reach of this most important position. No lights are to be shown to-night, and the windows of even private houses are ordered to be darkened. Pickets are to go round to enforce this rule. The town is already, in fact, though not in name, in a state of siege; and so long as hostilities last, it must be a prey to continual and very harassing alarms, if to nothing worse."

A later telegram explained that "the large French man-of-war" which had excited Dover was only a steam yacht.

These were not the only telegrams that brought the country to a quick realisation of the fearful suddenness with which she had fallen into a state of war with her nearest neighbour and most powerful maritime rival. There were many others, but the effect of all was the same. They startled England, not only with definite news of imminent hostilities, but also with the vague report, which was far more terrible, that some paralyzing blow had already been dealt against the Power which,

for three centuries at least, had prided herself upon being mistress of the seas. The nature and result of that mysterious blow were alike unknown; but lack of knowledge, fed by apprehension, often produce strange popular impressions; and the very absence of definite news from the Mediterranean Fleet was, at such a juncture, almost by itself sufficient to create very wild alarm.

The excitement in London increased, therefore, as the day wore on. The House met early, but the Ministers were able to say little that was encouraging. They were prepared, in case of necessity, to maintain the honour of the Sovereign and of the Empire; they had adopted such measures as prudence and the counsel of the most experienced officers suggested, and as their immediately available resources rendered possible; and they were, until late in the afternoon, not altogether hopeless that peace might still be preserved; but they had only the most meagre information to give; they were unable to inspire the public with that confidence which they professed to feel; and worst of all, they had absolutely no intelligence concerning the Mediterranean Fleet save that it had left Toulon on Monday night.

In the afternoon crowds gathered in Trafalgar-square, and other public places; and, in spite of the efforts that were made by the police to disperse the people, addresses—treasonable as well as patriotic—were delivered by persons who, whether they were loyal or not, would in the circumstances have more wisely kept their mouths shut. Most of the theatres opened as usual; and those which opened were thronged, for the temperament of the population at the moment required that men should congregate in any place where the latest news was likely to be obtainable. But no attention seemed anywhere to be paid to the performance. People loitered in the passages and foyers, and talked or listened with tongues and ears devoted to one topic only. As the successive editions of the evening papers came out, copies were brought in and handed round, and struggled for even by the musicians in the orchestra. Twenty-four hours previously, war had seemed the most improbable of catastrophes. It was practically certain now, and what its end might be no one could foretell. At the Lyceum Theatre "*Macbeth*" was being played. Towards the conclusion of the first act the curtain was suddenly lowered, and the familiar figure of Mr. Irving immediately appeared before it.

"Ladies and gentlemen," said the great actor, who was much moved, "news of a very grave character has this moment reached the theatre; and I deem it my duty to interrupt the performance in order to communicate it to you. I regret to have to say that, according to a telegram which I hold in my hand, the British Fleet in the Mediterranean was yesterday attacked by a French Fleet of superior force, and was very severely handled. There are, unfortunately, no details. I trust that the news is not really so grave as it at present sounds; but even if it be untrue that war has actually broken out, and that our brave blue-jackets have already been surprised by anything in the remotest degree resembling disaster, I feel that I shall only, in the circumstances, be forestalling your wishes when I announce that the performance cannot continue. Ladies and gentlemen, it is not for me, standing before you in this dress, to say much; but this I must say, the opportunity seems to have arisen for us to show that we are still the sons of our fathers. This, you will agree with me, we may do, not merely by volunteering or otherwise directly contributing towards the defence of our country; but also by lending a steadfast and loyal moral support to her most gracious Majesty's Ministers in this moment of terrible anxiety and public danger. England, facing her enemies, has always hitherto been as one man. Let us see to it that she be one man now. Let us banish all divisions; let us think not of ourselves, but of our country; and, believe me, though the path through this difficulty may be dark and terrible, we shall emerge into the light."

The earlier part of this brief address was listened to almost in silence. The latter part provoked first low expressions of approval and then cheers. When Mr. Irving had concluded, the audience, as with one accord, stood up bareheaded; and, as the orchestra played the first note or two of the National Anthem, there began a scene of indescribably contagious enthusiasm. People leapt upon the seats and waved hats or handkerchiefs; women burst into tears; and there was a confused babel of sounds which, in a few moments, blended into the solemn chorus of "God save the Queen."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

TROTTING & PACING IN AMERICA.

BOTH RECORDS LOWERED IN ONE DAY.

THE *Inter-Ocean* of the 18th ult., gives the following account of two wonderful performances at Washington Park, where the trotting and pacing records were both broken on the same day:—

Nancy Hanks started at Washington Park yesterday afternoon to lower her record of 2.09. This she accomplished, and, at the same time, lowered all trotting records by covering the mile in 2.07½.

It was a few minutes after 5 o'clock when Budd Doble appeared behind Nancy Hanks. He came the reverse way of the track, and jogged the mare down to the head of the stretch, then turning her came by the stand at a thirty gait and slowing the mare down. As he passed the club-house he jogged her back and went down the track to the eighth pole, and turning started on what proved to be a most memorable journey. As he approached the stand he was joined by Frank Starr, who was driving the running horse Abe Lincoln. Doble nodded for the word, and as the mare's head passed under the wire Mr. Ijams shouted "go!" and a hundred watches clicked. She was on her stride nicely, and with the runner at her sulky wheel she trotted around the first turn, reaching the quarter pole in 3¼. Down the back-stretch she had to encounter quite a stiff breeze, and the second quarter was made in 3¼, the time for the half being 1.03½. Around the lower turn Doble took her back long enough for her to recover from her flight against the wind, and the third quarter, two-thirds of which is consumed in making the turn, was trotted in 3¼, the slowest quarter of the mile. When she passed the three-quarter pole in 1.36½ it was doubtful whether she would be able to do more than to knock a fraction of a second off of her own record, but she came like a summer storm.

Half way through the stretch the chances of breaking the record grew brighter and the crowd started to cheer, but promptly ceased at the request of the judges. She had reached the lower end of the stand when the crowd, trembling with a suppressed desire to yell, yielded to the admonition of the judges, and as she flew over the final furlong the big crowd was almost silent. The runner was plunging along at her sulky wheel and the new queen of trotters was moving like a beautiful, well-balanced piece of machinery as she went under the wire.

Only an instant of doubt followed and then the men with stop-watches who had been timing the mare gave the signal and the shout of a hundred men as they glanced at their timers became the roar of 8,000 voices. Everybody congratulated his neighbour that they had the good fortune to be present when all existing trotting records passed into eclipse. Then the crowd turned its attention to the new queen of the trotting turf and her famous driver. Doble had driven past the club-house before turning and as he trotted back a most remarkable ovation began with the waving of handkerchiefs on the club-house veranda and ended fifteen minutes later when the crowd had yelled itself hoarse cheering the mare, her driver, and even the name of Lincoln, in whose mother's memory Nancy Hanks was named.

Secretary Allen was the first to reach Doble, and before he had dismounted he was congratulated on behalf of the Northwestern Breeders' Association. Then the crowd insisted on a speech from Doble, but he made his escape and followed his pet mare over to the stable. W. P. Ijams announced the result and gave the fractional time. Then he called for three cheers for the new queen of the trotting turf and they were given with a tiger. Then cheers for Doble were proposed and the crowd outdid itself in enthusiasm for the premier reinsman.

Mr. Ijams again tapped the bell for order and said:—"Ladies and gentlemen: You have just seen the greatest trotting mare on earth, and she bears the maiden name of the mother of the greatest man this country has ever seen—Abraham Lincoln." Then the enthusiasm became epidemic, and just as quiet was being restored, Arthur Caton, who had captured Doble, brought him back to the judges' stand, and in response to loud calls for a speech he thanked the crowd for its appreciation. In the crowd was Hart Biswell, of Lexington, Ky., the gentleman who bred Nancy Hanks, and he came in for congratulations from all those that knew that he had bred the mare. As soon as Doble could escape from the crowd he sent a telegram to Malcolm Forbes, of Boston, who owns Nancy Hanks, announcing the result, but as Mr. Forbes is at present away from home on his wedding trip and the telegram

had to be forwarded to him to Boston, no answer was received up to a late hour last night.

Another telegram was sent immediately after the race that involves a good story. When Maud S. broke the record at Cleveland in 1885 and placed the mark at 2.08½, President Edwards secured one of the shoes worn by Maud S. and nailed it over the arched entrance to the diving park with the remark that he would present it to the association over whose track the record was beaten. He did not consider himself bound to give up the shoe when Sunol made her record of 2.08½ over a kite-shaped track and he has taken great pleasure in wiring to each association after an unsuccessful attempt had been made to lower the record that "Cleveland still has that shoe worn by Maud S. when she made the record." Before Doble had dismounted President Wheeler, of the Washington Park Club, was wiring a telegram to Mr. Edwards, announcing the result, and making a formal demand for the horse-shoe that for seven years has hung over the entrance to the Cleveland Driving Park.

One pleasant feature of the trial was the absence of all doubt as to the accuracy of the time. LeRoy Cagwin, of Joliet, took a seat in the press stand during the contest and timed each quarter. Before the official time was hung out he announced it as 2.07½. Governor Merriam, of Minnesota, timed the mare from a seat in the grand stand, and he also made it 2.07½.

Another record was lowered at Washington Park yesterday, and the present meeting now holds the honour of being the only one at which both the trotting and pacing records were wiped out. It was no fractional second victory over time in either case, for in each a full second was knocked off the record and the mark placed where it is as hard to get at as the name of George Washington carved more than a century ago in the sandstone of the Natural Bridge, Virginia, high over the point attempted by his most venturesome followers.

Hal Pointer, the new king of pacers, acquired the title at 6.30 o'clock last evening. During the afternoon a fresh breeze was blowing and the trial was delayed as long as possible in hopes that the wind would die away with the sun. It was much lighter when the trial was made than at any other time during the afternoon, but still strong enough to make it doubtful whether the record would be lowered. The betting was \$75 to \$50 against the accomplishment of the feat. Ed. Geers brought Hal Pointer out twice during the latter part of the programme and breezed him up and down the stretch. Before the trial a work team trotted around the track drawing an implement for smoothing the track, and then the great pacer came out accompanied by "Abe Lincoln," the runner, driven by Frank Starr. Geers scored up once, but shook his head and the judges tapped the bell. Then he came back, and turning two hundred yards down the stretch, he came to the wire on his stride with Geers nodding for the word.

He was sent away and moving beautifully around the turn, and reached the quarter in 4¼, a 2.07 gait. From the quarter to the half he increased his speed and reached that point in 1.02½, making the second quarter in 3¼. Around the lower turn Hal Pointer shuffled along with no sign of a skip or break and reached the third quarter pole in 1.34. From there home he simply flew. The running horse urged on by Starr could scarcely keep up. Geers was making the effort of his life and urging the horse by talking to him and shaking the whip over his back. When nearing the press stand the two minutes were up, and it was a sure thing that he would break the record for the wire was only two hundred feet away and Hal Pointer was devouring space at the rate of forty-two feet a second.

As on the previous occasion when Nancy Hanks made her record the outside watches agreed with the official time, and there was no question of its accuracy. Le Roy Cagwin took the time in the press stand, and as soon as Hal Pointer flew under the wire he announced it as 2.05½, which was hung out five minutes later as the official time. Budd Doble also sat in the press stand and made the time 2.05½.

There was a funny scene when Geers dismounted. The crowd of 10,000 people insisted that he should make a speech, but Geers, looking like a bashful boy, made his escape, and was nearly down to the paddock gate when Judge McDonald saw him disappearing and ordered the police to catch him and bring him to the stand. A couple of officers made the foot race of their lives to the saddling paddock, where Geers had taken refuge in one of the stalls, and a moment later they reappeared with their prisoner and delivered him to the judges. When Mr. Geers appeared in the stand there was loud applause, which ended for a moment when Mr. Walker called for order, and Mr. Geers thanked the crowd for their applause. Cheers for Hal Pointer, Mr. Geers, and Harry Hamlin, of Buffalo, the owner of the horse, were then given and the crowd dispersed.

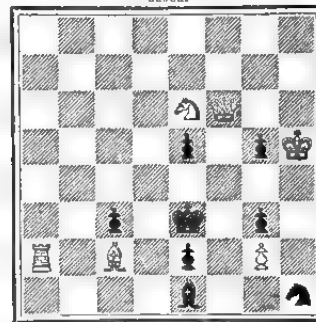
CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 34.
WHITE.
1—Q to K B 2
2—Q × Q Kt P mate
BLACK.
1—P to Q Kt 7.
if 1—P to Q 6
if 1—P to Q R 6
if 1—K to Q R 6
if 1—K to Q B 6

Correct solutions received from Omega, Ed. B., W.H.S., Scacchi, Omicron, J.D., and Diganima.

PROBLEM No. 36.
By F. HEALEY.



White to play and mate in three moves.

CHESS PROBLEMS.

A correspondent commenting on Problem No. 33, which laid so many of our solvers *hors de combat*, remarked that it was a good specimen of the modern school. That there should be schools of the art of problem composition at all, may surprise some of our younger readers. And although we know of no such classification having ever been made, the task of doing so, would be comparatively simple. Briefly summed up, the schools developed themselves in the usual way, that is, when one style was found to be worked out, a new one was formed, until it in its turn, failed to yield the necessary concomitants of novelty and pleasure. The first school of all was that which existed up till Staunton's time—fifty years ago—and which consisted of problems, similar to that in 11 moves, forming the frontispiece to the "Chess-Players Handbook." Problems in five, six, seven, and eight moves were mere trifles to the players of those days. The Rev. H. Bolton, one of the great exponents of the school, revelled in positions whence White had to play and mate in 15 moves! Formidable as these structures appear, they are not so in reality, from the fact that the positions are "forced;" the key-move must be a "check," and Black has but one line of defence open to him. But Staunton in the *Illustrated London News* did much to popularise the game in England. Chess Columns soon began to appear in provincial papers, and then came in with S. Loyd, Dr. Gold, J.B. of Bridport, Meyer, G. E. Barbier, F. Healey, and a host of others, that school which had for its object, brilliancy of attack and defence combined with a minimum of force. Rarely was White required to mate in more than three moves; sometimes this was effected by dashing sacrifices, sometimes by obtaining the greatest range possible of the pieces employed. This school is not yet obsolete, as may be seen by referring to specimens published in these pages within the last eight months. But the Chess board has its limits; the situations are exhausted, and the efforts of to-day in this line will be found to be little else than variations of well-known positions which were fully exploited during the seventies. The modern school, so well represented by Mr. Heathcote, is more difficult to define; its main aim would appear to be intricacy of composition, like a novelist's plot, a wide field for the defence, and "mate in two moves" as a *sine qua non*. Surely evolution can no further go. And yet that such positions may possess considerable difficulty, is evident from the example referred to. To our mind, however, they lack the interest, the spontaneity, the beauty of the previous school; they are too artificial, one can see the process of building up too plainly. Whatever the future may bring forth, this school, at any rate, is surely not destined to have a long lease of life.

The Dresden Congress came to an end with the Original from

month of July, Dr. Tarrasch being the winner of the Masters' tournament, with a score of 12. We shall give details next week.

There is much talk of blindfold play in these days. In looking over the old chronicles we find that the ubiquitous Morphy played "eight games simultaneously without seeing the Chess board at the St. George's Club, London, 20 April, 1859. Of these games Mr. M. won five, three being drawn battles."

We give a short and lively rally which was one of the above mentioned eight games (score and notes by Mr. Staunton).

KING'S KNIGHT'S OPENING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. Morphy.	Mr. Worrall.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—P to K B 4

Bold, perhaps over-bold, on the part of Black: but a creditable attempt to impart spirit to the contest.

4—P to Q 4	4—P to Q 4
5—P x R P	5—Q P x P
6—Q x Q ch.	6—R x Q
7—B to K Kt 5 ch.	7—Kt to K B 3
8—Kt to Q B 3	8—R to Q Kt 5
9—Castles Q side ch.	9—B to Q 3
10—K R to K sq.	10—P to K R 3
11—B x Kt ch.	11—P x B
12—Kt to Q Kt 5	12—P to K 2
13—Kt to K R 4	13—K R to Q sq.
14—P x P	14—K to K sq.
15—R to K 3	15—R to Q 2
16—R to K Kt 3	

The game is no longer defensible.

17—B to K 6	16—Kt to K 2
18—B x R ch.	17—P to K 5
19—R x B	18—B x B
20—R x K B P	19—B x Kt

and Black resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 9th.
It is stated that France and Russia have agreed to a common line of action in Egypt.

London, September 11th.
The *Novoe Vremya* says that Russia will demonstrate her rights to the Pamirs, and will certainly cause them to be respected.

London, September 12th.
Cholera broke out on board the steamship *Scandia*, running between Hamburg and New York, and thirty-six deaths resulted.

London, September 14th.
At a meeting of the Council at Dublin Castle, at which the Right Hon. John Morley, Chief Secretary for Ireland, was present, it was decided to revoke all proclamations that had been issued under the Crimes Act.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE			
From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 23rd.	
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 22nd.	†
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 18th.	†
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 25th.	
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 2nd.	
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 3rd.	
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed' day, Oct. 5th.	

† Galle left San Francisco on September 6th. ‡ *Empress of India* left Hongkong on September 10th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Prick*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES			
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 20th.	
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 19th.	
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 25th.	
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 29th.	
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Oct. 7th.	

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Robt. L. Belknap, American ship, 2,251, H. Staples, 9th September.—New York 30th March, Oil and General.—China & Japan Trading Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. Wilson, 11th September.—Otaru and ports 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 11th September.—Shanghai and ports 4th September Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th September.—Hongkong 3rd, Nagasaki 8th, and Kobe 11th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 12th September.—Kobe 11th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Smith, 13th September.—San Francisco 27th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 13th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 31st August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 15th September.—Hongkong via Macao 8th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 15th September.—Otaru and ports 10th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 15th September.—Kobe 14th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Bretel, 16th September.—Marseilles 7th August, Hongkong 7th September, Shanghai 10th, and Kobe 15th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 16th September.—Shanghai and ports 9th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Jas. Gray, 9th September.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 10th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 11th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Selby, 12th September.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. Wilson, 12th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Fukui, 14th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Smith, 14th September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 14th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 14th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 16th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 16th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 17th September.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Electra, German steamer, 1,162, Madsen, 17th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 17th September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Otaru and ports:—Miss Whitney, Mr. Long, and Deacon Warren in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru* from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Clutterbuck, Mrs. Wrightson, Miss M. H. Shed, Miss H. F. Parmelee, Miss Pass, Mrs. M. F. Dudgey, Rev. H. E. Bleby, Captain W. Thompson, Messrs. Bury, C. Crane, S. Smith, A. Glauert, Etienne, E. J. Marshall, H. E. Bush, and J. L. dos Remedios in cabin; Mrs. Aoyagi, Mr. Rowland, and Mr. J. Mishima in second class; and 44 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. Threlfall, Mr. Ritchie Key, Mr. and Mrs. Spiers and daughter, Captain Babington, Mr. J. H. Hingston, Mr. Cockledge, Sergeant S. W. Edmunds, Major Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Rivas and amah, Messrs. Ho Cheung, Banerji, Bishop, H. Barlow, Miss M. E. Simons, Miss Allen, Mrs. Chin Cheew Ching, and Mr. J. P. Duke in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe

—Mr. S. Taki and Mr. S. Nakano in cabin; and 8 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. R. A. Center and Mrs. Cohen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Talcott, Mr. and Mrs. D. Galbraith, Mr. J. H. Taft, Mr. E. B. Holmes, Mr. R. W. Gooderick, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hooper and child, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Isham, Miss Fyfe, Miss K. Ports, Miss K. Hooper, Mr. R. T. Sterling, Mr. H. H. Porter, Mr. A. L. Farrell, Miss E. C. Parsons, Mr. Tho. B. Marston, Mr. B. K. Miller, Jun., Mr. Jno. S. Bradstreet, Mr. T. L. Carson, Miss Alexander, Miss Veazey, Lieut. Thost, Mr. Jno. L. Stoddard, Mr. C. H. Hammati, Mr. A. and Mr. W. Fairbanks, Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Noble, Mr. Tho. McKean, Jun., Mr. Chas. E. Taylor, Prof. T. Hirschberg, Miss Mollie Hawes, Mr. Reizo Sano, Mr. Seymour, Miss Lillian Giffin and Miss Louise Giffin, Mr. Jno. S. Wallis, Mr. L. S. Husted, Mr. Hry. D. Page, Mr. Louis Prosperi, Miss Mary Allan West, Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. and Mrs. M. Kirkwood, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fish, Mr. E. C. Fish, Mr. W. P. Fish, Mr. Harry Loring, Mr. W. P. Davies, and the Hon. G. Curzon in cabin; Rev. T. Kobayashi, Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Pole, the Misses Pole, Master Pole, Miss Mawe, Miss Williams, Miss F. M. Withers, and Mr. M. H. Turner in second class, and 5 passengers in Asiatic steerage. In transit for Kobe: Professor Sharp in cabin. For Shanghai: Dr. and Mrs. R. C. Beebe and two children, Mr. F. E. Meigs, Dr. Lucy A. Garner, Mr. J. A. Kerr, Mr. Clarence Reid, Mr. Weightman Reid, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Reid, Miss E. Reid, Mrs. L. S. Abbey, Mr. J. Hegnauer, and Mrs. Curtis and child in cabin. For Hongkong: Prof. and Mrs. Raymond, Mr. H. D. Pierce and son, Mr. R. M. G. Stewart, Mr. A. E. Bloomfield, Mr. E. F. Roundell, Mr. E. C. S. French, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Twomey (en route for Australia), Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Kate Baxter, Mr. H. Solomon, Mr. B. Israel, Mr. E. Platts, and Mr. H. M. Hepworth in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Tarachand, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Tarachand, and Miss Tarachand in second class, and 97 passengers in Asiatic steerage. From Victoria, B.C.: Miss M. J. Cartmel, Mrs. Keswick, and Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Preenough in cabin. In transit for Kobe: Mr. A. M. Nicholas in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. Sadie Miller and Mr. and Mrs. L. Kirk in cabin; 32 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via Macao:—Mr. Geo. Eckley, Mr. J. A. Jupp, and Lieut. Koehler in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Kilgour, Miss Howard, Professor Milne, Mr. Henson, Captain Tsugi, Mr. Onishi, and Mr. Mumetani in cabin; and 22 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. S. Koya, Mr. and Mrs. Simon, Mr. Jaynoo, Mrs. M. Phillips, Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Takahashi, Mr. J. C. Peter, Mrs. J. Sumata, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Jackson, Mr. A. Inglis, Mr. J. F. North, Mr. S. Rodome, Mrs. Berusiout, M. l'Abbé Maury, Mr. Wing Sing, and Mr. How Kiang Phoon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Misses Young (2), Miss Daisy Fitzgerald, Mrs. J. P. Parker, Rev. and Mrs. Brunson and child, Messrs. J. Johnstone, Howard Martin, M. Takino, M. E. Wilkinson, and Jas. Bannermann in cabin; Messrs. Jas. Henderson, S. Maki, and H. Hiraga in second class, and 43 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Easton, Mde. Le Favor, Mr. E. H. Tuska, Miss Lee, Mr. Y. U. del Avayo, Mr. A. Gregory, Mrs. Rolland, Mr. Adalbert Vaukawich, Mr. Huggett, Mr. Hinata Shiosakio, Mr. Rasppoff, Mrs. Rasppoff, Miss Lee's servant, and amah, Mr. Woo, infant, and servant, and Mr. Philippe, servant, and amah in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, 2 children, and European nurse, and Mr. Danby in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Captain and Mrs. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Belshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Grinnan and 2 children, Mr. W. Graham and 3 children, Miss T. Stewart, Messrs. E. Mullendorff, Bury, Shimizu, and K. Miyayaga in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Manabe and child, Mr. T. Takaki, and Mr. T. Takagaki in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. J. D. Brown, Home, Lennox, Denning, Miss Denning, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. T. Morison, Mrs. Hara Asa,

Messrs. Kerr, B. Mettel, and Holloway in cabin; one Chinese and one Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Brensen and child, Mr. G. de Bruyn, Mr. W. R. Garrison, Mr. D. Ritchie Key, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Morse, Miss Lillian Morse, Mr. Th. G. Schull, and Mrs. Torrey in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru* from Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$359,500.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,000.00.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 557 bales. Waste Silk for France, 77 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$48,960.00.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 538 bales; Waste Silk, 92 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

TRADE.	SAN FRANCISCO.		NEW YORK.		OTHER CITIES.		TOTAL.
	BAR.	NEW.	BAR.	NEW.	BAR.	NEW.	
Shanghai	607	—	—	—	—	—	607
Yokohama	—	—	—	—	518	—	518
Yokohama	6,118	266	—	—	125	—	6,509
Hongkong	214	—	—	—	5	—	219
Colombo	63	—	—	—	—	—	63
Kochow	434	—	—	—	—	—	434
Total	7,436	266	—	—	648	—	8,350

SILK.	SAN FRANCISCO.		NEW YORK.		HARTFORD.		TOTAL.
	BAR.	NEW.	BAR.	NEW.	BAR.	NEW.	
Shanghai	—	169	—	—	—	—	169
Hongkong	—	300	—	—	—	—	300
Yokohama	—	1,001	—	—	—	—	1,001
Total	—	1,470	—	—	—	—	1,470

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 4th September at 9.5 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds with moderately heavy sea till midnight on the 5th; thence to Nagasaki moderate S.E. winds and swell with frequent heavy rain squalls. Arriving at Nagasaki the 6th at 4 p.m. and left the same day at 11 p.m.; had moderate easterly winds and fine weather to Shimonoseki, arriving the 7th at noon. Left the same day at 4.56 p.m.; had gentle N.E. winds and fine clear weather throughout the sea, arriving to Kobe the 8th at 2 p.m. Left Kobe the 10th at 7 p.m.; had moderate easterly wind and fine weather to Oshima; thence to Rock Island light N.E. winds with moderate S.E. swell and fine weather; thence to port light N.W. winds and fine weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 11th September at 11.10 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 27th August at 3.58 p.m.; experienced moderate to strong westerly winds with head sea almost the whole passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th September at 6.55 a.m. Passage, 15 days, 21 hours, and 29 minutes. September 10th at 9 a.m. lat. 41.18 N., long. 155.44 E. spoke British ship *Timandra* steering east; she wished to be reported.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 8th September; first part had fine weather and smooth sea; the 11th and 12th heavy gale from N.W. to west and high sea; latter part, wind S.S.W. settling down to moderate breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th September at 6 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaia the 10th September at noon; had light variable winds and overcast sky. Arrived at Hakodate the 11th at 7 a.m. and left the 12th at noon; had moderate southerly winds and clear. Arrived at Oginohama the 13th at 10.45 a.m., weather becoming boisterous and barometer falling. Left at 1.50 p.m.; had fresh breeze and overcast; at 3.30 p.m. weather threatening and heavy head sea, barometer falling still, turned back to Oginohama, when arrived at 4.50 p.m. blowing fresh during to-night, barometer 29.57. On the 14th at 2 a.m. weather moderating; at 5 a.m. left Oginohama, moderate breeze and overcast weather, strong southerly sea outside; had moderate breeze and cloudy weather and moderate sea to Noshima. Arriving at Yokohama the 15th September at 8.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 14th September at 12.15 p.m.; had light variable air and passing showers, cloudy and overcast weather; at 2.30 p.m. passed Tomaga-shima, with light northerly breeze and fine weather; at 3 p.m. met steamer *Wakanoura Maru* inward bound; passed Oshima at 9.50 p.m. with light southerly breeze and fine weather to midnight the 15th; at 2.40 a.m. met steamer *Saikio Maru* going west; thence to Rock Island with light variable breezes and cloudy weather; passed Rock Island at 1.15 p.m.; thence to

port light S.E. winds and cloudy weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 15th September at 7.23 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 9th September at noon. Arrived at Nagasaki the 11th at 3 p.m. and left the 12th at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 13th at 8.30 a.m. and left the same day at noon. Arrived at Kobe the 14th at 7.55 a.m. and left the 15th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th September at 3.30 p.m. Experienced moderate to fresh N.E. gale with high head sea to Nagasaki; thence to Shimonoseki strong northerly gale with heavy head sea; Shimonoseki to port met with light variable winds and fine clear weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a fair general business doing during the past week, and a much better feeling seems to pervade the market since the stocks pressing for sale have been so materially lightened. Grey Shirtings, gln., continue in good demand at full prices, but other Greys have not been much favoured. Some large sales of Prints and Turkey Reds have been made at improved prices, and fair lines of Velvets have also shared in an advance; of Silk-faced Satins considerable quantities have been sold at former rates, and there have been moderate sales of Italian Cloth and Mouseline de Laine. Yarns have met with ready buyers at reduced prices for arrival, and a fair demand has existed for spot cargo at about previous prices for certain spinings only. Bombays command very little attention. Sterling Exchange has remained very steady at 2/10½ for Bank on demand, though slight fluctuations have taken place in Bar Silver. Sales for the week comprise 950 bales English Yarn, 50 bales Bombays, 9,000 pieces gln. Shirtings, 3,500 pieces 24lb. Shirtings, 17,500 pieces Turkey Reds, 10,000 pieces Prints, 500 pieces Cotton Italians, 3,000 pieces Velvets, 750 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 3,000 pieces Italian Cloth, and 5,000 pieces Mouseline de Laine.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 34 inches	\$1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—gln. 34 1/2 yds. 35 inches	1.85 to 2.55
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 2.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	1.10 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	5.65 to 6.90
Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 12 1/2 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Pathevalas, 12 yards, 11 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.25
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.30 to 1.40
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 28
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.22 to 24
Medium	0.19 to 21
Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 1/2 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 to 56 inches	0.47 1/2 to 0.54 1/2
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Wendels—Scarf and Green, 4 to 5 1/2 lb.	0.35 to 0.47 1/2

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/41, Ordinary	\$4.50 to 26.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.00 to 27.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	33.75 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	32.00 to 33.50
Nos. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
Nos. 202, Bombay	69.00 to 75.00
Nos. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 141/4, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

MRALS.

Considerable demand, but holders are strong, consequently sales are not by any means numerous. Quotations unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.00
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pine boards, 10 x 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Since our last report, the ship *Robert L. Belknap* has arrived with 82,000 cases "Comet" brand; but this addition to stocks on hand has in no way weakened prices, the market still remaining strong with steady sales. We raise quotations 5 sen, although better prices in some cases have been obtained.

QUOTATIONS.

Comet	\$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Devoe	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

Market has been quieter during the period under review, but prices are unchanged. Some arrivals have come in from the South, but stocks are in no way excessive.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.70 to 4.80
Brown Daifong	3.50 to 3.70
Brown Canton	3.70 to 3.80
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 9th instant. Since then, settlements on this market amount to 1,936 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 36 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,336 piculs; *Reels*, 390 piculs; *Kakada*, 174 piculs. There have been no direct shipments this week, and the export business remains as above—1,936 piculs. After our last issue, the market was very quiet for a couple of days, and then one of the large operators for America suddenly entered the market, buying very heavily *Filatures* and *Reels*, so that about 1,200 piculs were settled on one day,—10th instant. Since then some degree of calm has supervened; yet still there is a fair daily business doing at a considerable rise in price over last week's quotations. Sellers are indifferent, having unloaded a large portion of their holdings at high prices, and the market is very firm, buyers having to pay full rates for any silk which they require. The best qualities are especially strong, very long figures having been paid for well-known chops.

Arrivals come in freely from the interior, and despite the large business done, the reduction in the stock list is only 200 piculs on the week. The available supplies to date are practically the same as last year, and the present high scale of values will bring forward plenty of silk, if buyers want it. Exchange has remained on an even keel all through the week, fluctuations in prices of silver in London having been very small.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Melbourne*, which left port on the 11th instant, taking 557 bales for France. The export figures to date now stand, 11,160 piculs against 11,053 last year and 3,451 piculs at the 16th September, 1890.

Hanks.—Some few purchases have been made at unchanged prices. Among the recorded transactions we notice *Shimonita*, \$600 to \$605, with *Chichibu* \$570. Really high grades are very scarce this season and long prices are paid for good silk.

Filatures.—As customary during the present season, these have been in very strong demand, two-thirds of the settlements for the week having been in this class. On the 9th instant, dealers advanced their prices some \$15 or \$20 per picul, in anticipation of the large business of the 10th, on which day they were not disappointed, but were able to quit some very large parcels at their own figures. In fine sizes a large business has been done, best *Uzen*, *Mino* and *Goshiu* bringing prices ranging from \$810 to \$830, according to quality and brand.

Reels.—These have also been in strong demand, especially for the higher grades. *Five Girl* chop and equal thereto have realized \$740, and are now held for \$750. *Kirihana* has been booked at \$730, with other grades in proportion. Medium grades have also advanced and are strongly held.

Kakada.—A fair amount of business has been done at somewhat irregular prices; *Daruma*, *Ginko*, *Asahi suru*, \$755; *Asahi kame*, \$725; Common grades, \$630 to \$635. At the moment, nothing better could be done, although silks in this class are perhaps not quite so strong as are *Filatures*.

Oshu.—No business at all during the present week. Holders are firm and refuse all offers below quotations.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 14	\$520 to 630
Hanks—No. 2 (Shimshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 24 (Shimshu)	560 to 570
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	530 to 540
Hanks—No. 3	510 to 540
Hanks—No. 4	490 to 500
Filatures—No. 1000 deniers	830 to 835

Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	800 to	810
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	810 to	820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	780 to	790
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 den.	765 to	775
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	750 to	760
Filatures—No. 2, 14/16 deniers	750 to	760
Filatures—No. 3, 14/16 deniers	710 to	730
Re-reels—Extra	790 to	800
Re-reels—(Oahu) Best No. 1	770 to	780
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	750 to	760
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/17 deniers	730 to	740
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/16 deniers	670 to	680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to	650
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/16 deniers	610 to	630
Kakadas—Extra	740 to	750
Kakadas—No. 1	720 to	730
Kakadas—No. 14	700 to	710
Kakadas—No. 24	670 to	680
Kakadas—No. 3	640 to	650
Kakadas—No. 34	620 to	630
Kakadas—No. 4	600 to	610
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom. 580 to	600
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom. 530 to	540
Sudai—No. 24	—	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 16th Sept., 1892:—			
	1891-92	1892-93	1890-91
Europe	5,355	4,530	1,781
America	5,624	6,228	2,188
Total	10,979	10,758	3,969
	Piculs 11,160	11,053	3,451
Settlements and Direct	Piculs 14,000	12,000	3,500
Export from 1st July	6,600	9,600	10,700
Stock, 16th September	21,000	21,600	14,000

WASTE SILK.

Settlements for the week are 1,418 piculs, divided thus: *Pierced Cocoons*, 1,109 piculs; *Noshi* 178, piculs; *Kibiso*, 131 piculs. No direct shipments to chronicle this time.

The business in *Pierced Cocoons* has increased, another buyer entering the market and operating freely at or near the same quotations which we gave last week. This reduces the stock on the market and it would seem that the basis of prices for *Cocoons* this present season is now firmly established. Another week's work like the present will clear out the whole remaining stock.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the French mail steamer *Melbourne* taking 17 bales for Europe. The present export figures are 2,639 piculs, against 2,539 piculs last year and 1,506 piculs in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—As noted above, the business in these has been very large. Prices have been shaded a very little, 13% *kahi* having been accepted for several large parcels. This makes the prices realized this season for *Cocoons* from \$101½ to \$105 for good quality *Shinshu* stock yielding 75 per cent.

Noshi.—The business done has been principally in *Foshu* and is of small importance, prices ranging from \$62 to \$70 for good ordinary assortment.

Kibiso.—A fair amount of business done in medium *Filatures*, at \$90 per picul. Other grades more or less neglected, shippers looking for lower prices on medium and common grades.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$100 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	110 to 120
Noshi—Filature, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good to Best	100 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	\$68 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	85 to 90
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	30 to 25
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	30 to 28
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	27 to 25
Kibiso—Nori, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 16th Sept., 1892:—			
	1891-92	1892-93	1890-91
Waste Silk	Piculs 2,638	2,539	1,254
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	252
	2,639	2,539	1,506
Settlements and Direct	Piculs 3,800	4,000	1,750
Export from 1st July	14,700	12,700	11,400
Stock, 16th September	18,500	16,700	13,150

Exchange has remained very steady and firm all the week.—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; New

YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$7½; 4m/s. U.S. \$7½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3-73.

Estimated Silk Stock, 16th Sept., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	400	Cocoons	950
Filatures	2,350	Noshi-ito	7,630
Re-reels	2,520	Kibiso	5,910
Kakada	955	Mawata	75
Oshu	375	Sundries	135
Laysam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	6,600	Total piculs	14,700

TEA.

Shipments to date—not including outgoing steamers—are 24,000,000lb. being just about the same as last year. Market not very active, prices unchanged, and strong for common sorts which are in some demand. Generally speaking, market closes quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$32 to 33
Choice	29 to 31
Fine	25 to 27
Good Medium	22 to 24
Medium	19 to 21
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	14 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been steady and closes firm.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3/62
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3/73
On Hongkong—Bank sight	24 1/2 dia.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	3 1/2 dia.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	734
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74
On America—Bank Bills on demand	694
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71
On America—Private 4 months' sight	724
Silver	384

BOARDING HOUSE
FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892. t.f.

FOR SALE,
THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:
SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:
No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji. Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892. 1y.

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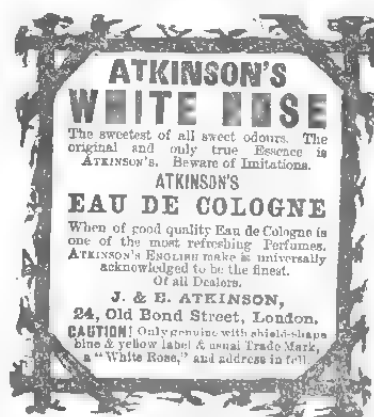
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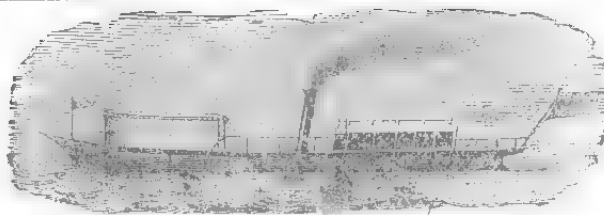
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1892.

月三年五十二癸明
可郵者信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 24TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Chishima Kan* arrived at Aden on the 18th inst. en route to Japan.

THREE by-elections have resulted in the return of Opposition candidates.

THE weather throughout the whole week has been raw, wet, and inclement.

MR. OTANI KANEI has accepted the office of President of the Yokohama Trader's Union.

MR. TAKAHIRA SHOGORO was appointed on the 16th inst. Japanese Minister Resident at The Hague.

MR. NAKAYAMA JOJI has been decorated by the Queen of Hawaii with the Second Class Order of the Crown.

RUMOURS as to dissensions in the Cabinet with reference to the Budget have been emphatically contradicted.

THE Government proposes to hold a conference in the capital of Chief Constables throughout the Empire in November.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA (senior) had a lengthy interview with H.I.M. the Emperor on the forenoon of the 19th inst.

H.E. MR. RASCON, Mexican Minister, was received in audience by H.I.M. the Emperor on the 17th inst. at 10 a.m.

THE dividend of the Sanyo Railway Company for the half year ending the present month is estimated at about 3 per cent.

A SPECIES of injurious insect has been ravaging the rice fields in the Imba District of Chiba Prefecture from the month of July last. They were destroyed in large quantities by the far-

mers, and for a time the fields were free from the pests. Their second appearance in the district is causing great anxiety.

MR. ISHII TADASUKE, and Mr. Funabashi Yoshikazu, Chief Constable of Wakayama Prefecture, have been decorated by the Sultan of Turkey.

MR. A. SIENKIEWICZ, French Minister to this Court, who is now at home on leave of absence, is expected to arrive in Japan by the close of the present year.

MR. HATAKAWA Tetsuji, an *attaché* of the Japanese Legation in Berlin, has been decorated by the Emperor of Germany with the Fourth Class Order of the Crown.

A FALSE rumour has been circulated to the effect that Portugal has intimated her resolve not to abide by Japan's action in the matter of the jurisdictional clauses.

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA, of the National Union, arrived at Omura in Hizen province on the 19th inst., and Count Saigo arrived at Yokote in Akita Prefecture the same day.

THE total receipts of the Osaka Shipping Company during last month amounted to yen 63,951,936 of which yen 32,209,278 was obtained from passengers, and yen 31,742,668 in the shape of freight.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the night of 2nd inst. in a house at Neame-mura, Hino District, Tottori Prefecture, and an elementary school, twenty-three dwellings, and two godowns were burnt before the flames could be got under.

A MAN named Saiki Chuzo, residing at Yahomura in the North Tama District of Kanagawa Prefecture, while fishing on the Tama river on the 4th inst., was killed by an explosion of gunpowder, which he had purchased for the purpose of catching fish.

THE reported intimidation of residents of Kanazawa by the police during the recent election of half the members of the Town Assembly, has been discovered to be without foundation in fact. The Kanazawa police authorities deny the charge.

MR. NAKAJIMA NOBUYUKI, ex-President of the House of Representatives and a leading Radical, has withdrawn from the Party. No reasons for his withdrawal have yet been published, but it is supposed that he is about to accept an official appointment.

A KOBE telegram dated the 20th inst. announces that the residents of the town have resolved to hold a big entertainment on the 1st October next, to commemorate the extension of the port. The expenditure is estimated at three thousand yen.

DURING a severe blow on the 10th inst. a destructive fire occurred at West Ariyamura in the South Takagi District of Nagasaki Prefecture, and before the firemen could successfully grapple with it, 105 residences and 12 out-houses were burnt.

THREE kerosene vessels, says a telegram from Kobe, arrived at the port on the 18th inst. with 209,000 cases of kerosene. Another telegram from the same town dated the 19th inst. reports that the authorities have sanctioned the application for the construction of kerosene tanks on Wada Point.

A TELEGRAPHIC message has been received from Hokkaido announcing that a violent storm was experienced in the vicinity of Masuge in Teshio province on the 13th inst., and 12 houses were

blown down, 4 persons being more or less severely injured. The rivers have overflowed, and 13 houses were swept away.

COUNT SAIGO, says a telegram from Honjo, Ugo province, arrived there on the 18th inst., and opened a public meeting, an audience of over one thousand persons attending. A telegram from Nagasaki reports that Viscount Shinagawa left there on the 17th inst. for Hirado, where a political lecture meeting was held the following day, at which speeches were delivered by the Viscount and Messrs. Yabu, Wada, and Uyeda. About two thousand persons were present.

THE Japanese Acting Consul at Gensan, Korea, reports that the import and export trade in the port during the month of June last amounted to yen 239,484, in value, of which yen 124,809 represented imports, and yen 114,675 exports. The following are the values of commodities, over yen 1,000, imported and exported by Japanese merchants during the period:—Imports: yen 3,123 salt, yen 70,426 refined rice, yen 1,271 kerosene, yen 1,286 muslin, and yen 1,093 beans; Exports: yen 1,277 cattle, yen 28,898 dried fish, yen 2,270 ox-hides, and yen 32,383 gold bullion.

THE Improvement in the Import trade is maintained, and as the demand increases and supplies diminish holders have managed to level up prices to a very satisfactory point, and, as was suggested as probable in this column some time ago, the time has arrived when dealers are unable to obtain such good bargains now that the autumn trade has well and fairly set in. A good current business has been done generally, the prices for Yarns being steady and firm; Velvets, Prints, and Turkey Reds have improved in value; contracts have been made for Cotton Italians at higher rates; and a further advance has taken place in Italian Cloth as compared with the sales of last week. In Grey goods and T.-Cloths not a great deal of new business has been put through, but deliveries of current contracts are highly satisfactory. An extended variety of other goods has been bought, prices for which have been full and firm. In the Metal trade, Wire Nails continue in good demand, and prices have again been raised; and though there has not been a great deal passing in a general way, the tone of the market is good. Kerosene has been in fair demand at full rates, and all oils are very firmly held, notwithstanding heavy arrivals. The Sugar trade is healthy, Browns only being parted with for a distinct rise, and all kinds hardening more or less. The stocks, not being heavy, are well held, and still higher rates are prognosticated. The "boom" in Silk continues, 2,500 piculs being the business of the week. After the cessation of business for a day, when a few orders accumulate, buyers find the holders of Silk either disinclined to part at all or demanding a further rise. Thus sellers have had the advantage from day to day, and the position in their favour is further advanced by the competition among buyers. The "boom" has been extended to Waste Silk, and a heavy week's business has resulted in a total of 2,500 piculs being weighed in, while prices which were impossible a fortnight ago have been raised \$10 all round. This rise on already high figures has acted as a check to dealings, but evidently buyers are ready to go on with some concession on the part of holders. Thus the market, though quiet, closes very strong. A fair quantity of Tea has been taken, but as arrivals have been light and stocks become reduced, prices are firm though unchanged. Exchange, which has been generally steady after declining one point during the week, closes firm.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE JAPANESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE *Kokkai Shimbun* has published a long article, characterised by moderation and common sense, on the Idaho troubles. Here is the gist of our contemporary's remarks. Most of the Tokyo journals have refrained from discussing the anti-Japanese sentiment manifested in Idaho, on the ground that it is undesirable to excite public feeling on matters connected with foreign countries prior to the conclusion of the negotiations of which they will become the subject. The object of the present article is not to cause, but to allay, excitement. Public opinion often needs enlightenment on international questions, and one of the offices of a newspaper is to remove misconceptions. The first thing necessary to observe in connection with the recent agitation in America is its limited extent. As far as we know it is confined to the Idaho territory. It must not therefore be regarded as an indication of the feelings of the Americans generally towards the Japanese. The charge brought against the men who have become objects of antipathy to the labouring men of Idaho is that they are immoral. Now, if immorality is to be considered an adequate reason for expulsion from a state, why are the Italians, Spaniards, and French, who are adepts in various kinds of crime, allowed to remain in America? Is the morality of the Japanese in the United States so bad that Americans have to be warned against it? We have never heard that such is the case. We are not pretending that Japanese morality is all that it ought to be, nor do we say that it reaches the high standard attained by some Americans, but we maintain that it is of a far higher class than the morality of many men against whom there never has been any agitation. But this charge of immorality is insincere. The persons who bring it forward are aware that it is not the real cause of the aversion with which the Japanese are regarded. It is the cheapness of Japanese labour that is the crux. Virtue in the labourers would never reconcile the American working man to being undersold in the labour market. It is not to be supposed for a moment that the Washington Government has any sympathy with the anti-Japanese movement. But there is no denying that democratic candidates for election are accustomed to win votes by declaring themselves in favour of any policy that may be popular with the masses. The men who some years ago inscribed on their electioneering banners, "The Chinamen must go," are likely to re-echo the present cry of the Union workmen "The Japanese must go." The sentiment of the American nation is not to be gauged by the electioneering watchwords of hot-headed democrats. The American nation as a whole, is well disposed towards Japan. But the incidents on which we are commenting show the advisability of our Government taking immediate steps to secure for Japanese labourers in America the same rights as are granted to those of other nationalities. If this is not done the antipathy to Japanese will soon resemble that felt for Chinamen. Hitherto Japanese have been allowed quietly to settle in various parts of America. In California some of our countrymen have become landowners. Now provisions for such a contingency ought to be made in the treaty between the two nations, otherwise, Japanese landowners may be subjected to great losses at any moment. We would recommend the following course to be pursued at the present juncture. The Japanese Government should demonstrate to the Washington Cabinet that the Japanese are an order-loving and law-abiding people; that their habits and lives, from a Western point of view, are superior to those of the Chinese. The American Government should also be reminded of the intercourse between the two nations since the days when, in response to Perry's requests, the country was thrown open. Private individuals should come to the help of the Japanese Government at this crisis and by writing in newspapers, delivering lectures, and by making a good show at the World's Fair should furnish to the American nation at large,

abundant proof of Japan's claim to be treated with consideration and respect. The efforts of missionaries whose sympathies are with the Japanese should be utilised in every way possible. Endeavours should be made to influence members of Congress, so that when the question of America's future attitude to Japan comes to be discussed, Congress will be furnished with reliable information whereon to form an opinion. Some newspapers argue that the action of the Idaho labourers is not of sufficient importance to be made the basis of negotiations between Japan and America, but our view is that apart from the Idaho affair there are indications that the question of the Japanese labourers in America is an urgent one, the discussion and settlement of which it would be most unwise to postpone. With those who endeavour to stir up enmity against Americans in Japan on account of what has happened, we have no sympathy whatever. Any such agitation cannot but do serious mischief, and be most derogatory to our national reputation.

AN AMERICAN'S OPINION OF JAPAN.

ONE of the leading men of New York, well known among the magnates of commerce and celebrated among art amateurs for the beautiful collections which his fine taste and judgment, supplemented by great wealth, have enabled him to bring together, recently spent about three months in Japan. He devoted his whole time to visiting the artisans, artists, and manufacturers of the country, closely observing their methods and conducting intimate researches into everything that concerns them. The opinion of such a man cannot fail to possess interest. We therefore reproduce some extracts from a letter which he has just sent to us, dated New York, August 8th:—"I have just seen enough of Japan to wish to visit it again for a much longer period, and this I hope to do next year or the year following. Japan and its people have made a great impression upon me. I do not know of any people who seem so content, live so well and so cleanly, and have so much of the soft side of life about them, as the general classes of Japan. They compare very favourably with the same classes of other nations. They are the most energetic, hard and patient workers I have ever seen. They do everything so much more thoroughly and better than other peoples that they obtain much happier results. They seem to be becoming great in commerce, and will probably increase considerably in wealth. A Japanese is naturally a thorough gentleman in manners, and foreigners appear very crude compared to them." In the main we consider these remarks true as applied to the individual Japanese, but they should be qualified by the observation that the Japanese seem to lack some of the qualities essential to successful combination in commerce or industry. Their attempts to organise enterprises on a large scale are generally unsuccessful, and though experience may enable them to correct the defects which now mar these efforts, there can be only one verdict about them at present.

FOOT-GEAR FOR JAPANESE TROOPS.

It appears that the old question of foot-gear for the troops in Japan is again on the *tapis*. Chapters of advice and suggestion were penned on this subject in the early days before any definite decision had been reached by the authorities, the consensus of opinion being that Japan should endeavour to adapt to her new needs some of the excellent fashions of foot-gear with which her people were familiar, and of which they had learned by experience to appreciate the advantages. But this advice was not favourably received, probably because the comfort apparently enjoyed by wearers of foreign boots and the evident benefit of stout protection for the feet such as is provided by leather, seemed to fully counterbalance all other difficulties. Though, however, a well made, well fitting leather boot is unquestionably an excellent species of foot-gear for work, an ill-fitting boot of hard leather is about the worst conceivable covering that a man could use for his feet when he contemplates a long walk. This has

been proved many a time on service, and every commanding officer knows that he has to dread nothing more on a campaign than injury to the men's marching powers owing to defective foot-gear. In Japan the difficulty is much accentuated by the fact that soldiers never wear anything resembling boots until they enter the service, when their feet are found to have derived, from the customary use of sandals or clogs, a shape quite unfitted to the regulation boot. It is stated, however, that this embarrassment does not seriously affect the efficiency of the troops with the Colours: they have time to become accustomed to leather boots and learn to wear them without suffering. But when the Reserves are called out for annual training, it is found that they have entirely lost the habit of using leather foot-gear, and that a very large percentage become at once incapacitated for taking part in drill or manoeuvres. In their only serious campaign during the *Meiji* era, the Japanese troops at once discarded leather boots and took to straw sandals, and it is said that they do the same now whenever a long march has to be made. No objection, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, exists to the use of straw sandals in respect of appearance or comfort, but their lasting properties are so bad that in the end they prove much more expensive than leather boots. Our contemporary might have added that special commissariat arrangements would be required in the case of troops shod with straw sandals on service, since at least three pairs per diem would have to be provided for each soldier. A project is now on the *tapis* to manufacture a special kind of boot with a strongly plaited hempen sole and an upper of some material the nature of which is not intelligible from the *Hochi's* account. The inventor asserts that this device will combine the comfort of the sandal with the durability of the boot, which is certainly an extensive claim. We trust that the new gear may satisfy expectation, for assuredly the present shoeing of the Japanese infantry leaves a very great deal to be desired.

PORTUGUESE IDEAS OF JAPANESE JUSTICE.

THE *Novidades*, a leading journal of Lisbon, in its issue of August 5th, contains an article on the recent forfeiture by Portugal of her jurisdiction privileges in Japan. The following is a translation:—

We have an important colony in Japan, and the treaties with that country guarantee to the Portuguese residents in the Empire a precious right, which is also granted to almost all the other European nations. This right is freedom from the jurisdiction of the native Courts. In every case consular courts are substituted for these—and further on, we will explain the importance of this position to those who may not be aware of it. At this moment a most serious report is going the rounds of the European Press that in the case of Portugal, mark, in the case of Portugal alone, a resolution has been taken to modify the actual situation in Japan. The Japanese judges (according to the *Independence Belge*) have informed our compatriots that the privilege of consular jurisdiction has ceased to exist for them! Why is this? We have no idea. The only further information is that the Portuguese colony is most excited (which is very natural), and mention is made of urgent telegrams claiming the protection to which they have a right and the privileges of which they find themselves despoiled in express violation of the words of the treaties.

In order that a full sense of the gravity of the situation may be arrived at, we think it well to inform our readers as to what the judicial customs of Japan are, and as to the fate that awaits the Portuguese residents as soon as they become, like the natives, subject to the ordinary Courts of the country.

In spite of the manners of the Japanese being extremely gentle, the investigation and punishment of criminal offences is stamped with ferocity and irresponsibility. The bamboo is the ordinary accompaniment of cross-examinations. At the commencement of the proceedings the indictment is unrolled before the eyes of the prisoner, and if he does not answer as the *Juge d'instruction* thinks fit, a shower of blows comes down upon his back. If there is a suspicion that he is lying, he is made to kneel upon a piece of wood cut in facets, and large stones are placed upon his bent thighs until the floor is crimsoned with his blood and his ter-

Original from

rible sufferings force from him the confession of the crime of which he is accused. Imprisonment in Japan has usually somewhat of a preventive character, for the punishments generally imposed are exile, corporal punishment, and death. The most usual punishments are flogging and branding; the latter being inflicted not by means of a hot iron, but by a sort of tattooing on the arm which is indelible, and thus renders the culprit always liable to recognition. Incendiaries are burnt; murderers are beheaded; their heads are exposed in a public place and their bodies handed over to the youths of the nobility for sword practice. At the time of the persecution of the Christians the Japanese invented an atrocious torture; the condemned man was hung with his head down in a cistern the opening of which was shut leaving the feet outside, and was kept in this position till death ensued.

It is right to add that the above article was denounced as overdrawn and unfair by a large portion of the Portuguese press on the morning following its appearance in the columns of the *Novidades*. But the fact nevertheless remains that it was published in all seriousness by perhaps the most widely read journal in Lisbon. Its statements will probably be credited much more readily than their retraction. We cannot expect the people of Lisbon to know much about Japan. The people of Japan, on their side, doubtless have no acquaintance with and take very little interests in the affairs of Portugal. The ignorance is to some extent reciprocal. But the writer in the *Novidades* certainly carries off the palm, for it would have been impossible to pen a more ridiculous tissue of falsehoods about the procedure of Japanese tribunals than he has placed before his countrymen. Evidently his crass ignorance is not wholly shared by the rest of his countrymen, and that, at all events, is a satisfaction.

The same paper has a paragraph referring to the news, received in Europe by telegraph, of an attempt upon the lives of Count Okuma and Mr. Kono. The writer of the paragraph wonders whether the two attempts were perpetrated by Portuguese, and by way of alternative hypothesis suggests that perhaps these crimes constituted the reason for the withdrawal of the jurisdiction privilege hitherto enjoyed in the Japanese empire by the subjects of His Most Faithful Majesty! It thinks, further, that the use of infernal machines against "the two Ministers" may have been a protest on the part of the Portuguese against the withdrawal of that privilege. These conjectures are so entertaining that the *Novidades* would have conferred a boon on its readers by giving a somewhat wider scope to its imagination.

TELEGRAM RATES FROM CHINA.

THE *N.C. Daily News* says:—We understand that Mr. Byron Brenan, British Consul at Tientsin, has protested to the Viceroy there against the ratification of the new Telegraph Convention, and it is much to be regretted that, as far as we are informed, the Chamber of Commerce here has taken no action. It is of great importance at least to gain time for the new Convention to be considered by the European governments and Chambers of Commerce. As we have already mentioned, the Viceroy Li is not particularly anxious himself to see the Convention ratified, and anything that would confirm him in his opposition to it, or induce him to postpone the fatal step, would be well done. The other foreign Ministers at Peking should be asked by their merchants here to protest against the ratification, as we understand that Sir John Walsham has at last done, and the London Chamber of Commerce and the China Association should be appealed to for their assistance. It is not yet too late; but the Treaty will be ratified, it is to be feared, if all the energy is left to those whose interest it is to have it ratified, and those who will be condemned by it for ten years to a \$2 rate allow themselves to be sacrificed without a murmur.

MR. BRYCE ON THE JAPANESE CONSTITUTION.

In a recent issue we alluded to some remarks made by Mr. Bryce in the House of Commons

on the subject of the Japanese Constitution, and, at the same time, published an article by Mr. F. T. Piggott which had appeared in the *Asiatic Quarterly*, protesting against Mr. Bryce's view, and supplementing the protest by an interesting commentary on the Constitution. We also stated that Mr. Bryce had subsequently disavowed the intention suggested by his words, and had expressed strong approval of the Japanese Constitution as adapted to the circumstances of Japan, though not to the circumstances of other countries. Mr. Bryce, in order fully to remove the unpleasant construction to which his language was obviously open, has now addressed to the *Asiatic Quarterly* a letter which will doubtless appear in the next issue of that periodical. As a considerable interval must elapse, however, before the number of the *Asiatic Quarterly* containing this disavowal is in the hands of the public, and as Mr. Bryce is very anxious "not even to appear to disparage the efforts Japan is making," we have been requested to publish the letter at once, which we have much pleasure in doing:—

HOUSE OF COMMONS, August 11th, 1892.

DEAR SIR.—I find with surprise and regret that a reference which I made, in the House of Commons some months ago, to the new Constitution of Japan has been seriously misunderstood, no doubt unintentionally, in an article which appears in your last number. Whether this is owing to obscurity in my words or to their compression in a newspaper report I need not enquire. All I desire is to disclaim most explicitly and emphatically any intention of disparaging in any way the Constitution of the Japanese Empire. I carefully studied that instrument some years ago, and formed a high opinion of the skill with which it had been prepared. Nothing was further from my mind than to condemn as unsuited to the conditions of a great Oriental monarchy the provisions on which I commented, though I held that similar arrangements would be unsuited to Ireland or any other part of the United Kingdom. This was my argument; and it would have been as foreign to my purpose as opposed to my wishes and sentiments, to say anything that could be deemed wanting in respect or friendliness to those representative institutions which the new Constitution has created, and whose working many of us in England are watching with lively interest and sympathy.

I have the honour to be, faithfully yours,

J. BRYCE.

THE EDITOR
"ASIATIC QUARTERLY REVIEW."

BURNING OF THE GREAT PAGODA AT MANDALAY. A CORRESPONDENT writes:—Shortly after 11 p.m. on Wednesday, the 6th ult., a thick cloud of smoke, rolling towards the Mountain Battery Lines, announced to those who happened to look in that direction that a fire had broken out. At first it was feared it might be in the Transport Lines, but, on arriving on the scene, I discovered that the incomparable Pagoda was the victim; the doors on the windward side were all ablaze, and apparently the interior also; but not being a salamander or a Captain Shaw I did not venture in to look. Though it must have been burning for at least a quarter of an hour when I arrived, no one seemed to take much interest in the matter; at last, a Burmese arrived with a large chatty of water, which he apparently intended to throw on to the building but not having been through a musketry course, he clean missed his somewhat large target. As the blaze became greater, the populace, drawn away from a "pwe" in the Eastern bazaar by the superior attractions of the bonfire, came crowding into the compound, headed by an old lady, who had apparently dressed herself somewhat hurriedly, and carried a small *lotah* of water; boldly ascending the steps she advanced till within about ten yards of the burning building, where she found the atmosphere too warm to be pleasant, so, pouring her contribution a little on the floor, partly on herself, principally on an officious Hindoo who was making a great fuss and doing nothing, she retired a good deal faster than she came, occasionally glancing behind to make certain that the fire demons were not tacking up wind and down the steps to devour her. Loud shouts then heralded the advent of the fire engine, and every-one became seized with a fit of energy, regardless of the fact that the fire had now got such a hold that nothing short of the deluge could have saved the building. The Burmese, as pleased as children

with a new toy, began pumping vigorously long before the hose was long enough to reach the building, and amused themselves by squirting each other and getting in the way of the natives in charge of the engine. After breaking the hose twice, things were at last got into some order, and a stream of water, the effects of which were neither great nor far-reaching, was carefully directed on the windward side of the building, which was now fairly ablaze all over. As a strong breeze was blowing at the time, and the building was made entirely of teak, it is almost superfluous to add that it was completely destroyed. The next day the Cantonment Magistrate sat on the still smouldering ashes—inquisitorially, of course—and brought in a verdict of accidental death. I think I may safely say that this does not agree with the opinion, or rather opinions, of the multitude. The Burmese say it was burnt by the English—as they wanted the land to build commissariat godowns on; some of the Europeans are of opinion that the Burmese budmashes are the culprits; whilst others, including myself, think—well, arson is a serious charge, and not being quite sure of what constitutes a libel, I will keep my opinion to myself. The Pagoda was built by Min-doon-min, Theebaw's predecessor, at a cost of some three or four lakhs; its native name is Ah-tu-ma-she. This is by no means the first of the old-world landmarks of Mandalay which has been swept away, and, if things continue at the present pace, some ten or fifteen years hence Mandalay will be of no more interest to visitors than the ordinary common or garden modern cantonment town. The local Zadkiels are at present in great form, and it we are to believe them—I admit they are not infallible—we English, whom they only allowed in the country on sufferance, are in great danger of being kicked out, neck and crop. For one of their wise men of the East, who, according to his present statements, foretold the advent of the "man with the hal," i.e., Thomas Atkins, Esq., in Theebaw's time, now states that the "man with the pig-tail," i.e., John Chinaman, is to supplant us. He is not quite sure when, but probably soon, especially now that the Incomparable Pagoda has been burnt, for the same fate overtook the Arakan Pagoda in Theebaw's time just before we came up here. This undoubtedly settles the matter, but being naturally lazy, I have not yet begun packing my kit.—*Statesman*.

ASSAULT ON MISSIONARIES IN SZECHUAN.

A MISSIONARY, writing to the *N.C. Daily News* under date 15th August, from the Yangtze Ling, 55 miles N.W. of Chentu, in Szechuan, says:—Mr. Polhill-Turner and wife with two children and Dr. Parry and wife with their youngest child, spent yesterday with us and the Doctor leaves for the village below, to-day. Dr. and Mrs. Polhill-Turner stay in the temple with us. They have been subjected to gross ill-treatment at Sungp'an whither they had gone to meet Dr. Parry, as Mrs. Turner was ill. It was while they were waiting at Sungp'an that the natives, who were suffering from want of rain, came to the conclusion that the foreign missionaries were skilled in necromantic arts and had used these arts to prevent the rain falling. The natives were lashed into fury at this, and made an attack upon the missionaries. Mr. Turner was seized, his arms and legs tied, he was kicked and struck over the head, and, having been overpowered, the mob seized his wife and children. While this was going on a military mandarin, apparently in order to gain time, suggested that the missionaries should be tried before the mob proceeded further. This being acceded to, they were taken to the *yamen* and ordered to be beaten, but two native Christians volunteered to be beaten in their place. The mob was satisfied and the missionaries left Sungp'an for this place. The writer also states that the cholera was still bad at Chentu, and that lots of uncoffined bodies were lying outside the city gates. It was rumoured that the people at the village at the foot of the mountain on which the writer was, would drive the missionaries out of the temple, owing apparently to the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Polhill-Turner. Tremendous rains had fallen

and done considerable damage, the village above referred to being nearly swamped with mud, which was eighteen inches deep in some of the houses, the drought at Sungp'an and the rains at the Yangtze Ling being due to the presence of the *yang jen*, according to native ideas in this part of the world. Not much credence, however, was placed in the rumour that the foreigners were to be driven out. Another missionary writing under date 18th August from the Yangtze Ling says:—Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Polhill-Turner and children who were driven out of Sungp'an, ten days north from here, by a mob, have been staying with us in this temple since 13th. They expected to go to-day to Kuanhsien. We are all well here, the weather is cool and we wear spring clothing. We have had heavy and long continuous rains. From Chên-tu we learn that hundreds are dying daily of cholera. In many cases coffins are not obtainable, but the officials have contributed towards their purchase.

BUDDHISM IN JAPANESE ART.

A BRITISH architect, Mr. Josiah Conder, who has been for several years in the service of the Japanese Government, has published in the journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects copious notes on Japanese Architecture. He remarks that Shintoism and Buddhism have become so blended in Japan since the 8th century that many Shinto temples are to all appearance of Buddhist style. They have, for example, pagodas, shrines, images, and many details all Buddhist. In Japan the decorative arts have been growing all through the intervening thirteen centuries, and the differences observed in the buildings of old times and those of more modern date are caused by changes in decorative development. Chinese buildings are more solid than those of Japan. Chinese architects went to Japan and took their plans with them. They worked with Japanese materials, and native workmen built the temples under their direction. Thus in both countries the most imposing erections were those that were made under Buddhist superintendence, and as Buddhism is a Western religion, naturally we have to look to Western countries for the origin of all the more rich and refined features both of Chinese and Japanese architecture. This, Mr. Conder does not say, but it appears to be the conclusion to which we are driven by the facts. Japanese architecture is modelled on that of China, with modifications called for by the character of the country. So in China the monastery was modelled on the *Vihara* of India, and the monastic structures of Kashmir, Afghanistan, and Central Asia. Foreigners came, and with the Buddhist creed taught the Chinese the pictorial and architectural arts of those countries. It is in this way that notions of design which sprang up in Egypt, Western Asia, and Greece have found their way to these Eastern lands. In their art the Japanese are punctilious to excess. They pay such minute attention to trivial matters that they lose in grandeur. This remark of Mr. Conder is borne out by the circumstance that the effect of view of a Shogun's tomb on the observer is less impressive than that of the Ming tombs near Peking. The grandeur of the Ming tombs transcends the perfected beauty and richness of gilt lacquer seen in the last resting-places of the Tokugawa usurpers. The triumphs of the Japanese artist are the triumphs of the paint brush. How for example does he proceed in painting a single massive dragon on a vast square ceiling? There is such a dragon in black and gold in the Nanzenji temple at Kyoto. This is a fine example of Japanese calligraphy. The painter has the boards that form the ceiling spread on the floor below. He roughly sketches his subject with a burnt stick, and then proceeds with an enormous brush dipped in Indian ink to dash in a bold outline, which he does with great bodily exertion, making many vigorous turns of the brush and crawling rapidly over the surface from top to bottom. The bold line thus produced is greatly admired by the Japanese, and occasional ragged strokes or splashes from the too full or too empty brush add to the effect in the eyes of the connoisseur. Should

there be small accidents, such as splutterings of ink, they are afterwards effaced when the colouring is put on. A mixture of whitening is used with the colour for such purposes, and care is taken to preserve the black outlines. It is the black dragon itself that is important, the colouring may merely be an amber base on which gilding is laid. From this it is quite clear that, as in China so in Japan, the fundamental influence which led to the growth of Japanese art was Chinese Buddhism. The Chinese Buddhist went to Japan and acted there as architect and painter. The grotesque figures which the Japanese love to paint are based on the Chinese Lohans and *sten jen*. Asceticism is to some extent a mother of art, because the devotee prefers nature to the ordinary haunts of men. He is at home among trees, listening to the moaning winds on a seaside cliff, or to the brooklet as it whispers down a mountain side. The ascetic life is exalted by the painter, and at the very time when he is depicting the victory of Buddhist thought over the mind of the worldly man, driving him from the occupations of life to a forest home, he is the same moment encouraging the impulses of art feeling in the soul. Nature herself supplies the trees, the lake, the mountain, the grotto. The ascetic leaves society, and seeks a home of simplicity with the fewest wants possible. But into the void, thus made by the abandonment of society, art enters and pictures a hundred lovely forms, such as meet the eye of the fisherman and the woodman. It would be a great mistake to suppose that Buddhist thought is limited in its range to the metaphysical teaching of the Buddhist classics. That art feeling which springs up spontaneously in any country where there is culture, revealed to the Buddhist painter the essential beauty of those scenes and rural incidents which fail to touch the heart of either fisherman or woodman, who in fact sees too much of these things to recognise any admirable features in them. This is the effect of mental and moral culture afforded by Buddhism in these Eastern countries. The contrast with Christian art is remarkable. Christian art occupied itself with religion also, but in a higher sphere. Buddhist art is content with natural beauty as a pleasing variation in the too great dullness of metaphysical dogma. In Christian art we see humanity elevated by the entrance of the divine idea. Before Raffaele's time such beautiful human forms had never been seen as those which he drew, prompted by the teaching of the gospels. Thus we are helped to fix the position held by Japanese and Chinese art. It is Buddhist. It is the love of nature in minds under Oriental culture. So far as civilisation could aid in its growth the paint brush and a good selection of colours were usually required, and in addition, copper, gold and silver are all extensively used in Buddhist art, and of course wood and stone. Wherever they travelled it was the aim of Buddhists to reproduce as far as practicable those forms of architecture and painting which prevailed in the countries from which the missionaries came.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE GLADSTONIAN OUTLOOK.

THERE was a momentary lull in home politics at the date of our latest advices. Even Mr. Labouchere's garrulity was, for the nonce, silenced in face of his recent snub by the Grand Old Man and his reserve as to the policy to be pursued in order to keep his heterogeneous majority together. The Radicals are deeply concerned at the outlook. It is felt that Irish Home Rule can never be carried unless due attention is paid to the measures of the various sections of which the Liberal party is composed, and this is the great problem awaiting solution at the hands of the old parliamentary tactician. Mr. Gladstone knows perfectly well that the Welsh members, the Labour Party, the Nonconformists, and some of the Radicals themselves, are much less enamoured with Home Rule than they are with their own pet projects. He also knows that if he could take up some of these measures before Home Rule, he would feel safer in appealing to the nation, when the Lords throw the Home

Rule Bill out. But assuredly the Irish members will tolerate no trifling at the present juncture; they will make a bold fight to carry Home Rule through on the flowing tide; they have waited long for the opportunity, and they realise, only too clearly, what delay will undoubtedly involve. Just as plainly do the other parties perceive that if the session is devoted exclusively to Home Rule, dissolution will descend upon them, and they will have to return to their constituents empty-handed. On the whole, we are inclined to think that Mr. Gladstone will stand or fall by his Home Rule programme.

RAILWAY TRAVELLING IN INDIA.

THE *Times* of India says:—The carriages are exposed to the sun during the whole of the day, and being constructed largely of iron, including the outer roof, they are heated up like ovens, while the arrangements for cooling them have never been satisfactory even to the companies who own them. One simple means of keeping down the temperature has been neglected in a manner that seems difficult to explain. Although white is known to be the colour that resists most effectually the heat of the sun, it is the colour least used on the exterior of the railway carriages, and although black and the darker shades of brown and grey are known to absorb the most heat, they are largely used on the roofs and sides of both carriages and waggons. The same substance, exposed to the sun, would, if coated with various colours, absorb heat in the following proportions:—

White.....	100	Dark Green.....	168
Pale Yellow.....	102	Turkey Red.....	165
Strong Yellow.....	140	Light Blue.....	198
Light Green.....	155	Black.....	208

Black iron exposed to the sun in a still atmosphere will heat up to 60 deg. in the interior of India, and as the human body has to be kept down to a temperature between 98 and 99 deg., it sometimes goes hard with the traveller in hot weather; and the coffin that is kept at most of the important stations comes into use. Many travellers in hot weather prefer the second-class carriages with rattan cane seats and backs to the leather upholstery of the first class, although the former has no kus-kus cooling apparatus. Considering that the second-class ticket is only half the price of the first, the advantage is decidedly in its favour when the shade temperature is over 100 deg. When we come to consider the devices that have been employed to cool the air artificially in railway carriages, there appears to be very much still undone to improve the comfort of the traveller in the hot weather. There is such a vast store of power in a moving train, some heavy goods engines being capable of exerting 1,000 horse-power, while such a comparatively small power will drive a thermantidote and cool a house, that one may marvel why no satisfactory apparatus has yet been used in railway carriages. What is said of the carriage and waggons applies equally to the station roofs. They are of every other colour than white. It is now pretty well known that one coat of whitewash will reduce the temperature of an iron-covered roof 26 deg. Fahrenheit, making it, in fact, cooler than unwhitened tiles. In the same manner, a well-whitened single-tiled roof is cooler than a red double-tiled roof, not to speak of the difference in cost. If any railway companies would make a careful series of observations on the effect of exterior colour on the interior of their rolling-stock and buildings, the result would be equally beneficial to the travelling and mercantile public and to themselves.

RAILS.

A CORRESPONDENT draws our attention to the following paragraph in *The Times*, which has interest for purchasers of rails in the East; it is from *The Times* correspondent in Berlin, and is dated July 25th:—"The trial of a number of engineers and workmen employed by the Bochum Association for Mining and Steel Foundry on a charge of having in various ways defrauded the German State Railways began at Essen to-day. The Bochum Works, which are among the best known in Germany, have given special attention to the manufacture of railway lines,

locomotives, axles, and wheels, in addition to many other branches of steel and iron work, and number not only the German State Railways, but many foreign railway companies among their patrons. The case is the more interesting because the material delivered by the Bochum Association has not only enjoyed an excellent reputation, but has been confessedly superior to the manufactures of other works. The frauds are stated to have taken place especially in connexion with the testing of the rails destined for the State Railways, which were in the habit of sending some of their own officials to examine the material and mark what they passed as satisfactory. The official received a stamp for the railway which he represented, and this he was not allowed to let out of his hands except when he was superintending the stamping of the good material by the workmen. The incriminated workmen are accused of having made false stamps after the pattern of those employed by the superintending officials, with which they marked material which had not been examined; and this, of course, led the officials to believe that they had tested more than they had in reality. A second charge against the accused is that they repaired holes, cracks, and other defects in the rails with a particular cement, and so gave the inferior and useless material the appearance of finished work. Thirdly, it is stated that whilst the stamping of the tested rails was taking place the workmen substituted rejected ones for those which the officials had handed over to be stamped as satisfactory, and marked the former with the forged stamps. An inducement to these fraudulent practices is said to have been the fact that the workmen received a premium proportionate to the amount of material which was accepted by the official overseers. It is fairly certain that these methods of palming off bad work for good are not of recent date, but have been practised for a very considerable period. The course of the trial up to the present moment has presented no feature especially worthy of notice.

THE PROWESS OF THE BRITISH OFFICER.

Writing upon the importance of a military officer knowing how to use the sword and the revolver upon the still not infrequent occasions when he is engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter, the *Saturday Review* says:—"Sir William Napier could run or jump with any one of the gallant members of his regiment, and records how, in the race for the rocks at La Rhune, he was 'not a foot behind' the most active of them. And he could hold his own with the foils, the single-sticks, or the bayonet, as well as in mere bodily activity. Marshal Beresford, too, was a man of magnificent physique, and owed his life to the thrusts and sinews when he found himself engaged in a rough-and-tumble that would have shocked Von Moltke, with the Polish Lancers at Albuera. Lord Anglesey was also a typical 'beau sabreur,' and even when he lost a leg could sit a horse with more grace than most mortals can display with two. During the Mutiny and Sikh wars hand-to-hand encounters, in which the leaders on either side set a shining example to their followers, were by no means uncommon, and almost all the men on our side who came to the front could hold their own, and more than do so, even with the expert hereditary swordsmen who rode against them. Nicholson was as efficient with his arm and wrist as with his quick decision and active brain. Hodson, of Hodson's Horse, was the very ideal of a cavalry leader, and his name was terrible to the natives, as much, perhaps, by reason of his reputation as a swordsman as because of any of the other soldier-like qualities of which he was possessed. Sir Dighton Probyn, when he was at the head of his native cavalry squadrons, was looked up to by his followers as a very Paladin, and could beat the best of them at tent-pegging, lemon-slicing, or any of the tests of horsemanship dear to men who are soldiers by tradition, birth, and predilection. Last, but not least, there were few men in India twenty years ago who would have cared to meet Lord Roberts, as we must now learn to call him, at any of these exercises."

if a heavy stake depended on the issue. Even now, when years and the cares of office may reasonably be supposed to have somewhat dimmed his eye, it is a refreshing sight to see the Commander-in-Chief take the first 'peg,' as he usually does, at the Simla gymkhanas, and to note that he can wield a lance with a dexterity which none of those who follow him will surpass, and not a man of his age in all India equal. Nor is it in our armies alone that such qualities in officers have ever commanded admiration. The brilliant Murat, vain and theatrical as he was in dress and manner, when the battle was at its height was never more thoroughly at his ease, and never showed more strikingly to advantage. The handsome figure covered with lace and frippery was always wont to shoot far ahead of the squadrons behind him into the *mêlée*, and regarded a chance thrown away which did not enable him to lay several opponents low by the superior skill he could display with the sabre. Lasalle, young, bright, and intelligent, who fell at Wagram, the best leader of cavalry in Europe, with the one exception we have just been speaking of, at two-and-thirty years of age, owed much of his influence and authority to his fine riding and his cunning of fence. In our own times Skobelev was just such another, and the halo of romance which played about him arose in a large degree from the physical advantages he could boast of among his uneducated troopers. Valentine Baker's is another name which will occur among several others, some of whom are happily with us still, and we may hope that, unless the character of Englishmen widely alters, we may never lack a plentiful supply of men of the same quality."

THE SILK BOOM.

THE Tokyo News Agency notes the fact that since 1876 no such prices have been obtained by Japanese sericulturists as those ruling at present. A great year indeed was 1876. Not only were immense sums paid to the silk-growers in this country, but happily the result proved most profitable for foreign purchases, so that the season took its permanent place in the records with a big red letter attached to it. The maximum price paid for a bale of 100 canties (133½ lbs.) of the best silk in 1876 was 1,120 yen, a figure not approached this year, for as yet 860 yen tops the list. Nevertheless, the latter sum, when compared with the general maximum of from six hundred to seven hundred yen, indicates a very remarkable boom. The News Agency predicts that prices will be sustained, and we see no reason to question the accuracy of the forecast. What is to be hoped is that transactions beyond the water may justify the liberal figures recorded at this side, and that the foreign exporter will come out of the enterprise with at least something of the success that crowned his doings twelve years ago. A little solid encouragement of the kind is greatly needed by the foreign merchant at present.

A NAGASAKI SCANDAL.

SOME time ago a vernacular newspaper of Nagasaki published a strange story imputing to a foreigner resident in that Settlement the contrivance of a most heinous crime, in which the greed of an abandoned woman was taken advantage of to gratify the prurient curiosity of two scoundrels. The *Kokkai*, if we remember rightly, reproduced the tale, supplementing it by an expression of disbelief, and inasmuch as the statements given in the Nagasaki newspaper were in some respects most improbable, we imagined that the matter would end there. But, on the contrary, the tale has since then made the round of the Tokyo press, even the leading journals of the capital assisting to circulate it, and evidently attaching credit to it. It is an old experience that stories invariably undergo some change in passing from mouth to mouth. Whether owing to that reason, or because the Tokyo newspapers possess particulars not published in Nagasaki, we observe that their versions have gradually departed more or less from the Nagasaki original. But whatever may be the exact facts of the affair, it seems to us that

no manner of proportion exists between the prominence given to it by the Tokyo press and its real importance. If some person, dehumanized by the indulgence of brutal propensities, has been guilty of a deed for which no manner of palliation can be found, surely the laws of Japan and of the country which has the misfortune to own him are fully competent to punish his offence. This journalistic hubbub insults alike the laws and their administrators. Besides, an unpleasant conviction is created that had both of the parties concerned been Japanese, we should have heard very little of the matter, except, perhaps, in the Manchusen columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. So soon, however, as a foreigner figures in the affair, it is at once elevated to the rank of a public spectacle, as though crime differed in degree according to the nationality of the perpetrator, and as though the distinction between West and East occupied in the moral vista of Japanese publicists a space so large as to disturb the proper proportions of everything else.

THE POSITION OF FOREIGN PROFESSORS IN JAPAN.

A WRITER in *Industries* sums up a very sensible article on the above subject in the following manner:—"We have no hesitation in saying that among the foreign professors who have served, or are serving, the Japanese, there are to be found men who would do credit to any university in the world, and further, we believe that they keep themselves up in all the advances in their own departments. In our opinion, it will be highly necessary that for many years to come the Japanese should retain the services of such men, for it cannot be doubted that in Japan as in other Eastern countries there is a tendency to be content with the form of an institution; although the spirit which should animate it be almost entirely absent. Although we have a great admiration for what the Japanese have done in the matter of education, we feel that we should be doing them a wrong if we did not express the opinion that their higher institutions have not carried out the promise they gave a few years ago. In too many cases they have become enveloped in officialism and formalism, and will do little to advance either the material or the moral interests of the country. The best way to prevent this is to have about them a few distinguished men, and give them independent positions in which they may be able to make their influence felt. This independence would engender devotion to duty, and keep alive the true spirit of learning and investigation."

MARINE PRODUCTS.

REFERRING to the development of marine products, a matter that has attracted attention in both political and commercial circles during the past three years, the *Hochi Shimbun* writes that Mr. Kono Togama's project of applying a sum of 130,000 yen annually to the purpose is in some danger of being abandoned. The amount, according to our contemporary, was actually sanctioned by the Cabinet and included in the Budget for submission to the Diet during Mr. Kono's tenure of the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. Viscount Sano and Count Goto, who succeeded Mr. Kono, endorsed his views in this matter. Their idea was that of the total grant, a sum of sixty thousand yen should be assigned in the form of a continuing fund for a period of five years, to be applied to the purpose of boat-building, and that the remaining seventy thousand yen should be devoted to organizing and supporting schools for imparting theoretical and practical instruction in matters relating to marine products. But some doubt seems to be entertained as to the attitude of the present cabinet towards this scheme. It is not supposed that Count Ito underrates the importance of developing this source of Japanese wealth, or that he is less anxious than any other statesman to encourage enterprise in such a direction. But his general principle, as interpreted by the *Hochi*, is to avoid appropriating public money to inception of new works unless they are absolutely necessary. We are disposed to be sceptical, however, about the *Hochi's* forecast, for it seems to be based on a hypothesis contrary to Count

Ito's policy. Doubtless under his leadership the present Cabinet will endeavour to reduce the national expenditure as far as possible, but Count Ito and Count Inouye have always been distinguished for the liberal support extended by them to useful enterprises, and we think it scarcely probable that they will exclude from that category the development of marine products, for in these Japan unquestionably possesses a most important source of wealth which she has not yet exploited to a tithe of its capacity.

GOLD IN RANGOON.

FOLLOWING close on the discoveries of Dr. Neetling and Mr. Griesbach, comes the news that Mr. J. M. Puttock, Commander of the steamer *George*, has dropped on a veritable gold mine on the shore of the Irrawaddy, somewhat above Senbo. It reads like a tale from the Arabian Nights. Mr. Puttock went down from his vessel for what purpose is not quite clear, but he stayed to wash for gold, and he washed for an hour. At the end of an hour he put the washings in a bottle. It is not said what kind of bottle it was. It may have been a whisky bottle or it may have been a beer, and who knows that it was not a lollipop bottle. However, we do not think the bottle is a very material question. The bottle was carefully sealed and sent to the Chemical Examiner, who pronounced that the sample contained gold in proportion to sand of 1lb 1.4 oz. per ton. The inexperienced Director of the Department of Land Records was a bit sceptical. He wanted to know the weight of sand washed by the Captain; but as it would be a little inconvenient to get this information, he is satisfied with the weight of the sand and of the gold in the bottle, on which data he proposes, by taking into consideration the time the Captain spent in washing for gold, to arrive at some reliable result as to the value of the gold mine discovered by the Commander of the *George*. The Captain produced 3 lbs. 10 oz. of sand containing 10.4 grains of gold after an hour's work. For the purposes of calculation it would be safest for investors in the gold mine to judge his labour by the lowest standard. A famine relief coolie digs soft soil at the rate of 45 cubic feet in eight working hours. It is quite clear, therefore, that the auriferous sand bank contains gold in paying quantities, and we would propose that a Company be floated at once with Mr. J. M. Puttock as Chairman of the Board of Directors.—*Rangoon Times*.

PEKING.

A "RECENT VISITOR" writes as follows to the *London and China Express*:—"As you may perceive, I am now in that diplomatic slough of despond called Peking; a place which has no parallel in the world in more respects than one; a place where the united efforts of the greatest Powers in Christendom have failed to make any perceptible impression for good on the native mind. Christian missionaries have now been working here for centuries, and diplomatic ministers have been residing here for decades. It was during the Mongolian or Yuan dynasty, that is, in the thirteenth century, that John de Mont-Corvino was appointed Archbishop of Peking, or Kan Baluc, as the city was then called, and it was in the year 1860 that the allied armies of England and France camped before the city and demanded an entrance, and the right of perpetual residence for foreign diplomats and missionaries, leaving out the foreign merchant, for fear he might disturb the sleep of the place. Well now, not to go too far back, all the united efforts of diplomats and missionaries have miserably failed in thirty years to secure a respectable official entrance, or social admittance, into any class of Peking society, or even the daily perambulation of the useful water-cart in Legation-street, much less in any other part of this excessively dirty and dusty old city. Now it is not too much to say that if two dozen British merchants had been residing here for thirty years they would certainly have had good roads and shady walks, well watered daily, and a place for a decent ride and drive in foreign vehicles, and thousands upon thousands of natives following their example, as at Shanghai and elsewhere.

Diplomats and missionaries in Peking are like Worcester sauce and mustard placed before a hungry man without food. They may excite his appetite and disgust, but they cannot satisfy or appease his hunger. Yet there are people who imagine that our Ministers and Consuls may and ought to assist our merchants in the increase of trade. It is a mistake. Our merchants must do in the future as they have ever done in the past—help themselves, and even then they are likelier to be able to help the officials than the officials are to help them."

A VOLUNTEER FLEET FOR JAPAN.

FOR years politicians in Japan have been talking of the necessity of extending the naval force of the country, but as yet nothing has been done. On the contrary, the very advocates of the scheme, the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* members, refused to grant certain sums of money in the last session of the Diet for the construction of men-of-war. Now, however, a new enterprise has been proposed by Messrs. Uyeda Sho, Tashire Shozo, and others, under the name of the *Jiyu-Kantai* (Volunteer Fleet). Its statement of motives was published in the *Keisai Shimpō*, which we translate as follows:—

JAPANESE VOLUNTEER FLEET.

Japan is not a mere solitary island in the Eastern Ocean, but a great naval nation. Her situation is magnificent. Eastward lie, across the Pacific Ocean, North and South America; China and Korea stand on the west, and the Oceanic Islands on the south. When the Nicaragua Canal and the Siberian Railway are completed, our country will occupy a central position, and we shall hold the power of both commerce and war in the East. Though the area of Japan is not more than 24,700 *ri*, the length of coast line and its situation are equalled nowhere. In spite of these advantages our naval equipment is developing very slowly. Though we have some 37 war-vessels, only about 20 can be used in time of war; although there are 1,173 mercantile steamers and 96 sailing-ships, only 50 of these steamers, and 3 sailing-ships can carry over 500 tons. In Europe every nation is eager to acquire commercial, maritime, and colonizing powers, competition is keen amongst them, and yet no one in our country enters the lists with them.

To maintain the independence of a country, and extend its national power, it is absolutely necessary to augment the naval force. A great and ancient nation like China feeling this necessity has greatly enlarged her naval strength. She possesses 47 men-of-war, their total tonnage amounting to some 67,000. Again the total number of men-of-war of England, France, Germany, Russia, and America stationed in the East is 77, and their aggregate tonnage is 86,807. We cannot compare such immense strength with our own mean display. But to enlarge our naval force great expenditure is necessary, and at present, as we have numerous important undertakings in hand, we cannot devote the national revenue entirely to that purpose. At the same time, unless it is enlarged, the existing force will not serve in time of either peace or war. In order to increase the national wealth it is also necessary to develop and extend maritime enterprise. The present internal condition of Japan shows that various industrial enterprises have been established, and transportation by rail and steamer has been considerably augmented, yet maritime enterprise is entirely left in the hands of foreigners. The consequence of this is that emigration has made no progress nor has the spirit of exploration been aroused. We must increase the number of war-vessels by which long voyages can be made if we wish to extend our commerce and to encourage emigration. Such, indeed, is one of the most urgent questions of the day. It is not a time for the people to sigh at the present feeble condition of the country without attempting to improve it. We deplore it; and now with those who hold similar opinions, we seek to promote a scheme for a Volunteer Fleet. The object is to rouse the people to increase our naval strength and national power, on the one hand, and to encourage maritime enterprise, emigration, and exploration, on the other. A similar scheme was organized by the wealthy classes in Russia in 1878. Their ships are utilized in time of peace for commercial enterprises, and they make long voyages to the East; but should war break out they at once hoist the naval flag.

As friendly intercourse with nations increases, maritime enterprise develops, fisheries extend, and emigration spreads. The organization of a Volunteer Fleet becomes inevitable if we hope to compete with other countries.

THE INDUSTRIES OF NORTH FORMOSA.

MR. HOLLAND, H.M.'s Consul at Tamsui, in his report on the trade of that port for 1891, thus refers to winkle fishing and duck breeding in North Formosa:—"Fishing is carried on in the various ways that may be seen in many parts of China, but perhaps the most peculiar branch of this industry is the fishing for small winkles,

which are required in very large quantities for feeding the thousands of ducks that are bred here artificially. A crowd of boats may always be seen at flood tide, each with one man in it, who is constantly engaged in hauling up his peculiar net, discharging its contents into his boat and then pitching the net out again. Each boat has two nets, which are each furnished with a handle about 4 feet long, and a big stone fastened at the point of junction of handle and net frame. A long cord made fast at one end to the boat and at the other to the net handle, gives the fishermen full control over his net. On hauling it up to the surface, he lays the handle across the boat, and, sticking one leg over the boat's side, with his foot clears out all the mud which may be in the bottom of the net. This is much less trouble than it would be to stoop over and do it with his hand, and much safer is such very cranky little boats as are used. Having cleared the net out in this way, he turns its contents out into a compartment in his boat, and pitches the net out again. The stone carries it to the bottom, and it is so nicely arranged and balanced as to cause the net to stand on the bottom of the river at the most convenient angle for the reception of the winkles, which are swept into it by the tide.

A few words about the artificial duck-hatching, which is a great feature in the local native industries. A long, low shed is built, mostly of wattles and mud, with a thick thatched roof. Along the inside the walls of this are arranged rough troughs, which are filled up with grain and roasted paddyhusk, on which the eggs are placed as fast as they are laid. In summer no particular precautions are taken, but in winter the eggs are covered over with quilted coverlets, and far more care is taken to exclude cold draughts than is ever dreamt of in a native dwelling-house. The grain, which is sprinkled with a little warm water, sets up fermentation, and that, with the help of the warm paddy-husk, which is continually being changed, hatches the eggs in about 30 days. By this simple and inexpensive process the breeder is enabled to sell young ducklings at such a low price as 35 for 1 dol., or, say, about 1d. each. Many flocks of ducks, averaging 500 to the flock, can always be seen up river at low tide, feeding on the mud banks, and attended by a man in a small boat, who occasionally feeds them with some of the winkles mentioned above, and guides them about from place to place by his voice and the action of his boat.

THE ESSEN TRIAL.

The Times of the 5th ult., referring to this affair, says:—"The trial at Essen has ended in the acquittal of one and all of those engineers and workmen who are accused of having defrauded the State railways by the substitution of imperfect workmanship for that which had been approved by the superintending officials. The result of the trial is the subject of much discussion in this evening's newspapers. The general consensus of opinion, whilst greeting the acquittal of the accused as a triumphant vindication of the sterling nature of German industry in general, and of the Bochum Steel and Iron Works in particular, deplores the suspicion which has been aroused by this case in foreign countries towards German work no less than the political agitations of Herr Fusangel and the Clerical Democrats in the Westphalian provinces, which have been the cause of all the trouble."

THE "NO-CONFIDENCE" AMENDMENT.

THE division upon the "No-confidence" amendment, says *The Times*, is the heaviest on record. At the present moment the House of Commons consists of 568 members—the seats for Holborn and North-East Cork being vacant—and of these no fewer than 665 were in their places when the question was put from the Chair. The only member absent unpaired was Mr. T. B. Curran (Anti-Parnellite), who is in Australia, and the only pair was that between Mr. Wharton (Conservative) and Mr. Winterbotham (Gladstonian), both of whom are ill. Mr. Cremer and Mr. J. Power, who are also indisposed,

were determined to vote at any cost, and they managed to put in an appearance. Several hon. gentlemen travelled long distances to take part in the division, a notable case being that of Mr. Ernest Spencer, who had to excuse himself from dining with the King of the Belgians at Ostend in order to record his vote. Reckoning Mr. Goschen and Mr. Carson as Liberal Unionists, the figures were:—Conservatives, 263; Liberal Unionists, 47; total, 310. Gladstonians, 271; Anti-Parnellites, 70; Parnellites, 9; total, 350. The other members present were the tellers—Mr. Akers-Douglas and Sir W. Walrond (Conservative), and Mr. Asquith and Mr. Burt (Gladstonian)—and the Speaker. Throughout the evening there was a large attendance of the general public, and many persons unable to obtain seats in the galleries remained in the octagon hall to hear the result of the division. When the figures were made known there was a scene of wild excitement, cheers and groans being given despite the attempts of the police to preserve quiet.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH HOKKAIDO.

HITHERTO postal matter for Hokkaido has been sent to Aomori by rail, thence to Hakodate by steamer, and from the latter place overland *via* Mori to Muroran. But since the line of the Tancho Railway Company to Muroran is completed, so that communication between Muroran and Sapporo is greatly facilitated, it is proposed to open direct communication with Muroran *via* Aomori and Hakodate. With that object the Department of Communications has ordered the Japan Railway Company, the Japan Steamship Company, and the Hokkaido Tanko Railway Company to consider the question of establishing a new line with the above object. Should the project be carried out, not only postal matter but goods also will be carried by the new route, and this will necessitate changes in the existing railway time-tables as well as in the dates for the sailing of steamers. Hence the Japan Railway Company is said to be making careful investigations. But the *Choya Shimbun*, from which we take these details, says that the Japan Steamship Company has not yet decided whether it will comply with the request of the Department of Communications.

THE BEAUTIES OF KOREA.

A VERY glowing account of the natural attractions of the Hermit Kingdom appears in the last number to hand of the *Korean Repository*, and one which will cause no little surprise to those who think they possess some knowledge of that much abused country:—

"Owing to the poverty of human language, one word has often to serve many uses, and the mere names of countries bear as many meanings as there are points of view from which they can be regarded. There is thus a plurality of Koreans known to foreigners. For example, there is the geographical pendicle attached to the continent of Asia and to the Chinese Empire, like a wart round whose root people are busy tying horsehairs; an intrusion into Japanese waters, inviting invasion from the adjacent islands; the poverty-stricken land, repellent to commercial enterprise; the mission field; the arena of illiputian intrigue;—all these and several other Koreans have been made more or less familiar to strangers by travellers and scribes. But there remains one Korea, the sweetest and best of all, which still takes visitors by surprise, because it has been less noticed than it deserves by those who advertise the country. Everybody is not an adventurer, an agitator, an evangelist, or a concession-monger. There are those—let us be thankful for it—who are mere men, natural men let us even dare to say, *pace* orthodox evangelists, who can look on the face of nature without ulterior designs, and who can yield to its charms with child-like abandon.

To those who even through the struggle for life are able to preserve such precious elasticity of perception, Korea presents an aspect altogether lovely. Grand scenery no doubt there is in the world, and much that is perhaps prettier or finer, but in the generous way she throws open her beauty with gentle invitation to enjoy it, it would be hard to find the peer of Korea.

The luxuriant green valleys, rich with grasses and wild-flowers as well as with waving corn; the hillsides suffused with the tender bloom of the azalea, give, in their season, and at the very first blush, a sense of heavenly rest to the traveller without imposing any tax on his faculty of admiration. Japan, the professional beauty of the Far East, extorts praises according to a tariff as well regulated as that which governs her imports and exports; so withhold the

tribute indeed would be a breach of the conventions sanctioned by the suffrages of the globe-trotting universe. China's beauties are in their way grand, but inaccessible without some labour and sorrow. Korea is by comparison with her neighbours in a happy state of unconscious maidenhood, making no demands on her votaries, and neither hiding nor obtruding her charms.

To come at the beauties of Korea, it is not needful to follow Mr. Campbell and other travellers who have so admirably described—as he has done—the interior of the peninsula, for they lie in profusion at the very threshold of the country. The estuary of the Han, which loses itself in the inland sea, affords to the storm-tossed traveller not only a welcome respite from his tribulations, but a pleasing prospect for his (oftener "her") eye to rest upon. The five hours' steaming through the archipelago is a fitting overture to the endless panorama which unfolds itself on land. Lovers of the picturesque must indeed be hard to please if they do not enjoy every one of the twenty-five miles between Chemulpo and Seoul, with hill and vale, rock and river, diversifying the scene at every turn, while the voyage by river is still more enlivened by pleasing changes.

And where could one find a spot of earth richer in scenic attractions than Seoul itself and its environs? The situation of the city, spread out in its basin within its grand amphitheatre of granite hills, is one whose artistic effect is so striking that it can never fail to produce agreeable sensations. The city wall climbing over the most precipitous ridges, the sentinel peaks of Nam San with its chevelure of fine trees, and the bold castellated rocks of Poukan, which on the south and north respectively keep guard over the capital, with many other points both within and without the walls, commanding varied and extensive views, would alone in any tourist-frequented land make Seoul a show-place of the guide-books.

One has not here, as in most show places, to make a toilsome expedition to some eminence to get "a view," for within the compass of an ordinary afternoon's walk or ride, in any direction, one may choose, one may meander through scenes of exquisite beauty. Rocky gorges, umbrageous woods, green meadows, a prodigality of shrubs and verdure, wild roses and giant bawhorn blossom sprinkling the whole with a glorious efflorescence, in endless and unbroken succession stretch out towards every point of the compass. Hedgerows and country lanes which transcend the hedgerows and lanes of old England as much as these do the box-wood borders and prim gravel-paths of a Dutch garden; banks and braes rugged and green as in bonny Scotland; roads as clean as granite sand can make them, and, owing to absence of wheeled traffic, as even as any pedestrian or equestrian worthy of the name would ever desire; coppices clear of jungle but richly carpeted with herbage, unfenced and undisturbed by eternal intimations to "trespassers," hamlets nestled in orchards; soil yielding fruits, flowers, and grasses in exuberance; all within an hour of the centre of the city.

There is much more in a similar vein, but we think we have given enough to assist in diverting the tourist tide from these shores to those, where, as the writer says, "the pure air is laden with fragrance such as the spicy shores of Araby the Blest never knew."

THE TOKYO GLYPHIC SOCIETY.

THE above Society opened its exhibition on Thursday last in the Fine Arts Gallery in Ueno Park. The principal exhibits are carvings in metal and ivory. Many of the new works possess much merit. Mr. Shimamura Toshiaki exhibited his models in wood of Nomi-no-Sukune, Tayama-no-Kebaya, and Kamatari. These are models of the ivory carvings intended for the Chicago exhibition, and though rough in design, and not all finished, they show the skill and strength of the artist. Viscount Enomoto, President of the Society, opened the exhibition, and some eighty members were present. Professor Miyachi delivered a speech on the fine arts; and Dr. Taguchi lectured on the necessity of anatomical accuracy in art. Afterwards prizes were distributed, the first prize being awarded to Sekiguchi Kazunari for his fine carvings of chrysanthemum on silver-studs.

THE MEETING OF LOCAL GOVERNORS.

WE mentioned some time ago that the meeting of Local Governors to be held this year in the Department of Home Affairs was said to be looked forward to with considerable perturbation, as it was expected that some perplexing and minute queries would be addressed to the officials assembled. Hitherto these meetings—which are called *Shimon-kai*, or assemblies of inquiry—have been presided over by the Vice-Minister of State for Home Affairs; the questions to be

propounded have been indicated beforehand, and officials (*setsume-in*) charged with the duty of explaining the nature of the information sought, have been appointed. But at the assembly of the present year all this was changed by Count Inouye. Instead of indicating the subjects of inquiry, appointing a chairman or naming officials for explanation, His Excellency simply ordered the Governors to present themselves on a certain day at the Home Department, when he himself took the chair and proceeded to question his hearers on all kinds of matters connected with the districts administered by them. Probably no man in the empire possesses such extensive and detailed knowledge of the circumstances of the various localities as Count Inouye, and it may easily be guessed that the ordeal of cross-examination at his hands was regarded with no little apprehension by some of the Governors. The meeting commenced on the 16th instant, but it is not likely that the public will learn much about the proceedings.

THE NIKKO FESTIVAL.

THE autumn festival of the Futa-ara Shrine at Nikko came off on the 17th instant, and was witnessed by a number of foreigners who are spending the last days of summer at that favourite resort, or had come from Tokyo specially to be present on the occasion. The festival is nothing more than a grand mass for the spirits of the two Tokugawa Regents whose bodies are interred among the Nikko groves. It consists of two pageants; a procession from the Shrine of Gongen to the O-Tabisho, and a series of religious services in the latter. In former days, when an Imperial Delegate and a representative of the reigning Shogun attended these ceremonials, the preparations were on a grand and elaborate scale, and the effect was doubtless correspondingly magnificent. But those days of princely lavishness are past and gone so far as the Tokugawa family is concerned. Then every Shinto official engaged in the ceremony, from the highest to the lowest, had new robes furnished for the occasion. But now, the same robes that were used twenty-five years ago continue to do duty season after season, and as it generally happens that very inclement weather distinguishes the day of the festival, the various garments, whether of cotton, of embroidered silk, or of brocade, look diaphanous and decayed, and in not a few cases show conspicuous stains and rents. Moreover, the times of ease and opulence having passed for the priests also, their appearance has come to correspond with their reduced condition, and what is still more unhappy for the sake of the spectacular impression produced by the ceremony, the great majority of those engaged in it, having been snatched for the day from the workshop, the lumber-forest, or the scullery, look about as swart and rusty a set of toilers and moilers as could be found in any community. Shinto ceremonials, indeed, always labour under this marked disadvantage, that the dresses of office, being of a scanty and superficial character, do not suffice to conceal the battered costume over which they are worn, and the effect produced is that of a number of highway and byway out-at-elbow rustics impressed for an occasion with which they have nothing in common. The procession of last Saturday should have started at noon, but it was an hour late; an accident easily understood when one observed the motley elements composing it. Wrinkled old men and smooth-faced boys, marched side by side, and *kago* coolies might be seen wearing cuirasses and helmets that must have been donned with vast difficulty and not without permanent detriment to the armour from such incongruous contact. Altogether it was a sad and washed-out affair, nor did those taking part in it make, in some cases, the most infinitesimal effort to preserve a semblance of gravity and dignity. The duties of chief Shinto official were discharged by the former feudal chief of Aizu, a venerable man of noble deportment. He, of course, and the priests themselves, performed all their functions in the most faultless manner, abating nothing of the solemnity and decorum that belonged to days of bygone grandeur. Nothing was want-

ing, too, in the matter of paraphernalia, even the hawks and the monkey that appear in all celebrations connected with Iyeyasu and Iyemitsu, occupying their places in the procession, the former represented by somewhat dilapidated wood carvings, the latter by a particularly large and live animal. The gorgeous *shijin-ten*, the *Tengu*, the masked figures, the lance-bearers, the bow-men, the sacred horses—all the elements of an orthodox procession were present, but no accuracy of such details could remove the battered, time-worm appearance of the whole. Within the buildings of the O-Tabisho full preparations for an elaborate service had been made, and of this part of the ceremony it must be admitted that no air of penuriousness protruded itself on the observer, for the beauty and richness of the utensils had been mellowed, not dimmed, by the lapse of years, and the vestments of the priests looked artistically austere and simple in the subdued light of the great hall. The ceremonial attending these offerings of viands to the manes of the dead has been often described, and there are those who find it imposing, even grand. But the majority of on-lookers will probably conclude that the monotonous intonations and slow genuflections of solitary priests, the solemn paces and hand-wavings of not too lovely females, and the mechanical posturings of puppet-like officials in rusty vestments, do not constitute a very striking ensemble. However, it is at Nikko only that a stranger can be sure of seeing the detailed observance of these Shinto ceremonies, and for that reason alone people who are in the happy position of being able to choose their own time may find it worth while to visit Nikko in June or September. Of the two periods the former is preferable so far as concerns the festival, for the summer ceremonial is said to be twice as elaborate and magnificent as that of autumn. The whole affair may be viewed by anyone, the procession from the road-side and the religious services from the embankment surrounding the enclosure of the O-Tabisho. But the best view is to be obtained by entering the enclosure, for then one can stand within four or five yards of the officiating priests. This privilege is granted to all members of the Hoko-kai, or Temple Preservation Society.

THE PUBLIC PROCURATOR AND MR. HIRANUMA.

It is sometimes astonishing to observe how little attention is paid by the vernacular press to matters of great curiosity and interest. A case in point is that of Mr. Odate Koreiaka, Public Procurator, and Mr. Hiranuma Senzo, a money-lender of Yokohama. During the trial of Kawai Kurata, a remarkable swindler, the prisoner's relations with Mr. Hiranuma came upon the *tapis* and evoked some very severe comments from the Public Procurator, who declared that Hiranuma engaged in a perpetual campaign against the nobility (*Kasoku seibatsu*), that he was a "pitiless usurer" (*mujishi naru korikashi*), and that from many points of view he merited condemnation and contempt. Mr. Hiranuma was not content to rest tamely under these aspersions. He instituted a suit for libel against the Public Procurator, but the Bureau of Procurators, after some deliberation, decided that a suit did not lie (*fukiso*), and Mr. Hiranuma is consequently without redress. Now this, we take it, is an exceedingly interesting question. Does the Procurators' Bureau intend to lay down the principle that the utterances of a Public Procurator in his official capacity are privileged? It would seem so. Of course if an ordinary barrister in open court were to assail any individual with injurious allegations such as those employed by Mr. Odate against Mr. Hiranuma, there could be no doubt about the barrister's liability to legal action. But a Public Procurator is not an ordinary barrister. He has an official status in the Court to which he is attached, and in some respect his latitude of language compares with that of the Judge. A peculiar point, however, distinguishes the case under consideration: Mr. Hiranuma was not upon trial; his connection with the affair was incidental, and, so far as we know, he was not legally represented in Court. Under

these circumstances, was the Public Procurator justified in uttering a damning oration against him, and are no legal means of redress available? Such a problem ought to have attracted keen attention, and induced the vernacular press to depart from its ordinarily apathetic attitude towards judicial proceedings by publishing in full the petition of Mr. Hiranuma and the judgment of the Procurators' Bureau. But the sole intelligence furnished to the public is that the Bureau declared that a case did not lie. Nothing could well be more unsatisfactory. We venture to express the hope that some of our Tokyo contemporaries will be sufficiently enterprising to correct this singularly perfunctory conduct by collecting and publishing exact details.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON THE NEXT SESSION OF THE DIET.

As the Budget has not yet been published, says the *Jiji Shimpō*, it is somewhat difficult to predict the course of events in the next session of the Diet, but judging from present circumstances, the Railway question, the Reassessment of the Taxable value of Land, and the Treaty Revision problem will be the principal subjects of debate. No doubt the Opposition will fight against the Government on the Budget, but in view of the fact that the policy of the Government is directed to effecting large reductions in the ordinary expenditures, there is not likely to be such a hot discussion as in previous sessions. The Opposition, however, will certainly raise a question as to the employment of the Surplus. Very hot debates on the subject of railways may be expected, but the discussion will assume the character of quarrels among the members themselves, the Government standing aloof as a third party. The only duty of the Administration is to organize the Railway Council with all expedition, so as to afford as few points of attack as possible to the Opposition. The Bill for re-assessing the taxable value of land will pass the Lower House without any trouble, but as the Government's strength in the Upper House is increased greatly by the recent change of Cabinet, there can be little doubt that the Peers will reject the measure without any special prompting on the part of the Government. The latter will thus attain its aim without openly adopting an attitude of hostility to the Opposition. As to Treaty Revision, the Opposition will be sure to propound questions, but the Constitution provides means by which the Government can easily avoid any serious controversy. In a word the *Jiji* expects that next session will terminate peacefully.

THE BYE-ELECTION IN NIKONBASHI DISTRICT.

The result of the election in this district, which has been keenly looked for by all shades of politicians, has just been announced. Of the numerous candidates spoken of by the vernacular press, only two became conspicuous as the voting day approached, these were Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, ex-Radical member of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, banker. The voting took place on Friday, and the ballot-box was opened on Saturday morning, with the following result:—

Mr. Kusumoto Masataka.....	248
Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro	224

In the last general election Mr. Kusumoto was defeated by Mr. Kuroda Tsunahiko, pro-Government member. Mr. Yasuda was also unsuccessful in the last general election when he contested the same seat against the late member.

LIGHTHOUSES IN JAPAN.

This empire has been greatly and justly praised for the enterprise displayed by it in lighting its coasts, and the subject has received additional prominence from the fact that, owing to reasons which need not be described again here, light dues have never been collected, vessels of all nationalities enjoying the benefits of these beacons without being required to contribute anything towards the cost of their construction and maintenance. There are eight thousand miles of coast to be lighted, and

as yet only seventy lighthouses have been built, whereas, according to the ratio followed in the Occident, there ought to be a thousand, or one to every eight miles of coast. The construction of these, at the present rate of procedure, would occupy from two to three centuries, and since the Authorities feel that one beacon to every hundred and twenty or thirty miles is conspicuously inadequate, it is proposed, says the *Jiji Shimpō*, to take the matter more resolutely in hand, and make a considerable appropriation for the purpose in next year's Budget. The places where lighthouses seem to be needed most imperatively are Daiogasaki in Shishu, Hiimisaki in Kishu, and three other spots in Seto. These will be taken in hand so soon as funds are granted by the Diet. It is expected that each lighthouse will cost about thirty thousand *yen*, but this estimate does not apply to the Daiogasaki light, which must be placed on a sunken rock several miles from the shore, and which will consequently be an expensive undertaking.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES.

The *Jiji Shimpō* comments on the great increase of telegraphic business during the past ten years. In 1881, the number of messages despatched over the wires throughout the empire was 5,856,970, but in 1891 it was over 9,450,000, an increase of 3,593,030, or more than 60 per cent. The cost of the service and the receipts amounted respectively to over a million *yen* last year, against 858,000 *yen* in 1881, an increase of about 150,000 *yen*, or 18 per cent.; from which it will be seen that the rates charged for transmission are now very much smaller than they were a decade ago. It appears that the development of telegraph business became most remarkable from 1886 and onwards, a fact doubtless attributable to the adoption of a uniform rate of ten *sen* for short messages to every part of the empire. The *Jiji* states, however, that the increase is well sustained this year, the revenue during August having been upwards of 120,000 *yen*, which is 30 per cent. larger than the revenue for the corresponding period of last year. This development is greatest in the field of domestic telegrams. The increase in foreign messages was only fifteen per cent. in August of this year as compared with August of 1891. The *Jiji* attributes the slowness of the development of communications with foreign countries to the fact that no particularly healthy growth of the country's foreign trade has taken place.

SAVING MONEY.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the authorities are devising means to facilitate the process of money-saving. Hitherto the Post Office Savings Banks have been employed pretty freely by the people, but inasmuch as the smallest sum receivable under the regulations is ten *sen*, it has been found that the lower orders are unable to avail themselves of the Banks to any great extent. Ten *sen* do not often accumulate in a Japanese household among the labouring classes, and although the disposition to save might be strong enough to induce the deposit of fractions of that total so soon as they became available, it is generally too weak to educate the patient putting away of such fractions from day to day until they aggregate the required amount. Moreover, the mere fact that nothing below ten *sen* is received induces people to regard any lesser sum as an impossible basis for a bank account. In order to remedy all this, it is now proposed to sell stamps of any value from one *rin* (the tenth of a *sen*) upwards. These the purchaser will fix on a ruled paper which will be supplied to him, and when each square on the paper is filled with stamps, it will represent a total of ten or fifteen *sen*, and may be handed to the nearest post-office for deposit in a Bank. The stamps are to be pictorial, and will thus serve as a means of education, being at the same time sufficiently attractive to make their accumulation an amusement to school children and young folks generally.

THE SURVEY OF JAPAN.

If prosecuted at the rate permitted by the appropriations hitherto included in the Budget,

the cadastral survey of Japan would not be completed for a period of about sixty years. The area to be surveyed is 25,000 square *ri*, of which only 2,600 square *ri* have as yet been mapped, though quite a number of years have been spent upon the work. This tardy prospect has been the subject of comment from time to time. A Bill to accelerate the work was submitted in the first session of the Diet by Major-General Baron Ozawa, a member of the Upper House. Liberality, however, in matters of public expenditure has not hitherto distinguished the doings of the peoples' representatives. The Bill shared the fate of all other schemes requiring money for their prosecution. But a large programme of railway extension having now been approved by the Diet, new importance attaches to the question of a cadastral survey, which is evidently required not less for railway than for military purposes. Hence, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, it has now been decided to hasten the work so that its completion within twenty years may be achieved. For that purpose a total outlay of 4,110,000 *yen* is required, and our contemporary says that the sum will be divided almost equally over the whole interval, the appropriation for next year being two hundred thousand *yen*. National cadastral surveys have everywhere involved a large expenditure of time and money.

THE MORA CURE FOR SNAKE-BITE.

P. J. DAMANIA, Surgeon-Major, I.M.S., writes to the *Times of India* that the application of *mora* as a cure for snake-bite is a myth:—"To our shame it must be confessed that the medical profession has nothing to offer as a certain cure for bites from poisonous snakes. Under these circumstances I do not think it is advisable for the medical profession to step in and put a stop to a treatment which does some good in its way. It has often happened that a native of India while working in a field on a dark night is hurt by a thorn or some other object, and he generally imagines that most likely a snake has bitten him, and subjectively develops some of the symptoms, and is very often found in a state of collapse. Nothing on earth will induce him to believe that what he has brought on is the result of his imagination and fright and not of a snake-bite. Unfortunately a medical man has not only to face this difficulty, but when the patient makes up his mind that he shall die, he (the medical man) is helpless, and cannot stop him from attaining that end. Of various remedies the patient has great faith in the application of this *mora*, and if he gets it he is cured of a malady which is the product of his own imagination. From what I have seen of this *mora* it is nothing else than a flat, round, smooth piece of animal charcoal, which by its dry and spongy nature absorbs blood from the wound and drops off when it is thoroughly saturated. Generally it is a small disc, but if made larger and thicker, and applied to the wound immediately after a bite it might do some good.

FILIAL PIETY.

In the report of the trial of the man who murdered his wife and extracted liver for the purpose of curing his mother of blindness, the following dialogue is recorded:—

Prisoner—Buddhism teaches that the benevolence of one's parents is deeper than the deepest seas, one's existence depends entirely upon them. Without parents we could have no existence at all.

Assistant Judge—But surely the same Buddhism also teaches you that it is a grave crime to kill another?

Prisoner—Yes, I know it. But I have heard sermons in which it was said that a certain Ko-chu in China attempted to kill his own child for fear his mother's daily food should be insufficient; and that another, Yang-ching, threw himself down in front of a tiger to save his mother. Those are really fine tales of filial piety, and I always hoped to do something to repay my mother's great kindness. If I lose my child I may still have another. Even if I have no more children of my own I can adopt one, but my parents cannot be replaced.

If, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, any one cares to read through the report of this most touching story, he will at once see that the prisoner is far from being a violent tempered man. He is a faithful believer in Buddhism, a fond parent, and a loving husband, if we may judge by his wife's readiness to sacrifice her life for him, and his whole soul was bound up in doing some

kindness to his aged and blind mother. But his good intentions made him misinterpret the tales of filial piety he had heard, and led him at last to commit a heinous crime. The stories he referred to are in the "Twenty-four examples of Filial Piety" and are often found in educational books and in sermons. Those who are engaged in educational matters or as teachers of moral doctrines, adds the *Nichi Nichi*, ought to be very careful.

"THE WORM TURNS."

MR. GRANT ALLEN writes as follows, under the above heading, in the *Athenaeum*:—

I have often been laughed at for saying in print that the English author, unless rich enough actually to defy his public, must work under painfully soul-killing restrictions. May I be permitted briefly to recount a recent experience of mine which proves my thesis? For years those who know me well have said to me frequently, "Why do you never put anything of yourself into your novels?" But I knew my public too well; I gave it self instead—which is what it wanted. Some months since, however, I was tempted by conscience to set to work at a more serious romance on a social theme that deeply interested me. I got absorbed in it; I was carried away with the subject; I wrote at white heat, in a glowing fever of moral enthusiasm. I put my soul into the thing, I put my religion into it. And I wrought long and hard at it, with graver and burnisher, till I believed for once I had made a work of art. It was a part—a small part, a first instalment—of the authentic Message which, rightly or wrongly, I imagine the Power that inheres in the universe has implanted in me for transmission to humanity. When it was finished I gave it to a publisher who is also a personal friend, and in whose judgment I have absolute confidence—he knows his public even better than I do. After reading it he implored me in the strongest terms not to publish. He said the book would ruin me. Nobody would afterwards take any other novel of mine. It would spoil my future. I am a very sane monomaniac; I yielded at once to his advice. I dare run no such risk. I shall destroy the manuscript. I hope those who read this note, so wrung out of me, will pardon its egotism. However insignificant a man may seem to others, to himself the failure of his life-work must always be a tragedy. But, after this, nobody, I am sure, can ever laugh at me for saying free thought is gagged in England.

WEDDING PRESENT TO H.I.H. PRINCE KANIN.

We read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that the French Government has presented a very beautiful wedding gift to H.I.H. Prince Kanin, who last year married Lady Chiye, daughter of the late Prince Sanjo. Prince Kanin resided for a considerable time in France, so that a special reason exists for this act on France's part, which, for the rest, accords well with the graceful courtesy that so eminently distinguishes the French. The gift is a vase of Sevres porcelain, white as alabaster, decorated with a finely painted design of Diana hunting. The goddess is accompanied by a number of female attendants, and her hounds are in the act of pulling down a stag. The piece is three feet high with its stand, and was specially manufactured at Sevres for presentation to the Prince.

TOURISTS IN 1893.

A STATEMENT is confidently forwarded from Hongkong that no less than eighty-five thousand first-class passengers from Europe propose to make the round trip *via* Japan to the Chicago World's Fair next year. This must obviously be a great exaggeration. Nothing like that number could find steamers to bring them here, even supposing that they desired to come. But we entertain no doubt that 1893 will be an unprecedentedly prosperous year for Japan. A veritable Pactolus of tourists may be expected to discharge its golden stream upon these shores during the progress of the World's Fair. Hotel shares, at any rate, should go up, and guides may count on a fat time.

THE INCREASE OF LIGHTHOUSES.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* urges the necessity of erecting lighthouses at a more rapid rate than has been hitherto done. Our contemporary observes that in well-lighted foreign countries these lights are not more than 8 miles apart, but that in Japan, which has a coast line of some 8,000 miles, the average distance is not less than 120 miles. The *Fiji* states that the cost of the erection of three new stations is included in the Bud-

get to be submitted to the Diet during its next session. The stations chosen are Cape Daio, Shima, Cape Hii and Setouchi, Kishyu. The ordinary cost of a lighthouse is about 30,000 *yen*, but that to be erected at Daio, owing to the obstacles to be overcome, will require a much larger sum. The *Fiji* thinks the attention of legislators should be drawn to the disadvantages and losses involved by the tardiness of the operations of the Department of Communications in this direction.

THE TOKYO MUSIC SCHOOL AFFAIR.

We observe with pleasure that the Japanese journal, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, originally responsible for the publication of a story—already alluded to in these columns—seriously affecting the fair fame of a foreign Professor in the Tokyo Academy of Music, has now discovered and acknowledged its error. The whole tale, elaborated as it was into something of the character and dimensions of a novelette, had no foundation more solid than the simple fact that the Professor preferred a proposal of marriage to the relatives of one of the lady graduates and was unsuccessful in his suit. There the affair would have ended completely, had not some romancer constructed out of this fragment of every-day life a tissue of libellous falsehoods. Our only regret is that the paper responsible for circulating such a cruel slander should escape at the cost of an easy retraction.

FARES TO CHICAGO.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that an agreement has been come to with the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company as to the fares of Japanese who desire to visit the Chicago Exhibition. The terms arranged are that a first-class return ticket for Government delegates from Yokohama to Vancouver shall be two hundred dollars; for exhibitors, three hundred dollars; and for ordinary visitors also three hundred dollars. Tickets of the first kind are already issued; those of the second kind will be issued from the 1st of October; and those of third kind from the 1st of March next. The same authority states that no definite arrangement has yet been concluded with the railway authorities, but that, in all probability, the price of a return ticket from Vancouver to Chicago will be about seventy dollars gold, or a hundred dollars silver.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA.

THE *Keisei Shimpō* makes an odd proposal in reference to the doughty major who is still engaged in his long ride across Russia. Our contemporary suggests that a band of military men, who are ardent admirers of the feat, should set out from Japan and meet the Major somewhere in Manchuria, and conduct him in triumph to the Land of the Rising Sun. It does not seem to have occurred to our contemporary that were such a plan to be followed the honour of the feat which the equestrian hopes to accomplish, would be considerably diminished. But it is of course improbable that the military authorities would allow officers to embark on such an enterprise. Major Fukushima's ride is a private affair, and undertaken at his own expense and risk. He hopes to reach his native country some time in February.

FOREIGN LOAFERS IN JAPAN.

THE *Nichi Nichi* has an article on the subject of loafers, who have lately been giving considerable trouble to the Japanese authorities. In many cases, these men are not recognised by any foreign representative. Their acts are apt to have a very injurious effect upon the relations existing between Japanese and foreigners. Few understand the niceties of international law, and it is not a matter for surprise, if many Japanese are unable to discriminate between one foreigner and another. Extreme measures should be taken by the authorities, says the *Nichi Nichi*, in dealing with these loafers, not only to preserve Japan's reputation for hospitality, but in the interests of foreigners as well.

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

At the sixty-sixth annual general meeting of the Standard Life Assurance Company, held at Edinburgh on Tuesday,

The Radical organs very well understand the mood of the Progressionist journals, and have more than once tried to allay the latter's suspicions by declaring that their party is firmly resolved never to swerve from the course it has hitherto pursued. Observing that its past explanations have been entirely ineffectual to dispel public doubt and suspicion, the Radical organ, the *Yiyu*, has again written an article on the subject; but we strongly doubt whether its effort this time will be more successful than on former occasions. It begins by declaring that "the Ito Cabinet aims at impeding the development of a system of Government by party, inasmuch as it pursues an ambiguous and time-serving policy, without allying itself with either the Official party or the Popular party," and that "consequently the Popular party, whether it adopts a negative or a positive method, must, for the purpose of establishing a responsible Cabinet and a system of Government by party, be prepared to fight with the Cabinet more firmly and more perseveringly than heretofore." But what follows entirely destroys any good impression that may have been produced by this courageous declaration. "Before fighting with the Cabinet," continues the *Yiyu*, "we must ascertain the probable movements of our enemy. The Ministry's object is to try every means to induce the Opposition to pursue a policy of indiscriminate hostility to the measures proposed by the Government, and thereby to discredit the Opposition in the eyes of the nation. To reject the Government's measures without discrimination will, therefore, be to fall into the trap laid by the crafty statesmen now in power." So far the Radicals are concerned, the *Yiyu* is able to state that "its party will not hesitate to approve whatever good thing may be done by the Government and may even co-operate with it"; but that, "whenever the Government ventures to do anything bad, the Radical party will not desist from strong condemnation and attack." The *Yiyu* hopes that the same line of conduct may be followed by the Progressionists and by other sections of the Popular party.

The Minister President's speech to the local Governors has been very favourably received. Judging from the résumé of the speech published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, it is evident that he strongly condemned, though indirectly, the part taken by some of the Governors at the time of the general elections of February last. He went so far as to say that the Governors are not bound to obey even the instructions of their superiors when such instructions are obviously at variance with the grave duties of their office. The Opposition journals, while on the whole approving the speech, maintain that the Premier is bound to remove all the Governors who overstepped the limits of their official duties in February last. Even an independent paper of the *Fiji Shimpō's* standing, joins in the cry for thorough changes in the *personnel* of the local Governors. The ground on which the *Fiji* advocates this measure is, however, far broader than the one on which the party organs base their demand. Our contemporary recalls the abnormal state of affairs when Governors were first appointed in the early years of the present era. In those days, the principal object in sending out these officials was to impress the power and dignity of the new Government upon the local population; and in some cases Governors were accompanied to their place of appointment by a detachment of troops. It consequently resulted that several of them were men of military rather than of civil predilections. Many such Governors may be still found among those now assembled in the Department of Home Affairs. These men of the old type are declared to be entirely unfit for the functions they are now required to perform, and so long as they are suffered to remain in office, it will be useless to issue instructions, however excellent, for their guidance. The Administration is strongly recommended to introduce decided changes in the *personnel* of local Governors. If it be found impossible, from personal considerations, to introduce such changes, then the best alternative is to resort to a still bolder course and abolish the office of

local Governor altogether. The *Fiji* is of opinion that such abolition would not prove at all inconvenient, but does not explain the method of procedure on the ground that it discussed the topic more than a year ago.

The result of the election in the Nihonbashi district of Tokyo has given unbounded satisfaction to the Opposition, especially the Progressionists, who regard Mr. Kusumoto, the successful candidate as particularly *lié* with their party. The citizens of Nihonbashi are congratulated by the *Kaiship-to* organs on having returned a Representative of Mr. Kusumoto's ability and standing. The *Mainichi Shimbun* alludes to the immense disadvantages against which Mr. Kusumoto had to contend in being opposed by one of the most powerful capitalists of the District. Considering that all the influence of the *Goyō-shōnin* (merchants patronized by the Government)—and there are many of them in Nihonbashi—was exerted on behalf of Mr. Yasuda, it speaks, we are told, very much for the independence and proverbial chivalry of the descendants of true *Yeddoko* that an outsider without any powerful local connections was returned by a decisive majority. Our contemporary, alluding in another article to the same subject, doubts whether the Ito Cabinet really means to stand aloof from parties. The *Mainichi* cannot charge the Cabinet with any direct or indirect interference in the recent election in Nihonbashi; but infers from the manner in which the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the supposed organ of Count Ito, pressed the claims of Mr. Yasuda upon the electors of the district, that the Cabinet must have been anxious to see Mr. Kusumoto defeated at the poll. Reference is also made to the cordial reception which the local authorities are extending to Viscount Shinagawa and Count Saigo in their political tour through the provinces. In view of these circumstances a large note of interrogation is placed after the Cabinet's alleged independence of party politics.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing on the result of the election in Nihonbashi District, cautions the partisans of the rival candidates against suffering political competition to interfere with their social and business relations. They are recommended to bury the past in oblivion and resume their commercial affairs as friends and neighbours.

The vernacular press has gradually recovered from the state of excitement into which it was thrown by the first news of the rough treatment suffered by Japanese in the United States. Some journals indeed, have been moderate and sober throughout, conspicuously the *Kokkai*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and the *Fiji Shimpō*. The last named expresses great doubt about the accuracy of the reports thus far received from the other side of the Pacific. But even supposing the story to be essentially true, the *Fiji* sees nothing in it to justify the angry writings of some of its contemporaries which even went so far as to suggest retaliation upon American residents in Japan. The men concerned in the alleged persecution of the Japanese in Idaho must be, in the *Fiji's* opinion, ignorant emigrants from Europe and their conduct will undoubtedly evoke the unqualified condemnation of all respectable Americans. Moreover, the Government having ordered the Consul at San Francisco to make investigations into the matter, it will be time enough to take diplomatic steps after the receipt of a report from that official.

The *Kokkai*, which originally wrote in a similar strain to the above, has now an interesting article on "Japanese in the States." In one sense the Tokyo journal is pleased with the report of an anti-Japanese movement in America, since, if true, the fact proves the growing strength of the Japanese colony in the States. There are in America Japanese of worthless character, but the *Kokkai* has no doubt that many, even of such persons, must have derived some benefit by coming into contact with Americans citizens. Some, too, on

their return to Japan, will become important elements of social reformation. The *Kokkai* remarks that the Japanese at home are subject to various provoking restraints of officialdom, but being used to such a state of things, are apt to be indifferent about the necessity of altering it. Those, however, who have once lived in the free air of America, will find it hard to submit to these embarrassing restrictions, and will be ardent advocates of reform.

The *Fiji Shimpō*, discussing the question of Treaty Revision, urges upon the Authorities the importance of taking up the task speedily, but at the same time it frankly recognises the immense difficulties lying in the way. There are writers who believe that the foreign Powers are comparatively favourable to Japan's aspirations, but the *Fiji* is more than doubtful whether some of the Powers may not be reluctant to re-open negotiations after what occurred in recent years. The chief difficulty of the Japanese Government, however, will be in satisfying the extravagant claims of the Japanese people. Our contemporary believes that some of its countrymen ask not for equal but for unequal treaties. Nevertheless, a Government like the present cannot be suffered to postpone this important question merely because of the difficulties attending its solution. With Count Ito at the head of the Cabinet and Mr. Mutsu at the Foreign Office, the *Fiji* doubts not that the question is receiving serious attention, and that a scheme of revision has been already elaborated.

The extension of the harbour limits of Kobe is approved of by the press as a necessary and judicious step to meet the requirements of the increasing prosperity of foreign trade at that place.

The military manoeuvres that are to take place in November next afford a topic for journalistic discussion. The affair is to be on a scale never before witnessed in this country. The *Kaisei Shimpō* advises the military authorities to conduct these manoeuvres so as to develop the martial spirit of the troops. Sham fights will also serve to check the tendency to effeminateness and luxury among officers. The *Choya Shimbun* directs the attention of the War Department to the importance of making the manoeuvres a means of studying the questions of mobilizing the reserves, of commissariat arrangements, and of ambulance service. These subjects did not receive adequate attention at the time of the manoeuvres in Aichi Prefecture two years ago, tactics being on that occasion the primary object with the Military authorities.

The lamentable case of the murder of his wife by a farmer in the Prefecture of Oita has awakened widespread interest. The newspapers combine in directing the attention of Buddhist preachers, and writers of text books on morality, to the importance of exercising discretion in inculcating the duty of filial piety. There is no doubt that the farmer was betrayed into a terrible crime by an exaggerated notion of filial piety. Some writers more or less Christian tendencies, seize this opportunity to say bad things about Buddhism and Confucianism. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* takes up the cause of these creeds, and tells the Christians that their religion has also produced detestable victims of prejudice. Reference is made to the reported trampling on the Emperor's photograph at a religious establishment in Tokyosome 7 years ago, and to a certain Japanese student in the United States who liked Uncle Tom better than his Emperor. Of such materials does the *Yomiuri* construct its thunderbolts.

The shocking case of alleged barbarity by a foreign resident in Nagasaki inspires many angry notes and editorials in the metropolitan papers. The *Nippon* is conspicuously clamorous. It is a pity that the editors of these papers have not a larger experience of the world and its ways.

the 26th April, 1892, the following results were communicated:—Amount proposed for assurance during the year 1891 (3,199 proposals), £2,000,872; amount of assurances accepted during the year 1891 (for which 2,796 policies were issued), £1,692,564; annual premiums on new policies during the year 1891, £66,385; claims by death under policies during the year 1891, inclusive of bonus additions, £642,338; claims under endowments matured during the year, £6,355; subsisting assurances at 14th November, 1891 (of which £1,449,284 is reassured with other offices), £21,988,746; amount of policies issued during the last five years, £7,443,090. The accumulated funds now amount to £7,688,686, and the annual revenue to £1,006,720.

PROPOSED SUBSIDIES.

MR. MURATA TAMOTSU, a warm advocate of the protection of marine products, introduced a Representation on the subject in the last session of the Diet, which passed the Upper House by a large majority. The Government, it is reported, has now adopted the suggestion and intends to ask a grant of 130,000 yen for the purpose. Besides the above, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce wants a sum of 250,000 yen as subsidies for the Tea Merchants' Association. This association, says the *Nippon*, has for its objects the examination of tea brought from various parts of the empire, and its success in obtaining a good name for the staple has prompted the Government to assist it in defraying expenses.

THE NOBLES' CLUB.

It is stated in the *Yiji*, that the members of the Nobles' Club are contemplating whether they shall purchase the Rokumei-kwan, or whether they shall erect an entirely new building for the use of the Club, the present arrangement proving unsuitable in many respects. We are not inclined to place much confidence in this report. Hardly a year passes without a rumour getting afloat to the effect that the portion of the Rokumei-kwan used by the Tokyo Club will be appropriated to some other purpose. The Club is a great convenience to Japanese officials and others, and hence it is highly improbable that any steps will be taken necessitating its removal to a less central position.

NEWCHWANG.

Messrs. BANDINEL and Co., in their circular dated Newchwang, 3rd Sept., say:—Shipping business is quiet, and we do not look for much change until the new beans come in. The crop is expected to be a fair average one, partial floods and drought notwithstanding. Freights—Chinese talk about 15 cents to Kobe, 18 cents to Swatow 20 cents to Canton, for steamers in November. Arrivals to date are 235 steamers and 25 sailers, against 226 steamers and 37 sailers this time last year. Shipping in port: *Taku*, *Chinlung*, *Fidelis*, *Kwang-sang*.

THE BUDGET FOR 1893-94.

RUMOURS were circulated within the past few days that a serious conflict of opinion had arisen in the Cabinet with reference to the Budget for next year, Count Inouye and Count Yamagata being represented as entertaining opposite views about the propriety of re-including in the Estimates the items rejected by the last Diet, namely, appropriations for building men-of-war and establishing a Steel Factory. The Tokyo News Agency is authorized to emphatically contradict—and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* endorses the contradiction—that any such differences of opinion exist.

JAPANESE MARRIAGE CUSTOMS.

La Nouvelle Revue for August contains an article by Motoyoshi Saizau, entitled "*Le Mariage dans les classes moyennes*." It is mainly taken up with a description of manners and customs that are fast becoming things of the past.

A JAPANESE CONSULATE IN BOMBAY.

OWING to the great development of the cotton trade with Bombay and increase of trade generally with India, a petition was lately presented to the Foreign Office, praying for the establish-

ment of a Consulate in Bombay. The authorities admit its necessity, says the *Yiji Shimpō*, but consider that many other places have equal claims. The funds required for such a purpose would probably not be granted by the Diet.

THE USUI-TOGE RAILWAY.

It is stated in the *Hochi Shimbun* and other papers that 24 out of the 26 tunnels on the Usui pass have been completed and that the twenty-fifth is far advanced. It is calculated that the line will be ready for use some time in November. We (*Japan Mail*) do not know whether this is a technical opinion or not, but travellers over the pass report that they do not expect to see the line open for traffic before the end of the year. Much work still remains to be done to the bridges and embankments as well as the tunnels.

PORTUGUESE IN A JAPANESE COURT.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* notes that a case has been brought in the Kobe District Court by a Portuguese subject, Mr. Silva, against a fellow-national, whose name as transliterated reads "Mr. Leach" (? Ritchie) for the recovery of a debt. The amount involved must be small since the case is brought before a tribunal with such limited jurisdiction, but the fact is interesting since it is the first example of one foreigner suing another in a Japanese Court of Law.

YOKOHAMA TRADERS' UNION.

THE Yokohama Traders Union held a general meeting on the 16th inst. at which 35 members were present. Mr. Ohama Chuzaburo was elected Acting Chairman. The business of appointing a chairman to succeed Mr. Ono, who lately resigned, was then proceeded with, and resulted in the election of Mr. Otani Kahei, who received 34 votes. Mr. Otani, however, declined to accept the office, but the Union has begged him to reconsider his decision, and is now awaiting the result.

THE MILITARY REVIEW.

THE review to be held at the end of next month between Utsunomiya and Shirakawa, at which the Emperor has signified his intention to be present, promises to be a big affair. Some 30,000 troops are to take part in the manoeuvres. They will be divided into a northern and a southern army. Six military experts are to be deputed to act as judges, who will be assisted by 14 subordinates.

DISABLED JUNK AT SEA.

THE *Sakata Maru*, Captain Walter, from Miyako to this port, fell in with a dismasted junk at 6.47 a.m. the 20th inst. this side of Noshima. The captain got a line on board the junk with the intention of taking her in tow, but the rope parted. Just at this time a Japanese man-of-war arrived on the scene, and relieved Captain Walter by taking the junk in charge, and the *Sakata* proceeded on her voyage.

LACQUER COMPETITIVE ASSOCIATION.

SUCH of our readers as are interested in Japanese art may be reminded that an attractive exhibition of modern masterpieces in lacquer is now in progress at the temple of Monzeki, in Tsukiji. The affair is under the auspices of the *Shikō Kyōgi-kai*, or Competitive Association of Workers in Lacquer. The best artists in Tokyo have contributed specimens, and some fine old pieces also are on view for purposes of comparison.

NANCY HANKS.

THIS celebrated trotting mare, who quite recently at Chicago broke all previous records by trotting a mile in 2.74, has now beaten that wonderful performance by trotting a mile in 2.54, thus cutting down the best record by two seconds. The quarter occupied 30 seconds, the half 61 seconds, and the three-quarters 1.34. This feat was performed at Independence, Iowa, and the mare was driven by Budd Doble.

EARTHQUAKES AT NAGASAKI.

THREE shocks of earthquake were experienced here, says the *Nagasaki Express* of the 14th inst., on Sunday afternoon last, about 5.05, 6.02, and 6.30 p.m., respectively. The first one was the most severe that has been felt for several

years, but the two others were very mild. All were of short duration, and no damage whatever was sustained.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that Mr. Shimamura Hisashi, a Secretary of the Foreign Office, has been appointed a Consul-General, as has also Mr. Fuji Saburo, hitherto a Consul. Mr. Uchida Kesai, hitherto Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, becomes a Secretary of the Foreign Office.

DEATH OF MRS. LLOYD.

WE regret to learn that a telegram from Canada announces the death of Mrs. Lloyd, wife of the Rev. A. Lloyd, who resided in Tokyo for some years, and is now principal of a college in Canada. Mrs. Lloyd was much liked in Japan, and her decease will be mourned by a wide circle of friends.

THE CHOLERA AT HAMBURG.

THE *N. C. Daily News* of the 12th inst. says that Messrs. Siemssen & Co. received on Saturday afternoon a telegram from Hamburg announcing that the cholera is decreasing there.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

A rumour has been going the round of the Opposition press to the effect that the Government, perceiving the hopelessness of encountering the Popular party on the floor of the House of Representatives, is endeavouring to make the House of Peers a rampart against the joint attack of the Radicals and the Progressionists; and that, in order to further this project, offers of official positions are being made to the leading members of the Extreme party in the Upper House. The report even goes so far as to give the names of the Peers approached by the Ministry. It is stated, for instance, that the post of Minister to a foreign country has been offered to Prince Konoye; that of Minister of the Household to Viscount Tani; that of Chief Military Attaché to the Prince Imperial to Viscount Soga; and restoration to his former rank of Lieutenant-General to Baron Ozawa. How far this rumour is worthy of credence remains to be seen, but some papers seem to think that, in the case of Prince Konoye at least, the statement will probably prove well founded, for he is understood to be not at all disinclined to go abroad as the Emperor's Representative. It is also rumoured that Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, a distinguished Radical and ex-President of the House of Representatives, will receive an appointment to a foreign court, possibly China. He is stated to have requested the Radical Party to strike off his name from its roll of members. The *Hochi Shimbun*, in a sarcastic tone, tells the Cabinet Ministers to fall back upon the support of the House of Peers if they are not bold enough to meet their opponents in the House of Representatives. But which expedient, asks our contemporary, are they going to pursue, that of increasing the number of Imperially nominated members or that of reducing the strength of the so-called Extreme party among the Peers?

A general impression increases that the coming session of the Diet will probably witness the cooling, if not the entire rupture, of the friendship now existing between the Radicals and the Progressionists. Count Itagaki's party is very anxious to maintain its newly acquired reputation for being comparatively reasonable and practical; while Count Okuma's followers seem more than ever bent on pursuing to the bitter end their policy of desperate and indiscriminate opposition to the Government. There are indications that the members of the *Kai-shin-to* are ill at ease about the probable attitude of their allies, the *Fuyu-to*, in the approaching session. Thus far the Progressionist papers have refrained from speaking out their mind on this delicate subject; but indirect allusions have from time to time appeared in their columns.

Original from

THE CASE OF THE TOYAMA DIVISIONAL HEADMEN.

THE transfer of Mr. CHICHIWA YEIICHI, a Rural District Headman of Toyama Prefecture, to the post of Police Inspector in the Kanda Urban District of Tokyo, has evoked some comment, and has also had the useful result of bringing fully to light the circumstances of the trouble which recently occurred between this official and a number of the Divisional Headmen in the District presided over by him. The facts of the trouble, as originally stated, were so meagre as to mislead many persons into imagining that the Divisional Headmen had acted in a manner fully justifying Mr. CHICHIWA's procedure. It was understood, by ourselves among the rest, that the Divisional Headmen (*Soncho* and *Chochō*), acting on their own responsibility, had combined to address a joint letter of approval and congratulation to Messrs. SHIMADA SABURO and KONO HIRONAKA, leaders of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, on the occasion of the passing of the celebrated Representation declaring that Government officials had been guilty of improper interference in the general elections. Now in every Western country combinations of officials for political purposes is either distinctly interdicted or implicitly condemned. Moreover, much of the interference complained of during and after the general election of last spring had been laid to the door of District and Divisional Headmen. Yet here was a case where some thirty of these very Headmen, belonging to one of the Prefectures where official interference was alleged to have been eminently scandalous, combined for the purpose of throwing their weight into the scale of party politics. By the light of these supposed facts, it did not seem at all strange that the District Headman, Mr. CHICHIWA, had, in the first place, called upon the signatories of the document to withdraw it, and that, being met by an emphatic refusal on their part to comply, he had subsequently removed them from office. But the controversy aroused by Mr. CHICHIWA's transfer, very soon afterwards, to a post in the capital has made it clear that the above statement of the case between himself and the Divisional Headmen is imperfect. The Headmen did not act independently, or combine as officials to compile and sign a political round-robin. Their procedure was taken in their *ex-officio* capacity as Presidents of the Divisional Assemblies. Perhaps it should be explained here that, according to the Local Government system of Japan, there are three classes of Local Assemblies, namely, the *Kenkai*, or Prefectural Assembly; the *Gunkai*, or District Assembly; and the *Sonkai*, or Divisional Assembly. There are also the *Fukai*, *Shikui*, and *Chokai*, but these being merely the urban forms of the *Kenkai*, *Gunkai*, and *Sonkai*, do not con-

stitute special classes. The functions of each Assembly are defined with tolerable precision by the Law for the Organization of Local Governments, but of course a certain degree of latitude exists. In the case immediately under consideration, a number of the Divisional Assemblies of Toyama Prefecture passed resolutions congratulating the leaders of the Opposition on the success of the Representation with reference to official interference in elections, and the Headmen, as Presidents of the Assemblies, forwarded copies of these resolutions with covering letters. This information materially modifies the view originally taken in our columns of the action of the Divisional Headmen, and raises a very nice question as to the propriety of Mr. CHICHIWA's procedure in calling upon them to withdraw their letter forwarding the Assemblies' resolutions. Mr. CHICHIWA maintained that in thus forwarding the resolutions the Headmen exceeded their competence. We have read with care the Law for the Organization of Cities, Towns, and Villages, but we are unable to find any provision distinctly bearing on the question. In the 33rd Article of that Law a list is given of the matters falling within the purview of a Divisional Assembly, and among them there is nothing that can possibly be construed as pointing to a survey of resolutions passed by the House of Representatives. But in the preamble of the article the word "principally" is employed to qualify the appended list of matters, and since the list is thus deprived of the character of definiteness, it can scarcely be quoted as proof that the resolutions of the Toyama Divisional Assemblies were *ultra vires*. Supposing them to have been legally taken, however, the question still remains whether the Headmen, in their capacity of Presidents of Assemblies, were competent to open communications, on behalf of the Assemblies, with the leaders of Parties in the House of Representatives in respect of matters before the House. This, apparently, is the ground upon which Mr. CHICHIWA took his original stand, and no authoritative decision has yet been pronounced as to the correctness of his view. The matter is under consideration, and the result is fraught with interest on account of its evident bearing upon the autonomy of the lowest class of Local Assemblies. We ourselves, looking at the matter from an English point of view, cannot find justification for Mr. CHICHIWA's first step; but remembering that the Japanese Local Government system is not based on English models, we are constrained to suspend judgment. That he was right, however, in his second step, namely, the removal of the Divisional Headmen who declined to obey his directions, there can be little room to doubt. The Law, in unequivocal terms, invests him with competence to exercise disciplinary authority over Divisional Headmen,

and further provides that against a disciplinary measure taken by him appeal may be made to the Prefectural Assembly, and thence to the Administrative Court. But nowhere is it contemplated that a Divisional Headman may refuse to obey a disciplinary order issued by a District Headman pending appeal to higher authority. The plain duty of the Toyama Divisional Headmen was to comply with the directions issued by Mr. CHICHIWA as to withdrawing their communication to the leaders of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, and, after compliance, to appeal against his instructions. It was for their failure to be guided by this plain dictate of discipline that Mr. CHICHIWA dismissed them, and not for their original action in forwarding the resolutions of the Divisional Assemblies. Whether or no they were justified in taking the latter step remains to be determined, but their conduct in refusing to obey, pending appeal, was evidently indefensible. We trust that, in the interests of the autonomy of Divisional Assemblies, Mr. CHICHIWA's first step may be condemned by the Prefectural Assembly and the Administrative Court alike, but as to his measure in dismissing subordinates who refused to recognise his legally constituted authority, there can be no second opinion. Meanwhile, Mr. CHICHIWA himself has been transferred to a Police Inspectorate in the Kanda District of Tokyo. His pay in the latter position is the same as before, but the public regard the transfer as promotion, and are disposed to criticise any favour shown to an official in whose District so much commotion occurred during the general election. For it was this very Mr. CHICHIWA who ruled that a number of the votes cast for the *Kai-shin-to* candidate, Mr. SHIMADA TADAYUKI, were invalid, the consequence being that the pro-Government candidate, Mr. TAKEBE SONOBUMI, stood at the head of the poll. His ruling was subsequently condemned by the Supreme Court, and it was natural to conjecture that the error would mar his official career. But the Central Authorities do not, apparently, set much store by the fact. Mr. CHICHIWA is regarded as an able official, and the circumstance that he failed to secure the confidence of the people of his District in Toyama, though held to justify his transfer to another locality, is not counted to his serious discredit. The Minister of State for Home Affairs has shown such an unequivocal resolve to set his face against official interference in elections that his action in the case of Mr. CHICHIWA ought not to be misconstrued; but it would certainly have been a happier *dénouement* if the career of this particularly zealous official had received a check instead of an impetus.

**THE "LONDON & CHINA EXPRESS"
ON THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.**

It is plain that when the *London and China Express*, in its issue of August 5th, undertook to discuss Portugal's forfeiture of Jurisdiction Privileges in Japan, it possessed no trustworthy information and was obliged to write from conjecture. Yet we are surprised to find how palpably it has missed the mark in every respect. The article is a mass of misconceptions. We are told at the outset that the affair is "a distinctly new phase of the ever-recurring question of treaty revision," and that it is "mainly pivoted on the Japanese desire to be quit of the extraterritorial powers exercised by foreigners in Japan." The *London and China Express*, however meagre its knowledge of this particular matter, ought surely to have understood, on general grounds, that Portugal, as she is at present, cannot possibly figure at the head of a new chapter in the history of treaty revision. That place is occupied by Great Britain, and must remain hers, unless some very radical change occurs in the relative importance of the Great Powers' interests in Japan. Portugal's failure to discharge the duties devolving on her by treaty invalidated her claim to continued enjoyment of the privileged conferred by that treaty. Such is the whole story in a nut-shell. By what stretch of imagination it can be called "a new phase of treaty revision" we are at a loss to conceive. Further, although there is undenied truth in the assertion that Japan ardently desires to terminate the conditions which bar her exercise of judicial autonomy within her own borders, it is an unwarrantable license that a journal, trusting to hypothesis for the facts of the case it discusses, should declare her recent action to have been "mainly pivoted on that desire." Japan, in common with all civilized Powers, owes to herself the paramount duty of providing for the proper administration of law and justice within her territories. Pressing as that duty has always been, it became still more imperative after the promulgation of the Constitution, wherein the SOVEREIGN solemnly promises that the preservation of order by duly administered laws and full access to equal justice shall be secured for his subjects in every region of his dominions. Portugal's procedure rendered that pledge nugatory so far as concerned the control of Portuguese subjects in Japan, and so far as concerned all legal claims of Japanese subjects against Portuguese. The situation that resulted from the withdrawal of the Portuguese Consul-General in Tokyo had not to be interpreted by Japan of her own insight. It was translated into the plainest language for her information by Portugal's Representative himself. She was officially informed that no system for the administration of justice by Portuguese Consuls in Japan would thenceforth exist, and if under such circumstances, her subjects

had neglected to take some decisive action, they would have palpably failed to discharge the first duty of every Government. We see no occasion, still less any warrant, to attribute to Japan's desire for judicial autonomy a course of action plainly dictated by the most rudimentary sense of a civilized State's duties.

This erroneous exordium of the *London and China Express* is followed by a series of not less striking misconceptions. Representation by merchant Consuls alone is assigned as the general cause of Portugal's deprivation of jurisdiction, while in the next sentence we are told that "the withdrawal of the Portuguese Consul at Yokohama and Tokyo seems to be the only event leading to the present action of the Japanese Government." Our London contemporary is not only mistaken as to its facts, but appears also to be without any definite idea of its own meaning. A system of merchant consuls, and the withdrawal of Consuls from the Japanese capital as well as from the principal centre of foreign trade—these things seem to be viewed by the *London and China Express* as identical. But in truth its confusion of ideas does not greatly matter, since the bases of its varying assertions are in both cases false. By and by, when the real facts are accessible, we may look for a juster review of the situation, though in truth our contemporary's readiness to commit itself to sweeping conclusions on premises so slender and contradictory does not argue any strong anxiety to be just. We observe, too, that the *London and China Express*, though the rôle it professes to play in discussing Oriental affairs deprives it of any claim to the indulgence extended to other journals published at a distance, labours under very singular misconceptions as to the Japanese Constitution. It represents the Privy Council as "communicating its decision to the EMPEROR," and it adds that "according to the Japanese Constitution, the decisions of the Privy Council become law directly they are promulgated." Whether these extraordinary statements are attributable to ignorance of facts, or whether they merely represent curiously careless phraseology, we need not stop to determine. In either case they are equally inexcusable. And so, too, is our contemporary's allegation that when Japan had communicated her decision to the Portuguese Government, she "thought the matter brought to a definite conclusion." How does the *London and China Express* know what Japan "thought"? We do not desire to draw harsh inferences, but between the lines of such writing it is impossible not to detect an effort to depict Japan's action in an arbitrary and precipitate light. Yet there is no explicable reason for a hostile judgment. The Great Powers, notably England, have fully recognised in practice their sense of the obligation imposed on them by their treaties with Japan. They have established in this

empire competent tribunals to discharge the jurisdictional functions thus acquired. Forty-eight years ago, long before any covenant with Japan was contemplated, England placed on official record her opinion that a Power which by convention had conceded jurisdiction within its borders to a foreign State, would be justified in revoking the privilege if due provision were not made by that State for the discharge of the jurisdictional functions assumed by it. On that principle England has always acted, and other Great Powers have carried the same sound theory into practice with more or less fidelity. On what grounds, then, should Englishmen defend Portugal's flagrant failure to discharge the duties which their own Government considers so imperative? We can understand and appreciate the "shoulder-to-shoulder" instinct that binds Occidentals together in the Orient, and makes them anxious to resist discriminations of every kind. But the sentiment is altogether exaggerated when applied to the present case. It is precisely because of the laches and inefficiencies of Powers like Portugal that the whole system of extraterritorial jurisdiction becomes discredited. But for the failures of these petty States to discharge the duties devolving on them, comparatively few practical defects could be laid to the charge of Consular Jurisdiction. Englishmen should be the first to condemn such failures. Above all, their sympathies should be with Japan in her laudable anxiety to provide for the due administration of justice within her territories. The singular nonchalance, not to use any stronger term, displayed by Portugal in her attitude towards Japan, is a feature of the case that need not be dwelt upon here. But no one can question the fundamental principle that from the moment when Japan found a number of Portuguese subjects within her borders and beyond the reach of effective control by their own laws and tribunals, she was bound, in the common interests of peace and good order, to assume jurisdiction over them. She did not do so without ample warning to Portugal, and her delay seems to us the only reprehensible part of her procedure. She discharged her plain duty at last, however, and nothing is more inexplicable than that her laudable resolve to provide for the efficient administration of justice in respect of every person within her territories should evoke the condemnation of any impartial Englishman. Great Britain, we are entitled to say with truth and pride, leads the world in her practical recognition of this duty. Her people need never apprehend that derelictions like that of Portugal will disqualify their country for the enjoyment of any international privilege. They should, and assuredly will ultimately, approve the course adopted by Japan in this matter.

SLAVERY AND CLASS DISTINCTION IN OLD JAPAN.

A PAPER read before the Historical Society by Mr. KONAKAMURA GISHO, and published among the Society's transactions, contains a large amount of interesting information bearing on the class distinctions of old Japan, much of which has never been published in so convenient a form before. It may be necessary to preface our reproduction of Mr. KONAKAMURA'S essay with the remark that the term slave is a somewhat too harsh rendering of the Japanese term *dorei*. As will be seen by the facts given below, Japanese servitude was characterised by none of the horrors which we are accustomed to associate with African slavery. It is true that men and women were bought and sold, and that the amount of personal liberty they enjoyed wholly depended on the dispositions of their masters. But since the Japanese have ever been a kindly disposed race, the hardships of such a servitude as that to which their menials were subjected differed little, if at all, from the hardships of ordinary domestic service.

Mr. KONAKAMURA rightly regards works on Law as the most trustworthy sources of information on the classes, status, duties, amenabilities, &c., of slaves. The earliest trustworthy record of the classes into which slaves were divided is contained in the collection of laws known as the *Taihoritsurei*, which was published in the Taiho era [A.D. 701-703]. In this work they are classified as follows:—(1) **戸** *ryoko*, or guards of the Imperial Mausolea; (2) **官** *kwanko*, or government slaves; (3) **家** *kenin*, domestic slaves; (4) **公** *konuhi*, the slaves of officials; (5) **私** *shinuhi*, slaves belonging to private individuals. This classification needs explanation. The first two classes are distinguished from the other three by being householders. Class 1 consisted of rebels and their descendants. The work of guarding the Imperial tombs seems to have been regarded in those days as ignominious, for in the order of precedence given we find that classes 2 and 4 rank highest. The slaves included in class 2 were mostly rebels, but they had to be over 60 years of age. Class 3 consisted of persons who were too poor or too helpless to become householders, and who were doomed to serve the families upon whom they depended for a living. The poor relations of retainers were often compelled to sell their liberty in order to keep body and soul together. Though there was a certain amount of disgrace attached to the loss of independence which this servitude involved, in many respects it was far preferable to other forms of slavery. It is difficult to distinguish classes 2 and 4, both being under official control. Their origin, however, was not the same. While rebellion rendered class 2 subject to bondage, class 4 were captives taken in war, criminals, or their descendants. *Englished by Google*

belonging to class 2 were required to do was of a far more menial kind than that performed by the slaves belonging to class 4. Class 5 consisted of captives and criminals. It was this class exclusively which furnished slaves for the market, the sale of persons belonging to the other four classes being strictly forbidden by law.

Coming now to the laws and regulations to which slaves were subject, it is necessary to state that prior to the publication of the Taiho laws, Japanese society was divided into two classes only, known as *ryomin*, 良民, and *semmin* 賤民, which may be rendered, superior people and inferior people. The Taiho laws classified the *semmin* in the manner indicated above. The marriage of slaves with other persons was strictly forbidden. Moreover, the slaves of each class were forbidden to intermarry with slaves of another class. The punishment for a violation of this law was 50 stripes and annulling of the marriage. The slaves who guarded the Imperial tombs were under the control of the Imperial Household officials. A special bureau existed for this purpose.

From very ancient times the Japanese held what we should consider very loose notions respecting the sale of human beings. Prior to the Taiho period the sale of people belonging to the superior class (*ryomin*) even was common; so much so that the Emperor JITO issued in A.D. 691 a decree specifying the cases in which the sale of persons should involve degradation in social rank. The following was the regulation:—"In case of a peasant who is sold for the benefit* of his elder brother, he shall not be degraded. But if he be sold for the benefit of his parents he shall be degraded. A person sold for the sake of discharging a debt shall retain his rank as a *ryomin*." It is not a little interesting to observe that the notion respecting the honour attached to self-sacrifice for the sake of discharging the debts of parents and relations existed more than 1200 years ago; that in those days no disgrace was attached to the sale of a human being into servitude provided the motive was a worthy one. The clause of the decree quoted above which declares that sacrifice of liberty for the sake of an elder brother shall involve no degradation, but that in the case of sacrifice for a parent the opposite shall hold good, can be only understood when considered in the light of the prevailing ideas concerning the filial obligations of children; according to which the greater the suffering involved the more praiseworthy was the conduct of the child. On this principle the EMPEROR required that what a child would not be prepared to endure for an elder brother he should bear cheerfully for a parent. The view that by diminishing suffering you diminish the merit attached to cheerful endurance, is by no means ex-

* The reference is not to sales for the sake of discharging debts, but with the object of gaining some benefit.

clusively held by the Confucian; it is the view of leading theologians in various parts of the world. Prior to the Taiho era, the sale of persons of superior rank was evidently common, for there is a law in the Taiho Code which forbids such sales.

Slaves were regarded in the days of which we write as animals. In the 法曹至要 *Hoso-shiyosho* it is argued that in case of slaves obtaining children by cohabiting in an irregular manner among each other, the children so obtained should belong to the master of the female slave, as with animals the male has nothing to do with offspring after birth. One law of this period provides that "in the case of the sale of a slave, a cow, or a horse, should illness occur within three days after the purchase, the animal or human being bought may be returned." In the case of traffic in slaves a written bargain had to be prepared and submitted to the authorities for approval.

An interesting document bearing on the prices realised by slaves was discovered in the Todaiji, Nara, some time ago. It gives an account of the sale of certain persons in Mino, the property of one MORIBEMARO. There were three male and three female slaves, who realised 4,900 bundles of rice plants. The ages of the three males were, 34, 22, and 15 years, respectively. The two elder slaves fetched 1,000 bundles each and the younger, 900. The ages of the females were 22, 20, and 15 years, respectively. The two elder ones realized 800 plants each and the younger 600. Various marks of identity are given, such as "a mole beneath the left eye," red spots on the left cheek, freckles," &c.

In case of flight it was customary to pay a reward amounting to 5 per cent. of the value of the slave if he or she was captured within a month, and of 10 per cent. when a year had elapsed prior to the capture. The following are the circumstances under which slaves might become free and enter the ranks of *ryomin*. (1) In case of persons who had been stolen and reduced to slavery illegally. A girl of the Fujiwara family was carried off by a Harima man and sold as a slave. She obtained her liberty by applying to the local authorities. Even the distant descendants of unlawfully captured slaves sometimes obtained freedom by referring the authorities to the register. (2) When released from service by their masters. (3) When a master died without an heir and his house became extinct. (4) In the case of official slaves, they became free when over 76 years of age, or when too ill to do any work. Freedom was often obtained after a few year's service by those who had been reduced to slavery on account of their association with rebels and not owing to any prominent part they had taken in opposing the Government. (5) Slaves occasionally obtained their freedom by displaying great proficiency in some art or accomplishment. (6) Slaves were sometimes released from obligations by the will of the SOVEREIGN.

In such cases there was usually some special object in view, such as the encouragement of agriculture, and the like. In the days of the Emperor JUNWA [A.D. 824-833] freedom was granted to 233 male slaves and 277 female slaves, who were ordered to settle at Okachidana, Mutsu.

It is impossible to say how many slaves there were in any given age, as no trustworthy statistics have come down to us. But Mr. KONAKAMURA states it as his opinion that at one time the proportion of slaves was about 5 per cent. of the total population, and that the number of female slaves was slightly in excess of that of males.

There is no doubt whatever that slavery in its earliest form was a punishment for disloyalty to the throne. The Emperor YURYAKU is said to have originated this method of punishment, when in A.D. 470, a man called NE-NO-OMI rebelled. NE-NO-OMI was killed, but the EMPEROR decreed that all the descendants of this man should be regarded as inferior persons and be reduced to servitude of a menial kind. They were divided into two parties, one being deputed to serve the EMPEROR and the other a provincial governor. A little later, in the days of the Emperor KENSO [A.D. 485-487], KARABUKURO-NO-SUKUNE rebelled, and when captured pleaded hard for his life. The EMPEROR pardoned him and ordered that he and his descendants should look after the Imperial tombs.

Another early origin of slavery was debt. In the days of the Emperor JITO [A.D. 690-696] it was decreed that if a man were unable to pay a debt, and if the sale of his property did not realise sufficient money to meet the demand, he should become the slave of his creditor.

Prior to the days of the Emperor JITO all foreigners who came to the country were classed among *semmin*, and, unless redeemed by relatives or friends, were slaves for life. The Emperor JITO altered this law and decreed that foreigners should be classed among *ryomin* and be exempted from servitude. For several hundred years the distinction between *semmin* and *ryomin* was very marked, but under the Kamakura and the Ashikaga Shoguns it was almost obliterated. In the 貞永式目, *Teiei-Shikimoku*, a book published in 1232, reference is made to the two classes, but this was done with the object of bringing this work into accord with earlier treatises on law, and is not to be understood as representing a distinction observed in everyday life.

The early Tokugawa Shoguns were specially given to social classifications. They not only revived the old distinction between *ryomin* and *semmin*, but also divided the latter into a number of minor classes. At no time before or after was the list of persons officially designated *semmin* so large. This list as given by Mr. KONAKAMURA, we append, with explanations of our own.

(1) *Chori* 長吏, originally the name given to the head of *Eta*, but in later days used as a synonym of *Eta*. (2) *Eta*. (3) *Hinin* 非人, an outcast, one who is too low to be regarded as human; originally applied to criminals only, but subsequently extended to beggars. (4) *Yamaban*, mountain-keepers. (5) *Kawaya-mono*, a low class of beggars who encamped in the stony beds of rivers, and who were required to take charge of corpses of criminals. (6) Ordinary beggars. (7) *Shiku* 虱, a term applied to men or women who dance in front of a shrine. (8) *Miko*, or *Kuchiyose*, a witch, or necromancer, who undertakes to appease the angry spirits of the living or the dead. (9) *Maimai*, a male dancer who uses a fan only and is not accompanied by music. (10) *Gannin* 願人, an ordinary mendicant friar, also called *Kofiki-bonzu*. (11) *Sode-koi*, applied to a special class of mendicant priests, who wear long-sleeved *koromo* and beg with a wooden bowl enclosed by the 2 sleeves; hence the term "sleeve-beggars." (12) *Ombo* 埋房, persons employed in the burning of dead bodies. (13) *Ningyo-tsukai*, puppet showmen, Punch and Judy men. (14) Actors. (15) Brothel-keepers. (16) *Zato*, or *mekura-amma*, blind shamposers. (17) *Sarugaku* 能 performers. (18) *Onyoshi* 陰陽師, diviners. (19) Plasterers. (20) Makers of earthenware. (21) *Imonoshi*, casters. (22) *Tsui-mekura*, wayside blind beggars. (23) *Saru-hiki*, men who make money by showing off a monkey's tricks. (24) *Hachi-tafaki*—called also *Kuya nembutsu* after their founder—priests who obtain money by beating a metal bowl and reciting passages of scripture. (25) Stone-cutters. (26) Umbrella-menders. (27) Ferry boatmen. (28) Dyers. (29) *Tsubotata*, the proprietors of archery grounds. (30) Pen-makers. (31) Ink-makers. (32) *Seki mori*, barrier-guards. (33) Bell-ringers. (34) *Shishi mai*, persons who dance with *shishi* masks for the amusement of children. (35) Makers of rain-coats. (36) Keepers of bath-houses. (37) Watchmen. (38) *Mikawa mansai*, beggars, originally from the province of Mikawa, who acted as mummers at the New Year to secure the prosperity of the Tokugawa Shogunate. (39) Jugglers. (40) *Yashi*, or *Mizemomo shi*, showmen. (41) *Inu mamashi*, persons who train dogs and get money by showing off their tricks. (42) *Hanashi ka*, story-tellers. (43) Serpent-charmers. (44) *Naso toki*, expounders of enigmas. (45) *Chikara mochi* exhibitors of feats of strength. (46) *Kagunike*, persons who make it appear that they crawl through a narrow basket without being hurt by the drawn sword attached to it. (47) *Kitsune-tsukai*, trainers of foxes.

In the case of many of these various occupations it is not easy to see why they should be deemed more ignominious than others which might be mentioned. In most instances, however, the above-named classes were included among *semmin*, for a reason which satisfied the leaders of public opinion in those days. Speaking generally, all irregular methods of obtaining a livelihood were considered derogatory. Begging was abhorred. All connection with dead bodies was supposed to defile: hence the pen-makers who used the hair of deer, and ink-makers who used the bones of cows and horses for hardening the ink, were condemned. Occupations were often considered ignominious on account of their associations: archery grounds, for instance, were used as meeting places for persons of loose character, hence they were despised. The prostitute was not reckoned among *semmin*, because in many cases she sold herself for the sake of her parents, but the man who kept a brothel was in the eyes of the Tokugawa Shogun a very different person.

During the time of the early Tokugawa Shoguns the control of *semmin* of all classes was entrusted to DANZAEMON and KURUMA ZENSHICHI. The powers with which these two men were endowed enabled them to establish a kind of im-

perium in imperio. All the misdemeanours of *semmin* were dealt with by these chiefs. In effect Extraterritorial Jurisdiction was sanctioned by the Tokugawa rulers, who considered that it would be derogatory to the honour of ordinary Court officials even to pass judgment on the outcasts of society. The reign of the DANZAEMON family over *Eta* and other classes of outcasts dates from the time of the Kamakura Shoguns. The wealth accumulated by this family was something enormous. Despite the fact that these Kings of outcasts were branded with the disgrace attached to the term *semmin*, the merchants of Edo were often only too glad to borrow money from them at cheap rates of interest. But such transactions were kept secret. It is recorded, however, that on one occasion a member of the DANZAEMON'S family, feeling keenly the ostracism to which society had condemned him, invited all the persons to whom he had lent money to a large feast. About two-thirds of the *invités* refused the invitation on the ground that the disgrace of accepting the hospitality of an outcast was more than they could reasonably be expected to entail on themselves. The remainder accepted the invitation, arguing that they could not do otherwise, having consented to make use of DANZAEMON'S money. When they arrived at the house of the host, they perceived that the preparations were on a magnificent scale, but they were altogether unprepared for the surprise that awaited them. When the covers were removed from the bowls placed before each guest, they were found to be full of *Koban*. These the host insisted on the guests' accepting, and when they rose to leave, the customary *miyage-mono* was handed to them, carefully wrapped in paper. On opening his parcel, each guest found that it contained the bond which had been given to DANZAEMON in acknowledgment of his debt, together with a declaration that it was null and void.

During the reigns of the later Tokugawa Shoguns, the classes of persons included among *semmin* were gradually diminished until, at the commencement of the Meiji era, Mr. KATO HIROYUKI memorialised the government on the subject, and as a result even *Eta* and *Hinin* were placed on an equality with their fellow-men. The Japanese as a race have never taken kindly to class distinctions. Their feelings on the subject, when uninfluenced by the fear of unpleasant consequences, were well represented by the merchants who attended DANZAEMON'S banquet. In no country do a man's circumstances count for so little provided his personal character merits esteem. A nobleman's carriage standing in front of the humble cottage of a highly valued friend of its owner is a sight no less common than significant. Japanese Sociology from a foreign point of view has yet to be written. When it is written there will be abundant proof that the vulgarity of

our modern wealth-worshipping world and all the senseless minor class distinctions of fashionable society, are adjuncts of a civilisation which in many of its characteristics is infinitely inferior to that which Japan, sitting at the feet of nature, has succeeded in developing.

CLIMATE AND ITS CHANGES.

OLD people sometimes say that the climate of the country where they live has changed since their youth. The assertion is generally regarded as indicating that their own perception of climatic conditions has altered. And yet the climate does change, though so gradually that no human being's life-time, however long, could suffice to make the change perceptible. There are two causes of change: a major and a minor. The major cause is the eccentricity of the earth's orbit. If our planet travelled in a circle round the sun, so that the difference between the amounts of heat received from the orb by the two hemispheres at a given time was due solely to the inclination of the planet's axis, winter and summer would be of the same length in each hemisphere. Inasmuch, however, as the earth's orbit is not circular but elliptic, it happens that the tilt of the axis favours one hemisphere longer than the other with regard to the sun's warmth, and the more elliptic the orbit becomes, the greater must be the advantage of either hemisphere in this respect. At present the ellipticity or eccentricity, as it is also called—is not great: it produces a difference of only seven days between the summers of the two hemispheres, the northern having 186 days of summer against the southern's 179. But in consequence of the attraction of the other planets the earth's course is sometimes extended to an ellipse of such eccentricity that the difference between summer or winter amounts to 33 days, or even more. Under such circumstances the one hemisphere has 199 winter days and 166 summer days, while the other has 166 winter and 199 summer days. Sir ROBERT BALL, the Astronomer Royal of Ireland, has shown that each hemisphere alike receives 63 per cent. of its total solar heat in summer and 37 per cent. in winter. Hence, when the earth's orbit has attained its maximum eccentricity, the hemisphere with 199 winter days has its 37 per cent. of warmth distributed over the whole of that period, and its 63 per cent. of summer heat is distributed over 166 days: in other words, it has a long cold winter and a short hot summer. Physicists assert that the heat of such a summer would not suffice to melt the ice and snow accumulated during such a winter, and that the accumulation would gradually increase, until, as in the past, whole continents would be buried under a thousand feet of glacial snow. This increase in the eccentricity of the earth's orbit is believed

to produce the glacial ages, of which there have been many in the past, and of which there will apparently be many in the future. But when is that terrible future to be anticipated? When is the half of North America and the greater part of Europe to be buried under ice, to the annihilation of the manifold forms of life now existing there? There is much difficulty in solving the complex factors that enter into the problem, but Dr. JAMES CROLL has calculated and published the periods of the greatest and least eccentricity of the earth's orbit for the next million years, and for a still longer time backwards. Briefly stated, his conclusions as to the past are that the maximum eccentricity was reached eight hundred and fifty thousand years ago; that for the period from two hundred and forty thousand to eighty thousand years ago the eccentricity was very high, and that the last glacial era in the northern hemisphere closed at the end of that period; while with respect to the future he calculates that one hundred and fifty thousand years hence a high eccentricity will be again attained, accompanied by a recurrence of the glacial period.

Such is the major influence operating to produce great climatic changes. But there is also a minor influence which makes itself felt at much shorter intervals. It is the precession of the equinoxes, the result of which is a transfer of the conditions between the two hemispheres every 10,500 years. The winter in the northern hemisphere occurs at present when the earth is nearest to the sun, while the contrary is the case in the southern hemisphere, and these conditions are reversed every 10,500 years. Were eccentricity of the earth's orbit as high to-day as it will be a hundred and fifty thousand years hence, the southern hemisphere would have its glacial period while the northern would enjoy short mild winters with summers longer than now but not quite so warm. Then, since the period of high eccentricity lasts long enough for the completion of several precessions of the equinoxes, the lapse of a hundred and five centuries would inaugurate a glacial era for the northern hemisphere in its turn, and the southern would simultaneously emerge into a state of habitability for human beings. It will thus be seen that our planet has two climatic lives, so to speak: first, it enjoys a temperate existence of about two hundred and thirty thousand years, during which no glacial periods occur for either hemisphere; then it enters upon a frigid existence of about a hundred and sixty thousand years, during which the hemispheres are alternately visited by glacial periods—buried under a thousand feet of ice and snow—at regular intervals of ten thousand five hundred years. We have our little winters and our petty summers now-a-days, but what a stupendous winter is in store for our remote descendants.

THE PORTUGUESE AFFAIR.

IT is not likely that any discriminating persons will be misled by the singular statement, advanced more than once by hostile critics of Japan's recent action towards Portugal, that a miscarriage of justice which occurred in Nagasaki in 1887 constitutes the principal warrant for Japan's procedure in 1892. Whether the publication of such a statement is due to crass miscomprehension of the whole question, or to a deliberate attempt to obscure the truth, we do not care to inquire. One or other hypothesis must be accepted, nevertheless, for, in point of fact, no direct connection of any kind exists between the Nagasaki business of 1887 and the Imperial Ordinance of July 4th, 1892, nor has the former ever been authoritatively mentioned as justifying the latter. In 1887, a Portuguese subject residing in Nagasaki was enabled to escape the consequences of a theft laid to his charge because neither the Portuguese acting Consul in Nagasaki nor the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo had competence to issue a warrant for his arrest. This incident demonstrated that the improvements in her jurisdictional arrangements made by Portugal some years previously, at Japan's instance, were still unsatisfactory, and the sequel was the elaboration of a more efficient system of which the Consul-General in Tokyo constituted the key-stone. It may seem perplexing that only in 1887 was the insufficiency of Portugal's arrangements clearly ascertained. But the fact, as shown by official documents, is that Japan, after representations made by her to Portugal in 1883, and after the receipt of assurances from Lisbon that due dispositions had been effected, rested content until concrete evidence was furnished in 1887 that, despite Portuguese statements, no proper provision had actually been made for the administration of justice in respect of Portugal's subjects in this empire. Then it was that Portugal with this concrete evidence before her, at last discharged her duty after a fashion by organizing the system which remained in operation until the departure of her Consul-General in 1892. It will thus be seen that the Nagasaki incident was simply one of the stepping stones to the completion of the jurisdictional arrangements made by Portugal in 1888, which arrangements were coolly overturned in 1892, despite Japan's reasonable remonstrances, and despite the fact that they represented the outcome of representations extending over five years. The most superficial acquaintance with the sequel of events will enable anyone to see that the Nagasaki incident could only be quoted in 1892 as illustrating the eventualities contingent on reverting to the system of 1887, and in point of fact, Portugal did not even take the trouble to revert to that system, but quietly left her subjects in Japan without any juris-

dictional system at all. It is a clumsy falsehood to allege that the Nagasaki incident of 1887 was ever officially adduced to prove that the absence of jurisdictional arrangements consequent upon the withdrawal of the Portuguese Consul-General in 1892 justified Japan in assuming jurisdiction over Portuguese subjects.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SUGGESTIONS TO THE YOKOHAMA TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I take the liberty to ask you for a short space in your valuable columns to make a few suggestions to the Yokohama Telegraph Office? On the 6th instant (the day when the line between here and Kobe was down owing to the heavy storm), a telegram was taken to the Yokohama Telegraph Office to be sent to Kobe, and the officer in charge let it pass without saying a word about delay, though the line was then not in proper order. The next day (7th) when the line was still not working properly, a telegram intended for the same port was taken to the office, but the officer in charge (he was not the same man who attended on the 6th) refused to receive it unless the sender made a written statement that he would submit to delay in its arrival. Under these circumstances the message was brought back to me by the bearer. Thinking it rather strange that it should pass on one day and not on the other, I went to the office myself and found out that such was the fact. Upon enquiry, I was told that the clerk who received my telegram bearing no written acknowledgement for its delay the day before was wrong, and what he did today was right. I therefore had to do just as I was told by the officer and my telegram was then received. If things go on like this it will be very inconvenient for senders of telegrams, most of whom are not aware of this condition of things, consequently, I don't think it useless to suggest to the office that they should insert in their despatch form something like the following clause:—

"The sender must understand that there may be a delay in the arrival of a telegraphic message when the line is not working in proper order."

This would save much time, and be more convenient to all concerned. Similar cases to that I have referred to occurred a few days back.

Yours faithfully,
G. K. WAKIYA.
Yokohama, Sept. 16th, 1892.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB COMMITTEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The eccentricities of those who are at the head of affairs in the institution known as the Nippon Race Club are numerous and various, and the careful study on their part of the art of how not to do it, is now a by-word among persons interested in the welfare of the Club. People in Yokohama generally suppose there is a responsible Committee, but they are woefully mistaken, for although one may be in existence, it seems rather to shirk than execute its duties. A friend of mine from Shanghai, taking a great interest in racing, was here some days ago, and went up to the course to see the Half-breds. Speaking about racing in Japan, he asked me the following question:—"When will the autumn races take place?" and it was with shame that I, a member of the Club, and the owner of ponies, had to inform him that I did not know.

Perhaps in 30 or 35 days more we will have the races upon us, yet nobody knows the exact dates, with the exception, perhaps, of the autocrat of the Race Club and his immediate friends. This is unique in racing annals in the East or anywhere else, yet the Committee complain about the lack of interest in racing. Is it not largely their fault, and do they not do everything calculated to accentuate a lack of interest?

Yours faithfully,
A DISGUSTED OWNER.
September 19th, 1892.

THE NEW JAPANESE CODES.

A REPLY TO THE LAWYERS' MANIFESTO AND TO THE DIET'S OBJECTIONS.

BY MR. G. BOISSONADE.

(Translated from the *Révue Française du Japon*.)

Although the editors of this Review refrain on principle, and for reasons of propriety easy of appreciation, from taking part in the polemics which often divide Japanese opinion in the press and in Parliament, the question of the postponement of putting the new Codes into operation, is of too great an international interest for us not to take notice of it. Besides, upon this subject, altogether ill-founded criticisms have been pronounced against the French Codes which have had a recognized influence upon the new Japanese legislation, and it is impossible for the *Révue Française du Japon* not to animadvert upon them.

In refuting the criticisms, often harsh, expressed in the two Houses of the Diet, of French law and of the new Japanese law, we will abstain from naming their authors: we battle with doctrines and not with persons.

At the time that we are writing, the postponement of putting the Civil and the Commercial Codes into operation, has been voted by the two Houses, but to become a law of the State abrogating the Imperial law of the 27th March, 1890,¹ which promulgated these two Codes and fixed the 1st January 1893² for their coming into operation, there lacks the Imperial Sanction. We do not despair of the two Codes being sustained and made applicable next year; but were it to be settled otherwise, even before the publication of this article, we would not withdraw it, because agreement between the three legislative powers can very well be brought about by considerations of conciliation purely political, but it could not transmute into truths, historical, philosophical and legal errors, like those which we shall have to take up here.

If the Codes are abandoned at the very time when benefits were about to commence therefrom, the country will be astonished some day, and surely as much grieved, that such erroneous causes should have brought about so inauspicious a result.

We might limit ourselves to controverting the criticisms raised against the Codes in the two Houses; but we cannot let pass in silence, a Manifesto, a Memoir (*Iken*) by Japanese lawyers, that appeared before the discussion in the Diet took place, that was distributed to all the Members of that body, and that was profusely scattered throughout the country to impassion opinion. The numerous errors it contained were not all reproduced, it is true, in the Diet, but they were so in the press and, on that account, they have created against the Codes a current of unpopularity which certainly was not without influence upon the vote of the two Houses.

We shall, then, divide this reply into three parts, to meet the criticisms raised, 1st in the lawyers' Manifesto, and in the House of Peers, 3rdly in the House of Representatives.

I.—OBJECTIONS IN THE MANIFESTO.

We shall separate the criticism directed principally against the Civil Code or against the two Codes united, from those directed specially against the Commercial Code.

A.—CRITICISMS AGAINST THE CIVIL CODE AND AGAINST THE TWO CODES UNITED.

This Manifesto is signed by eleven lawyers, mostly advocates who have studied only English or American law, and some few of whom are not without reputation. Without putting their good faith into doubt, it is permissible to believe that their animosity is greatly connected with the speciality of their legal studies and with their disinclination to have to make new ones; at the same time, their criticisms of the text, in places, prove that they have not always understood it.

We shall point out only those errors of theirs which were not reproduced in the Diet; in that way we shall not have to revert several times to the same points.

Thus, the censure pronounced against the Civil Code (Book concerning Persons) "of having too much abandoned national customs as to the organization of the family," has been expressed in the Diet as well as in the Manifesto; but the latter has singularly bolstered it up, not only in pretending that "this Code is based upon Christianity,

which is not the religion of the country," but also in upbraiding the Christian religion "for not admitting any inequality between the Sovereign and his people, between parents and children, between masters and servants." According to the authors of the Manifesto, "Jesus Christ requires for himself alone the love and respect of man, so that nothing remains for parents or masters; in the eyes of Christ, father and son are equal, and those who honour their parents are unworthy of following Him."

A person may be ignorant of a foreign religion, but in that case it is meet for him not to speak about it, under the penalty of becoming ridiculous. It was easy for the authors of the Manifesto to inform themselves upon this point of doctrine, by questioning any missionary or any Christian whatever: they would have learned that on the contrary, among the formal Commandments in the Christian religion there is the one, "to honour one's father and mother (which certainly includes the other progenitors), to render to Cæsar whatever is Cæsar's and to God whatever is God's," and this reconciles the duties of a subject with those of a Christian. When Jesus Christ said that, "whoever wished to follow him, must leave his parents," he spoke for those who wished to find perfection outside of the sphere of mundane life, and not for the generality of men. Buddhism likewise proposes retreat and prayer to those who desire to elevate themselves above its frailness.

The Manifesto is not more fortunate when, to prove the pretended superiority of the Japanese family over the Christian one, it utters this strange assertion, that "in Christian countries, all that is required to constitute a house is, that a man and a woman love each other and consent to live together." Cohabitation of a man and of a woman is nothing but vulgar concubinage which the Christian religion formally condemns as immoral.

As to the Japanese system which gives priority to ancestors over descendants, to past generations over present or future ones, we will not discuss here whether or no it is preferable to the European system which, on the contrary, invites progenitors to sacrifice themselves for their descendants. The remembrance of ancestors is piously kept in the memories of children and exists everywhere, in Europe as in China and in Japan; but that the authority of ancestors should have an influence over the distribution and the administration of fortunes, is something that admits of serious economical objections and it is easy to convince oneself that, if the nations of the East have remained behind in modern civilization, the principal cause of it is, the fact that present generations have their eyes turned toward the past, instead of having them turned towards the future.

Let us leave this great question since the new Civil Code has precisely respected the old organization of the family, saving some slight modifications, as well as the law of succession with its privilege of primogeniture.

In another order of ideas, the authors of the Manifesto reproach the Civil Code "with having given more importance to the theory of Property than to that of Persons, and with having subordinated the second to the first, whilst it is the reverse, say they, that should take place."

If the importance of a legal theory were measured by the number of articles that are sanctioned therein by law, the first remark would be correct; but the critics undoubtedly did not intend to thereby express an idea of such little seriousness of character. If Property has necessitated a number of articles, nearly the double of those devoted to Persons, the reason of it lies in the great variety of rights that constitute Property, and especially in the details demanded by the theory of Agreements, considered as sources of property, of *Choses in action*, or of obligations, together with all that relates to the extinction of the same; the condition of Persons in a society and in a family does not present the same complications.

As to the pretended subordination of "Persons to Property," it is entirely imaginary and, even, we have difficulty in conceiving what the Manifesto means by it. The two theories are absolutely independent: that of Property is based upon the universal principles of Reason, Justice and of Utility, which are the same in all times and in all places, whilst the condition of Persons has always varied, more or less, according to times or to countries. If the authors of the Manifesto have ever so little studied the History of the Jurisprudence of the principal countries of the world, they must have seen therein that the theory of property, of obligations, and of the guarantees of the same (which constitutes all the law of Property), was the same among the Greeks and the Romans as it is among modern nations, and yet the organization of the family was different among ancient nations from what it is among modern ones. The theory of Property has always been and still is

¹ We purposely make use of the expression Imperial law, although it is out of use, because the last two Codes, like the first three, were sanctioned and promulgated by the Emperor before the Constitution came into operation.

² Let us recall the fact, however, that the Commercial Code was first to come into operation one year before the civil Code; but the Diet voted it at its first session and the Emperor sanctioned the postponement of the Commercial Code to the same date as the Civil Code. This vote was the motive of Count Yamada's retirement from the Department of Justice.

the same, at least in its fundamental principles, among the Latin, the Germanic and the Anglo-Saxon races; whilst civil capacity, the conditions for marriage and for adoption, marital and paternal authority present notable differences among them.

In Japan, Books II, III, IV, and V, might have been applied, even did Book I, not exist or did it not produce any change in the old organization of the family. The proof of it is in the noteworthy fact, that the Book on Persons was the last one drawn up, and that it necessitated but very few changes in the Book on Property; nevertheless some changes were necessary, and that exactly proves that it is Property that has been made subordinate to Persons, whenever there was contact between the two theories. Thus, the Book on Property admitted, at first, a plurality of heirs; but when, later on it was decided that there should be but one heir, the eldest born, all that related to an equal or an unequal division of the inheritance, had to be suppressed.

The censure of the Manifesto, then, is doubly ill-founded: there could be no question of subordination between two theories generally independent; but, in the only case in which they are connected, the Civil Code has precisely subordinated the right of Property to that of Persons, something it is very inconsiderately blamed for not doing.

After having, very inaptly and with gross misconceptions, forced the religious question into the civil law, the Manifesto declares that in the new Code, the expressions *house* and *head of the house*, have lost their ancient meaning, that henceforth it is individuals and no longer the family that constitutes the *house*.

How can such an assertion be advanced in view of the preservation of the right of primogeniture with its consequences? The writers of the Civil Code have given to the words *house* and *head of the house*, their traditional meaning in Japan; the few restrictions they have laid upon the latter's power, do not change its nature and in no wise constitute what, to frighten the timid, is denounced as "a revolution in the family and, consequently, in society."

The Manifesto blames the new Code "for giving to a surviving mother the guardianship of and parental power over an inheriting child, when it is a minor," and concludes therefrom that "all the fortune of the house is found to be in this way, at the disposal of the woman." If the authors of the Manifesto had taken the trouble to compare this provision with those touching guardianship, they would have seen that the powers of the guardian mother, like those of a guardian in general, are limited by a strong control of the family council (Book I, Art. 194), and not one of the least benefits of the new Code will be this protection of inheriting minors against the bad administration of guardians, and sometimes against their malpractices so difficult to prevent to-day. Parental power, like guardianship, should not be based upon the interest of whoever exercises it, but upon that of the child; the law, then, should give the same to that member of the family that merits its confidence the most by affection and presumed devotion for the child. Assuredly, the father must be preferred to the mother in exercising this power; but when the father is dead, the mother ought to be the civil guardian of the child's interests, just as she is the *natural* one of his person, that is to say of his life, of his comfort, and of his morality. There is no doubt that the person and the interests of a child will be safer in the hands of its mother than in those of a paternal uncle. It has been acknowledged, besides, in Japan, that the rôle of women in a family must be raised, and the Civil Code raises mothers and wives as is becoming to a civilized country.

The Civil Code is again criticized for having associated with the bonds of blood, the obligation of maintenance; especially when a woman, after having had children, is divorced from her husband and when the latter has remarried, it is said to be shocking that "the children of the first marriage should be obliged to maintain their mother;" there is seen in that a source of discord between the father and the children.

But the critics forget, that whoever owes maintenance, in a case where the former civil family bond has been broken by a divorce, owes it only as regards his own property, if he has any, and not as that of the family. The fear, then, of discord is imaginary. The dissolution of a marriage by divorce, severs the natural and civil bond between the husband and the wife, but it cannot sever as between the mother and the children, the natural bond, the bond of blood. It may be admitted that it would cause them to lose the right of inheritance, respectively, because that right is, in Japan at least, more civil than natural; but the right to maintenance is, above all, a natural right, and the civil law ought to sanction it, under penalty of being taxed with barbarity if it disregards it.

The Manifesto is not more successful in its criticism upon the obligation of maintenance between brothers and sisters, nor in its fears that this provision will encourage idleness: the law removes this danger, since "maintenance is owing only to whoever is in need through some cause that is not attributable to himself" (Book I, Art. 27); now, idleness is a cause of misery attributable to the idle person himself.

It has been maintained also, that the new civil law, by affording grounds for an action at law between relations, as the penalty of the preceding obligations, "will weaken morality in the land." But we have there a strange conception of what morality is: when the obligation of maintenance shall be voluntarily carried out, morality, will not suffer on account of any right of action to which there will be no need of recurring; if the obligation is not carried out of one's own accord, would not morality suffer much more, were natural and the most sacred rights ignored and violated with impunity?

It is also charged against the Civil Code that it allows the legitimization of natural children, by the subsequent marriage of the father and mother. But the law has taken great pains to declare that this legitimization does not retroact beyond the day of the marriage (Book I, Art. 105). Thus, if the husband has already a legitimate son, destined to be the head of the house, the subsequent legitimization of an older natural child, will not confer the privilege of primogeniture upon the latter. The hierarchy of the family will, then, in no wise suffer by the legitimization of the natural child. The writers of the Civil Code had no need "to become inspired here with Constantine's legislation," as they have been blamed for doing; reason and equity were quite sufficient to convince them that all the children of one father and of one mother legally married, should make part of the same family.

The authors of the Manifesto, after having striven to throw disfavor upon the Civil Code, in the minds of those who are attached to the national religion, by attributing to it, without reason, contrary religious tendencies, and in the minds of old conservatives, by accusing it of subverting the organization of the family, have shifted their contention to the arena of the Constitution and have endeavored to excite against this Code, on the one side the defenders of the Imperial Prerogatives, on the other the champions of Parliamentary Power: they have pointed out certain provisions of the Civil Code, as being antagonistic to the Emperor's rights and to the Diet's.

Thus, it is evidently to alarm the defenders of the Imperial Prerogatives, that the authors of the Manifesto set up, "that the French Civil Code with which the Japanese Code has been inspired, is based upon republican principles."

We are willing to believe in the good faith of our adversaries, but there is therein, on their part, a singular historical error that it was easy to avoid, like as was the religious one refuted above. No doubt, the French Code dates from the first Republic (1803); but already at that time, Napoleon Bonaparte was *1st Consul for life* and was upon the eve of taking the title of Emperor. The Civil Code, then, was applied in the 1st Empire for 12 years (1804 to 1815); afterwards during the restored Royalty of the Bourbons for 15 years (1815 to 1830), during the Royalty of Louis-Philippe of Orleans for 18 years (1830 to 1841), without there having been any dream of modifying its fundamental principles: it was applied in the 2nd Republic for 5 years (1848 to 1852), it was no less applied in the 2nd Empire, that of Napoleon III, for 18 years (1852 to 1870); the 3rd Republic again possesses it and has got along with it very well, it is true, for already 22 years, but neither better nor worse than did the various monarchical forms; so that, within the space of 90 years, the Civil Code ruled France for 63 years of Monarchy against only 27 years of Republicanism.

The French Civil Code has not, however, remained identical and unprogressive during that long space of time, as it has been very erroneously said in the House of Peers (we will revert to in Part II.); but the numerous ameliorations it has received, have had no connection with the form, whether democratic or otherwise, of the Government; the Civil Code is a Code of Private Law and is foreign to Public and to Political Law.

With the same object of alarming the defenders of the Imperial Power the Japanese Code has been blamed for having recognized, as does the French Code, a natural law anterior to positive law. This censure was reproduced and developed in the House of Peers, so it is in Part II. that we shall reply to it.

At the same time that efforts were being made to alarm the Imperial Power, there was a desire also to excite the Diet against the Civil Code, by endeavours to make the Diet believe that the code assailed its authority. Thus, the Civil Code de-

clares that the public property of the State is inalienable. Thereupon, the Manifesters maintain that this inalienability is a blow at the power of the Diet. They go so far as to pretend that the alienation of such property should be made possible by virtue of a simple Imperial Ordinance, because, "from the moment that the price of the sale appeared in the Treasury, instead of the thing itself, there would be no increase in the people's burdens."

There is there a double error of law. The power of the Diet is not held in check by this provision: it can always, by a vote which, with the Imperial Sanction, will constitute a law, change the class of any property in the public domain, that is to say, disappropriate it from the public service and thus transform it into property of the private domain; it will then be alienable by administrative process. On the contrary, an Imperial Ordinance would not suffice to alienate property as long as it was appropriated to the public service, although the price of it should enter the Treasury. This is so because the interest connected with property of this kind is not confined to its selling value only: it is connected also with the nature of the use to which it is put and of its aptness to satisfy the needs of the country; now, whenever property in the public domain should happen to be sold by Imperial Ordinance, it would generally be necessary to replace it by other property, which might be either more costly or less advantageous for its intended use. No more could an Imperial Ordinance, suffice to disappropriate property in order to afterwards succeed in alienating it as being in the private domain: that can be done only by a Law. If the distinction between the two domains was not formerly made in Japan, it is because the Emperor had alone the plenitude of the legislative power and at the same time the executive power; the Constitution having separated these two powers in His person, at the same time that it divided the first, the Civil Code had to conform itself thereto.

Finally, let us observe how singular it is to blame the Civil Code for restricting the Imperial Powers, when itself is an Imperial Law. Will the authors of the Manifesto say, that the organic Law of the Courts aims a blow at the Imperial Prerogatives every time that it exacts a Law for any modification it may receive (see Art. 4, 89, &c.)? In truth it is singular to meet with the defence of the Imperial Prerogatives in a Manifesto, the very object of which is to impair them in the most irreverent way imaginable, for the reason that it is from beginning to end, a harsh criticism of the two Codes, which, with the Constitution, are a most important Legislative monument due to the exclusive initiative and authority of the Emperor! *Quis tulit Gracchos de seditione querentes?*

The authors of the Manifesto, with apparently no care for method, revert elsewhere to the distinction between the property of the public domain and that of the State's private domain; but we prefer to finish at once with the subject. They upbraid the Civil Code for a new wrong which exists only in their imagination and show a second time that this theory is entirely unknown to them. They seem to think that "the Civil Code perceives two persons in the State, a public person and a private person," and they say that "that is an antiquated principle."

But this duality of the State's person has never been maintained by any one nor in any time: the State is *one*, it is a moral person; only, it has two kinds of property: one kind is appropriated to public uses, the other is in its patrimony in the same way as is the property of individuals and yields its revenue that is appropriated to its expenses. The Civil Code has said nothing else (see Book II, Art. 21 to 23).

The Manifesters themselves commit a singular error when they pretend that "the State being a public moral person, all its property ought to be in the public domain;" this is to ignore the destination or the purpose of this property, which should affect its nature and, consequently, the right to dispose of it, as it has been seen above.

The Manifesto upbraids the Civil Code "for not being in accord with the principles of the Budget, on the subject of taking possession of movable property for public purposes." Here the authors have made an odd mistake; they have strangely condemned the appropriation of movable property for public utility with the assessment annually burdened upon subjects by the budget.

The appropriation of movable property for public utility is generally not permitted in other countries; the only exceptions allowed, relate to certain commodities of prime necessity, in case of war, of siege or of other calamities. It has been thought that it ought to be more extensively allowed in Japan; but as there might be abuses in the exercise of this right of the State, and as, in order to enrich the national museums, collectors of rare and curious objects ought not to be despoiled of them, even by giving proper remuneration for

them, the Code is not satisfied, in this case, with an administrative declaration of public utility, as for real property, with a settlement of the indemnity, equally by administrative means: it requires a special Law (Book II., Art. 31); it is a complete guaranty for owners; so that if a private individual should discover, in excavations, objects of great interest for the political or artistic history of the country, such as the tomb or the arms of a celebrated warrior, very ancient manuscripts or specimens of a lost art, the appropriation of them might be authorized by a special law which would at the same time fix the indemnity for them.

This provision might be discussed from a legislative and practical standpoint; but at least, before all things, the text ought to have been understood. By what strange abstraction of mind can the authors of the Manifesto have seen in Article 31 the fixation of the annual taxation of taxpayers? How can they have mixed up an enforced cession of property in consideration of a price or indemnity to be received, with the legal obligation of a tax to be paid? Even when a tax-payer fails to pay his contribution, he is liable to a seizure of his goods, like is any refractory debtor; but there can have been, in similar case, no question of requiring a special law.

We are really frightened at the dimensions that this refutation is going to take; but were we to leave some of these criticisms unanswered, our adversaries might take our silence as confession of being wrong and we can make none upon any point. Besides, the last objections are not less strange than the others.

We shall, to finish with the Manifesto, take up the nine principal criticisms, in the order in which they come, which is not always a methodical one.

1. It is said, that "the Codes, based upon the principle of individualism, do not recognize the collective body of Society." But the Civil Code and the Commercial Code, which are codes of private law, have nothing to do with the social body in itself: sociology is a new science upon which some young Japanese writers willingly descend, with as much obscurity in their language as they have in their ideas; the writers of the two Codes had no motive for entering these theoretical regions; when they have to speak of the State, as representing the social body, it is solely to reserve its rights, it is not to determine them.

As a corollary to these criticisms, the Codes are charged, with "having been principally engrossed with assuring liberty of contract to each individual." The authors of this criticism fail to perceive that they are really bestowing the highest praise on the Codes, for Codes of private law "that assure liberty of agreements," are precisely what can be best hoped for in any country.

But what we do not understand is, that these same codes "encourage, by these means, the free action of the strongest to the prejudice of the weakest." It is impossible to express at the same time two more contradictory and more incoherent ideas. And, that the contradiction may be carried to its acme, behold, this liberty of agreements "excites the passions of political parties and opens a way to socialists"! Really, the uttering of such nonsense is to be wanting in respect for one's readers.

2. Flagrant contradictions continue. It had been charged against the Codes that they "ignored the idea of the State;" now it is said that they "leave to individuals too large a resort to the State for the protection of their rights and the performance of contracted obligations." If it is the weak that can resort to the State for protection against the strong, they are, then, not sacrificed; if the critics intended to speak of the recourse of the strong against the weak it certainly cannot be their desire that the latter should have no means of having their property or their debts respected. The truth is, that both have the same recourse for the protection of their rights. This recourse, moreover, is not to the State but to the courts, for which there are neither strong nor weak, great nor small, and before whom all suitors are equal.

Is it not rather our adversaries who, by exciting the weak against the strong, "are slipping upon the slope of socialism?"

3. The Manifesto continues its enormities. It finds it astonishing "that whoever is holder of a debt can assign it to a third party, with the single condition of notifying the debtor of the fact" (see Book II., Art. 347). It would doubtless be desired that the transferee should depend upon the debtor's good-will, "because the first creditor might be a friend or a relation of the debtor, consequently a kind creditor, whereas the transferee might be intractable."

Until now it had been admitted in every country even in Japan, that a creditor could sell his debt; it appears that the young cadet legislators wish to change that and yet they elsewhere constitute themselves champions of the same system. A case

in action is a chattel just like real property, assignment of it, therefore, should be possible in the same way; the only condition that reason and justice impose, is that the debtor be notified in order that he may not be exposed to pay twice. That persons without legal training should have such strange conceptions would be surprising . . . and sad, but among jurists it is incredible.

4. The Civil Code recognizes the validity of a stipulation only when the stipulator has a legitimate and appreciable interest therein (Book II., Art. 323). The Manifesters exclaim and upbraid the law "for not protecting individuals in their moral interests, in their reputation, in their honour."

Here, they confuse contracts and delicts: the civil law does not directly concern itself with offences against one's reputation, that is the business of the penal Code which punishes defamation with imprisonment and with fines. But the theory of the Civil Code is so exact that, even in the case of defamation, if a party wishes to obtain reparation therefor (exclusive of the suppression of defamatory writings and of the publication of the judgment), he must prove pecuniary injury, however indirect it may be. There is, then, in this criticism, a disregard or a forgetfulness of the elementary principles of civil law and of the role of the courts.

5. The Manifesto again comes back to the reproach that the two Codes "concern themselves only with individuals and have neglected collective bodies;" thus, they blame them for not having treated as companies, scientific, literary, and art associations.

They indeed are corporations, but the provisions of law for civil and commercial companies, cannot be applied to them. If the Manifesters knew better the legal character of Companies, properly so called, they would not have made this jumble and in consequence, this reproach: the essential end of a Company is to realize profits appreciable in money (always pecuniary interest) to be divided amongst the associates. But this is not the place for giving lectures upon law.

6. In this place the system of the codes is again taxed, upon the matter of Companies, "with encouraging great capitalists to the prejudice of small manufacturers and of small traders."

Is a retrograde step desired, or a return in Japan to petty industries and to a small local trade? Such things might have sufficed in feudal times, and in those of national and even provincial isolation, but they cannot respond to new needs and relations. The proof that they no longer suffice thereto, long before the promulgation of the Codes, is that already there have been formed in Japan, great financial commercial and manufacturing companies, joint stock companies which are veritable associations of capital rather than of persons. The new Codes, while still further favouring the development of these companies, take infinite precautions against the abuses that have already manifested themselves consequent upon the want of positive laws upon the matter.

To war against great enterprises, in the interests of small ones, is about as reasonable as to fight against the use of machines in the interest of manual labour and against railroads in favour of conveyance by hand or even by horses.

We can only refer the Manifesters here, to the most elementary notions of political economy.

It is equally unreasonably that the Codes are reproached "for having neglected agricultural associations:" they can perfectly well be formed or continued under the Civil Code; it is even to them that this Code will be specially applicable, for, as regards Commercial and Manufacturing Companies, it is naturally the Commercial Code that will govern them.

Let us, as we go along, dispel a gross error upon the subject of the Roman law, which is brought forward as "having been applicable only to a small city." Apparently the authors of the Manifesto do not know that Rome had come to govern almost the whole world then known, and that the Romans had conquered it by their arms before governing it with their laws. Their military conquests did not last because they were unjust, but their legal ones have endured because they were nothing else than those of Justice and of Reason in the private relations of man to man.

7. In the matter of servitudes, some new provisions regarding the use of water are criticized, especially the right of any one who has the ownership of natural or of artificial waters outside of his grounds, to conduct them through the intermediate ones (underground or upon the surface, as the case may be), for use upon his property, and, reciprocally, the right to discharge, in the same way, his superabundant waters (Book II., Art. 332 et seq.).

The manifesters, in their blind system of condemnation of themselves, invoke to condemn this

double legal servitude, "the nature of Japanese cultivation which requires water." But, this servitude tends precisely to permit water to be brought into the rice fields wherever it is wanting and to let it flow off wherever it is superabundant. The legislation of Italy, a country of rice fields, in certain parts of it, like Japan, has allowed for a long time back the same servitude; France has done the same without perhaps as powerful motives. There is reason to think, therefore, that the Japanese husbandmen, more clear-sighted than the manifesters, will soon rejoice at it.

8. We should never end pointing out all the contradictions accumulated in the Manifesto. Let us, however, say a word about this one, because it appears in a general theory, and because it is at the same time double.

It is curious that those who began by upbraiding the Civil Code for having strayed too much from Japanese customs and for having infringed upon the Emperor's powers and upon the Diet's, end finally by reproaching it with "having neglected the principles of jurisprudence applicable to the needs of modern life, leaving them either to the provisions of special laws that will step in, or to the arbitrariness (sic) of local customs"; it is thought "ridiculous (sic) that legislators leave the drawing up of laws to future times and that they have not investigated local usages in order to codify them."

It is then at least established that the Civil Code has not intended to trammel the legislative power in the future (which would have been a claim as unbecoming as powerless), and too, that it has meant to respect local customs in matters where they are preferable to a uniform and common legislation, such as leases, servitudes, and indentures of apprenticeship.

Touching the matter of references to special laws or to Regulations, they would not be met with if the Civil Code were itself a special law; but it is a general law comprising a multitude of different matters that require at times details of application; it was natural, then, to not overload it with them unnecessarily. These references, moreover, are not numerous and they nearly all refer to the Code of Civil Procedure then in preparation and to-day in operation.^a

As to codifying local customs, there was no necessity for that because the local courts and the inhabitants of the localities always know them sufficiently well; besides, they change with the times and to give them fixedness was not to be thought of.

9. Finally, it is claimed that the Civil Code does not agree with the legal system of taxation.

The Civil Code has scarcely had occasion for busying itself with taxes even incidentally; however, Articles 40, 18, 144 and 146 of Book II., lay them, in certain proportions, a burden upon co-proprietors, usufructuaries and users and upon tenants by emphyteusis. But, in all those cases, it is only a question of knowing which one of the interested parties shall bear them in the end, and in no wise of regulating the assessment or the correction of them. Thus, to take only one example, to-day the land tax in Japan is calculated upon the capital; it will be the same for lands encumbered with a usufruct; but as a good administrator pays his taxes out of the revenue from the property, and as it is the usufructuary that has this revenue, it is he that shall bear the annual tax: if he pays it voluntarily, he shall have no recourse against the absolute owner; if the latter is called upon by the administration to pay it, the usufructuary will owe him repayment of it.

Will it result therefrom that the political rights attached to-day to the payment of a direct tax, shall be transferred to the usufructuary? The manifesters have not raised the question; it was, however, worth the while.

We think that the absolute owner alone will be elector and eligible. When the Constitution attaches political rights to the payment of taxes, it is because the taxes represent the importance of property, and that the Constitution considers that those who possess some fortune are more interested in good order and the public peace than those that are without it; now, a usufructuary, with his temporary right, frail as his own life, may be poor.

The Civil Code, then, assails neither the organization of taxation nor the electoral and political system.

Nor is there any more reason for upbraiding the Civil Code "for introducing a new classification of taxes into ordinary and extraordinary." The

^a It is to be noted that the Code of Civil Procedure, Promulgated 29th March, 1890, came into operation 1st November of the same year. It has thus escaped the criticisms of the Diet. It would certainly have been the same if the putting into operation of the two other codes had not been so much deferred. If these are postponed (which is equivalent to abandonment of them, for it is impossible that an agreement can ever be come to between them) when it shall be a question of correcting them, the Code of Procedure will be like a skilful spinning or weaving machine which will produce a workable matter.

latter, as their name indicates, are entirely exceptional and made for the occasion, and it is for precaution's sake that the Code speaks of them on the subject of usufruct (Book II. Art. 79), precisely because, as these taxes are not to be laid, but in case of war or of public and unforeseen calamities, the special law that would step in upon the subject, might very well not think of usufructuaries to determine their participation in these taxes. If the Code had not taken this precaution, the manifesters would not have failed, doubtless, to reproach it for not doing so.

We reserve for Part II. the reproach, reproduced in the House of Peers, of having given to the new legislation "a character too dogmatic, to that degree that it might be thought that it was a question of a book upon the philosophy of law."

But what is characteristic of the Manifesto, is to add, in this place, "that in wishing to imitate them, Roman and French law have been badly interpreted." What authority have the authors of the Manifesto acquired in Roman or in French law to enable them to impute ignorance thereof to the authors of the Civil Code? In the House of Peers, at least, if anything is imputed to them in this respect, it is abuse and not ignorance of them.

B.—SPECIAL CRITICISMS OF THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

The authors of the Manifesto are less severe for the Commercial Code than for the Civil one, but their criticisms although less numerous are none the more well founded.

1. They criticize the obligation of traders to keep books, and their grievance is again, that "this obligation hampers small traders to the benefit of large ones." In what does it profit the large ones? Are the latter not subjected to the same obligation?

The keeping of books is of use, 1st to the trader himself by furnishing him with the way of knowing at any moment his situation as regards his creditors and his debtors, in such a manner that he shall not enter into engagements beyond his means; 2nd to his creditors and debtors in case of a suit between him and them, or else of bankruptcy. It is false, besides, to say that "whoever fails to keep his books regularly shall be condemned as having concealed his property;" it might be thought that this negligence was enough for his condemnation; now, that cannot happen unless he is at the same time a bankrupt.

After having criticized the principle of this obligation, the authors of the Manifesto say, that "even to-day traders keep books in which they mention almost all these facts." Then, where is the Code's wrong-doing, if it does nothing but generalize and impose an usage already frequent?

It is said also that for the keeping of books, "traders will be obliged to have employes graduated from a Commercial College or even from a Law School." The second idea is very false, for book-keeping is not taught in law-schools. As to a graduated accountant, that would be necessary for a great bank, at the most, where matters are very complicated; but for ordinary houses, a trader might keep his books himself, as he keeps them to-day. If, however, a trader is not accustomed to ciphering, he can, with the aid of a professional accountant two or three evenings a month, have his books kept in order; that is done everywhere and to-day already in Japan.

In this place, the Manifesters come back again to their favourite idea that "the law will benefit large traders," and they emit this strange averment, that "large traders always escape conviction." Is that an insult hurled at the judicial bench of the country? There would be but little patriotism therein on the part of young lawyers at a time when foreigners, desirous of maintaining their privilege of exterritoriality, are inclined to call in question the independence of Japanese judges.

2. The law of bankruptcy is equally, say they, "a weapon furnished to the rich wherewith to lay hold of the poorer classes' trade." This systematic procedure of ceaselessly exciting the small and the weak against the great and the strong, is only speechifying, and of a very bad animus: it is of a nature to agitate the country and, in this respect, it is very blame-worthy, not to employ a severer term: those theories that have been above and very unjustly imputed to the Civil Code are "socialist theories;" they may some day do much harm to the country, which hitherto has remained sheltered from this danger. When the law of bankruptcy takes precautions that the assets of a bankrupt shall not be diverted from his creditors, it is useful as much to small creditors as to large ones, it is equal for all; now, equality of rights is equity itself.

It is feared, too, "that in small failures, costs may be injurious to the creditors," and it is regretted "that the law has not permitted a certain limit to their right to have a debtor declared bankrupt."

There would be in this limit something arbitrary. The law has left to the creditors themselves the

business of watching over their own interests; now, they will always be able to agree among themselves to grant delays and even partial abatements to an honest debtor or to one only embarrassed (Art. 1,061 and 1,063).

3. In matters of navigation, the Manifesters do not show themselves to be better economists than in civil matters; it is not enough for them that the law confers Japanese nationality only upon vessels owned by Japanese: they fear that, in the Japanese navigation companies that shall be formed, "foreigners shall come to own the greater part of the shares and that, as a result, the coasting trade shall in reality be found in the hands of foreigners."

If the introduction of foreign capital into Japanese affairs is dreaded, even when foreigners shall be subjected to the laws and to the courts of the land, it is not from navigation undertakings alone that they must be excluded, but from all commercial and manufacturing ones, what no one, doubtless, would dare to claim, neither in reason nor in positive law. Let them not be uneasy: foreign capital will embark in Japanese undertakings only in case of the insufficiency or of the timidity of Japanese capital, and certainly the country will always be benefited by them more than if they were not entered upon at all. To day even, Japan benefits greatly from affairs carried on exclusively with foreign capital, on account of the activity they bring about in the labour and in the commerce of the nation.

As to the question whether it would be proper to lower to under fifteen tons, the requirement for vessels to obtain nationality, it has been examined by the writers of the Commercial Code, with as much competency as there is to be found among the authors of the Manifesto: had this requirement been fixed at ten tons, it would doubtless have been demanded that it should be lowered to five or raised to ten.

The necessity of the registration of national vessels, is also criticized: no utility is found therein and it is added "that no example thereof is found in foreign legislations."

It is a singular proceeding that of criticizing the Japanese Codes, now for having imitated European ones, now for having departed therefrom; it is for the pleasure of putting them in the wrong in every thing and always. But this registration of vessels, to the contrary of what the Manifesto affirms, is in use in all countries well administratively organized. One must, moreover, be wilfully blind not to recognize the administrative utility of this measure, when an analogous one is taken for modes of transportation by land, which have less importance for the security of persons and for the guaranty of goods.

4. It is impossible for us to understand in what are "too vague" the provisions of Articles 943 and following, on the subject of contributions to averages: they are, on the contrary, very precise. We see in this censure only habitual ill-will.

In our turn, we find absolutely "vague" too, the reproach made to these provisions, "of being in antagonism with the ancient chivalrous customs of Japan." Chivalry has nothing to do here: the question is of making saved goods contribute to the relief of losses incurred in the common interest; it is a question of equity.

As to saying that "these provisions increase the cases of accident," it is the most fantastical idea imaginable: the critics ought to have taken the pains of explaining it. It is singular that so old and so universal a legislation in Europe, has not yet been found out as "increasing risks," by apportioning them among the interested parties; insurance companies would not have failed to find it out.

If those are the reasons for deferring the putting of the Commercial Code into operation, it must be admitted that they present nothing more serious for it than for the Civil Code.

II.—THE CODES IN THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

It was on the 26th May that was begun the discussion of the bill presented to the House of Peers by the most declared enemy of the Codes and supported by 116 other members: it lasted three days which, considering the very limited time of the session, proved the importance attached to the question. No special committee was appointed upon the subject: the demand for it having been made only on the second day, it was deemed too late. The vote took place on the third day after three successive readings. This hastiness appears to be contrary to the spirit of the law; but in this case an interval between the three readings, would evidently have changed nothing upon the final vote, since the bill had already 117 Members in its favour, before the discussion, and obtained 123 votes against 61, at its first reading, that is to say two-thirds of the voters.

The criticisms made in the House of Peers are, in general, more apposite in form than those of the lawyers; they are less in disagreement with each other, at least when they emanate from the same

speaker; but they are no more substantiated than are the preceding ones.

The speakers who defended the Codes, among them three Ministers of State, were not only more numerous than their detractors, but also much more elevated in their views and more precise in their arguments; but it was evident from the first day, that the cause was judged before having been heard.

I.—The proposer of the bill who, as member of the late Senate, had been one of the commission for the revision of the Codes, maintained that "the codification had been hurried, to the extent that it had been thought necessary to despatch a certain number of articles every day."

We are not called upon to here judge whether properly permitted a Member of the Upper House to plead against the Government, a fact relative to his former function. What is most regrettable in this allegation is, that it may have made the House believe that the Codes had been prepared in a few months (which would have been rash, in truth, but at the same time prodigious), whilst they have required more than ten years of assiduous labour. The revision, for which the Senate Commission was perhaps somewhat made to hurry, was a last revision, coming after several others. Besides, no piece of work whatever, whether it be a law, a scientific or a literary work, or a building, is measured by the time it has taken to execute it, but by its intrinsic value: the Codes might have taken twenty years of preparation and be inferior to what they are.

II.—The principal grievance formulated against the Civil Code has again been "derogation from national customs in matters of family." But, how can any one be surprised that the Civil Code strays in many points from the national customs, since they themselves vary according to provinces? Even in matters of family they were not uniform, and these diversities were inevitable at the time when the provinces, placed for centuries under the feudal régime, did not communicate with each other. But to-day Japan is a centralized country: the provinces are no longer anything more than administrative divisions of the Empire; justice is rendered everywhere in the name of the Emperor, by judges that he appoints; it is, then, necessary that there should also be but one uniform law for the whole Empire. The same sacrifice of provincial laws and customs is met with in the history of other countries, of France in 1789, of unified Italy in 1860 and of federal Germany since 1870.

In reproaching the Civil Code for giving to parents and to married couples the right of going to law against each other, it has been said, "that it was destructive of the domestic peace and happiness and of the morality of the country."

We regret that the answer has not been given, on this subject, that, if parents and married couples have, towards each other, rights founded upon custom (what no one has denied), it is much more "contrary to the domestic peace and happiness and to the morality of the country," that these obligations, when they are not voluntarily carried out, should remain deprived of penalty: he whose rights are ignored and who finds no assistance in the law, will be much more inclined to resentment than he whose unwillingness has had to yield in the face of a judgment. Besides, from the fact alone, that recourse to law will be possible, it will be rare that any one who is exposed thereto, shall fail to voluntarily fulfil his obligation. It is not otherwise with a family obligation than with any other civil obligation: if ordinary debtors did not know that they were exposed to legal proceedings, they would much more often fail to satisfy their creditors.

III.—It has been objected that "the Civil Code having been based upon the French Code, whilst the Commercial Code has been so upon the German, they must inevitably be found in conflict with each other upon several points."

It would have been more to the point, but without doubt more difficult, to designate these conflicts; so confinement to a simple affirmation has been found preferable.

We, on the contrary, will say, that conflicts, properly so called, are, in principle, impossible between the two Codes, from the very fact that they do not have the same object: the Civil Code is private common law, the Commercial Code is special law, applicable either to commercial transactions or to commercial people, therefore, whenever the Commercial Code provides otherwise than does the Civil Code, its provision will be applicable in its own domain, and that of the Civil Code in its own. It is thus, that for the conclusion of a commercial sale and for the proof thereof, the conditions are more simple and more expeditious than for a civil sale; there will be no conflict, but there will be a difference. In the same way, commercial paper is assigned by a simple endorsement, whilst the negotiation of a civil indebtedness requires notification to the debtor or his acceptance thereof;

a lawyer will never see in such case any conflict of legislation.

This answer was not made in the House of Peers. Nevertheless, a few variances originally existed between the two Projects, prepared separately, but they have been corrected. This occurred precisely when it was a question of knowing whether such and such an act should be considered a civil or a commercial one, and it has happened sometimes that each one of the Projects claimed the act as being within its domain: there was thence conflict. Generally, it was the Commercial Code that had the preference.⁴

IV.—One of the honourable Peers has made a charge against the Civil Code and impliedly against the Commercial Code, one that had already been formulated by the lawyers' Manifesto and which would be more serious than the others, in that it contests the very basis of the new legislation, that "of having admitted the existence of a natural right anterior to positive laws." It has been maintained that "this pretended natural right is incompatible with the Constitution, according to which all the rights of the people should come to them by concession of the Sovereign."

This theory is without doubt correct in Japan, in as far as it concerns political rights. Before the Constitution, subjects had no part in the making of laws; the Emperor has graciously granted them to participate therein with him, and no one here pretends that the people had an anterior right thereto. But the Civil Code and the Commercial Code have no connection with political rights, and the country would truly be in a condition as sad as singular, were it governed by no other rule of private law than those that have been granted to them by the Emperor. Indeed, up to the promulgation of the new Codes, Imperial Ordinances about civil and commercial matters, have not been numerous and have been entirely special; it has none the less been necessary (and it is so still every day, since these Codes are not yet in operation) to judicially decide disputes of private interest; and as customs are notoriously insufficient and the more often silent upon the points in litigation, the Courts are compelled to apply the rules of natural law, that is to say those that are suggested by Reason, Justice, and Utility. Happily, a sufficient and clear expression of it was found in the French Code, a translation of which had been made in the beginning of the era of Meiji.

When the Emperor instructed the principal magistrates of the Empire, jointly with the members of the Legislation Bureau and with those of the Senate, to prepare a Civil Code and a Commercial Code, he did not himself lay upon their labours, fundamental rules that might have been looked upon as constituting for the people *civil concessions*, like as he later on granted them *political rights*: he impliedly commissioned them to formulate rules of reason of justice and of common utility that would serve to conciliate private interests, too often in conflict. And when the Emperor upon the advice of the Senate, of his Privy Council and of his Ministers of State, sanctioned and promulgated these two new Codes, he did not say, as he did in the Preamble of his Constitution, "that he granted new rights to his subjects." However, he has conferred upon these latter an immense benefit, that of giving them a *written formula* of what he has perceived to be just and useful, a matter which until then, had been exposed to the wide differences of the individual opinions of the magistrates.

It might be scientifically discussed whether the writers of the two Codes have proposed for the Imperial Sanction, the best expression of natural law; but no other basis for the civil and for commercial law can be sought for, since, outside of its pale, arbitrariness alone would abide.

How can it be said that the Codes disregard the Sovereign's rights, since it is the Sovereign himself that has sanctioned and promulgated them? On which side is the disregard of the Sovereign's rights? Is it on that where the benefit he has conferred upon the country has been accepted with gratitude, or is it on that where there is willingness to see only the sacrifice of national customs to foreign ideas?

Nor do the Codes any the more disregard the legislative power of the Diet, the acquired subsequently to this promulgation, since they can always be modified, if experience shows it to be found necessary.

⁴ Here is a striking example of these corrections: the Draft of the Civil Code allowed Companies whose object was civil undertakings, to themselves remain civil, notwithstanding the division of the capital into shares; the Draft of the Commercial Code, on the contrary, attached a commercial character to the Company by this division alone; the first gave more importance to the object of the Company and rested only upon the theory of the law; the second gave more of it to the form and had on its side the German Code, which obtained the preference.

⁵ At least conciliation was easy: to bring them into agreement, it was necessary to merely suppress the article in the Civil Code on this point.

⁶ The two foreign juriconsults, French and German, were merely advisers, auxiliaries of those gentlemen, without any precisely public and official character.

But further, if some day the Diet, in concert with the Emperor, comes to modify these Codes, as we suppose that it will not act arbitrarily but that it will be guided only by reason, justice and utility, we shall say that it has claimed to better determine what natural law is than the anterior law had done; the new law while being respected and applied, could be scientifically criticized by lawyers and publicists with a view to future ameliorations, but it is still from the stand-point of natural law that it will be judged.

It is truly sad that a doctrine so certain and so satisfactory for one's reason, is not obvious to all and that so many lines are necessary to demonstrate the truth of it to legislators.

Let us remark, moreover, upon this subject, that the Civil Code, from the very fact that it has intended to determine and to formulate natural law, has not had to proclaim, that it simply interpreted it: from the moment that natural law takes the form of a *written law*, it becomes *positive law*; and it is only in two articles that the Civil Code refers to natural law; in one case it is to make up for the want of rules into which it does not judge it apposite to enter (Book III., Art. 22); in another it is to warn the judge, that in the interpretation of the law, "he must impress his mind with its spirit as much as with its terms and to make up for what it lacks, with the general principles of equity and of reason" (Book V., Art. 3).

We do not consider as coming within the same order of ideas, obligations called "natural," to which the Japanese Civil Code (the first to our knowledge to do so) devotes a chapter (Book II., Art. 562 and following). Another member of the House of Peers has confused things on this subject, greatly to our astonishment, for the confusion arose in the mind of that distinguished juriconsult: the natural obligations in question, are foreseen and determined by the new Code, which attributes to them *civil effects*, they belong, then, henceforth to *positive law*; but as they are devoid of a direct suit at law for their performance and even of one for damages, upon failure of voluntary performance, a place quite apart had to be made for them.

This is not the place for entering upon developments of the civil effects of natural obligations. We will limit ourselves to saying that the Civil Code, to prevent doubts that might have arisen in Japan as elsewhere, has thought it necessary to declare, that a natural obligation can survive pleaded prescription, a matter decided in favour of the debtor and in a few other cases where presumption is in favour of civil discharge from indebtedness: in these cases there can no longer be anything but voluntary performance, but it will not constitute an undue payment subject to repetition and will not be considered a donation.

V.—The defenders of the Codes having all admitted that if the putting of them into execution should happen to reveal any hiatus therein or any serious imperfections, there would always be possibility to remedy them by special laws, their adversaries have taken it into their heads to say that "the nation should not be taken for a passive subject for legislative experiment."

Such an idea has never been in the thoughts of the defenders of the Codes; if it were now shown to them that the Codes have serious imperfections, they would be the first to ask for their immediate correction, even should it be necessary therefore, to defer the time for their coming into operation. But there has been nothing adduced beyond vague allegations, or erroneous ones when they were precise, or alarming predictions about family and social peace. The defenders of the Codes could also limit themselves to favourable predictions; with still greater reason are they authorized to demand that the experiment be loyally made, and then we shall no longer be confronted by the unknown.

What would be a condemnable legislative experiment, would be to put into execution a law the effects of which would be doubtful to those that had made it; but no one would have this culpable temerity. A physician is not said to make experiments upon a sick person, when he administers to him a remedy which he thinks the best, reserving to himself to change it if, contrary to his expectation, it should not succeed. The defenders of the Codes are convinced that the Codes are an enormous benefit for the country, but, out of modesty and out of consideration for their adversaries, they confide to the future to pronounce judgment upon them and to correct them if needs be. No *experimentum in anima vili* with which they have been upbraided, in these very terms, in the House of Peers, exists there.

VI.—One cause of hostility against the Codes, that has been less clearly expressed in the House of Peers than in the lawyers' Manifesto, but which seems to have excited many opponents, is the influence of foreign codes upon the new Japanese legislation. This is an unfortunate exaggeration of the national *amour propre*. Japan has not been

humiliated for having once upon a time borrowed from China her philosophy, her dominant religion and her ideographic writing, and, in our days, from the West, her new notions of physical sciences, her modes of communication and of transportation, her engines of defence, her military and maritime instruction; more recently, even in matters of legislation, Japan has not thought to have belittled herself for having borrowed from Europe her penal laws, more lenient and more proportionate to crimes than her ancient laws imitated from China; she has borrowed her political Constitution from Europe, from Germany especially. Why, then, are civil and commercial laws the object of such lively animosity? What is just and what is Useful are the privileges of no one nation: they are the common and inexhaustible estate of humanity whence each nation can draw without shame and without scruple, according to its needs. To-day several countries like France, Belgium and Italy, apply themselves with ardour to the study of the compared laws of nations and this is not out of mere scientific curiosity, it is above all to arrive at the amelioration of their own jurisprudence. Japan cannot lower herself in doing the same. Much more, her new Codes have already attracted the sympathetic attention of foreign legists, who have pointed out in them ameliorations of the very codes that had served as models, ameliorations that could be imitated in their turn.

VII.—One member of the House of Peers who did not have the same repugnance, doubtless, for borrowing from the West, but whose preferences seemed to be for German law, fought the new Civil Code for having been inspired by the French Code. He maintained that "that code, dating from 1804, had not progressed, remains to-day just what it was 90 years ago, and hence, should not be taken as the basis of the Japanese Codes."

But the honourable speaker, less than any one, ought not to be ignorant of the fact that the Civil Code has, on the contrary, received a number of additions and of modifications that maintain it in a state to respond to the needs of modern times. We have counted more than 35 laws that have modified the French Code since its creation, and we are almost sure that upon a more minute search 40 could be found, and perhaps more. Most of these modifications have been made in the text itself of the code, like the publicity of marriage contracts and the re-establishment of divorce, so that the code has preserved its original form and even to the numbering of its articles.⁶ However, some laws on account of their length, could not be incorporated therein, such as the laws upon the transcript of alienation of real property, upon irrigation and drainage and several laws upon the acquisition of the status of Frenchman.

These ameliorations of the French Code, at the same time that they justify the choice of guide that has been made of them in Japan, serve also as an answer to those who say that codification, in general, is an obstacle to the legislative and legal progress of a country. If this proposition were true, not only would France be one of the most backward nations in this respect, which no one would dare maintain, but also would Japan, on its part, be one of the most advanced, since up to now she has had nothing that resembles a codification of her laws or of her civil customs: now, it has been proved that the science of law was almost unknown in Japan before the era of Meiji, the time at which the study of the French Codes was begun.

VIII.—In another order of ideas, it is a no less strange objection raised by the same speaker, that "the new Code will serve only to enrich fortune-hunting lawyers."

It is impossible for us to understand how a *positive law*, the object of which has exactly been to determine the bases of private law, the modes of transferring property and of contracting engagements, the effects of the respective rights and duties that result therefrom, the guarantees that can be attached thereto, the modes of proof which serve to establish in law the origin of rights and their extinction, all in order to put an end to the uncertainties of former days and to prevent contentions as much as to facilitate the trial of them, how, say we, such a law can have unfortunately paved the way for a greater number of suits and how can it be serviceable only to suitors of bad faith and their dishonest advisers. It is exactly as if one had said that, in the drawing up of a contract where the parties have carefully settled the details of their respective rights and duties, there are more dangers of dispute, than if they had limited themselves to settling only the principal points of it, or again, as if it had been said that contracts drawn up by notaries of recent crea-

⁶ The most striking example is on the subject of divorce: the code of 1804 permitted it; a law of 1816 abolished it; a law of 1824 has reestablished it. The new divorce law is not entirely similar to the first one, in its causes and effects; but, by means of additions, of suppressions and of modification of the articles, it still appears in the Civil Code.

tion, will give rise to more litigation than those drawn up by the parties themselves, although but little initiated into the difficulties of law, or, finally as if it had been said that, a light, because it was not irreproachably pure, increased the darkness.

Were the Codes as imperfect as our adversaries claim them to be, and more so even, they would still be superior to the absence of positive laws and of certain and uniform customs in matters of private law.

Besides, the same speaker gives, in support of his unfavourable predictions, reasons which are totally adverse to them: namely, that "the Civil Code contains common-place truths, useless applications of laid down principles, definitions and distinctions that give it the appearance of a course of law for the use of magistrates."

Admitting that these censures are founded in themselves, it is impossible to understand how "common-place truths or useless deductions" can be a source of dispute and how a course of law delivered to magistrates shall profit mischievous suitors. If the Code is a course of law, it addresses itself to candidates for the magistracy and not to installed judges, and really, we believe that the study of the text, couched in the rational method that has been observed therein, will still be the best way of learning the law, starting with individuals who should be able to understand of themselves, their rights and duties before entering upon an agreement and especially before going to law.

IX.—As the criticisms of the same speaker may derive from his personality an authority, an influence they would not have derived from any one else, we must notice still another one of his, which, bearing upon an important point of law, would be very serious were it well founded; but it proves that the speaker has badly studied the Code he combats with such animosity:

The Civil Code has introduced a certain number of preferences, that is to say of real guarantees for debts; thus servants have a preference upon their masters' property for one year's wages (Book IV., Art. 141); thus again, a vendor who has not been paid has a preference upon the article sold (idem, Art. 166). The speaker to whom we are replying, has imagined that "these preferences might be prejudicial to previously obtained mortgages," which, in truth, would be contrary to justice. But the civil law expresses the contrary, as to servants (Art. 144, 4th paragraph), and if it does not do so for a vendor, it is because general principles are sufficient enough therefor. How indeed, could a vendor give preference to his own mortgagees his creditors or to those that might have upon the landed property of which he was owner and he a third party, a mortgage given by the former proprietors? Those to whom he gives the preference, and then in all justice, it is those to whom the purchaser had mortgaged the property sold before having paid the price of it. The preference of a seller of real estate, with its necessary publicity, was not invented by the writers of the Japanese Codes, and never has it entered the mind of any jurist-consult to reproach it with this imaginary injustice.

X.—Finally, the same speaker maintains that if the Codes were put into vigour and were it found necessary to afterwards revise them, some years hence, "the bad results of it would make themselves felt for 50 or 100 years, because rights acquired during this temporary application, would have to be respected."

It is certain that the law that would correct the Civil Code would not have a retroactive effect, not any more than would the Code itself on going into operation. But it is well known from the experience of other countries that questions called "transient," arising from the passage from one legislation to another, appear during a small number of years only, agreements being scarcely entered into for a very long duration; in the matter of leases even, they cannot bind parties beyond 30 years (30 years in the matter of emphyteusis); there can, then, be no question of 100 years; even should future modifications of the Civil Code bear upon leases, there would be no more inconvenience in respecting those made before reform, than there will be in respecting present leases when this Code shall come into vigour for the first time.

Here then there is a false alarm that would agitate only minds strangers to the general theory of law.

XI.—Another Member of the House of Peers, belonging to the class of lawyers, has devoted himself more to criticisms of detail, and has been enabled to make an impression upon the House by the number of his objections, if not by their relevancy. To reply to all these criticisms would be to extend this refutation already very long, out of measure. We must limit ourselves to the principal ones:—

1. Whatever be the bond of relationship that may exist between a usufructuary and the absolute owner of the property, for instance if the usufructuary is a

widow and the absolute owner is her son, that is no reason for dispensing her from making an inventory and from furnishing surety: she may marry again, she may be incompetent to manage or may be influenced by her new husband against her son. Instead of limiting itself to allowing the grantor to explicitly saddle her with the two obligations of guaranty (which he might hesitate to do out of regard for her), the law has preferred the general rule for these obligations, and the power left to the grantor will be that of dispensing his widow therefrom, if he deems proper, and upon the conditions that he shall think suitable to lay upon her.

2. There is no contradiction between the character of real right given to a lease and the prohibition to transfer it for a share of the fruits, unless the lessor consents to its being done: this exception depends upon this, that this particular kind of lease, while constituting a real right, as does every lease of things, is made in consideration of the person of the lessee, of his capacity and of his honesty, and, by reason of the division of fruits, has something in it of the nature of a contract of association.

3. It is true that the system of inheritance and that matrimonial contracts have an intimate union with the system of family and might have had places in Book I. But inheritance and nuptial contracts are also modes of acquiring property, they are, therefore, in their proper place in Book III., at the end of which they are found collected as modes of acquiring property by title of residuary legatee, side by side with donations and wills that could have no other place.

If the Diet preferred that Chapters XIII., XIV., and XV. of Book III. be placed in Book I., it need not for that, have deferred the putting of the Civil Code into operation: it would have been enough to have invited the Government to publish the Civil Code in that form.

It might have asked, at the same time and with greater reason, that its five Books be designated by numbers in order (I. to V.), independently of their present titles, with a single series of numbers for the whole of it (from 1. to 1762), instead of having a new series for each Book, something that complicates quotations.

4. If divorce for causes of ill-treatment by the wife of the children of her husband by a first marriage, has not been permitted, it is because the latter's authority has appeared sufficient to preserve his children from the ill-treatment of their step-mother, just as much as from their own mother's, if the latter case should happen.

5. It certainly is not the intention of the writers of the Civil Code, that a grand uncle should be able to marry his grand-niece: there is absolutely the same motive of morality and of propriety for this prohibition as for marriage between an uncle and a niece: in the same way that an uncle holds the place of father (*loco parentis habetur*), a grand-uncle does that of grand-father. The Courts will certainly not hesitate to interpret the law in that sense. It will be for them a case of applying this Roman principle for the interpretation of laws: "whenever a formal provision is introduced into law, it is an occasion for complementing by interpretation and jurisprudence, provisions that tend to the same utility."

6. It is singular that there are complaints about the intervention of the Court in the interest of children under tutelage: until now minors, having no longer their father, lack protection of their property; they are exposed to waste by their guardians. Wards will never be too much protected.

The new Code gives them besides, a general legal mortgage upon the real property of their guardians. Is it wished that this too be suppressed?

7. The Civil Code has not intended to derogate from the special Regulations touching titles of nobility nor from their transmission, it is they that derogate from the Civil Code: *specialia generalibus derogant*.

8. It is not flattering for the Restoration to say "that it has weakened the characteristic morality of the land and at the same time the valour of the samurai." Nor is it gracious for *heimin* to acknowledge the ancient morality to be only among the samurai. The preceding speaker had already thought it "dangerous to reduce the various classes of citizens to uniformity." Is it desired that we should be brought back to the times when penalties were less for samurai than for *heimin*? In that case the Penal Code also would have to be changed.

It is enough to point out these retrograde tendencies, without taking the trouble of fighting them,

* We have no doubt that this general numbering of the Books and of the Articles falls within the rights of the Executive Power, save the leaving also to each Book its special numbering. Thus Book I. would be numbered 1 to 293, Book II. would have a double numbering (1. to 572 and 294 to 865), and in the same way for the other Books. Practice would immediately abandon quotation by Book for that by Article.

for they will find no echo in the country, where civil equality is already an unshakable dogma.

9. The same speaker like the preceding one, announces that "the new Code will multiply suits." We will not confine ourselves to repeating that a law, even when imperfect, will beget fewer suits than will the absence of laws: we will add, that when an examination is made into the question of knowing whether there are more suits at one period than at another, a comparison must be made before everything, between the number of affairs treated, especially that of agreements, at different periods or in different countries. There are already to-day many more suits in Japan than there were formerly, and still, it is not yet on account of the new Codes. It arises from this, that there are to-day more civil and commercial contracts than before; it comes too from the fact that there are to-day well organized courts and that whoever suffers in his rights, knows that he will find in them enlightenment that he could not have expected in former times from judges who were, it is true, samurai, for the most part, but who were not jurists-consults.

The more a society develops, the more does its organs operate: administrators have to-day many more affairs to handle and to decide than formerly. Is it because there are more administrative laws? No, it is because there is more social activity, consequently more interests in conflict and, at the same time, more advantages in addressing oneself to the authorities than there used to be.

We have thought that we ought to abstain from naming the adversaries of the Code. We do not have the same scruples in naming their defenders. We will mention in the first place, Count Oki Takato, to-day Minister of State for Education, but who, as Minister of Justice, had had the initiative of the whole new codification and had contributed to its realization, successively as President of the Senate and of the Privy Council; then Viscount Tanaka Fujimaro, Minister of State for Justice, and Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. There were also heard in favour of the Codes, Messrs. Miyoshi, Vice-Minister of Justice, Mitsukuni Rinsho, who was himself Vice-Minister of Justice during the last periods of the preparation of the Codes and at the time of their revision, finally, Viscount Torii, Messrs. Watari Masumoto, Okochi, Kiyoura and young Marquis Kuroda.

All these speakers placed themselves upon the general stand-point of the interests and of the needs of the country, and it would be to weaken their arguments were we to reproduce them here. Let us recall to mind, only, that Count Oki vindicated with great firmness and with true exaltedness of language, the pre-existence of natural law, in civil matters, before all written legislation.

There is, however, a last argument in favor of the Codes that we cannot pass over in silence, because it has considerable importance at the present moment, and because this importance has been slighted and contested in the House of Peers.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs could not leave the Upper House in ignorance of the fact, that if the two principal Codes were postponed and sent back for further study, the work, for so long a time waited for, that of the Revision of the Foreign treaties, would still remain in suspense, to the great prejudice of the country and of its most legitimate interests. Indeed, the most serious obstacle to this revision has been until now the absence of civil and commercial laws to which foreigners could be subjected, and it was at the time that this obstacle was about to disappear, that its restoration was desired!

It is sad that so decisive a reason for accepting the codes, did not rally the minds of everyone. It was very ill-timedly objected, "that the interest of 40 millions of Japanese subjects was not to be made a sacrifice to a handful of foreigners, that the civil laws were to be framed for the needs of the country and not for the satisfaction of foreign interests."

But it results from all that precedes, that it is false that the civil and commercial interests of the subjects are compromised by the adoption of laws, the principles of which are everywhere regarded as the best safe-guard of right, of justice and of economical interests. In preparing the new Codes, in the front rank was placed the general interest of the country that is deeply suffering from the absence of positive laws in such important matters; but there could be no possibility of not knowing that at the same time the Revision of the Treaties would be facilitated and hastened. Then, to prepare for the dignity of the country and for its independence in regard to foreigners, was that not serving its interests? And yet the same adversaries of the Codes are at the same time most eager in demanding the Revision of the Treaties! If their national *amour-propre* suffers from the fact that Japanese laws have, to some little extent, been borrowed from those of the West, should it not

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very differently suffer at having seen, for more than 30 years, foreign laws applied upon Japanese territory by foreign judges, and at seeing national laws void of authority over foreigners when they are debtors to Japanese subjects? It is impossible to push inconsistency and blindness further.

III.—THE CODES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The discussion in the House of Representatives will not take us long. It lasted only one day. Different from what took place in the House of Peers, a Special Committee was appointed to report upon the matter. The majority of the Committee proposed postponement, as the Upper House had voted. The minority asked for the postponement of the Book on Persons, the matter of Inheritances and that of Marriage Contracts only. This middle solution was acceptable on the score of conciliation: it would not have been as prejudicial to the economical interests of the country as will be the postponement of other parts of the Code and that of the whole of the Commercial Code, because the matter of Persons and of Inheritances is precisely the one where present customs are the least uncertain and the least insufficient. At the same time, this matter presents little interest in the Revision of the Treaties, as the time when foreigners shall have family interests or those inheritances to discuss with Japanese subjects, is still far off. But radical opinion has prevailed, and the total postponement has been voted. Also the three readings were expedited the same day.

The adversaries of the Codes reproduced some of the well known criticisms. Those that were new, reflected upon their authors, either still more inexperience of legal matters (like the criticism upon the right of a creditor secured by a pledge to repledge the thing given as security) or the same inattention in reading the texts criticized: for instance, where censure has been directed against article 261 of the Book on Persons, for saying that "if the head of the house dies and leaves no heir, the house ceases to exist and the members of the family constitute new families;" it is said that in such case it ought to be "that the members of the family, not being heirs, should be able to choose a successor to the name and to the house." But, precisely, what was asked for is formally given in the law, upon the subject of Inheritance (Book III., Art. 301 and 302).

The defenders of the Codes were less numerous than in the House of Peers. We will mention only Messrs. Miyagi Hozo, Kato Masanosuke, and Viscount Tanaka, Minister of State for Justice. The latter spoke with much firmness, not in his own name only but also in that of the Government. "The Government," said he, "is responsible for the putting into execution of the laws promulgated by it and has no other duty than to remove every obstacle to the operation of the Civil and of the Commercial Codes."

Although Viscount Tanaka has since retired from the Department, the causes of his retirement being entirely foreign to the question of the Codes, his statements in regard thereto have lost none of their force. The friends of the Codes nurse therefore the strong hope that the vote of the two Houses will not receive the Imperial Sanction and that the Civil Code and the Commercial Code will come into operation on the 1st January, 1893.

Ashinoyu, 1st August, 1892.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, August 12th.

After a season, which even at its best has never thoroughly emerged from the overshadowing influence of the Duke of Clarence's death, London is again deserted by those whose interests do not compel them to remain here. Among those who linger in town, however, are the members of the political world, as the new Parliament is in session, but as the prorogation is expected to take place about the 22nd, the metropolis will soon be forsaken by them also. The exodus commenced about a fortnight since with the Cowes Regatta, at which, by the way, the German Emperor, who came over to enter his yacht, had such bad luck, and the anxiety to have the first of the grouse shooting to-day has cleared out most of those who remained behind.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council gave their long expected judgment last week in the case of the Bishop of Lincoln, and the result is decidedly favourable to the High Church party. It will be remembered that the chief points of contention were the singing of the hymn called "Agnus Dei," the eastward position during the opening prayers of the Communion service, and the mixing of water with the wine before the commencement of that service. The Privy Council has found that in nei-

ther of these practices had any offence been committed against the rubrics of the Church. With regard to the use of lighted candles, the Bishop of Lincoln was not responsible for this innovation, but merely officiated at a Church where they were used, and the Privy Council does not consider that the abstention from protest was in itself an ecclesiastical offence. At the same time they decide nothing directly as to the candle question. Nor do they meddle with those portions of the Archbishop's decision which were adverse to the Bishop. The importance of the judgment pronounced cannot be gainsaid, and as a different decision might have led to further controversy as to the right of a "lay tribunal" to try the case, it is satisfactory that Archbishop Benson's conclusion has been substantially confirmed on all issues.

Messrs. Sheard & Co. are bringing out the musical settings of Rudyard Kipling's "Barrack Room Ballads" in batches of three. The first to appear will be "Tommy," "The Young British Soldier," and "Mandalay." Miss Mary Carmichael has undertaken the setting of "Tommy," the other two are by Mr. Gerard Cobb, the well-known Cambridge musician.

It is rumoured that Sir Arthur Sullivan is likely to be made a baronet, and should the higher title be granted, our leading British composer will receive the sincere congratulations of both the profession and public, with whom he is extremely popular. In this event Sir Arthur would be the first musician who has been created a baronet.

The name of Lady Lena Scott figures prominently in the Bankruptcy Court this week with debts amounting to £14,000, and assets nil. The debtor objected to a claim of £103 sent in by Lord Russell, in his capacity of practical electrician, for electrical fittings carried out in her house on the Thames, because she considered she had paid that debt by making him a wedding present on the occasion of his marriage with her daughter. The earl, however, seemed to think that such matters ought to be kept distinct from business transactions. Upon a remark being made in Court on the fact of Lady Lena wearing an extremely handsome diamond brooch, she replied that it was her daughter's property, but nevertheless she would surrender it as a set off against her £14,000 worth of debts. I do not know whether the daughter fell in with this sudden burst of generosity.

The great Cricket Match of the season took place at the Oval last week between Notts and Surrey for the championship, which resulted after a well-fought battle in a victory for Notts. Notts therefore stands undisputed at the head of county teams. To show the widespread interest in the contest, it may be mentioned that between 60,000 and 70,000 persons were present on the opening day.

A match has just been concluded between Notts and Middlesex in which the former gained a decisive victory by eight wickets. For the northern county the chief scores were knocked up by Shrewsbury (41), Mr. G. A. Dixon (44), Barnes (26), and Flowers (25).

The Royal English Opera House, which has been a financial failure since its opening, is going to be turned into a Music Hall and a company has been floated for this purpose, under the style of the Palace Theatre, Limited. Sir Augustus Harris is the Managing Director, and the board of Directors includes the names of Mr. George Augustus Sala and Baron George de Reuter. Alterations will, of course, have to be made in the building, but there is to be no sacrifice of beauty, and this will still be classed as one of the most magnificent theatres in the world. The capital is £200,000, divided into 100,000 preference shares at £1 each, with promise of 7 per cent., and 100,000 ordinary shares of £1 promising as much more as can be earned. The licence for music and dancing has not yet been obtained, and I hear that powerful opposition is being organised against its being granted, and that Sir Charles Russell and Mr. C. F. Gill have been retained by the opposers. The new company have made considerable capital over the fact that the Alhambra and Empire are paying very large dividends; but both these companies have comparatively small capitals to pay interest on, and it remains to be seen whether the public patronising variety shows will be sufficiently elastic as to support another theatre almost double the size of those now in existence.

An extraordinary case has just been heard in the Divorce Court, in which Mrs. Gertrude Barrett sought a judicial separation by reason of alleged cruelty of her husband, Mr. John G. Barrett, of the Indian Civil Service. He denied the charge and by a cross petition he alleged adultery on the part of his wife with some person unknown. The litigants have been married only a year, having first met in India, where the petitioner had been a companion to a lady. The petitioner having deposed as to the alleged cruelty on the part of the respondent, went on to state that while staying at

a boarding house, having left her husband, she was introduced to a person who passed herself off as Countess Carina, who the witness afterwards found out was a detective. They became very friendly and went to places of amusement together. At another boarding house she met a woman calling herself Mrs. Watson, the wife of an electrical engineer, who had been engaged to watch her movements. At the Empire she was introduced to a person as "Mr. S. of the Stock Exchange," who afterwards proved to be Clarke, a detective. At the Alhambra witness was introduced to a Mr. Chas. Wilson, also in the employ of her husband, by Mrs. Watson and accompanied him to the Café Monico. She afterwards met him and went with him to some rooms in Wellington-road, St. John's Wood. She passed the night in a bed-room there. Wilson was intoxicated and lay on the couch in the drawing-room. In cross-examination petitioner admitted that she had arranged to return to the house the following night and stay a week with Wilson as man and wife. In giving judgment, Mr. Justice Barnes said the case was a most painful one. He did not, however, think the charge of cruelty against the husband was satisfactorily made out; and therefore could not act upon it. With regard to the charge of adultery he thought that he was bound to find that it was proved. Having found that, there was another matter, and that was a matter which the court had to deal with. As to the husband's petition, the Court, by Act of Parliament, upon a petition for dissolution of marriage, had to satisfy itself that the petitioner had not connived at his wife's adultery or was an accessory in any manner. In the case before him the facts were remarkable. He acted in the main on the evidence given by Mrs. Barrett, and it was impossible for him to condemn in sufficiently strong terms the action of the detective, Wilson. A more improper state of things it would be impossible to conceive, and he must hold that the husband could not succeed. He could not believe that the husband was aware of the action of his agents, but unfortunately for him the acts of his agents were a bar to his success. The result, therefore, was that the wife's petition must be dismissed. The husband's petition must also be dismissed with costs.

In a case, *Morrissey v. Harrison*, heard yesterday, the plaintiff, a widow, claimed £1,000 as damages for the loss of her husband, who was the master of the schooner *Welcome*, which was run into and sunk on the 7th Feb. last, in the Prince's Channel by the defendant's steamship *Acacia*, the jury gave the plaintiff £1,200 as compensation for herself, and £600 for the child, a boy aged seven.

Mr. Kyrle Bellew, after playing a short season at the Shaftesbury Theatre with Mrs. Brown Potter, when they produced "Hero and Leander," is now doing leading business in Messrs. Sims and Buchanan's new drama, "The Lights of Home," at the Adelphi. This is quite a new departure for Mr. Bellew, and judging from the way in which he was received on the opening night, he is likely to become as great a favourite as any of his predecessors. Most of the London theatres are closed, and the companies are on tour for the summer months.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Boston, Mass., August 30th.

The Borden murders, of which mention was made in the last letter, continue to be the topic of the day throughout the country, especially in New England, for they are the most shocking, mysterious murders ever committed in these parts. The daughter, accused and arrested, is now undergoing examination with many witnesses—not of the murder, but of "contingent circumstances." But aside from the fact that she was in the house when the murders were committed, nothing has been found to connect her with the murders. There is one fact, however, that is against her in the opinion of many. No one has seen her shed a tear or exhibit any sign of emotion at the time of the murder or since. This trait is found in some persons, but if Lizzie Borden is as she has been represented to be, susceptible to all influences, this passive characteristic does not appear to belong to her. Still her friends maintain that she is innocent. After the murders, as no clue was found immediately, the papers of the country began to criticise the police of Fall River severely. They had to arrest somebody, and arrested Lizzie Borden, although there was nothing against her except her presence in the house and her apparent indifference. The examination now going on is the preliminary hearing to see if the accused is indictable before the Grand Jury. There has been three days of the hearing, and

the most important witnesses, it is supposed, have been heard, and yet there is nothing to show that Lizzie Borden did the deed. If she did kill her father and her step-mother, she is the most rapid, the most adroit murderer the world has seen. It is supposed that Mrs. Borden was killed an hour or more before her husband. But Mr. Borden was seen alive less than thirty minutes before his murder was discovered and announced. There were eighteen blows on Borden's head. Then Lizzie Borden, if guilty, struck her father eighteen blows with an axe, every blow causing the blood to spurt and to spatter. Then the murderer removes every stain from the axe and replaces the axe in its place in the cellar. However committed, the murderer must have been spattered with blood. Experts say it was impossible for the murderer to escape the spurring of blood, which would follow the withdrawal of the axe at every blow. Then Lizzie Borden, if she did it, changed her clothing and destroyed or concealed it where no one could find it, and the house has been searched from cellar to attic—chimneys, partly torn down and the floors taken up, according to the newspaper accounts, and no trace of the murderer or her tools or clothing have been found. If Lizzie Borden did all this, she must have done it in less than twenty minutes: it appears to be a physical impossibility. There is a report that evidence against her is withheld by the Government Prosecutor, and that it may appear before the hearing is concluded. At the hearing about fifty reporters are present, and every word of the testimony is telegraphed to the leading papers of the country. Mystery deepens, and things appear to be no nearer solution than on the day of the murders.

The Metropolitan Opera House in New York City was destroyed by fire on August 27th. It cost \$2,100,000, furnished by seventy stockholders, who contributed \$30,000 each to the enterprise, each of the stockholders becoming the owner of one of the seventy boxes. Besides the investment of \$30,000 there was an annual assessment of \$1,500 to \$2,500, as the enterprise did not maintain itself. It was the large white building between 39th and 40th streets, and between Broadway and Seventh Avenue, and covered about an acre and a quarter of land. It was said that the auditorium was the largest in the world. With each box was a saloon, twice the size of the box, where refreshments were served, and guests received between the acts. The house was opened in 1883. It was called fireproof, and had, as an additional precaution, a tank containing 8,000 gallons of water, to be released by the heat of the fire. The tank emptied itself without interfering in the least with the progress of the fire. The eight thousand gallons of water was only a bucketful to an acre and a quarter of inflammable material on fire. This was the rich man's theatre.

The wonders of the World's Fair are now claiming much attention, as many features are approaching completion. "Columbus Day" will be observed throughout the land by the school children. The dedication on this day promises to be attended by "Extraordinary performances and exercises." Applicants at home and abroad have called for 152 acres of space. It was expected that the Fair would have a tower higher than the Eiffel Tower at the Paris Exhibition, but there will be no tower higher than 400 feet. The labouring man is to be entertained at a moderate price if he attends the Fair. A hotel is in process of erection in Chicago to accommodate 3,000 labouring men and their families.

The Russians have a very good opinion of us now since they dined on our corn and wheat sent them in their sore distress, and are doing much—raising more money, thousands of kopecks and roubles, to make a good exhibit at our Fair. Chili, with which we had some words awhile ago, is now in good spirits and temper, and will send an exhibit to illustrate her nitrate industry.

In a former letter it was stated that the machinery of the Fair would be started by the only living descendant of Christopher Columbus, but his descendants increase like Washington's valets. There is a whole village of them now, and they will be invited to visit the Fair. Indeed, W. E. Curtis, of the Historical Department of the Fair, will go to Spain for the express purpose of inviting the King and the Queen of Spain, and the descendants of Columbus. As said before in these letters, this is to be the Fair to which the world's people should turn in 1893.

The cholera is coming near—too near us. At some of the foreign shipping ports, Hamburg, for example, from which steamers come to this country regularly direct, the cholera rages—at Hamburg, a thousand cases and three hundred deaths within a few days. If this country escapes, it will be due to the fact that we keep clean, that is, the cities are kept clean, and to the intervention of cold weather, for it appears that many emigrants at foreign ports are ready to come among us loaded down with cholera germs. The luggage of incom-

ing immigrants is now fumigated at quarantine before leaving the ships. This is good for the country, even if no cholera germs be lurking in the luggage, for there are other things alive and active that succumb to the fumes of sulphur, that do not live to get on shore and bring up families.

Here is a remarkable fact, and it shows what kind of citizens (to be) we are importing or allowing the future citizens to import or export themselves. In one day this year 5,450 emigrants to this country landed in New York. Of this number, only sixty had as much as one hundred dollars, and about the same number had only about ten dollars, while the rest, the "great majority" had less than five dollars. What does this signify?—sheer foolishness and improvidence, or an "abounding" faith in the fat resources of this country? Think of an Englishman "dropping down" in a new country with only five dollars in his pocket—or three dollars—one-fifty—a shilling—nothing, for that is all some of them had. In this great crowd of possible American citizens was one family of fifteen—father, mother, children, and grand children galore, and the total wealth in money was three dollars and fifteen cents. What are we coming to anyway?

The strike in Homestead is at an end and the striking switchmen at Buffalo have failed to get that for which they struck. The militia are still on the ground, but no further trouble is anticipated. The switchmen lost, some were reinstated, but the greater number are looking for a "job."

'Tis thus usually with strikers. The world is not surprised at anything that comes from Chicago now-a-days. It is declared in bold print, with apparent soberness and sincerity, that the Pennington Aeronautic Mail and Express Company is about to launch an air-ship, and that this air-ship is to make the rounds between Chicago, New Orleans, New York, and Boston to carry the mails and passenger. The machinery of this ship is protected by forty-two American patents and thirty-one foreign patents. It is said that some of the prominent scientists of the country, and also some shrewd capitalists are in the scheme. The air-ship is described as resembling a "pot-bellied flamingo" capable of flying seventy-five miles an hour. Its "main part" is an air chamber 125 feet long with a mean diameter of 38 feet. To this is attached the car of aluminum metal with cushion seats filled with hydrogen gas. The two engines are of alloyed aluminum, driving a great wheel of four spoon-shaped blades. May we be present, safe on the ground, when this flamingo takes wing.

Political roarbacks and boomerangs are now in order. The protectionists are strong in argument. They have discovered that as a result of the operations of the McKinley Bill there was in 1891 a net increase in wages of \$6,388,025, and a net increase in production of \$31,315,138 over the wages and production of 1890.

CRICKET.

SETTLEMENT V. BLUFF.

The match arranged for Saturday resulted in a somewhat unsatisfactory game, only eight players turning up to represent the Settlement. The Bluff team batted first, and the Doctor, in great form, defended his wicket against the attacks of Edwards, W., and Burn, until he had piled up 39, the top score, when Burn disturbed the sticks. Watson (23) and Mair (19) were next best, and the innings closed for 124. Edwards taking three wickets and Burn five. The "eight" then went in, but were all out for 32, including 8 extras. They then followed on, and made a resolute stand. Edwards had been dismissed by White for 2 in the first innings, but now put together 33 before being stumped by Crouch, and Burn (41 not out) and Hall (22 not out) were both well set when the game concluded. Following are the scores:—

Bluff.	
Mr. Crouch, run out	39
Dr. Wheeler, b. Burn	29
Mr. White, b. Edwards	7
Mr. Muir, b. Burn	19
Mr. Watson, b. Burn	23
Mr. Murdoch, l.b.w., b. Edwards	0
Mr. Young, run out	6
Mr. Robinson, b. Burn	3
Mr. Abbey, b. Edwards	4
Mr. Griffin, st. Burn	0
Mr. Nash, not out	5
b. 18	18

Settlement.	
Mr. Tate, c. Nash, b. Watson	13
Mr. Burn, c. White, b. Watson	41
Mr. W. Edwards, b. White	33
Mr. Dod, c. Nash, b. Watson	4
Mr. Layard, c. —, b. White	0
Mr. Hall, c. Murdoch, b. Watson	22
Mr. Parlett, not out	0
Mr. Showler, b. White	0
b. 9, l.b. 12, w. 2, n.b. 2	8

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE."

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

By W. LAIRD CLOWES,

GOLD MEDALIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

II.—THE BATTLE OFF TOULON.

WHAT, then, had happened off Toulon. The Times of Wednesday morning was the first newspaper to give anything like a full account of the affair. This it did in the following painful telegram:—

"SAN REMO, Tuesday Night.—I have just been landed here, thanks to the courtesy of the commander of the Italian dispatch vessel *Agostino Barherigo*, and, with much grief, I telegraph to inform you of the sudden and terrible disaster which early this morning overtook the Mediterranean Fleet. That Fleet, as your readers will see on referring to any of the service papers of last week, consisted of the battleships *Agamemnon*, *Nile*, *Collingwood*, *Colossus*, *Dreadnought*, *Edinburgh*, *Thunderer*, *Inflexible*, *Sanspareil*, *Trafalgar*—flag of the rear-admiral—and *Victoria*—flag of the Commander-in-chief. On Sunday afternoon these vessels, together with the belted cruisers *Australia* and *Undaunted*, the armoured ram *Polphemus*, and the unarmoured craft *Fearless*, *Scout*, and *Surprise*, anchored off Toulon, and found the French Mediterranean Fleet lying there also. This squadron, which had come in earlier in the day after a cruise, consisted of the battleships *Amiral Baudin*, *Courbet*, *Dévastation*, *Formidable*, *Deguesclin*, *Hoche*, *Marceau*, *Vauban*, *Cuiman*, *Bayard*, *Neptune*, and *Indomitable*, with the cruisers *Cosmao*, *Troude*, and *Lalande*, the torpedo dispatch vessels *Vautour* and *Condor*, and the torpedo gunboats *Dragonne*, *Dague*, *Aventurier*, *Rabyle*, *Audacieux*, *Ouvragin*, and *Téméraire*. Up the harbour, in addition, lay the battleships *Trident*, *Colbert*, *Terrible*, *Redoutable*, and five other ironclads, and belonging to the 'Escadre de Reserve,' which has been newly constituted. There were also up harbour several cruisers and torpedo vessels.

"We exchanged salutes in the usual way; the admirals called on one another; and yesterday morning about four hundred of our blue jackets were allowed to go ashore. I was, at the time, on board the *Nile*, and can give, therefore, only a hearsay account of what occurred in the town.

"It appears that at about four o'clock in the afternoon some of our men, who were drinking in a wine shop, got into an altercation with several French seamen belonging to the *Colbert* over the merits of the two navies. The Frenchmen boasted that their ships were in every way superior to ours; Jack strongly objected; from words the disputants went to blows; and in less time than it takes to write, our fellows were retreating down the street pursued by a mixed crowd of French soldiers, sailors, and civilians. Reports vary as to the damage done, but it is unfortunately certain that at least a dozen of our men lost their lives, and that the French loss was nearly as severe.

"We, of course, lay too far out to be able to hear or see anything of the hubbub on shore. The first hint of what occurred came to us from the ship's chaplain, who, returning on board in a shore-boat, reported that a row was going on in the town. I went up into the top, whence through the glass I could see our men crowding into other shore-boats and pushing off in great haste. There was much struggling, and I saw occasional puffs of smoke, which could not proceed from our fellows, all of whom were, of course, unarmed. Being closely followed by boats full of Frenchmen, our men made for the *Surprise*, which lay closer in than the rest of the squadron. By this time the pursuers were using fire-arms freely, and we realised that the business was a very serious one. We were therefore ordered to man and arm boats and to cover the retreat. Our fellows pulled like devils, and, with oars and boat-hooks, fairly sunk one craft which came too close. Those of us who remained on board were all on the bridge or in the top; but just as we were wondering whether we should not have to open fire with our machine guns, we were disappointed by the Commander-in-chief semaphoring from the flagship that, bearing in mind the evident gravity of the situation, nothing must be done that might complicate matters. This order did not, however, prevent our captain from directing the magazines to be opened, and all preparations to be made that could be made without too pronouncedly calling the attention of the French. Meanwhile, our boats had gained the *Surprise*, and the men were scrambling on board as fast as they could. A regular swarm of French boats of all kinds was crowding round the ship, and the people in them were screaming and gesticulating as if they were madmen. The Commander-in-chief went in his steam launch to the *Sur-*

prise. Through our glasses we watched his crew shoving the French boats aside, and I doubt whether the shore people would have made room for the launch to get alongside the dispatch vessel if a French officer had not opportunely arrived on the spot in a torpedo boat from up the harbour. When he appeared the French retired to a respectful distance, but continued vociferating so loudly that we could quite plainly hear them. The French officer followed our Admiral on board the *Surprise*, and there had an interview with him. Not long afterwards they were joined by a stout gold-laced red-sashed dignitary from the shore; and the two Frenchmen between them made out, or tried to make out, that our bluejackets had begun the row, had deliberately murdered some men in the wineshop, and, in fine, that they only were to blame. Our Admiral, of course, promised to institute the fullest inquiry; but the French officers took a high-handed attitude from the first. They demanded that all our men who had been ashore should be surrendered. Compliance with this was out of the question. They then said that they had telegraphed to Paris for instructions. Before the Commander-in-chief got back to the flagship, we saw that most of the French ships in harbour were getting up steam.

"At a quarter to six all our captains were ordered on board the Admiral. When our captain returned he looked very serious, and sent first for the commander, and then for the fleet engineer and all the lieutenants, most of whom remained with him in his cabin for three quarters of an hour. The French Admiral had promised to dine in the evening on board our flagship, but he sent a somewhat awkward excuse. If I may judge from what I saw in the ward-room in the *Nile*, where I was a guest, the business spoilt the dinners of every one in both fleets, for all of our people had no end of work to do. We made as many preparations for action as we could without actually going to quarters; we got up steam for full speed; we kept unusually strict watch, and allowed no boats to approach us; and most of us unshipped all the pictures and breakables that we had in our cabins.

"At seven, the *Surprise*, by order, shifted her berth, and took up a fresh position outside our lines—we were anchored in two columns. The *Scout* and *Polyphemus*, under easy steam, went round the fleet and swept their searchlights shoreward continually. To guard against sudden attack by torpedo boats, certain craft were ordered to use their searchlights in combination in such a manner as to form a complete path of brightness round the fleet. The effect was very striking, but it was also very puzzling, for the illumination not only intensified the surrounding darkness, but also rendered it extremely difficult for us to again 'pick up' any craft—and there were several about—after it had once crossed the protected zone; and when half-an-hour's experience had thoroughly demonstrated this, the experiment was ordered to be discontinued. The eyes of many of us had not, however, recovered from the dazzling results of the trial when, some hours later, we needed our best night sight; and I doubt whether we should not have been wiser had we relied solely throughout upon such natural light as was vouchsafed to us. At a quarter to nine a French steam launch went on board the Commander-in-chief, and half-an-hour later we all knew what it had come out for. It brought a formal demand for the surrender by nine o'clock this morning of every officer and man who had been ashore during the day, and an imperative order that in the meantime no British vessel was to leave the roadstead.

"As soon as the French launch had shoved off again, the Commander-in-chief signalled the fleet to weigh. Almost at the same moment the *Scout* reported that a number of French ships were coming out. They soon began to play their searchlights freely on us, but we went on weighing as before, until one of their flagships, a great ironclad as big as the *Trafalgar*, but much higher out of the water, was abreast of the *Victoria*. It seems that the Frenchman hailed the Commander-in-chief, and with great politeness demanded whether he intended to go to sea. Our lights showed us that all the French ships were cleared for action, and were full of men. I suppose that our Admiral said 'Yes,' and we half expected, from the threatening attitude of the enemy, that fire would be opened at once. But the French fleet passed on, and went quietly out in single line ahead, the battleships being between us and their own light craft, which, naturally, kept off and seemed to be in no regular formation. They were all a mass of lights, and we could plainly see the officers in full dress standing on the bridges and poops, and saluting us as they passed, some of them at a distance of less than a couple of cables from us. As far as could be counted, there were twenty battleships, eight

cruisers, and over a dozen torpedo boats.* When they had got well outside of us, they suddenly extinguished all their lights, as if by preconcerted agreement, and ten minutes later another launch from the shore went on board the Commander-in-chief. One of our lieutenants was in the flag ship at the time for orders, and he told us on his return that the French had sent to say that any further attempt on our part to get away that night would, without hesitation, be prevented by force. Of course we were at once sent to quarters—we had really been at them all the evening, in the *Nile* at least. It was realised that, right or wrong, it was impossible, in the circumstances, to obey the dictation of any foreigner. At ten minutes past ten we got under way, and formed in two columns of divisions line ahead, the *Victoria*, *Agamemnon*, *Edinburgh*, *Collingwood*, *Sanspareil*, and *Inflexible* constituting the starboard division in the order named, and the *Trafalgar*, *Nile*, *Thunderer*, *Colossus*, and *Dreadnought* the port. The *Polyphemus* was a mile and a-half ahead, the *Undaunted* an equal distance on the starboard bow, the *Australia* an equal distance on the port bow, the *Scout* on the starboard and the *Fearless* on the port quarter, and the *Surprise* a mile and a-half astern. A rendezvous, which for obvious reasons I suppress, was given us, and the course, so soon as we had made an offing, was south-west. Although a guest on board, I, of course, volunteered to be of what use I could.

"It was an intensely dark night, and there was a nasty sea from the south-east, but very little wind; half a gale, which had been blowing during the afternoon, having dropped at sundown.

"It is not my business—and, indeed, I am still far too lagged and knocked up—to tell you much about our individual feelings and actions. I believe that we were all determined to do our duty, and I venture to think that, in what followed, most of us did, although, for once, the luck was against us. You at home must remember, ere you judge us, that we were outnumbered, that several of our heaviest guns were very defective even before the action began, that the speeds of our ships were very unequal, and that, upon the whole, the French vessels were better protected at the water line than ours. I am bound to mention these facts in justice to the hundreds of brave fellows who are gone. It was not their fault that guns broke down or that the fleets were unequally matched. With anything like equal forces, the results of this, the bloodiest naval fight that the world has yet seen, would I am confident, have been different. Surely the blame lies, not with them who had to use the weapons, but rather with those who forged them too weak and too few for the work required of them.

"For three hours we steamed at about ten knots, the slowness of the *Agamemnon* and *Inflexible* preventing our easily doing much more, save under great pressure. We saw nothing of the French, and, as we showed no lights, we had much difficulty in keeping station.

"At half-past one this morning the *Polyphemus* flashed a signal to the effect that she had sighted the French fleet about two miles ahead of her, apparently lying to. We therefore altered the course six points to the eastward, so as to head south-south-east, and, if possible, avoid the enemy; but I suspect the French must have seen the flashes by which the order was signalled, for, half an hour later, the *Scout* reported them a mile on her starboard quarter, steaming fast, and apparently coming up with us. We then put on full steam to the utmost capacity of our slowest ships, and again altered course two points to the eastward, so as to bring our heads due south-east; but the fleet, as a whole, could not, it was soon found, do more than 10½ knots against the sea which was running, the *Inflexible* doing barely that, and lagging behind in the most dangerous way. The Frenchmen, therefore, steadily drew up with us, having altered course soon after we did, and being able to steam fully 11½ knots, and perhaps more.

"It must have been inexpressibly galling to our gallant Commander-in-chief thus to be obliged to show his heels, even to an enemy of obviously superior force. But it is clear that he could not have remained at Toulon, where he could have accomplished nothing against the forts and batteries; and would, moreover, have been exposed to destruction from mines, submarine boats, and torpedoes worked from the shore, besides having to reckon with the French fleet. It is clear, too, I think, that in the circumstances it was his duty, if possible, to avoid action; though on this point, there will probably be greatest differences of opinion. When once the French were outside of him, he had to think of Malta and Gibraltar, his immediate bases. I must, however, leave these questions for others to discuss.

*The exact composition of the French fleet, and the state of the exact composition of the French fleet, at the end of this chapter.

"At this time I was sent for by the captain who was on the bridge intently watching the flagship, whose huge hull ploughed through the water two cables ahead of us, leaving in her wake a board strip of foam on the broken waves. The *Nile's* bows plunged ever and anon into the seas which dashed aft against the turret, and well nigh hid the muzzles of the great guns as they burst and deluged us with spray. We must have had hundreds of tons of water at a time upon the fore-castle, but the ship rising, shook them off with scarcely an effort, and then plunged again, as the rolling seas lifted her by the stern.

"We had no torpedo boats with us, and, had we had any, they would have been only so many encumbrances in such a sea as was running. Even our biggest boats—the 135ft. ones—do not steam well in circumstances like those which environed us early this morning; and unfortunately, we had nothing between them and the regular torpedo-cruisers, *Scout* and *Fearless*, vessels of 1,580 tons displacement. Very useful indeed to the Commander-in-chief would have been a few fast gun-vessels of the *Grasshopper* or *Sharpshooter* class, not so big as to be easily visible yet big enough to stand the knocking about and still preserve a decent speed of 15 or 16 knots! We had nothing of the kind, the *Landrail* and *Sandfly* being detached. The French, on the other hand, were well provided in this respect. They had with them several large torpedo boats, *torpilleurs de haute mer*, of the *Bombe* class, which served them in particularly good stead as scouts, and which, being craft of over 300 tons displacement, could breast the sea. With these, as we speedily found, they were able to creep up and observe us, without being sighted until they were close upon us. We, therefore, had an uneasy feeling that we were all the time being watched by spies which remained almost invisible.

"Finding at last that it was hopeless to think of getting rid of the foe by out-steaming him, the Admiral, the French being now reported broad on the *Inflexible's* starboard quarter, at a distance of between two and three miles, decided to attack. He, therefore, in accordance with a previously concerted arrangement, led his division ahead of the other one, so placing himself in the van of a long single column disposed in this change of formation, ordered the battleships to alter course in succession ten points to starboard, and the cruisers to obey previous instructions, which seem to have run to the effect that they were to be as useful as possible, and to be ready to tow the ironclads, but not to needlessly imperil themselves.

"It looked at first as if we were going to engage the enemy in the old-fashioned manner, for the French were steaming in a direction nearly at right angles with our line, and in single column; but they very speedily altered formation, so as to bring themselves into a line abreast in groups of three. In this formation the two fleets neared one another, the *Trafalgar* leading, we coming next, and after us in succession came the *Thunderer*, *Colossus*, *Dreadnought*, *Victoria*, *Agamemnon*, *Edinburgh*, *Collingwood*, *Sanspareil*, and *Inflexible*.

"It was about half-past two o'clock. Suddenly a ship near the centre of the French line began to use her searchlights on us, and fired a blank charge. Immediately all the other vessels did the same, and we soon followed suite, not, however, firing. Both sides seemed to feel that to engage in darkness would be doubly dangerous; but, in truth, the electric lights served only to render the situation more puzzling. The effect of the light when it shines into the eyes of the spectator is confusing in the extreme. It is absolutely impossible to decide, or even to guess, how far off the projector, whence the beam comes, is; and when the glare permits of surrounding objects being seen at all, it seems generally to show them distorted or misplaced. Moreover, in certain conditions of atmosphere, dependent, no doubt, upon the amount of moisture in the air, the beam, instead of being translucent, has the effect of a dazzling and semi-opaque white screen. Upon it, in these circumstances, shadows can even be cast, and phenomena resembling the mirage or the 'Broken Spectre' may be produced. I remember hearing Sir Nowell Salmon years ago tell how once in his steam launch he actually went in chase of one of these apparitions, and how he only discovered that he was pursuing his own shadow when he had occasion to shake his fist at the artificer in charge for not getting more speed out of the boat. I mention this solely because I am sure that more harm than good is, as a general rule, likely to be done during night actions by the use of the search-light. A moment later the French opened a perfectly awful fire on us, apparently from every gun that would bear. It seemed as if the whole horizon had become a mass of ragged smoke and belching flame. Only a very few of our men happened to be on deck, but nearly all these were killed or wounded. The captain himself, who was still on bridge, was

wounded in the right leg, but he refused to go below. We got him into the conning tower, however, without further injury, and I remained at his side until the end, the enemy's fire continuing without intermission from the moment when it first began until the action was over.

"The wind being so light as to scarcely stir the air, and that little coming now from the north-west, such smoke as did not hang rolled gently down the French line and shrouded from us the greater part of it. Almost immediately ahead of us was a group of three French ships, which I took to be the *Formidable*, *Hoche*, and *Marceau*. As the Admiral neared them he swerved slightly to port and went straight for the *Formidable*, while we swerved to the same extent to starboard and headed for what I believe was the *Marceau*. We thus put ourselves to windward of the flagship, and the smoke of her guns, as she opened fire, hid her from view. But I could see our immediate opponent quite plainly, a great towering single-funnelled three-masted ironclad, with a central battery, lofty sponsons, and a high fore-castle. At less than a cable's distance we got one shell from our left fore turret gun fairly into her starboard bow, where it burst, wrecking all the fore part of her. At almost the same instant, however, something struck our conning tower and caused nearly everything in it to fly, so depriving us of our communication with the people at the guns, except by means of the voice tubes which were in the din nearly useless. There were only the captain, the staff-commander, myself, and two signalmen in the confined little box from which of course, no one could be spared, and which for the moment, was practically cut off from the rest of the ship. The six-inch guns in our starboard battery fired once; but in vain did we shout down the voice tubes for them to continue, although we were now almost brushing the paint off the Frenchman's side as she just managed to escape our ram, and although we might, had we given her a broadside from our guns well depressed, have blown her bottom out. In the meantime she was treating us terribly; and it was not until we had passed through the enemy and well beyond him, that it was possible for us to send a man below to convey orders and to report upon what had happened.

"The news that came up soon afterwards was even worse than I had feared to learn. The whole starboard side of the box battery was beaten in, two of guns in it were dismantled and every man in the battery had been killed or wounded. The hydraulic loading apparatus of one of the guns in the fore turret had broken down, and the gun was useless; the funnels were so knocked to pieces as to seriously reduce our steaming power, two 5-in. projectiles had hit us and pierced us below the waterline, and two of our compartments were flooded. There were many other damages, the details of which were not reported; and there was no time, of course, for full inquiry.

"The captain in spite of his injuries was still able to retain command, and he had after clearing the French line brought the ship round sixteen points to port, in order to renew the action with the *Marceau*; or, in case we could not discover her, to engage some other ship. But scarcely had we turned ere we were attacked by two of the *torpilleurs de haute mer*, to which I have already alluded, as well as by several torpedo boats of a smaller type. Ahead of us the battle was raging, and the night was lurid with flash and explosion; but abreast and astern of us all was darkness, and out of this darkness our little loss dashed upon us suddenly from all directions. At the first onset, as I have explained, our men had been driven from the quick-firing and machine guns on the upper deck by the enemy's terrible fire. Many of these guns had been dismantled or injured; and the torpedo boats came on while those guns which had escaped were being again manned. For a few seconds, in consequence, we had nothing with which to meet the attack, and, in the meantime, the enemy was blazing away at us from his 3-pounders and machine guns. We tried to use our search-lights once more, but we could not get them to work, probably because the cables had been destroyed. We did, however, succeed in opening fire to a limited extent before the enemy got very close, and, I believe, we sunk one of the small boats. But, although the men behaved splendidly, and worked at the guns with admirable steadiness, the game was up. A torpedo hit us on the port bow, just under the forward sponson; and in an instant, or rather, as soon as we realised what had happened, we knew that the dear old *Nile* was done for. The shock was tremendous, and threw us all down, for the ship's bows rose violently into the air and trembled as if they had been wrenched and twisted by some angry giant. But, bruised and bloody, as we were, we were soon up again. The entrance to the conning tower was half blocked with the debris

of boats and booms, yet the captain, in spite of his wound, managed to struggle out on deck, and I followed. Several boats were by this time almost alongside, and, as we appeared, a French lieutenant in one of them coolly removed his hat, and made a motion as if to ask whether we surrendered. The captain fired his revolver at the gallant fellow, and, even as he did so, fell back, shot through the chest by a bullet from a machine gun. 'Don't haul it down while we float,' he cried, as he lay writhing in his last brief agony: 'remember what they will say at home.'

"We did not haul it down. We drove the boats off, and gave them a weak cheer as they went, but the ship was by that time settling rapidly down by the head, with a frightful heel to port. The boats were ordered to be got out. They were, however, all knocked to pieces. We did our best also to steam back into the still battling fleets, feeling that no fate could be much worse than the one which immediately threatened us; but the water had got into the stoke-holds, owing, I suspect to some of the bulkheads having given way under the pressure, and we could not move. Just when everything seemed most hopeless I saw what looked like a small cruiser rapidly making for us, with all her lights showing. But she came too late for most us. While she was still a full mile away the *Nile's* stern rose high out of the water, so high as to send everything and everybody on deck adrift, and then with a great gurgle, the ship dived down bows first.

"I have no further recollection that helps to explain how, when the day was beginning to dawn, I found myself clinging to a splintered grating, alone upon the sea. I was dizzy and chill and sore from head to foot, and I was almost naked, but I clung on mechanically. Indeed, my arms were so stiff that it seemed that I could scarcely have unclasped them, even if I had wished to do so. As the sun rose I caught sight of a vessel under steam, less than half a mile from me; and although I was able to make no effort to attract attention, I was in another quarter of an hour so fortunate as to be picked up by a boat which was sent for me by the commander of the *Agostino Barberigo*, and to be taken on board by the kindly Italians. They tell me that at first I could give no account of myself, and that I could neither speak nor stand, but they treated me so well that by midday I recovered.

TABLE B.

	Tons.	H.P.	Guns.	Men.
Battleship—				
Admiral Baudin	11,380	8,300	75	500
Courbet	9,612	8,122	74	670
Dévastation	9,039	8,154	74	685
Formidable	13,441	9,700	15	500
Ruche	10,610	11,300	30	660
Marceau	10,581	10,200	22	660
Amiral Duperré	10,487	8,130	30	664
Catman	7,200	6,000	0	332
Friedland	8,284	4,488	16	676
Indomptable	7,398	6,065	0	332
Richieu	8,707	4,240	30	720
Trident	8,456	5,083	20	730
Colbert	8,487	4,052	16	705
Terrible	7,723	6,230	0	332
Redoutable	8,857	6,071	14	700
Faucon	6,150	4,504	21	440
Bayard	5,985	4,538	12	450
Cruiser—				
Cosmos	1,877	6,000	4	350
Troide	2,877	5,000	4	350
Lalande	1,877	6,000	4	350
Sfax	4,508	6,192	16	471
Jean Bart	4,222	8,000	10	560
Cecile	5,766	9,600	16	486
Faucon	1,240	3,233	5	334
Faustine	1,240	3,391	5	334
Couder	1,240	3,582	5	334
Wattigniet	1,310	4,000	5	340
Torpedo gun vessel—				
Dragonne	395	8,000	Q.F.	65
Dague	395	2,000	Q.F.	65
Leger	450	2,300	Q.F.	65
Bombard	395	2,000	Q.F.	65
Levrier	450	2,800	Q.F.	65

And the first-class torpedo boats *Asya*, *Audacious*, *Courier*, *Oura-gum*, *Téméraire*, *Kabyle*, *Orange*, *Aventurier*, and *Eclair*.

"My first question was, naturally, about the fleet. Terrible, even beyond my apprehension, is the fragmentary story which my rescuers told me. The *Agostino Barberigo* had been almost within gunshot during the action, which had lasted for less than an hour. After the battle her commander had hailed the French ironclad *Amiral Baudin*, and had learnt that, of our ten battleships, five namely, the *Nile*, *Agamemnon*, *Edinburgh*, *Inflexible*, and *Collingwood*—had been either sunk or compelled to strike, and that of the remainder, two at least, although they had temporarily got away, were entirely disabled. One of these was understood to be the *Victoria*, in which, quite early in the engagement, there had, apparently, been some serious accident. The fate of the *Polyphemos* was unknown, but she had rammed, or torpedoes, and sunk the *Trident*. The *Australia* had got away, but the *Undaunted*, towards the end of the action, had made a gallant endeavour to ram the *Vauban*, and, although she had considerably damaged her, had been sunk, firing as she went down. The *Surprise* had got away, but was on fire when last seen. The *Peacock* after colliding with one of our own vessels

and having her bows stove in, had been taken. The *Scout* had rammed and sunk the cruiser *Sfax*, but had herself gone down, though I am glad to be able to add that most of her officers and crew are safe on board the cruiser *Cecile*. Finally, in addition to the *Trident* and *Sfax*, the French are said to have lost the *Vautour* cruiser and the *Kabyle*—*torpilleur de haute mer*—as well as two small torpedo boats.

"But the victory, which is an undoubted one, lies with them. Our Mediterranean fleet, as such, exists no longer. Half of it has been destroyed or taken; the other half is disabled, and in all probability scattered. Never before in all her history has England experienced so complete a disaster upon the sea, and it can be but slight satisfaction to us to know that to purchase this grand success our enemies have spent an old second-class ironclad, a large but not very new cruiser, and three or four small craft, even when we know also that many of their other vessels must be severely damaged.

"When I was picked up I was nearly ten miles from the scene of the action; and, so far as I know, I am the only one of my ship's company that has escaped, though one cannot but trust that others were picked up by the cruiser which was approaching us when we went down. The *Agostino Barberigo* had, however, on board about thirty blue-jackets and a wounded sub-lieutenant, whom she saved when the *Agamemnon* sank; and it is certain that in the French fleet, the greater part of which put back to Toulon, there are many other survivors.

"I can add no more. As a British officer who as a volunteer has tried to do his duty I cannot, nevertheless, avoid expressing the opinion that if we had had a proper Mediterranean fleet—one equal or superior to that of the French, this grievous disaster would not have occurred. We allowed ourselves to be lulled to sleep by the peaceful aspect of affairs here; and the unforeseen storm has found us unprepared to cope with it. Such a fleet as we had was weak, not only numerically, but also in armour and armament; for enormous guns and partial belts have proved a failure. We have been pinning our faith too much to these partial waterline belts and to guns of monstrous proportions. The only one of the *Sanspareil's* big guns that was fired broke down. The other could not, for some reasons which I have not been able to discover, be fired at all. And I am informed, by a seaman who belongs to the *Victoria*, but who had been lent as a signalman to the *Agamemnon*, that the accident already alluded to as having occurred in the *Victoria* was, in fact, the bursting of a 110-ton gun in her turret. If I can, ere I start for home, learn any further details of our unexampled misfortune, I will lose no time in telegraphing them. I am aware that this account leaves much to be desired. The awful circumstances in which it is written must be my excuse. The fact that I have, in a short hour, lost, as I cannot but believe, most of my shipmates and dearest friends, gives me personally such poignant pain that I can barely concentrate my thoughts; but even more am I overwhelmed by the consciousness of the irreparable loss in officers and material that has fallen upon the country. Would that half the gallant fellows who perished to-day were still at the call of England; for sorely will she need them."

Thus the bolt fell from a clear sky, and within a few hours the two most powerful naval nations of the world found themselves engaged in deadly struggle.

Elsewhere in its issue of that Black Wednesday, *The Times* gave particulars (see Table B), derived from other sources, of the victorious French fleet. It also mentioned, in a leading article, that the telegraphic dispatch above quoted had been sent to it by Lieutenant Thomas Bowling, R.N., an officer on half-pay, who had been present as a guest in the ill-fated *Nile*. And in its edition it contained a great deal of bad news from a spot far less distant than the Mediterranean. This news will be found in the next chapter.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

CO-OPERATION IN CHINA.

VILLAGE HEADMEN.

No more important exemplification of the principle of co-operation in Chinese society is to be found, than that embodied in the local self-government of the small communities of which the greater part of the empire is composed. The government of the village is in the hands of the people themselves. At first this condition of affairs is liable to be mistaken for a pure democracy, but very slight inquiry is sufficient to make it evident that while

the government in all matters of local concern is theoretically done by the people, in practice the burden falls not upon the people as a whole, but upon the shoulders of a few persons, who in different places are called different names, and whose functions differ as much as their titles. The apparent dead-level uniformity of China is found upon investigation to be subject to surprising variations, not only in parts of the empire remote from one another, but in those which are separated by but a short distance. On this account it is difficult to generalise as regard to the government of villages in general, but easy to describe that of some villages, with the explanation that elsewhere the same results may be attained by means slightly different or by the same same means under different names. Every Chinese village is a kind of little principality by itself, although it is not uncommon for two or more villages which are contiguous and perhaps otherwise linked together to manage their affairs in unison, and perhaps by the same set of persons. The headmen are sometimes styled *village elders* (*hsiang chang*, or *hsiang lao*), and sometimes they are termed merely managers (*shou shih fen*). The theory in regard to these persons is that they are chosen, or rather nominated, by their fellow-townsmen, and confirmed in their position by the district magistrate. In some regions this is actually done, and for the good conduct of the headmen in their office the leading landowners are required to become security. The designation village elders might be understood to denote that the persons who bear it are the oldest men in the village, but this is not necessarily the case. Neither are they necessarily the wealthiest men, although it is property that will be in some way represented among them. They are not necessarily men of literary attainments, although this may be the case with a few. In those regions where the method of selection is most loose the number of headmen has no necessary relation to the size of the village: the position is not hereditary, neither is there any fixed time of service. A man may act in this capacity at one time, and refuse or neglect to do so at another time. Where this plan prevails, the headmen are not formally chosen, nor formally deposed. They drop into their places—or perhaps climb into them—by a kind of natural selection. The qualities which fit a villager to act as headman are the same which contribute to success in any line of business. He must be a practical man who has some native ability, acquainted with the ways of the world, as well as able and willing to devote upon occasion an indefinite amount of time and attention to the affairs which may be put in his charge.

The duties and functions of the headmen are many and various. They may be classified as those which have relation to the government of the district, those which relate to the village as such, and those which concern private individuals, and are brought to the notice of the headmen as being the persons best able to manage them. Of the affairs which concern the government, the most important is the imperial land or grain tax, the nature of which and the mode of collecting which vary greatly. Calls are constantly made by the local officials for government transportation, provision for the entertainment of officers on government business, materials for the repairs of the banks of rivers, work on river-banks, patrols for the imperial roads at the season of year when travel is at its maximum, and many other similar objects. The medium through whom the district magistrate communicates with the village, is the 'local constable,' called the *lifang* or *tipao*, but this individual has necessarily intimate relations with the headmen, who constitute the executive board, through which alone definite action is taken. Among the affairs which relate to a village as such are to be named the construction and repair of the wall (if it has one), and the care of the gates (if they are closed at night), the establishment and supervision of fairs and markets, the engagement of theatrical companies, the organised watching of the crops, together with the punishment of persons detected in violating the rules which have been agreed upon, the building and repairs of temples, the sinking of wells for the use of the village, or the cleaning of those which are already in use, and a great variety of other similar duties, depending upon the situation of the village and its traditions and circumstances. It is a noteworthy fact, that the government of China, while in theory more or less despotic, places no practical restrictions upon the right of free assemblage by the people for the consideration of their own affairs. The people of any village can if they choose meet every day in the year. There is no government censor present, and no restriction upon liberty of debate. The people can say what they like, and the local magistrate neither knows nor cares what is said. The government has, however, a right to

itself than espionage, and by a system of graded responsibility, is able to hold all its subjects under strict control. But should insurrection break out, these popular rights might be extinguished in a moment, a fact of which all the people are perfectly well aware.

The methods of Chinese management being what they are, it is not surprising that those who are in the position of headmen find it, or rather make it, to their advantage to stay in it. The ways in which this comes about are many and various. There is in every village an unceasing supply of matters which do not belong to the public, but which must be adjusted by some man or men who are in the habit of transacting business, and who not only know what is to be done, but know how to do it. There are always Chinese who like to engage in these matters, such as the adjustment of domestic quarrels, and differences between neighbours, and the like. The headmen of the village will be certain to be frequently called upon for service of this sort. But such labours, onerous as they often are, will be acknowledged only by the thanks of those interested, and a participation in the inevitable final feast. It is quite otherwise with such public matters as the collection of material for public uses, and the disbursement of public funds. Every village has numerous enterprises which involve the handling of money, and these enterprises must be in the hands of those competent to take charge of them. There is not in such cases that constant struggle between the 'ins' and the 'outs,' which is seen in lands where the democracy is of a more flagrant type than in China. Yet even in China such contests do sometimes occur. We know of one village in which the public business had for a long time been monopolised by a band of men who had subjected themselves to the criticisms of those who, although younger, felt sure that they were not on that account the less capable. The result of the criticisms was that the incumbents withdrew from their places, leaving them to those who offered the criticisms, a method of adjustment which is known to be practised in the government of the empire. But it is probable that cases of such easy victory are relatively rare, for the reason the 'ins' have every opportunity to keep themselves in their position, and they are for the most part not at all sensitive to criticism, being quite content to reap the substantial benefits of their position, and to leave the talking to spectators. In the ordinary matters of routine, it is easy for them to find abundant precedents for almost any irregularity, and to the Chinese precedents are most precious, as marking out the natural limits of human action. In many villages but a small portion of the population can read well enough to inspect accounts and many of those whose knowledge is equal to this strain upon it, have no practical familiarity with public business, with which they have never had any opportunity to become acquainted. Many who clearly recognise the evils which attend the methods in which the business of their village is managed, do not for two excellent reasons make any protest. In the first place, to do so would raise a storm about their heads, which they have no wish to encounter. And even if the movement should prove completely successful, and the present incumbents should all be removed from their places, it would be difficult, not to say impossible, to find others who would manage matters upon any plan essentially different. A change would be simply the removal of a well-fed swarm of flies, to make way for a set much more hungry, a change against which the fox in the fable wisely remonstrated. The Chinese wholly agree with the sagacious fox. The course which matters take, when complaint is really made, may be understood by an illustrative example, with which the writer is acquainted. During one of the years in which the Yellow River made destructive breaks in central Shantung, an order was issued that all the counties in the province accessible to the river should furnish a certain quota of millet stalks to be used in the repair of the river banks. These stalks were to be paid for in ready money by the government agents. But as some of the counties were situated more than two days' journey from the riverbanks, the amount received for the stalks did not cover the cost of the feed of men and animals for so long a journey. Besides this, the government officials had a ready means by which to exercise complete control over those who brought the stalks, by refusing to take over the material or to weigh it, until such time as the officials might be ready. By this means, both men and teams were kept on expense, so that at last the persons who hauled stalks were only too glad to be allowed to depart without any pay at all for the loads which they had brought. Abuses of this sort were said to be exceedingly common at that time, although on subsequent occasions we have been assured by those who have taken stalks to river-embankments, that full pay in good money was invariably given.

In the village to which we have referred, the business of providing and delivering the stalks was put by the district magistrate into the hands of an elderly man, who was a literary graduate of the grade of *hsuts'ai*. This man naturally called about him some of his former pupils, who did the practical part of the work. They took stalks three times to the place of deposit, and received in payment about seventy thousand cash. Taking advantage of the general uncertainty which prevailed in regard to payments, these managers rendered no accounts to the village, but proceeded to appropriate a certain part of the receipts to their own use. Matters continued in this way for more than a year, when some of those who were dissatisfied, called a public meeting in a village temple, and demanded a clear account of receipts and expenses, which for reasons well understood, it was impossible to give. Finding that the affair was becoming serious, the *hsuts'ai* got some residents of the same village to 'talk peace' to the excited villagers. Their argument was this: "If we press this matter, and take it before the district magistrate, the old *hsuts'ai*, who is really altogether innocent, will lose his button, and will be disgraced. The others concerned will all be beaten, and this will engender hatred and feuds which will last for generations." The middlemen then proposed that by way of settlement a feast should be prepared, at which a representative of every surname in the village should be present, and this plan being adopted, because nothing else was feasible, the matter was buried in compulsory oblivion. This is a type of a large class of cases.—*N.C. Daily News.*

CHESS.

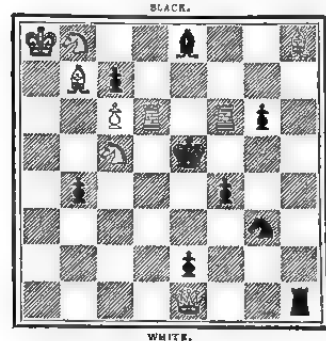
(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 35.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to Q 3 1—R x Q
2—B to K 6 mate if 1—R x R or R to K 3
2—Q to Q B 5 mate if 1—R x B
2—Kt to Q Kt 4 mate if 1—K to Q 3 or advances P.
2—Q x R mate

Correct solution received from J.D., W.H.S. Omega, Omicron, J.W.E., Digamma, Scacchi, and O. Balk.

PROBLEM No. 37. BY A. F. MACKENZIE.



White to play and mate in two moves.

Tuition in chess is part of the education of every boy and girl in the little town of Storbeck, in Austria. The game is regularly taught in the schools, and every year there is a public examination in the game, and a distribution of prizes in the shape of chess-boards.

"Spectator," in the *China Mail*, says:—"A correspondence chess match is announced between Mr P. A. Reutens (Singapore) and Mr J. I. Hazeland (Hongkong), and this suggests the question whether chess is in such a moribund state in Hongkong that chess-players require to go afield for opponents. There are, I believe, a fairly large number of players in the Colony to whom I would suggest some sort of combined action, not for the formation of a Club—the conditions of the Colony being somewhat against that—but of a Chess Circle, whose objects would be the bringing of local players together, and perhaps the promotion of interport correspondence matches with Yokohama, Shanghai or Singapore. Correspondence matches, it is true, are usually tedious and long drawn out, whether conducted by individual players or by groups of players, but the answering of an occasional post-card and the analysis of a position does not entail a great amount of labour, while the ad-

vantages would be ample compensation for the trouble, and a bond of unity would be formed amongst Far Eastern players. We have our interport cricket and rifle matches: why not chess matches?"

We hope this excellent suggestion will be taken up by the Hongkong players, who may be assured that so far as our local club is concerned, a contest by correspondence would be heartily welcomed.

Details about the Dresden Congress which we promised last week have already appeared in our Editorial columns of the 16th inst.

The August number of the British Chess Magazine contains an interesting article on the London and Edinburgh Correspondence Match 1824-1828. The match was played for a silver cup of the value of twenty-five guineas. Among the players on the English side are found the names of Brand, Cochrane, Fraser, Lewis, Mercier and Pratt, while on the Scottish side the name of James Donaldson, the Bailie, is the only one of importance; he was the leading player of the Edinburgh Club and all the accounts agree in assigning to him the chief merit of the victory. Five games in all were played, the first and third being drawn, the fourth won by London, the second and fifth by Edinburgh, who thus secured the trophy. The first game was lead off by Edinburgh and appears to have been conducted at a commendably rapid rate, the 35 moves being got through before the end of the year. The third game extended to 99 moves and was not finished till the autumn of 1826. By far the most interesting of the five games are the two won by the Northerners, which led to the "Queen's Pawn Opening" as it had been hitherto called, being re-named the "Scotch Gambit." The second game is described by Walker as "one of the most brilliant gems of chess extant." The plan of attack was Mr. Cochrane's on the part of London; and he quitted England for India with the assurance of a won game. His partners thought to "play fine" by sacrificing a Rook, and to Mr. Cochrane's horror, he subsequently learned that they had justly lost the battle. We lay this game before our readers as it appears in the *B.C.M.* with notes by W. Wayle.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

WHITE. London.	BLACK. Edinburgh.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K 3	2—Kt to Q 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P to P 3
4—B to Q 4	4—B to B 4
5—P to B 3	5—Q to K 2
The beginning of Black's troubles, but the now accepted defence of 5... Kt to B 3 had not yet been thought of. It was first pointed out by Major Jaenisch in his <i>Nouvelles Analyses</i> , 1842-3.	
6—Castles	6—P x P
P to Q 6 is much better, but it still yields White a good game by 7 P to Q Kt 4 and 8 P to Kt 5.	
7—Kt x P	7—P to Q 3
8—Kt to Q 5	8—Q to Q 2
9—P to Q Kt 4	
In this vigorous, attacking move, we recognise the style of Mr. Cochrane.	
10—Kt x Kt	9—Kt x P
11—Kt to Kt 5	10—B x Kt
12—B to Kt 2	11—Kt to R 3
	12—K to B sq.
Castling was of course out of the question, on account of the reply Q to Q 4, forcing the mate.	
13—Q to Kt 3	13—Q to K 2
Black are glad to give up one of the Pawns in order to liberate the Pawns on the Queen's side.	
14—Kt x K B P	14—Kt x Kt
15—Q x B	15—Kt to K 4
16—P to B 4	16—Kt x P
17—Q x Kt	17—Q to B 2
18—Q to B 3	18—B to K 3
19—P to B 5	19—B to B 5
20—R to B 4	20—P to Q Kt 4
21—P to K 5	21—P x P
22—Q x P	22—P to R 3
23—R to K sq.	23—R to R 2
24—P to B 6	

As was pointed out by Lewis (*Remarks on the Report*, &c.), White could here have won easily by 24—Q to B 5 ch, K to Kt sq.; 25—R to K 7, Q to B sq.; 26—P to B 6, &c. If 25... Q to Kt 4, or Q to R 4, 26—R x B wins a piece.

24—P to Kt 4

25—R to B 5

For the second time White could have won without much difficulty: the following variations are from Lewis: 25—Q to B 5 ch, K to Kt sq.; 26—R x B, P x R (or); 27—R to K 7, Q to B sq.; 28—Q to Q 5 ch, and wins. 26—Q x R; 27—Q to K 6, R to B 3; 28—Q to Kt 6 ch, K to B sq.; 29—Q x R P ch, K to Kt sq.; 30—Q x K ch, K to B sq.; 31—Q to R 6 ch, K to Kt sq.; 32—R to K 7, and must win.

25—P to Q R 4

26—Q to B 5 ch.

Here they miss their third chance. The following variation is by Lewis: 26—B to Q 4 (the natural reply to 25—Q to B 5 ch, threatening now the perfectly sound sacrifice 27—P to Kt 4).

27—R x P ch.

28—Q x P ch.

29—R to K 7.

30—Q to B 5 ch.

31—R to K 7.

32—Q to B 5 ch.

33—R to K 7.

34—Q to B 5 ch.

35—R to K 7.

36—Q to B 5 ch.

37—R to K 7.

38—Q to B 5 ch.

39—R to K 7.

40—Q to B 5 ch.

41—R to K 7.

42—Q to B 5 ch.

43—R to K 7.

44—Q to B 5 ch.

45—R to K 7.

The defence relied on by Edinburgh; B to Q 6 and other moves may also be tried, as shown by Lewis, but all are unavailing. 27—P to B 7, B x P (best); 28—R x B ch, K x R (best); 29—Q to K 4, and must win at least a Rook.

27—R x P ch.

Without the co-operation of the B at Q 4 this turns out to be unsound. There was yet a fourth chance to win the game; the following variations were given by Von der Lasa in the *Handbuch* (omitted in last edition): 27—R to K 7, Q to R 4 (or A); 28—P to B 7 ch, R x P (28 B x P equally loses); 29—Q to Q 4, K to B sq.; 30—R to K sq. and wins. (A) 27—Q to Kt 3; 28—Q x P, R x R (28... Q x R loses speedily by 29—R to Kt 7 ch, R to R sq.; 30 R x R ch; and upon 28... R to K sq. followed 29—Q to K 6, B to B 2; 30—Q x Q Kt P with a decisive advantage). 29—P x R, R to K sq.; 30—Q to K 4, Q to R 2; 31—Q to B 6, B to B 2; 32 P to K R3, with a winning game.

27—P x R

28—Q x P ch.

29—B to Q 4

London had still a draw by perpetual check, as the Black King could hardly go to R sq. in the face of R to K 7. But they evidently still played to win, and were unprepared for the tenacity of the Scotch Defence.

29—B to K 3

30—K to Kt sq.

31—K to B sq.

32—B to B 5 ch.

They might still have drawn by continuing the checks with the Q: if K to K sq, Q to Q 5 would win.

33—Q to Q 5

34—Q to R 7

35—P to B 7 ch.

36—R to B sq. ch.

37—Q to K 4 ch.

38—Q to K 8 ch.

39—Q to Kt 8 ch.

40—P to Kt 4

And now the tough Northern nature carries the day after all. This excellent move had clearly been foreseen for some time.

41—Q x Q R

42—R to R sq.

43—B to R 3

Checking on this, or either of the two next moves, would have been useless except to waste time. A slight examination will show that the Black King would have found shelter at R 2 or R 4 according to circumstances.

44—Q to B 6

45—Q x Kt P

46—K to Kt sq.

A beautiful link in the chain; if 47 R x R, Q to K 6 ch, and mates in three more moves. White must, therefore give up the exchange as they do by their next move.

47—Q to Kt 2

48—Q to Kt 2

49—K x Q

50—K x B

51—B to K 7

52—P to R 3

53—Resign.

41—Q x Kt P ch.

42—R to Q 2

43—K to B 2

44—R to Q 8

45—Q to K 5 ch.

46—K to Kt 3

47—Q to Kt 5 ch.

48—Q x Q ch.

49—B to R 6 ch.

50—R x R

51—P to R 5

52—R to B 4

A COLUMBIAD.

Four centuries ago a caravel
(To speak more accurately there were three)
Steered forth to climb the green Atlantic's swell,
And seeking Asia, stumbled on the key
Of that strange continent where all is free—
Save Trade—and where the Sawin Eagle's cry
Is pitched, say, half a dozen notes too high.
Great is the debt that Europe owes to Spain,
For Intellect was clearly bound to die
Had Kit Columbus never sailed the main.
No Mr. Howells had appeared to tell
Our novelists what fiction ought to be;
No Mr. Edison had dared to quell
Thy forces, Giant Electricity;
If Christopher had never crossed the sea,
And with his keen horizon-sweeping eye
Bahama's misty outline chanced to spy;
Britain had never heard of Mr. Blaine,
Whose trade it is the Briton to defy,
Had Kit Columbus never sailed the main.
That Western humour that we know so well,
Those yarns of Iroquois and Cherokee,
Those Christy songs about Annabel
Surname, if I remember rightly, Lee,
Had been unknown, my friend, to you and me:
Snakes had not prompted journalists to lie,
Our maidens' manners had remained more shy,
The clam and terrapin had lived in vain.
Tourists had never tasted pumpkin-pie
Had Kit Columbus never sailed the main.

ENVOI.

Stanley! If Christopher had sauntered by,
Unconscious that the Happy Land was nigh,
And turned his battered bowspirt home again,
Some other Johnny would have gone to pry:
You might have found the Western World—or I—
Had Kit Columbus never sailed the main.
—St. James's Budget.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

London, September 17th.

A letter has been received from Lord Rosebery's secretary, in reply to Mr. Bowles, which states that the Pamir question is seriously occupying the attention of the Government, but that it is undesirable to publish anything at present.

Cholera is increasing in Belgium and Holland, and notably at Antwerp. Several cases have been discovered on board the liners sailing to New York.

It is expected that the Monetary Conference will open at Brussels in October next.

London, September 18th.

At a Parnellite meeting at Limerick it was resolved that Mr. Gladstone's scheme of Home Rule would not be accepted unless it included provisions for the amnesty of the dynamiters.

London, September 19th.

It is stated in Vienna that a Convention has been concluded between China and Russia which arranges for the founding of Consulates in Central China with the object of ousting British commerce.

London, September 21st.

The Times demands an apology from Russia for the insult to the British flag by the unjust seizure of three sealing vessels at Copper Island.

The time and place for the meeting of the Monetary Conference have not yet been fixed.

A band of robbers wrecked a train in Kansas, U.S.A., and decamped with a million dollars.

(FROM THE SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.)

London, August 30th.

An order made by the British Government obliges owners of all ships to keep filthy and destitute alien Passengers on board their respective ships unless these are able to furnish the exact details of their destination.

Cholera has now appeared in Dundee, South Shields, and Berlin; in Havre it is very severe.

London, September 1st.

The New Zealand Parliament have adopted the bill for female suffrage.

A heifer charged and upset the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone in Hawarden Park. The Premier was severely shaken, but succeeded in taking refuge behind a tree. The heifer was afterwards shot.

London, September 2nd.

President Harrison has issued a decree that quarantine of twenty days, longer if necessary, will be enforced at all ports in the United States against vessels arriving with immigrants.

The fear of cholera has caused a regular panic in the New York stock market.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 23rd.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 3rd.*
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Oct. 2nd.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 30th.‡
From Hongkong, per O. & O. Co.		Sunday, Sept. 25th.§
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Monday, Sept. 26th.||
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Oct. 5th.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Oct. 16th.

* City of Peking left San Francisco on September 17th. † Empress of China left Vancouver on September 18th. ‡ Saghalien left Hongkong on September 19th. § Oceanic (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 19th. || Perona left Nagasaki on September 20th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 27th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 29th.
For Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Oct. 1st.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Oct. 7th.
From America, per P. M. Co.		Saturday, Oct. 8th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Oct. 17th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 17th September.—Hakodate 15th September, Light.—Lighthouse Department.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, G. Peterson, 17th September.—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

St. Andrews, Norwegian steamer, 2,009, H. H. Hansen, 17th September.—Batoum via Singapore 3rd August, 107,000 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 17th September.—Otaru via ports 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. Wilson, 17th September.—Kobe 17th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 18th September.—Hongkong via ports 10th September, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Loo Sok, British steamer, 1,020, Perkes, 18th September.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Moyune, British steamer, 1,714, C. De la Perrelle, 18th September.—London via ports, Coal and General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, Jas. Rowley, 17th September.—Hongkong 10th September, Sugar and Molasses.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Alert (4), U.S. corvette, Captain R. D. Hitchcock, 18th September.—Nagasaki.

Isa Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Iwato, 19th September.—Kobe 17th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghaese, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 19th September.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 19th September.—Kobe 18th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 20th September.—Miyako 18th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 20th September.—Otaru via ports 16th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 20th September.—Kobe 19th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain Von Frantzius, 21st September.—Nagasaki.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,648, A. Clark, 21st September.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Pyne, 21st September.—Shimonoseki 19th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 22nd September.—San Francisco 6th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Redpole (6), gunboat, Lieutenant Commander F. W. Freeman, 22nd September.—Hakodate.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Fukui, 23rd September.—Hakodate via ports 21st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 23rd September.—Kobe 22nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Banovius, British steamer, 1,467, Thompson, 18th September.—New York via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 18th September.—Shimonoseki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Shu.

R. Morrow, British bark, 1,156, McDougall, 19th September.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 19th September.—Yan-cou, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Isa Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Iwato, 19th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 19th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 19th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loo Sok, British steamer, 1,020, Perkes, 20th September.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 20th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 21st September.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 22nd September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sikh, British steamer, 2,735, Jas. Rowley, 22nd September.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar and Molasses.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 23rd September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 23rd September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 24th September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Pyne, 34th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korio Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Sengoku, 24th September.—Otaru, General.—Tani Michisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Captain J. Ingles, R.N., and Mr. C. H. Hard in cabin; Mr. J. Budge and Mr. Panasu in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. F. J. Freer in second class and 12 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. Abercrombie, Mr. Geo. Balloch, Mr. and Mrs. Barroddas and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Brady, nurse, and child, Rev. O. E. and Mrs. Brown, Masters P. and L. Bischof, Mr. J. H. Duran, Mr. M. Doran, Mr. A. H. Groom, Mr. Chas. Fox, Capt. P. de Lemascheffsky, Mr. A. P. MacKintosh, Mr. A. Marischal, Mr. J. P. MacKein, Miss Reid, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mrs. Stair, and Mr. Geo. Thomson, Mr. S. N. Milutin, Mr. C. Richmond, Mr. G. H. Potts, Miss Warren, and Mrs. Edwardes Moore in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Rikami and Mr. Max Schlesinger in cabin; 17 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. Kato and Mr. and Mrs. Oliver in cabin; Mr. Watabe in second class, and 18 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Miss Mary Thorn, Mrs. S. A. Cooley, Miss E. S. Cooley, Miss C. J. Reynolds, Mr. Isaac Sharpe, Mr. Heinrich Matz, Mr. Adolph Fisher, Mr. Alfred Unger, Rev. J. C. Davison, Mrs. Fennie K. Patton, Dr. A. P. Peck, Mrs. Peck, Mr. Willys R. Peck, Mr. Llewellyn Peck, Miss May Peck, Dr. G. M. Meacham, Mrs. Meacham, Mr. Morris Meacham Moulton, Rev. J. Soper, and Mr. Br. Augustus Wood in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. L. W. Eckley, Miss Nellie C. Derrick, Rev. Chas. H. Nelson, Mrs. Nelson, Rev. Chas. D. King, Mrs. King, and Mrs. E. Hastings in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. O. M. Sama, Mr. Y. O. Skordal, Mr. Henrik Seyffarth, Miss S. Clausen, and Miss D. Vestervik in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via ports:—Mr. Leitch and Mr. K. Marshara in cabin; Mr. R. Sipant and Miss Sipant in second class, and 21 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. K. Tsuboi, Miss Tsuboi, and Mr. K. Tsuchiya in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 153 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Barstow, Mr. A. Barstow, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Brady and child, Rev. and Mrs. O. E. Brown, Mr. Barker, Mr. Bollock, Mr. J. C. Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Calvert, Dr. J. P. Dake, Dr. C. Dake and servant, Mr. M. Doran, Mr. J. H. Doran, Colonel Fox, Captain and Mrs. P. de Lemascheffsky, Mr. Fukushima, Mr. H. M. Glidden, Mr. J. H. Inches, Miss J. H. Inches, Mr. McCorkell, Mr. and Mrs. de Rivas, Mr. and Mrs. Rennie, Mr. Paul Schou, Mr. Geo. Thompson, Mr. J. Turukawa, Mr. Winstanley, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Webber in cabin; Mr. T. Kawada, Mr. Milutin, Mrs. Edwards Moore, Mr. S. Ota, Mr. G. H. Potts, Mr. R. Richmond, Mr. T. Terashima, and Miss Warren in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—The Misses Hogg, Mr. and Mrs. Major, child, and nurse, Miss J. E. Reed, Mrs. and Miss Norris, Mrs. J. M. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Sneathage, Dr. W. H. Abercrombie, Rev. J. M. Francis, Captain Hussey, Messrs. C. M. Dimock, P. H. Gill, W. Hellyer, J. Ahrlaub, Rigami, W. Haycock, and Swano in cabin; Mrs. Swano and

child, Mr. Bishop, and Mr. J. P. Dwyer in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Faorw, 3 children, and European nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Mrs. Danby, Mr. and Mrs. H. Oliver, and Captain Retallick in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,000.00.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TBA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.		
Hongkong	—	—	401	401	
Colombo	—	—	45	45	
Foochow	1,671	—	150	1,821	
Shanghai	1,275	580	876	5	2,736
Calcutta	—	—	90	90	
Hyogo	984	1,141	281	—	2,406
Yokohama	2,515	46	—	136	2,697
Total	6,445	1,767	1,157	833	10,202

	NEW YORK	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	5	—	5
Shanghai	136	—	136
Yokohama	956	—	956
Total	1,097	—	1,097

Per British steamer *Loosok*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC	NEW	CHICAGO	OTHER	TOTAL.
	COAST.	YORK.		CITIES.	
Shanghai	430	2,348	2,078	642	5,498
Amoy	—	2,145	—	—	2,145
Hyogo	—	—	2,822	1,707	4,529
Yokohama	311	—	1,499	1,595	3,405
Hongkong	220	—	—	—	220
Total	961	4,493	6,399	3,944	15,797

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	124	—	124
Yokohama	92	—	92
Canton	6	—	6
Total	222	—	222

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 18th September at 10 a.m. and arrived at Shiowtsu at 1.10 p.m. Left again at 4.25 p.m.; passed Oshima the same day at 10.47 p.m.; Omai-saki at 11.20 a.m. and Rock Island at 2.47 p.m. on the 19th; experienced moderate N.E. winds with clear weather to Omai-saki; thence to port strong N.E. winds with overcast sky. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th September at 9.55 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Miyako the 18th September at 5.45 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds and overcast, misty weather and continuous rain; on the 19th at 3 a.m. passed Kinkasan with strong winds and high sea, similar weather and very misty, land obscured, which continued to Noshima; passed Inuboye at 7 p.m. on the 19th and Noshima on the 20th at 3.17 a.m.; at 6.47 a.m. spoke a large junk dismasted, bore down to her and proceeded to take her in tow; while getting a line aboard it carried away, and a Japanese man-of-war bore down to her to render assistance. Left and proceeded on our voyage; at 9.30 passed Kanon-saki strong breeze and misty weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 20th September at 11.21 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Otaru the 16th September at 5 p.m. Arrived at Hakodate the 17th at 12.30 p.m. and left the 18th at 4.30 p.m. Arrived at Oginohama the 19th at 3.30 p.m. and left at 6 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th September at 11 p.m.; experienced moderate winds and fine weather to Hakodate, strong northerly winds and dull cloudy weather to port.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th September at noon; had gentle N.E. winds and fine weather to Tomanga-shima; thence to Oshima gentle N.E. to S.E. winds; passing at 8.55 p.m.; thence to Rock Island with fresh breeze from N.E. with cloudy squalls weather; the 20th at 2.45 a.m. met steamer *Yamashiro Maru* going S.W.; passed Rock Island at 1.40 p.m. with strong N.E. winds and cloudy squally weather; passed Kanon-saki at 7.40 p.m. with a medium gale of wind from N.E., cloudy and overcast with passing rain squalls. Arriving at Yokohama the 20th September at 11 p.m.

The British steamer *Carmarthenshire*, Captain Clark, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th September at 10.30 p.m.; had fine weather and light variable winds to Oshima; thence to Rock Island strong E.N.E. winds attended with light squalls of rain; from Rock Island to port north-east winds and thick weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 21st September at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain

Pyne, reports:—Left Shimonoseki the 19th September at 5.45 a.m.; passed Isa-saki at 7.30 a.m.; experienced light northerly winds and fine weather; thence strong winds varying from east to N.E. and overcast with high confused sea and continued showers. Arriving at Yokohama the 21st September at 2.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 6th September at 4.10 p.m.; in the 10th had westerly winds and head sea; thence to the 20th variable winds and fine weather; thence to port strong N.E. and high sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd September at 4.32 p.m. Passage, 15 days, 6 hours, and 53 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Hogo Maru*, Captain Fukui, reports:—Left Hakodate the 21st September at noon; had light westerly winds and cloudy weather until arrival at Oginohama the 22nd at noon. Left at 3.30 p.m. on same day; had light northerly breeze and rainy weather to Inuboye-saki; thence moderate to fresh breeze and overcast rainy weather, continuing to arrival at Yokohama the 23rd September at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd September at noon; had light breeze and rain freshening to moderate breeze from north and north-eastward; continuing all night and next day with almost incessant rain until arrival in Yokohama the 23rd September at 7.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improvement in the market continues, and sellers are gradually levelling up prices to a more satisfactory range as the demand increases and supplies diminish, fully bearing out the forecast made some little time ago that dealers would not be able to obtain such good bargains after the autumn trade had fairly set in. A good current business has been doing in Yarns at steady prices. Velvets, Prints, and Turkey Reds have been in demand at improved rates. Cotton Italians have been contracted for at higher prices, and Italian Cloth has further advanced on recent sales. In Grey Shirtings and T-Cloths there has not been much new business transacted, the demand being supplied out of sales to arrive, now coming in. Sterling Exchange is quoted 2/10½ for Bank Bills on demand. Sales during the week include 875 bales English Yarn, 25 bales Bombays, 1,250 pieces glb. Shirtings, 300 pieces T-Cloths, 3,500 pieces Prints, 8,800 dozen Handkerchiefs, 6,500 pieces Cotton Italians, 990 pieces Velvets, 7,500 pieces Turkey Reds, 140 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 2,700 pieces Italian Cloths, and 6,000 pieces Mouseline de Laine.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38 yds, 39 inches	1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 34 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.55 to 2.10
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 39 inches	0.13 to 0.16½
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	5.75 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns, 22 yds, 42 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetas, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.34½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0.26 to 0.28
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.23 to 0.25
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.19½ to 0.22
Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.47½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	27.00 to 27.50
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 28.75
Nos. 19/24, Good to Best	27.50 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	28.50 to 29.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	33.75 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	32.00 to 33.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 42s, Two-fold	—
	PER SALE.
No. 30s, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

The only change to note in quotations is in Wire Nails which have again been sought for and prices have hardened, outside quotations being up to *sen*. Other metals are well held.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to ½ inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Demand is good at unchanged rates, a steady business being done, notwithstanding the firmness of sellers. The steamer *St. Andrews* arrived with over 100,000 cases Russian oil, but some of this, we understand, is to be sent to Kobe.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devoc	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Quotations on Brown are raised to-day, Takao especially, being very short of stock. There does not seem to be a great quantity on hand, and holders have been able to take advantage of their strong position. While sales have not been brisk the advance obtained has fully compensated for the few daily transactions. By some a still further advance is looked for.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.80 to 4.00
Brown Daitong	3.60 to 3.80
Brown Canton	3.75 to 3.95
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.50 to 7.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 16th instant. Since then, settlements on the market amount to 2,500 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 227 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,242 piculs; *Re-reels*, 765 piculs; *Kakeda*, 246 piculs; *Oshu*, 20 piculs. There have been no direct shipments during the week, consequently, the total export business remains at the above figures, 2,500 piculs. We have again had another heavy week, large buyers rushing in and putting prices up daily. The chief business seem to have for America, the higher grades, both of *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, being much in demand. As will be seen from our statistics at foot, the available supplies to date form about one half the expected crop, and the season is likely to close early. Best qualities will be extinct much sooner than usual. Holders are now very strong believing in an advance to \$900 per picul for best *Filatures*. In some cases they withdraw their goods from sale and quietly sit down to await events. There is also a good daily business doing for Europe at prices which are well maintained. Cables from consuming markets come in daily saying the prices are too high and that they cannot afford to pay them, but they go on doing it just the same. Altogether we have not seen such lively times since the remarkable season of 1876.

Arrivals come in freely from the interior, but with the heavy buying the stock list is reduced to 6,200 piculs, against 10,500 piculs at the same date last year.

Exchange has remained fairly steady all through the week, the slight decline in silver producing a corresponding effect here.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The Pacific Mail steamer *Peru*, on the 17th instant, carried 1,001 bales for New York, followed by the Canadian steamer *Empress of India* on the 19th, which vessel took 956 bales for the same destination, and the Northern Pacific steamer *Loosok*, which left port on the 20th, with 92 bales also for the American trade. The English mail steamer *Ancona*, on the 17th instant, took 533 bales for Europe. These departures bring the present export up to 13,845 piculs, against 12,560 piculs last year and 3,820 piculs at the same date in the previous year.

Hanks.—A fair amount of business has been done in these, especially for Europe, high prices being freely paid. Crack *Shinshu Hanks* are held for \$675; excellent silks from the same province have been done at \$650; *Chichibu* have brought \$630; *Shibukawa*, \$600; *Hachioji*, \$545. The stock of these is small, being less than 250 piculs, and there is every prospect of prices being well maintained.

Filatures.—This class has had the lion's share of attention, as indeed they have had all through the season, and about one half the settlements

come under this heading. Prices have been still further advanced. Best *Shinshus* have been paid \$840, and are now held for a strong advance. *Kaimisha* has been done at \$830, with other good *Shinshu* brands at the same price. These are now held for \$840, and sellers are very shy, withdrawing their goods from the market expecting an advance ere long to fully \$900 per picul. In fine sizes business continues at long figures. Nothing to note in Extras, but ordinary No. 1/1½ silks are freely taken at \$810. One parcel *Usen* brought \$825; lower grades at proportionate prices.

Re-reels.—These have been in strong request, especially the higher grades. *Fine Girl* chop brought \$775 and are now held for \$815. Equal chops at equal rates. Good medium stock has also been in strong demand and are now hard to find. Dealers talk of \$730 for silk like *Sharusha*. *Bushu* Re-reels have also advanced in the same proportion, and no decent quality can now be obtained at less than \$700 per picul.

Kakeda.—These were more or less neglected in the early part of the week and prices were cheap compared with other classes of silk. The last two days, however, holders have braced up and ask full quotations for anything which they choose to put upon the market.

Oshu Sorts.—These are very strongly held and but little business has been done. One small parcel *Sendai* at \$580, with *Hamatsuki* at corresponding prices.

In Taysaam kinds no business for export.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	645 to 650
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshi)	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	570 to 580
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	530 to 540
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	830 to 835
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	830 to 835
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	730 to 750
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Kakedas—Extra	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 1½	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2½	690 to 700
Kakedas—No. 3	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 3½	640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 4	620 to 630
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	580 to 600
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom.

Export Raw Silk Tables to 23rd Sept., 1892:—

	Season from 1893.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Europe	5,893	4,825	1,274
America	7,673	7,357	2,450
Total	13,566	12,182	3,722
	13,566	12,560	3,820
Settlements and Direct	16,900	13,400	3,650
Export from 1st July	16,900	13,400	3,650
Stock, 23rd September	6,200	10,500	11,900
Available supplies to date	23,100	23,900	15,550

WASTE SILK.

We have had an active week, settlements amounting to 2,500 piculs, divided thus: *Pierced Cocoons*, 223 piculs; *Noshi*, 1,551 piculs; *Kibiso*, 726 piculs.

Immediately after our last issue, the market became very active and almost excited on the news reaching us of a syndicate being formed in Europe to raise the prices of Waste there. One or two large buyers operated heavily here, especially in *Noshi* and *Kibiso* and Japanese at once advanced their prices about \$10 per picul all round, which had the effect of checking business to some extent. They still maintain a very firm attitude, but shippers are somewhat wary and the market is quiet, though very strong.

The *Ancona*, which left port on the 17th instant, carried 92 bales for Europe, and the total export to date amounts to 2,900 piculs, against 3,262 piculs last year and 1,578 piculs at the same date in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—Trade has slowed down, holders trying for an advance on the balance of the stock. Buyers, on the other hand, appear to think that their previous purchases were quite dear enough and for the moment refuse to go on.

Noshi.—Large speculative purchases at a substantial rise in quotations. Good *Oshu* have been done at \$140; buyers now ask \$140. Some *Fila-*

tures were put through at \$120 for medium quality, and ordinary *Yoshu* has been done as high as \$75.

Kibiso.—A smart rise has taken place in quotations here, holders now asking \$110 for best selected *Filatures*. So far as we have heard, the price has not yet been paid, buyers running on lower qualities—from \$90 to \$100. In *Aira* sorts Low Curlies have been done at from \$40 to \$30, according to province and grade.

Mawata.—No business as yet, but a small sample lot of new fibre is said to have come in from the country.

Neri.—Nothing to record in this class. Supplies come slowly to hand, but holders are difficult and the quality of present offerings is not first-class.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	\$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best.....	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shimshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shimshu, Good.....	—
Noshi-ito—Shimshu, Medium.....	—
Noshi-ito—Bashu, Good to Best.....	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	\$75 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	67½ to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	95 to 100
Kibiso—Shimshu, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shimshu, Seconds.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	45 to 40
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good.....	40 to 37½
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 23rd Sept., 1892:—

Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk.....	2,899	3,262
Pierced Cocoons.....	—	1,353
	2,900	3,262
	—	1,378
Settlements and Direct }.....	6,300	4,500
Export from 1st July }.....	13,700	11,350
Stock, 23rd September.....	18,500	14,500

Exchange has been fairly steady, receding a point in sympathy with quotation for Bar silver:—
—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/11; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71; 4m/s. U.S. \$72; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.72.

Estimated Silk Stock, 23rd Sept., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	242	Cocoons.....	1,000
Filatures.....	2,118	Noshi-ito.....	6,600
Re-reels.....	2,442	Kibiso.....	5,865
Kakeda.....	996	Mawata.....	70
Oshu.....	402	Sundries.....	150
Taysam Kinds.....	—		
Total piculs.....	6,200	Total piculs.....	13,700

TEA.

With few arrivals, stocks have been greatly reduced and prices are firmer, but unchanged. A fair, steady business continues.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest.....	\$32 to 33
Choice.....	29 to 31
Finest.....	25 to 27
Fine.....	22 to 24
Good Medium.....	19 to 21
Medium.....	17 to 18
Good Common.....	14 to 16
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady during the week, receding once a point, and closes firm at quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	5.60
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	5.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	3.7½, dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	3.7½, dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73½
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight.....	74½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	69
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	71
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	72
Silver.....	18½

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Terms:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

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Superfine Bird's Eye.
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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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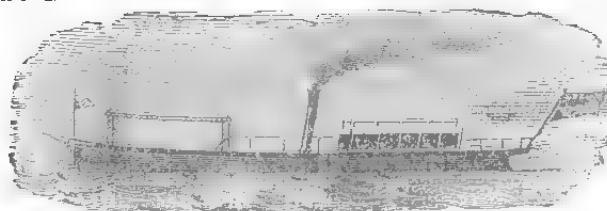
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 14.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 1ST, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
可昭會信週日十三

[VOL. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 1ST, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

At Yokohama, on September 22nd, 1892, before Hon. W. D. HILTON, U.S. Consul General, GEO. ECKLEY, of Hongkong, to Miss NELLIE C. DERRICK, of San Francisco. No cards. Hongkong and San Francisco papers please copy.

DEATH.

At Aoyama, Tokyo, Mrs. J. F. BELKNAP.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A BRANCH of the Nippon Ginko will be established at Hakodate.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU YORIHITO proceeded to Yokosuka on the 24th ult.

COUNT MATSUKATA, ex-Minister President, paid his respects to H.I.M. the Emperor on the 23rd ultimo.

THE residents of Senju, Tokyo, have petitioned the Authorities for the establishment of a telegraphic office in the town.

THE new premises of the Yokohama Town Office are to be built at Yoshida-machi. The work is estimated to cost 30,000 yen.

MR. OYAMA TSUNASUKE, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Austria, was ordered on the 26th ult., to take charge of the Legation.

COUNT MATSUKATA, ex-Premier, and family left the capital on the 27th ult. for Mikage, starting from Shimbashi by the first train.

THE troubles which have been agitating the members of the Yokohama Silk Traders' Union for some time, appear to have been settled.

COLONELS TERAUCHI Seiki, Takahashi Korenori, and Manabe Bu, of Infantry, and Shioya Masakuni, of Artillery, have been appointed Judges of the Autumn Manœuvres of the troops of the

First and Second Army Divisions, which take place in the northern provinces shortly. Some seventeen Assistant Judges have also been nominated.

THE Privy Council has concluded its discussion of the revised Hunting Regulations and the new rules have been laid before the Emperor for approval.

RUMOUR says that the Government has decided to appoint Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, ex-President of the Lower House, Japanese Representative in Italy.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, ex-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, will start from the capital about the beginning of next month on a tour of pleasure in Hokkaido.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes and Princesses Arisugawa, Komatsu, and Kitashirakawa paid their respects to the Emperor and Empress on the 27th ult.

THE rules for the operation of the Parcel Post System were promulgated on the 27th ult. The rules consist of fifty-four articles, and are to be put into force on the 1st inst.

MR. HARA, Chief Commissioner of the Trade Bureau in the Foreign Department, has been ordered to proceed to Korea. His departure is said to be connected with the Quelpart affair.

A TELEGRAPHIC message has been received from Hakodate stating that a fire broke out on the 21st ult. at 10.20 p.m. in a house at No. 26, Ebisucho, and 34 dwellings were burnt down, 6 being partially damaged.

UNO TSUNEZO, an employé of the Shimbashi Station, has been sentenced to seven months' major confinement and six months' police supervision for having stolen a quantity of goods belonging to passengers.

THE public meeting of the Oriental Society (*Toho Kyo-kwai*) held at the Kinki-kwan, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 25th ult. was attended by over three hundred persons. Mr. Ishikawa Yonosuke delivered a lengthy speech relating to his recent visit to Chishima.

DURING August last 1,132 applications for patents were entered at the Patent Bureau, and 974 were granted, for which fees to the amount of yen 1,358.502. were received. Compared with the previous month, the above shows a decrease of 280 applications, 417 patents granted, and yen 369.336 in fees.

THE exhibits to be displayed by the students of the Third Higher Middle School at the Chicago Exhibition were shipped to Tokyo, per the *Hokuriku Maru*. The ship, however, foundered off the shore of Shimoda some time ago, and the pictures and other articles have been damaged beyond repair.

DURING a severe blow on the 8th ult. a fisherman, residing at Isohamacho in Ibaraki Prefecture, who was engaged at work near the shore of East Ibaraki District, was caught in the high waves, and narrowly escaped death. Three of his neighbours who courageously went to the rescue of their friend, were drowned.

A SPECIAL general meeting of shareholders of the Tanko Railway Company, Hokkaido, is to be held in the capital on the 25th of October next, in order to consider a proposition by the Directors for raising a loan of 1,100,000 yen for the Horonai line. They propose to spread this sum over three years, raising, 500,000 yen in 1893, 400,000 yen in 1893, and 200,000 yen in

1894; the debt to be cleared off in twenty-five years commencing 1895. The interest they propose to pay is fixed at not more than 6.5 per cent. per annum.

ON Saturday afternoon, about three o'clock, a processional car, engaged in the *matsuri* of the Shinto Shrine at Noge-yama, was overthrown while proceeding between the second and third divisions of Noge-machi. A man was severely injured, and is now under medical treatment in the Jizen Hospital; three or four persons also were slightly wounded.

MR. WATANABE, Minister of State for Finance, who has applied for the appropriation from the Second Reserve Fund of yen 50,000 toward the expense of bringing into operation the Parcel Post System in Tokyo, and yen 2,209 towards the relief of sufferers in the devastated districts in Tokushima Prefecture, has received the Imperial sanction for both amounts.

MR. KONO, Minister of State for Education, accompanied by Messrs. Tsuji, Vice-Minister; Hamao, Chief Commissioner of the Bureau of Special School Affairs; and Kubota, Chief Commissioner of the Bureau of General School Affairs in the Educational Department, visited the Tokyo Fine Art School and the Tokyo Academy of Music in Ueno Park on the 24th ult.

THE import market has been brisk, and dealers have shown an inclination to operate in a way that they have not done for several seasons past. This is doubtless due to good crops and high prices for exports, added to which stocks have diminished to such an extent that the buying of the last month has not only cleared out most "spot" cargo but a large portion of what is now on the way has already been sold; consequently, as importers have very little to offer at the moment, buyers are prepared to go on and to pay higher rates. Single Yarns have fetched more money, while two-folds have been active at a further advance, and fine counts at a considerable rise, still higher prices being anticipated, the supply being so much reduced. The demand has spread over a great variety of goods, and the sales included 10,000 pieces heavy shirtings, 5,000 pieces Prints, 2,000 pieces Cotton Italians, 50,000 pieces Turkey Reds, 15,000 pieces Italian Cloth, 7,200 pieces Mousseline de Laine, 15,000 pairs Blankets, and large parcels of other fabrics, all at steadily advancing prices or considerably higher rates. In the Metal trade, offers have been made at good figures for future business, but holders decline to let go "spot" cargo for the prices offered, which has restricted business. There is a fair trade in Kerosene, owners of oil being still very strong, and buyers have had to pay full rates. Stocks of Brown Sugar are light, and Takao exhausted, parcels being taken as fast as arrivals come to hand. Whites are also in request and of higher value. The "boom" in Silk has continued, the 2,500 piculs of last week having been exceeded this week, when over 3,000 piculs passed the scales. Prices still continue to rise, and no such figures have been paid since the great "boom" of 1876. Competition to obtain high quality parcels is keen, and the lower grades appreciate proportionately, holders "raising" with a bold front. Waste Silk has not met so strong a demand, the heavy trade of last week—and the figures paid—having steadied buyers. The Tea trade has not been extensive, Common grade leaf being scarce, and most of the transactions took place in Good Medium and Fine sorts. The stock now is small all round, the export already having figured up to nearly 30,000,000 lbs. Exchange has been steady, and closed a point higher than a week ago.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRINCE IWAKURA TOMOSADA.

PRINCE IWAKURA, President of the Board of Decorations, Chamberlain to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor, and Director of the Nobles School for Boys, suddenly presented his resignation of the last post two or three days ago. A certain influential nobleman, hearing the news, at once went to visit the Prince, and asked him his reasons for resigning. The Prince replied that his resignation was dictated by inability to discharge the onerous duties of the school. The visitor, however, not convinced by such an explanation, pointed out that the question of ability to discharge the functions connected with the Directorship of the School ought to have been considered before accepting the post. If, on the other hand, the resignation was caused by ill-health, it could not be helped, though the Prince seemed as strong as ever. There must be some hidden reason; and the questioner pressed for a statement. Prince Iwakura remaining silent, the other went on to ask whether there was any disagreement among the masters under his control, and if not, why one hitherto so zealous in the discharge of his duties should decide to retire so suddenly. The Prince at last abandoned his attitude of reticence, and said:—"Your doubt is just. I intended at first not to disclose the real reason of my sudden resignation, but as you propound so many questions, I shall inform you of it. When the post was offered to me originally, I declined to accept it over and over again, as it is an additional office, and a busy one too. But I was induced to accept it at last. From that day I worked hard to discharge its responsibilities. But recently I heard that two candidates for the office had been discussed in the Cabinet, so before I should be removed *volens volens*, I decided to resign of my own volition. Such is the real reason." The visitor then asked who the candidates were, but the Prince declined to answer, saying that they were both members of the House of Peers. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in recording the above, adds a rumour that the candidates are Viscount General Tani and Prince Konoye. It is whispered that Prince Konoye will be offered the post of Minister to a foreign Power, but some affirm that he is resolved to decline the offer.

THE IDAHO TROUBLES.

It has already been noted that when the intelligence of the Idaho troubles reached Japan, several vernacular newspapers expressed considerable indignation, though some wrote temperately, notably the *Kokkai*, an article from which was translated in these columns. The *Fiji Shimpō* now writes as follows:—"When the news that some hundreds of Japanese had been expelled from Idaho in America reached this country, public indignation was aroused, and in their excitement some went so far as to declare that extreme measures must be adopted against America to wipe away the shame put upon us. The event referred to happened in July, and an account of it was reproduced by us at the time, but the public did not pay much attention to it till a San Francisco journal took up the question under the caption 'Crusade against the Japanese!' It is a common practice with American journalists to magnify small and unimportant news so as to attract public attention. Hence the news published in the San Francisco papers cannot be regarded as an accurate account. But, on the other hand, judging from the usual feelings and conduct of American labourers towards the Japanese, such a trouble might very well have happened, and even in a local paper statements entirely groundless could not be fabricated. Hitherto, however, the relations between Japan and America have been most intimate, so that, even if, most unfortunately, such an unpleasant event happened, the fact must not be lost sight of that it was but a small and comparatively insignificant incident, confined to one portion of America. No possibility should exist of the friendly relations between Japan and America being injured by it. The people con-

cerned in the fracas were low Irish and Italian labourers, who had recently immigrated into America, but were still ignorant of American institutions, as well as of the difference between the Japanese and the Chinese. Such men dislike every one who is not of their own race. Their unique object is to lessen competition so as to raise their own salaries and have plenty of money to spend on whiskey. In a word, they are not capable of considering anything seriously. It is stated that they often give vent to discontent about working hours and wages, and resort to all kinds of nefarious schemes to obtain more pay for less work. Sometimes they push their rowdiness so far as to openly violate the laws of the country. The police then arrest them, but the country being very extensive and the preservation of law and order correspondingly difficult, it is scarcely possible to control such persons effectually. We guarantee that when the news referred to becomes widely known in America the upper classes will be unanimous in their condemnation of the scandalous doings of the rowdies, and will sympathize with the unfortunate sufferers. Such being the case, it is an obviously hasty conclusion to declare that the Americans treat the Japanese as enemies merely because lawless persons have behaved lawlessly in a small country district. It is stated that our Government has already despatched a telegram commissioning our Consul in San Francisco to investigate the facts of the case. Should the investigation confirm what has been reported, then it will not be too late to open negotiations with the United States Government. We deem it ridiculous and contemptible to talk of retaliating by expelling the Americans in Japan, and we trust that both the Government and the people will adopt the most peaceful policy, calmly seeking to settle the trouble and to obtain suitable redress. For no wrong in the world can be buried for ever beyond the reach of atonement. Meanwhile, the question is purely diplomatic. Its solution must be trusted to the Authorities, we on our side watching their procedure quietly. It will be permissible to discuss the result, but it is not permissible to complicate the problem by premature clamour."

TREATY REVISION.

THE public, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, is expecting to see some satisfactory settlement of the Treaty Revision problem by the present Cabinet, but it has to be remembered that the failure of the negotiations has hitherto been due not merely to the assaults of the Opposition but also to disagreement in the ranks of officialdom itself. Hence the new Cabinet is said to be very careful about approaching the question, the desire being to dispose of internal troubles first. Moreover, some apprehension is entertained also about the anti-mixed-residence association, for it numbers among its members or supporters not only the disciples of Mr. Oi Kentaro, but also some Radicals and officials, graduates of the Imperial University and Peers. There is reason to fear that when the negotiations for revision are reopened, these various seclusionists may raise such a commotion as to disturb the solidarity of the Government, and consequently Mr. Mutsu and other members of the Cabinet are chary about burning their fingers.

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This paragraph is evidently penned with the subtle purpose of attributing a pusillanimous rather than a prudent attitude to the Cabinet. For it is evident that, in dealing with such a large question as Treaty Revision, if the Government waited until every section of officialdom and every coterie of politicians could be brought into line, the Greek Kalends would be the date of achievement. Mr. Oi Kentaro and his fellow agitators have of course found sympathisers, and will find more. Success would attend their efforts did they canvass even among the foreign residents, for there are some of these who have declared that the result of any attempt on the part of the foreigner to trade in the interior would be disastrous to him and profitable to the Japanese. Mr. Oi and his seclusionist disciples think that, in free competition, the foreigner would swallow up the Japanese as

Aaron's rod swallowed up the spurious snakes of the magicians; the foreign anti-revisionist believes that he and his rash fellows would fare like the magician's rods if they ventured within reach of the native Aaron. The world has never been entirely without such timid folks, but happily they have not greatly obstructed progress hitherto, and we expect that they will be swept out of the path of Revision without much ceremony.

THE HAKONE DISTRICT.

MR. OGAWA has given us another of his beautiful albums. On this occasion he takes us into the Hakone district, and shows us views of many familiar and exquisite mountain spots, Kiga, Miyanoshita, Sengen-yama, Ojigoku—so forth. The photographs, or rather collotypes, are really admirable, and the letter-press, by Mr. James Murdoch, is pithy, picturesque, and nervous. The two are well matched, and that is saying a great deal. We have, however, one crow to pluck with Mr. Murdoch, if he be responsible for the arrangement of the descriptions. Just as Professors Milne and Burton, in their imposing volume about the great earthquake of 1891, actually forgot to tell their readers the date of that terrible phenomenon, so Mr. Murdoch has virtually forgotten to tell us what scenes the plates in this pretty album represent. It is generally possible, indeed, by perusing the letter-press carefully, to discover the original of the picture described, but even this task is not always successful; while in the case of some plates, XI., XII., and XIII., it cannot be said that any description at all is given, and in the case of another (IX.) the four views grouped into one picture are carefully distinguished in the text by letters (*a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*), but identification is impossible, inasmuch as the letters are not repeated on the picture itself. Probably the printers are chiefly to blame for this slovenly inattention to the principles of lucidity, and we trust that in the albums hereafter to emanate—it is to be hoped—from the same source, Mr. Murdoch will trust nothing to his publishers, but insist upon having a clear descriptive heading printed above the letter-press accompanying every plate. In all respects, save this, the new Album is really a charming work of art. Its success, so far as securing public favour is concerned, ought to be assured.

NEW RAILWAY IN YOKOHAMA.

ONE of the questions of the moment in Yokohama is the construction of a railway in connection with the new harbour-works. The Kanagawa Kencho sought the opinion of the Town Council on the subject, and the President of the Council having submitted the project for discussion, a Committee was elected to examine and report upon it. The *Fiji Shimpō* gives details of subsequent proceedings. It says that on the 18th ultimo, Mr. Uchida, Director of the Home Affairs Department in the Kanagawa Kencho, addressed the following despatch to the President of the Yokohama Town Council:—"Sir,—In accordance with the original arrangement, a railway is to be constructed from the newly made landing place of the Yokohama harbour-works to the Yokohama Station, as shown in the plan enclosed herewith. In respect of this purpose the Harbour-works Bureau has requested us to notify the fact to all persons interested. We therefore beg to request that the Town Council will cause an estimate to be made showing the amount of money required for the purchase of land or for compensation to its proprietors. You are also requested to offer your opinion on the general question. Further, we beg to inform you that the stone walls along the sea-front, except those belonging to private persons, will be used for the purposes of the works as previously arranged. We trust that the estimate will be compiled at your earliest convenience. We remain," etc. The line mentioned in the above is from the landing place to the station. Its construction will greatly enhance the value of the harbour, but will, on the other hand, probably compel those engaged in transport by sea to abandon their business, and will

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also entail important consequences for the Japan Mail Steamship Company. Such being the case, the Committee investigated the question very carefully; and as some 18 *tsubo* of land belonging to the Japan Mail Steamship Company, and 212 *tsubo*, the property of Mr. Den Kinsaku, must be purchased, as well as various public buildings along the Japanese *hatoba*, due notice was given to the owners who were requested to forward statements of the prices demanded by them. It is rumoured that the Committee having examined these statements very carefully, and reconsidered the whole subject, came to the conclusion that it would be better to reclaim a portion of the coast for the purpose of constructing the proposed line. Against such arrangement the *Fiji* does not think that any opposition would be offered.

RUSSIA AND THE SEALS.

As our telegrams to-day contain a message in reference to the capture of British vessels by Russia, we reproduce the following telegram—a somewhat mysterious communication—from Washington to a Californian paper:—"No one connected with the State Department cares to say anything, officially or privately, in the matter of the seizure by the Russian Government of certain American sealing vessels, owing to the absence of the Secretary of State. A gentleman who is an authority in international law, however, and who has frequently been consulted by the State Department ventures the opinion that unless there has been some gross outrage permitted upon the American seamen by the Russian authorities, our government is not likely to take any action in the matter for these reasons. So far as the facts are understood the probability is that the Russian Government, in making these seizures, have acted in accordance with the interpretation which the United States claims should be given to the rights of Russia and of this country in the waters of Behring Sea. In other words, the probability is that the action of the Russian Government is the interpretation of the rights of the United States under the cession of Alaska to this country, which will be maintained by the United States before the Behring Sea arbitrators. In common language, therefore, unless the attitude of Russia is entirely misunderstood here, the Czar has come to the aid of the United States in the preparation of its case for the board of arbitration. The reverse of all this is, of course, true so far as Great Britain is concerned. Russia, in making these seizures, seems to have proceeded upon an assumption which Great Britain maintains is untenable. In the absence of more definite information this is the best opinion that can be obtained here as to the probable effect of the action of Russia upon this government."

ANOTHER BY-ELECTION.

Mr. KATO MASACHI, member of the House of Representatives for the Sixth Election District of Aichi Prefecture, having resigned his seat, a by-election took place on the 22nd September. Mr. Kato Kiyemon, Radical, Mr. Aoki Eiji, ex-member of the House of Representatives and an affiliate of the Tomoye Club; and Mr. Ito Harutaro, Independent, competed for the seat. The ex-member, Mr. Kato Masachichi, was an independent, but in view of the influence developed by the Radicals in the district, he urged his supporters to vote for Mr. Aoki Eizo. The result, however, was: Mr. Kato Kiyemon (Radical) 1,942 votes, Mr. Aoki Eiji (Tomoye) 42 votes. The Tomoye Club, as our readers probably remember, is an off-shoot of the *Taiseikai*, or Independents, and though not pledged to any line of policy, its members generally voted with the Government. Nevertheless, it is not regarded as a pro-official organization, and the object of the retiring member, in seeking to transfer his supporters to an associate of the Club, was doubtless of the nature of a compromise, his conviction being that a declared Independent, like Mr. Ito Harutaro, had no chance whatever in the face of the Radicals' influence. It would appear from the above return that Mr. Ito obtained no votes at all, but that is scarcely credible. At all

events, the issue of the four by-elections recently held is to transfer three votes from the Government to the Opposition, a difference of six in a division. This, however, is on the hypothesis that the various parties vote as heretofore, and that the *Kaishin-to* and *Fiji-to* remain in the same camp—two decidedly doubtful suppositions.

THE "MYRMIDON."

THE *Singapore Free Press* says the steamer *Laertes* arrived at Singapore about 1.30 p.m. on the 9th inst. having in tow the steamer *Myrmidon*. The *Myrmidon* left Suez on the 5th August, and notwithstanding the rough weather and the high seas, continued to make good progress, averaging 11½ knots an hour, until the time of the breakdown on the 19th August. She had a strong monsoon all the way across the Indian Ocean, but she passed Point de Galle all right on the 18th ult., with a fresh breeze blowing, accompanied by rain and an overcast sky. Next day the propeller shaft snapped clean off at the stern post, and the remainder of the journey, until she was taken in tow by the *Laertes*, had to be performed under canvas. On the morning of the 21st ult., the ship broached to and a sea anchor had to be rigged before they could get her off before the wind again. Pulau Rondo was reached on the 27th ult., and on the 4th September the *Myrmidon* anchored off Pulau Butong, being unable to get further to the south on account of adverse winds and currents. A boat was then sent out to Penang in charge of the second officer, Mr. Thompson, that place being reached on the 6th inst. The *Laertes* was then sent out to her aid, and no further incident occurred until she reached the wharf, after an interval of three weeks reckoning from the time the breakdown occurred. The *Myrmidon* will go into dock after unloading her cargo. She brought only three passengers, two, Mrs. Leask and Mr. Baird for Singapore, and Mr. Van Raay for Sourabaya.

A DEPUTATION.

A VERY pretty deputation waited on Count Inouye at the Home Office on Friday week. Its members came from Shizuoka, forty-three of them, and instead of proceeding on foot, or even riding two and two in *jinrikisha*, as is the custom with economical and modest Japanese, they hired, every one, a *jinrikisha* for himself, and, in forty-three of these vehicles, dashed up to the Department, the *kuruma* that led the van being adorned with a flag which flaunted somewhat limply in the pouring rain. These gentlemen came to the capital as representatives of the Shizuoka farmers, and their purpose was to impress upon the Minister of State for Home Affairs the urgent necessity of re-assessing the taxable value of land. They had provided themselves with a huge card, on which were inscribed, in legibly large ideographs, the full names of the whole forty-three, and this missive they handed to the astounded officials on duty as though its aspect must suffice to remove all obstacles. The domestic affairs of the empire are at present transacted in a wooden building, neither imposing nor spacious, and a difficulty was at once experienced in the fact that no reception room sufficiently ample to house this huge deputation offered itself. The largest available chamber of the kind was, however, placed at their disposal, and into it as many as could find space packed themselves, the remainder tailing off into the corridor. Probably, having obtained admission to the precincts of the Department, the forty-three processionists thought themselves secure of an interview. But they were mistaken. They had not waited long before Mr. Sato, one of Count Inouye's Private Secretaries, penetrated the crowd, and informed them that, in view of their disorderly and unbecoming manner of presenting themselves, the Minister would not see them, and had, moreover, forbidden any official of the Department to give them an interview. The men of Shizuoka were considerably excited by the message, and began to remonstrate vehemently with Mr. Sato, but he paid no attention to their words

and quietly withdrew from the room. The deputation thus found itself in something of a dilemma, for to be in the room of a Department of State with the consciousness of complete isolation from all the officials of the Department was a situation not very favourable to the interests of the reassessment of the taxable value of land. After an interval of hesitation and perplexity forty of the processionists withdrew, leaving three of their number to represent them. These three obtained speech once more of Mr. Sato, but their request to be introduced to the Minister had to be refused, Count Inouye being engaged. They left the Department considerably crestfallen, the manner of their departure offering a striking contrast with the clatter and flaunt of their advent.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHOLERA.

THREATENED with an invasion of cholera, the United States Authorities have resorted to measures which not every Power could venture to imitate: they have subjected to medical inspection every ship coming from Europe, whether or no its port of exit, or any of its ports of call, was infected. Some folks will call this an arbitrary proceeding, no doubt, but the preservation of life is a consideration far higher than any pretty principles of personal liberty. The *New York Herald* probably expresses the sentiment generally prevailing in the American capital on the subject of preventive measures. It writes:—

If there is any one thing in the world on which the doctors seem to agree it is the proposition that cholera is generated by a specific infectious material which comes from India only.

Professor Virchow said that this proposition was so firmly established in Germany now, that you could scarcely get a dissenting opinion on the subject. The diffusion of the poison material has no reference whatever to the velocity or direction of the wind. In no instance whatever has its rate of progress exceeded that of a man on land or water, nor has it ever taken a direction different from commercial or military movements. On land it has crept from place to place, and though it has sometimes seemed to overleap the sea it has never invaded any inland town or seaport without first having been brought there from a point already affected with the disease. More than this, experience has proved that it can generally be quarantined with success. Of fourteen epidemics of cholera that have reached our Quarantine station at Staten Island, all but four were prevented from reaching the city.

When cholera does overleap the quarantine barriers, the doctors say the reason can always be traced without much difficulty. It has done so because of some neglect, criminal or criminally careless, on the part of some one connected with the cordon of health.

There is little doubt that the main channel of infection, the one through which cholera is generally disseminated, is drinking water; water which has been contaminated by the specific germs of the disease. The specific cause is thus taken into the alimentary canal, and thus acts directly upon the parts which are to be affected. Given pure drinking water, and one-half of the danger is gone, but there are still other ways by which the poison may be spread, if the authorities give it a chance to start.

You cannot catch cholera any more than you can that devil's offspring, typhoid fever, merely by poverty, filth, crowding, and depression of spirits, all of which have been named as predisposing causes, though you can materially aid its progress by means of them. The same holds true of all contaminating diseases. Anything which tends to weaken the constitution opens the doors to infection. Drunkards, therefore, are in a better state to receive infection than men of abstemious habits, though the fact that they drink but little water is an element of safety to gentlemen of convivial habits. Still there is the happy mean of mineral waters, which leave no excuse for either cholera or intoxication to creep in.

But it is not bad water alone which is friendly to the disease. Bad air is a great help. Insalubrity of climate gives the epidemic a big boost. The great houses standing on the backbone of New York, along Fifth avenue, are much safer places in case of a visit from the epidemic than are the tenements of the lower east or west side streets. The rich never are affected in any like proportion to the poor. And in battling with the disease the doctors have always found that they made no material progress until they had improved the hygienic conditions of the people who were suffering.

First, keep cholera away from you by establish-

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ing a quarantine cordon that will not be fooled, and which makes no exceptions to its rules for safety. It must hold suspected ships and their crews and cargoes until they have been cleaned beyond a peradventure of infection. This is the first and great rule, and the second is like unto it:—

You must keep yourself away from cholera. To do this be clean, be sober, be calm. Do not run away at the first whisper of danger, for fright is one of the best conductors of disease known to the doctors. See not only that your own property is in a condition to delight the sanitary inspector, but your neighbour's also. If the latter's be not so, send in a complaint by first mail to the Board of Health. By this means you will be showing that you love your neighbour as yourself.

Look to your plumbing. Better a big plumber's bill in the house than Asiatic cholera. Do not overload your stomach, Eschew trash. Drink no water which is suspicious. But don't drink whiskey on the plea that it is a preventive. If you must disinfect your insides take carbolic acid plain. It is a quicker death and a more decent one than drunkenness.

Do not derange your digestion. It is opening the door to cholera, as any good doctor will tell you.

Above all, don't worry yourself into a fever before the disease gets a foothold.

RESULT OF BY-ELECTIONS.

As Mr. Hirayama Yasuhiko, pro-Government member of the House of Representatives, returned by the First Election District of Hiroshima Prefecture, was lately appointed Local Governor of Akita Prefecture, and consequently resigned his seat in the House, a by-election was held on the 20th ultimo. The ballot-box was opened on Thursday last and the result was published as follows:—

Mr. Fujita Takayuki 497 votes.

Mr. Toyota Sanehide 383 votes.

Mr. Fujita Takayuki, the successful candidate, is a member of the *Kaishin-to*, and one of the Directors of the Fifteenth National Bank.

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Lately two other by-elections took place, the one in the Nihonbashi District of Tokyo, and the other in the Seventh Election District of Hiroshima Prefecture. In the former Mr. Kusumoto, a Radical, obtained a victory over Mr. Yasuda, a pro-Government candidate, and in the latter Mr. Mayeda, a Radical, defeated Mr. Satake, who stood in the official interest. Thus the Popular Party has been successful in three by-elections. Two of the seats in question were previously occupied by Government supporters, namely, the First District of Hiroshima, by Mr. Hirayama, and the Seventh District of the same Prefecture, by Mr. Nagai Matsutaro. The result of these by-elections is consequently a clear gain of two seats by the Opposition, making a difference of four in a division.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

SOME time ago we explained that the result of Mr. de Guerville's visit to Tientsin, an arrangement had been proposed and agreed to semi-officially, by which China, while adhering to her resolve not to take any national part in the World's Fair so long as the American exclusion laws remained in force, would nevertheless avail herself of the opportunity to advertise her manufactures and productions. The scheme suggested was that the Government should announce its intention of remitting all export duties on goods destined for the Fair, thus not only affording material aid to intending exhibitors, but also removing all doubt as to the empire's friendly attitude. We observe that this project has assumed practical reality. The *World's Fair Notes* contains the following paragraph:—"Ho Shen Chee, translator and attaché of the Chinese legation at Washington, has visited Chicago for the purpose of becoming familiar with World's Fair matters, and making arrangements for Chinese exhibits. The Chinese government has made no World's Fair appropriation, because such action is contrary to its policy, but it will aid exhibitors by remitting the heavy export duties on articles sent for exhibition, and will otherwise encourage the making of a Chinese exhibit. Ho Shen Chee says that his government desires to advertise its wares, and fully

realizing that all nations are to be well represented at Chicago, will not allow the exclusion law to interfere with a creditable showing of its own goods."

* * *

Here are some further particulars of interest with regard of the Fair:—

California is to be honoured by having a section of one of her famous big trees made a prominent feature in the Government building at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago. The project, the accomplishment of which is fully assured, is a unique one. The section of the tree will be twenty-three feet in diameter and thirty feet long. This will be divided into three parts and these will be placed in their natural position, one above the other and so arranged as to form something like a two-storey house. The contract for the tree was made by H. A. Taylor of the Department of the Interior with the King's River Lumber Company in the spring of this year, and the company is now at work getting it out in their forest of *sequoia gigantea* in the Converse basin on Kings river in Fresno county. The contract called for a tree twenty feet six inches in diameter, but the tree actually found will be three feet greater in diameter. There are, of course, larger trees in the forest, but the requirement was that this section should be perfect in all respects, cylindrical, straight, and without a turn in the bark, and this was the largest found to fill all these conditions. The tree selected is one known as the "General Noble." It measures thirty-three feet in diameter near the ground, but as the object was to have the section of the same diameter at both ends, as nearly as possible, a piece is being taken out of the tree at some distance from the ground. To do this and to preserve the section from harm by falling as well as to meet other requirements has proved to be a work of considerable magnitude. The idea is not to send a solid section, but, rather, the rim of the tree hollowed out and cut into segments of suitable size, and all to be numbered so that they can be erected at Chicago, so as to look from the exterior like a solid section of a *sequoia* thirty feet in height. The three parts into which the section in being cut consist of two parts of fourteen feet each, to be hollowed out, and one, two feet thick, which will serve as a floor between the two stories, as it were. The work of cutting, lowering, and boxing the segments is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and it is expected that the tree will all be shipped by the end of October. To get the tree to a point where waggons can reach it required the building of a road two miles long. The entire exhibit, including the work, will cost the Government several thousand dollars. The tree when erected at Chicago will be surrounded by a glass dome, and will stand directly under the great dome of the Government building.

* * *

The bust of the Queen upon which the Princess Louise has been engaged for some months, and which her Royal Highness has, with her Majesty's consent, promised to send to Chicago for exhibition at the World's Fair, is now complete. It is a notable example of the Princess' skill, and, standing in the Queen's boudoir, at Osborne, it has attracted much attention among members of the Royal Family. The Princess has also been at work upon some pictures which are intended for Chicago, and these, it is said, will, after the Exhibition, be sold, the proceeds being given to some of the charitable institutions in this country in which she takes so much interest. Of all the daughters of the Queen, Princess Louise is the best artist, though she is closely run by Princess Beatrice.

MATSURI AT NOGE-YAMA.

THE Shinto Temple of Ise, at Noge-yama, held high *matsuri* on Saturday and Sunday last, and on each occasion the grounds surrounding the shrines were crowded. The ostensible motive for the ceremony was the completion of the repairs to the *Torii* of the Shokon Monument which stands within the precincts of the temple, and which work has been superintended by the *Chiu Kon Kuai*. The weather was all that could be desired, the sun shining out right gloriously upon the gaily decorated processional cars as they wound their way, with their straggling hosts of attendants, through the adjacent streets. At two o'clock a memorial service for all foreigners who have died in Japan—"whether they came here for their own interests, or to introduce Western civilization into the country, or have received their death from cruel Japanese swords or have been drowned in Japanese waters," so ran the announcement—was quietly celebrated. Long ere it finished the happy throngs had left the priests to themselves and adjourned to the fencing and wrestling ring. There were many foreigners among the assembly, and they appeared to derive much satisfaction and fun from the spirited displays. In addition to the ordinary bamboo-sword fencing, a bout with

sharpened swords took place; the combatants were in old *samurai* armour, but the encounter was very tame, in fact rather disappointing. The wrestling (*jingetsu*) was animated, the men putting in more rough-and-tumble work than do the professional wrestlers. A dance with a two edged sword followed, the affair concluding with a representation of a fight during the Satsuma Rebellion,—a very spirited set-to indeed, in which each side endeavoured to capture a flag. A band was in attendance during the afternoon, while the committee of the *Chiu Kon Kuai* hospitably entertained their foreign visitors with tea and other light refreshments. Altogether the affair passed off most successfully, the *torii* was duly admired and critized, while most foreigners present expressed high delight at the extremely pretty views of land and seascape which are to be obtained from the summit of Noge-yama.

THE NOBLES.

READERS of these columns are aware that since the opening of the Diet many political parties have been formed among the nobles in the empire. The constant friction between the two principal of these parties, the *Sanyo-Kai* and the *Kenku-Kai*, is carried to extremes at the election of members of the Diet, with the not infrequent result that friendships as old as feudal days are abruptly severed. Some of the peers, grieved at this untoward state of affairs, have been attempting to correct it. According to the *Yui Shimpō*, seven or eight members of the *Kenku-Kai* have resigned from the association, and are endeavouring to form a new and independent party. Rumour has it that nearly all the Viscounts belonging to the *Sanyo-Kai* have left that body and united themselves with the new independent members, so that the number of the latter already amounts to over 30. But the association being organized by Viscounts only, other nobles are not allowed to join it.

CONTINUED RIOTING IN THE STATES.

REPEATED references in these columns to the state of affairs in North America, more particularly in the U.S., gives us a glimpse only of the seriousness attending the riots at Homestead, Buffalo, and certain districts in Tennessee. The parties who angrily claimed, one that Mr. Hayes, the other that Mr. Tilden, had been elected President of the U.S., almost plunged that Republic into a revolution, and could only be pacified when Congress took action in the matter affecting them. Since then there have been no difficulties of such magnitude and far reaching significance as those of the present year. The troops with loaded guns at Homestead and Buffalo are there because their presence is necessary to warrant a measure of peace, and stay further and more serious calamities. In Tennessee, where the convict labour law—a species of slavery—is in force, the state militia met with resistance from the miners, who had been driven from their work by convict labourers, and the troops were defeated in open battle. Had it not been for cooler and wiser heads than those of an unskilled Governor, the results of this defeat might have proved disastrous in the disturbed condition of affairs there. Re-enforcements were called into the field, and after much deliberation the miners were pacified, but not until they had received intimation that the convicts working in the mines should be withdrawn, and the miners allowed to earn their bread without such competition. Such riots will and must be settled, and the instigators punished, or the fair name of "the land of the free and the home of the brave" will be seriously tarnished. To do this however, certain obstacles, placed by law in the way of honest workmen, must be removed.

PRINCE IWAKURA'S RESIGNATION.

IN a previous issue we published an account of the resignation of Prince Iwakura, taken from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. The fact is now confirmed by several of the vernacular newspapers. They say that as Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, is absent from the capital on a tour in Hokkaido, the petition of the Prince was presented to the Emperor by Mr.

Original from

Hanabusa, Vice-Minister, but that there is no prospect of its being granted easily. Meanwhile it is rumoured that Marquis Tokudaiji, Lord Keeper of the Seals, is advising the Prince to abandon his intention. Rumour affirms, however, that if the resignation be accepted, certain influential members of the Government will recommend Viscount General Soga, while others are strongly in favour of Mr. Otori Keisuke, now Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in China, who occupied the position in former times. Mr. Otori is considered the more likely of the two. All this militates strongly against the suggestion, circulated by the *Yomiuri*, that Prince Iwakura's resignation was in effect a forced step, in order to anticipate his removal by the Government who wished to bestow his post on a member of the Opposition. The Government evidently has no desire to remove the Prince, nor any project of utilizing his post for political purposes.

FEMALE HIGHER EDUCATION.

As female education advances in Japan, a number of young ladies begin to talk about "women's rights," or to bandy some of the stock phrases so trite in Europe and America. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* relates an amusing tale on this subject. It says that Mrs. Kono, wife of a leading member of the *Yiyu-to*, is known to be an extremely clever lady. Her resolute and shrewd acts have often astonished her husband and the public at large. She lately proposed to start a Female Club, with the object of extending the power of the fair sex. In this project she was supported by Mrs. Ito, wife of Mr. Ito Daihachi, a Radical member of the House of Representatives. Desiring to secure the co-operation of a large number of ladies, Mrs. Kono lately called on a certain friend in Kojimachi, the wife of an unsuccessful candidate in the last general election. This friend also is known to be a clever and well educated woman, but she preserves the old customs of the country, and dislikes any exhibition of forwardness on the part of a female. Mrs. Kono said to her:—"Judging from present circumstances, success cannot be achieved in any direction unless a large number of persons unite to compass it. Just as politicians require to co-operate harmoniously, so their wives also must unite to assist them. Lately Mrs. Hatoyama aided her husband in his canvass, and the result was his return by a large majority. With a cognate object we seek to promote the organization of a Female Club, and I have come to ask you to support it by becoming a member." The other lady listened to the above very gracefully, and then replied:—"I thank you for your kind suggestion, but my education has not reached a standard sufficiently high for your purpose. I am now learning the management of domestic affairs, such as the drawing of water, the washing of rice, the nursing of children and so forth. I am afraid I am not a suitable candidate for such a club." Mrs. Kono was at first confounded and chagrined by this reply, but a little reflection convinced her that her friend was a true wife, and that words apparently spoken ironically were in truth deserving of all praise. She went away crest-fallen but wiser.

A NEW WEAPON FOR ANARCHISTS.

SCIENCE seems to be helping ruffianism more earnestly than ever. We read of a newly devised infernal machine which, if it be at all like the description given of it, will add tremendously to the risks of sovereigns and politicians. The invention is thus spoken of in the *New York Sun*:

After years of labour the Russian nihilists have at last succeeded in inventing a perfectly satisfactory infernal machine. The model was finished in London a few days ago, and a report which has reached this country says that those who examined it pronounce it as perfect a death dealing instrument as could be devised. The machine is sixteen centimetres in height and four in width. It is rectangular in shape, portable, and looks somewhat like a small book. Even when charged it can be carried with the utmost safety in the breast pocket of a coat, and no one but the initiated would ever imagine that it was anything but a bulky purse. When the time for action comes the nihilist can take it out of his pocket, place it where the explosion is to occur and then calmly walk off to a place of safety. At the appointed moment the machine will

explode without the aid of clockwork or even of a lighted match.

Instead of dynamite a secret explosive is used and with this the bottom of the machine is filled. Over the explosive is placed a detonator, which consists of a chemical product and is set on fire by coming in contact with a drop of some secret liquid. A glass ball holds this liquid and, when an explosion is desired, all that is necessary is to let it trickle drop by drop through a tube, at the lower extremity of which is the small chemical mass resting on the explosive.

When the machine is turned upside down so that the glass ball is at the bottom no explosion can take place, but when the machine is held upright so that the liquid can trickle down to the detonator an explosion is bound to follow.

In the eyes of revolutionists the merit of this machine lies in the fact that it can be operated without any danger to the operator. Moreover, it is always ready and can be regulated to a moment. Heretofore clockwork or a lighted match was necessary to produce an explosion and the result was that, once set going, the machine could not be stopped. This new machine, however, can be stopped at any moment before the explosion takes place. After placing it in position the operator may decide to postpone the shake-up for a while, and then all that will be necessary for him to do will be to turn the infernal device upside down and put it back in his pocket.

He will run absolutely no risk in handling the machine, for by means of the five plugs of blotting paper in the glass tube he can determine the very moment at which the explosion is to take place. If he allows the liquid to trickle very quickly, he may confidently expect an explosion in five minutes, whereas, if he uses five plugs of blotting paper, he may reckon on a full hour for flight before the liquid touches the detonator.

Nihilists consider the invention of this machine almost as important as the invention of dynamite and are very anxious to learn what steps the authorities will take to guard themselves from it. When dynamite bombs came into use among anarchists the authorities in France and other countries placed many restrictions on the sale of dynamite, and it is assumed in revolutionary circles that they will pursue the same policy now and by restricting the sale of dangerous chemicals and explosives render it difficult, though hardly impossible, for their implacable enemies to do much harm with this new instrument of destruction. What will make their task especially difficult is the fact that they do not know what kind of explosive and liquid is used in the new machine, and nihilists are determined that they shall not be enlightened on this point.

B.B.'S.

SOME three or four years ago an alarm was raised that the celebrated bed-bug of the west had found its way to Japan. It had made its debut, said a vernacular newspaper, in Tsukudajima prison, and of course there seemed no hope of preventing it from becoming a permanent resident of Japan. But something seems to have blighted the career of that pioneer colony of bed-bugs. They have disappeared from public notice, and we are tempted to hope that some effectual means of eradicating them were found. If they ever do manage to establish themselves here, it will be a bad look out, for there is ample room to accommodate them in the fleas' tenement between the mats, and the abode is ideal for both offensive and defensive purposes. The subject is recalled by an American journal's account of a new fashion of bed, devised solely to circumvent the bug. It is of iron, and the rails are concealed inside the mattress, which rests on shoulders attached to the head and foot of the bedstead. To the description is appended the Kentucky editor's couplets:—

The June bug hath a gaudy wing,
The lightning bug a wing of flame;
The b. b. hath no wing at all,
But he gets there all the same.
The June bug leaves in June,
The lightning bug in May;
The b. b. takes her bonnet off
And says, "I've come to stay."

SEQUAH'S ENTERTAINMENT.

"CHARITY never faileth," was the motto which headed the programmes of the entertainment given by Sequah on Monday evening, in the Public Hall,—as a testimonial to the Yokohama circle of the King's Daughters,—and a more appropriate text could scarcely have been found. It was most fitting to the occasion, a fact which the crowded state of the hall bore adequate testimony to. Yokohama is seen at its best whenever any charitable scheme is underweigh, and concerts or entertainments given on behalf of any association which has for its object the relief of the sick or suffering always receive hearty support and practical approval at the

hands and pockets of its cosmopolitan community. The entertainment on Monday evening passed off most successfully in every particular, Sequah's card tricks especially evoking loud applause. His swiftness of Indian clubs was a striking exposition of the science of muscular exercise reduced to a fine art. He is a thorough master of his instruments, and the dextrous display which he gave last evening forcibly demonstrated the rare powers of endurance which he possesses. Though modestly laying claim to only an amateur's acquaintance with conjuring, he thoroughly delighted his audience with his tricks of legerdemain and rope-tying. In regard to the latter he managed to tie himself up tightly within 32½ secs. effecting an escape within 20 secs. "The flags of all nation's" was very pretty and clever. Sequah was assisted in the musical portions of his programme by several local amateurs, and all their efforts were well received. The items they contributed were as follows:—Overture, "Othello" (Rossini), Messrs. Kiel and Griffin; "Lied ohne Worte," encored (Terschak), flute, M. de Micheaux, piano Mr. Kiel; song, encored, air from "Trovatore" (Verdi), M. Launay; song, "Voque Toujours" (Senée), M. Launay; Andante and Allegretto on English Melodies (Terschak), flute, M. de Micheaux, piano, Mr. Kiel. During the evening a beautiful basket of flowers were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Sequah on behalf of the King's Daughters as a mark of their appreciation of his kindness in promoting the affair. The funds of the Association should be materially benefitted by the performance; those who contributed towards the result have the satisfaction of knowing that they will be devoted to a most worthy object. We ought not to forget to mention the services rendered by the band attached to the Grand Hotel, which was stationed in the vestibule; their musical standard has reached a very creditable level, and one or two of their pieces were most sympathetically handled, while a corner solo drew forth hearty expressions of pleasure.

FRAUDS.

SOMEBODY wrote long ago, "Man is man's prey," and the truism obtains to-day the force it had centuries back. Perhaps few persons as a class are so often pestered with petty attempts at fraud as are newspaper managers. It would fill a column to give a list of persons who, in the course of a decade, were highly desirous of advertising, especially "in your journal." There are the enterprising individuals who desire a sample copy of the paper, under a pretence of subscribing after learning the terms; then there are other enterprising persons who will send no end of advertisements on learning the scale and receiving copies of the paper—some go the length of requesting a dozen copies or a continuous supply in order to "submit the paper to our clients," &c. Some of these requests are so cleverly made as to almost ward off suspicion, at least upon a first reading, but put by for a day or two and read a second time, the fraudulent intention generally becomes apparent. Without the smallest notice being taken of their communications, some of these deluded people prefer the same request and enclose the same advertisement with the regularity of the departure of the mail, notably the agents—real or pretended—of lotteries in Central and South America and more than one large city in Europe. Quack doctors mostly send forth their attempts at gratis advertising from Paris and other continental cities, offering a consignment of their wares in return—at some future period—or expressing their willingness to exchange their physic for the "products of your country, all charges duly paid," &c. Perhaps the collecting of postage stamps in recent years, has added more to the newspaper manager's weight of mail than any one branch of what may be termed bogus correspondence. Hence the numerous applications for used stamps "of your country," in return for which a "magnificent article de Paris will be sent." As there are regular methods and channels for bona fide business, of course it stands to reason that ninety-nine out of every hundred of such applications are frauds pure and simple. To

say that such attempts are made from China to Peru would be no exaggeration, for, leaving out Continental cities—always a prolific source—we have during the last few days received advertisements from such far distant places as Beyrouth and Chicago. It might be asked what object the writers of many of these letters have in expending time and postage in this way. Outside the class who try to get an advertisement for which they never intend to pay are those who are making a collection of the newspapers of the world—this is the latest fad—and others who attempt to get letters and papers merely for the sake of postage stamps placed upon them. We are induced to make these remarks through the receipt of an "order" from Chicago, which we reproduce below. This "order" comes from the "United Artists' Association," and the advertisement is headed "Portraits—Crayon, Water Color, and Pastel." Of course there is a "drawing" in the affair. The holder of the lucky number will be entitled to a first class round trip ticket to the World's Fair from any railway station and \$300 (U.S. gold of course) in addition, to say nothing of the chance of winning a buggy (two seated by-the-by), numerous gold watches, &c., &c. No one but the veriest tyro could fail to see through this appeal, and were bogus advertisers generally to imitate their epistles in the strain of the following, no newspaper manager would require to set it aside for consideration, but would instantly consign it to the capacious receptacle always handy:—

Chicago, Ill., U.S.A., Aug., 25th, 1892.
"Editor" Japan Mail, Asia.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed please find and let us know how much you will charge us for the insertion of same for one year, but insert at once and let us know what the amount will be and we will remit at once do not wait until you hear from us to insert the ad in your paper but insert at once, as it takes such a long time for our answer to reach you.

Please insert at once, and send us your lowest prices for the insertion for one year, and if not too high we will insert our ad in your paper for one year.

Yours truly,

UNITED ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE WEATHER.

THE extraordinary spell of cold raw weather which has prevailed throughout the country during the past week, is attributed by the *Fiji Shimpō* to the recent typhoon, which travelled from Korea via the Japan Sea to Hokkaido, producing along its track an atmospheric rarefaction into which the cold air from the north has swept to restore equilibrium. The rapid precipitation of moisture caused by this phenomenon has helped to accentuate the cold. It is not to be expected, of course, that this state of affairs will continue. The genial, balmy days of a Japanese autumn will doubtless revisit us soon again, though the indications recorded at the Central Observatory do not point to any rapid change. Meanwhile, there has been much suffering among delicate folk. The thermometer fall between Sunday and Monday last from 12° to 15° (C.) and though such a change might not be so severely felt were it from great to intense heat, or from sharp to freezing cold, it is decidedly difficult to support when it signifies a sudden transition from the balmy warmth of late summer to the raw chilliness of early winter.

ANTI-CHRISTIAN OFFICIALS.

SOME time ago rumours began to be circulated that the Governor of Kumamoto had interfered to check Christianity in a manner plainly at variance with the Constitution. The particular action charged against him was that he had convened the Divisional Headmen of the Prefecture, and warned them to be careful that teachers in Primary Schools did not attach themselves to political parties, or associate with converts to Christianity. As an indirect outcome of the spirit educated by this injunction, the Principal of the Yamaga Upper Primary School interfered, it is alleged, to prevent the study of the Bible by four of the students, and subsequently expelled one of them for refusing to observe the interdict. Incredible as these stories seemed, they have now received confirmation and been brought into prominence by the publication of an open letter, said to have been written and signed by certain well-known

Christians in Kumamoto as an appeal, not only to the Authorities, but also to public opinion. The accusation against the Governor is based on a report of his speech published in a local newspaper, and on the testimony of a member of the Kumamoto Prefectural Assembly who was present at the time of the speech's delivery. Whether such evidence is sufficient, it will be for responsible persons to say. Should it turn out, however, that the Governor really did speak, and that the Principal of the School really did act, in the manner described, we imagine that these officials will receive little mercy at the hands of the present Cabinet. It would be intolerable that the distinct provisions of the Constitution, which guarantees complete freedom of conscience to all, within the limits of law, should be deliberately and flagrantly violated by local officials. But we are strongly disposed to doubt the accuracy of the assertions, and until the Governor and Principal have been heard in their own defence, judgment ought to be suspended.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of empire for the month:—

	1891.		1892.
	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	7,481,705.610	.....	8,485,662.240
Imports	5,921,396.000	.....	5,925,564.530
Total exports and imports	14,411,226.770	.....	14,411,226.770
Excess of exports	1,560,309.610	.....	2,560,097.710
CUSTOMS DUTIES.			
Exports	241,314.547	.....	241,314.547
Imports	213,833.993	.....	213,833.993
Miscellaneous	9,968.802	.....	9,968.802
Total	465,117.342	.....	465,117.342

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	5,793,222.150	350,274.030	6,143,496.180
France	1,975,797.430	297,994.870	2,273,792.300
Great Britain	2,950,068.970	1,644,237.650	4,594,306.620
Hongkong	953,396.410	877,517.820	1,830,914.230
China	578,027.200	685,997.280	1,264,024.480
British India	113,075.070	2,003,514.080	2,116,589.150
Germany	60,544.090	666,383.130	726,927.220
Canada & other British	278,757.130	4,453.120	283,210.250
Korea	95,260.180	171,051.090	266,311.270
Australia	66,600.110	71,817.050	138,417.160
Russia	84,800.110	28,085.870	112,885.980
Italy	101,597.080	1,550.080	103,147.160
Belgium	7,750.400	94,090.510	101,840.910
Switzerland	15,134.020	55,915.280	71,049.300
Philippine Islands	8,452.000	7,025.960	15,477.960
Austria	77,340.780	2,316.800	79,657.580
Spain	1,091.000	612.300	1,703.300
Norway	—	2,101.360	2,101.360
Holland	1,424.000	383.360	1,807.360
Hawaii	1,324.850	—	1,324.850
Denmark	—	496.260	496.260
Portugal	—	439.400	439.400
Turkey	36.900	—	36.900
Siam	15.000	—	15.000
Other Countries	55,090.920	98,844.120	153,935.040
Total	12,134,788.460	5,925,564.530	18,060,352.990

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	5,996,517.710	2,517,047.750	8,513,565.460
Kobe	1,775,200.590	2,745,276.380	4,520,476.970
Osaka	94,494.710	311,255.280	405,750.000
Nagasaki	304,557.350	293,415.870	597,973.220
Hakodate	82,223.200	519.770	82,742.970
Niigata	6,810.050	—	6,810.050
Shimonoseki	12,558.650	33,873.800	46,432.450
Moji	70,848.280	—	70,848.280
Hakata	370.400	4,744.350	5,114.750
Karatsu	6,954.350	—	6,954.350
Kuchinotsu	110,308.000	—	110,308.000
Hokkaido	2,030.180	9,977.100	12,007.280
Shishimi	8,194.540	8,327.450	16,521.990
Sasuna	1,017.830	1,567.980	2,585.810

Specie and Bullion { Exports

{ Imports

Total

Excess of imports

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

{ Imports

Imported by Government

ESCAPED RUSSIAN CONVICTS IN HAKODATE.

SOME Russian convicts, escaping from the mainland, reached Mombetsu in Hokkaido, via Yesachi in Kitami province, during the first week in the present month. They were arrested by the Japanese police and examined, the conclusion being come to—though on what grounds we are not told—that two of them had been condemned for very serious crimes. These two escaped from the police-station the night (9th instant) after their arrest, and having first stolen some rice and cooking utensils from the

house of a resident of Mombetsu, attempted to effect an entry into the police station in order to carry off their own belongings which had been impounded. Failing in this, they concealed themselves in a cane-brake. Information of their whereabouts having been conveyed to a constable called Tamura, on the 13th instant, he arranged with the ferryman at the Yubetsu River to assist in capturing the men should they attempt to cross. The convicts fell into the trap, but when the constable, the ferryman, and the informer tried to seize them in mid-stream, one of them attacked the constable with a broad axe. The constable drew his sword and slashed off the man's hand, so that hand and axe fell into the boat. The wounded convict was, of course, easily secured, but the other got hold of the axe and attacked the informant, who jumped over-board to avoid the blow, but immediately diving under the boat, entered it from behind, and thrusting his head between the convict's legs, overthrew him. Thus the arrest of the two men was effected by this plucky constable and his equally courageous assistant. But they were apparently unable to guard the culprits, for one of them again effected his escape just before dawn the following morning. The Hokkaido police seem to be more skilled in seizing fugitives than in holding them.

PRINCE KONOYE ATSUMARO.

IT was recently rumoured that Prince Konoye Atsumaro had received a confidential communication intimating the Government's intention to appoint him Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to some foreign court. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* now makes the following statement:—"Though the Prince is one of the most able among the nobles, and has acquired a widely spread reputation, yet he attained that reputation chiefly through Count Ito, Minister President of State. Since, however, he supported Viscount Tani's Representation relating to the Government's Policy, he has been recognised as a member of the Opposition. Some of the peers begged Count Ito to give the Prince a little wholesome advice, but the Count absolutely refused to have anything to do with the matter. Nevertheless, Count Ito has always desired to give the Prince some solid practical experience if an opportunity offered. Lately, by the will of His Imperial Majesty, and believing the Prince to be not unfavourable to a diplomatic appointment, the Count confidentially communicated to him the intention of appointing him Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Chinese Court. But the Prince, in view of his relations with the other nobles, declined to accept the post, pretexting the feeble health of his aged father. It is also reported that as the above confidential communication was prompted not by Count Ito's wish only, but also by the will of the Emperor, the Prince thought that to refuse it point blank would be a breach of etiquette. He therefore replied that he should consider the subject carefully and then announce his resolution. Subsequently, assembling some of his political friends, members of the *Sanyo-kai*, he informed them of the communication, and said that as he did not intend to accept the offer, there was no absolute necessity to consult his associates, but in the interests of friendship he gave the information. He added that if any had advice to offer, he should be greatly pleased to receive it. Some discussion ensued, but no one opposed the Prince's intention of refusing the offer. Entirely satisfied, therefore, the Prince at once communicated to Count Ito his refusal on the ground mentioned above. This information, says the *Yomiuri* in conclusion, shows plainly that the Prince has no intention of accepting any official position at present.

THE "JIYU" AND THE LISBON GOVERNMENT.
THE *Jiyu* repeats the false rumour circulated by certain vernacular journals during the past few days, as to the receipt of an emphatic protest from Lisbon against Japan's action in abrogating the jurisdiction clauses of her treaty with Portugal. Original and contemporary fathers its

erroneous information upon an anonymous Privy Councillor, who is made to explain that though a communication has undoubtedly been received from Portugal, it has not yet been submitted to the Privy Council, but that its treatment by the latter body, when submitted, is a foregone conclusion. It is, of course, more than probable that Portugal will protest: any Power in her place would do so. But she has not yet protested, and the journals that say she has are merely disquieting themselves in vain.

A GRAND DINNER PARTY.

The principal bankers in the capital gave a dinner party to Count Matsukata, ex-Minister of State for Finance, and Mr. Watanabe, his successor, at the Teikoku Hotel on Thursday the 22nd ultimo. Some 56 bankers assembled. One end of the table was occupied by Marquis Ikeda, Director of the Fifteenth National Bank, with Mr. Watanabe, New Minister for Finance on his right, and Mr. Yokura, Manager of the Bank of Japan, on his left. The other end of the table was occupied by Mr. Shibusawa, Director of the First National Bank, with Count Matsukata, ex-Minister for Finance on his right, and Mr. Kawada, Director of the Bank of Japan, on his left. During dinner Mr. Shibusawa rose, and proposed the health of Count Matsukata and Mr. Watanabe. He said that it was not necessary to dwell upon the great services rendered to the nation by Count Matsukata. The public were familiar with the main facts of the distinguished statesman's record. But it might be well to allude briefly to what the ex-Minister had done for Banks since 1877. It was Count Matsukata who introduced order into the disorganized condition of the country's finances; it was he who reduced the volume of the fiduciary currency; it was he who effected the resumption of specie payments; it was he who improved the method of collecting taxes. To his credit were to be placed countless undertakings to develop the national wealth. He had always been friendly to bankers, and by his aid they had prospered. They were deeply grieved to hear of his resignation, but they derived comfort from the fact that Mr. Watanabe was his successor; for the new Minister had long served under Count Matsukata, and was well versed in the methods of management pursued by his former chief, so that bankers might feel confidence in the soundness of his procedure. The political world had lost an able statesman but the financial world had gained a new adviser, for the speaker believed that Count Matsukata would enter the field of finance and give his valuable aid to those engaged there. In conclusion, he desired to convey an expression of sincere gratitude for Count Matsukata's past services, and to congratulate Mr. Watanabe on his promotion. The toast was drunk enthusiastically. Count Matsukata, in returning thanks, expressed himself very grateful for the kind words expressed and their warm reception by his hosts. He said that, as Mr. Shibusawa had declared, he hoped to work hand in hand with those engaged in improving the financial condition of the country. The economical world of Japan was still immature, and many dark points presented themselves in the outlook. Conscious of all this, he felt not less concerned about the country's finance when he was out of office than he had been when holding a portfolio. There were many important questions, such as the silver problem, which called for the utmost watchfulness and vigilance. Moreover, the existing organizations of the banks were adapted to the interest of commercial people alone, and could not be considered suitable for manufacturers or agriculturists. On the other hand, these latter branches of enterprise were developing fast, and it was therefore necessary that the organizations of the banks should be amended and new and improved methods introduced. In conclusion, he requested his hosts to consider these subjects very carefully, so that when the time and the opportunity offered, they might be prepared to take the required steps. The Count resumed his seat amid loud cheers. Mr. Watanabe, the new Minister, then rose, and made a brief but pregnant speech. It was most

important for the welfare of the country, he said, that officials and private persons should unite heartily in seeking a sound remedy for the troubled state of national affairs. Hitherto, innumerable mistakes had resulted from absence of co-operation between the two. He sincerely hoped, therefore, that in future men of practical experience, like his hearers, would readily offer their opinions and advice on any matter relating to finance. The party is reported to have been a great success by the *Yiji Shimpō*, from which we take these details.

CANTON TRADE.

MR. CONSUL WATERS, in his Report on the Trade of Canton during 1891, writes:—

One remarkable feature of the trade at this port last year was the extraordinary development of the use of transit passes. It was only in the previous year that foreign merchants began to avail themselves of the treaty right to send foreign goods into the interior on payment of transit duty and receipt of a transit pass. Goods of the value of 48,279*l.*, covered by 79 passes, were that year sent into the interior. In 1891, transit passes, to the number of 1,946 were issued, covering goods valued at 435,566*l.* The chief commodities thus sent into inland markets were Indian cotton yarn and raw cotton, grey and white shirtings and other cotton goods, and kerosine. As the Commissioner of Customs observes:—"To this remarkable development of the transit transit trade is partially due the advance evinced in the table of imports, and it also shows to what an enormous extent, with lighter taxation and unfettered transit privilege, the trade and prosperity of the province could be increased." Yet only one or two British subjects at this port make use of transit passes, and no British merchant sends his goods under them to inland markets in any noticeable quantity. The Leken officials and the mandarins generally are violently opposed to transit pass systems, and resort to all kinds of expedients to prevent the use of the passes from becoming general.

The Government mint has been in active operation for some time, and its coins are rapidly gaining in popularity. From May 22, 1890, when the making of silver coins was begun, until December 31, 1891, the output was as follows:—

Dollars	45,933
Half dollars	17,847
20 cent pieces	506,934
10 cent pieces	96,038,579
5 cent pieces	1,958,948

Since February, last, the coinage of copper "cash" has increased from 400,000 to 500,000 a day. The subsidiary coins, especially 20 cent pieces, have been sent to Swatow, Foochow, and other places, to be put in circulation. They are now in general use among all classes of people in this province, and they may be said to have to a large extent practically supplanted broken sycee and cash.

THE HONGKONG SHARE ORDINANCE.

THE adjourned meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce took place on the 15th ult., in accordance with the request of H.E. the Governor that the Chamber should report upon the working of the Share Ordinance during the period of its operation. There was a large and representative attendance of members. Mr. Grote, in a long speech in favour of the repeal of the Ordinance, proposed, as an amendment to the resolution put forward at the previous meeting, a kind of compromise in the following terms:—"That in the opinion of the Chamber it is desirable to continue Ordinance 15 of 1891 in so far as concerns the shares of banking institutions, but to exclude from its scope all other shares, and that all time bargains or contracts for forward dates be limited to a period not to exceed three months from the time of their being entered into." Mr. J. J. Francis then made a lengthy speech, at the end of which he seconded Mr. Grote's proposition. Mr. Chantrey Inchbald then addressed the meeting as follows:—

It is an old saying that "extremes meet" and it seems to me that we are having an illustration of this fact to-day. When I came to the first meeting I thought that the question was whether the Share Bill of 1891 was to be absolutely *in toto* approved or *in toto* repealed. What is the actual position to-day? Mr. Bell-Irving at the last meeting in a very moderately worded speech himself admitted that new laws are seldom perfect and he thought that some modification might be introduced. To-day in Mr. Grote's speech, also temperately spoken, we see the same expression. He no longer proposes to abolish the Bill, he proposes merely to modify it—to modify it in such particulars that the Bill shall hold good to shares in financial institutions, but shall be modified so that you should

allow forward sales without the numbers for a period of three months, and that such numbers shall be valid for such period. I find myself on the horns of a dilemma. I am in favour of Mr. Bell-Irving's resolution; at the same time I am absolutely in favour of Mr. Grote's amendment in six months' time when the colony is in its normal state, as I believe it will be. My reason for supporting the resolution is that over three weeks ago the crisis of 1892 came to an abrupt termination, suddenly, in half an hour, by the excellent, plain, outspoken speech of the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The public did not realise the fact at first. It was necessary that the speech should reach Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, and the outports, but when it was read and realised, confidence came back to the investors, and orders came by telegram. I have received them myself to buy stock, the first I have received since I have been here. That confidence has gone on increasing, and in an incredibly short time we have seen a rise in our best stocks of 20 per cent. It is wise, is it policy, is it common sense, at the present moment to interfere with the return of confidence, with that better feeling, with that brighter and happier outlook? I think myself decidedly not. My other reason, which I have said I would produce, is the present stringency of the market. I have only been out in this part of the world for 14 years, but if you refer to the oldest residents they will tell you that within all their experience they have never seen credit so curtailed in Hongkong, Shanghai, or in other places of the East. Credit is curtailed, accommodation is denied, financial facilities are almost impossible. I doubt very much whether any bank manager—we have well known managers here, I see Mr. De Bovis, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, the member for the Chamber, and Mr. Rutter,—will tell us that within two or three months, time this stringency will be a thing of the past. If you modify this Bill so that you have power to buy forward, I think you will find that many of the present holders will come into the market, who are unable to get financial facilities, buy forward to the end of December, say, and if the money market is still stringent when it comes for delivery, they will be unable to take delivery and you will see these shares thrown back again, doing harm to all who have been concerned with them. These are two reasons outside the others brought before you why I intended to vote for Mr. Bell-Irving's resolution, if we have to decide solely on the question of Mr. Bell-Irving's resolution or Mr. Grote's amendment. But I would suggest a possible arrangement. I wish this Chamber would show its common sense and be unanimous now, and say in six months hence I think our finances will be in a firmer condition, and a totally different state of things generally existing. I beg to bring forward the following amendment:—"That in the opinion of this Chamber it is undesirable at present to make any change in Ordinance 15 of 1891, known as the Share Bill, but that H.E. the Governor be requested to be good enough to refer the same inquiry back to the Chamber of Commerce six months from now."

Several other speakers followed, and, when it came to voting Mr. Inchbald's motion was carried, 20 for it and 16 against.

FRACAS BETWEEN A FOREIGNER AND A JAPANESE CONSTABLE.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that at 7 p.m. on the 22nd ultimo, a Dutch subject, by name Johnson, residing at No. 106 Settlement, Yokohama, which is described by our contemporary as a grog-shop, got into a dispute with a customer and assaulted him. The latter fled, but Johnson, following him into the street, behaved with violence towards the folks passing by. A constable, Tomita Chozo, endeavoured to restore order, but Johnson fell upon him also, and after striking him several times, escaped indoors. Constable Brown, who is in the employment of the Settlement Police, arrived at the moment, but as quiet had then been restored, no attempt was made to arrest Johnson. A complaint, however, was lodged the next day at the Dutch Consulate.

A SLOW-COACH.

ONE of *The Times* correspondents with the fleet says:—"The big ships were organised in two divisions, of which the first was formed by the *Nelson*, *Shannon*, and *Neptune*, and the second by the *Northampton*, *Hotspur*, and *Belleisle*. . . . It was a melancholy farce to order such a squadron to cruise in company, for the unfortunate *Northampton* proved to be so slow that she could not preserve even the modest speed of seven knots that was demanded of her, and presently she was ordered to take station at the tail instead of at the head of her division. Nor were the other ships in much better plight. Most of them seemed to be able to keep station, but to do no more. We cruised for a time in some kind of ragged formation in column, but

at length the *Northampton* lagged so disgracefully behind that she was directed to leave the line and cruise by herself, a station being assigned to her from which, in the event of an attack, she could scarcely fail, in spite of her slowness, to reach the protection of the mine-field before she could be come up with by the enemy. I am very glad that there were no foreign critics to watch the unworthy spectacle of a British first-class armoured cruiser having to quit a fleet steaming at seven knots because she could not maintain her station in it." Since writing the above the same correspondent has mentioned that a yacht, apparently French owned, followed all the movements of the fleet very constantly.

MINING INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

THE first meeting of the Mining Investigation Council was held on Tuesday last, at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The following newly elected members were present. Messrs. Hasegawa Yoshinosuke, Shibusawa Eiichi, Watanabe Wataru, Kubo Moriaki, Yuasa Junichi, Kuwabara Sei, Noro Kageyoshi, Maeda Seisha Nakano Kaneichi, Naito Hisahiro, Suzuki Seisuke, Dan Takuma, Okazaki Takaatsu, Godai Riusaku, Oshima Rokuo, Inagaki Tetsunosshin, Ikeda Magoichi, Oshima Takato, Kazuye Saneyemon, Yoshitomi Eiichi, Sakamoto Kinya, Yamada Sumikiyo, Tokatori Iko and Kajiware Tsuchisuke. The order of sitting having been arranged, Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, rose, and delivered the following speech:—"Gentlemen—As you are well aware, mining enterprise is one of the most important means of developing the wealth of the nation. Some noteworthy progress had been made in this direction of late years and the Government has granted various subsidies for the purpose of encouraging further efforts. Your presence has been requested with the object of seeking from you valuable information about three questions which we submit to you to-day, the aim in view being to increase the activity and prosperity of mining enterprise. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has commissioned Mr. Wada, Director of the Mining Bureau, and Messrs. Kohana and Tanaka, Superintendents of Mines, to attend your meeting. They will explain any difficult passages in the Government's questions or answer any question you may propound. This meeting is not convened for the purpose of asking your opinions on miscellaneous matter relating to mines, but it is nevertheless hoped that you will freely offer your opinions and discuss the advantages or disadvantages of mining enterprise. You will kindly determine the rules of the meeting among yourselves, noting, however, that its session is not to exceed a week to ten days on one occasion. I beg to thank you very sincerely for the trouble you have taken in assembling here."

When Count Goto had concluded his speech Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi rose to move that for the sake of convenience either the Vice-Minister or the Director of the Mining Bureau should occupy the chair and preside over the meeting. This proposal was approved unanimously, but Mr. Nishimura, Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, replied that being busily engaged in the compilation of the Budget, and very much occupied by other miscellaneous affairs of the Department, he was unable to take the chair. He thought, therefore, that the Director of the Mining Bureau would be a suitable man to fulfil the duty. Some members expressed the opinion that as the Director of the Bureau was acting in the capacity of Government Commissioner, it might be inconvenient to have him in the chair, but Mr. Shibusawa combated this objection, and contended that if any confusion seemed likely to result from the arrangement, questions could be answered by the other commissioners. Thus Mr. Wada, Director of the Mining Bureau, was elected Chairman. The meeting then proceeded to consider rules of debate and procedure; a draft, prepared by the Department of Agriculture

and Commerce, was read out and discussed. Two or three amendments having been made the rules were adopted. No other discussion took place that day, the meeting closing at 3 p.m. The Council met again on Wednesday last at 1 p.m. to discuss the establishment of a Miners' Guild. The public was excluded, but it is understood that the scheme was approved by the council, on condition that no new organization should be promulgated, and that miners should be at liberty to present applications for permission to form such a guild in accordance with rules determined by themselves. The meeting continued its session the following day. The following by-laws of the Council are reported to have been fixed:—

- 1.—The meeting shall open at 1 p.m. and close at 5 p.m.
- 2.—No debate shall be held unless in the presence more than two-thirds of the whole number of members.
- 3.—No resolution shall be carried unless more than one half of the assembled members support it.
- 4.—Any proposal of a member cannot be put to the vote.
- 5.—Matters relating to speeches or to the management of the meeting shall be decided and controlled by the Chairman.

The meetings of the Mining Council having been conducted with closed doors, and its members having agreed not to divulge the proceedings, it is somewhat difficult, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, to report exactly what took place. The principal points of discussion, however, may be summed up as follow:—First, as to the question of organizing a Miners' Guild, it is contended that such an undertaking ought not to be circumscribed by hard and fast regulations. Varying circumstances of locality may render the enforcement of such regulations impracticable. At present there are two kinds of guilds in every province. One is in the interest of miners, the other of sellers of ore, and the objects of the two being different, to unite them under the same set of regulations would be quite impracticable. Thus viewed, the question was decided in favour of leaving the matter in the hands of those concerned without any interference in the matter of regulations. The second question discussed by the Council had reference to the protection of minerals exported to foreign markets. This matter, however, was postponed to a future date, and nothing more will be said about it at present. In the third place, with regard to amending the Mining Regulations, the question brought forward at the outset was the abolition of the provision relating to experimental borings. Those in favour of abolishing the provision, pointed out that, in accordance with its terms, any one willing to pay a stamp duty of 3 yen could obtain permission to experiment in any place. Thus countless applications were presented. The applicants, however, never really intended to open any new mines. Often they sought permission to open a mine in the neighbourhood of one already existing, thus wilfully causing inconvenience to the original owner, with the object of compelling him to purchase the proposed new mine at a high figure. In view of such flagrant abuses by dishonest speculators, the necessity of rescinding the provision was urged. On the other hand, those opposed to the proposition declared that the development of mining enterprise in the empire had been due chiefly to the regulations permitting experimental borings, and that if the system were radically altered now, even though some rich mine be discovered hereafter, it might have to be transferred to some one other than the discoverer, owing to the latter's want of capital to work it. Thus no poor engineer would take the trouble of questing for new mines. The latter view obtained a majority of supporters, so the provision will remain in force. After the settlement of the above question, a motion was brought forward to the effect that some provision ought to be made compelling an applicant who contemplates experimental boring to commence work within 30 days after obtaining permission, or else to forfeit that permission. Some expressed approval of this idea but the majority were against it. After

a long debate it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the authorities charged with the duty of granting applications and superintending mines.

SHANGHAI RACES.

From the programme of the Shanghai Autumn Meeting, just received, we find that the fixture has been made for the same dates as those of the Nippon Race Club. There are nine events on the first and second days and eight on the third, the wind-up being the usual steeplechase. Shanghai still retains its "Off-day," which however, is not "legitimate business." The prizes, as usual, are good, there being nothing under Tls. 100, while there are several of Tls. 150 and 200, and in such races as the Pari-mutuel Cup—"Tls. 200 added to a Sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each"—the large number of entries being considered, the total divided between the first three ponies is quite a considerable sum.

CODES.

A BILL to postpone the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, was passed by both Houses of the Diet last session, but has not yet obtained the Imperial sanction. The public are anxiously looking for its promulgation, and many persons are disposed to suspect that the Government contemplates the rejection of the popular wish. It is now reported that the opinions of the various Departments of State are as follow:—For the better control of commerce and industry, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce desires the immediate enforcement of the Codes. In the interests of treaty revision the Department of Foreign Affairs also desires their speedy enforcement. From the point of view of tax collection and the management of general finance, the Department of Finance also desires their enforcement. The Departments of War, of the Navy, and of Communications are absolutely indifferent. The Department of Education advocates postponement. Owing to the energetic representations of Count Yamada, who ardently desires speedy enforcement, Count Yamagata, Minister for Justice, has come to favour that view. It is further rumoured that Count Yamada, having considered the question profoundly, has expressed the opinion that it be necessary to have any postponement the "Law of Persons" only ought to be held in abeyance. But the Constitution does not invest the Government with any such power of discrimination: the choice must be between complete enforcement and complete postponement. It is thought that the Government will either put the Codes into operation and amend them by degrees, or submit to the Diet next session a Bill providing for the postponement of certain portions only. At all events it is beyond question that very few Ministers of State are in favour of entire postponement.

SILK.

As the market price of silk rises daily, sellers begin to stand out for bigger figures at each transaction. On the other hand, purchasers being in receipt of orders from abroad, appear disposed to pay almost anything. On Saturday last Iwashiro *saguri* fetched as much as \$880, and on the following day, though it was Sunday, several transactions were concluded by Messrs. Sieber and Brennwald. Subsequently Messrs. Bavier and Co. received some new orders, and began to purchase Shinshu silk at \$900 for Riujo-kan and \$905 for Inasha. Such a leap in price was remarkable. Again on Monday Messrs. Bavier and Co. purchased some more Shinshu Shinyeisha silk at \$900, Koshu Kyo-sei-sha silk at \$880, and other kinds at equally high prices. Messrs. Otto Reimers and Co. also began to buy largely for the European market. Their chief transactions were:—Goshu Hino silk at \$910; Goshu Sugitani silk at \$900; and Jakushu Kumohama silk at \$905. Besides which Mr. P. Dourille, Messrs. Griffin and Co., and other silk-men are asking for further supplies of the staple. It is stated that the market will probably reach \$1,000 per bale, though some people assert that a portion of the transactions recently concluded are purely speculative.

tive. Even in view of the partial failure of the European crop or the opening of the great exhibition in Chicago, such a rise, say the vernacular papers from which we take these details, was quite unanticipated. In 1876 the maximum figure reached was \$1,100, but as the sterling value of the yen was much higher then than it is now, there is still a considerable interval between the \$910 of to-day and the \$1,000 of sixteen years ago. None the less it is many and many a year since such a boom was witnessed in the silk market. We do not, for our own part, perceive how the World's Fair can be counted an important factor in the situation, but some of the Japanese newspapers appear to think that it can.

TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held a special meeting at the Bankers' Hall in Sakamoto-cho on Monday last. The object of the meeting was to determine whether the Chamber should comply with the request of the Kyoto Chamber, and despatch representatives to the meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President, took the chair at 1 p.m., 27 members being present. After a prolonged discussion it was at last decided to send two representatives to the meeting with the object of proposing amendments of the Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce. The President nominated Messrs. Masuda Katsunori and Oye Taku, for the purpose, and the nomination was approved unanimously. Messrs. Sakuma Teiichi and Handa Zempachi then moved, as a point of urgency, that a petition be presented for the rescinding of the Regulations, now in force, relating to the sale of poisonous drugs. A committee was appointed to investigate the question, and the meeting was closed at 6 p.m.

The draft of amendments passed by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce for presentation to the meeting of United Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire, is as follows:—

Art. I.—“Commercial men” in these Regulations shall mean persons engaged in any of the following commercial occupations:—

1. Transactions relating to the exchange or sale of articles.
2. Transactions relating to industrial manufactures and handicrafts.
3. Transportation of persons or goods.
4. Public works and other works carried out by contract.
5. Banking business.
6. Exchange and pawn-broking.
7. Transactions relating to the warehousing of goods.
8. Transactions on the Exchange.
9. Transactions relating to insurance.
10. Business of brokers or agents for the sale of articles belonging to other persons.

(Original Article, I.—“Commercial men” in these Regulations shall mean merchants and persons belonging to the category of commercial occupations enumerated in the Commercial Code.)

Art. V.—Commercial men of any locality where a Chamber of Commerce is established, who pay income tax, and members of any company or corporation, as designated in Art. I.; clause 2, shall have the right of electing members. (Original Art. V. Commercial men of any locality where a Chamber is established, who pay income tax, shall have the right of electing members.)

Art. VI.—Commercial men mentioned in the foregoing Article who are above 30 years of age, or who are members of any company or corporation designated in Art. I. clause 2, shall have the right of being elected as members. (Original Art. VI.—Commercial men who pay income tax in any locality where a Chamber is established, and who are above 30 years of age, or members of Commercial Companies, shall have the right of being elected as members.) Each company shall be represented by one person who is above 30 years of age, and is legally entitled to represent it. (Original clause.—Each company shall be represented by one person legally entitled to represent it.)

Art. VII.—In regard to the right of election or that of being elected, as provided in Arts. V., and VI., the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may decide the qualifications with reference to the amount of income tax paid, or to the amount of the capital of the company in question, by an ordinance of the Department, in accordance with the circumstances of the locality. (Original Art. VII.—In regard to the property qualification for election and the right to be elected, as provided for in Arts. V., and VI., the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may decide the amount of income tax or may specially include national taxes in such qualification, by an ordinance of the Department in accordance with the circumstances of the locality.)

To Art. VIII.—The following clause shall be added:—The foregoing rule shall be further applicable to persons representing the companies mentioned in Art. VI., clause 2. (Original Art. VIII.—The following persons shall not have the right to elect or be elected members:—

- (1) Idiots and lunatics, etc.)

In Art. XIV.—The words “clauses 4 and 7” shall be excised. (Original Art. XIV.—The meetings of a Chamber

held under clauses 2, 4, and 7 of Art. IV., not be open to the public.)

Art. XIX clause 2 shall be amended as follows:—Should anyone fail to pay the amount assessed for the expenditure, after being applied to by the collector, the Local Governor shall treat him in accordance with the laws relating to the Non-payment of National Taxes, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce. (Original clause.—Should anyone fail to pay the assessed amount at the proper time, it may be collected by the district collector of local taxes.)

THE “NICHU NICHU” ON M. BOISSONADE’S REPLY TO THE CRITICS OF THE NEW CODES.

MR. BOISSONADE’S diligence with reference to the Japanese Codes, says the *Nichu Nichu Shim-bun*, is really praiseworthy. During his summer vacation, which he spent at Ashinoya in Hakone, he compiled an essay discussing the different opinions entertained in legal circles as well as those expressed in the Imperial Diet. He has defended the Civil and Criminal Codes at great length. Perusing his writing we are constrained to applaud the vigour and energy shown by him in his old age, as well as his firm belief in the Codes compiled by himself. But there are many points in his article which we cannot endorse, and which we shall take an opportunity of criticising when political affairs leave us some leisure. Nevertheless, as the latest views of an elder in legal circles, we are pleased to introduce the essay to the public. It appeared originally in the *Revue Française du Japon*, and has been translated into English and published in the *Japan Mail* of the 22nd and 23rd instant.

A MARE’S NEST.

A CURIOUS example of the growth of a mare’s nest has just been furnished in Japan. On August the 15th a “Notice to Mariners” was issued by the Department of State for Communications, setting forth that, pending the construction of a fort at the northern entrance to Uruga Channel, a temporary light vessel, showing a fixed red light, would be moored to mark the position of a group of cylindrical red buoys. The cross-bearings of the light and all other necessary particulars were given, and the Notification (No. 179) was duly advertised for five days before the first exhibition of the light, and during several days subsequently, the advertisement appearing in several local English papers. Finally, on September 27th, another Notification emanated from the same Department, to the effect that the above light would be withdrawn from September 29th, and replaced by a buoy showing a fixed red light. All this was in due and regular course. Then the quaint part of the business began. First a pilot, bringing a steamer into Yokohama, complained that he had been greatly puzzled by the light. Now of all people pilots are under the most imperative obligation to make themselves acquainted with obstructions to navigation. Some excuse may be found for a ship-master’s ignorance of recent alterations or additions to lights on the coast, but that a pilot should be without such information is not pardonable. In this particular instance the Agents of the steamer must have been acquainted with the Notification, and should have informed the Captain, so that in his case too ignorance is scarcely conceivable. But as for the pilot, considering that the Notification had appeared for several days in journals to be found at clubs, hotels, consulates, and all other public places, his failure to acquaint himself with it amounted to a very culpable piece of carelessness.

The pilot, however, was not the only complainant. A correspondent addressed the *Kobe Chronicle*, writing over the signature of “Master Mariner,” and asserted that the light had caused him much perplexity on his voyage to Yokohama, and that he had been obliged to perform various manoeuvres, more or less troublesome, in order to avoid a collision with the vessel supposed to be carrying it. He “stopped and dodged about for some time without perceptibly nearing the light;” he “hailed to the north-west so as to shut out the red ray,” and he finally “shaped a course for the Honmoku Light-ship, passing close to the mysterious light.” Arriving at Yokohama, he was “astounded to find no

notice of such a light in the papers,” though in point of fact it was published there in prominent advertisements, and he formulated a strong protest against the “Authorities answerable for this neglect.” He further described that, the night after his arrival, “another valuable ship had got equally perplexed, and suddenly finding herself among some buoys, had to go full speed astern to escape.” Assuredly it is a little more than comical that a ship-master should resort to the columns of the local press to complain about his own ignorance, when the very same columns had been offering to him, day after day in conspicuous type, precisely the information he wanted. Towards the close of his letter “Master Mariner,” referring to Yokohama, says:—“There being no Harbour Master’s Office to apply to for information, we were thrown upon our own resources, and although ready to leave by dusk, preferred not to run the risks we had run on the way up, so remained until daylight, thus losing half-a-day’s valuable time.” He adds, also, that “complete ignorance existed among those of the residents whose vocations should make it necessary to know.” Is this conceivable? Is it conceivable that a long official advertisement, published, under the caption “Notice to Mariners,” in all the principal local newspapers, had completely escaped the attention of the residents interested in shipping affairs? And is it conceivable that the master of a steamer visiting Yokohama knows nothing about the Lighthouse Department, where every information as to buoys, beacons, and lights can be obtained in a moment? Finally, is it conceivable that if the master of the steamer did not know this, his pilot was equally ignorant? Such captains and such pilots cannot contribute much to the prosperity of insurance companies.

Perhaps the cream of the whole occurrence is furnished by a Yokohama newspaper which, under the title, “To puzzle Mariners,” runs amok at the Japanese Authorities for neglecting to do what they had been especially careful to do. Taking for his theme “Master Mariner’s” letter to the *Kobe Chronicle*, the Yokohama editor writes:—“Had Master Mariner, in the endeavour to avoid the light, or being misled by its presence, run his vessel ashore, the War Department and the Department of Communications between them would have shared the responsibility.” And again:—“So far as we can ascertain no intimation was previously given of these obstructions being directly in the fairway, an omission which we do not hesitate to characterize as gross carelessness.” This article was published the day after the appearance of the Second Notification, and the writer actually mentions that Notification as the first intimation given, though in the body of the Notification the light and buoys are described as those “notified under date of the 15th of August”—i.e., forty-three days previously. There can be no difficulty in determining where the “gross carelessness” existed in this case. Possibly, however, the incident may be useful, for it should direct the attention of ship agents and insurers to a state of perfunctoryness at once dangerous and inexcusable. The Notifications of the Department of Communications are made in the most public manner and at the most timely dates. If master mariners and pilots do not take the trouble to read these important Notifications, steps should be taken to rouse them to a juster sense of their duty.

THE HON. G. N. CURZON.

THE Hon. G. N. Curzon, Parliamentary Under Secretary of the India Office in the Salisbury Government, has just left Tokyo after a sojourn of about a fortnight. Mr. Curzon paid a short visit to Japan in 1887, and since that time he seems to have interested himself considerably in the country, for his knowledge of all the political problems affecting this section of the Far East, as well as his insight into the relations between foreigners and Japanese in Japan is really remarkable. Doubtless Mr. Curzon, having made a specialty of Oriental affairs,

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might be expected to be exceptionally versed in matters with which the general run of British officials have little, if any, acquaintance. But after every allowance is made on that account, there remains quite enough to excite our surprise and admiration. If the former Under Secretary of the India Office may be counted at all a fair representative of the men to whose keeping Great Britain's Oriental destinies are committed under a Conservative Government, we cannot wonder at the feeling of trust and thankfulness that pervades British communities in the Far East when Lord Salisbury is in office.

ANOTHER TALE.

HAVING emerged from the stage of snakes, the *Yomiuri* has fairly entered that of tenderness. Let us hope that it will be saved from the usual sequence which would plunge it next into lacrimosity. Lately serpents twisted themselves through all its canards: occupied unhired lodgings in impossible parts of people's bodies; banded together to bully farmers, and in various ways afflicted unhappy folks who had not even enjoyed the compensation generally preliminary to snake-seeing. Then we had love scenes at colleges with poetical embroidery and imaginary bases, and now we are treated to a story which at any rate has the merit of hurting nobody. The anonymous hero is a German said to reside in the neighbourhood of Nagatacho—a reasonably wide designation. Ardently loving music, as most Germans do, he figures at the outset of the story in the character of a player on *gakkō* and *samisen*, a prodigy skilled in Japanese amatory sonnets. Next door resided a Japanese family, respectable but poor, whose only daughter, a girl of entrancing loveliness, was compelled to discharge menial duties in the household by way of supplement to the solitary *Osandon* whom her parents' narrow means permitted them to keep. One day, going to draw water at the well, the young lady heard a mellow but manly voice lilting a love ditty. She looked up, saw the Teutonic neighbour leaning against a fence and emitting amatory strains, dropped her bucket, and did what few comely lasses do under the circumstances—ran away. Next day the same scene repeated itself, and yet again the next, until the timid beauty renounced future service at the humble well, which in the German's eyes had become ere this a veritable *fons Bladiis splendidior vitreo*. No more could she venture out of doors, for there in the street paced the patient Teuton, to and fro from blushing morn to dewy eve, pale with the ravages of unrequited passion, and visibly pining away in the vista of his obdurate *inamorata*. After a season, however, this love-sick sentinel disappeared, and once again the bashful girl began to breathe freely, when, alas! there arrived upon the scene a Japanese of grave demeanour and most respectable appearance. He proved to be an emissary from the German next door, and the tale he had to tell should have moved any heart, for its gist was that the stout Teuton had been struck down and was lying seriously, if not fatally, wounded by Cupid's weapon. The delegate therefore announced himself commissioned to prefer a formal proposal for the young lady's hand, and so well did he plead, skilfully mixing pounds and pence with pathos, that the maiden's mother half relented, and promised to take the matter into *avisendum*. The emissary departed hopeful, but the girl, the wayward girl, fell a weeping. For the magical term of three days and three nights tears bedewed her cheeks, and in the intervals of her sobbing she declared that she should rather die than marry a foreigner. There the story ends. Perhaps it is a tale in parts, "to be continued in our next," but apparently the writer is content to have created a Teuton dying with love for a Japanese maiden, and a lass of Nippon heroic enough to prefer a life of tears to the embraces of a bearded Occidental. God makes all sorts, as Samuel Weller remarked.

QUESTION RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF RAILWAYS.

ONE of the most important questions of the day in Japan is that of railways. Many rumours have been circulated about the views entertained

in different quarters, but it has hitherto been evident that these tales were based chiefly on hypothesis. The Imperial News Agency, however, now claims to be in a position to set forth the opinions of the various parties interested. We translate its *résumé*, premising, for the information of our readers, that the chief point of public perplexity and complaint is the failure of the Government to organize the Railway Council indicated by the Bill which passed the Diet in May:—

POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Though one or two influential members of the Cabinet entertain independent views, the majority are in favour of enforcing without delay the Law passed by the Diet with reference to Railway Extension. Count Ito is reported to have said that though the law delegates to the Diet the power of determining alternative lines, and contains also some other defective provisions, yet, since it passed the Diet by a large majority and has been promulgated as law, it must be enforced without delay. If any of its provisions prove impracticable, then they may be amended, but before putting it into operation, there is no valid reason to discuss its amendment.

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COUNT KURODA'S OPINION.

Count Kuroda, whose position as Minister of Communications gives him special prominence in connection with the problem, supported the scheme of extension from the very beginning. But since arguments were advanced to the effect that the control of such matters properly belongs to the Administration, and that the legislature overstepped its power in amending the project of law submitted to it; since, too, the organization of the Railway Council has not been fixed, and many singular rumours are circulated, the Count has become considerably less anxious to see the question submitted to the Cabinet. Hence it has been delayed from day to day, and in the meanwhile some of the vernacular journals ventilate reports to the effect that the Government is opposed to the enforcement of the new law. Certain members of the Diet who advocate the extension of railways, hearing these reports, called on Count Kuroda and other Ministers of State, to offer advice. But Count Kuroda persistently refused to admit them, and in the interval he has been consulting the opinion of Viscount Inouye, Director of the Railway Bureau.

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VISCOUNT INOUE.

Viscount Inouye has not been in very high favour since many grave questions were propounded in the last session of the Diet concerning railways. It was even rumoured that he would be removed from office. But the recent change of Cabinet has made his position firm, and in the last investigation about railways everything was managed in accordance with his views. He is now understood to have declared that it is not absolutely necessary to organize the Railway Council in haste. To the methods of Viscount Inouye the first sign of opposition appeared in the Head Quarter Staff Bureau of the Department of War.

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The officers of the Staff argue that the arrangements made by the Railway Bureau are very inconvenient for military purposes. They have despatched some commissioners to investigate the facts, with a view to determining the course they ought to pursue, and they intend to discuss the question of the Railway Council, for which purpose they are now preparing all the necessary materials.

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MEMBERS OF THE DIET AND OTHERS.

The above is a brief account of the state of affairs within Government circles. On the other hand, some members of the Diet, as well as others interested in the question, are greatly excited and have given loud expression to their discontent and indignation. They argue that the object of establishing a Railway Council, as provided by the new Law for the Extension of the Railway System, was to divide the functions of the Government. Hitherto every affair relating to railways has been managed by the Railway Bureau. The Director of the Bureau determines the railway policy, controls railway works, and superintends railway enterprise. In effect a species of Railway Pope has been created in Japan, the result being many abuses. In view of the progress made by Railway enterprise, such power ought not to be vested in the hands of an individual. Hence the Railway Council was established, the idea being to leave works of construction and management in the hands of the Railway Bureau, but to entrust the determination of new lines, their superintendence and other administrative matters to a Council

consisting of representatives of various classes. In this way the abuses complained of would be corrected. The business of surveying the routes of the nine new lines was to be conducted by the Railway Bureau, but the general scheme of the system and other details were to depend upon the views of the Railway Council. The Government, however, instead of taking the steps necessary to carry out this programme, left the whole affair in the hands of the Railway Bureau, which action is distinctly opposed to the spirit of the organization of the Railway Council. The indignation of the persons entertaining the above view was so great that they despatched commissioners to the capital to explain the matter. But the Railway Bureau takes no notice of their representations, and the Railway Council not being yet established, they have no opportunity to appeal. Nevertheless, they are resolved not to abandon their purpose, and have accordingly despatched letters throughout the empire, asking the members of the United Railway Construction Society to hold a general meeting in order to settle a plan of campaign in the next session of the Diet. The principal commissioners connected with the above undertaking came from Akita, Yamanashi, Nagano, Okayama, Kumamoto, and other Prefectures, so it is possible that the question may be forced prominently upon public attention ere long.

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We have merely reproduced above the statements advanced on the authority of the Imperial News Agency. How far reliance may be placed on the details we do not undertake to determine.

THE CHINESE IN AMERICA.

THE Chinese resident in America are not submitting without remonstrance and opposition to the working of the new Exclusion Act. The *New York Herald* says:—

There seems to be a widespread disposition on the part of the Chinese in the city and vicinity to escape, if possible, from compliance with the provisions of the new law compelling all labourers of that nationality residing in the United States to register their names and description with collectors of internal revenue in the districts in which they reside.

The actual work of registry has not yet begun, but collectors are engaged in taking, or trying to take, a census of the Chinese in their districts. The subjects of this inquiry, in almost every instance, decline to give any information about themselves. The Chinese Consul also has refused assistance and information requested of him by General Kerwin, Collector of Internal Revenue in this city.

It will be necessary for the Chinese to furnish, with descriptions of themselves, three photographs for future identification, one of which will be sent to Washington, another retained by the Collector, and the third attached to the certificates issued to the Chinese. Merchants are exempt from the provisions of the act.

The Celestials have already held one mass meeting at which the law was roundly denounced, and another has been called for the same purpose. They have apparently planned to act in concert in defying the new regulation. It is anticipated that the Chinese will test the constitutionality of the registry law.

Dr. J. C. Thoms, superintendent of the Chinese hospital at No. 40 Hicks street, Brooklyn, who is prominent in the local Chinese colony, said last night:—

"We regard this registry law as an outrage. The Chinese are treated worse here than are the Jews in Russia."

General Kerwin told me last night that he has already begun the preliminary work in connection with the census. The certificates to be issued will not be ready before September 1. His eight deputies have been engaged since Monday in an effort to obtain as accurate an enumeration as possible of the Chinese in his district, which extends from Twenty-sixth street to the Battery and takes in all of the streets in which the majority of them in this city reside. The deputies have found that the Chinese, acting upon instructions from some unknown source, are determined to give no information about themselves.

"As near as we can gather," said General Kerwin, "information or advice of some sort has been brought here from San Francisco, and acting upon it the Chinamen simply decline to answer any questions put to them. I sent to the Chinese Consulate, not with the expectation of receiving any assistance, as I know the Consul to be unfavourably disposed toward the new law, but to secure information of the number of Chinamen in the city. This information was denied us."

"We are cautioned against using force, as there is no compulsion about this thing, but Chinese refusing to register and secure certificates before May 5, next year, will, according to the law, be returned to China. I fancy after a few have been sent back we shall have no further trouble."

Collector Thomas Smith, assisted by Postmaster William Richenstein and Chief of Police Woods, of

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Long Island City, L. I., began a census of the Chinese there yesterday. Many of the Chinese left for this city with all their belongings rather than stand than in front of a camera.

Collector Large, of Newark, N. J., has notified his deputies to ascertain the number of Chinese in their districts. The postmaster will be requested to assist in furnishing necessary information.

KOREAN QUESTIONS.

MR. HARA KEI, Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Department of Foreign Affairs, having been ordered to proceed to Korea, left Tokyo on Tuesday the 20th instant. The *Nippon* says that he is commissioned to settle two most important affairs; first, that of an indemnity to the merchants who suffered by an illegal Ordinance prohibiting the export of grain from the Kingdom; and secondly, the question of revising the Quelpart Fishery Convention. The Government originally instructed Mr. Kajiyama, Minister Resident in Seoul, to negotiate with the Korean Government about an indemnity on account of the prohibition of grain export, which caused much loss to the Japanese merchants. But Korea is so poor that her Ministers have staved off a settlement on various pretexts, and two years have already elapsed without any arrangement being effected. The domestic troubles of the little Kingdom doubtless command sympathy and suggest the propriety of patience, but, after all, such matters have to be settled sooner or later, and in sending Mr. Hara on his present mission, it can scarcely be asserted that the Government of Japan has showed any undue haste. The Quelpart fishery question, too, is a topic of much importance. The Korean Government—we still quote from the *Nippon*—sent General Le Gendre to Japan to negotiate a revised convention, but no satisfactory understanding has been arrived at yet. The Japanese Government asked for the privilege of fishing along the Korean coast in consideration of abrogating the Quelpart Convention, but General Le Gendre replied that he was not empowered to accede to such a proposal. Mr. Hara is therefore commissioned to negotiate with the Korean Government directly, and it is probable that in the sequel of the negotiations he will make a trip to Quelpart Island. Such is the *Nippon's* account, but we are strongly disposed to doubt its accuracy so far as concerns the fishery question.

Y. A. R. C.

THE "Coming of Age" Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club is fixed to take place on Wednesday and Thursday, the 2nd and 3rd November. The programme as now arranged will consist of four interport events, club fours (senior and junior), double-sculls (senior and junior), pairs (senior and junior), single-sculls, Bluff versus Settlement (fours), scratch fours, and perhaps a race for the Tokyo colleges and man-of-war boats. The entries close on Saturday, October 1st. Strong crews are expected from Kobe and Hongkong in the interport events, and the prospect of some good and exciting sport in very bright. It is a pity that the races and regatta clash; in fact the two events ought not to be held the same week.

THE NAGASAKI AFFAIR.

VERNACULAR newspapers report the fact that the foreigner against whom the commission of a heinous crime was recently charged in Nagasaki, has fled the country, and that, consequently, further proceedings in the matter will be stopped. We regret to say that this information is correct, though perhaps it is as well, on the whole, that the demoralizing scandal of a trial at law should be avoided. The fact that the foreigner had made his escape has been known for some time, though of course no one ventures to assert that his flight constitutes conclusive evidence of guilt in the degree depicted by rumour. At all events, he has not dared to abide and stand his trial boldly as an innocent man would have done, and unfortunately the facts elicited by the Nagasaki police leave no room to doubt that a most brutal act was actually perpetrated. We refer to the matter now for two reasons; first, to avert the possibility of any impression among the Japanese that a tendency to extenuate

such a crime or to connive at the escape of its perpetrator could exist among foreigners; and secondly, to point out that although the man has fled from justice and thus escaped the penalties of the law, he has nevertheless undergone a most severe punishment. His career—a lucrative and promising career—in Japan has been completely blasted. He has lost his position, been compelled to abandon his prospects, and finds himself now a disgraced fugitive from the society of all his old friends and patrons. Justice, though technically eluded, has been sternly satisfied, and so also ought to be the most uncompromising among the Japanese critics who have commented on the unsavoury subject.

THE ANTI-CHRISTIAN AFFAIR IN KUMAMOTO.

We observe that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* writes in a very frank and liberal strain about the recently reported anti-Christian acts of Kumamoto local officials, and about the public appeal made by Christians against such treatment. It is just to note that Mr. Matsudaira, Governor of Kumamoto, is conspicuously distinguished by accusations of interference in the general elections of last spring, and that, consequently, any transactions with which he is connected are not likely to be judged leniently by a journal pledged to the cause of the *Kaishin-to*. Whatever this qualification may be worth, the *Yomiuri's* comments have no lack of colour. It says that such proceedings as those of the Governor and the Principal of the Upper Primary School must be attributed to a still lingering conflict between the old ideas and the new. The paltry conservatism of the Governor betrayed him into a distinct violation of the Constitution, and evoked an appeal from leading Christians with which every just man must sympathise. Doubtless—we quote always from the *Yomiuri*—the appeal of the Christians is made in their own interests, but inasmuch as the measure taken by the Governor was distinctly a violation of the Constitution, all good Japanese subjects, whatever their religious convictions, must condemn it. Governor Matsudaira's speech shows plainly that he misunderstood the Imperial Rescript and that his conduct is controlled by the old notions prevailing before the advent of Commodore Perry. "It is to be sincerely hoped that there shall be no repetition of such disgraces."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* also discusses the matter, its general tone being the same as that of the *Yomiuri*. It supplements the Kumamoto news by an assertion that similar instances of intolerance have come to its ears from other places, and it denounces the whole thing as unconstitutional. But its protest is not entered, we are told, in the interests of Christianity, or of any other creed. The violation of the Constitution is what troubles it. If one flagrant breach of the charter of national liberty be condoned, who shall say what may follow? Lads have now been expelled from a public school for studying the Christian Bible. May not the next step be to dismiss all teachers who adhere to the tenets of Buddhism? And what is there to prevent yet another retrogressive measure of denunciation against philosophers who advocate the doctrines of Darwin or Kant? So, little by little, the Constitution may be encroached on, until it is gradually whittled down to nothing at all. Such is the *Kokumin's* rather exaggerated apprehension.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, as might have been expected, writes in a much soberer and more circumspect strain. It frankly admits that any judgment based on the statements hitherto published must be very unfavourable to the action of the officials concerned. But it suggests that this may very possibly be another example of a rough and superficial version where delicate and subtle issues are really at stake. No verdict should be pronounced by the public until the decision of the Department of Education is announced. It is quite certain that no unconstitutional interference with freedom of conscience will be tolerated by those in power. But, on the other hand, the educational principles which have received the

high sanction of the Emperor must be respected and obeyed. One of these principles, a fundamental one, is that the system of instruction in all Government schools should be strictly secular, including, of course, the inculcation of such moral precepts and ethical injunctions as are essential to the formation of sound character, but excluding religious propagandism of every kind. This is obviously a constitutional necessity. The same law that ensures freedom of conscience to all Japanese subjects, forbids that children at Government schools shall be subjected to the influence of any particular creed. Outside school the students are absolutely free to follow the bent of their own convictions, within the limits of law, but inside the precincts of the school neither Christianity, nor Buddhism, nor any other religion must be allowed to exercise sway. It is for the Department of Education to judge whether this condition was fulfilled at the Kumamoto school. The *Nichi Nichi* does not undertake to pronounce an opinion one way or the other, but it evidently thinks that the Governor and the Principals of Government Schools in that Prefecture understand their Constitutional duties, and that, so long as the Department of Education does not condemn their action, the probabilities are all against their having acted illegally.

THE TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY.

It was understood, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, that a loan of 1,500,000 yen would be raised by the Tanko Railway Company for the purpose of augmenting the capital of the company. The Directors of the Company proposed to add 1,100,000 yen to the railway capital and 400,000 yen to that of the coal mine. But at a meeting of the principal officers held on Wednesday, the 21st instant, one of the members of the Committee expressed the opinion that at present it is not necessary to raise more than 1,100,000 yen, which should be applied to railway purposes alone, since the coal market is not prosperous just now, and with its existing capital the Company can supply from 300,000 to 400,000 tons of coals annually, which is amply sufficient to meet the demand. When the market improves a little, the projected loan of 400,000 yen may be raised for coal-mining purposes. This proposition was approved unanimously, and a resolution for raising a loan of 1,100,000 yen only was passed. The money is to be advanced by the Fifteenth National Bank at 6½ per cent. interest per annum, and is to be paid back in 25 years from 1894.

Hitherto the coal mined by the Tanko Company has been sold by the *Baitan Gumi*, with which a contract was made to undertake the sale of all the coals produced by the Company for seven years. The contract was carried out during the last two years. But it appears that the *Baitan Gumi* finds the arrangement somewhat inconvenient, and that the Company also has incurred some loss. Consequently the Company proposed to abandon the contract, and to arrange for the sale of the Coal by establishing a special department for the purpose. To this the *Baitan Gumi* agreed, on condition that some 10,000 yen, the amount of loss incurred by it, should be paid by the Company, the *Baitan Gumi*, on its side, undertaking that all its customers should be transferred to the Company. The arrangement having thus been completed, the *Baitan Gumi* will close its office shortly.

THE FOOCHOW DISTURBANCE.

THE FOOCHOW correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing about the recent disturbance at that place, says:—

To make the reason of the great discontent amongst the people clear, I should preface my account of what has taken place since the execution with a brief sketch of events that took place prior to it, now a matter of history. You will recollect the Tekhua salt riots of twelve months ago. They originated in a singularly indiscreet step taken by the local Salt Tsotai to maintain the salt revenue, which had been previously falling off; he taxed the consumers instead of the dealers, irrespective of their consumption, and on such an immoderate scale, that the people drew up a petition, praying the authorities to have their new mode of collecting the tax withdrawn. The petition was presented in due course by the head-man of the locality, a man

of good means, good standing, and very greatly respected. To their consternation this man was thrown into prison for daring to present such a petition, and all those who had signed it were fined. This action on the part of the authorities seems to have tried their patience beyond endurance. At any rate they were not going to allow their friend to remain in prison; they collected a sufficiently strong force together, released him by force, and carried him back with them. Thereupon the authorities despatched a magistrate, supported by a troop of soldiers, to demand the return of the prisoner or take the consequences. A fight ensued, in which the military were routed and the magistrate killed. This was the beginning of the Tekhua rising, for the people having defied the authorities with success, resolved to keep it up, unless, of course, their petition received attention and their friend was allowed to go free. They quickly organised a very considerable force, and called upon their headman to be their leader, but he would have nothing to do with it. He had, however, to supply the rioters with funds, under compulsion and his name was put upon their flags, against his wish and in spite of his strong protest. Realising his helplessness amongst his countrymen, who apparently had lost control over themselves, he fled, and was not again heard of until the 22nd of last month, when he was brought into Foochow in chains. He was taken first to the Provincial Judge, and subsequently to the Viceroy's *yamen*, where he probably underwent some sort of examination, but he had no regular trial, and this is what the people complained of so bitterly. Before his execution, the following day, he protested his innocence, but it was of no avail. His head was severed from his body in a clumsy and cruel fashion, and the order was given for it to be sent to Tekhua for exposure in the market-place there.

It is difficult to reconcile the action of the government in executing this man with the murmurs of the people regarding it. In spite of my best endeavours I have not been able to find out that the man was guilty of anything more heinous than undertaking the presentation of the petition I have made mention of. It was not his fault that his means and his name were made use of to assist the Tekhua rising. If the government were possessed of information that he was a party to their rising, the should have made it known to the people. This would have pacified them; they would have been content to know that the law had simply followed its course; as it is, general discontent and ill-feeling prevail.

When the news of the execution reached Tekhua the people were bowed down with grief, but this tenderness was quickly followed by the more poignant feelings of indignation and revenge, and they organised a force to intercept the head on its way to their town. They vowed that it should not arrive as the head of a criminal, but as that of a sainted martyr to the cause of justice. They carried their point. They met the escort with the head near Shansien, and after a severe fight, in which they were victorious, they returned to Tekhua with the head of their friend. Warned of their approach, the whole of Tekhua turned out in deep mourning to meet them. Clad in white, unshaven, and with unplaited hair, they came, while the air was rent with the loud weeping of the multitude. It is described as a most affecting scene. Here my news of this trouble ends for the time being, excepting to add that a strong military force has been sent from Foochow up to Tekhua, and I am sorry to think of the further trouble in store for these people. There can only be one end to it, of course, and there will be a great amount of suffering before the end comes.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A CAMERA field day will be held on Sunday, October 2nd, at No. 8, Sanchome, Ai-oicho, Honjo (the residence of Mr. A. J. Hare), beginning in the morning. The first of the regular monthly meetings of the Society will be held at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku-kiokai), Nishikonyacho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, on Friday 7th October, beginning at 5 p.m., and there will be a meeting at the same place and hour on the first Friday of every month, until further notice. Members are requested to bring anything they think will be photographically interesting to the Society, particularly any samples of work done during the past summer.

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS AND THEIR SAVINGS.

According to the *Nippon*, the savings of the Japanese emigrants in Hawaii, which have hitherto been partly deposited in the Finance Department and partly sent to their families by postal money orders through the Japanese Consulate, are now to be deposited in the Yokohama Specie Bank, or sent direct in money-orders by the emigrants themselves. The change is said to be very inconvenient to the emigrants. By the original arrangement, 15 per cent. of their wages have to be deposited, and these deposits have accumulated to 800,000 yen, the sum deposited monthly amounting to about 20,000 yen. Instead of 6 per cent. al-

lowed by the Finance Department, they will only receive 4 per cent. from the Specie Bank, and whereas no charges were imposed on money-orders sent through the Consulate, now the usual fees will have to be paid. The loss thus incurred by the emigrants is estimated at 42,160 yen per annum, which, of course, must come out of their savings. Mr. Ando Taro, late Director of the Emigration Bureau, is responsible for the change. The *Nippon* expresses sympathy with the unfortunate labourers, and hopes some attempts will be made by those interested in emigration to redress the grievance.

THE GREAT FIRE AT ICHANG.

The *Shenpao*, as translated by the *North China Daily News*, gives the following particulars about the great fire at Ichang:—

Further intelligence has reached us from Ichang giving particulars of the casualties in the recent fearful conflagration, which razed a great portion of that city to the ground, and rendered thousands of people destitute and helpless. In order to recover the bodies of the unfortunate victims in the river a barrier was constructed and put across the stream after the fire, so as to prevent the bodies from drifting down. This method was successful, and up to the present time over two hundred bodies have been recovered, and the rescuers are still hard at work scouring the river. The houses consumed by the flames at Shipa were formerly the homes of over nine hundred families, besides the dwellings of thirty families in other part of the town. Nearly two hundred boats and craft of all descriptions were also consumed. In removing the debris and rummaging amongst the ruins some horrible scenes were witnessed. Soon after the catastrophe good people were hard at work examining into the extent of the damage, and began distributing money to the distressed survivors from the fire. The benevolent societies are now appealing to the public to raise subscriptions for the relief of the destitute people. It is said that 4,000 strings of cash have been obtained from various quarters which will be distributed amongst the people to alleviate, in some measure, their great suffering.

CHINA TEA.

Mr. CONSUL PHILLIPS, in his Report on the trade of Foochow for 1891, gives, on the authority of Mr. R. S. Westall, the following notes on the business in tea:—

In consequence of orders from Peking, recommendations were posted in the various tea countries by the local authorities to improve the quality of the teas this season, as a means towards the resuscitation of the trade. Some of the tea-men in the Peking, Paklum, and Panyong districts, did their best to further this end, and to a certain extent succeeded; but, on the other hand, judging by results, no other conclusion could be arrived at than those making teas in all other districts had disregarded the recommendation. The former were buoyed up with hope at the opening of the market, when they obtained for a few of their best chops prices 20 per cent. higher than the highest price paid last season, that they were going to make their fortunes, and congratulated themselves on having followed the guidance of the Mandarins. Their satisfaction was, however, short-lived, as the demand for fine tea—at any rate, high-priced fine tea—fell away, and as they persistently refused throughout the season to meet buyers in the matter of price, they were left at the close of the year with the bulk of these teas on hand. There were exceptions to this rule, but, as far as foreigners were concerned, whether they bought of these men at the high price or of others who submitted to a reduction, they lost money on their ventures. The prices paid for medium teas at the opening of the market, although no higher than last year, were thought by many to be dangerously high, considering the low values ruling in the London market, and the telegraphed sales towards the end of July proved that they were so; indeed, the losses made on shipments up to that time were on the average, heavy. Then, as a natural consequence, prices declined and remained low, though not low enough, as it turned out, for the well-being of those who shipped, as the forced sales of the increased supply of Ceylon and Indian teas in Mincing Lane further depressed prices in that market, and if losses were comparatively light on these autumn shipments, there were, none the less, on the balance, losses. As regards common tea, it was scarcely to be expected that it would touch a very low point here after the 'boom' which took place through speculation in London in January last; nevertheless, what is known as 'type' standard was bought in August to lay down at 5½d. per lb., at which price it remained until the middle of October, when it rose to 6d. on account of scarcity; such of these teas as have already been sold have not brought back the money paid for them, as far as is known at present; therefore, the season has not been a profitable one for shippers. As, however, there are still five months wherein to realise the season's export, now virtually complete, it may be, considering the exceptionally favourable statistical position of China tea in London, that the result of the year's trading will not turn out to be so unfortunate as was at one time expected.

To the natives the season has again been one of severe losses. The little profit made on common tea went no way to make good a tithe of the money they lost on the better kinds. Those of them who have been engaged in the particular branch of the trade of making tea and bringing it down to their market appear never to have heard of the competition of India and Ceylon, or, if they have, cannot bring themselves to believe that tea can be produced in any country other than their own. According to a late report,

however, they are at length alive to the true state of the case, and are combining to face the difficulty.

From what is known of the cost of preparing tea and bringing it to their market, the ingenuity of these Chinese will be taxed severely. The cost of growing may be a bagatelle, and labour we know is cheap enough, but the lekin and petty exactions of the officials as the tea is in transit, will, as matters stand, make it a very difficult thing for them to compete with India and Ceylon. The only chance of success lies in these exactions being reduced. Then there is the export duty. However fair it may have been at the time the last treaty was signed, it is galling for those interested in the trade, both the Chinese and the foreigner, to know that 25 per cent. to 30 cent. on the average value of tea has to be paid.

Again, the supply of Congou shows a serious falling-off. The deficiency is 50,000 chests, or 13 per cent., the figures being 345,000 chests against 395,000 chests last season, and (to show how rapid the decline of the trade is) 850,000 chests in 1880. Of other kinds, Souchong and Feloo have been in supply about the same as last year, while Oolong and scented tea show an increase. But Congou is the backbone of the trade, the total yield of the four last-named descriptions being only 90,000 chests. A noticeable feature is the larger business done this year in the manufacture of brick tea by the Russian houses. But a small proportion of the tea used for this purpose is included in the above figures of Congou supply, the remainder being brought down to these firms under contract in bags. Altogether 100,000 chests, consisting entirely of dust and broken leaf, were manufactured in this way and shipped to the north, the increase representing about 37,000 chests.

ROBBING A WRECK.

We have never heard of any instance of dishonesty in Japan in connection with the wreck of a ship. But a case is now given in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpo*. On the 23rd ultimo, says our contemporary, the sailing ship *North American* was wrecked off Shiwaki Division in Tokushima Prefecture, and her cargo was sold by auction to a merchant of Kobe. He despatched two sailing-ships—one to Yuki Division and the other to Shiwaki Division—and hired about a hundred coolies to transport the camphor with which the ship was laden from Shiwaki to Yuki. Some 20 members of the Division Council of the former place, instigated the coolies to steal 30 cases of camphor, 20 cases of camphor-oil, and 4 cases of porcelain, the total value of which is estimated to be about yen 2,500. The goods were buried in the ground, and the purchaser of the cargo having no suspicion of such a dishonest act, his ships sailed back to Kobe. The police, however, soon discovered what had happened. On the 3rd instant they arrested 20 members of the Village Council as well as 16 others. The preliminary examination of the incriminated persons was concluded on the 10th, and they were sent to the Criminal Court of the District for trial.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

MR. KONO TOGAMA, the new Minister for Education, is credited with a resolve to develop the practical side of education in Japan. In pursuance of that purpose he deems it necessary to inspect the existing schools and colleges, and it is stated that he recently sent a message to the Imperial University, requesting that a day be appointed for his visit. This Faculty replied, however, that they were very busily engaged in the compilation of the Budget, and that it would be desirable if the Minister's visit were postponed for a few days. Mr. Kono thereupon decided to inspect the High Normal School. At 8 a.m. on Friday last he left his official residence and drove to the School, accompanied by a Private Secretary. After inspecting every class, he visited the attached High and Elementary Schools. Subsequently, he inspected the Female High Normal School; returning to his residence at 5 p.m. His Excellency is expected to pay his next visit of inspection to the Fine Arts School, and the Imperial Library in Ueno Park, and he will probably proceed to the Tokyo Industrial School in Asakusa on the following day. We take these facts from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

ACCIDENT TO THE "KOBE MARU."

OUR Moji correspondent, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, writes under date Saturday the 24th:—The *Kobe Maru* when coming into port here at about midnight fouled the Black Buoy (at the south-west end of the bank), with a strong current running at the time. After working hard all night they managed to clear the mooring-chains of the buoy from the propeller by 7 o'clock this morning. Whether the propeller was damaged or

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not I cannot say, as it was wholly under water. The ship dragged the buoy quite a distance out of its proper position towards the Moji shore. She is to leave as soon as everything is put to rights again.

IMPROVEMENTS IN TSUKIJI.

We notice with pleasure the building and enlarging of certain houses in Tsukiji during the past summer. The elegant brick buildings of the Protestant Episcopal Mission on the south side of Shinsakaicho are not only pretty, but evince fine architecture and workmanship, and present an imposing appearance in that neighbourhood. On the opposite side of the street the mission of the Evangelical Association has enlarged houses Nos. 44 and 50, which, with the present commodious verandas, make desirable premises.

EARTHQUAKE IN GERMANY.

REPORTS from Germany state that in the early part of August a severe earthquake was felt at Ems and vicinity. The shock was so strong that the water in the wells was churned into wavelets, while a great many houses were so severely shaken that the inmates fled to the streets for safety. In Nassau and Nieder-Lahnstein a number of chimneys were thrown down and the school students frightened into a panic. Great anxiety was felt at the time, and not a few thought that the houses would tumble down.

THE GREAT MUSICAL TREAT.

AFTER all that has been said and written in Yokohama about the anticipated musical treat to be offered to residents here, it would appear, if a Hongkong paper is trustworthy, that the whole affair, so far as this community is concerned, is a black "frost," as Mr. Harley, having landed in Hongkong solus, is proposing to local amateurs in the Crown Colony to help him out with a concert, and his company is—well, *non est*.

THE ASSAULT ON A CONSTABLE.

ON Tuesday morning, at the German Consulate, Alfred Jansen, was sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment for his assault upon Tomita Chozo, a police-constable, on the 22nd ult. The defendant, who had followed a customer out of his grogshop, No. 106, Settlement, and assaulted him, struck Tomita several blows when the latter came upon the scene and attempted to restore order.

MR. CONSUL GARDNER.

MR. CONSUL C. P. GARDNER, who is charged with the care of British interests at Hankow, has been rewarded by Her Majesty with the Companionship of St. Michael and St. George. Readers of the Blue Books know what an able and resolute part Mr. Gardner played during the anti-foreign riots in the Yangtze Valley. It is pleasant to see such merit as his so speedily recognised and so signally rewarded.

RECOVERY OF STOLEN PROPERTY.

WE learn that the Police have succeeded in making a big haul of valuable property stolen some time ago, and have most of the thieves in custody. The robbery had been going on some time before it was discovered, and several thousand dollars' worth had been removed. The case was placed in the hands of Inspector Kawada, who soon got on the track of the thieves, and there is hope that the remaining portion of the plunder may yet be recovered.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

ON Saturday night a concert was given in the garden of the Hotel Métropole, Tsukiji, Tokyo, by a military band, the enclosure being gaily decorated with coloured lanterns. A capital programme was played, and the dining-room being cleared for the purpose, an impromptu dance was got up. It is probable the directors of the hotel will repeat this entertainment at frequent intervals.

TELEGRAPHS IN JAPAN.

WE read in the *Fiji Shimpō* that the length of the telegraph land-lines in Japan, is now 3,123 *ri* (7,820 miles), and the total length of wires

9,333 *ri* (23,332 miles), while the length of submarine cables is 214 nautical miles. This system is managed by 442 offices, of which the majority combine the functions of posts and telegraphs.

DR. BAEZL.

DR. BAEZL, Professor of Medicine and Clinical Surgery in the Imperial University, Tokyo, passed through here, says the *Nagasaki Express*, a few days ago, on his way to Germany, on leave of absence, and was entertained at a Japanese dinner at "Koyotei" by a number of local medical men.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The position of the Opposition *vis-à-vis* the Government forms the topic of an interesting discussion in the columns of the *Fiji Shimpō* and *Nippon*, which are perfectly independent in politics, and can at any moment say just what they like about the Government or any of the existing parties. Careful perusal of the writings of these journals must convince the least intelligent reader that the Opposition is now in an awkward position, and that, despite the vaunting declarations of their organs, the political parties opposed to the Government enjoy a very small amount of the confidence of the educated and independent classes. The *Fiji Shimpō* laughs at the inconsistency of Opposition politicians who are delighted with the supposed disposition of the Government to adopt some of the measures proposed by themselves. They are reminded by our contemporary of the fact that the Cabinet of to-day is a clan Cabinet in a new disguise, and that the coming into power of the present Ministers of State cannot but cause indefinite delay in the consummation of the cardinal aim of the Opposition, namely, to wrest power from the clan Government. The Opposition politicians, if they mean to be consistent, ought therefore to be more than ever prepared to wage a stout fight with their new opponents. It is, says the *Fiji*, a great mistake to suppose that the Government is prepared to adopt the programme of the Opposition, because a few Governors who made themselves obnoxious by their active interference in the last general elections have been either removed or dismissed. These changes in the personnel of the local Governors would have been necessary in any case, as their continuance at their posts had become an insurmountable obstacle to the smooth conduct of local administration. Those who view the changes in the light of an inclination on the Government's part to adopt the Opposition's programme will one day find, to their cost, that they have been reckoning without their host. Our contemporary thinks that the statesmen composing the present Ministry, having been the real rulers of the country during the past decade, are morally bound to accept responsibility for the mistakes made in domestic and foreign policy throughout that period, mistakes which have brought about the difficulty now existing between the Government and the Opposition. What the mistakes were, our contemporary defines in another article which will be referred to presently. It concludes by advising the Opposition to indicate clearly the past errors of the Government, and force the latter to correct them as far as possible.

The *Nippon* goes farther in disclosing the helplessness of the Opposition. It delivers itself of the opinion that the Opposition is now quite unprepared for an encounter with the Government, being in truth, utterly disorganized. The party diametrically opposed to the Government, viz., the *Kaishin-to*, seems to rejoice at the approaching opportunity of directly measuring strength with the real leaders of its adversaries. But even that party is in the dark as to the policy to be pursued in the coming session of the Diet. Meanwhile, the Government, in the opinion of the *Nippon*, is secretly gathering strength. The Ito Cabinet does not give perfect satisfaction to the Tokyo paper, but such a group of statesmen can never be sighted. The Premier, Count Ito, is declared to be, after

all, the greatest statesman of the present day. He has no equal in the difficult art of holding the elder statesmen in unity and harmony, even Count Okuma being far inferior to him in this respect. Moreover, Count Ito is now bent upon avoiding all the showy policy of former days, and is doing his best to pursue a programme of solid achievement. The way in which he and his colleagues dealt with the local Governors at the time of the recent conference of the latter, indicates the high capacity of the new Ministry. In their policy towards the Diet, the present Ministers of State will be found to be very different from their predecessors. Will the Opposition be able to meet such a Government in the coming session with any hope of effective resistance? Our contemporary strongly doubts it. In fact, the Opposition politicians are perplexed as to the policy they should pursue toward the new Ministry. The *Nippon* recommends them to recall to the capital all of their friends who are now lecturing in the provinces, and in conjunction with them to consider the programme they mean to pursue next session.

The Cabinet, too, is the recipient of sundry counsels from metropolitan journalists. The *Fiji Shimpō* repeats its recommendation that the new Ministers of State ought to devote themselves to correcting the mistakes committed by them in the past ten years. Among these mistakes are mentioned the hasty and forced redemption of the fiat currency, causing disastrous disturbances in the financial world; the enactment of many troublesome and pernicious laws and regulations; the introduction of inconvenient formalities in all departments of officialdom; repeated blunders in connection with the question of Treaty Revision; and an inconsistent policy toward the peninsular kingdom. Another, and perhaps more serious, blunder committed by these statesmen, in the *Fiji's* opinion, is the rapid access of honours accruing to officials, as, for example, the ennoblement of high officials, and their assumption of ranks (*kurai*) even more exalted than those of the greatest of the former *Daimyo* or *Kuge*. The *Fiji* earnestly recommends Count Ito and his colleagues to correct their past mistakes as far as possible, by way of fitting conclusion of their long and brilliant political career.

The *Kokkai* offers singular counsel to Count Ito. It recommends nothing less than the immediate dissolution of the present Cabinet, and the organization of a new one by politicians of the younger generation with Count Ito at their head. Why is such heroic measure to be taken? Not on account of any misconduct of the present Ministers of State, but merely for the sake of educating younger politicians in the art of statesmanship. A more impractical scheme has never been propounded by a responsible newspaper of the *Kokkai's* standing. Possibly our contemporary is merely jesting.

The report that the Cabinet has tried to weaken the so-called Extreme section of the Upper House by offering official positions to some of its leading members, has furnished the *Kaishin-to* papers with a long desired topic for reviling the new Ministers of State. They remind the latter of the fact that such a time-serving policy will never answer their purpose, and they challenge them either to adopt some of the reforms proposed by the Opposition, or boldly to stand forth and fight a conclusive battle with their adversaries.

Keen competition is going on between the Oriental Radicals and the Radicals proper, for mastery of the eight provinces of the *Kwan-to*. Originally the provinces around the capital were regarded as the legitimate field of Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers. The great influence which they at first possessed in the councils of the Radical party was mainly due to this circumstance. But gradually in these provinces younger men of ability made their appearance. The new aspirants for political fame do not in any

way regard themselves as Mr. Oi's followers, which circumstance, supplemented by the fact that Mr. Oi's section numbers few representatives in the Lower House, has led to a steady diminution of *Kwantō-kai* influence. Probably the dissatisfaction which recently culminated in the secession of Mr. Oi and his followers from the Radical ranks was largely due to a sense of their lessened weight in the Party's councils. At all events, having organized themselves into the *Kwantō-Kai* or Oriental Radicals, they have been endeavouring to recover something of their influence in the Kwantō district, and there can be no doubt that they still exercise there an amount of power not to be despised by any politician. The Radicals, on the other hand, have apparently set their hearts on annihilating their late associates' prestige in that region, and of course the result is considerable friction. The Oriental Radicals held a large meeting on the 25th ultimo at Shimodate in Ibaraki Prefecture; and the Radicals held a counter meeting yesterday in Mito the capital of the same Prefecture. The Radical organ, the *Jiyū*, has published a damaging attack on the Oriental Radicals, whose new organ is to make its appearance to-day. We may expect a fierce controversy between the two. It seems fair to defer any detailed allusion to the *Jiyū's* strong aspersions until its opponents have had an opportunity to defend themselves.

As to the Budget for the coming fiscal year, it is rumoured that the Cabinet intends to effect a reduction of some 4 million *yen* in the ordinary expenses of the Government. How far this report is true, we cannot say; but it seems very probable that the Ministry is willing to economize public expenditure to the utmost degree, and that in this respect the Opposition will not find much ground of complaint. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note a significant article in the Radical organ from the pen of Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives. He insists on a further reduction of public expenses, declaring himself strongly convinced that there is room for extensive economy in that direction. He admits the urgent necessity of completing the defences of the country, and of developing national industry and commerce, for which purposes he would not grudge the outlay of large sums. But as to the method in which funds should be obtained for those ends, he is of opinion that the only plan is to save out of the expenses of the Administration, the burdens borne by the people being already heavy enough. He strongly recommends the Cabinet to compile next year's Budget on the most economical basis possible, but he refrains from clearly stating how much reduction he deems possible or desirable. Thus he does not commit his party to any definite course of action with regard to the Budget, except that reductions of some sort on the ordinary expenditure of the Government are demanded.

The Railway question continues to occupy much attention. Complaints are made against the Cabinet's delay in nominating a Railway Council in accordance to the Law for the Extension Railways. Some papers advocate the simultaneous commencement of work on all the lines to be constructed within the next dozen years. Each member of the House of Representatives, anxious to please his own constituency, demands that the first attention be given to the line in his particular locality. To reconcile these conflicting claims the newspapers alluded to above advocate the impartial but impossible plan of commencing all the lines simultaneously. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, taking a broader view, hopes that the question may be discussed not from a local but from a national standpoint. Its own opinion, based on general considerations, is that a commencement should be made with the lines situated in the provinces contiguous to the Sea of Japan, since that side of the country has been too long left unprovided with facilities of steam communication. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also strongly recommends the Ministry to

organize the Railway Council as quickly as possible, and at the same time traverses some of the singular notions entertained by certain of its contemporaries.

The alleged persecution of Christians by the Governor of Kumamoto has awakened widespread interest. Some of the prominent Christians in the capital have called upon the Ministers of State, and have, moreover, published an open letter on the subject through the columns of the leading metropolitan papers. The charges brought against Governor Matsudaira are supported by circumstances apparently worthy of credit. Kumamoto is one of the most unreasonably conservative places in the Empire, political as well as socially; and it is supposed that Governor Matsudaira was weak enough to yield to the clamours of the old-fashioned folks under his charge. The metropolitan papers, without distinction of sect or party, have taken the affair up as a question affecting not only Christians but the people at large, for the reported action of the Governor of Kumamoto is a breach of the express provisions of the Constitution. The Tokyo papers call upon the Cabinet to deal with the offending functionary in a severe manner, and remark that, should the matter be passed in silence, the Cabinet will certainly be called to account.

Mr. Nakai of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is writing a series of interesting articles on Korean subjects. In one of these articles, he discusses the effects of the completion of the Siberian railway, his forecast being that the line will inevitably be extended into the Korean peninsula. To counteract the increase of Russian influence in that kingdom, the writer recommends, on the one hand, that China construct a line to Sōul, and, on the other, urges Japan to lay a line from Fusan to Sōul and thence to Ninsen. Commercially speaking, Mr. Nakai is of opinion that the port destined to become a depôt Japan's side for the new trade to be opened up by the Siberian line, will be, not on Maizuru, as some persons think, but Shimonoseki and Moji.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has commenced an essay on the Korean question, strongly condemning the high-handed manner in which the Japanese Government has hitherto dealt with the Korean Government, and the insulting behaviour of Japanese residents in Korea towards the natives.

The reports so busily circulated in Europe, affecting the fair fame of Mr. Hitrovo, the new Russian Minister to Japan, have found their way to Japan, and created some ill-feeling. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, fearing the spread of such rumours in an exaggerated form, has taken the trouble to reproduce all that has been said on both sides. In a moderate editorial, our contemporary warns its countrymen against giving credence to sensational stories, and avows itself convinced of the untrustworthiness of tales originated by a paper fiercely opposed to Russia, and circulated by other journals of more or less similar predilections. Our contemporary sympathizes with Mr. Hitrovo for the rumour with which he has been pursued by his enemies, and recognising in him a man of unusual capacity, is glad to welcome him among the Diplomatic Representatives in Tokyo.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the Christian cult the month sees nothing of note other than a general spirit of preparation for the great conference of next year. The voices that have spoken in the Orthodox press have been chiefly the more liberal ones, and the conservatives have been for some time quiescent. There is a general cessation of controversy all along the line. But the Buddhist ranks are experiencing tumultuous disorder. First, there is deep dissension between opposing parties in several sects. This is the case with

the Nichiren, the Tendai, the Shingon, and especially the Soto sect. The difficulties in the first, as was related about this time last year, were outwardly consequent upon an alleged usurpation by Mr. Kobayashi of the position of chief priest of the sect, by means of a restriction of the franchise and an irregular election; but, behind it all, the division probably rests on some difference of method or principle, and, though events have confirmed the position of the Kobayashi section, there is still a great deal of bitter feeling. In the Soto sect the strain has reached the breaking point in the West. The temples of Noto and Echigo (they still keep up the old provincial names) not long ago decided to make a final separation from the main body. Two representatives from the East were sent to counsel peace, but in vain. Then representatives of the Tendai, Rinzai, Shingon, Shin, and other sects met, and resolved that the separation was on the whole a desirable step. But now the news comes, that the Home Department, which controls religious affairs, has refused to sanction the secession; and this checkmate has left affairs at a standstill for the present. In the Shingon sect it is the older and the younger generation that seem to be at odds. Peace-makers protest in vain against the folly of dividing the forces of Buddhism in a moment of the greatest danger. If, as appears, the difficulty is at bottom one of educational methods, then there is a radical and persistent cause for this division among the followers of Kobo Daishi. It is said that the education of the priesthood has failed to keep pace with the general educational methods of the nation at large and is still floundering in the ruts of antiquity. It follows what is called the "pouring-in" (*chunyu-tek*) method, ladling out to the neophytes stated quantities of the teacher's opinions and forcing them to swallow these willy-nilly, without question or argument. One result is that the young men obey in outward appearance so long as the teacher is present, but when he has gone, they laugh at his musty doctrines. Another defect is the so-called "idolizing" spirit; for the young candidate is obliged to pay absolute and unthinking reverence to certain choice words and sentences of certain ancient saints, and to treat them as inspired and holy utterances, without any attempt to reason upon their meaning or validity. If such be the methods in vogue, then certainly the young men of to-day will soon demand religious emancipation. An association of the chief priests of all the sects has been formed for the purpose of arbitrating and otherwise assisting in the settlement of religious dissensions; but it remains to be seen how much it can accomplish.

Secondly, there has been considerable attention paid of late by the Buddhists to Unitarianism, its doctrines and methods. This has no direct connection with the New Buddhism, and does not indicate any trend of the latter in that direction. But it finds expression largely in the utterances of Mr. Nakanishi Goro, the bold young reformer whose book on the New Buddhism we noticed last spring, and whose notable article on Christianity we summarized last month. Mr. Nakanishi's latest words we give below. But the immediate cause of the talk that has arisen is the announcement by Mr. Saji Jitsunen that he is to become lecturer on Oriental Religions at the Jiyū Shingakko (School of Liberal Theology) of the Unitarians. Mr. Saji, it seems, is, or rather was, a Buddhist, a lay teacher of great note as a scholar; a year or two ago he left Buddhism and published a series of scientific works of an educational character. He has not, it seems, become a Unitarian; but his entry among the faculty of the Jiyū Shingakko has called forth hostile remarks from some of the faithful.

Mr. Nakanishi Goro, in the *Dento* (Shingon Sect), first expresses gratification at the presence of Unitarian workers. Unitarianism, he declares, is the most important movement in Christianity. It aims to make Christianity reasonable. The Unitarian faith, it is true, is negative, while Orthodoxy is positive; Unitarianism rejects the Trinity and the Incarna-

tion, and believes that the human perfection of Jesus is not unattainable by man; this last being an idea which Buddhism also shares. Unitarians also lay great stress on morality and believe in the constant progress of humanity. How lofty their religion is, compared with Orthodoxy. If there were no Buddhism, we would glad extent our hands to embrace Unitarianism. We hold fast to Buddhism, because we believe it contains still greater truth; but Unitarianism is acceptable to us, because its doctrines are lofty, its faith liberal, its morality pure. Welcome, Unitarians, as friends!

In another article (in the *Keisei Hokugi*, edited by himself) Mr. Nakanishi's devotion to his country's religion comes more to the front, and he urges his brethren to take up earnestly the cause of reform, lest these very excellencies of Unitarianism draw away from Buddhism those who are looking for new light. Hostile to Buddhism, he thinks, are the forces of materialism, scepticism, and Christianity. But most to be dreaded is Unitarianism. Attractive to Buddhists by its rationalization of Christ and of miracles, and its postulation of Evolution as the law of the universe, it is nevertheless founded essentially on Christianity; it is in short Christianity rationalized. But its rejection of the superstitions of Christianity, its insistence on the Christian spirit only, and its harmonizing of religion with science and humanity,—all these are dangerous to those sheep of our fold whose steps are already beginning to stray. It is true that Dr. Channing has expressed opinions quite at variance with the central truths of Buddhism. But still Unitarianism tolerates many shades of opinion, studies Buddhism with a desire to reach its truth, and does not wage bitter war upon it, as other Christians do. It is blindness and folly to oppose Buddhism without knowing its principles, and it is equally blind to reject Unitarianism without reflection. The test of truth is not tradition, or custom, or yet popular opinion. Truth is the law of the universe; it cannot be produced by us or destroyed by us. There are to-day many who are proudest of Buddhist truth and yet know it least. Buddhist truth changes not; but its priests are degenerate and cannot keep up with the world's progress. If Unitarianism continues its work here, there will be found many intelligent Buddhists who will embrace its principles,—an untoward result, surely, for Buddhism. Let us hope that we may find some means of furnishing within our own fold religious principles meet to satisfy these dissatisfied ones and thus hold our own against Unitarianism.

Evidently not all Buddhists think — Mr. Nakanishi does, for in the same *Dento* containing his article, the editor, in the column of jottings, counsels forbearance towards Christians. It is unkind, he says, to attack them in this hour of their distress. Let them alone. Error dies of its own weakness, and truth cannot but conquer in the end.

In the *Dampo* an illustration is drawn from English history to enforce the theme of "Religion the Protector of the Constitution." The *London Times*, it is said, happened once to remark that Christianity in some points did violence to truth. At once a hail of letters poured in upon it from all quarters, asserting that such a statement sapped the foundations of national morality and demanding its withdrawal. The *Times* then withdrew the remark, presumably not out of conviction, but out of regard for public order. The principle is here clearly seen that national order must be preserved, even at the expense of the progress of truth. This is by no means the most commendable principle. But it is none the less a fact that religion and national welfare are linked together. Any religion is good if it has grown up with the country and is fitted to the country,—whether it be Mohammedanism, Buddhism, or any other. At present the ferment in our material civilization is retarding our religious welfare. Religion is no longer bound up with country; each man is for his set

and the result is that the whole moral system of the nation is disorganized. It remains for Buddhism to show itself equal to the occasion, and to link itself as indissolubly with the national welfare as Christianity is linked in Europe.

The long series of articles in the *Dento* on "Japanese Morality" is brought to an end with some observations on the condition of Confucianism. Many people, it is said, are found declaring nowadays that Confucian principles are unjust; that they profit the strong and oppress the weak; that, for example, they teach subjects to be loyal, but not sovereigns to be benevolent, give women duties without rights and men rights without duties, allow parents to make claims on their children but give children none upon their parents; and that such principles can no longer be followed in the present state of society. The writer denies that any such wholesale condemnation can be made of Confucian morality; but admits that the modifications of its doctrines now taking place are for the better. In the last *regime* Confucianism displaced Buddhism among the higher classes, and Buddhism became the belief of the common people. But now the entire nation is being leavened with Western ideas, and though there are excesses in both directions, the general result is on the whole an improvement.

The *Jiyu Kiristukyo Zasshi* (Universalist) comes to us in a new and improved dress, the size being that of a monthly instead of a weekly, as before. The new departure indicates prosperity and a firm hold on the reading public. Mr. Yoshimura writes on "Is Marriage a Failure?" After premising that a man's happiness or unhappiness in the marriage relation depends on right conduct on the part of both parties, he enumerates the circumstances under which harmony cannot be hoped for. These are (1) where the marriage was for money; (2) where the husband spends more money on tobacco than the wife on dress; (3) where any work is engaged in which either does not like; (4) where there is serious difference of opinion; (5) where the husband goes to the theatre and other amusements without taking his wife and children; (6) where the husband insists on dictating to the wife in matters of dress; (7) where the meals are not properly prepared; (8) where either party is lazy and idle. Another writer inveighs against "Fashionable Christian Enterprises." He takes as his illustration the recent resolution of a number of Christians to make a huge bell out of their renounced pipes and send it to the Chicago Exhibition. Such enterprises are as empty and vain as the bell itself; and the same may be said of other enterprises now fashionable—young men's clubs, etc.,—which serve merely to pass the time but do nothing to advance Christianity. Better turn our attention solely to preaching the Gospel.

In the *Shinri* (German) Mr. Minami writes on "The Idea of Jesus." Mr. Maruyama continues his thoughtful series on "The Progress of Christianity," reaching in this number the conflict of the Gospel and Science. He stands on the proposition that if the Bible is from God and therefore teaches the truth, it cannot be in contradiction with the truths of philosophy and science. The question for us, therefore, is simply to discover this harmony between the Bible and Science, knowing that it must be capable of discovery.

In the *Seikyo Shimpō* (Greek) Mr. Owada, writing on "Public Happiness," reproaches his nation with the enshrinement of selfishness as the principle of life. The new doctrines of socialism and the other isms are much talked about nowadays; but much attention to them draws the heart away from the old and eternal truth that happiness is to be found only in serving others. Nothing but the success of Christianity and its principles will enable this truth to prevail over these unsound theories and fads of modern times. Another writer pleads for

Christian education as the only basis of national morality.

Mr. Yokoi's article for the month, in the *Rikugo Zasshi* (Congregationalist), is entitled "Cosmic Optimism." He begins with a quotation from Emerson on cheerfulness and courage, and then enlarges on Matthew Arnold's famous "power that makes for righteousness," the Infinite Power of which all things in the universe are but the manifestation, the pitying and loving Power, leading us on to good and revealing the secrets of the universe. A few have penetrated to these secrets,—Confucius, Buddha, and, greatest of all, Christ, who declared the eternal truth: "God is love." The great question is, what is the true aspect of the Universe? The answer is that it is one of constant progress towards the good, through the help of the universal inspiration and energy acting in the world. When we follow the dictates of love and uprightness, then God is with us; the Universal is our father and friend. Prayer is the putting of ourselves in harmony with these influences. No nation can progress which does not thus put itself in harmony with the universal forces of good; and what this nation now needs is a spiritual resolution directed to this end. Mr. Ukita, taking the somewhat misleading title, "The Essence of Christianity," writes on the abuses of that form of unpractical religion which may be termed "transcendentalism" (*chozen-shukyo*, religion of the beyond). This form of faith lays too much stress on the future and unworldly aspect of religion. Man's chief destiny is conceived of as Heaven, and this world is nothing,—a belief which is nothing more nor less than Buddhism. One of the deplorable results is that the reaction from such a belief leads to atheism, that is a denial that there is anything worth seeking outside of this world. Another is that an excessive sentimentality is nourished, leading men, for example, to despise the institution of marriage because in Heaven there are to be no sexes. Another is that the progress of material civilization is checked, as we see Buddhism has checked the progress of the Orient. Still another is to divert our attention from the vital religions of the day, which need all the thought that our powers are capable of.

In the *Kiristukyo Shimbun* (Congregationalist) is an explanation of "The Decline of Christian Schools." The causes suggested are (1) English is not given as much attention as formerly; (2) French and German are now becoming as important as English, and there have sprung up other good schools that teach these languages; (3) English schools also are more numerous; (4) the national reaction has worked against foreign schools; (5) the general knowledge of the nation is advancing, and greater specialization is demanded; and (6) the methods are not suited to national education; the pupil learns foreign proprieties and standards, but not Japanese; the playing of the organ and singing of hymns are of no use to entertain friends who appreciate only the *koto* and the *samisen*.—If the reader will turn to the other explanations and suggestions that have appeared in these columns during the past year, he will find that the foreign managers are very much in the position of the miller and his son taking the donkey to market.

In the same journal are vouchsafed also some suggestions as to the "Work of Missionaries." There are two great obstacles to their effectiveness,—first, the difficulty of language for, however eloquent in their own tongue, their preaching is never impressive in Japanese; second, the difference in ways of thought, for they cannot be as skilful as they could wish to be in understanding the needs of a given individual or community and in applying the remedy. The chief objects to which the foreign missionaries can devote themselves are, first, to teach in the Christian schools, which just now need our best attention; and, second, to get money; for the time is coming when the annual support from the West must be replaced by an endowment which shall make the schools independent of

MERCHANT CONSULS.

IT was not surprising that a misconception should have existed at the outset of the Portuguese jurisdictional complication as to the real reason of Japan's action, or that the general public should roughly consider the question to be one between Consuls *Missi* and Merchant Consuls. But time enough has elapsed and sufficient explanations have been publicly given to place the matter beyond the reach of such errors. It is surprising, therefore, to find the *Hyogo News* writing in its issue of the 22nd instant:—"We could see no reason at the time for Japan's objecting to Merchant Consuls as such, providing a careful selection was made, but Portugal, by contemptuously ignoring the representations of the Japanese authorities, has put herself out of Court." What our contemporary means by "a careful selection," and how, from a number of totally untrained persons, any process of selection could obtain men competent to discharge judicial functions, we do not profess to understand. All merchant consuls in countries where jurisdictional duties devolve upon them, are an indefensible anomaly, and any Power content to entrust the administration of justice to such persons, in respect of its nationals in Japan, whether few or many, is guilty of a distinct breach of treaty obligations. That such breaches are suffered to continue in practice is simply because, having been permitted at the outset when Japan lacked perception to protest, they have acquired a sort of prescriptive title to toleration. It is certain, however, that did any State attempt to establish a system of Merchant Consuls in this country *de novo*, or did any State seek to revert from a system of Consuls *Missi* to Merchant Consuls, Japan would object most strenuously. Portugal's procedure, however, was not a mere reversion to Merchant Consuls. Her Consuls at the outposts had always been merchants, so that her system, though at no time comparable with that of a Power having properly equipped Consular Courts, was not open to any more serious objection on the score of *personnel* than were the systems of certain other small Powers. The reality in her case was that, prior to 1887, her arrangements for the discharge of the jurisdictional functions devolving on her under the treaty were not even so efficient as the arrangements made by other States represented by Merchant Consuls. The Portuguese Consuls were invested with powers which amounted only to those of a committing magistrate, and in order that, for the purposes of any particular case, their competence should be extended to something like efficiency, reference to Macao was necessary. To this exceedingly defective system Japan called official attention in 1883, and received distinct

assurances that steps should be taken to amend it. There was no question then of Merchant Consuls as such. Objection might justly have been taken to a system in which the men entrusted with judicial functions lacked legal training of every kind. But such an objection, being equally valid against all systems of Merchant Consuls, was not specially urged in Portugal's case, the eminently defective feature with respect to her Consuls being, not that they were untrained merchants, but that they did not even possess the competence of other merchant Consuls, since they only discharged the functions of committing magistrates and were not entitled to receive *exequaturs* from the Japanese Government. Portugal, as we have said, undertook to amend this state of affairs, and did apparently amend it in 1885, but the Nagasaki incident of 1887—when it was found that no Portuguese Consul in Japan possessed authority to issue a warrant for the apprehension of the thief—furnished concrete evidence that the corrective measures nominally taken were practically defective. In the sequel fresh reforms were introduced, the upshot being that the Consuls at the outposts were reduced to the rank of Vice-Consuls and made dependent upon a Consul-General *Missus* in Tokyo, in whom was vested competence to fill up the flagrant lacunæ previously existing in the system. It was this arrangement, built up after years of practical experience and in deference to Japan's representations, that Portugal suddenly overthrew in 1892, paying not the slightest heed to Japanese remonstrances, and taking not the smallest trouble to provide against the flagrant defects which the system elaborated in 1887 had been designed to remove. To describe the Portuguese procedure as a return to Merchant Consuls, after the fashion of certain other minor Powers, is therefore an evident misconception, which ought not to have been possible in view of the full explanations already furnished. We judge from the present tone of the *Hyogo News* that it is anxious to treat the question in a spirit of fairness, and we therefore recapitulate these easily understood facts.

MAYOR FUKUSHIMA AND HIS RIDE ACROSS ASIA.

EVERYBODY remembers the marvellous tale published by a so-called Berlin correspondent of an American journal with reference to the causes which started Major FUKUSHIMA on his remarkable ride across Asia. Journalistic methods in the States are so uncommonly smart that correspondence from a distant centre of interest can be made to grow up at any minute under the pens of the every-day copy-manufacturers in the office of the newspaper itself. Such a feat has long ceased to be astonishing. Indeed, it has become so familiar that one may find folks

of not wholly perverted morals who persuade themselves to imagine that for an editor to write a letter to himself in the name of a fictitious correspondent, date it from a place thousands of miles away, and fill it with matter purporting to be the outcome of personal observations conducted *in loco*, is nothing more than a pleasantly adroit device for enhancing the consequence of his newspaper and tickling the fancy of his readers. But we are not aware that even these liberal-minded critics have ever agreed to condone, not alone the manufacture of a correspondent, but also the fabrication of the whole subject of correspondence, with the least possible attention to truth and the utmost possible deference to imagination. That appears to be precisely what happened in the case of Major FUKUSHIMA's American historian. Every incident of the tale had its origin in the nimble fancy of the imaginary correspondent. The beautiful German lady of high degree who loved and was loved by the gallant Major; the morose brother who marred the course of true love; the ingenious wager devised to start the lover on a tour which should separate him finally from his innamorata or make him famous enough to aspire worthily to her hand—all these things were airy fictions without the tiniest fragment of truth to colour them. It would not have mattered much, so far as the Major personally was concerned, that a composer of newspaper romance should have taken him as a theme. But, unfortunately, there happens to be a fond and faithful Mrs. FUKUSHIMA in Japan, to whom, awaiting the return of her lord from long exile, these stories penetrating, caused no little grief and perplexity. 'Tis hard for confidence to hold its head above all shocks, when thousands of miles of separation, years of absence, and the famed charms of beauteous ladies conspire to suggest disquieting fancies. The American romancer did not reflect upon these contingencies, we imagine, nor if he had would they have greatly influenced a writer so splendidly untrammelled by conventionalities. Happily for Mrs. FUKUSHIMA's peace of mind, there arrived recently in Japan a gentleman who shared Major FUKUSHIMA's quarters in Berlin, possessed his full friendship, and is acquainted with the minutest details of his life ever since he landed in Europe. From this Mr. TETSUYA HAYAKAWA, who laughs very heartily at the extravaganza in which his chum has been made to figure, it has been learned that the ride across Asia had its origin in a genuine ambition to procure information at first-hand about an undertaking one of the most important of the time from an Oriental point of view. Major FUKUSHIMA appears to be naturally imbued with the love of travel. When Count YAMAGATA visited the West in 1890, the Major, then Military Attaché of the Japanese Legation in Berlin, expressed to the Count a strong desire to

travel in Eastern Europe, and the Count approving of the project, the Major was subsequently enabled to journey, under commission from the War Office in Tokyo, throughout the Balkan Peninsula, visiting Servia, Roumania, and Bulgaria, and making himself acquainted with the whole region down to Greece. This tour whetted his appetite, and when public attention began to be keenly directed to the Siberian Railway project, the Major conceived the idea of exploring the route on horse-back, and learning as much as possible of an enterprise so vital to Japan. His objective point originally was Vladivostok, but by degrees the programme grew to include the transit of northern China and exit at Peking. The Japanese Government have done what they could to facilitate things for the enterprising officer, and the Chinese Government also, at the instance of the Japanese Legation in Peking, have shown much good will, furnishing the Major with a passport which ought to secure him safe passage at every point of the Middle Kingdom lying on his route. The journey, if successfully accomplished, will be a very memorable feat, and the Major will deserve all the credit that must attach to him, not only as a man of exceptional pluck and endurance, but also as the possessor of much unique and valuable information. It is a little hard that an enterprise conceived so deliberately and prompted by such solid motives, should be distorted by a sensational penny-a-liner into the silly sequel of a giddy love-affair. But these accidents may befall any one in such times as ours, and if the Major's big ride did not begin in pique, as the American Munchausen pretends, let us hope that it may not end in pathos, as some wiseacres predict.

"CROOKHAVEN."

IT cannot surprise anyone to learn that an advertisement now appearing in the columns of some local foreign newspapers with reference to the sale of a house and land at Kamakura, should have evoked unfavourable comment from the vernacular press. The advertisement is inserted by a local firm of auctioneers, who announce that they "have received instructions from Mr. OKI, to sell by public auction (unless previously disposed of privately), at their Sales Rooms, No. 77, Main Street, Yokohama, at 2 p.m. the healthily and beautifully situated property (in all 1,648 *tsubo*) comprising the 6-roomed villa with extensive verandah, &c., known as "Crookhaven," at Reozen-yama, Sakanoshita, Kamiakura, together with the valuable household furniture, &c., the whole forming a most comfortable winter or summer residence, complete with every requisite for a family," and so forth. At the end of the advertisement is the following significant note:—"The transfer can only be made to a Japanese subject." Now, it is

is an open secret that several plots of land in Kanagawa Prefecture and elsewhere, outside the limits of the foreign settlements, have been purchased with foreign money and are held by Japanese in trust for foreigners, who, in many cases, have built villas there to serve as summer resorts. This procedure illustrates very forcibly the advantages resulting from the extension of foreign enterprise beyond the Settlements. Places previously possessing no market value except for inferior agricultural purposes, if even for that, are converted into building sites; large sums of money are expended in making them beautiful and attractive; the value of the land throughout the whole locality is appreciated; custom is brought to local tradesmen; in short, from every point of view, the advantages to the Japanese are incomparably greater than those accruing to the foreigner. It may indeed happen, in some rare cases, that the latter reaps a profit of a few *yen* from the investment when he comes to dispose of the property, but in an experience spreading over a quarter of a century, we have never heard of anything of the kind. The virtually invariable rule is that the foreigner sinks far more money in the place than he ever gets, or expects to get, out of it. But that does not distress him. From the outset the speculative element played a very insignificant part in the transaction. What he wanted was a pleasant retreat from the worry and wear of business, and since he rates the enjoyment derived from his villa at a very liberal figure in *yen* and *sen*, an apparent loss of capital at the close of the transaction troubles him very little. Japan is all the gainer. Unfrequented places are converted into fashionable resorts, and gradually the exquisite spots along her coasts or among her hills receive the appreciation they deserve. Were the country thrown freely open to foreign residence, this process would be greatly accelerated. No speculative purchases of land would take place, as Mr. OKI KENTARO and his disciples profess to think; but here and there throughout the empire pretty villas would spring up, and year by year larger sums of foreign money would be devoted to enriching the nation and rendering the country more attractive and habitable. At present, however, this most desirable consummation has to be compassed *sub rosa*. The foreigner buys a piece of land in the name of a Japanese, builds on it, surrounds the building with a more or less costly garden, and has practically no security except the good faith of the Japanese who lends himself or herself to the transaction. Of course the affair is contrary to the strict letter of the law, and if Japan suffered in any way by the breach, foreign public opinion would frankly condemn it. But, as we have shown, so far from suffering, she is a material gainer, and what is more, the Authorities are, in the present, powerless to prevent such doings.

From time to time Japanese journals of heroic proclivities, like the *Nippon*, for example, inveigh against the Government for allowing foreigners to "whip the devil round the post" under the shadow of borrowed native names. But, as is too frequently the case with irresponsible writers, these journalists never seem to consider what means the Government has at its disposal to prevent the abuses in question. So long as the forms prescribed by law are strictly complied with, the Authorities are without competence to interfere in any ordinary transaction of buying and selling. Suppose that on the occasion of the owner of a piece of land and its new purchaser, presenting themselves at the local Registration Office, as prescribed by regulation, and taking the duly formulated steps to alter the title of the property, the registration officials were to subject them to a cross-examination, prying into the motives of the transfer, the *provenance* of the purchase money, the uses to which the property was to be applied, and so forth—suppose that anything of that kind were attempted, should we not have a chorus of public indignation against officials who dared so flagrantly to abuse their position, and so unwarrantably to interfere with freedom of contract and the liberty of the subject? In effect, the acquisition and tenure of land outside the Settlements by foreigners in Japanese names are inevitable incidents, quite beyond the range of official control. They represent a feature of the progressive intercourse inaugurated when the Settlements were first opened, and thenceforth irresistibly facilitated by the course of every-day events in a country where all things, except the text of antiquated treaties, oppose themselves more and more to uncivilized isolation and restrictions. Did Japanese newspapers consider these things a little more carefully and from a more practical standpoint, we imagine that they would complain less about the transactions in question. So far as concerns this particular advertisement, however, we cannot deny that their comments are in great part justified. The wording is obtrusively clumsy. That a Japanese landowner is at liberty to entrust the sale of his property to a foreign auctioneer, and to have it sold in a foreign auction-room among foreign bidders, can scarcely be denied. But why not preserve the semblance of the fiction, if the reality is to be practised? No Japanese would advertise himself as "Mr. OKI." There are thousands of Mr. OKIs in the empire, and not one of them would think of inviting the public to identify him by his prenom only. Then again, the appended note is simply an invitation to doubters. "The transfer can only be made to a Japanese subject." What on earth is the use of such a superfluous declaration, unless it be intended as a covert announce-

ment that a foreign purchaser is looked for? We do not wish to attach importance to a mere question of phraseology, but truly we think that in the interests of the community at large more circumspection ought to have been employed. Whoever may be represented by Mr. Oki, he appears either to lack discretion, or to be selfishly careless about other people's convenience. Thus much admitted, however, we should like to ask the *Nippon*, since it figures conspicuously as a critic in this instance, to descend for once, by way of novelty, from the pedestal of general denunciation, and to tell the public precisely and by what particular methods of procedure it would have the Authorities interfere to prevent transactions such as it denounces in this case. One longs for a grain of practicality to leaven the bushels of critical chaff scattered abroad by irresponsible writers in the vernacular press. Something eminently to Japan's advantage is happening; no literal provisions of law are violated in the process; no Constitutional means of interfering exist: yet we have this empty outcry raised.

TOKYO IMPROVEMENTS.

SOME time ago we reproduced from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* a note referring to large building projects in hand, under the direction of the Mitsu Bishi Company, at Maru-no-uchi. We are now able to give a fuller and somewhat corrected account of the scheme. The spacious area of open ground extending within the outer city moat from Sukiya-bashi to Tokiwabashi, consisting of about 80,000 *tsubo*, is to be gradually divided into blocks averaging 700 *tsubo* in size, intersected by secondary thoroughfares ranging from 30 to 48 feet in width. The main outer thoroughfares which already exist are being widened by the Municipality, in accordance with the general plan of city improvement, and will be 120 feet in width. The building blocks thus formed are to be gradually covered with substantial fireproof structures suited to a variety of tenants. Ground will also be rented to those desirous of building, upon certain conditions as to character of construction, it being considered important to insist on fire-proof erections and to preserve as much as possible some uniformity in arrangement. Central in position, adjoining the projected railway terminus, the new Bank of Japan, and Municipal Offices, there is no doubt that this locality will within a few years become a most important and valuable commercial quarter. The secondary and back streets will permit of the erection of buildings of a cheaper class than those facing the main outer thoroughfares. Shops and small tenements will occupy such positions; for it is found in Japan that the shopkeeper has a prejudice against wide streets which remove him from the traffic. In a portion of these

internal thoroughfares, there will probably be covered arcades, which, when lighted by electricity, should form a great attraction at night. Facing the main thoroughfares the buildings will of necessity be of greater height and more imposing style. On one of the principal corner lots facing the present Department of Justice and close to the new Municipal Offices, one large block of buildings, about four hundred *tsubo* in area, has been already commenced. A considerable portion of this will be temporarily occupied by the offices of the Mitsu Bishi Company and their Bank, known as the 119th National Bank; the remaining part being divided into spacious tenements for business and professional tenants. The building will present two well proportioned façades to the main streets, executed in red brick with stone dressings. It will be of uniform height, divided internally partly into two and partly into three stories, with a low basement. Though of considerable elevation, its extensive frontage renders its height in no way excessive and not greater proportionately than the height of ordinary two-story brick buildings. Such height will, nevertheless, be sufficient to give a certain architectural dignity to a structure that faces a street as wide as those of the largest European capital. Fronting such a thoroughfare a building of lower elevation would look mean and insignificant. In addition to this, as unnecessary height in the ceilings has been avoided, and as the floors, which are fireproof, are constructed with steel joists anchored into the walls and acting as earthquake ties, it will be understood that the structure possesses greater strength, stiffness, and security than ordinary buildings of much lower elevation. The staircases are also to be of stone and iron, so that the whole represents a first-class fire risk. Much has been said as to the bad nature of the soil in this locality, and indeed, as is the case more or less in all the level parts of the city, the ground is such as to necessitate artificial foundations of a complicated and somewhat expensive character. Very successful experiments have, however, been made upon the foundations prepared for the new building, and, in spite of the softness of the soil, they have been practically proved able to sustain a weight several times greater than that to be placed upon them. This building block will be followed by another of somewhat similar dimensions, placed on the opposite corner lot facing the inner moat. The second block of buildings will be entirely occupied by the combined offices of the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company and the Meiji Life and Fire Insurance Companies. The large and increasing business conducted by these three companies has justified them in projecting extensive and handsome offices in a more central position than heretofore, and they have gladly availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by

the Mitsu Bishi Company's building projects. Other schemes are on the *tapis*, which it is hoped before very long will assist in converting this valuable open site into the model city quarter which it is destined to become.

COTTON YARN MANUFACTURERS AND THEIR EMPLOYÉS.

THE Japan Cotton Yarn Manufacturers' Guild recently held a general meeting to consider certain important labour questions. Some of the resolutions passed by the Guild are declared by the *Keisai Zasshi* to be extremely pernicious to the interests of the factory hands, so much so, indeed, that the latter's liberty and rights are virtually placed at the mercy of their employers. It is stipulated, for instance, that no labourer discharged for misconduct by one member of the Guild, shall be employed by another; that when labourers in the employ of any member of the Guild go on strike, their names are to be communicated to the rest of the members, so as to obviate any chance of their employment by the latter; that a labourer actually or lately in the employ of any member of the Guild, shall not be employed by another member without the consent of the former; that in the event of any member of the Guild discovering that one of his labourers was formerly in the employ of another member, the former shall immediately suspend the labourer and take steps to seek his late employer's consent; that, when any member of the Guild engages a labourer who professes to have had no experience of spinning work, the new hand shall be carefully watched in order to determine whether he has had such experience, and that if it appears that he has, then he shall be discharged at once. It will be seen from these instances that a labourer who has once been discharged from a spinning factory, can never again find employment in any of the factories throughout the country, however skilled he may be in his work. The effect of such autocratic stipulations will be to place the employed entirely at the mercy of the employers. Naturally the Tokyo periodical strongly condemns so cruel a combination on the part of the cotton yarn manufacturers. Our contemporary considers that the acme of tyranny is attained when a manufacturer is allowed to interfere between one of his former hands and the latter's new employer. This it denounces as impardonable and even vindictive. The Rules of the Guild, of which the above provisions form a part, have, of course, no legally binding effect: any member of the Guild may, if so inclined, disregard them with perfect impunity. But the members of the Guild, alive to their own interests, will probably hold fast by their combination, so as to reduce their employés to a state of practical slavery. There is from evil possible under such a

system may be judged when it is remembered that there are 35 spinning factories throughout the country, whose owners are all members of the Guild, and that the total number of hands employed in these establishments is 22,618, of whom 5,739 are men and 16,879 women. The wages are very low; the average for men being 16 $\frac{57}{100}$ *sen*, and for women 8 $\frac{4}{10}$ *sen per diem*. The Japanese working man is good-natured and patient. But there is a limit even to his long suffering, and sooner or later difficulties such as are experienced in the West will arise between capital and labour in this country. It is, says the *Keisai Zasshi*, of vital importance to manufacturers to profit by the experience of their *confrères* in Europe and America. Before the threatened evil befalls them, they should devise measures calculated to secure the continuance of the smooth and mutually beneficial relations hitherto existing between master and servant in Japan.

No explanation is offered of the reasons that have induced the owners of factories to adopt such drastic measures for their protection. If any ground for combined action existed, we should have thought that it was entirely on the side of the operatives, concerning whose lot many pitiful tales are told. Already the hardships imposed on them seem to call for legislative interference. The subject was recently alluded to in our own columns, and is ably discussed in the last annual report of the American Board Mission. We learn with surprise, therefore, that factory owners have organized a union for the purpose of binding still more tightly the shackles in which their employés are held. It looks altogether like a reversal of the proper order of things.

HÆC OLIM MEMINISSE JUVABIT.

No one is surprised to read in the columns of the vernacular press that the vendors of fowling pieces in Japan find customers growing gradually fewer, or that the reason assigned is the extermination of game in all regions within easy access of the centres of population. Greatly changed, indeed, is Japan as a field for the sportsman. It is easy to recall the time when one could obtain a really excellent day's shooting within seven miles of Tokyo. The first foreigners that made their way to Itabashi found a cloud of pheasants there. It was in the winter of 1868. The party consisted of half a dozen officers from the camp on the Bluff. They rode from Yokohama to Tokyo—no other method of progress was possible at that epoch—and after a brief rest at the Tsukiji Hotel, a huge and always unprosperous wooden shanty, turned their horses' heads toward Itabashi. In those days the deadly sword of the Samurai exercised a very real influence upon all the goings and comings of foreigners outside treaty limits. A strictly enforced order compelled every officer to wear uniform whenever he passed beyond the limits of the camp, the theory of men in authority being that the soldier's garb would probably command respect where the civilian's might only provoke animosity. How much justice could be claimed for this view, there were naturally no practical means of determining. The officers themselves derided it, but of course obeyed, as in duty bound, trusting, however, much more to the revolvers which they invariably carried in their holsters than to

the red or blue patrol-jacket on their shoulders. Within the precincts of Tokyo another guarantee of security was provided by the greatly harassed Government. After every foreigner, or party of foreigners, rode a little group of guards called *Bettei*. They sat in the saddle of old Japan, their feet thrust into huge metal shoes that served at once for spurs and stirrups, a saucy-lid lacquer hat on their heads, two swords thrust into their girdle, both of their hands fully occupied manipulating reins of cotton cloth, and their ample sleeves fluttering in the wind as their ponies, nose in air, shuffled along in the peculiar "disunited" gait to which the charger of ancient Japan was always trained. There is no recorded instance of these *Bettei* having effectually exhibited protective capacities in practice. But it is possible that their visible presence deterred many a swash-buckler. They were the kindest and most patient guardians conceivable. Never once was their equanimity disturbed by the frantic efforts of youthful Anglo-Saxons to shake them off, or by the thankless demeanour of the foreigner generally. Imperturbably polite and placid, they discharged their escort duty in precisely the same manner under circumstances the most various. When the party of officers of whom we are speaking set out from the Tsukiji Hotel, their prime and most earnest purpose was to escape from the *Bettei*. It disturbed them to think of going to shoot pheasants under armed escort, and perhaps they were also influenced by the notion that half a dozen stalwart British soldiers could protect themselves well enough without the aid of four or five old-fashioned and inefficient looking Japanese guards. At any rate they managed in the first place to get away unescorted by pretending that they projected nothing beyond a little walking exercise for their ponies immediately outside the Hotel; and no sooner were they clear of the place's precincts, than they rode away at top speed, following the most circuitous routes and adopting every conceivable device to bewilder a pursuer. But it was all fruitless. Long before the Itabashi bridge could be reached, a patter of hoofs sounded in the rear, and the five *Bettei* rode up, perfectly unmoved and immaculately courteous, betraying neither by word nor by look any consciousness of the deceit that had been practised on them or of the chase they had been led. Arrived at the Itabashi tea-house they took up their quarters as though their whole life had been passed forcing their escort upon unwilling travellers or protecting truant sportsmen. The time was Christmas week. No snow had yet fallen, but the days were turbulent with a bitter blast, sometimes swelling to storm force, and always subsiding under the star-light to fitful, ice-laden puffs. For decades the game in those regions had lived undisturbed, its only enemies being the marten, the badger, the kestrel, and a rare biped with snares and nets. Itabashi, Shirako, Owada, the picturesque hills and groves that surrounded them, and the streams that rippled in their neighbourhood under clumps of bending bamboos or among deep-loamed rice-fields, had never heard the echo of fowling piece, or the whiz of Daimyo's arrow. The obtrusive Occidental's breech-loader and the cordon of the feudal magnate's battue were alike unknown in this peaceful district. Two stones' throws beyond the garden of the tea-house and the village bridge of much traffic, a family of Mandarin ducks lived in perpetual residence, their parlour a crystal nook roofed by willows, bamboos, and three sentinel cryptomeria; their dining room a stretch of babbling shallows, where long tresses of water-weeds waved and swayed within easy reach of hungry bills. Not easily disturbed, these gentle birds, when flushed for the first time in history by prowling sportsmen, made only two circles before returning again within range of the barrels that had already decimated their number. Everywhere there was the same pitiful ignorance of danger. A bevy of painted snipe, springing from some sedge-patch, would lazily flap away to a distance of three or four hundred yards, and when driven from their second resting place, would return to their first with just sufficient access of alacrity to signify a protest against

further intrusion. These, however, are incidents subsequent to the doings of that primeval party which took up its quarters in the Itabashi inn on Christmas eve twenty-four years ago. Not one man among the six had ever been in Itabashi before. Splendidly ignorant whether there existed in all the region so much as a wood capable of sheltering a pheasant, or a patch of paddy likely to tempt a snipe, their prospects of sport might have seemed exceedingly slender. But they were not without a guide. Sweet experience in the vicinity of Yokohama had taught them to believe that Japan was a vast game preserve. The dells about Totsuka and the softly shrubbed knolls along Mississippi Bay, were good in those times for seven or eight brace of pheasants on any winter's day, and in the number there would certainly be included some of the immortal copper cock, that swept through the firs like a flash of golden sun-light, and made the hearts of the unsophisticated sportsmen throb so violently and the blood rush to their heads in such a flood that never a *yama-dori* fell except by chance or mischance to the first barrel levelled at him. If the perpetually poached hills of Dickson and Macpherson could furnish such bags, what might not be expected further a-field? In this reasonable faith the six wended their way to Itabashi. And before the perennial bowl of preserved soup and potatoes had been discussed, they had evidence of the justice of their surmise. For in the pauses of the wind's sobbing, there came to them such a cackling of wild geese, such a swishing of mallard's wings, and such a whistling of driving widgeon, that the starlight seemed to be peopled with these musical sounds. All through the early hours of the night, flock after flock of wild-fowl passed inland to the great rice-plains of Musashi, the beating of their wings and the questing of their voices, as they swept above the inn, making those six sportsmen see feverish visions of unparalleled bags and yearn for the dawn of an unprecedented day. Their first care had been to seek local information. Japan, before familiarity fulfilled its wonted task and before ugly international problems soured public sentiment, used to be almost scriptural in its genial helpfulness. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings" a man might look for help. Gratefully remembered still by many a keen sportsman, there served a lass at Itabashi tea-house as kind as she was comely. A cast in her eye saved her from the temptations of exceptional beauty, but she was nevertheless emerging from her teens into plump prettiness that no properly constituted individual of the opposite sex could contemplate without emotion, and Providence had implanted in her soft bosom an absorbing anxiety to obliterate that marring cast by perpetual sweetness of disposition and by universal good-nature. How many leal men and true fell in love with sweet O-Také in those sportive days? Alas the record is blurred and misty, and hearts that beat quicker as she piled the snowy rice cup or spread the down quilt, have long been laid in the "grass-grown barrows of the happy dead," or, sadder still, become insensible to such tender emotions. With truth, however, it may be entered in the pages of history that every one of those six officers fell a victim to O-Také's charms before they had been ten minutes in the tea-house, and there is valid evidence that the harassed *Bettei* also forgot their worries in the presence of her sweet ministrations. It was natural, therefore, that O-Také should be consulted at once about the sportsmen's programme, and she showed herself equal to the occasion by referring her questioners to a man destined thenceforth to be the guide and friend of every foreigner visiting Itabashi in search of game, so long as the place remained worth visiting for that purpose. Shimbei was a born poacher. Every twinkle of his piercing little eyes reflected the memory of a leveret's lair or a pheasant's nest, and the wrinkles on his weather-beaten visage seemed counterparts of the snares and gins his life had been spent in setting. He knew little of manners, but much of the value of a silver piece, and he deemed it an infinitely better speculation to be paid for seeing others try to kill game than to

hope to be paid by trying to kill it himself. "Were there pheasants in the vicinity of Itabashi?" The question tickled Shimbei. He dismissed it with a curt but convincing affirmative, and intimated that he should conduct the visitors as early as they pleased the following morning to Uchimata. No one asked about the location of Uchimata. Shimbei's manner had silenced irrelevant inquiries. But Shimbei himself had a query to put:—"How did they intend to get at the pheasants?" The birds would be lying close in thick covers. To drive them out would be difficult; to shoot them in cover impossible. Shimbei, however, did not propound this problem without offering a solution: he could hire half a dozen beaters to do the trick. Of course his proposition was accepted thankfully and he departed to make preparations. His visit raised the hopes of the party to fever heat. In previous shooting expeditions at Totsuka, Kanagawa or on other familiar fields, it had been their custom to beat for themselves, tearing through briar thickets, tumbling down ravines, and discharging five unsuccessful snap-shots for one that found its billet. But here they were on new and apparently amply stocked ground, with a veteran guide and a corps of disciplined beaters. Besides, if the truth must be told, the zest of the prospect was immensely enhanced by a knowledge of its lawlessness. Shooting to the northward of Tokyo was interdicted in those days. The anxiety of the six sportsmen to shake off the *Bettei* had been chiefly inspired by apprehension that these guardians of their persons would interfere to guard the birds also. But the five *Bettei*, formulating no shadow of remonstrance, were imbibing free *sake* in the other wing of the inn, and Shimbei was mustering his beaters in the village. It was an exultant night, that Christmas-eve twenty-four years ago. Did ever such vaulting expectations escape a fall? Before morning the intermittent blasts of wind had swelled into a continuous howl, and the blue sky was completely shrouded in a pall of yellow dust. Dwellers in Japan know well these early-winter gales. Their dynamical force is scarcely inferior to their freezing capacity. They buffet the breath out of a man's body, numb his muscles, and expel all sense from his extremities. To pull a trigger accurately while one is battered and frozen by such a villainous tempest is impossible. But of course the six sportsmen paid no heed to the gale. Shimbei was at hand, dressed in a suit of fireman's padded clothes, and taking the wind as a trivial incident. The three miles between Itabashi and Uchimata were traversed rapidly, and then the strangers saw before them an expanse of country that promised to afford sport beyond their fondest expectations. Long strips of bamboo groves, with wide margins and spacious glades of tempting under-wood, debouched here upon a riverbank, there upon a forest of rustling reeds, and anon skirted patches of cultivated upland or areas where the stacked rice offered a plente of grain to searching beaks. It seemed as though pheasants must flock from all quarters of the country to occupy such haunts. But over the whole region the wild wind was sweeping furiously, bowing the bamboos almost to the ground, making the tufted heads of the reeds dance to clashing music, tearing off the surface of every trodden path or cultivated patch to fill the air with blinding dust, and altogether creating such a racket, uproar, and universal unrest that to point a barrel anywhere seemed idle futility. Any beaters would have been difficult to manage under such circumstances, and as for Shimbei and his corps, not only did it become at once apparent that their unique aim was to drive out the pheasants, without the smallest reference to the position of the guns, but also their movements were so quick and the storm made it so impossible to communicate with them intelligibly, that at first it was simply a frantic rush on the part of the guns to keep within sight of these shouting fugitives. Moreover, when about half of the cover had been traversed thus, Shimbei was observed to wave his arms excitedly, and those within hearing heard him shout "*iru zo*" "*iru zo*" (they are here, they are here). Thereupon the rest of the beaters

quickened their pace to a run, and raised their voices to a babel, the former constantly increasing in velocity and the latter in vehemence, until the whole posse disappeared in a twinkling among the forest of green bamboo stems. After them stumbled and tumbled the panting sportsmen, but before a single gun had been carried within range of the end of the cover, a perfect cloud of pheasants fluttered into the open, and, caught up by the gale, were swept in a second out of sight. Only one man fired, and he was a tyro whom heaven had afflicted with absolute incapacity to judge distances. Truth need not be imperilled by any attempt to estimate, at this long interval, the number of pheasants that emerged from that cover, the first ever beaten at Itabashi in the interests, and to the lasting chagrin, of foreign sportsmen. Like the fish hooked but not landed, their dimensions were probably magnified by disappointment, but it is a sober fact that if there was one bird there were fifty. Of course measures were concerted to avert a similar catastrophe at the next cover. The beaters were ordered to move slowly, keeping in constant line with the guns outside; the latter were distributed so as to command pretty nearly the whole space in front of Shimbei and his company, and the advance was made head to wind. But the Itabashi pheasants in those days did not allow themselves to be easily flurried. They considered the situation, and preferring to rise with the wind under their tails, darted back between the beaters' legs, and were swept like rockets down the gale, leaving shooters and beaters to gaze helplessly at another swirl of scathless plumage as it melted into the yellow dust-cloud that hung on the horizon. It was vehemently asseverated afterwards that this second bevy out-numbered the first. But such a crowd of birds is insulted by minute calculations. Suffice it to know that either the first or the second flight contained four or five times as many pheasants as one could hope to see now in a whole day's wandering over the same district. After that all organized plans were thrown to the ever increasing wind. Every man worked on his own account, even Shimbei and the beaters developing a fresh access of independence, for truth to tell the leather-skinned Shimbei had conceived, and made no attempt to conceal, an unmitigated contempt for the efficiency of foreign fowling pieces or the capacity of those holding them that day. His opinion underwent a radical change at a subsequent date, but that is another story. Christmas, 1868, made him a sneering sceptic, for though five or six scores of cartridges were burned, not as many as five or six birds were bagged, and within the space of two hours the reluctant sportsman had to fly before the tempest. Neither could they wait until it abated. Due the next day in camp, they had no choice but to ride sadly homeward, making now no attempt to shake off the faithful *Bettei*. But what projects were formed on that homeward ride! Given reasonable weather and dry powder, it was evident that six breech-loaders, held fairly straight, might easily bag a hundred couple of pheasants on the first day at Uchimata. That would be a record indeed, and nothing seemed to stand in the way of its achievement a fortnight later. But even while these castles were being built, an unsuspected hand was sapping their foundations. The *Bettei* had entered no protest against the shooting; their instructions did not extend to that. In their brains, however, they carried tablets as faithful as the note-book and pencil of their modern successor, the spectacled constable. That very night the whole story of the doings at Itabashi was reported at head-quarters. No move was made by the Authorities. They preserved ominous silence and prepared a terrible retribution. After a lapse of fifteen days, the same party rode out once more from the camp. A succession of still, sunny days and frosty nights had followed the Christmas tempests, but now in the north a few snow-charged clouds were beginning to pile themselves in delicate equilibrium. A perfect time for pheasant-shooting. Not a soul had been let into the secret of those myriads of birds inviting slaughter among the bamboo groves of Uchimata. Save for that first fruitless day the field was still virgin.

Moreover, to avert all peril of official interference, the baggage had been sent already to Tokyo by steamer, in charge of a loyal henchman, the gun-cases deftly wrapped in horse-sheets, and disguised into the semblance of a bale of blankets. For there were guard-houses with very inquisitive inmates on the southern outskirts of Tokyo, and it was held that if their prying eyes could be eluded, the rest would be easy. The hotel at Tsukiji, too, was carefully avoided, and bridle not being drawn from Kawasaki to Itabashi, the *Bettei* were for once successfully shaken off. Everything prospered at the outset. Without contretemps of any kind the Itabashi tea-house was reached, and the pretty O-Také, kneeling coyly on the mats, received her six lovers as though she had been expecting them at any moment since their departure, and had been longing with strict impartiality for the return of each and every one of them. O-Také had no favourites, but she possessed the artless knack of making every man believe himself her favourite. It was all delightful, from the brightly burning braziers and soft silk quilts to the demure Houri, whose presence imparted an additional glow to everything. But Kosuke, and the baggage, and the guns—where were they? Night fell and with it the first flakes of a heavy snow-shower, but not until the ground was white and even O-Také's smiles had ceased to avert uneasiness, did Kosuke struggle in with the portmanteaux and the provisions, but without the guns. That cleverly disguised bale had been seized by the Customs at Tsukiji. This was the revenge of the Authorities. A cruel revenge, for there was Shimbei declaring that in still weather with a stretch of snow on the ground, the pheasants would lie to be kicked up and would fly as slow as falling leaves, and there was the certainty that hundreds of birds were nesting, three miles away, in the shadow of the thick bamboos at Uchimata. But the weapons of attack were impounded. Effectually had fate interfered to save the lives of those pheasants. The people at the Customs were obdurate. Three weeks elapsed before they consented to surrender the six guns, and the surrender had been preceded by such a discussion that any attempt to organize another expedition immediately would have been out of the question. Next winter, however, was only as far away as Christmas, and there was assurance that by next winter the prohibition against shooting would be removed. So it was, indeed, but in the late summer of that year something happened that materially affected the prospects of sport at Uchimata. Day after day the rain poured in torrents, until the crossing of the Rokujo at Kawasaki became a voyage of over a mile, and the rivers in the Itabashi plain, rising a dozen feet above their normal level, poured through the bamboo groves in deep torrents, destroying all the ground nests, and covering a great part of the district with cold mud, unwelcome for pheasants and fatal to the existence of their food. The discoloured stems of the bamboos, the beaten-down reeds and the prostrate grasses told only too plainly of the destruction that had been wrought, while as for the pheasants, not a small fraction of the former number remained. Very rarely in comparison was the "*iru zo*" of Shimbei and his beaters heard that second season, and no longer did great flocks of birds dot the sky above the bamboo groves. Yet fine sport was still obtainable. Sixty-seven pheasants, eight woodcock, and three duck represented the maiden day's bag of the six guns, and to this total only three were contributed by the man with the perplexed perception of distances. Such shooting is a thing of the past within treaty limits. But in those early days Uchimata and its bamboo groves represented only one of the richly stocked districts. In the hill-side covers above Shirako, scores of pheasants were easily accessible at any time after the leaves had fallen, and along the bank overlooking the Take-no-gawa from Oji to Itabashi birds lay almost as thick as in an English preserve. Never to be forgotten, too, was the first visit to the woods beyond the Gongen Shrine at Oji, a place now resonant with the whistle of the

steam-engine and the rattle of paper-mill machinery. Brooded over twenty years ago by perpetual silence, green spots in glades among the oaks and pines showed where springs bubbled amid *sasa* grass and holly-bushes, the wood sloping upwards to fields of barley and millet, and downwards to a babbling rivulet and a rice valley, golden in summer and richly black in winter. To and from that ideal haunt the woodcock had come and gone for decades undisturbed, and when first their retreat was invaded, something like sixty or seventy birds were flushed within a distance of half a mile. Their numbers saved them. Woodcock have never been plentiful within a day's journey of Tokyo except at that one spot, and any sportsman not a veteran might be excused if he failed to hold straight under such unlooked for circumstances. Yet nineteen of the soft-eyed birds were bagged within an hour, despite the most execrable shooting, and that record is likely to stand long unchallenged. From Shirako to Owada the whole country was a pheasant preserve, above all within the precincts of an ancient *yashiki* called Jinya. There one often kicked a dozen pheasants out of a patch of *sasa* grass, or stumbled on a brood of them sunning themselves beside the prostrate trunk of an ivy-covered tree buried in a bed of azaleas and rhododendrons. Then there were those miles of scrub lying in pockets along the Owada river, a place that literally teemed with birds after the undergrowth in the hill forests had been cut for fuel. For years one could count on a good bag in that lonely valley, but in the early seventies the descending scale was entered, and now a man may pace the whole district without flushing half a dozen pheasants. Snipe, too, peopled the paddy fields by hundreds where the wooded hill ranges recede from each other in the vicinity of Shikimata. It was at this spot that a record bag was made in 1870. A long spell of frost had hardened the whole valley to its very heart, and driven the snipe to the covered springs in the uplands. But one morning in mid-January the snow began to fall in thick flakes through an atmosphere of very perceptibly increased warmth, and the ice-bound fields gradually recovered their look of glistening softness. Covert shooting had become impossible in the blinding snow, and at a little after 11 a.m. the party were wending their way to a farm-house where the tiffin-basket waited, when suddenly the air was filled with a rush of wings, and there swept down from the uplands a countless swarm of snipe. Where on earth the little birds had been hiding, by what conceivable process of congregation they had assembled for their return to the paddy fields, and how many hundreds they aggregated, it was fruitless to speculate. Down they circled, however, and through the white shower one could catch glimpses of their brown bodies busily flitting over the rice patches or scuttling under the shelter of the overhanging ridges. One only of the party turned to follow them. The rest, wet and dispirited, protested the impossibility of snipe-shooting with eyes full of snow-flakes, and trudged on to the beef-stake pie and the whiskey flask. But a little glow of light in the west gave promise of a momentary lull, and the ardent sportsman, though he found that the fields selected by the descending birds were more than knee-deep in tenacious mud, was able to see his sights. He reached the tiffin-house at 1 o'clock, laden with seventeen and a half couple of snipe, the proceeds of sixty-five minutes shooting. And apart from the plenitude of game, what incomparable sport it was to be sure! The glorious sparkling sunshine of a bright winter's day in Japan, the lovely views disclosed at every step, the smiling greetings of the kindly population, and the consciousness that, however wide one ranged, a welcome only was to be looked for, all these things invested a shooting trip twenty years ago with charms that are now, alas, only cherished memories. Shimbei sleeps in the village cemetery; O-Také has lapsed into premature and squalid antiquity; the haunts of the woodcock are invaded by smuts from factory chimneys, and the green bosom of the noble *kiji* flashes no longer across fir coppices and

limbs of leafless alders but lies limp in the shop of the sordid poulterer. "Civilization" has brought these changes in its train, and we have only to be thankful. As for the gunsmith, if he complains that customers for his fowling pieces grow daily rarer, should not the ungrateful fellow remember that pistols have come into vogue with parliaments, and that a six-shooter promises soon to be the constant companion of every member of the Diet? This is indeed *bummei kaika*, as the philosopher observed when he saw an empty champagne bottle reposing among the irises in the Imperial Garden at Fukiage.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

WHAT IS THE MATTER NOW?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is reported as a fact that the shares of The Bank of China and Trust and Loan Co. have been sold in London for ninepence a share. As the shares cost originally £1.10.0, and for the first year of its existence the bank paid a dividend of 18 per cent. and last year declared and paid 8 per cent. dividend, carrying some thousands of pounds to the reserve fund, the question is pertinent, "What is the matter now?" The quotations for its stock have been, for some months past, fluctuating between three and four and one half dollars in Hongkong and Shanghai. It is one of the conundrums of the financial world, especially so with the shareholders of this bank, why such a heavy shrinkage has been possible in London. Just think of it, shares costing £1.10.0 selling for ninepence where money is to be had on average good security at the rate of three to four per cent. a year.

Is it not due to shareholders that the management of the bank should come to the rescue by making an official statement as to the general condition of the institution, and positively state whether there will or will not be a further call made upon their purses to augment the funds of the bank? The management of a bank should be able to stay such a fearful loss to its shareholders as is represented by the difference between £1.10.0 and ninepence, if utter ruin has not overtaken the institution, and they are culpable if they do not make some sign to protect the interests of shareholders who are completely at their mercy.

Yours truly,

A SUFFERER.

September 29th, 1892.

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

We have received the following explanation of the origin and objects of this charity, a branch of which, established in Yokohama, was lately *en evidence* in connection with a bazaar and performance at the Public Hall:—

Possibly there are some in Yokohama who have not quite understood the significance of the Order of the King's Daughters, and an explanation would not be out of place, at this time, when the Circle has just received such marked approval and public sympathy.

The Order of King's Daughters is a Christian, but not a sectarian order. The Maltese Cross with 1886 on one side, and I.H.N. on the other, is the seal of the incorporated society. Rev. Edward E. Hale, of Boston, U.S.A., is the President of "Ten Times One is Ten," and under this general motto a great many societies have been formed, consisting of boys and girls, men and women.

They resemble each other in the one wish of the members—to do some good to other people. The King's Daughters Order met for the first time, a little company of ten, on the morning of January 13th, 1886, in New York City. After consideration of the good to be gained, and the good to be done, by binding themselves together by a triple cord whose strands were Faith, Hope, and Charity, they decided to organize themselves into an order or sisterhood of service, adopting the "Ten times one is ten" idea, and hoping by the union of grateful women to increase their usefulness many times tenfold. Mrs. Margaret Bottoms, an Englishwoman by birth, but an American by adoption, is President of this order, which to-day has hundreds of thousands of members throughout the world. In November last, ten young girls met and organized a Circle of King's Daughters here in Yokohama, pledging themselves to promote kindly feeling, for mental

improvement, for the helping of each other in all reasonable ways, for extending a helping hand when needed. Our motto is "In His Name."

Our Circle now has twenty-four members who meet together every Saturday afternoon. It was voted at our first meeting that work should go towards founding a *Free Bed* for women and children at the Yokohama Foreign Hospital. This object we feel to be a most worthy one, and we hope that in a very short space of time our funds will be sufficient to carry it out.

L. B. N. MORRIS, President.

MARION SALE, Treasurer.

King's Daughters Circle of Yokohama,
September 29th, 1892.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, September 1st.

"Amma San" is the title of a charming story by Anna A. Rogers in the September *Cosmopolitan*. It is a very graphic and realistic tale of foreign life in Yokohama; and is powerfully suggestive of a recent scandal and tragedy in that port. Its principal charm lies in its vivid pictures of life.

The Rev. Doremus Scudder has been appointed guardian of his deceased brother's two children, who, with the brother's widow, will reside with him in this city.

Rev. A. A. Bennett, of Yokohama, was one of the speakers on Missionary Union Day at the Martha's Vineyard Institute recently. He is reported to have given some "fine touches" to the religious problems in Japan.

Hon. Hugh Dinwiddie, U.S. Minister to Korea during President Cleveland's administration, has been nominated for Congress by the Democrats of the 1st Arkansas District. His chances of success are good; for in that Democratic State a nomination is about equivalent to an election.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is laying its plans for big extensions, with Chicago as the objective point from two directions. From Detroit it will reach this city by the new Wabash line; so that the route from Liverpool, via Halifax and the C.P.R., to Chicago will be about 24 hours shorter than any route via New York City. On the west it is planning to shorten its main line, and to build directly from Regina or Moose Jaw to St. Paul, and thence to Chicago via one of our roads. Preparations are also making for a quicker route, via Niagara Falls, to New York City.

The line of the Great Northern Railway has been completed from St. Paul and Minneapolis, "the Twins," as they are familiarly called, to Spokane, and will soon reach the Pacific coast. This road will be formidable rival to the other transcontinental lines.

The Inman steamer *City of New York* now holds the record for the fastest eastward trip on the Atlantic. She has just beaten the *Ten-tonic's* time by 1 hour and 46 minutes, and has put the record at 5 days, 19 hours, and 57 minutes. The *City of Paris*, also Inman, holds the westward record of 5 days, 15 hours and 58 minutes.

Chancellor McGill, of New Jersey, has hit a blow at the great "Reading Combine," as it is called, which has run up the price of anthracite coal more than \$1.00 per ton within a few months. He has issued a temporary injunction to prevent the Reading roads from operating the Central Railroad, of New Jersey, on the ground that such a lease caused "excess of corporate power which tends to monopoly and the public injury." It remains to be seen whether this blow will be effectual in breaking the combine of coal producers and carriers, and in lowering the price of coal. The Reading road will, of course, carry the question to higher courts, and fight as long as possible. In the meantime "we, the people" must pay the price of coal or freeze.

The American Bar Association has been in session lately at Saratoga, New York, and discussed various legal questions of national and international importance.

In a previous letter I mentioned the famous Myra Clark Gaines case, the American *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce*, which is a *res adjudicata*. The City of New Orleans has paid over the sum of \$923,788 in full settlement.

Chee Hoshin, Chinese Minister to the United States, passed through here the other day *en route* for Washington. There were with him several Chinamen, who were discussing the question of a Chinese theatre on the Midway Plaisance during the World's Fair. They were hopeful that, in spite of a cost of about \$100,000, it might be profitable. The new Council of Administration has been organized with Mr. H. N. Higginbotham as pre-

	Quantity. Tons.	Value. £
Shimonoseki and Moji ...	219,462 ...	—
Karatsu	41,129 ...	—
Kuchinotsu	328,012 ...	—
Misumi	9,846 ...	—
Hakata	779 ...	—

Total 599,228 302,007

This is an average of over 26 per cent. less than the prices ruling in Nagasaki, and may be set down to two causes, inferior quality of coal and lower primary cost in placing it on board ship.

Exports largely increased to all quarters, but it is safe to say that the largest shippers have been the largest losers. There was considerable competition at Moji among foreigners in 1891 (some of whom were new to the business) shipping to various places on their own account, and for Japanese account under advance. The Japanese coal dealers were quick to take advantage of such a state of affairs, and all kinds of rubbish was shipped in place of good coal. Most of the shipments resulted in disaster, but the production went on and was increased in all directions, the Japanese evidently anticipating that this state of affairs would continue indefinitely.

Simultaneously with the increased production, lower prices ruled at Nagasaki and elsewhere. The coal had to be sold or shipped on some terms so as to secure funds to continue working, with the result that at Hongkong, Manila, and Shanghai, Japan coals (outside of Takashima and the coal from the other mines of the Mitsu Bishi Company) can hardly be given away in these times of depression. The small mine owners are in financial difficulties, and no doubt many of them will have to close up. These mines will then probably fall into the hands of the Mitsu Bishi Company and other large companies, who will work them on business methods and regulate production so as to keep prices on a paying level.

Tobacco shows an increase over the export for 1890. In that year it amounted only to 1,677, while in 1891 it increased to 6,177. The harvest shipments took place in spring, but for the coming year the export is expected to be almost nil, as the prices fetched make the production of this article almost prohibitive.

Campor export shows a considerable falling-off from 40,383, in 1890 to 22,832, in 1891, but this is partly accounted for by the fact that a quantity is shipped to Kobe and from there sent to the United States by sailing vessels; the duties are paid in Kobe, the campor being sent from here in bond. The great advance in price during the last few years is said to be caused by the fact that campor is now used in the manufacture of smokeless powder. Till 1888-9 the prices ruled between 10 dol. per picul and 15 dol. per picul, but from that time campor rose in price, and the highest figure was reached about March, 1890, when as much as 56 dol. per picul was paid; the price has since declined to about 35 dol. per picul. The Japanese methods of adulteration and increasing the weight by moisture greatly interfere with business in this article, leaving foreign merchants no firm basis of cost upon which to base their calculations.

Wheat, which in the previous year was exported to the amount of 17,176, almost shows a nil return in 1891, as it only figures to the amount of 800. This was owing to the failure of the rice crop in the autumn of 1890, which caused the wheat to be retained for local consumption.

Dried fish and shell fish, &c., mushrooms, paper, various grains, and beverages which, with a few miscellaneous articles, form the balance of the export trade, are all in the hands of the Chinese, Shanghai being their principal market.

SHIPPING.

The return of the shipping which entered Nagasaki harbour during 1891 shows a slight increase on that of the preceding year, the total being 746 vessels, aggregating 899,732 tons, or an increase of six vessels and 22,000 tons.

There is, however, a decrease in British shipping of 21 vessels and nearly 30,000 tons. There is an increase in Norwegians of 18 vessels and 17,000 tons, and in Russian of the same number of vessels and tonnage. British shipping represents 42 per cent. of the whole, Japanese 37 per cent., German 14 per cent., Russian 4 per cent., and Norwegian 3 per cent. Last year's figures were respectively 45 per cent., 38 per cent., and 14 per cent., leaving 4 per cent. for all other countries. British tonnage has, therefore, decreased 3 per cent., Japanese 1 per cent., and German remains the same.

The total tonnage for the Kiusiu ports amounted to 1,251,013 tons and 1,042 vessels, of which entered at Kuchinotsu 65 British vessels, of 96,957 tons; 83 Japanese, of 43,851 tons; 7 German, of 9,320 tons; and 21 Russian, of 40,611 tons;

and of Moji, 71 British vessels, of 109,840 tons; 6 Japanese, of 5,532 tons; 30 Germans, of 30,711 tons; 6 Russian, of 7,539 tons; and of all other countries 6 vessels of 6,159 tons.

As mentioned earlier in the report, some 600,000 tons of coals were shipped from the special ports, besides over 100,000 tons of rice; and though it cannot be said that all this cargo would have found its way to Nagasaki, there is no doubt that the diminution in the volume of exports and amount of shipping noticeable in the returns for Nagasaki during the two or three past years is due to the opening of the "special ports." There are several foreign firms which have opened branch establishments at Moji to carry on the export trade, but these under present regulations are registered under Japanese names.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Nagasaki waterworks, which have been alluded to in former reports, were finished in May last, having been commenced in March, 1889. The total cost was 264,357 dol., equal to 44,059, at 3s. 4d. to 1 dol. The town was, however, not supplied with water till the month of May, and the foreign settlement was supplied from the beginning of this year.

The Kiusiu railway was continued during last year to Kumamoto, and Yatsushiro, the total mileage opened being 87 miles, but at present all further work is suspended from want of capital. The shares held by the public are nearly all in the hands of Osaka capitalists, very little money being invested by anyone either in Nagasaki or Kumamoto. A deputation from Nagasaki is now at Tokyo, soliciting the Government for further assistance, and to request that the line between Saga and Nagasaki may be at once started, but it appears to be very doubtful whether assistance will be forthcoming. The distance from Saga to Nagasaki is about 71 miles, and the proposal is to complete the line from Saga to Isukazaki by December, 1893. From Isukazaki to Omura by June, 1895, and from thence to Nagasaki by June, 1896. The estimated cost is 3,443,660 yen, or 573,943, at 3s. 4d. to 1 dol.

LOCAL ENTERPRISES.

The silk industry, about which great hopes were entertained, has not fulfilled the expectations of the promoters. Land being expensive in the immediate neighbourhood of Nagasaki, the farmers can make more money by raising vegetables and other crops which have prompt sale than by planting mulberry trees, which require some time before coming into profit. The silk produce of the whole of Nagasaki prefecture amounted only to about 16,000 dol., and the silk was sent to Yokohama, there being no market at the port. About 4,000 egg-cards are produced in the prefecture for use, of which Nagasaki, however, only took 15 last year.

The tannery mentioned in last year's report is progressing favourably, and is said to turn out good leather.

The glass manufactory is also working successfully, and a quantity is sent to Korea and Vladivostok. The principal goods turned out are tumblers and wine glasses, lamp chimneys, and cheap kerosene lamps. The material used is brought from the mountains of Shinshiu to the Nakasendo.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The result of last year's trade is said to have been most unfavourable throughout all branches; the downward and fluctuating nature of exchange has operated disastrously, and caused a general depression in trade, not only in Nagasaki but all over the East and the rush for speculation in the Japanese share market for railways and numerous other investments has had the usual result of a considerable shrinkage in the value of all shares. Most of the money being tied up, none is available for the ordinary channels of trade. The bad harvests have also contributed, and though the rice crop of 1890-91 was good, the crop last year was far below the average, and speculation by large rice syndicates is causing farmers to hold their stocks for a rise. The wheat crop of 1891 was, however, very good.

I give below a table showing the percentage of decrease in the rice crop last year as compared with 1890, and the increase in wheat in the several prefectures in Kiusiu.

	Rice. Per Cent. Decrease.	Wheat. Per Cent. Increase.
Nagasaki Ken	39	74
Fukuoka Ken	39	210
Miyasaki Ken	23	33
Saga Ken	50	57
Kumamoto Ken	39	70
Oita Ken	23	74
Kagoshima Ken	15	76

It should be remembered that as the rice crop comes late in the autumn, the quantity available

for export is rarely sold until the spring of the following year.

It seems to be the general opinion that we can hope for no permanent improvement until we have railway communication with the interior.

Nagasaki from its commanding position, its magnificent harbour, coalfields, proximity to Korea, and the northern parts of China, &c., will eventually become a very important trade centre. Under proper business management the railway should pay handsomely. Taking all expenses into consideration, coal can be brought by rail from Muke and the Taku district to Nagasaki, and rice from the rice districts, and shipped from here cheaper than from Kuchinotsu and other places as at present. This port should, sooner or later, control the trade of Kiusiu. At present, however, there is no question but that the opening of the special ports of Kuchinotsu, Karatsu, and Moji has operated very unfavourably on the export trade of Nagasaki.

The Japanese population of Nagasaki on December 31 last numbered 59,627, an increase of 2,127 over that of the previous year.

Annex 1.—Return of the Import Trade of Nagasaki for the Years 1891-90.

Articles.	Quantity. 1891.	Value.* 1891.	Quantity. 1890.	Value.† 1890.
Cotton manufactures ..	—	7,595...	—	3,692
Woollen, & mixed cotton and woollen..	—	2,778...	—	7,244
Metals, and manufactures of—				
Iron rails ..	...Tons	5,553...	34,193...	3,990...
Iron pipes ..	—	3,807...	—	13,965
Miscellaneous ..	—	23,205...	—	66,596
Sugar—				
White ..	...Lbs.	20,367,679...	75,189...	7,539,694...
Brown ..	...Lbs.	2,445,093...	18,023...	4,794,639...
Rock, candy, &c. ..	—	—	—	1,626
Miscellaneous Western—				
Locomotive engines ..	—	3,147...	—	14,056
Machinery, spinning ..	—	19,713...	—	—
Machinery, various ..	—	10,990...	—	21,736
Railway carriages, and parts of ..	—	5,624...	—	20,433
Coal ..	...Tons	5,593...	4,694...	8,040...
Drugs ..	—	4,390...	—	4,063
Dyes ..	—	5,187...	—	6,027
Beverages, provisions, &c. ..	—	11,341...	—	17,445
Silk and satin ..	—	6,483...	—	6,936
Wines, spirits, beer, &c. ..	—	5,530...	—	5,936
Kerosene oil ..	...Gal.	2,330,735...	2,427...	2,876,870...
Steamers ..	...No.	71,239...	—	1,425
Miscellaneous Eastern—				
Raw cotton ..	...Lbs.	3,300,807...	64,346...	2,560,713...
Beans, pulse, &c. ..	...Lbs.	3,007,958...	9,841...	9,551,102...
Rice ..	...Tons	3,028...	30,794...	1,501...
Oil cakes ..	...Lbs.	22,910,980...	20,408...	10,657,790...
Hides ..	...Lbs.	230,028...	4,330...	335,502...
Sundries ..	—	35,081...	—	24,584
Total ..	—	48,586...	—	55,383
* 1 dol. = 3s. 4d.			† 1 dol. = 3s. 3d.	

Annex 2.—Return of the Export Trade of Nagasaki for the Years 1891-90.

Articles.	Quantity. 1891.	Value.* 1891.	Quantity. 1890.	Value.† 1890.
Tea—				
Green, basket-fired..Lbs.	130,617...	2,553...	581,082...	5,308
Bancha, & sundries..Lbs.	1,100,323...	5,138...	1,183,004...	5,343
Rice ..	...Tons	3,028...	30,794...	1,501...
Coal ..	...Tons	298,189...	4,479...	365,060...
Coal for ships' use ..	...Tons	121,372...	56,644...	150,390...
Coal dust ..	...Tons	97,433...	62,956...	—
Dried fish—				
Cuttle fish ..	...Lbs.	3,802,137...	67,855...	4,738,777...
Trico ..	...Lbs.	202,993...	7,936...	191,394...
Shrimp ..	...Lbs.	108,812...	4,479...	148,060...
Shrimps ..	...Lbs.	783,687...	3,775...	182,813...
All other ..	...Lbs.	225,057...	903...	260,873...
Shell fish—				
Awabi ..	...Lbs.	369,322...	29,881...	341,554...
All other ..	—	4,933...	—	59,147...
Miscellaneous—				
Campor ..	...Lbs.	556,215...	20,839...	871,253...
Charcoal ..	...Tons	7,900...	10,426...	7,889...
Grain and provisions, &c. ..	—	24,257...	—	15,842
Copper and other metals ..	—	—	—	3,497
Mushrooms ..	...Lbs.	377,300...	16,564...	469,327...
Paper ..	—	9,131...	—	10,353
Porcelain ..	—	9,159...	—	9,598
Textile fabrics ..	—	12,178...	—	4,778
Tobacco ..	...Lbs.	354,957...	800...	7,558,168...
Timber ..	—	7,801...	—	9,350
Other articles ..	—	19,207...	—	24,154
Total Japanese produce ..	—	605,835...	—	712,790
Total foreign produce and manufactures ..	—	15,250...	—	29,110
Grand total ..	—	618,558...	—	739,300
* 1 dol. = 3s. 4d.			† 1 dol. = 3s. 3d.	

Annex 3.—Return showing the Total Value of the Articles Exported from and Imported into Nagasaki from and to Foreign Countries during the Years 1891-90.

Countries.	Exports. 1891.	Imports. 1890.	Exports. 1891.	Imports. 1890.
Great Britain—				
England	16,189...	9,094...	164,266...	140,274
Australia ..	1,676...	4,198...	238...	—
Canada	16...	—	—	777
Hongkong	227,228...	270,853...	85,266...	73,786
India	104...	11,683...	3,171...	6,447
United States ..	5,699...	5,926...	50,252...	45,772
Germany	7,241...	—	41,719...	25,997
Belgium	—	—	1,042...	34,071

Original from

Russia	35,874...	31,077...	7,719...	9,261
China	210,390...	239,697...	113,947...	126,049
Korea	17,208...	22,907...	17,124...	35,645
Other countries	2,703...	16,283...	3,945...	59,144

Total

Ship's use ...

Grand total. 618,358... 730,300... 488,689... 553,823

Annex 4.—Return of all the Shipping in the Consular District of Nagasaki in the Year 1891.

Nationality.	Entered Nagasaki Harbour.		Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	2	133	970	315,860	282	335,993	282	335,993
British	14	5,999	314	378,108	228	371,107	228	371,107
German	2	558	155	322,718	217	323,276	217	323,276
Norwegian	—	—	36	27,355	36	27,355	36	27,355
Russian	2	140	35	15,908	35	36,048	35	36,048
Other countries..	4	4,780	8	7,233	7	5,953	7	5,953
Total	24	11,510	722	885,182	746	899,732	746	899,732
Total for the year preceding	42	16,857	608	861,047	740	877,884	740	877,884

Nationality.	Entered Kuchikotsu.		Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	27	11,859	250	179,641	277	191,500	277	191,500
British	—	—	65	99,957	65	99,957	65	99,957
German	—	—	7	9,390	7	9,390	7	9,390
Norwegian	—	—	22	10,011	22	10,011	22	10,011
Russian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other countries..	—	—	1	762	1	762	1	762
Total	27	11,859	250	179,641	277	191,500	277	191,500
Total for the year preceding	28	12,808	157	158,322	185	181,280	185	181,280

Nationality.	Entered at Moji.		Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	—	—	6	5,631	6	5,631	6	5,631
British	—	—	71	109,840	71	109,840	71	109,840
German	—	—	30	30,721	30	30,721	30	30,721
Norwegian	—	—	6	7,539	6	7,539	6	7,539
Other countries..	—	—	6	6,159	6	6,159	6	6,159
Total	—	—	119	159,981	119	159,981	119	159,981
Total for the year preceding	1	1,110	42	68,847	43	69,957	43	69,957

Return of all the Shipping within the Consular District of Nagasaki for the Year 1891.

Nationality.	Entered.		Sailing.		Steam.		Total.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	20	11,092	341	373,184	370	384,276	370	384,276
British	14	5,999	350	588,905	364	377,904	364	377,904
German	2	558	292	269,749	294	163,507	294	163,507
Norwegian	—	—	35	15,305	35	75,505	35	75,505
Russian	2	140	35	15,908	37	36,048	37	36,048
Other countries..	4	4,780	10	8,153	14	70,573	14	70,573
Total	52	22,569	991	1,214,504	1,042	1,251,013	1,042	1,251,013
Total for the year preceding	72	22,121	985	1,140,308	997	1,168,489	997	1,168,489

Annex 5.—Return of Foreign Residents and Firms in Nagasaki on December 31, 1891.

Nationality.	Residents.	Firms.
British.....	109	5
American.....	63	3
Austro-Hungarian..	12	1
Belgian.....	2	—
Chinese.....	654	19
Danish.....	27	1
Dutch.....	3	—
French.....	47	4
German.....	24	3
Italian.....	4	2
Portuguese.....	10	—
Russian.....	45	2
Other nationalities..	—	—
Total	1,000	40

IN THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before W. D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul-General and Judge.—THURSDAY, September 29th, 1892.

ROBERT SHERWOOD V. C. P. LOW.—MOTION FOR POSTPONEMENT.

This morning a motion for postponement of trial in the suit Robert Sherwood v. C. P. Low, was made by Mr. A. Tison, Counsel for the defence, Mr. J. F. Lowder, Counsel for plaintiff, appearing to oppose.

His Honour having opened the sitting, which was in chambers,

Mr. Tison asked whether the plaintiff was ready and pressed the case now.

Mr. Lowder.—Most certainly.

Mr. Tison—I must ask the court for permission to make an application for the postponement of the hearing of the trial of this case on behalf of the defence. In combating the claim or counter claim one witness on our side is indispensable, but that witness is not now in the country. The evidence that he wished to call was to combat the counter claim, as he relied upon the weakness of his adversary's case to enable him to resist it properly. Of course he did not pretend to know, what Mr. Lowder knew about his own case, but he certainly thought that it would require more

than the documentary evidence, which was all his learned friend relied on to support it, for there was no evidence that could at present be testified in Yokohama. He would like to point out that from the multitude of documents which his learned friend possessed there was one letter missing, which, written by the defendant in May, related to a conference that had taken place between the plaintiff and the defendant and the agreements which were arrived at between them. It was in reference to this that the necessity arose of commissioning some one to go to San Francisco to take depositions. He would recapitulate the reasons, which were perhaps known to the Court, why the case had not come up for trial before. A letter of demand of 31st March last reached Mr. Low and was turned over to me just at a time when the Court was much occupied by a trial of importance, lasting over till the middle of April. Mr. Lowder, knowing the position in which I was placed, kindly allowed me time in which to read the documents so as to return an answer. This was done on the 22nd April. Then followed a period of profound calm and it looked as if the suit had gone to sleep, but I saw Mr. Low and Mr. Low saw me. This went on till the middle of July last, till the vacation, a time when in the British Court no more petitions for fresh suits are entered till the middle of September arrives, and the American Court was also in vacation. A motion was brought then, however, but the time of year was not allowed to interfere with the answer being put in. Mr. Low happened to be in the country at that time owing to his wife accidentally deciding to go to San Francisco by a steamer which had just left, necessitating a stop-over. It was not Mr. Low's duty to stop here until the case was over, and I did not consider it his duty to do so. As Mr. Low was going to San Francisco, where the plaintiff lived, I thought there would be an opportunity for them to meet, and that matters would then be satisfactorily settled over there—an arrangement which I am sure Mr. Lowder would not be disposed to regret or oppose. San Francisco was the home of both, and therefore the opportunity offered of a new agreement between the parties—already there had been two, there might be three or four more. I think, therefore, that the plaintiff will not desire to press for trial until Mr. Low's return. I therefore ask for an adjournment, until he arrives here. I may say further, that Mr. Lowder wrote me a note asking when it would be convenient to take trial, and next day I saw Mr. Bernard who wrote Mr. Low by next mail. There has not been time for the answer to reach here yet. On those grounds, or until I have heard from Mr. Low, I ask for an adjournment. According to last advices he was still in San Francisco. I will, therefore, ask for postponement under those conditions, and I don't think that my learned friend can reasonably object to the request.

Mr. Lowder.—In answer to my learned friend, I will reply that Mr. Low has here several days after service of the notice. He was then in a position to give evidence, but as he took no steps to do so I consider that this application is not at all reasonable. Moreover, by rule 65 of this court, a motion of application must be made on an affidavit of facts. According to that rule, I submit that the Court is not in a position to grant the application as there has been no affidavit sworn before it.

Mr. Tison thought that the affidavit was a matter of supererogation.

His Honour.—Mr. Tison, in order to make the record I think an affidavit should be filed, even if the facts are in the knowledge of the Court. It is well that things should follow the rules in case an appeal takes place in consequence of error of procedure.

Mr. Tison.—I will file the affidavit. It is usually done when there is any suspicion of a case being unduly delayed. I ask now for permission to have Mr. Low's testimony taken on deposition, even if it is likely that he should return; or the case could be heard where both parties were, that would be better than hearing it when none were here. I acknowledge that it would be better to hear a man in Court than to take his depositions, in every way it was more satisfactory. I have only one witness, plaintiff himself, and I thought that it would not be well to let the case go to trial without any testimony whatever.

His Honour.—At the time when Mr. Low was here, if I remember rightly, the complaint was filed and the time of answer was enlarged from three to ten days. When the answer was actually filed Mr. Low had gone. That was at the time of year when I had decided not to take up any fresh judicial business. I think that defendant is entitled to an adjournment in view of the fact that it takes so long a time for an answer to return from the United States. It is uncertain whether Mr. Low will come back, therefore I think preparations had better be made to take his depositions

in America; at the same time he can be instructed that he can appear here, in person, if he does not wish to incur the expense. By making these preparations at once the commission could go over by next mail—that day's mail did not allow of sufficient time—and so save some delay in the future. The case might then come on in the winter or early spring. The depositions taken in the United States certainly could not be returned here before the New Year.

Mr. Lowder.—I certainly supposed that my learned friend had taken the depositions before.

Mr. Tison.—I should have done so, had I not thought that Mr. Lowder had taken the depositions himself. I am surprised he did not do so.

Mr. Lowder.—So far as I am instructed I see no necessity for taking the depositions.

Mr. Tison.—I had questioned that.

Mr. Lowder.—There may arise the necessity of my taking them now.

Mr. Tison.—No one present knows anything about the case, Mr. Bernard was in America and Mr. Middleton in New York, I believe, at the time. I will file the affidavit and follow the suggestion of the Court very cheerfully. The matter arose in mid July, the answer was filed in August therefore he thought no harm could arise from the adjournment.

His Honour.—The question now comes up as to the time of adjournment. I suppose Mr. Low comes back at the first of the year?

Mr. Tison.—I don't know, I am not sure.

His Honour.—I have a faint recollection of somebody saying he would return at the first of the year, but whether it was Mr. Low or not, I cannot now say.

Mr. Tison.—An officer of the Court could be sent to take the depositions.

His Honour.—It is not necessary to name such officer.

Some discussion as to interrogatories ensued, and Mr. Lowder said he thought that the evidence was only wanted on the counter claim?

Mr. Tison.—All hinges on that.

Mr. Lowder.—I knew nothing about the arrangement.

The phraseology and nature of the commission having been slightly sketched by counsel, the framing of the questions being left to themselves.

His Honour said—Not to make Counsel more work than is necessary, the affidavit need only cover the first paragraph of the rule, the rest is at the discretion of the Court.

Mr. Tison.—I will proceed to follow the suggestion of the Court.

The Court then rose.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE"

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

By W. LAIRD CLOWES,

GOLD MEDALIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

III.—SOME STAGGERING BLOWS.

In the first edition, already extensively quoted from, of its issue of Wednesday, April 29th, *The Times* contained the following telegram from its Portsmouth correspondent:—

"PORTSMOUTH, Tuesday, 9.30 p.m.—H.M.S. *Invincible*, guardship at Southampton, arrived here early this afternoon, and is now at Spithead, where H.M.S. *Hero*, *Minotaur*, *Hercules*, *Glatton*, *Gallathea*, *Latona*, *Iris*, *Bellona*, *Seagull*, and *Rattlesnake*, all vessels belonging to the A Division of the fleet reserve of this port, are also at anchor. The ten ships last named represent the only Portsmouth vessels that are immediately available, and several of them are not really quite fit for sea. Moreover, they are all, at present, short-handed. It may be recollected that some time ago, when the five cruisers and two gun-vessels of the Australian Squadron were commissioned, the rule restricting service on the Australian station to men of five years' standing and upwards was suspended in order to provide crews for them, and that, in addition, many men were taken out of the harbour ships. From the depletion which was thus caused, the Royal Naval Barracks have never completely recovered; and in consequence there has to-day been the greatest difficulty in finding for the mobilised vessels even sufficient crews to take them to Spithead. Other ships could be sent thither, if only men were forthcoming. The ten warships that have been commissioned here would, to man them properly, require 2,800 officers and men. Barely 1,200 were available, and, although a few men of the Royal Naval Reserve have offered themselves, and have been gladly accepted, I doubt whether the total number of people now on board the ships in question exceeds 1,500 all told. All kinds of civilians are volunteering, but none of them are accepted pending the receipt of instruc-

tions from the Admiralty. The ships are in the meantime busily engaged in getting in their powder and shell, and work is, while I write, being energetically carried on by aid of the electric light. All the seaward forts are manned, and many of the buoys and beacons have been to-day removed, nor were the usual lights exhibited this evening; but unfortunately the conflict between the naval and the military authorities continues, and it is but too evident that the rapid perfecting of our defensive preparations is being dangerously delayed by the fact that the local command is divided. I learn, as I close this dispatch, that the *Alexandra*, flagship of the Reserve Squadron from Portland, has anchored at Spithead. The *Hotspur* from Harwich, the *Audacious* from Hull, the *Shannon* from Bantry, and the *Neptune* from Holyhead, are expected in the course of to-morrow, and the *Iron Duke* from Queensferry, the *Superb* from Greenock, and the *Belleisle* from Kingstown on Thursday."

The same issue also contained the appended brief reports from Plymouth and the Medway:—

"PLYMOUTH, Tuesday, 11 a.m.—The *Conqueror*, *Achilles*, *Gorgon*, *Hecate*, *Prince Albert*, *Forth*, *Inconstant*, *Thames*, *Spanker*, and *Sharpshooter* have to-day gone out of harbour, and are now anchored with the *Black Prince* within the breakwater. They are the only vessels at this port that are in anything like a state of immediate readiness for sea, yet they are only half manned, and there is no probability, so far as can at present be seen, of providing proper complements for more than half of them."

"SHEERNESS, Tuesday, 11 p.m.—The following vessels of the Medway Fleet Reserve, A Division, are now here, viz., *Benbow*, *Camperdown*, *Northampton*, *Cyclops*, *Hydra*, *Narcissus*, *Arethusa*, *Mersey*, *Medea*, *Medusa*, *Barracouta*, *Grasshopper*, *Salamander*, *Skipjack*, and *Sheldrake*. Though all of them have been officially reported as ready for sea, several—notably some of the cruisers and gun-vessels—are suffering from various temporary defects, and not one is, or at present can be, properly manned, as neither lieutenants nor men are available in sufficient numbers. The *Benbow* is reported to have developed defects in her big guns, and is therefore partially useless. The *Blenheim* is not completed, but she may be got ready in ten days."

It was further announced that the Channel Fleet, consisting of the battleships *Royal Sovereign*, *Anson*, *Home*, and *Rodney*, the belted cruisers *Aurora* and *Immortalité*, and the small craft *Cybele* and *Speedwell*, was at Vigo, and had been ordered home by telegraph, and the Falmouth-Vigo cable. It might be expected at Spithead on Saturday morning. Most of the above-quoted news was of an unsatisfactory nature; for though the mention of so many ships as being more or less ready for sea inspired a certain vague confidence in the mind of the average layman as he sat at his breakfast table, the admission that, owing to lack of men, half of them were really useless, was one the significance of which could not but strike even him who had only the most casual knowledge of naval affairs. To the expert the reports were still more painful, for every expert knew well enough that ships like the *Minotaur*, *Shannon*, *Achilles*, *Prince Albert*, and others were, manned or unmanned, of little value save on paper. Naturally, therefore, the early morning's news, and particularly the terrible intelligence of the catastrophe off Toulon, aroused immense excitement and universal uneasiness. But excitement does not at once betray itself. Men must first meet and talk, and hear one another's views and apprehensions concerning what has happened and what is to come. And ere they had time to meet and talk on that awful Wednesday, more alarming news than had yet reached them arrived, and drove them from a state of repressed excitement into a condition of panic.

The French had struck boldly and promptly and effectively at Toulon, but not only there. Before ten o'clock a second edition of each of the morning papers announced the occurrence of a fresh and more humiliating catastrophe than that which had befallen us in the Mediterranean. The *Standard's* account is here given:—

"PORTSMOUTH, Wednesday, 6.45 a.m.—While lamenting the magnitude of the misfortune that has just overtaken a great part of the fleet assembled here, and the dreadful fate that has overwhelmed I am afraid to say how many hundreds of her Majesty's officers and men, it is impossible to avoid admiring the energy and dash of an enemy who, almost as soon as war is declared, succeeds in planting a deadly blow at our very vitals. What has happened is shocking in the extreme, but it is also marvellous. With a suddenness that seems almost inexplicable, the squadron at Spithead has been practically destroyed. Late last night it seemed ready to go anywhere and do anything; this morning the little that exist of it is a shattered remnant, barely able to

keep itself afloat, and utterly useless for any of the purposes of the immediate future.

"I had, as you are aware, obtained authority from the Admiralty to proceed to sea as a passenger on board H.M.S. *Alexandra* during the Channel cruise, which it was yesterday announced the Reserve Squadron would undertake as soon as it could be assembled at Spithead. The only ships of the squadron to arrive yesterday were the *Invincible* from Southampton and the *Alexandra* from Portland. The latter did not take up her anchorage until between nine and ten o'clock at night; but as she had been previously sighted and signalled, I—with some difficulty—engaged a shore boat and was at Spithead, ready to board her when she appeared. The ships already there were anchored in two lines which stretched from the south-west, nearly abreast of No Man's Land and the Horse Sand to the north-west, abreast of Gilkicker Point and Ryde. The heavier part of the fleet formed the line which lay nearest to the Isle of Wight, and, beginning from the south-east, consisted of the *Hercules*, *Minotaur*, *Alexandra*, *Hero*, *Invincible*, and *Glatten*. The cruiser squadron formed the line which lay nearest to the harbour, and, beginning from the south-east, consisted of the *Rattlesnake*, *Bellona*, *Iris*, *Galatea*, *Latona*, and *Seagull*. There were thus six vessels in each line, the *Rattlesnake* being abreast of the *Hercules*, the *Bellona* of the *Minotaur*, and so on; and there was a distance of two cables between the ships of each line, and of four cables between the lines.

"Most of the ships, when I reached Spithead, were taking in powder and shell, and were doing so by the light of their search-lights, from the hoys and barges which lay alongside. Some ships, also, were completing with coal. All, moreover, were taking in sea stores and supplies of every kind, the result being that night seemed to be turned into day, and that Spithead was crowded with boats and launches. I boarded the *Alexandra* as soon as she had taken up her berth between the *Minotaur* and the *Hero*; but, though it was getting late, there was, of course, no thought of turning in. Indeed, even if there had been no work on hand, and if Spithead had been as quiet as it commonly is at ten o'clock, there was so much anxiety in every ship concerning the news from the Mediterranean, and such continuous expectation that weighty intelligence of some sort would presently be brought off by one of the numerous craft from the shore, that no one cared to go to sleep lest perchance he might not hear the first word of definite intelligence. The few officers who had leisure to sit in the ward-room and smoking-room could talk of nothing but the war and the ships up the Straits. Those who had to be on deck thought, if they did not talk, on the same subjects. The Vice-Admiral and Captain had gone ashore to see the Commander-in-chief; the ship was in charge of the Commander; and I had nothing better to do than to take stock of the scene around me.

"Alongside the *Hero* a hoy was hoisting out powder cases and boxes of ammunition, which were stacked around the turret on her low deck forward and thence gradually removed to the magazine below. The *Minotaur* was filling up with coal, and had a barge on each side of her. The *Iris* abreast of us was, like the *Hero*, taking in her powder, and also a number of huge electro-contact mines—great red-painted iron cases which must have weighed nearly a ton a-piece. We at first did nothing, but soon a coal barge came alongside, and we began not only to fill up our bunkers, but also to pile coal on our decks, for the order had gone forth that every ship was to be coaled to her utmost capacity. Usually when a ship is coaling her ports are closed, and pains are taken to exclude as much as possible the all-pervading dust; but we and the other ships were coating cleared for action, and with half the guns loaded and run out. No vessel had her torpedo nets completely down, as all had craft alongside, but all had a certain number of boats out, and the whole anchorage between the Nab on the east and Hurst Castle on the west was supposed to be patrolled by these and by torpedo boats. A large amount of material in the shape of spars and buoys had been towed out of harbour during the day, with a view to constructing substantial defence booms within which ships might lie in safety; but the work of construction had not been begun, and most of the material was anchored on No Man's Land, where it was to remain for the night. No one, I think I may safely say, thought that there was the slightest probability of our being attacked. At midnight, however, with a view to making all sure, a couple of first-class torpedo boats were sent out by each entrance, and the four were ordered to scout between Christchurch and Selsea Bill, and at the back of the Isle of Wight.

"Portsmouth, as the crow flies, is only about seventy knots—nautical miles—from Cherbourg.

A vessel steaming, therefore, at a speed of fifteen knots, should do the distance easily in five hours. Our enemy must have come from Cherbourg. He can scarcely, indeed, in the circumstances, have come from anywhere else; and he probably left Cherbourg at about nine o'clock, for he came upon us soon after two this morning. The sea was smooth, the night was dark and chilly, and our vitality was at its lowest, as most men's vitality is in the small hours, when suddenly, apparently not more than two or three miles from us, we heard the boom of a gun. In an instant all were on deck. Some declared that the sound had come from the east; others swore that they had seen the flash light up the sky over Egypt Point to the westward. The Commander at once ordered away all the craft from alongside, and directed that the nets were to be fully rigged out; but, as everyone knows, lighters and barges cannot be got rid of in an instant, and long before the order could have been obeyed, we and our satellites were in the midst of one of the bloodiest struggles of which history gives any record.

"Within a minute of the time when we heard the first report we heard others, and saw over Bembridge Point the bouquet of a rocket which, we knew, had been fired by one of our boats as a signal that the enemy was approaching in force. I am not exaggerating, and I in no way do injustice to our officers and men, when I say that a scene of the direst confusion followed. The captain of the *Hercules* was the senior officer present. He signalled by means of flash lights from his mast-head, 'Cruisers will slip their cables and proceed with dispatch to sea in search of the enemy, those lying to eastward of the *Galatea* going out by the eastward, and those lying to westward of the *Iris* going out by the westward entrance. Rendezvous, Spithead, 8 a.m. Battleships will prepare to slip cables and follow—' But the signal was never completed. The shore boats and lighters were still pushing off; our officers were still shouting at them from the bridge and gangways for their delay, and the poor bumboat women were shrieking, partly from fear and partly because they and their goods had been separated, when another rocket and yet another went up from a point well on our side of the Nab, and under the glare of their explosions we saw, not a mile and a-half from us, three or four low-lying black hulls, which we knew could only be those of the torpedo cruisers of the enemy. In an instant, and forgetful of our torpedo boats, which must have sent up the warning rockets, and which must, therefore, have not been far out of the line of fire, every vessel that could bring a gun of any kind to bear opened in the direction of the foe. The roar was infernal, and, for a brief period, the dense smoke hid everything from us; but such slight air as there was gently carried the smoke to the westward, and soon we could see the enemy again. He was apparently none the worse for his reception, and was much nearer to us. Fire was re-opened, and maintained with fury. The *Alexandra* was incommoded somewhat by the ships to windward of her, and fired only occasionally; but the *Hercules*, *Minotaur*, and *Rattlesnake* seemed to blaze away almost without intermission, and the volumes of smoke that came slowly to leeward showed how freely they were spending their powder. The enemy fired very little. We expected to hear him using his torpedoes. And use them he did, but not from the direction which we anticipated. That attack had lasted, I suppose, a quarter of an hour, and there had been little, if any, cessation of the firing from our side, when, to our consternation, a second attack quickly developed itself from the westward. It is quite clear to me now that the eastward attack by three or four torpedo cruisers—probably vessels of the *Condor* and *Bombe* types—was merely a feint intended to amuse us while the real attack from the westward was being made. The *Needles*, or westward passage to Spithead, is not a particularly easy one in any circumstances, and is commanded not only by numerous batteries but also by the Brennan torpedo station at Fort Cliff End; but our enemies chose to take the risk of coming to grief in their attempt to find their way in by that passage, and it must be sadly admitted that the results have more than justified their temerity.

"The real attack was delivered by torpedo boats only, some being of the '*haute mer*' type, and others of the ordinary first-class. The larger vessels seem to have acted as 'division boats,' and there appears to have been four divisions engaged, each division on this occasion consisting of one *torpilleur de haute mer* and three torpedo boats, making sixteen craft all told. I do not pretend to be certain either as to the exact numbers or as to the exact constitutions of the force; but those who had the best opportunities of knowing place both as I have given them. The *Antilla* must have evaded our scouts, possibly by first making the land near Christchurch and then by keeping close

under it; for it was not seen until, almost like a flash, it steamed in close order past Fort Cliff End. Both Fort Cliff End and Hurst Castle were using their search-lights, and it was owing to this fact that the enemy was discovered. But the forts were unprepared for instant action, and ere fire of any kind could be opened, the boats were somewhere abreast of the Bramble, and within ten or twelve minutes' steam of their quarry. Even when the forts did open they did no harm, for the smoke of the action which was raging at the other end of the anchorage was drifting between them and the enemy. Besides, when the search-lights from the forts, or later, from the ships, fell upon any particular craft, they rendered all the other craft of the enemy completely invisible; and the operators, speedily becoming conscious of this fact, and being anxious to show up as many of the enemy as possible, shifted their projectors so rapidly as to confuse the eyes of the gunners. The truth seems to be that the most effective shelter under which a torpedo boat can approach to do damage is the shelter afforded by a search-light played upon some other vessel by the intended victim. Moreover, very few guns could be brought to bear, the chief works being so constructed as to be almost powerless for action on the Solent side, and being mainly designed to impede the foe as he comes in from the west-south-west, not to destroy him after he has got in. Thus the French steamed up without let or hindrance to within quite a short distance of the *Glutton* and *Seagull*, which formed, as I have already said, the north-eastern extremities of our two lines. These ships, or their picket boats, sighted the flotilla when it cannot have been anything like a mile from them. At the first shot from the Fleet, or perhaps before it, the divisions evidently separated in order to act in accordance with orders previously given to them. Two divisions, now formed in single column of line ahead, came up at full speed between our lines. The other two divisions, disposed respectively on the port and starboard quarters of the central divisions, came up also in columns of line ahead, one on each side of the still anchored fleet. The central divisions came on, therefore, at a distance of about two cables from the ships on either beam of them. The other divisions kept about as far outside the lines, and the speed I imagine was fully 18 knots. As the boats executed that terrible rush through us, they were saluted with a perfect hurricane of projectiles; but they did not, so far as I know, fire a gun in reply, and I fear that a good many of our own shot intended for the central divisions must have done more harm to friend than foe. It was fearful work; the very silence of the grey boats made the now brilliantly illuminated, though smoke-dimmed scene the more impressive. One could not help admiring so splendid an exhibition of pluck, even though one was fully conscious of the magnitude and imminence of one's own peril. But there was little time for thought. Our lines were less than a mile in length. Travelling at 18 knots a boat covers a mile in about three minutes, and in about three minutes, and in five or six minutes at the outside, the dismal tragedy had begun and ended. The French launched their torpedoes with wonderful precision, the central divisions discharging both right and left, and the outside divisions, which approached a few seconds later, apparently endeavouring to rectify any mistakes or omissions which their comrades of the centre had been guilty of. Too well, alas, did they do the business. It is as yet too early to send you details, save of what happened to the vessels immediately within my own sphere of vision; but there is no hope, that, by waiting, I can obtain any less disheartening general results than those which I can already give you. The *Hero*, *Invincible*, *Iris*, *Galatea*, and *Bellona* have been sunk or have been obliged to run ashore to avoid sinking; the *Minotaur* has been blown up, the explosion of a torpedo having, it is believed, fired one of the electro-contact mines which she had just taken on board; the *Alexandra* has a great hole in her port quarter and a compartment full of water; and the *Glutton* has a hole in her bows. Only the *Hercules*, *Latona*, *Seagull*, and *Rattlesnake* have escaped uninjured. A torpedo, barely submerged, seems to have actually exploded in contact with the *Hercules*, but that ship's stout construction and armoured belt saved her from anything worse than a very severeshaking. Several lighters and small craft were also sunk; and the loss of life, in one way and another, is, I fear, frightful. It is doubtful whether more than fifty of the *Minotaur's* people survive. The blowing-up of the vessel was so violent that we, who were anchored immediately astern of her, felt as if we were jerked out of the water, and a moment later our decks were covered with and even set on fire by her burning fragments. May I never live to have another so awful experience. Limbs, ragged pieces of charred flesh, scraps of clothing, as well as wreckage, fell on the decks, and in the shock of

the explosion smashed everything in the *Alexandra* that had not already been shattered by the bursting of a French torpedo under her own port quarter. The *Iris* was struck just before we were, and, being in a sinking condition, was run on to the Sturbridge Sand, where she lies with her bows in two and a-half fathoms. The *Bellona* is on the Harrow Bank, immediately under Fort Monckton. The *Galatea* and *Hero* lie sunk at their anchorages; and I am sorry to have to say that, in the struggle, a quantity of ammunition on the *Hero's* deck blew up, killing and injuring a number of people. The *Invincible* sank while endeavouring to run on the outer Spit. The heaviest losses were suffered by the *Minotaur*, *Hero*, and *Galatea*. The other ships have lost very few men killed, but have had a good many wounded; and in all the vessels which were torpedoed there were numerous sufferers from the poisonous and suffocating effects of the explosive gases and from shock. The *Alexandra's* loss is ten killed, and sixty-four wounded or otherwise injured. The torpedo which struck her threw down everyone on board, and raised a column of water of such volume that when part of it fell on deck it washed men into the scuppers just as if it had been a heavy sea.

"The enemy also has suffered, but very slightly in comparison with us. Two *torpilleurs de haute mer* and four torpedo boats are said to have been sunk or blown up, and of those which got away several are known to have been badly damaged. Whether our fire did any harm worth mentioning to the small cruisers which began the affair is more than we can tell. We cannot, however, claim to have done much more than destroy six little craft, and to have worked other harm which, altogether, may represent a quarter of a million. The French have done us damage to the extent of at least two and a-quarter millions in money alone. They may have lost a hundred in killed and wounded; we, at the lowest computation, have lost nearly a thousand. The blow, therefore, is one, the seriousness of which it would be folly to shut one's eye to. It is, as far as the Portsmouth squadron is concerned, a thoroughly crippling one."

"That the French attack was both well designed and well carried out it is impossible to deny. It came swiftly after the declaration of war; it was so arranged as to give the attacking torpedo boats the full advantage not only of the feint from the eastward, but also of such wind as was moving; and it was designed in such a way as to place the torpedo boats, after they had done their work, in a position whence, in case of necessity, they could be rescued by their friends the cruisers. In fact it cannot be doubted that, after their wild rush through our lines, some of the boats must have been very glad to run at once under the protection of their larger consorts; for several of them were certainly badly mauled. Of our own four boats which went out at midnight to scout we have as yet heard nothing; but there is every reason to fear, at least with regard to those which were on the eastern side of the Isle of Wight, that they have been destroyed or captured. The *Rattlesnake* slipped her cable and followed the retreating enemy for some miles, but was recalled by the Vice-Admiral who was returning from the shore when the alarm was first given, and whose steam launch narrowly escaped being run down by the port line of French torpedo boats as the vessels turned at the head of our port line in order to rejoin their friends. The Spithead forts, I should add, did not fire during the engagement. It is rumoured that they had not been supplied with ammunition. The Commander-in-chief has just left harbour in his yacht, the *Fire Queen* to inspect the ships which are damaged or aground, and to settle what is to be done. In the meantime the town is in a panic, other attacks being feared. The blowing up of the *Minotaur* broke nearly every pane of glass in Southsea, and created such alarm that several aged people are reported to have died from fright."

The second edition of each of the morning papers contained a dispatch to the above effect. The bad news, owing to the lateness of its arrival, was printed without comment; but immediate comment was unnecessary—the intelligence spoke for itself. We had been suddenly deprived of the services of five ironclads and three cruisers; which, added to the tale of vessels that had been lost or taken off Toulon, made a total of ten ironclads and five cruisers accounted for by the enemy within forty-eight hours of the commencement to hostilities.

The panic that ensued has had no parallel in the history of the country. The violation of our coasts, and indeed of our chief Naval port was an exploit which the majority of Englishmen had for generations deemed beyond the power of any foreigner or combination of foreigners; and the shock of knowing that it not only could be, but had been effected, threw nearly all men off their balance. The less-educated classes entirely lost their heads

and at hastily summoned meetings in Trafalgar-square and elsewhere wildly denounced not only those who were, but also those who were not, responsible for the disaster. It was, perhaps, difficult to apportion the responsibility among those who might be fairly blamed—among, for example, the members of the Government, the Lords of the Admiralty, and the chiefs of certain departments—but it was ridiculous to blame, as many mob orators did, the admirals and captains who had been concerned. Steadier brains realised this, and their views were substantially represented on this occasion by the *St. James's Gazette*, which, in the course of its reflections that afternoon, said:—

"Let us be under no delusion as to the real causes of our misfortunes. These may be easily catalogued. For years we have had naval manœuvres every summer; and all of these have been full of valuable lessons, to the majority of which we have nevertheless, kept our eyes shut. For years we have had a large number of ships on the list of the Royal Navy; but we have not taken the trouble to make certain that the greater part of these shall always be ready for immediate service. For years we have had a Naval Intelligence Department; but we have not made it large enough to be thoroughly efficient, and we have never taken care that our Mediterranean fleet should be in all respects superior to it. For years we have had it dinned into our ears that divided command at the naval ports—especially with regard to coast and harbour defences—is a source of danger, but we have not listened. For years we have been told that we were lamentably short of stokers, seamen-gunners, and, indeed, blue-jackets of all sorts; but our efforts to increase their numbers have been spasmodic and half-hearted. For years we have been aware that excessively big guns were a broken reed on which to depend, but no action has been taken in consequence. We might extend the lamentable catalogue of our omissions and commissions, but it is useless and undignified to moan over the unalterable. The future only is now our concern. Existing arrangements have convincingly demonstrated their feebleness and inadequacy, some means must be provisionally adopted for properly managing the naval affairs of the Empire. It may be a bad thing to swap horses when one is crossing a stream; but if one's own horse be sinking, there is no better course open: The Admiralty has collapsed; yet, although it is moribund, it still has the power to work harm. Let it, therefore, gracefully and promptly hand over its duties to stronger men. We do not blame their lordships so much as we blame the system under which they have worked. But we have no time for making compliments or for considering excuses. Already we have been hardly hit. Another blow may paralyse us altogether. The safety of the country is the one thing to be thought of, and we trust that neither the Admiralty nor the public will think of anything else. To the one we recommend unselfishness and resignation to the needs of the moment; to the other, calmness, loyalty, and patriotic devotion. Ours is not an inheritance to vanish in a day, but neither is it a treasure to be trifled with."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 24th.

A splendid function took place on Thursday last at the Pantheon in celebration of the centenary of the Republic, and great fêtes were held in honour of the day throughout France.

Cholera is on the increase in Holland.

London, September 26th.

An imposing service was performed at St. Paul's Cathedral in memory of those who fell at Lucknow, during the Indian Mutiny. Many survivors of the garrison after the relief who then belonged to Havelock's and Outram's forces attended the ceremony.

September 27th.

There has been mutiny among the 1st Life Guards at Windsor, but it is stated to be only a slight affair.

The letter of Mr. Cleveland, accepting the nomination to the Presidency by the Democrats, states that he will adhere to Tariff Reforms which shall include the reduction of duties on raw material, also that he considers it possible to utilise gold and silver on equal terms in the adjustment of the currency question.

The cholera has disappeared from New York.

(FROM MANILA PAPERS.)

Madrid, September 4th.
There is great panic in Paris owing to the cholera; the number of cases yesterday exceeded 300. The epidemic decreases in Havre and Hamburg.

Madrid, September 6th.
The cholera increases in Paris.

Madrid, September 9th.
The cholera in Europe remains the same; Spain in free.

The cholera in Hamburg and Paris continues with great virulence.

Their Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal will be present at the festivities in commemoration of the fourth centenary of the discovery of America.

The epidemic continues severe in Hamburg and Paris.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, September 8th.
A manifesto issued by the Parnellites charges the Anti-Parnellites with yielding their independence, and urges the formation of an independent party and a prompt reorganisation of the National League.

London, September 7th.
The universal cooler weather is arresting the cholera epidemic on the Continent. Great Britain is reported still free of the disease.

London, September 9th.
Cholera at Hamburg continues to be of a virulent nature, and the daily mortality from this disease is considerable.

London, September 10th.
The officers and crew, except the Captain, of a ship bound for Hamburg, on arrival at Falmouth refused to proceed in the vessel on account of the cholera at the former port. The magistrate who tried the case upheld the action of the crew. The owners of the ship have appealed against this decision.

The cholera is reported to be increasing in Paris.

(FROM THE "MANILA PAPERS.")

Madrid, September 1st.
Cholera has appeared in Venice and Naples. The tobacco manufacturers have re-opened their factories.

The civil war has recommenced in Morocco.

London, September 3rd.
A death from cholera has taken place at Macclesfield; this is the first unimported case recorded in Great Britain. The cholera outbreak entirely absorbs public attention.

London, September 5th.
The Treasury has declared its willingness to allow the mints of New South Wales and Victoria to coin silver, the Treasury receiving the profits but recouping the above named Colonies for any loss they may sustain on the gold currency, and invites concerted Australian action in the matter.

London, September 6th.
The Government of Canada have decreed a quarantine of twenty-one days against all vessels arriving with immigrants, but excepting those from British and Scandinavian ports.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Hotel.

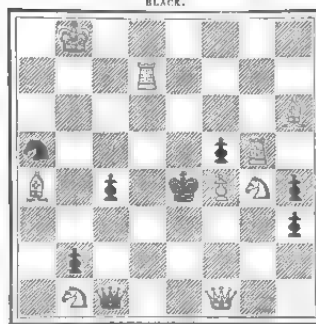
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J.W.E.—No. 36 cannot be solved by B to II 4. The Black King moves to Q 7, and you are again hopelessly at sea.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 36.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—K to K Kt 6 1—P to Kt 5
2—Q to B 8 2—K to Q 7
3—Q to R 6 mate if 1—B to Q 7
3—Q to Q B 5 mate if 2—P to K 5
3—Q to K B 4 mate

Correct solution received from Omega, Scachi, and W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 38.
BY W. A. CLARK.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Played in 1891 at the City of London Chess Club between Mr. F. E. Hamond and another first-class player. Hamond's brilliant conduct of the game certainly deserved the success it obtained.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. BLACK—F. E. HAMOND.
1—P—K 4 1—P—K 4
2—P—K B 4 2—B—B 4 (a)
3—Kt—K B 3 3—P—Q 3
4—B—B 4 4—Kt—K B 3
5—P—Q 3 5—Kt—Q B 3 (b)
6—P—B 3 6—B—K Kt 5
7—P—K R 3 (c) 7—B—K 3
8—B—B 8—P—B
9—P—P 9—P—P
10—B—Kt 5 10—Castles.
11—Q—K 2 11—Q—K sq.
12—Q—Kt—Q 2 12—Rt—K R 4
13—Q—Kt—K B 13—P—K R 3
14—B—Q 2 14—Q—Kt 3
15—P—K Kt 4 15—Kt—B 5
16—B—Kt 16—R—B (d)
17—Kt—Kt 3 17—P—Q Kt 4 (e)
18—Castles Q R 18—P—Kt 5
19—K R—K B (f) 19—P—P
20—P—P 20—Q R—Kt sq. (g)
21—K—B 2 21—Q—K sq. (h)
22—Q R—Q Kt 22—R—Kt (i)
23—Q—R 23—Kt—Q 5 ch.
24—P—Kt 24—Q—R 5 ch.
25—K—B (j) 25—Q—R 6 ch.
26—K—Q 2 26—Q—P ch.
27—Resigns.

Notes from the Newcastle Chronicle.

(a) A safe and effective method of refusing the King's Gambit.
(b) Castling is perhaps a little stronger, as White dare not go for the K P.
(c) Creating a "hole" which subsequently proves troublesome.
(d) For immediate purposes best; for the future inferior to P x B, which would strengthen his Pawns for the ending.
(e) Preparing an attack on the Q side, where White obviously intends Castling.
(f) 20—P—Q 4 was promising and should have been played.
(g) An admirable preparation for the coming sacrifice.
(h) Another foretelling move of a very high order.
(i) Artistic and unanswerable.
(j) It is immaterial what White does, if 25—K—Q 3, Q x R P ch, &c., winning.

The Yokohama Chess Club will commence its third session on Monday next, when the Annual General Meeting will be held at its old headquarters, the Club Hotel. After the meeting the customary bi-weekly meetings for practice will be resumed.

The match for the championship of America has resulted in a brilliant victory for Mr. Lipschultz who scored seven games against Mr. Showalter's one, with seven draws.

The North of England players are preparing to challenge the South for a big match. This will be an event of exceptional interest.

THE PERFECT GAME.

We grow more thick-skinned as we older grow,
And little care if we win or the foe;
But what we do seek is a stirring game,
Where e'en defeat is free from slip or blame;
A game well fought throughout, nor absent be
The diamond flash of clear-cut strategy.
Such chess were perfect. More do we desire,
Well, an opponent filled with kindred fire,
Phlegmatic, courteous, not too slow or quick,
In mien and gesture free from noise and trick;
Who, winning, will from foolish vaunt refrain,
And, losing, knows when longer fight is vain.
With such a foe and such delightful play,
How bright and full the hours will fleet away!

British Chess Magazine.

J. PIERCE.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe..... per N. V. K. Friday, Oct. 7th.
From America... per P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 3rd.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 2nd.
From America... per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 15th.
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Oct. 9th.
From Hongkong. per P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 3rd.
From Europe via Hongkong..... per N. D. Lloyd. Wed'day, Oct. 5th.
From Europe via Hongkong..... per M. M. Co. Friday, Oct. 14th.
From Hongkong. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 16th.
From America... per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Oct. 22nd.

* City of Peking left San Francisco on September 19th. * Empress of China left Vancouver on September 18th. * China left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 27th. * Ancona left Hongkong on September 29th. * City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on September 29th. The English mail is on board the steamer Bengue which left Hongkong via Kobe on September 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Oct. 2nd.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 3rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per N. V. K. Tuesday, Oct. 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong..... per N. D. Lloyd. Friday, Oct. 7th.
For America... per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 8th.
For Europe, via Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 9th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 17th.
For America... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Oct. 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 24th September.—Kobe 22nd September, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 24th September.—Yokkaichi 23rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 24th September.—Mojito 22nd September, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 25th September.—Yokkaichi 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 25th September.—Shanghai and ports 19th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 25th September.—Kobe 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 26th September.—Yokkaichi 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 26th September.—Otaru via ports 22nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 26th September.—Kobe 24th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 26th September.—Hongkong 20th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 26th September.—Hongkong via ports 17th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 26th September.—Kobe 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Wm. R. Clutterbuck, 27th September.—Hakodate 25th September.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 28th September.—Yokkaichi 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 29th September.—Otaru and ports 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 29th September.—Shanghai and ports 23rd September Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 30th September.—Yokkaichi 28th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Homery, 30th September.—Marseilles via ports 3rd September, General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 30th September.—Yokkaichi 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pallas (8), cruiser, Captain A. MacLeod, 30th September.—Hakodate.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Fukui, 30th September.—Kobe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 30th September.—Fukaura 26th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 24th September.—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Moyuna, British steamer, 1,714, C. De la Perrelle, 24th September.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Fukui, 25th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prak, German steamer, 1,635, G. Peterson, 25th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 8,450, Bretel, 25th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 25th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 26th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 26th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 27th September.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 27th September.—Mojji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 27th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 27th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 27th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, MacMillan, 28th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 28th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Redpole (6), gunboat, Lieut. Commander F. W. Freeman, 29th September.—Hongkong.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 29th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 30th September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 30th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pallas (8), cruiser, Captain A. McLeod, 1st October.—Hongkong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 passenger in second class and 3 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Wilcockson, Miss Wilcockson, Messrs. S. Uyeno, R. Kirby, and W. Brent in cabin; Mr. C. A. Peterson in second class, and 27 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Low in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Smith in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 23 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. H. Tabor and Mr. G. Keeble in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Connolly, Captain Mitchell, Lieut. Callthorpe, Mr. J. Hartley, Mr. W. H. L. Ayres, Mr. and Mrs. Dalton, child, infant, and amah, Mr. W. A. Cobby, Mrs. McGlew and child, Hon. Mrs. Sugden, and Mr. T. W. Hellyer in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Kobe:—2 passengers in second class and 33 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Mahuhue, Miss and Mr. Katou in cabin; 20 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Misses Hogg (2), Captain Piorkowski, Messrs. E. Mullen-

dorff, John Hill, S. Inouye, and Hamilton in cabin; Mr. B. Botello, Mr. Ehrkhardt, Master Takaki, and Mr. R. Kobayashi in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. Jas. Purdon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—2 passengers in second class and 30 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. A. Kaba, Omizuha, Shimpei Nambu, Caro, Oshima, W. Michell, Mrs. Dambasle, Messrs. G. Fischer, S. J. Truscott, Shibuya, Tonai, Hamahtoh, Shibuya, Mr. and Mrs. St. Hamor, Mrs. Kuhn, Mr. J. N. Hurne Rothery, Mrs. Alvares and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Alvares, infant, and amah, Mr. M. Toshima, Mr. Y. S. Gubbay, Mr. Y. Godorochi, Mr. Woog, Mr. Massart, Mr. Schneider, Mrs. Nakenham, infant and amah, and Miss Gibbens in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Mitchell, Mr. C. S. Lee, Mr. Deguy, Mr. and Mrs. Liddell, 2 infants, and servant, Mr. French, Mr. Hengh, Mr. J. Eymard, Miss M. Eymard, Mr. Peter, Mr. and Mrs. Vaireilles, Mr. C. H. Hobart Hampden, Mrs. and Miss Rodger, family, and servant, Mr. C. H. Balfour, Mr. G. A. Saijan, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. and Miss Sommers in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss S. Clausen, Miss B. Vesterock, Miss R. Smith, Governor and Mrs. Iwasaki, Governor T. Nakano, Lieut. Ikunaka, Messrs. O. M. Sama, Y. O. Skoodal, H. Seafforth, A. W. Goodrich, J. Matsubara, M. Büschell, and Chas. Crane in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Yoshimura and daughter, Messrs. C. B. Clausen, S. Hattori, G. Kamoshita, Shiobara, and Y. Koguchi in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. C. M. B. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Child, Commander Count Comtes, Mr. A. E. Dowler, Dr. F. Grimm, Mr. A. H. Groom, Mr. Jas. Hay, Mr. H. S. Jonson, Mr. J. Kawashima, Mr. K. Konishi, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Low, Mr. A. Marischal, Mr. Howard Martin, Rev. H. S. Morris, Mr. Jas. Purdon, Miss May Stone, Mr. S. Tejima, and Mr. J. W. Willard in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,000.00.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 982 bales; for Italy, 21 bales. Waste Silk for France, 194 bales. Treasure for London, \$29,000.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

	TRA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	597	1,306	2,400	4,313
Nagasaki	2	—	493	495
Hyogo	—	—	582	582
Yokohama	4,227	—	1,092	5,319
Hongkong	129	—	10	139
Amoy	15	2,946	1,458	4,429
Batavia	6	—	—	6
Total	4,976	4,252	6,014	15,252

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	186	—	186
Hongkong	—	275	—	275
Yokohama	3	2,182	—	2,185
Total	3	2,643	—	2,646

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Shimadzu, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 23rd September at 3.30 p.m.; had gentle north-easterly breeze and fine weather; passed Omai-saki the 24th at 1.30 a.m. and Rock Island at 4.55 a.m.; moderate north-easterly breeze and fine clear weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th September at 11.55 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 19th September at 9.42 a.m.; had strong E.N.E. winds and overcast rainy weather. Arriving at Nagasaki the 21st at 12.30 p.m. and left the same day at 6.15 p.m.; had moderate variable winds and rainy weather. Arriving at Shimonoseki the 22nd at 7.45 a.m. and left the same day at 10.55 a.m.; had fine clear weather and N.W. winds. Arriving at Kobe the 23rd at 7 a.m. and left the 24th at noon; had moderate to strong N.N.E. winds and

fine clear weather throughout the passage. Arriving at Yokohama the 25th September at 6.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th September at 10 a.m. and arrived at Shiwotsu at 0.50 p.m. Left at 3.31 p.m.; passed Oshima at 9.54 p.m. the same day and Rock Island the 25th at 2.55 p.m. Arriving at Yokohama the 26th September at 9.17 p.m.; had fresh N.E. winds with cloudy weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain F. Brown, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd September at 1 p.m.; had light to moderate N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 23rd at 7 a.m. and left the 24th at noon; had gentle westerly wind and fine weather, heavy easterly swell. Arrived at Oginohama the 25th at 10 a.m. and left the same day at 1.30 p.m.; had moderate easterly wind, fine weather, and light easterly swell. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th September at 1 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th September at 4.20 p.m.; had strong N.E. winds to Turnabout, moderate to fresh N.E. gale to Yokohama; thence to port strong N.E. winds and head seas the entire passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th September at 4.03 p.m., making the passage in 5 days, 22 hours, and 1 minute.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain MacMillan, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th September at 2 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 27th September at 1 a.m.; experienced fresh E.N.E. winds and head sea throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 25th September at noon; had light N.W. winds and fine clear weather. Arriving at Hakodate the 26th at 6 a.m. and left the 27th; had fresh S.E. winds and overcast sky; midnight increasing to fresh gale with heavy head sea and constant thick rain. Arriving at Oginohama the 28th at 3.15 p.m. when met steamer *Kumamoto Maru* putting in for shelter; at 2 p.m. barometer 29.54; at 4 p.m. barometer 29.56. Left Oginohama at 5.45 p.m.; had moderate breezes and overcast weather and head sea; at 8 p.m. barometer 29.59; at midnight falling to 29.55; on the 29th at 2 a.m. set in thick, heavy rain, remaining so to Inuboye, which was passed at 9 a.m. weather remaining thick with rain; barometer falling steadily, moderate N.W. winds; at 4 p.m. barometer 29.40; at 6 p.m. barometer 29.38; at 6.30 p.m. weather clearing. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th September at 7.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Cunner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 23rd September at noon; had gentle N.E. winds and fine weather till noon on the 23rd; thence in Nagasaki fresh wind and sea (E.N.E.), arriving the 25th at 7 a.m. and left the same day at 5 p.m.; had moderate N.E. winds and cloudy weather to Shimonoseki, arriving the 26th at 5.55 a.m. and left the same day at 10.52 a.m.; had moderate N.E. and easterly winds and dull weather in Steep Bluff; thence to Kobe, moderate easterly winds with frequent heavy gusts, arriving the 27th at 7.55 a.m. and left Kobe the 28th at 3 p.m.; had light variable winds with occasional showers to Oshima; thence till at 8 a.m. on the 29th gentle northerly winds with heavy rain; from Rock Island to port strong N.E. winds with frequent heavy showers. Arriving at Yokohama the 29th September at 7 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Shimadzu, reports:—Left Yokkaichi via Handa the 29th September at 9 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 30th September at 5.30 a.m.; experienced fine, clear weather with light westerly winds and smooth water in noon; thence continuous rain and light northerly winds.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Fukui, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th September at 7.05 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 30th September at 1.45 p.m.; experienced gentle to moderate north-westerly breeze and fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Fukaura the 26th September at 10.30 p.m.; had moderate north-easterly winds and fine clear weather to Siriyasaki, which passed the 27th at 8.55 a.m. the wind hauling to S.E. and increasing with gathering clouds and rising sea; passed Kuro-saki at 6.30 p.m. when it set in thick with heavy rain squalls; towards daylight the 28th blowing a moderate gale with continued rain and high sea, barometer steadily falling; steered for Kinkasan, and getting a position decided to go in to Oginohama for shelter, ship going bows under and labouring heavily. Arrived at Oginohama at 10.30 a.m. and left again the 29th at 5 a.m.; barometer steady at 29.39; thick rainy weather with light westerly winds and heavy southerly swell; at 6 p.m. wind and sea increasing with heavy, rainy, thick weather, barometer

meter falling to 29.35; at 6 p.m. blowing a fresh gale from N.N.E. put ship head to northward and slowed engines; at 10 p.m. weather clearing in westward, barometer stopped falling; put ship on her course again; passed Inuboye-saki the 30th at 1.10 a.m.; Noshima at 8 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama at 12.30 p.m. lowest barometer 29.28.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For LONDON via Ports, Quick Despatch, the "BENGLOZ."—Carnes & Co.

For NEW YORK via Ports, Prompt Despatch, the "GHAZER."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For HONGKONG via Hyogo and Nagasaki, October 2nd, at Daylight, the "VERONA."—P. & O. S. N. Co.

For HONGKONG via Kobe and Shanghai, October 3rd, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Frazar & Co.

For SHANGHAI via Ports, October 4th, at Noon, the "SAIKIO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG via Kobe and Nagasaki, October 7th, at 9 a.m., the "NUERNBERG."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.

For SAN FRANCISCO, October 8th, the "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."—P. M. S. S. Co.

For SHANGHAI via Kobe, October 9th, at 9 a.m., the "SAGHALIEN."—Messageries Maritimes Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., October 17th, the "EMPEROR OF JAPAN."—Frazar & Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., October 18th, at 10 a.m., the "ZAMBESI."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, October 21st, the "GARLIC."—O. & O. S. S. Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,648, A. Clark, 21st September.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ghaizer, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 19th September.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

St. Andrews, Norwegian steamer, 2,009, H. H. Hansen, 17th September.—Batoum via Singapore 3rd August, 107,000 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 26th September.—Hongkong via ports 17th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Wilson, 20th November.—North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, Harrison, 16th July.—Guam 29th June, Cobra.—Captain.

Rbot. L. Belknap, American ship, 2,251, H. Staples, 9th September.—New York 30th March, Oil and General.—China & Japan Trading Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Alert (4), U.S. corvette, Captain R. D. Hitchcock, 18th September.—Nagasaki.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain Von Prantzius, 21st September.—Nagasaki.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Wm. R. Clutterbuck, 27th September.—Hakodate 25th September.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been quite a briskness in the market, with more life than has existed for a long time past, and dealers have shown a desire to operate in a way that they have not done for several seasons previously, evidently showing that the trade of the country has improved vastly under the influence of good crops of produce of all kinds and good prices for their exports, whilst the diminished stocks, owing in a great measure to so long a period of unremunerative business to importers, has curtailed the usual supplies, with the result that the buying of the past month has virtually cleared the market of nearly all superfluous stocks and secured most of what is on the way, so that sellers have now but little to offer and dealers are inclined to pay up for what they want. The business in Italian Cloths has been very active and large, with quickly advancing prices for especially the better qualities. Turkey Reds have also been dealt in to a very large extent at improved rates. Prints and Velvets have participated in the improvement to a less extent, and Flannels, Cloth, and Blankets have all had increased attention at better prices.

Cotton Yarn has been dealt in, but moderately as regards the Ordinary counts of Single Yarns, though an advance has been paid on previous quotations, both for spot and arrival; in Two-folds there has been much more activity, and sales to arrive have been made at considerable rise in prices for Fine Counts, but the pressure to clear off some old stock has kept down rates for immediate delivery, and as supplies are now very reduced, higher prices seem to be anticipated by the trade. Exchange is quoted 2/10½ for Sterling Bank Bills on demand. Sales for the week, including some items omitted in last report, comprise 850 bales English Yarn, 10,000 pieces glb. Shirtings, 2,000 pieces 8½lb., 1,000 pieces 7½lb. T-Cloths, 5,000 pieces Prints, 2,000 pieces Cotton Italians, 900 pieces Velvets, 50,000 pieces Turkey Reds, 520 pieces Silk-faced Satins, 1,220 pieces Flannel, 15,000 pieces Italian Cloth, 7,200 pieces Mousseline de Laine, 480 pieces Cloths, and 15,000 pairs Blankets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	1.55 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—gib. 38½ yds. 39 inches	1.85 to 2.55
T. Cloth—7½, 24 yds. 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 41 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 39 inches	1.55 to 2.10
Cotton—Italians and Satteen Black, 32 inches	0.13 to 0.16½
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 22 inches	5.75 to 7.00
Victoria Lanes, 12 yds. 42½ inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetae, 12 yds. 43 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2½, 24½ yds. 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24½ yds. 30 inches	1.34½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24½ yds. 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24½ yds. 30 inches	1.65 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yds. 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—10 yds. 32 inches best	0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.27½ to 30
Medium	0.24 to 26½
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.20 to 23
Common	0.11½ to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds. 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½lb. per lb.	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
No. 16½/4, Ordinary	26.00 to 26.75
No. 16½/4, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
No. 16½/4, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.75
No. 16½/4, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
No. 28½/2, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
No. 28½/2, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
No. 28½/2, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
No. 38½/2, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 32, Two-fold	32.00 to 33.50
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 101½/4, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Some offers have been made for future business at good figures, but dealers are more inclined to unload present holdings. Buyers seem to think that prices of "spot" cargo should be shaded, but have not been able to convince sellers, with the result that current business is small at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	22.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.60 to 6.90
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Holders still maintain their strong position and buyers have had to pay up or go without. Prices unchanged, and a fair steady trade goes on.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER PICUL.
Chester	1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devoe	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Then seems to be only about 6,000 piculs Brown at time of writing, which is very inadequate to the demand. As fast as stock arrives it is taken up at once, buyers paying full quotations given below. Brown Takao is exhausted, and prices are withdrawn. A good inquiry for Whites also exists, and outside quotation is up 5 sen.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	35.60 to 3.80
Brown Daitong	3.75 to 3.95
Brown Canton	6.10 to 6.30
White Java and Penang	5.30 to 7.65

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 23rd instant. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 2,928 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 64 piculs; Filatures, 1,121 piculs; Re-reels, 736 piculs; Kakeda, 982 piculs; Oshu, 25 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 109 bales, making the total operations for the week 3,050 piculs.

Again settlements for the week are abnormally large, and very high prices have been paid, showing the top notch so far for the present season. All sorts have been in demand—Filatures, Re-reels and Kakedas receiving the lion's share of attention; Hanks and Oshu sorts were less wanted.

In our last we spoke of \$900 per picul for Best Filatures. This figure was quickly exceeded in the great rush which took place a week ago. \$930 is said to have been paid for some Extras, and holders are very strong, although the market is much more quiet than it was. Some of our neighbours believe that prices will yet see \$1,000 per picul for *Shinshu* Filatures, while others assert that the top pinnacle has been reached and that we shall go no higher. Time only can decide between these rival prophets.

Arrivals come in freely from the interior, but at one time stock was down to about 5,000 piculs. A quiet market the last two days, with small sales, has again increased the stock to 6,000 piculs. It is worthy of note that the visible supplies to date are 26,000 piculs, the same being much more than half our estimated crop, although but three months of the season has yet passed over our heads.

Exchange has remained fairly steady all through the week, fluctuating but slightly with the price of silver in London. Rates are nominally a fraction above last week's quotations, but probably they could be somewhat shaded with a firm offer of business in hand.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Sydney* taking 1,003 bales for Europe, while the *Oceanic*, leaving port to-day, has on board 2,185 bales for the New York trade. The English mail, leaving to-morrow, will also have a good shipment for Europe, and the present export figures reach 17,100 piculs, against 13,645 piculs at the same date last year and 3,966 piculs at the end of September two years ago.

Hanks.—Business in this class has been small, holders asking too much for their wares. Best *Shinshus* are worth \$690, \$675 being asked for good *Chickibu*, of fine size. *Hachiogi* have been done as high as \$570, and with the small stocks on hand, holders are very firm.

Filatures.—Very high prices have been paid for good silk, \$930 being reported for some Extra Filatures, fine size. The same grade of silk, coarse size, is held for \$920, and while there is not large buying at the moment, holders are very strong and believe that will get their prices eventually without any difficulty.

Re-reels.—These are in good demand. *Five Girl* chop has been weighed up at \$850; *Tengensha*, same price; *Tortoise* chop \$745. The market is more or less disorganized, holders not knowing how much to ask for their silk.

Kakeda.—These, which were neglected a week ago, have received a sudden boom and the settlements for the week are nearly 1,000 piculs. Prices have been driven up to what look like a dangerous figure—Extras, \$880; No. 1, \$840, and other grades in proportion. The stock is reduced to very small proportions, being only 300 piculs, and holders are proportionately strong.

Oshu Sorts.—A small business this week, sellers keeping out of the market. The stock has increased somewhat and is well held at quotations.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

	Nom.
Hanks—No. 14	570 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 24 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 570
Hanks—No. 34	930
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers	900 to 905
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 16, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	800 to 810

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Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	880 to 890
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	870 to 880
Kakedas—Extra	870 to 880
Kakedas—No. 1	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 11	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2, 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No. 3	690 to 700
Kakedas—No. 3, 1	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 4	640 to 650
Oshu Sendai—No. 2, 1	Nom.
Hanatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sodai—No. 2, 1	Nom.

Export Raw Silk Tables to 30th Sept., 1892:—

	Season 1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Europe	6,896	5,156	1,417
America	9,858	8,084	2,450
Total	16,754	13,240	3,867
Settlements and Direct	17,100	13,645	3,966
Export from 1st July	20,000	14,100	4,200
Stock, 30th September	6,000	12,100	12,800
Available supplies to date	26,000	26,200	17,000

WASTE SILK.

Settlement for the week amount to 1,600 piculs, divided thus.—Cocoons, 30 piculs; Noshi, 1,253 piculs; Kibiso, 317 piculs.

Much less has been done than during the previous week and some holders are reported to be feeling a little nervous and would like to be moving of at some slight reduction on quotations. It would appear that prices have been forced up too much, the present attitude of consumers being averse to such quotations as we can give from here. Altogether, prices are unchanged from last week; it would seem that better might be done with a firm offer in hand.

There has been only one shipping opportunity the French mail steamer *Sydney*, which left port on the 25th. She carried several parcels of Waste and Cocoons for Europe, and the total export to date amounts to 3,447 piculs, against 3,305 piculs last year and 1,868 piculs at the same date in 1890. The *Carmarthenshire*, now loading, has on board about 100 bales Cocoons for New York, which are not included in our statistics of this date.

Pierced Cocoons.—Very small business, both sides assuming an attitude of observation.

Noshi.—Considerable business has been done, but the firmness of holders stops the trade. Meantime, quotations are nominally unchanged.

Kibiso.—About 300 piculs have been settled on the basis of last week's quotations, but shippers are now looking for some reduction which hitherto holders will not grant.

In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	Nom.
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good to Best	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	72 1/2 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	67 1/2 to 70
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	95 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	95 to 100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	45 to 40
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	40 to 37 1/2
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Wawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 30th Sept., 1892:—

	Season 1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Waste Silk	3,345	3,305	1,643
Pierced Cocoons	102	—	225
Total	3,447	3,305	1,868
Settlements and Direct	7,900	5,150	5,350
Export from 1st July	14,150	14,500	10,750
Stock, 30th September	22,050	19,750	16,100

Exchange has been fairly steady, receding a point in sympathy with quotation for Bar silver:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10 1/2; Documents, 2/11 1/2; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11 1/2; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$71; 4m/s. U.S. \$72; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3/72.

Estimated Silk Stock, 30th Sept., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	300	Cocoons	1,150
Filatures	2,310	Noshi-ito	6,700
Re-reels	2,640	Kibiso	6,050
Kakada	310	Mawata	90
Oshu	377	Sundries	160
Taysam Kinds	3		
Total piculs	6,000	Total piculs	14,150

TEA.

Stock on hand is reported at about 2,000 piculs only, and full quotations have been realized. The \$22 to \$27 grade appear to have been dealt in mostly; low grades, however, were hard to find and prices were kept up very high. Export to date (not including outgoing steamers) foots up to 26,000,000lb., being about the same as at the corresponding date in 1891-2.

CHOICEST	PER PICUL.
Choice	\$32 to 33
Choice	28 to 30
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been steady, and may be called a point higher than a week ago.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10 1/2
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10 1/2
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	3/62
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3/74
On Hongkong—Bank sight	24 1/2 dia.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	3 1/2 dia.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69 1/2
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71 1/2
On America—Private 4 months' sight	72 1/2
Silver	38 1/2

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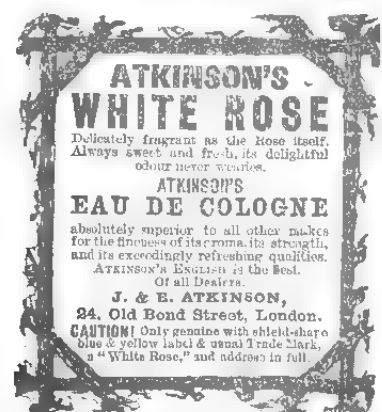
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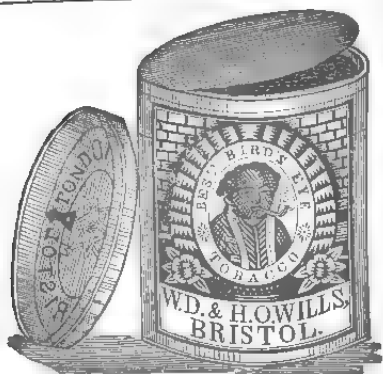
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REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 8TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 8TH, 1892.

BIRTH.

On the 5th October, at Kobe, the wife of R. VON KRENNCKI, His Imperial German Majesty's Consul, of Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE new Hunting Regulations have been issued.

THE appointment of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho as Chief Commissioner of the Law Bureau in the Cabinet Office took place on the 30th ult.

THE appeal case of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. against the Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture has been decided in favour of the latter.

THE *Choya Shimbun* has been suspended, an article published in the issue of the 1st inst. being regarded as likely to disturb the country's foreign relations.

THE confectioners of Okayama Prefecture will meet on the 11th inst. to consider a petition to be presented to the Diet for the abolition of taxes on confectionery.

A SLIGHT earthquake was experienced in Tokyo on the morning of the 1st inst. at 2h. 6m. 31s. Another feeble shock was felt at 9h. 21m. 36s. the same forenoon.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Adachi Toshitsuna, ex-Governor of Fukui, was held in the capital on the 30th ult., the ceremony being attended by more than one thousand persons. The coffin, guarded by a battalion of infantry, left the house of the deceased at Negishi.

Shitaya, at 2 p.m. The interment, which was in accordance with Shinto rites, took place in the cemetery at Yanaka.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR will leave the capital on the 22nd inst. to attend the Autumn Manoeuvres of the First and Second Army Divisions to be held in the plains of Yashu province. He is expected to return to Tokyo on the 27th inst.

AN exhibition of fine art objects (pictures) promoted by the Japan Fine Art Society, was opened in Ueyo Park on the 1st inst. Some 250 new designs and 200 productions of ancient Japanese artists had arrived up to that day, and more exhibits were expected.

MR. IWASAKI at present heads the list of largest direct City tax-payers in Tokyo, contributing yen 6,278.32 towards the municipal treasury; the next is Marquis Tokugawa Shigetugu, whose taxes amount to yen 2,331.16; he is followed by Prince Mori, with yen 1,437.21.

THE residents of Nagoya have presented a gold cup to Mr. Kajima Hidemaro, an ex-Kaishin representative in the Lower House for Hyogo, in recognition of services rendered by him in the revision of the new Regulations for the Organization of Cities and Prefectures.

THE libel suit raised by Mr. Hiranuma Senzo the big money-lender of Yokohama, against Public Procurator Odate of the Tokyo Local Court, which was rejected by the Procurator's Bureau, has been thrown out by the Tokyo Court of Appeal.

DURING July last cotton thread to the amount of 765,037 *kwanme* (one *kwanme*=8½ lb.) was manufactured at 34 spinning mills throughout the Empire, the number of spindles in use being 323,784. The total quantity of cotton used was 880,635 *kwanme*, 13,885,571 pounds of coal being consumed.

THE following answers have been obtained from 139 boys in a school attached to the Okayama Ordinary Normal School who were questioned as to the occupation they would best like in after life:—Soldier, 42; merchant, 41; scholar, 19; medical man, 16; Government official, 6; engineer, 5; farmer, 4; advocate, 3; Shinto priest, 1; banker, 1; and druggist, 1.

THE foreign trade of Fusan, Korea, during the month of July last, amounted to yen 197,815 in value, of which yen 69,222 represented imports, and yen 128,593 exports. The following are the values of commodities (over yen 2,000) imported from and exported to Japan:—Exports yen 3,184 ox-hides, yen 7,716 sea-weed and yen 54,532 rice; Imports: yen 11,577 *karreisha* (a description of thin muslin), yen 2,292 cotton goods, yen 4,091 copper, yen 6,051 tin, yen 2,519 mats, yen 5,683 salt, and yen 2,242 timber.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Komatsu Akihito and Kitashirakawa Yoshihisa in company with Counts Ito, Kuroda, and Oyama, Viscounts Nire, and Mr. Mutsu, Ministers of State; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Counts Oki and Kawamura, Viscounts Kabayama, Sano, Fukuoka, and Tanaka, and Mr. Ozaki, Privy Counsellors; Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister for the Imperial Household; Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M. the Empress; and Mr. Tsutsumi, Director of the Bureau of Imperial Works, dined at the Palace with the Emperor on the 30th ult.

THE Yokosha and five other paper mills at Fuji, Kobe, Yokkaichi, Oji, and Senju, manufactured 2,027,070.78 *kin* (one *kin*=1½ lb.) of paper during August last, the sales during the

month amounting to 1,858,395.81 *kin*. Classifying the output under its different varieties it is found that of ordinary printing paper, 1,485,419.10 *kin* were manufactured and 1,263,740.35 *kin* sold; of superior printing paper, 30,213.00 *kin* manufactured and 37,280.17 *kin* sold; of miscellaneous paper, 207,886.18 *kin* manufactured and 186,556.93 *kin* sold; of coloured paper, 62,041.50 *kin* manufactured and 66,750.60 *kin* sold; and of wrapping paper, 241,511.00 *kin* manufactured and 304,067.76 sold.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Yamaga in Kumamoto Prefecture, received by the Imperial News Agency, reports that during the night of the 29th ult. a large number of *soshi* belonging to the *Kokken* Party, aided by a company of constables and district officials, broke into several houses of the *Min-to* partisans and intimidated *Min-to* electors to vote for the *Kokken-ha*, in the election of members of the Village Assembly. At 9 o'clock the following morning they behaved in a disorderly manner, flourishing drawn swords in the *Min-to* club, and attacking many other residences. Some four or five were more or less severely wounded. A party of gendarmes is now engaged in restoring order. A later telegram from the district announces that the *Kokken* partisans used firearms in order to prevent the *Min-to* electors from approaching the voting station. A telegram dated the 3rd inst. states that the disturbance has not yet been quelled. It appears from the above messages that the mischief was entirely due to the *Kokken-ha*, but a report from the district which was received by the Tokyo News Agency entirely contradicts this. The report says that about 9 o'clock on the night of the 1st inst. several *Min-to* partisans stoned the residence of a man belonging to the *Kokken-ha*. The occurrence was at once reported to the police authorities, who were soon on the spot. A crowd of roughs, consisting of over one hundred persons, resisted the police for some time. Some six *Min-to* persons were arrested. This report is said to have been corroborated by another telegram received by the Home Department.

BUSINESS still continues to move along the upward curve of the cycle, but transactions have not been so extensive as last week, owing to the scarcity of supplies in Yarn, and other staples. Yarn rose 30 to 50 cents in sympathy with demand. T-cloths and 8½lb. and 9lb. lines of Shirts went off at full rates. In Metals the demand keeps steady, but Galvanized sheets, being somewhat sought after, are up 20 to 30 sen on the week. Shortness of supply in this instance also helped to push up prices. Kerosene, notwithstanding the arrival of 104,137 cases of "Comet" and 66,500 "Chester," has remained firm at late quotations. The stocks of Sugar, both Brown and Whites, are lower and holders, having things all their own way, have advanced prices, but buyers continue to take freely. Sales of Tea were mostly for the higher grades. The export is about the same as last year now—about 26,400,000 lb. The Silk market is quieting down after the spurt of the last few weeks, and prices are falling slightly all round. Cable advices from home consumers have something to do with this perhaps. European and American houses are vigorously protesting against the late high prices paid for Waste, saying that they cannot afford to pay them. The interior merchants are moving their stocks down rapidly, and at present 7,400 piculs of Raw are on the market. The Japanese are still looking forward to high prices in Waste, but unless the big buyers begin speculating against each other again, their hopes will not be realised. Exchange advanced slightly, in sympathy with silver in London, but closes firm at 2/10½.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "AJIYA" AND FOREIGN POLITICS.

We have more than once alluded in these columns to the existence of many Japanese, politicians and otherwise, who believe that the only exit from the embarrassing groove into which domestic politics have drifted is to divert the energy of the nation to foreign affairs. The *Jiji Shimpō*, the *Choya Shimbun*, and several other journals in Tokyo, have chosen Korea as the most suitable point on which to focus the attention of their nationals, while others advocate, for the same purpose, the colonization of Mexico or of the South Sea Islands. It was even feared, several weeks ago when the military party held the ascendancy in politics, that something desperate might be undertaken in Korea or elsewhere, though such an apprehension never troubled serious folks, and is now seen by all to have been entirely without foundation. Every one understands very well to-day that the statesmen now in power will never permit any ill-considered or precipitate enterprise abroad. On the other hand, these same statesmen thoroughly recognize the vital importance of preparation on Japan's part to respond to any summons for the assertion of her rights abroad, while at the same time they lament the dissipation of national energies over useless and pernicious contests in petty domestic politics. It is stated that Count Ito, in his recent instructions to the local Governors, alluded to the importance of diverting national attention to foreign affairs, so that the country might be united against possible foreign dangers. Commenting on this topic, the *Ajiya* of the 19th ultimo, strongly opposes the idea of directing public attention to foreign questions. It thinks that the political contest between the Government and the Opposition has not yet reached its bitterest stage, and that until it shall have reached and passed that stage, there would be not alone no expediency, but even decided disadvantage, in attempting to apply any extraneous remedy for the purpose of calming the heat of the contest. To try to divert the nation's mind from domestic politics at the present moment would be simply to produce an artificial state of calm which would assuredly be succeeded by a tremendous reactionary outburst of tempest. The wisest course, in the opinion of the Tokyo periodical, is to let things take their natural course. Moreover, however much the Japanese may be divided in domestic politics, the *Ajiya* is persuaded that they will never lack patriotism in moments of national peril, and that their effective union at such times may be confidently anticipated.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The Committee of the Chicago World's Fair have issued an imposing chromo-lithograph giving an "official bird's-eye view of the World's Columbian Exposition," as it will appear when finished. There is nothing like an object lesson in such matters. This picture will probably excite more desire among the general public to visit the Fair than all the glowing accounts circulated in print have excited. Nor can we wonder that such should be the case, for the artist has contrived to convey an impression of magnitude and magnificence quite bewildering. How many buildings are included in the scheme of the Fair, it is impossible to tell, for though sixteen—every one of them stupendous enough to dwarf lake-steamers to the dimensions of mere punts—are unmistakably shown, the central edifice a town in itself, there are also to be observed in the back-ground, a further group of erections too hazy to be clearly identified, but differing sufficiently from ordinary houses to suggest the impression that they too belong to the Fair. Whether they do or do not, however, the assemblage of buildings is vast enough to excite curiosity to the utmost pitch. Obviously a visitor of ordinary patience and inquisitiveness will require about a fortnight to complete an observant circuit of the little city. Inscribed cursorily on the margin of the big picture are a few stray notes, short but suggestive. Thus we read that the Machinery Hall covers

17½ acres of area (twenty-one thousand *tsubo*), and that the Gallery of Fine Arts, with an area of 5 acres (six thousand *tsubo*), has one lineal mile of hanging space. Fancy inspecting a whole mile of pictures by the best artists of the time! The management, organization, and advertisement of this stupendous undertaking up to the present time are thoroughly characteristic of American energy and enterprise. It is impossible to foresee anything but an immense success for the Fair, which will be the biggest thing of the kind ever witnessed under the sun, and will enable visitors to obtain a comprehensive idea of the standard reached by nineteenth-century civilization.

MONUMENTAL PAVILION.

As the promulgation of the Constitution and the opening of the Diet are among the most remarkable national events that have occurred since the establishment of the Empire, a feeling grows that some kind of a monument ought to be erected. A certain Mr. Shimizu of Shizuoka is a prominent promoter of the idea, and has obtained a great number of influential supporters throughout the empire. He proposes to erect a three-storied pavilion in the Hibiya enclosure, in front of the Diet buildings. The section of the pavilion will be about 90 square feet; and in the ground floor a monument will be erected; in the first-storey portraits of distinguished statesmen and politicians of the day will be hung; and in the second storey a statue of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor, standing with a copy of the Constitution in his hand, will be erected in the middle of the room; iron railings will fence round the building, which is to be lighted by electricity. The work will be completed in three years. But it is rumoured that the Hibiya district is unsuited for the foundations of such a heavy building, so by the advice of architects, the Sumida Garden, at Mukojima, along the river, will probably be chosen. The work will be commenced as soon as the promised subscriptions are collected. If it is not, concludes the *Yomiuri Shimbun* which publishes the above news, promoted by dishonest speculators, it will be a worthy and fine affair.

YOKOHAMA SILK MERCHANTS' GUILD.

So much friction developed itself recently among the Japanese silk merchants in Yokohama, that the Governor of the Prefecture thought it necessary to direct them to organize a guild. This, however, only added fuel to the fire. Each party proceeded to form a guild on its own account, and each guild applied to the Prefectural Officials for a charter. The latter found themselves seriously perplexed in making a selection, and the dilemma appeared farther than ever from a solution when Messrs. Otani Kahei and Hara Rokuro came forward as arbitrators, and addressed themselves with much earnestness to the task of appeasing the disputants. The result was that these two gentlemen were commissioned to compile a scheme of organization for a guild including both parties, and this they accomplished so satisfactorily that their draft was adopted and signed by both sides. It was presented to the Kencho for approval on Tuesday last, and thus the long friction was at length terminated. We are promised a statement of the Rules of the Guild in a few days.

THE LATE DR. LAMBUTH.

A TRIBUTE to the memory of the late Rev. Dr. J. W. Lambuth has been offered in the form of a very beautiful little volume, containing the funeral addresses delivered by the members of his mission last April, when his body was laid in the Kobe Cemetery, and containing also photographs illustrating his work in China and Japan. Dr. Lambuth served as a missionary for forty years, of which the last six were spent in Japan, where he founded the Mission of the Inland Sea. It is easy to gather from the words uttered by his fellow-workers, to whom every detail of his career is familiar, that he was one of those men whose pure enthusiasm and absolute integrity of purpose make of life "one grand sweet song." Whatever direct success

may attend the theological teaching of these devoted exponents of a great cause, no one can ignore or belittle the useful influence of their example. Their singleness of purpose and the blamelessness of their daily lives are object lessons which do not fail to impress the people among whom they labour. Dr. Lambuth, during his thirty-four years of work in China and six in Japan, seems to have avoided public recognition as far as possible. His death has brought him into prominence which in life he never courted. The resolutions passed by the Japan Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in grateful appreciation of his high qualities and large usefulness, tell the general public for the first time what manner of man he was. His story reminds us again of the impressive fact that while scoffers sneer and men of sordid purpose devise libellous interpretations of the missionary's motives, the missionary himself toils on quietly and faithfully, raising no voice against his traducers, but showing to the public that the faith he preaches shines in the life he leads.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUREAU.

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO having been appointed Director of the Legislative Bureau, a post vacated lately by Mr. Ozaki Saburo, the vernacular press naturally comments on the fact. The *Mainichi Shimbun* (a *Kaishin-to* organ) says, that though Mr. Suyematsu is a Pro-government member of the House of Representatives, he is not disliked by his political opponents, inasmuch as he is always frank, and his ability is undoubted. When Count Ito, his father-in-law, became Minister President of State Mr. Suyematsu found himself in some perplexity. He declared that he had no intention of becoming a servant of the Government, but that if he joined the Popular Party, he would be his father-in-law's enemy. Fortunately, however, his dilemma is now solved by his nomination to office. No one ventures to allege that the appointment is unsuitable; on the contrary, it is most suitable. But, concludes the *Mainichi*, since Mr. Ito Miyoji has been appointed Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Mr. Suyematsu Director of the Legislative Bureau, people passing along Nagata-cho declare that the "Family Government" is now in power.

The *Nippon*, with its wonted brightness, writes as follows:—"How many men are there in this world who are as able and as well-informed as Mr. Suyematsu? He can write well; can argue well; can lecture well; can translate well. He is the author of a good novel; has translated the *Genji Monogatari* into English; has revised a Japanese play; has edited the "Readers" used in Primary Schools; has compiled moral lessons for students. An artist, a master of literature, a journalist, a Director of a Bureau, and a member of the Diet. All these qualifications he possesses, though Count Ito, his father-in-law, in a critical mood, called him "a teacher in a Primary School." He is the happiest man alive, and every body envies him. To this "school-master" an important appointment was given yesterday—he is now Director of the Legislative Bureau. It is said that the Bureau contains many officials fond of controversy, and that it is consequently somewhat difficult to manage. But, with the Minister President of State for father-in-law, and his own frank and jovial countenance, for assistant, Mr. Suyematsu will manage the Bureau without much difficulty, especially if he laughs his loud laugh every now and then!

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

WHATEVER more solid success Viscount Shinagawa may achieve on his present political tour, he can at all events claim the credit of having set the public tongue wagging. In Kumamoto, at a largely attended meeting, he is reported to have declared that while holding the portfolio of Home Affairs, he did everything in his power to influence the result of the general elections. The words attributed to him are:—"The official who managed all affairs connected with the general elections was the Minister of State for

Home Affairs, and I, Shinagawa, then occupied that position. I interfered as much as possible. It was I that interfered. I never say what is not true, and I pledge you my word before heaven." This statement has been eagerly seized by the Opposition press and used as a basis of attack not only against Viscount Shinagawa but also against Count Matsukata. The latter, say his assailants, is now proved to have spoken falsely when he assured the Diet that there had been no official interference. But the *Choya Shimbun* points out that both Viscount Shinagawa and Count Matsukata are misinterpreted. The latter did not tell the Diet that there had been no interference. The position taken from first to last by the Matsukata Cabinet was that whatever the local officials did had been done by them, so far as the Government knew, in their private, not in their official, capacity, and was consequently within their rights as Japanese subjects. It was entirely a question of the different interpretation put by the Cabinet and the Opposition on the competence of officials to separate their individuality from their office. Moreover, the *Choya* denies that Viscount Shinagawa's words can be read in the sense of a confession that improper interference was exercised at his instance. His declaration amounts to nothing more or less than this, that he considered it all important in the interests of the nation to secure the return of good men, and that he did everything lawfully within his power to achieve that result.

The incident is most extraordinary—extraordinary above all, as we think, in the credulity shown by the public. People actually appear to have no difficulty in believing that Viscount Shinagawa stood up before a big audience at a public meeting, openly confessed that he had abused the authority vested in him as a Minister of the Crown, and swore a solemn oath that he had done the very thing which, when in office, he and all his colleagues emphatically denied. Does not that slightly over-tax the faith of any ordinary man? However, Viscount Shinagawa is apparently inclined to allow these wonderful versions of his speech to circulate without let or hindrance. If he really did make to a Kumamoto audience open confession of the crime of unlawful interference, the balance of his mind must be seriously disturbed. We shall, doubtless, know one day, what he actually did say. For the present, it seems idle to draw inferences from a version so extremely improbable.

THE EARTH'S AGE.

REFERRING to the question of the age of the earth and the various methods that have been employed to calculate it, Sir Archibald Geikie, writing in *Nature*, says:—"In problems of this nature we can only measure the rate of changes in progress now, and infer from these changes the length of time required for the completion of results achieved by the same processes in the past. The rate of degradation of the land is capable of actual measurement. Denudation and deposition must be equivalent to each other. Actual measurement of the proportion of sediment in river water shows that while in some cases the lowering of the surface of the land may be as much as $\frac{1}{30}$ of a foot in a year, in others it falls as low as $\frac{1}{2500}$. In other words, the rate of deposition of new sedimentary formations, over an area of sea-flow equivalent to that which has yielded the sediment, may vary from one foot in 730 years to one foot in 6,800 years. If now we take these results and apply them as measures of the length of time required for the various sedimentary masses that form the outer part of the earth's crust, we obtain some indication of the duration of geological history. On a reasonable computation these stratified masses, where most fully developed, attain a united thickness of not less than 100,000 feet. If they were all laid down at the most rapid recorded rate of denudation, they would require a period of 73,000,000 of years for their completion. If they were laid down at the slowest rate, they would demand a period of not less than 680,000,000. There is no reason to think that

the rate of organic evolution has ever seriously varied; at least no proof has been adduced of such variation. Taken in connection with the testimony of the sedimentary rocks, the inferences deducible from fossils entirely bear out the opinion that the building up of the stratified crust of the earth has been extremely gradual. If the many thousands of years which have elapsed since the Ice Age have produced no appreciable modification of surviving plants and animals, how vast a period must have been required for that marvellous scheme of organic development which is chronicled in the rocks! After careful reflection on the subject, I affirm that the geological record furnishes a mass of evidence which no arguments drawn from other departments of Nature can explain away, and which, it seems to me, cannot be satisfactorily interpreted save with an allowance of time much beyond the narrow limits which recent physical speculation would concede."

THE IDAHO TROUBLES.

THE News Agency says that although no reply has yet been received from the Japanese Consul in San Francisco, Mr. Chiuda, to the instructions issued by the Foreign Office in Tokyo that he should proceed to Idaho and conduct an investigation into the circumstances of the recent anti-Japanese demonstration there, intelligence is to hand that the persons who behaved with violence towards the Japanese were not American but European immigrants of the lowest classes, whose motive was nothing more than a desire to get rid of all inconvenient competition in the field of labour. It is probable that the United States Government will adopt stringent measures to restrain these lawless persons in future. Any feeling engendered in Japan against the people of America in consequence of the regrettable occurrences, ought, therefore to be altogether laid aside.

COMPRESSED AIR.

HERR FRANZ BENDT gives the following interesting account of the uses to which compressed air is put in Paris:—

A new method for the transfer of mechanical power over great distances is by means of compressed air. The plan is, in general terms, as follows: Air is submitted to pressure in compressors, and then transferred, with measurable force through pipes to an ordinary steam-engine. The air enters this and operates it like steam under pressure. The method has already had practical application for special purposes. Mayerhofer, for example, drove and regulated Paris clocks with compressed air. The transfer of power by means of atmospheric pressure, did not, however, excite any widespread interest, until Viktor Popp, in Paris, gave practical application to a special modification of the principle.

Paris is singularly adapted for the introduction of such an enterprise, possessing as it does a widespread network of subterranean canals through which the pipes containing the compressed air could be laid in all directions. Where no such facilities exist, the expense of providing for the conduct of the pipes will be an obstacle, for it goes without saying that the cost of imbedding an electric wire will be very light in comparison with the cost of laying iron pipes or cylinders of considerable diameter.

Popp's first experiment, which may be taken as a guide for all future enterprises in this direction, is in the neighbourhood of Belleville, Rue St. Fargeau: Here eleven steam-boilers and eight steamengines operate the atmospheric compressors. These last again compress the air into eight reservoirs, subjecting it to a pressure of six atmospheres. This condensed air, representing a force of 2,000 horsepower, flows through a main-pipe seven kilometres long for distribution to different parts of the city.

The first establishment has been recently extended, and new centres are in course of erection. Especially noticeable is the great central on the Seine, on the *Quai de la Gare*. At present it operates up to 10,000 horse-power, but it is designed for 24,000. To this end the main pipe, with a diameter of 300 millimetres will be supplemented with a new network of mains of 500 millimetres for "short distances."

The great value of such central establishments is directly apparent. They will enable the artisan and private house-holder to command mechanical force at a cheap rate, free the city from the intolerable noise and smoke and soot of the steam-engine, and locate all danger from explosions due to high tension at a distance. The method of power-transfer by atmospheric pressure has one special advantage not shared by the electric method. The air, rushing through the distributing pipes under a pressure of six atmospheres, enters the working machine very much chilled, and can be utilized, not only to drive the machine, but also for the distribution of cold air

through the apartments. The system has consequently received considerable application for cooling purposes. One of the principal establishments for this purpose is in the *Bourse de Commerce*, in the vaults of which cold air cellars are erected for the storage of food substances, which it is not desirable to send at once to the market. On the military side, too, the possibility of utilizing this method for the maintenance of a supply of fresh provisions, in the event of Paris being subjected to another siege, has not been overlooked.

Compressed air is admirably adapted to tunneling and mining, and in this department it is no slight advantage that the escaping air improves the atmospheric conditions of the cutting, in lieu of vitiating it with the noxious gases of combustion.

For the moment there is fierce strife between the electricians and the supporters of atmospheric pressure. However, such disputes are to be welcomed as in the public interest, for their tendency is to provoke a spirit of emulation leading to further progress and the general benefit of humanity.

THE UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

THE conference of the United Chambers of Commerce throughout the empire was opened at Kyoto on the 26th ultimo. The following places were represented by the number of members printed after each:—Tokyo 2; Osaka 3; Kyoto 2; Kobe 2; Otsu 2; Kochi 1; Nagoya 2; Hakata 2; Sakai 2; Sendai 1; Kanazawa 1; Kumamoto 1; Shimonoseki 1; Hiroshima 1; and Gifu 2. The first proposition discussed was submitted by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce. It ran as follows:—

A Chamber of Commerce shall superintend all the commercial and industrial associations in the district.

For the above purpose, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce shall issue a Departmental Notification.

This proposal led to much discussion, but the majority being in favour of it, it ultimately passed. Proposals presented by the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce were next considered. They were three in number, and ran thus:—

1. Amendment of the Regulations relating to the Chambers of Commerce.

The provisions of Arts. 1, 5, 6, 7, and 10 shall be amended.

2. Establishment of a Central Commercial Council.

The Central Commercial Council shall be superintended by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, who shall choose its members. The Council shall prepare replies to such questions as may be asked by the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, of Foreign Affairs, of Home Affairs, and of Communications, on commercial matters. It shall also compile drafts of new Laws or Regulations relating to commerce.

3. Matters relating to the national taxes on lands and buildings belonging to Chambers of Commerce.

A petition shall be presented to the Minister of State for Finance asking for the abolition of national taxes and local taxes on the lands and buildings in the occupation of Chambers of Commerce.

The first of these three proposals was handed over to a committee, appointed for the purpose of investigating the existing Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce. The second proposal was read, but a final vote upon it was postponed. The third was thrown out. Then a proposition submitted by the Kobe Chamber of Commerce was read:—

Amendment of the Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce.

The provisions of Arts. 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 14, and 19 shall be amended.

This measure also was handed over to the Committee. A proposal submitted by the Sakai Chamber of Commerce was next discussed and rejected. It took the following form:—

Establishment of Japanese Products' Bazaars in foreign countries.

A petition shall be presented to the Diet urging the advisability of establishing Japanese Products' Bazaars in foreign countries where Japan has Consulates. This petition shall be communicated to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and for Agriculture and Commerce also.

The next proposal had reference to local taxes and was presented by the Kochi Chamber. After much discussion between Mr. Matsumura (Kochi) and Mr. Tamura (Osaka), it was decided to appoint a Committee of 12 members, and hand the proposal to them for investigation. A proposition relating to the amendment of Chambers of Commerce Regulations submitted

by the Kumamoto and the Hakata Chambers, was also handed to a committee, and the meeting closed at 2.20 p.m.

INDIAN METAL WORK.

THE Indian Art Metal-Work Exhibition, at the Imperial Institute (says a home paper), has attracted far fewer people than its importance deserves. Perhaps this is to be accounted for by the fact that it is situated in the midst of fine displays which may be seen gratuitously, and that consequently a charge for this of either one shilling or half-a-crown, according to the day, and sixpence for a catalogue, appears somewhat startling by comparison. The wisdom of this course appears to be doubtful if, as it should be, the object of the executive is first to make the place largely and widely known, and to enlist the sympathy and subscriptions of the public. The entrance fee appears the more exorbitant, as only a small portion of the building is completed and open, and a considerable portion of the show is of goods from the shops of various London tradesmen. Most people who are accustomed to the art in metals of Western countries, or even of Japan, will feel that in this Indian work too much reliance is placed upon the effect of wealth of metal and ornament. The impression left upon the mind is of a lavish use of gold and silver and an overloading of ornament. About the only base metals employed are brass and copper, which are too much akin to gold in colour. One longs for sober iron, or for the rich dark alloys produced by the Japanese, whose restraint in the use of metal and ornament would be most valuable for Indian workers. One cannot but appreciate the more the workman who knows the value of undecorated or decorated surfaces, or has for his maxim, that "brains are of more value than the melting pot." It is right that everyone should be an enthusiast about his own hobby; but to one who knows the casting in bronze of other nations, the remark upon the label of the brass figures from Vizagapatam—repeated too in a couple of instances—"For skilful modelling these are the finest I have ever seen," appears too partial to carry any weight. For the authorities also to label a debased and hideous figure of Krishna as "beautiful" is to detract from the value of any criticisms upon these subjects.

HOTEL CHARGES.

Things happen in this empire concerning which an extraordinary degree of ignorance exists among the foreign residents. One of these bewildering incidents is a keen competition which took place during the summer months between inn-keepers in anonymous districts of the north and east. The inn-keepers, in their anxiety to overcome each other, reduced their prices so greatly as to entail heavy loss on themselves, and attract an immense number of foreign guests, one result being that favourite places of resort like Hakone and Miyanoshita found their visitors reduced by some thirty or forty per cent. Now it is a very good thing, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, from which we extract these interesting particulars, that hotel charges should be reduced in the interests of travellers, but it is not a good thing that owners of hotels should allow competition to betray them into making heavy losses. "Next year, we shall have eighty thousand visitors, and if each of them spends a thousand yen the total will be eighty million, an amount which Japan must be careful not to lose." The various hotel-keepers throughout the empire are therefore about to meet in conference for the purpose of determining the prices to be charged to tourists for board and lodging. We (*Japan Mail*) should be greatly indebted to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* if it will explain a little more explicitly in what part of Japan inn-keepers were so kind last summer as to reduce their prices to a level of disaster.

THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

We find in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* a statement that the Japan Mail Steamship Company has applied to the Government for permission to issue bonds to the total value of 2,000,000 yen.

Some two years ago the Company conceived the project of gradually reducing its capital from eleven million yen—the amount at which it was originally fixed—to 8,800,000. During 1890, a reduction to the extent of 250,000 was actually effected, but since that time things have remained *in statu quo*. The price of the Company's shares being now comparatively low, a project has been conceived of purchasing 1,950,000 yen worth by issuing bonds bearing interest, presumably at 5 per cent. Doubtless the Company would have no difficulty in placing such bonds in the market, its credit being good for very much more than 2½ millions. The transaction looks wise. It would enhance the value of the remaining shares, and facilitate the payment of better dividends. There can be no question that the capital of the Company was originally fixed at too large a figure.

RAILWAY COUNCIL.

On Saturday the 1st instant at 10 a.m. the following persons were nominated members of the Railway Council, their names being duly announced in the Cabinet:—

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

Lieut.-General Kawakami Soroku, Sub-Director of the General Staff.

MANAGER OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Den Kenjiro, Secretary of Department of Communications.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Viscount Inouye Katsu, Director of the Railway Bureau.

Major-General Kodama Gentaro, Vice-Minister for War.

Mr. Kawazu Sukeyuki, Vice-Minister for Communications.

Mr. Arishima Takeshi, Director of the National Debt Bureau.

Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Director of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau.

Mr. Furusawa Shigeru, Director of the Postal Bureau.

Dr. Matsumoto Shochiro, Sub-Director of the Railway Bureau.

Colonel Takahashi Korenori, Director of the Second Bureau in the Head Quarter Staff.

Captain Arima Shinichi, Director of the Second Bureau in the Naval Staff Board.

Major Yamane Takeaki.

Major Yamaguchi Keizo.

Dr. Ishiguro Isoji, Engineer of the Public Works Superintendence Office.

Viscount Tani Tateki, Member of the House of Peers.

Viscount Hotta Masayasu, member of the House of Peers, and Director of the Chikuho Railway Company.

Mr. Kawada Koichiro, member of the House of Peers, and Director of the Bank of Japan.

Mr. Komuro Shinobu, member of the House of Peers.

Mr. Wakao Ippei, member of the House of Peers.

Mr. Watanabe Koki, member of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Murao Yamato, member of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Sato Satoji, member of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Minoura Katsuto, member of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, member of the House of Representatives.

* * *

Thus the Council numbers twenty-two members. Out of these 12 are officials; 5 members of the House of Peers; and 5 members of the House of Representatives. Messrs. Sato, Minoura, and Ito were members of the Committee for the examination of the Bill relating to the Extension of Railways. Messrs. Sato and Watanabe are members of the National Union; Mr. Minoura is a member of the *Kaishin-to*; Mr. Ito is a member of the *Fuyu-to* and Mr. Murano is an Independent. The various political parties are all represented.

THE TIDE AT YOKOHAMA.

SOME interesting examples of surviving superstition are furnished from time to time in the columns of European and American journals, where we find records of miraculous cures effected by contact with saintly relics, and solemn exorcisms practised by priests to expel demons from the bodies of young maidens. To this catalogue has now to be added the

latest utterance of the vernacular press, gravely copied with every evidence of credence by English local journals in Yokohama and Kobe. The construction of the breakwater in Yokohama harbour, say these refreshingly simple writers, having narrowed the entrance to the harbour, "there has been a considerable change in the tides, they being a foot higher than before." Some of the journals that have helped to circulate the news of this wonder would probably have hesitated had they recognised that they were ascribing supernatural powers to the Engineer-in-Chief, whose capacities it has been their pleasure to decry. But superstition and ratiocination have never been companions. Awed by the stupendous fact that the projection of a few yards of masonry across the entrance of a tiny estuary on the coast of Tokyo Bay has modified the attractions of the sun and moon, and actually added a foot to the flow of the tide, these victims of superstition did not pause to think whether demon or god was at work. The phenomenon overwhelmed them. They recorded it with all haste, that the general public might know what wondrous events were occurring in this remote corner of the Far East. And being desirous that their audience might fully share the awe consuming themselves, they took care to add that "this change in the tides was not foreseen before the work was taken in hand." The Engineer-in-Chief was not conscious of his own supernatural powers. He failed to appreciate that a few blocks of concrete placed in the sea under his direction would represent an agency capable of vying with the attractions of the heavenly luminaries. Such a man should be carefully looked after. There is no telling what appalling results he may not achieve "without foreseeing them."

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" AND THE PORTUGUESE AFFAIR.

WE ventured to predict that when the *London and China Express* had received full information of the facts of the Portuguese jurisdictional question, it would adopt a tone very different from that of its first article on the subject. Our forecast has been fulfilled, for we find the following article from a correspondent in the issue of the paper just to hand:—

The mail has brought full details of the Japanese-Portuguese incident which you have already alluded to. From the facts, which I have received from a correspondent who understands the matter, unpleasant as they may be for Portuguese subjects, the situation was brought about solely and entirely by the negligence of their own Government, in not providing proper officers for the administration of justice. The stipulations concerning jurisdiction in the Treaty of 1860 between Japan and Portugal are similar to those contained in the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of 1858, and there are at present about 140 Portuguese subjects in Japan. For reasons of economy, or for want of a proper consular service, the Portuguese Government had from the beginning neglected to provide in a proper manner for the obligations which by the Treaty they had incurred. First, there was no regular Consul at all, or, at any rate, no Consul of Portuguese nationality. Later on the Consular officer who was appointed was not a paid official, nor had he sufficient legal powers. Already, some sixteen years ago, the Japanese Government, through their representative at Lisbon, had occasion to complain about this, and, in 1882, the Japanese Government again approached the subject with a greater measure of insistence. The result was that a full consulate was created during the year following, and a Consul "missi" was appointed to fill the post. But even this proved insufficient, for, when it was in 1886 necessary to prosecute a Portuguese subject for larceny at Nagasaki, it was found that there was a hiatus in the jurisdiction somewhere, which allowed the offender to escape without arrest. This circumstance brought on a still more energetic protest from the Japanese, with the consequence that at least the Consul "missi" was invested with jurisdiction all over Japan. In May this year this Consul announced his intended departure from Japan, as the post had been suppressed altogether. Nothing, in spite of the previous protests of the Japanese Government, had been arranged about the future exercise of jurisdiction, and when the Imperial Government insisted upon knowing how this was to be managed, the answer of the Consul was that he

was not aware that any provision had been made by his Government! The Japanese Government thereupon announced to the Portuguese Government the light in which they would be compelled to regard the action of Portugal, namely, as a distinct abandonment of jurisdiction on their part. On June to the Consul left Japan without any arrangements being made, and the Japanese Government, still hoping that the Portuguese Government would at the last moment have a due regard to the obligations involving on them by Treaty, avoided acting with precipitancy, and gave the Portuguese Government notice that they would assume jurisdiction only on and after July 1. The only reply was, that an answer would be sent in due course.

It became now the duty of the Japanese Government to provide for the government and judicial administration of the 140 Portuguese left on their soil—not only in regard to their own subjects, but also in respect to the other foreign residents in the country, this was incumbent on them. Foreign Governments whose subjects should suffer injury from Portuguese would have certainly been within their right to hold the Japanese Government responsible for any state of lawlessness existing among the subjects of another Treaty Power in Japan. The Japanese Government, considering the action of the Portuguese Government as a tacit but distinct abandonment of the jurisdictional Treaty right, now empowered the Imperial Japanese Courts to assume jurisdiction over Portuguese subjects in Japan. There was no other course open to them.

We know now that the Portuguese subjects have protested against this measure, and it also seems that the Portuguese Government has at last been awakened from its diplomatic lethargy, and that it has confided the protection or jurisdiction over its subjects to the French Consulates. The incident may, therefore, now be considered as closed.

Viewed in the light thrown now on the incident, and reduced to its proper significance, the action of the Japanese cannot but be applauded. To the British and other Governments who at great expense have maintained a large staff of Consular and official officers in China and Japan, the system of merchant Consuls has been an old nuisance for years past, and the Government of Japan is only doing its duty when it insists by all means at its disposal that those Governments who desire the enjoyment of extraterritorial jurisdiction should also provide the means for its due administration. If Consular jurisdiction is not worth while paying a small consular salary for, the sooner it is given up to the territorial Sovereignty the better.

This account is accurate with one exception namely, the statement that the Portuguese Government has confided jurisdiction to the French Consulates. The French Representative in Tokyo has indeed consented to discharge the duties of *Chargé d'Affaires* and Consul-General for Portugal, but the latter office, by express reservation, does not include jurisdictional functions. We do not imagine that any unprejudiced writer with the facts of this incident before him, could hesitate for a moment to approve Japan's action.

THE KOBE PRESS.

BOTH the *Kobe Herald* and the *Hyogo News* have increased the size of their sheets. The two journals took this enterprising step on the same day, namely, on the day (October 1st) when the port of Hyogo was opened to foreign trade and shipping. We can scarcely suppose that such simultaneous action was a mere coincidence. Competition doubtless kept each journal informed of the other's projects. The foreign community of Kobe is the gainer, for both the *Kobe Herald* and the *Hyogo News* do credit to their producers and supporters so far as the general standard of newspaper excellence is concerned. The latter, always bright and full of vitality, is marred only by one failing—a strong tendency, temporary we trust, to paint Japanese character in the darkest colours; the former, well balanced and well written, evidently aims at playing an impartial and strictly just role. It is a surprise, we confess, that Kobe can afford to support so many newspapers. In addition to the *Herald* and the *News* the community has the *Chronicle*, a journal the editing of which displays remarkable literary ability and range of information. Three newspapers in a place so small must be perplexed to find their account. But the development of journalistic

enterprise has been a feature of recent years in Japan. Yokohama possesses now no less than six live journals, and has buried several. What is there that so strongly attracts folks to essays of this nature? Looking across the water to a place of such comparative wealth and importance as Shanghai, we find only two newspapers, and apparently no one is sufficiently sanguine to add to the number. We suspect that there will be some more funerals ere long.

CHINA TEA.

MR. CONSUL PHILLIPS, in his Report on the trade of Foochow for 1891, gives, on the authority of Mr. R. S. Westall, the following notes on the business in tea:—

In consequence of orders from Peking, recommendations were posted in the various tea countries by the local authorities to improve the quality of the teas this season, as a means towards the resuscitation of the trade. Some of the teamen in the Pakling, Paklum, and Panyong districts, did their best to further this end, and to a certain extent succeeded; but, on the other hand, judging by results, no other conclusion could be arrived at than those making teas in all other districts had disregarded the recommendation. The former were buoyed up with hope at the opening of the market, when they obtained for a few of their best chop prices 50 per cent. higher than the highest price paid last season, that they were going to make their fortunes, and congratulated themselves on having followed the guidance of the Mandarins. Their satisfaction was, however, short-lived, as the demand for fine tea—at any rate, high-priced fine tea—fell away, and as they persistently refused throughout the season to meet buyers in the matter of price, they were left at the close of the year with the bulk of these teas on hand. There were exceptions to this rule, but, as far as foreigners were concerned, whether they bought of these men at the high price or of others who submitted to a reduction, they lost money on their ventures. The prices paid for medium teas at the opening of the market, although no higher than last year, were thought by many to be dangerously high, considering the low values ruling in the London market, and the telegraphed sales towards the end of July proved that they were so; indeed, the losses made on shipments up to that time were on the average, heavy. Then, as a natural consequence, prices declined and remained low, though not low enough, as it turned out, for the well-being of those who shipped, as the forced sales of the increased supply of Ceylon and Indian teas in Mincing Lane further depressed prices in that market, and if losses were comparatively light on these autumn shipments, there were, none the less, on the balance, losses. As regards common tea, it was scarcely to be expected that it would touch a very low point here after the 'boom' which took place through speculation in London in January last; nevertheless, what is known as 'Type' standard was bought in August to lay down at 54d. per lb., at which price it remained until the middle of October, when it rose to 6d. on account of scarcity; such of these teas as have already been sold have not brought back the money paid for them, as far as is known at present; therefore, the season has not been a profitable one for shippers. As, however, there are still five months wherein to realise the season's export, now virtually complete, it may be, considering the exceptionally favourable statistical position of China tea in London, that the result of the year's trading will not turn out to be so unfortunate as was at one time expected.

To the natives the season has again been one of severe losses. The little profit made on common tea went no way to make good a tithe of the money they lost on the better kinds. Those of them who have been engaged in the particular branch of the trade of making tea and bringing it down to their market appear never to have heard of the competition of India and Ceylon, or, if they have, cannot bring themselves to believe that tea can be produced in any country other than their own. According to a late report, however, they are length alive to the true state of the case, and are combining to face the difficulty.

From what is known of the cost of preparing tea and bringing it to their market, the ingenuity of these Chinese will be taxed severely. The cost of growing may be a bagatelle, and labour we know is cheap enough, but the lekin and petty exactions of the officials as the tea is in transit, will, as matters stand, make it a very difficult thing for them to compete with India and Ceylon. The only chance of success lies in these exactions being reduced. Then there is the export duty. However fair it may have been at the time the last treaty was signed, it is galling for those interested in the trade, both the Chinese and the foreigner, to know that 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. on the average value of tea has to be paid.

Again, the supply of Congou shows a serious falling-off. The deficiency is 50,000 chests, or 13 per cent., the figures being 345,000 chests against 395,000 chests last season, and (to show how rapid the decline of the trade is) 850,000 chests in 1880. Of other kinds, Souchong and Pekoe have been in supply about the same as last year, while Oolong and scented tea show an increase. But Congou is the backbone of the trade, the total yield of the four last-named descriptions being only 90,000 chests. A noticeable feature is the larger business done this year in the manufacture of brick tea by the Russian houses. But a small proportion of the tea used for this purpose is included in the above figures of Congou supply, the remainder being brought down to these firms under contract in bags. Altogether 100,000 chests, consisting entirely of dust and broken leaf, were manufactured in this way and shipped to the north, the increase representing about 37,000 chests.

THE METAL MARKET.

S. W. ROYSE & Co.'s report, for August 27th, says:—In our report at the end of last month we were able to note the commencement of an improvement in the Pig Iron trade. This has been more than maintained during the current

month, and prices have steadily improved, the total in value of Warrants being about 28. 8d. per ton. Stocks in public stores at Middleborough have decreased (being now only about 16,000 tons), and the month's shipments are good, being returned as 45,698 tons up to the 22nd inst. The foreign demand continues strong, and higher prices are naturally looked for. The Manufactured Iron trade is, however, in an unsatisfactory state; orders are wanted, but fresh business coming forward is only small. Copper has again given way, though only to a small extent. Tin commenced well, but has dropped about £4 per ton during the month. Spelter has lost ground, and is easy. Lead also has been giving way, but is now a little firmer.

YOKOHAMA TOWN COUNCIL.

THE Yokohama Town Council held its meeting on the 3rd instant, in the rooms of the Traders' Association Hall. The meeting commenced at 7 p.m. and there were 25 members present. Mr. Otami Kahei presided. The accounts of revenue and expenditure for 1891 were read and passed unanimously. A proposal was then introduced for presenting to the Minister of State for Finance a petition with reference to the loan of 1,101,712,555 yen, due to the Treasury on account of the Water-works, which have now been transferred to the Town. The draft of the Petition was read and approved *ntm-con*. It ran as follows:—

The sum of 1,101,712,555 yen was granted to the Kanagawa *Kencho*, for the purpose of constructing Water-works in Yokohama. But in accordance with the Regulations relating to Water-works, promulgated in February 1890, the above mentioned Water-works have become the property of the Town. Permission is therefore sought that the sum may be repaid out of the profit accruing from the Works, after the running expenses and the cost of preservation have been deducted.

(Signed) SATO KIZAYEMON.

Headman of the Town and member of the Yokohama Council.

(Addressed) Minister of State for Finance.

The next question discussed was the proposed new railway from the pier to the station. Mr. Asada's draft of a recommendation on the subject was submitted for consideration; and approved unanimously. The gist of the draft was that, as the proposed route is extremely inconvenient for various reasons, the Town Council requested the Government to re-consider the matter, and adopt a new route. Finally, the resignation of Mr. Kimura Riyemon from the Town Council was discussed, and granted. The meeting was closed at 6.20 p.m., and as no other measure of urgency is on the tapis, the Council will not meet for some time.

With regard to the objections advanced against the projected route for the railway in question, we find a statement in the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The line is for the purpose of conveying goods from the new pier—which will be constructed, in connection with the Harbour Works, near the Custom House—to the present Station of the Tokyo-Yokohama and Tokyo-Kyoto roads. The route selected is from the pier, westward, *via* the Japanese Hatoba and along the shore behind the Japan Mail Steamship Company's premises. In order to carry the line the coast will have to be filled through a distance of 568 *ken* (1,136 yards) and to a height of six feet, and it is against the building of this embankment that protests are raised. For, say the objectors, all the space eastward of the Customs Pier is appropriated to the Foreign Settlement, and the sea-face westward of the pier is alone reserved for the 130,000 Japanese inhabitants of Yokohama. This portion of coast they compare to a man's gullet, by which alone nourishment can be conveyed to his body. The number of steamers annually entering Yokohama Harbour is 1,500, with an aggregate tonnage of 220,000, and the quantity of goods landed in the year is 2,600,000 tons, giving an average of 7,123 tons daily. This incoming of merchandise is regarded as the breath of the town's nostrils, and it is asserted that if an em-

bankment six feet high be built all along the sea-front westward of the Customs, the whole of the goods must be landed at the Customs Pier, a necessity which the critics condemn as highly inconvenient. Further, apart from the general disadvantage of having a bank so solid and high built between the town and the sea, they point out that the drainage of the place would be seriously affected by the work, and that in time of heavy rain, the water, pent up by the embankment, would flood the streets. It seems plain, however, that this last objection has no valid basis, since the engineers in charge of the works might be trusted to provide proper facilities for drainage purposes. However, the desire to reserve the sea-front is not unnatural, and will probably be favourably entertained by the Authorities. The alternative scheme proposed by the petitioners is to build the line in the sea, 300 feet from the shore. This would involve an additional expenditure—we quote the *Mainichi's* figures—of 100,000 yen, no inconsiderable figure when there is question of a line little more than half a mile in length. We wonder how long, too, the space between the present fore-shore and the projected line would remain unreclaimed? Unless the growth of Yokohama suffers some retardation, of which no appearance at present is visible, the strong probability is that operations of filling in would very soon be undertaken. However, this is certainly a point concerning which the inhabitants of Yokohama may justly assert a title to be heard. The only question is, will the Treasury, having already disbursed such great sums on account of the Yokohama Water Works and the Yokohama Harbour, be willing to put its hand into its pocket again.

COLLISION AT SEA.

We find it stated in the *Kokkai* that on the 29th ultimo, at 12 p.m., a collision occurred between a foreign steamer and a Japanese junk of 200 *koku* burden, off the Sanshu coast near the islands of Oki and To. The junk belonged to a merchant residing in the Shoto Islands, and was en route to Nagasaki to load coal. It is claimed that the steamer proceeded on her way without taking any notice whatever of the collision, or making any attempt to save life, the result being that one of the junk's crew was drowned, and the other three barely escaped by swimming ashore, the junk going to the bottom. The men informed the police of the affair, and asserted that the steamer, so far as they could judge, was sailed by foreigners. Steps were accordingly taken to identify the vessel. It was found, on instituting inquiries at Kobe, that no steamer had left that port on the day in question, southward bound, except an English ship of 1,745 tons, called the *Moyune*, which sailed for London that day *via* Nagasaki and Shanghai. Application was accordingly made to Messrs. Strachan & Co., the Agents of the steamer, who replied that she was then in Nagasaki harbour, where further steps are to be taken in the matter.

A SINGULAR AFFAIR.

THE Metropolitan Police have arrested Kojima Tadasato, a Barrister, Kawai Aijiro, *Banto* of Messrs. Isaacs Bros. of Yokohama, and Kaminishi Keizo, the charge against them being that they extorted a sum of 12,500 yen from Count Tokugawa. From the vernacular press we obtain the following account of this singular affair:—On the 9th of March last one Hisamatsu Shige, a respectable looking woman of about 28 years of age, came to the residence of Count Tokugawa in the Shimo Totsuka Division. She said that she has heard of the Count's desire to raise money on his estate, and that she was about to marry a very wealthy foreigner, who wished to purchase land in the neighbourhood of Tokyo. Would they therefore allow her to have an interview with the Count? The Count's Factor replied that his master would not see her, whereupon she asked permission to inspect the estate, which she was allowed to do, for Count Tokugawa had for some time been trying to raise a loan on the

property. Some days afterwards the woman re-appeared, and said that though her projected alliance with the foreigner previously mentioned was broken off, another foreigner was ready to advance money on the estate. She was sent away, however, without any definite arrangement having been made with her. Things remained thus until the beginning of May when Kojima Tadasato, a Barrister, came to Count Tokugawa, and informed him that he had heard a rumour about the Count's trying to raise money on his estate through Hisamatsu Shige, but that, as she was a woman not to be trusted, he, Kojima, would undertake to procure the money if the Count needed it. What answer Kojima received we do not learn, but at the end of the month he came again, and declared that there were two persons ready to advance money, one to the extent of 5,000 yen and the other to that of 2,000 yen. The Factor, who saw Kojima, refused the offer on the ground of extortionate interest. But on the 2nd of July, the Count being in immediate need of funds, mortgaged his estate to a Mr. Adachi for a sum of 30,000 yen. The following day Kojima reappeared, and in an interview with the Factor and the Steward of the Count, said that he had asked Mr. Kashiwara, a fellow-barrister, to induce some one to advance money, and had received a reply that a capitalist had been found ready to lend 1,500 yen. If therefore, the Count would agree to advance 500 yen to Kojima, the negotiation could be concluded at once. The Factor refused this offer as he saw no valid reason to advance the sum asked for by Kojima. The latter showed much umbrage, but left the house and did not appear again. Meanwhile one Awano Kiusaku paid a visit to Kiso Masayoshi—who had been commissioned by Count Tokugawa's Factor to look for some person willing to lend money on the estate—and said that a certain Mr. Martin in Yokohama was prepared to give the necessary accommodation. Mr. Hida, the Factor, was then introduced to Awano, and made an appointment with him to go to Yokohama on the 4th of August. On that day Kinoshita, the Steward, went to the Shimbashi Station with Kiso. There they met Matsushima Kichijiro, and Mori Zenjiro, who also were said to be connected with the affair, and the whole party proceeded to an inn near the Yokohama Station, to await the coming of the foreigner who should advance the money. Presently a Mr. Rosa (Da Rosa?) of No. 24, Yokohama, came to see them, and Amano declared that through this Mr. Rosa's agency a sum of 50,000 yen would be lent by the Chartered Mercantile Bank, but that as the transaction was to be arranged by Mr. Rogie (Roger?) the Manager of the bank, a sum of 100 yen was required by way of security, which amount the Count handed over. On the 8th of the same month, Mr. Rosa, accompanied by Mori Zenjiro and Kiso Masayoshi, came to Count Tokugawa's for the ostensible purpose of inspecting the estate. Mr. Rosa, having looked at the place, said that the Count being one of the highest noblemen in the empire, and having such an extensive property in his possession, it was not necessary to mortgage the land at all; any sum of money could be advanced on his personal security, and he therefore advised the Count to adopt the latter course. If he did so, however, it would be requisite that he should pay a sum of 100 yen by way of security. The Count again complied, and the 11th of the month was fixed for the completion of the transaction. The Factor went to Yokohama on that day, but Mr. Rosa asked for a delay until the 20th on account of the non-arrival of a steamer. When the 20th came, Mr. Rosa said that as he had no cash in hand, he should give the Factor 40,000 cases of kerosene oil, and if Count Tokugawa, on his part, would hand to the Bank a document acknowledging the loan, he should receive in return a written authority for the delivery of the oil, which could then be sold by Rosa at once, and the money handed to the Count. The Factor agreed to this arrangement, and the 28th of August was fixed for the transaction. Once more the Factor went to Yoko-

hama and once more a postponement was made until the 30th, on the plea that a certain clerk of the bank was absent. The 30th saw the Factor introduced to one Kaminishi Keizo, a seller of kerosene oil, and on the 3rd of September a Mr. Wett (?) representing himself as a large shareholder of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, came to see Count Tokugawa, with fresh assurances that all would be right. On the 5th Rosa again appeared on the scene with a request that the Count should pay him a sum of 300 yen to cover expenses incurred in sending a telegram to Europe for the purpose of ascertaining the market price of kerosene. The Count, however, refused to be bled any more. Nine days later the *soi-disant* money-lenders rose another step, and announced that though it had originally been arranged to lend fifty thousand yen only, they had succeeded by clever management in getting the amount increased to eighty thousand, in consideration of which service they asked the factor to write a promissory note for 2,000 yen to be paid out of the above sum as a commission for the people engaged in the transaction. The factor wrote the note, but on the 15th of September, Kaminishi Keizo and Kiso Masayoshi came to the Count's residence, and explained that as so much delay had occurred in connection with the loan from the Chartered Mercantile Bank, they thought it advisable to borrow money from Messrs. Isaacs Bros., 120 Bluff, who were ready to advance it. The Factor refused this proposal, as the negotiation with the Chartered Mercantile Bank was not yet concluded. On the 16th, Rosa sent a communication that he could not give 40,000 cases of kerosene, but that he should hand over 25,000 which would realise 50,000 yen. The Count now began to grow impatient. He said that as so many changes had been made in the agreement, he desired to abandon it altogether, but Rosa and the others declared that if the agreement was broken off so suddenly their reputation would suffer seriously. In deference to this objection, the Count consented to continue the transaction, asking only that it be completed quickly. At this stage the assertion was renewed that the Bank could not be depended on, and that the loan had better be obtained from Messrs. Isaacs & Co., and apparently the Count agreed to this change, for from the 16th to the 18th of September we find him corresponding with Kawai Aijiro, the *Banto* of the above firm. Still there was no question of ready money but only of kerosene oil, which should be sold by Kaminishi Keizo. The 18th of September was fixed for signing the final agreement, wherein it was stated that the property belonging to Count Tokugawa might at any time be registered in the name of the creditor. Inasmuch, however, as the Count had already borrowed a sum of 30,000 yen and had duly registered the lender as a mortgagee of the estate, it was settled that the new registration should take place three or four days after the completion of the transaction, so as to enable the Count to pay off the original mortgagee first. On the 21st the Factor went to Yokohama to bring the affair at length to a conclusion, but Kawai did not put in an appearance for some time, and when he did turn up, he said that he has just come from Tokyo where he had been to inspect the Register. To his alleged astonishment he had found that the estate was already mortgaged to some one else, and he therefore declared that no agreement could possibly be made in the sense desired. The Factor, much angered by such deceit, said that though the affair had gone so far, if Kawai sought to excuse himself on such grounds, the Count would have no more transactions with him, and without further parley, he set out for Tokyo. On the 22nd of September Kojima Tadasato, the Barrister, who had not been heard of since the beginning of July, appeared once more at the Count's, and announcing that he represented Messrs. Isaacs & Co., proceeded to say that the firm had made an agreement with the Count to exchange a quantity of kerosene oil against his estate, but on the day when the transaction should have been completed they had discovered that the estate was already mortgaged to some one else. It was apparent, therefore, that the

Count had attempted to obtain the kerosene oil under false pretences, and the firm insisted upon completing the transaction. Further, a certain sum of ready money must at once be handed over as a guarantee of good faith. If the Count attempted to revoke the agreement, the firm would institute legal proceedings against his Factor and others, on the ground of obtaining goods under false pretences, while, at the same time, a suit for breach of contract would be brought against the Count, and his property attached. The Factor replied that he should give a definite answer in a day or two, and on the 25th Kojima and Kawai came again, bringing with them the various documents relating to the negotiation, as well as two promissory notes, one drawn in favour of Kawai for a sum of 10,000 yen, and the other in favour of Kojima for 2,500 yen. They promised that, if the Count would sign those two promissory notes, all the documents relating to the agreement should be returned to him, but if he refused, his property should be attached at once. The Count at last signed and stamped the notes, but so soon as the visitors had left the house, the facts were communicated to the police, and the three men were quickly arrested.

From information obtained in Yokohama, it appears that the above case must not be judged by the details which the Japanese press has published, and which alone have been submitted to the public thus far. The version given by the vernacular newspapers suggests that certain persons combined as pretended money-lenders, and ultimately took advantage of an unimportant incident to withhold the promised loan, after which they threatened the Count with all sort of pains and penalties for breach of contract, the upshot being that he consented to purchase their complacency by giving promissory notes for large sums. But the other side of the story is that the transaction, so far as the lenders of the money were concerned, was perfectly *bond fide*. Kawai Aijiro, *Banjo* of Messrs. Isaacs Brothers of Yokohama, arranged the loan in all good faith. The firm did not propose to advance cash, but were prepared to hand over a large quantity of kerosene oil to the Count's Factor, who would have converted it into money. Presumably the transaction was conducted in Kawai's name, for a main feature of the compact was that Count Tokugawa's property in Tokyo should be hypothecated as security for the debt, and it would of course have been illegal that a foreign firm should figure as the mortgagee. Kawai, however, when he proceeded to Tokyo to register the hypothecation of the property, found that this had been already done on behalf of a previous creditor, by whom 30,000 yen had been advanced to the Count. Not considering it to his employers' interests to carry out the agreement under such circumstances, he signified his resolve to proceed no farther. Now all this tallies sufficiently closely with the story told by the other side, but the point made by the Count's Factor is that the existence of a previous mortgage on the property had not been concealed, but was perfectly well known to Kawai, or at any rate to the persons who were supposed to be advising him, and that, in fact, an understanding existed that, after the transfer of the kerosene oil, time should be given to pay off the original mortgage, by way of preliminary to hypothecating the whole property as security for the second loan. The *Banjo*, Kawai, bears, we learn, a very high character. He has been in the employ of Messrs. Isaacs Brothers for fourteen years, during which time many transactions, affording ample tests of his integrity, have been managed by him with scrupulous honesty. In this case, which unhappily has involved his arrest, he is believed to have been acting with perfect good faith, and his speedy acquittal is anticipated. Whether all parties to the transaction were equally honest, we do not pretend to say. As for Count Tokugawa's friends it is scarcely possible to suppose that they entertained any idea of concealing the fact of a previous mortgage, for they were well aware that so soon as Kawai proceeded to register his claim

against the property, the existence of a previous mortgage must be at once revealed. Evidently the whole facts of the case are not yet in the possession of the public. Another point insisted on by persons whose information ought to be correct is that the ten-thousand-yen bond given to Kawai by Count Tokugawa was not extorted as the price of the former's silence, but was *bond fide* compensation to Messrs. Isaacs Brothers for breach of contract. There is talk of proceeding against the Count, not alone for violating his agreement, but also for attempting to obtain money under false pretences. Grounds for such extreme measures are not apparent on the face of the facts thus far published.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A NARROW escape from the loss of many lives is reported from Shinshu. On the 26th ultimo, the last train leaving Karuizawa had proceeded as far as Uminoura, when suddenly the engine wheels collided against some hard substance. As the train was running down hill the driver could not stop at once, but he soon succeeded in doing so. The place was then examined, and it was found that two large stones had been planted on the rail, both measuring about 3 feet by 2. One of the stones had been smashed into small pieces by the collision, and the other had been thrown into the Narusawa River, which flows below the spot. The front of the engine was greatly damaged as were also seven sleepers, but fortunately no carriage was derailed. Had the carriages left the rails, many hundreds of passengers would probably have been thrown into the river down a precipitous bank, and serious loss of life must have ensued. It is evident that some miscreants had conveyed these heavy stones to the spot for the purpose of wrecking the train. It is difficult to fathom the object of such inhuman attempts. There cannot be much chance of robbery when a train is tumbled down a precipice, and the most abandoned rascal can scarcely be so brutal as to plot the wholesale destruction of human life from pure lust of bloodshed.

THE LAW BUREAU.

THE long vacant post of chief of the Law Bureau has been at last filled by the appointment of Mr. Suyematsu Kencho. It is stated that the position was twice offered to Mr. Suyematsu and twice declined, but that finally he was induced to accept. Mr. Suyematsu resigned the post of chief of the Local Government Bureau in the Home Department in order to enter the Diet where he played a very conspicuous part during the first two sessions. His return to official life will necessitate another by-election, as he will doubtless resign his seat in the House.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

ALTHOUGH the members of the Railway Council have been appointed, its conferences are not expected to open before next month, inasmuch as the Railway Bureau has despatched several experts to survey the routes, and until their reports have been received the compilation of the draft scheme cannot be undertaken. It seems probable under these circumstances that the Bill determining the first works of extension will not be presented to the Diet before the middle of the approaching session.

Several important questions have to be discussed by the Council, but the most important is said to relate to Art. XIII., which runs as follows:—"Should there be in the projected railway system any lines for the construction of which charters have been granted to private companies, either the whole of the lines of such companies must be purchased, or suitable arrangements must be made with them." The general anticipation seems to be that this will commend itself as the first question calling for discussion by the Council.

Should the Council pass a resolution in favour of commencing some new lines within the next

year, the expenditure must be voted in the approaching session, and it will consequently be necessary that the Government submit a supplementary estimate for the Diet's approval.

The expenditure of the Railway Council is estimated at 5,000 yen for the current year. This sum must be disbursed by the Treasury out of the Reserve Fund. About 9,000 yen will be required for next year. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that these items have already been submitted to the Department of Finance for approval.

Messrs. Kobayashi Harunari, and Yoshita Katsu of the Department of Communications, and Mr. Fujimoto Rempei of the Railway Bureau have been appointed clerks to the Council. It is expected that the place of conference will be the office of the General Staff, but the General Post Office in Nihonbashi is also spoken of as a probable rendezvous.

THE EMPEROR AND A SOLDIER'S SHOE.

THE vernacular press reports that on the 30th ultimo, a Chamberlain in waiting on the Emperor came to the barracks of the Guards, and asked to have lent to him a shoe actually in wear by some common soldier. Lieutenant Chihara ordered a soldier named Koyama Jugoro to take off his left shoe, and hand it to the Chamberlain, who carried it away. Some two hours elapsed and yet the shoe was not returned. Thereupon the soldiers began to speculate what had happened to the Chamberlain? Was he in his right mind when he borrowed a left-foot shoe from a common soldier? What did he intend to do with it? Presently, however, he returned with the shoe, and thanked the officer for the loan of it. The latter, being much exercised by so unusual an event, asked the Chamberlain what had been his business with the shoe, whereupon the Chamberlain replied that, while in attendance on the Sovereign, he had been commanded to go and borrow a soldier's shoe, as His Majesty desired to examine it. The Chamberlain had obeyed. He added that when the shoe was presented to the Emperor, His Majesty had taken it, all muddily as it was, in his hand and examined the leather and the make very carefully with a thoughtful demeanour, ultimately desiring it to be returned to its owner. It may well be supposed that this story created no small excitement in the barracks. The Guards declared that history contained no instance of a Sovereign taking up a muddy shoe worn by a common soldier, and of course enthusiastic inferences were drawn as to His Majesty's benevolent solicitude for the comfort and efficiency of his troops. It is stated that the shoe is to be preserved as an heirloom by the Imperial Guard, and we find no difficulty in believing the report.

THE YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

THE Yokohama Chess Club closes its second year of existence with a very favourable record. It has held 59 meetings during the year, played a long tournament in which three prizes were awarded, as well as a match with Tokyo, seven players a side, and two correspondence games with Tokyo. The match was won by Yokohama by one game—the score standing at 13 to 12—but the two correspondence games were lost. The Club doubtless owes something of its success to the energy and zeal of its President, Mr. J. Griffin, who now retires in favour of Mr. Justice Mowat, a player of local distinction. It also possesses a solid basis of strength in its 48 members, a very remarkable number considering the size of the community. We hope to see some matches arranged this winter with Tokyo, and some correspondence games commenced with the outports. Kobe is said to have good players, and Shanghai could certainly give a strong account of itself. There is, of course, a difficulty in bringing about contests with places where no chess clubs exist. The Yokohama club is, we believe, the only club in the Far East, and consequently its challenges find no recognised recipients in any of

the other ports. This difficulty was the real cause of the failure to arrange a return match between Tokyo and Yokohama. The men playing for the former place, not being members of any representative association, felt themselves under no obligation to champion the capital, and preference was thus given to other engagements. It is surprising that Kobe, generally so energetic in all matters of the kind, does not organize a Club. And Hongkong's case, considering the circumstances of the colony, excites even more wonder. The last intelligence we had of chess in Hongkong takes us back to 1866, when a tournament was played there, a considerable number of players competing. Among the residents in those days were an American gentleman and his wife, both players of unusual strength. The former had been President of a Chess Club in America; the latter was a staunch devotee of the Evans Gambit, which admirable conception she had studied with such daily diligence for so many years that almost every possible variation of it was familiar to her. She invariably exercised her lady's privilege of prescribing the form of *début*, and few amateurs could be found capable of contending with her in her chosen field. Another of the strong players of Hongkong a quarter of a century ago was Mr. (afterwards Sir) W. Rennie, elder brother of Sir Richard Rennie, who also occupied a high place among Shanghai's chess champions. We cannot suppose that there is any paucity of skilled amateurs in the southern colony at present, but, strange to say, there appears to be no disposition to organise a Club.

TOKYO.

IN answer to the question—What is Tokyo, and "is it true that it is burned down every seven years?" an American Journal—*Inter Ocean*, replies:—"Tokyo, the principal city and capital of Japan, was formerly known as Yedo. It is a very old city, and on August 26, 1889, the people of this city celebrated the 300th anniversary of its founding. Its history is as follows:—An officer of the army, on the first day of the eighth month, in the year 1589, having received a gift of territory from the ruler of the country, took possession of the castle overlooking the Bay of Yedo, and made it his seat of government. The vassal in this advantageous situation soon became strong enough to defy his ruler, and on the death of his master he deposed the chosen heir and extended his sway over the whole country. The ambition of this ruler was to found a dynasty whose position and power would be unconquerable. He therefore, we are told in Japanese history, turned all his energies toward the building of a fortress which would enable his descendants to hold their position indefinitely. Around an open space containing about nine square miles he built a wall, and inside of this wall reared a mass of defenses so complicated that their plan is still an unsolved problem of military engineering. This design to establish a stronghold so impregnable that no attack would ever be made upon it was successful, for up to this time the castle of Yedo has never been assaulted or besieged. It remained the home of the successors of this first ruler, and the stronghold of their government until the dynasty was overthrown, and the Mikado came into power in 1868. The shrewd founder of Yedo insured the growth of his capital by decreeing that each of the lords of the surrounding provinces, which were all tributary to him, should reside within the limits of the city six months every year. This drew population so extensively that before it was 100 years old it had 1,000,000 inhabitants. The growth of the city was irregular, blocks of houses being separated here and there by intervening gardens and groves. There is no city in the world that equals Tokyo in the size and beauty of its public parks and gardens. Outside of the central portion of this city there are miles of buildings in European styles of architecture, and this is the business portion of the city. Twice, in 1656 and in 1854, this city has been very seriously injured by earthquakes, and previous to the present century many con-

flagrations have occurred, owing to the fact that formerly the houses were built very slightly of wood, and were therefore very combustible. The story that Tokyo is burned down every seven years is absurd, and has no foundation whatever in fact." "Miles of buildings in European styles of architecture in the business portion of the town" is rather more than facts warrant, unless the writer has reference to the Ginza and vicinity, where "semi-European style of architecture" would more correctly apply.

THE HONGKONG BANK AND THE HYOGO CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

SOME correspondence has taken place between the Japanese and Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Hyogo with reference to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The *Kobe Herald* prints the correspondence, and we re-produce it on account of its general interest, without attempting to speculate on the origin of the wonderful English of the Japanese Chamber's letter:—

(TRANSLATION.)

Kobe Japanese Chamber of Commerce,
13th September, Meiji 25th.

M. BROWN, Esq.,
Chairman, etc., etc.,

We learn through the newspapers that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has refused the remittances for abroad and stopped the cash in credit; and some business men are anxious about the matter. Bank is the most important organ of trade, especially that particular Bank which has been doing much in the Oriental trade and not a little in developing the trade in this country; and it was understood that the Bank's Capital was so ample and its business carried so straightly that we have entirely trusted. Now we do not see why the Bank so suddenly stopped the transaction as mentioned above, which may cause great deal of inconvenience in our commercial circle; thus it is necessary for us to investigate the matter, to make certain whether there is any such fact or not, and before doing so we shall be very glad to be informed of your view respecting the question.

Yours, etc., etc.,

T. YAMAMOTO.

Hiogo and Osaka
General Chamber of Commerce
Hiogo, 28th Sept, 1892.

The Chairman,

Kobe Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am in receipt of your favour of 13th inst. inquiring whether the newspaper reports circulated, that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation had withdrawn "all the transaction of remittance for abroad, and also cash in credit" were correct.

In reply I beg to say, on behalf of the Committee of the Chamber, that the reports referred to, are unfounded, in so far as they give the impression, that the Bank is in financial difficulties or has failed. If it is true, however, that in its current business, the Bank has deemed it wiser, to exercise greater and stricter discrimination, but it has in no way placed obstructions in the way of fair, and legitimate trade.

The opinion that you express that a Bank is a most important organ of trade, is perfectly correct, and the Bank above named has been, and now is, a most powerful factor in the commercial trade of this country. Its transactions have always been characterized by liberality and strict integrity, and you will agree with me that without these traits, commerce cannot flourish or even be encouraged. The utmost reliance is placed in our great local institution about which you have been pleased to make inquiries, and as time progresses, I am sure that it will be found, that the confidence reposed upon it, by reason of its wise, and careful management, will not have been misplaced.

Thanking you for your letter, and appreciating the interest you take in commercial matters.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

M. BROWN, Chairman.

THE "MATSUSHIMA KAN."

The *Hongkong Daily Press* says:—

The Japanese turret ship *Matsushima* arrived at Singapore on the 21st inst. from Toulon *via* Colombo. She is one of the three sister ships designed by M. Bertin for the Japanese navy at the time when he was Chief Navy Constructor to the Japanese Government, and with the *Isukushima*, has been built and fitted out at La Seyne by the Forges et Chantiers de la Méditerranée. The third ship, the *Hashidate*, has been built and fitted out in the Japanese Government Arsenal at Yokosuka, much of the machinery, the guns, and gun fittings and appliances being sent out from Europe. The *Matsushima* is a vessel of 4,278

tons, is armed with 28 guns, carries a crew of 197 men (15 officers, 8 warrant officers, and 174 sailors) and has engines of 5,400 h.p. The following particulars of this ship are taken from the *Marine Engineer*:—Below the water line the three sister ships are identical in design, but above this line the *Matsushima* differs from the two others in that she has the one large 65-ton gun carried by each vessel, mounted aft of the funnel, instead of forward, as is done on the *Isukushima* and the *Hashidate*. The principal dimensions of the ships are:—Length, 324 feet 10 in.; beam, 50 feet 10 in.; depth, 35 feet; draught (mean) 21 feet 2 in. The ships are deck protected throughout their entire length, but carry no side armour. Thirty centimetre (11.8 in.) Creusot steel armour is fitted to the barbettes tower of the heavy gun, and as a further protection the ships are extensively divided into watertight compartments. Mild steel has been used throughout as the material of construction. Double military tops, armed with quick firing and machine guns, are fitted to the mast, also of steel, and above these is rigged a pine top mast, for signal service. The armament consists of one 32-centimetre (12.6 in.) Canet B. L. R. gun, with a weight of 65 tons, and a length of 42 feet. The projectiles are of chrome steel, and, fired by means of smokeless powder, have, it is calculated, sufficient power to pierce 4 feet of iron armour at the muzzle. There are ten 12 centimetre (4.7 in.) Armstrong B. L. R. guns in the battery on the main deck, and one in the *Matsushima* forward on the upper deck. Six quick firing and 11 single barrelled machine guns of the Canet system, two of the latter being mounted in the lower of the two military tops, and four torpedo discharging tubes, firing Whitehead torpedoes, complete the armament. The ships are propelled by two three-bladed propellers, driven by triple expansion three cylinder engines of the horizontal type situated in two engine rooms, one forward of the other. Steam is supplied by six cylindrical marine boilers, arranged in groups of three, placed athwartships, each boiler having three corrugated furnaces of the Fox type. The contract speed of the sister ship is 16 knots, a rate which was exceeded by the *Matsushima*, and her gun trial also proved highly satisfactory.

A BULLOCK AND A BULL.

A CERTAIN Mr. Hughes, when walking along the bank of a ravine in the Waterfall Valley at Kobe, saw a bullock-cart approaching him. What happened afterwards we do not exactly know. One journal says that in stepping aside to avoid the cart, Mr. Hughes fell over the ravine. Another affirms that the bullock charged him and drove him down the precipice. At all events it is certain that he fell down a steep place and cut his head severely. A Japanese doctor was speedily summoned. But, says a Kobe journal, "this doctor was unable to do anything owing to his ignorance of the language." There appears to be a novel and interesting method of treating broken heads in Kobe: the doctor has to use his tongue. Does he pronounce some formula over the patient, or in what respect is the use of the latter's language necessary for the stitching and dressing of a scalp wound?

DENING V. TANAKA HEIZABURO.

THE above case came up for adjourned hearing in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on the 26th ult., and a verdict was again delivered in Mr. Dening's favour on the 30th ult. It will be remembered that Mr. Tanaka appealed to the Supreme Court, basing his case on a weak point in the wording of the judgment of the Court of Appeal. The result of this action was the referring of the case back to the Court of Appeal for a second hearing. The particulars of the evidence were again carefully gone into, and, after taking four days to consider the question, the Court confirmed its former finding, but in an abbreviated form. We hope to give fuller particulars later on. Mr. Tanaka still has the right to appeal, but it seems almost certain that if he does the case will be dismissed. In view of the time and money spent in litigation, we sincerely hope that Mr. Dening will succeed in obtaining at least a large part of the sum owing to him.

MOURILYANN HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA KEN.

THE hearing of the appeal against the judgment of the Yokohama Local Court, by which, it will be remembered, the case was decided in favour of the defendant with costs, was held on Thursday, the 29th ultimo, at the Tokyo Court of Appeal. Mr. R. de B. Layard, of H.B.M.'s Consulate, and Mr. Mitsuhashi, Councillor of the Kencho (on behalf of the Governor), watched

the case throughout. Messrs. Okamura and Harada conducted the appeal for the appellant firm, while Messrs. Takahashi and Koide were for the respondent. The arguments of counsel on both sides concluded the same day, and on Tuesday last judgment was delivered, dismissing the appeal with costs.

ARBITRATION.

On the 14th of July the *Kirishima*, a steam barge belonging to the Harbour-works Bureau, collided with the *Spindrift*, a steam launch owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, in Yokohama harbour. The latter alleged that the collision had resulted from mismanagement on the part of *Kirishima*, and demanded compensation for the injury to the steam-launch. Mr. Utsumi, Director of the Bureau, drew up a full account of the accident, and submitted it to the Minister of Communications for his decision. But as one of the parties was a foreigner, the Minister could not apply the laws of the country, and he consequently declined to have anything to do with the case. The parties then negotiated, and at last agreed to ask the Marine Bureau to act as Arbitrator. The request was granted, and an inquiry was held by the Bureau. The captain and others of the *Spindrift*, as well as several of the crew of the *Kirishima*, were examined by Mr. Ito and Mr. Yokoi. Both parties stated their case. After hearing all the facts and arguments, the examiners came to the conclusion that the collision had been caused by want of skill and defective management on both sides, and that both were equally to blame. This decision was communicated to the Director of the Harbour-works Bureau, but whether the C. P. R. Company will agree to it or not, is, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a question remaining to be answered. It is, however, tolerably certain that if the Company consented to arbitration originally, it will not dispute the arbitrators' finding, especially as the action of the Company has been liberal and considerate throughout.

THE TROUBLES IN KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE.

ALLUSION has already been made to the troubles in Kumamoto Prefecture in connection with the election of members of a Divisional Assembly. The *Fiyu*, a Radical organ, now publishes particulars furnished by a correspondent. The story is probably exaggerated, and the communication loses something of its value by not being dated, but we give it for what it is worth:—"On the 29th ultimo, some 80 rowdies came to Dakema Division, and captured 23 supporters of the Popular Party, who were qualified to vote. The inhabitants of the Division were perplexed and astonished by this sudden outbreak of violence, but the mystery was explained on the following day, when a notice appeared to the effect that the re-election of one half of the members of the Divisional Assembly was to take place on the 7th instant. The supporters of the Popular Party, extremely indignant at such a mean trick on the part of the Local Authorities, assembled to consider what course they ought to adopt. There was every sign of a disturbance, and so soon as the fact was reported, the Director of the Yamaga Police Station, accompanied by the whole force of police at his disposal, came to the Division. Communications were simultaneously sent to various other stations of police and gendarmes in the neighbourhood. At 9 a.m. on the 1st instant, the head quarters of the Popular Party were attacked suddenly, and one man was killed on the spot, another being seriously wounded, and two captured. The rest retreated to concert defensive measures. *Soshi* belonging to the Pro-official Party are now marching about the streets with drawn swords, and behaving in a most disorderly manner, but the police not only do not arrest but secretly assist them. The discomfited supporters of the Popular Party are anxiously awaiting the arrival of some gendarmes."

If the *Fiyu* believes this tale, very few of its readers will be equally credulous, we imagine. One would suppose that the so-called Popular Party were the most quiet and inoffensive folks

in existence, and that they were perpetually subjected to all sorts of violence at the hands of their political opponents, the police aiding and abetting the latter, and the sufferers taking it all lying down. But the adherents of the Popular Party have made their record already. Their advocates should remember that folks in Tokyo know a little about their doings. Since the *Fiyu*'s head-quarters were established in Shiba, peaceful citizens shrink from visiting that part of the city, so probable is the presence of rowdy *soshi*, and no respectable woman can walk past the group of *jiurikisha* waiting outside the Party's office, for the drawers of these vehicles—private vehicles, be it observed—have somewhere imbibed a spirit of ribald insolence that prompts them to most objectionable licence of language. The meekness and mildness that induce the much maltreated Radicals of Kumamoto to turn the other cheek to unmerited and unprovoked cuffs, are qualities too unfamiliar elsewhere to be easily imagined.

THE DEATH OF TENNYSON.

THE telegraph this morning brings us the sad news of the death of Lord Tennyson. There had been nothing to portend such a misfortune. Latest intelligence from England spoke of the great poet as enjoying excellent health, though ripe age rendered his tenure of life always uncertain. Tennyson has been the idol of the British public for sixty years. No singer ever touched the chords of his time with more truly sympathetic finger, and none, after Shakespeare, has left so many exquisite thoughts enshrined in the memories of his countrymen. The foremost critics of the age have discussed and sought to analyse his divine gift, but in the presence of the irreparable loss which the nation suffers by his death, the poignancy of universal grief would be insulted by recalling these estimates. We are only conscious that we owe to the immortal poet music the sweetness and nobility of which have elevated and beautified our own lives, and will continue to sound with unimpaired melody through the lives of our children and our children's children. For him the night has come "that knows not morn," but the sunshine of his rare genius remains with us, and will always remain.

A YOKOHAMA MERCHANT AND HIS DIAMONDS.

THE *San Francisco Chronicle* of the 17th ult. says:—"Samuel Sondheim, a New York wholesale jeweller, arrived from Yokohama yesterday on the *China*. In making out his baggage declaration he neglected any mention of jewellery, but he was searched, as a precaution, and nine bracelets, containing from fourteen to thirty diamonds, to say nothing of rubies and sapphires and a butterfly pin with ninety more brilliants, came to light. Mr. Sondheim says the jewels were made in the United States, but he will have to prove it, or the whole lot, valued at \$1,250, will be confiscated."

Exaggerated rumours as to this affair have been circulated in Yokohama, but we have been authoritatively informed that they have no foundation. The articles were manufactured in America, and imported into Japan by the firm about five years ago, so no question of smuggling can be entertained.

THE DISTRESSED TURKS.

A MONTH ago, says the *China Mail*, eleven destitute Turkish seamen were landed at Hongkong from Yokohama by Captain R. Blanke, of the German mail steamer *Nürnberg*. After remaining in the Colony for fifteen days the men were sent to Port Said by the Colonial Authorities, who now, through the Colonial Secretary, sue Captain Blanke for recovery of \$591.25, being \$41.25 for fifteen days' subsistence of the eleven men in Hongkong, and \$550 for passage of the men from Hongkong to Port Said. Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., was retained for the defence. The case came before Mr. Justice Pollock on September 28th, and was dismissed, his Lord-

ship holding that plaintiff had not brought his case within the provisions of the Ordinance.

ALCOHOLIC POTATOES.

MR. TAKAMINE is a well known chemist in Japan, but the *Yomiuri Shimbun* introduces him to us in a new character. Residing some time ago in France, we read, he observed that the refuse of the potatoes from which brandy was distilled served no useful purpose and was rejected as valueless. After long experiment with this refuse, Mr. Takamine found that he could obtain whiskey from it. He patented his invention, and sold the patent to a certain capitalist for ten thousand dollars. A big company was formed, and Mr. Takamine received shares of the face value of six hundred thousand yen, upon which he ultimately realized seven hundred thousand. This is very wonderful and admirable.

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO HAWAII.

MR. IRWIN, Minister Resident and Consul General for Hawaii, says the *Shogyo Shimpō*, has requested the Kanagawa-Kencho to collect 400 men and 100 women from Hiroshima Prefecture; 300 men and 75 women from Yamaguchi Prefecture; and 200 men and 5 women from Niigata Prefecture; to emigrate to Hawaii. The Kencho has communicated Mr. Irwin's desire to the Governors of those Prefectures, and it is expected that the emigrants will proceed by the *Yamashiro Maru*, leaving Yokohama on the 15th proximo.

LOCAL HONOURS.

AMONG the list of successful candidates in the Oxford Local Examinations for the year 1892 we have pleasure in noting the name of Miss May Moss, second daughter of Mr. C. D. Moss, chief clerk of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan. The young lady is studying at Ellenborough House, Cheltenham (The Misses White), and her record runs—Junior Pass List, Div. I. Passed in Preliminary subjects, Religious knowledge, English (Shakespeare), French, Drawing. Distinguished in German (23rd).

HIROSHIMA SCHOOL OPENING.

THE *Kaikoshiki* (formal opening) of the Hiroshima *Eiwa-jo Gakko* took place on Sept. 30. A large number of invited guests were present, and the occasion proved a most enjoyable one. The Rev. Y. Yoshioka, of Kobe, was the speaker of the meeting, and gave a brief but entertaining address. The rebuilding of this school in less than a year from its destruction by fire, speaks well for the M. E. Church South Mission. The school is now well equipped and we wish it a useful future.

NORTHEAST SHANTUNG PROMONTORY LIGHTHOUSE.

REFERRING to Notice to Mariners No. 254, dated the 12th April, 1892: Mr. A. M. Bisbee, Coast Inspector, by Order of the Inspector General of Customs, issues the following: Notice is hereby given that on the 25th instant the Light at this station was altered from a fixed in an Occulting Light, showing thirteen seconds of light following by two seconds of eclipse every quarter of a minute.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

A cloud of uncertainty hangs over the political situation. The strenuous efforts of the Progressionist organs to induce the new Ministry to announce its policy have been in vain. There is no probability that the Cabinet will do anything of the kind until the Diet meets. Meanwhile, the *Kaishin-to* journals indulge in speculations as to the programme likely to be pursued by the Ministry. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, supposes that the Ito Cabinet is bent upon adopting a negative and defensive policy towards the Diet. In 1885, Count Ito pursued an exactly opposite course, and the energy—continues our contemporary—which he manifested in carrying out various reforms of the most drastic nature led many people to entertain extravagant hopes of improvement in the Government,

which were, however, destined to be entirely disappointed. But in the present instance, more care seems to be taken to prevent the enemy from attacking the Cabinet than to devise methods of assault upon the enemy. No doubt the Progressionist organ is far from being pleased with such a policy on the part of the Government, but it cannot in justice reprove the latter openly; for the Opposition politicians, those of the *Kaishin-to* in particular, have been wont to advise the present Ministry's predecessors to adopt the very policy which Count Ito and his colleagues are now represented as having decided to follow. The *Mainichi*, therefore, confines itself to asking the Cabinet with what ultimate purpose it intends to pursue a negative and defensive policy. Is it for the purpose of merely postponing the day of the demise of clan Government, or for the purpose of preparing for the smooth transfer of the administration to the hands of the Popular party? Our contemporary hopes that the latter may be the object of the distinguished statesmen composing the present Cabinet.

Notwithstanding the general uncertainty of the political situation, it is tolerably plain that Count Okuma's followers, as we have more than once noticed, will persist in their indiscriminate opposition to the Government. For a time, their organs were apparently unable to find a suitable basis for attacking the Cabinet, but they have at last discovered a pretext in the question of official interference in the elections of February last. Most people thought that this question had been long since disposed of; in fact the Opposition journals themselves apparently entertained no idea of again dragging the topic into the field of discussion until the recent remarkable speech of Viscount Shinagawa in Kyushu, declaring—so the report runs—that he had interfered in the elections to the limit of his capacity. The *Kaishin-to* papers have eagerly seized upon the report, and make no secret of their purpose to embarrass the Government by once more advancing the subject as a topic of censure in the coming session of the Diet. Their programme no doubt is to condemn the present Cabinet for alleged neglect to punish officials guilty of interference in the general elections.

The Radical organ, the *Yiyu*, also discusses the same question. Saying nothing about the re-introduction of the matter in the Diet, our contemporary merely expresses a hope that the Cabinet will not hesitate to take proper measures for settling the matter once for all.

The *Kokkai* has a very interesting series of articles on the necessity of reforms in the Government. It is disposed to approve the wisdom of the negative policy which the present Cabinet is supposed to have decided on pursuing, for it believes that the prime object of the Cabinet is to restore harmony between the Executive and the Legislature. The restoration of such harmony is indeed of vital importance, for the strained relations between the Diet and the Government have hitherto prevented the carrying out of necessary reforms and important undertakings. But while, on the one hand, endeavouring to arrive at some sort of mutual understanding with the Opposition, the Cabinet should not, on the other, forget to undertake reforms, alike in the system and in the methods of administration. Hitherto the *Kokkai* has refrained from expressing its ideas on this subject, seeing that the excitement of the contest in which both the Government and the Opposition were plunged, made it impossible for sober and impartial opinions to be stated with any chance of receiving fair and unprejudiced attention from the combatants on either side. But now that comparative calm has been restored, the *Kokkai* thinks it advisable to give free expression to its views on administrative reform. In the first place, the Statesmen in office are told to correct their tendency to legislate, not from any unavoidable necessity of the case, but for the sake of legislation itself. Secondly, they are recommended to subordinate legisla-

tion to the needs of the people. Thirdly, all attempts in the direction of artificially developing industry or commerce should be avoided. Fourthly, the custom, hitherto not infrequent, of sacrificing practical benefits for the sake of maintaining theoretical uniformity in the general system of administration, should be corrected. Fifthly and lastly, the Cabinet is reminded of reforms that should be introduced in the present system of local Government. Each of these points is fully discussed, but we cannot enter into details here.

The inconsistency of the Opposition forms the subject of an interesting article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Last year the Opposition politicians rejected every measure proposed by the Government. But now, without any apparent cause, they themselves contemplate proposing the very measures they refused to consent to in the last session of the Diet. Lately they were transported with delight at the supposed punishment of local officials who interfered in the elections of February last. But now they complain of the Cabinet's indulgence to those officials. Lastly, the clamour which they are now making over the reported confession of interference in elections by Viscount Shinagawa, proves that they were not by any means convinced of the truth of interference when they preferred charges against the preceding Cabinet in the last session of the Diet. These circumstances lead our contemporary to conclude that the so called Popular Party is after all eminently deficient in all the qualifications of a responsible Party.

The organization of the Railway Council has been warmly welcomed by the vernacular press, for fears had begun to be entertained in several quarters that the Government might put off the carrying out of the Railway Construction Law, with the object of ultimately ignoring it altogether. These fears have been effectively dispelled by the step just taken. But with regard to the constitution of the Council, the Opposition journals are not satisfied. They complain that among the twenty-four members of the Council the Popular Party is represented by two only, namely, Mr. Minoura of the *Kaishin-to* and Mr. Ito (Daihachi) of the *Yiyu-to*. In case of a divergence of views, the representatives of the Popular Party, it is feared, will be always hopelessly out-numbered by officials and the latter's partisans. But this is not the point which mainly troubles the Opposition journals. They apprehend that the Council will be dangerously dominated by the military members, inasmuch as officers of the Army and Navy are largely represented, and the post of President has been conferred on General Kawakami instead of on Viscount Inouye, who had been universally regarded as the most suitable occupant. They admit the importance of consulting strategic interests in the selection of route, but where commercial and military considerations clash, they advise the members of the Council to give preference to the claims of commerce.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* undertakes to expose the fallacy of some of the views entertained by its contemporaries on the above subject. It alleges in the first place, that there is no ground for the slightest apprehension of military views preponderating in the Council's deliberations, since several new members have still to be appointed from among civil officials. Secondly, it is chimerical to be troubled about the possibility of conflicts of opinion among the members of the Council. Such conflicts are inevitable and not necessarily injurious. On the contrary, they very often conduce to the discovery of the truth. Thirdly, many writers seem to regard the Railway Council as a body invested with executive functions. But it possesses no such function; its sole duty being to formulate opinions on given subjects to the Minister of Communications. Fourthly and lastly, what has just been observed should suffice to refute another silly notion, namely, that the Council is to exercise any control over the Executive

in regard to railway affairs. The *Nichi Nichi* then goes on to express its own views on the general subject of railways. It frankly confesses dissatisfaction with much of what the Government has undertaken in this direction in the past. As to the question whether the narrow or medium gage should be adopted in Japan, our contemporary is distinctly in favour of the latter. It also holds that the Government did not show wisdom in changing the original plan of laying a line along the Nakasendo instead of the Tokaido. Moreover, in selecting sites for stations, and in fixing upon particular routes for railways, the authorities have not escaped charges of corruption. But these things belong to the past, and our contemporary hopes that the present Cabinet will not lay itself open to such discreditable accusations.

The vernacular press seems to be convinced that some changes must be introduced in the organization as well as the personnel of local Governments. The *Kokumin Shimbun* recommends abolition of the posts of Chief Police Inspector (*Keibuchō*) and Chief Revenue Officer (*Shuzōtō*), whose functions it would delegate to Secretaries. Councillors (*Sanji-kan*) too, might be abolished without creating any inconvenience, these officials having at present little to do. The work devolving on Governors under the existing system is declared to be too light, and it is urged that some of the business conducted by Secretaries might be transferred to the Governor. In short, the *Kokumin* contends that local Governments contain a number of highly paid officials who have no real *raison d'être*.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* strongly urges the Minister of Home Affairs to show no mercy to three of the local Governors who have not yet been punished for their misbehaviour at the time of the last general elections. These Governors are those of Kumamoto, of Kagoshima, and of Saitama, particularly the first, whose alleged illiberal attitude towards Christians has greatly increased his unpopularity with the press. Some papers even go so far to refrain from placing the title of "Mr." before his name and speak of him as "that Matsudaira" or simply as "Matsudaira." The two other Governors mentioned above are almost equally unpopular; and in the case of the Governor of Saitama, about fifty of the inhabitants of the locality recently visited the capital to lay their grievances before the Minister of Home Affairs. The *Mainichi* believes that Count Inouye is not the kind of man to turn a deaf ear to the earnest representations of the people.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* recommends Mr. Mutsu, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to devote his attention to the condition of Japanese emigrants in the Hawaiian islands. Their number is now said to exceed twenty thousand, so that they constitute the largest community of all the nationalities represented there. But the position which they occupy is anything but enviable; their lot is to work in the field like animals, without enjoying any public rights. In order to enjoy such rights they must become naturalized, and they are advised to do so by all means. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is also urgently called upon to see that his nationals in Hawaii obtain a share in the Government of that country. What hobby will the *Kokumin* mount next?

The Korean question still engages journalistic attention. The *Yiji Shimpō* has again recommended the abolition of the Tientsin treaty, denouncing it as a decidedly inconvenient compact. The *Nichi Nichi*, in reply, shows that the treaty is not at all inconvenient, Japan being the gainer by it. The *Hochi Shimbun* has also something to say on this subject. The fact that the question is so persistently discussed by every section of the vernacular press, and the phase which the discussion has now assumed, suggest the advisability of treating it at greater length than the limits of this summary permit.

Original from

THE NEW RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO JAPAN.

WE observe with regret that the singular rumours circulated about M. HITROVO, the recently appointed Russian Representative at the Japanese Court, are finding their way into the Japanese press where they may work much mischief. To people gifted with calm judgment, the stories told in the columns of European newspapers about the conduct of the former Russian Diplomatic Agent at Bucharest read like wild romances. The accusations preferred against that official are based on documents said to have been sold for a sum of thirty thousand francs to the Bulgarian Government by one JACOBSON, formerly Dragoon to M. HITROVO, but now known to be a bitter foe of that official. They profess to be copies of correspondence which took place between M. HITROVO and the Asiatic Department of the St. Petersburg Foreign Office, and they represent M. HITROVO as having addressed to the Department a proposal that certain sums of money should be paid to men who were prepared to take part in a *coup d'état* in Bulgaria, the object of which was the assassination of Prince FERDINAND, or, to speak more accurately, his removal by dynamite. To this proposal the Department is made to return an explicit assent, and thus, not only the Russian Minister at Bucharest, but also M. ZINOVIEFF, the Chief of the Asiatic Department in the Russian Administration, figure in the rôle of vulgar assassins and conspirators of the clumsiest type. This statement of the issue involved is, in itself, sufficient to throw discredit on the whole story. Many journalists make it their business to educate among the public the lowest possible estimate of the Russian Government and its methods, but truly, when we are asked to believe that the foreign policy of St. Petersburg rests on such pivots as dynamite and the dagger, we find our imagination incapable of the flight. Let us, however, for the sake of those who can credit such chimeras, examine the matter a little further. In the first place, has it ever been heard of in the history of any administration conducted with ordinary efficiency, that documents of such a terribly compromising character became public property. After the lapse of a century or two, official archives are sometimes placed at the disposal of historians, but here we have presented to the public a series of secret despatches which, in the most brutally frank language, set forth the details of a disgraceful and criminal scheme concocted and set in operation by the Representative of a civilized SOVEREIGN and his trusted Minister. Is that conceivable? Is it conceivable that a traitorous Dragoon could have had it in his power to bring lasting disgrace on his country by selling such documents to her enemies? And even granting the extraordinary

recklessness of management which this idea involves, is it conceivable that such despatches could ever have been written? Here is the point that above all others outrages reason. Men engaged in nefarious conspiracies like that of which a Russian Representative and a Russian Minister are accused on the venal testimony of a dismissed subordinate—men engaged in such plots do not commit their programme to the keeping of formal official despatches. The idea is ludicrous. The more audacious the villainy of which the two high officers of the Russian Crown are supposed to have been capable, the wilder does the hypothesis become that they would have embodied in official despatches—despatches to be perused and copied by a common clerk and preserved in the archives of a Department of State—the most damning details of their abandoned designs. Over and above these considerations, in themselves more than sufficient to reduce the whole tale to the level of a comical canard, we have the eloquent fact that, after the publication of the alleged despatches in the columns of the Bulgarian newspaper, and after the outburst of excitement fanned by credulous or unscrupulous agitators, the central figure in the whole plot, M. HITROVO himself, is publicly received in audience by the EMPEROR and EMPRESS of Russia. It is scarcely necessary to describe what that means. The CZAR knows exactly what M. HITROVO did and what he did not do in Roumania; the CZAR knows every word written by the Asiatic Department to his Minister at Bucharest. Yet the CZAR, and not only the CZAR but also the CZARINA, a lady whose noble qualities all Europe applauds, receive in audience with every mark of favour this Minister who is supposed to have been the deviser and director of a murderous plot against the life of a European Prince; who is supposed to have employed dynamite for the purpose—dynamite used by a Representative of the Russian EMPEROR to destroy a brother SOVEREIGN!—who is supposed to have conducted his nefarious schemes with such clumsy recklessness as to entrust them all to the keeping of despatches; who is supposed to have committed the unpardonable error of reposing vital confidence in untrustworthy agents; who is supposed to have mismanaged affairs so grossly that a great national scandal resulted; who is supposed, in short, to have done everything which the Representative of a civilized SOVEREIGN ought not to have done, and to have left undone everything that could avert the scandal of his villainous intrigues. Assuredly this review of the situation places the EMPEROR and EMPRESS of Russia in a very remarkable light. If the CZAR and CZARINA are to figure before the world as openly sanctioning the use of dynamite to destroy obnoxious sovereigns, Russian Nihilists may go about

their murderous business with uplifted heads. By and by this mad tale will be covered with the ridicule it deserves. To us it would not have seemed worthy of any analysis did we not observe a disposition to circulate it on the part of certain Japanese journals.

THE PORTUGUESE CASE IN KOBE.

IT is thoroughly characteristic of the criticism to which the foreign communities in Japan have unfortunately grown accustomed, that the appearance of a Portuguese suitor in a Japanese Court seeking redress against one of his own nationals should be ascribed, almost in so many words, to underhand contrivance on the part of the Japanese Government. The reflected image of their own principles and motives which these critics present to public view by persistently placing on the meanest and most despicable basis every action and incident distasteful to themselves, is more than sufficient to discredit their arguments. However, they must be left to the enjoyment of their own standard. The smallest injury it inflicts on them is to make them ridiculous. For what could be more comical than to suppose that an international problem like the surrender or continuance of Portugal's extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan, could be affected, in the slightest degree, by the voluntary action of a solitary and insignificant Portuguese subject in having recourse to a Japanese tribunal instead of instituting a suit before his own Consul? We have very little doubt that where there is question of a claim preferred by one Portuguese subject against another, the suitor will always prefer a properly constituted, well equipped and impartial Court of Law to the amateur magistracy of a gentleman who possesses no legal knowledge and whose private sympathies have generally been enlisted on one side or the other before he sits in his public capacity. Mr. DA SILVA, in making his appeal to the Japanese District Court, was probably swayed by this consideration, but it is at any rate a little too farcical to imagine that the Japanese Government can have descended to the discreditable and perfectly useless trickery of secretly influencing his choice of tribunal. Dismissing this absurdity, a word may, perhaps, be added with advantage about the position of Portuguese subjects towards the Japanese Government. It has been rightly stated that when the Imperial Ordinance of July was promulgated, announcing the resumption of complete jurisdiction by Japan over Portuguese subjects, the fact was officially notified to the Portuguese Vice-Consuls in this empire, for the information of themselves and of their nationals. What measures, if any, the Vice-Consuls took to convey this knowledge to their nationals, we are not concerned to inquire. That is their business.

It appears plain that the Japanese Government, at any rate, has complied with all the requisite forms. Publication in the *Official Gazette* and an official intimation to the Portuguese Vice-Consuls comprise the total steps prescribed by the occasion. It is conceivable, of course, that resistance may be offered by individual Portuguese to the practical consequences of the July Ordinance. Such a contingency must be assumed to have received due consideration at the hands of the Japanese authorities. In the case, for example, of a Portuguese Vice-Consul summoned as a witness before a Japanese tribunal, his refusal to recognise the jurisdiction of the Court would naturally be followed by Japan's ceasing to recognise him as Portuguese Consul. But it is to be hoped that unpleasant incidents of this nature will be avoided. Practical protests against the new system cannot be entered by the Portuguese residents with any useful effect. It is for the Governments of the two countries to decide such matters. The present position, so far as concerns Japan, does not admit, and evidently cannot be allowed to admit, of any equivocal interpretation. Japan has assumed jurisdiction by Imperial Ordinance, and she will assuredly permit no resistance to the lawful exercise of her jurisdictional functions within the limits of her own territories. We must credit her with resolution to face the consequences of a course deliberately entered upon.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

IT is impossible for persons interested in the well-being of Japan to view without some misgivings the composition of the Railway Council, as gazetted on the 1st instant. The chairman of the Council is a Lieutenant General, and among the members are four whose names are borne on the active list of the Army, one belonging to the Navy, and one, Viscount TANI, a retired General whose opinions about the empire's needs are known to be largely tinged by martial considerations. Thus, out of twenty-two members, a compact body of six, including the President, may be expected to exercise all their influence in the interests of a strategic system of lines. We confess that nothing surprises us more with regard to the Council than to find that the man who has so successfully directed Japan's railway affairs from their very inception to the present day, and whose thoroughness and soundness have won the respect and confidence of all serving under him, is relegated to a place among the members, side by side with inexperienced officials and members of the Diet, instead of being gazetted at the head as President. It is necessary to assume that some good reason exists for this anomaly. Possibly Viscount INOUE thinks that he can exercise more influence and play a more useful part as an ordinary member than he could

as President. He is not likely to be concerned about the mere question of position as compared with the prospect of rendering valuable service. At all events, unless the place assigned to him in the Council is of his own choosing, we must admit our total inability to understand it. That, however, though too conspicuous a feature to be passed without comment, is a question apart from the preponderance of the military element, which we set out to consider. Is it really to be supposed that Japan intends to be guided chiefly by strategic considerations in determining the routes and localities of the important railway extensions which she now projects, or may we assume that the presence of so many Army men in the Council portends nothing more than a reasonable and moderate representation of military views? It is to be sincerely hoped that the latter hypothesis is warranted, but appearances are against it. Japan owes a great deal to Germany and France in military matters, but she would be committing an unfortunate mistake did she model her railway policy on the theories prevailing in either country. She has no frontier upon which the rapid massing of a strong army is a problem of perpetual urgency. Her territory is not contiguous with that of any enemy whose menacing preparations necessitate a correspondingly efficient system of defence. Happily for herself, her immunity in this respect resembles that of England, and like England she is at liberty to be guided almost entirely by economical principles in constructing her railways. We can conceive no chain of circumstances likely to subject her to any serious strain in the matter of massing troops. There is not a country in the world that could throw upon her shores a force strong enough to suggest any prospect of a successful engagement. The completion of the trans-Asian railway will certainly increase the potentialities of a land attack, and in view of that undertaking there is cause for paying some attention to the military problem in mapping out the new lines. What we fear, however, looking at the composition of the Council, is that not Commerce but Commisariat is to be principally considered, and such procedure would assuredly be a great mistake. The first thing to think of is the bringing of centres of production within reach of centres of consumption. After that the military problem may be taken into account. Material development is what the country wants above all things. There is something almost ludicrous in the notion of an island empire in the far Pacific spending millions to lay a network of strategical railways, when money cannot be spared to procure a fleet of even medium strength. We may be wrong in anticipating such a disastrous policy, but we cannot be wrong in recording our verdict against it so long as there exists the smallest chance of the country being committed to it.

SUSPENSION OF THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

THE *Choya Shimbun* has been suspended for publishing an article which the Authorities apparently think likely to disturb the friendly relations between Japan and Russia. This is a matter of opinion, and frankly the sympathies of many persons will be with the *Choya Shimbun*. The impression produced upon the mind of most Englishmen by the incident will doubtless be that if the relations between the two countries are so tender as to depend for their preservation on measures of this kind, some healing influence is much to be desired. We ourselves hold very strong opinions about the irresponsible and indiscreet utterances of certain journals under the régime of free speech now so fashionable. International amity is needlessly and perpetually disturbed by the vapourings of editors who substitute extravagance of language and violence of sentiment for sober logic and sound reflection. Constantly in the East the public is insulted by the spectacle of gross intemperance and shameless unfairness coolly exhibited in newspaper columns, the inference inevitably being that the writers believe their readers as incapable as themselves of distinguishing truth from falsehood and justice from injustice. It would certainly be an advantage, in the interests of moral decency and international amity, that some restraints should be imposed on these perpetual mischief-makers. Granting all this, however, we doubt, more than doubt, whether such restraints can be usefully and efficiently devised and applied by officialdom. Japan, in one moiety of her practice, is plainly influenced by the same misgiving. She refrains from official protest of any kind against the persistent attempts made by an English newspaper published and circulated in her territories, to stir up disaffection and sedition. Her Government is pelted with epithets designed to destroy its prestige; her statesmen are ridiculed; her Cabinet is accused of deliberately flouting the people; her Prime Minister is charged with flagrantly violating the Constitution; yet she holds her peace. She has the good sense to appreciate that to recognise in such degraded and dishonest criticism a possible cause of domestic disturbance or international umbrage would be to insult the loyalty of her own people and to underrate the discernment of foreigners. Prudence also teaches her that the most unworthy disputant may acquire vicarious respectability from the nature of the opposition he encounters, and that a newspaper intrinsically beneath contempt would derive some measure of importance from official notice, even in the form of a penalty. But it would seem that Japan does not find herself at liberty to adopt this large-minded and wise procedure in every instance

where other nations are concerned. That is a misfortune the evident consequences of which do not affect herself alone. The case of the *Choya Shimbun* is particularly difficult to view with unmixed approval, for truly the article which has involved it in trouble cannot be considered intemperate, whatever may be thought of the judgment that dictated it. On the whole it is a calm and moderately worded *resumé* of events and proceedings seemingly regarded with dissatisfaction by a section of the Japanese nation. The premises and conclusion may be wrong or right. As to that we say nothing. But no one imagines that by suppressing such utterances the discontent they indicate can ever be removed. We are strongly disposed to think that as a recognized supporter of the Government the *Choya Shimbun* has suffered where other journals might have escaped. The Authorities have probably thought that an inch of indulged freedom in such columns might be held to condone an ell of licence in hostile sheets. It is to be regretted that a robust spirit cannot be suffered to control these matters. The fate of the *Choya Shimbun* can scarcely promote that friendship in the supposed interests of which it was conceived. On the contrary, we shall not be greatly surprised to find this incident ultimately added to the catalogue of causes provoking umbrage in sensitive quarters. Amateur eyes, however, are not always capable of deciphering the sign-posts along diplomatic paths, and it may be that the education or instincts of Englishmen render them over-prone to a *laissez-aller* policy.

THE LONDON "TIMES" AND THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.

WE reproduce elsewhere a letter which appears in the columns of *The Times* from its Tokyo correspondent on the subject of Portugal's forfeiture of jurisdictional privileges in Japan, and a leading article which *The Times* writes by way of comment. It will be observed that the London journal's editorial takes precisely the view which has always been advanced in these columns, namely, that the conventional surrender of jurisdiction by Japan implies a reciprocal obligation on the part of the Powers profiting by that surrender to provide an efficient substitute, and that, whereas England and certain other States have fulfilled this obligation, several of the smaller Powers, "while claiming all the privileges to which they are entitled by treaty, neglect to provide Courts of competent jurisdiction and capacity, and appoint Consuls who are merchants only and entirely without legal education and experience, to exercise the judicial authority involved in the right of extraterritoriality." This general failure of duty

having been stated briefly, but in such a manner as to invite the condemnation of all unbiassed persons, *The Times* then proceeds to show in what respect Portugal has been exceptionally blame-worthy, and to detail the course of events that compelled the Japanese Government, last July, to exclude her from the toleration extended to some other States, which, while sinning equally with her as to the qualifications of their Consuls, were distinctly less open to censure in respect of the competence of their extraterritorial tribunals. The view taken by *The Times* is precisely what might have been expected from the leading English journal, a newspaper commanding the best sources of information and reflecting the just and liberal sentiment that generally sways British public opinion. We observe one inaccuracy in the London journal's article. Misled, probably, by a decidedly misleading sentence in its correspondent's letter—"The Portuguese residents are, in fact, in the position of subjects of a non-treaty Power"—*The Times* writes:—"Portugal has lost the right of extraterritorial jurisdiction in Japan, and with it all the advantages enjoyed by a Treaty Power." It is, of course, incorrect to say that Portugal has lost "all the advantages enjoyed by a Treaty Power." She has lost nothing but her jurisdictional privileges. As to other things, she remains on precisely the same footing as the subjects or citizens of all the Treaty States. There appears to have been some misunderstanding with regard to this point, even among persons who had not the same excuse as *The Times* to err. It was stated in the local press of Yokohama, shortly after the promulgation of the Imperial Ordinance of July 4th, that because of Japanese action, no Portuguese national could obtain a passport to travel outside Treaty limits, and that all His Most Faithful MAJESTY'S subjects were immured in Yokohama during the heat of summer. Such was not the case. Pending the Lisbon Cabinet's designation of an official to represent Portugal at the Japanese Court, Portuguese subjects were necessarily unable to obtain from the Government in Tokyo passports for general travel in the interior, the machinery for securing such a privilege being deficient. But that was not a consequence of Japan's action in revoking Portugal's jurisdictional commission. It was a consequence solely of Portugal's failure to delegate her diplomatic representation to the Legation of some other State. So soon as she did so, things returned to their former basis, and in the meanwhile no Portuguese subject was necessarily immured in Yokohama, local passports, authorizing travel to Miya-noshita and the Hakone district being always available.

The Times, with its customary insight, puts its finger on the vital point of

this international incident. If Portugal, having forfeited her jurisdictional privileges, should adopt the common-sense course of seeking to obtain the *quid pro quo* which Japan is always willing to give for the surrender of those privileges, and should obtain it, the occurrence would cause no very great concern to the subjects and citizens of other Powers, inasmuch as the possibility of Portuguese competition becoming embarrassing is not seriously regarded under any circumstances. But the contingent danger of such a break-away is disquieting. Should some more important country, prompted by Portugal's example, step out of line with the other Western States, and conclude a separate arrangement with the Japanese Government on her own account, the general situation of extraterritorial jurisdiction would become exceedingly unstable. This is the real cause of the uneasiness exhibited by so many local writers in view of the recent event. Their disquiet is perfectly natural. Nothing is less to be desired than that a question demanding careful and deliberate adjustment should be subjected to the feverish influences of international rivalry. But instead of putting the saddle frankly on the right horse, instead of attacking the really untoward potentialities of the affair, these critics have invited ridicule by attempting to defend on its own merits a case too flagrant to admit of any extenuation or justification. Portugal has been wrong beyond all room for doubt or cavil. It was always on the cards that Powers taking such a trivial view of their responsibilities might seriously complicate a system which, as *The Times* truly says, is at best a makeshift, and tends constantly to become an anachronism. What we have to do is not to render absurdly contradictory our own exacting attitude towards Japan by upholding the jurisdictional laches of notoriously defaulting States, but to insist that all shall practically satisfy the conditions upon which they lay such imperative stress in her case.

ELECTION TROUBLES IN KUMAMOTO.

KUMAMOTO PREFECTURE is a veritable hot-bed of political bigotry. Conservatism flourishes there to a degree not often to be met with in other parts of Japan. It is suspected in some quarters that if the Governor, Mr. MATSUDAIRA, really allowed himself or the school-masters under his control to adopt the anti-Christian course recently attributed to him, an explanation will probably be found in the character of his surroundings, for unless a Governor's creed be exceptionally liberal, he can scarcely bear up against the constant pressure of conservative influences. Be that as it may, the conservatives are not less resolute than

sequence is that the so-called "People's Party" fares ill on occasions of political contest. In Kumamoto, as our readers doubtless remember, much excitement and disturbance occurred during the general elections, and Governor MATSUDAIRA was freely charged with exercising undue influence to secure the return of pro-official candidates. What particular action of his provoked this accusation we do not know, but since the present Cabinet has shown no mercy towards local officials who suffered zeal to outrun propriety at the time of the elections, and since Governor MATSUDAIRA remains undisturbed in his position, we may fairly infer that no proof of indiscretion could be established against him. The fact seems to be that the Radicals are resolved to associate every act of the Conservatives, directly or indirectly, with the Government, and that out of this determination accusations have grown up which have no basis in fact. At present the state of affairs in the Prefecture lends colour to the latter view, for in connection with the election of a member of a Divisional Assembly—the smallest representative body in the empire, presided over by an elected Headman, and entirely beyond the pale of Government interests—disturbances are taking place which almost overshadow the commotion of last spring. The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a telegram, dated at Kumamoto, the 3rd instant, 7 p.m., which says that on the occasion of re-ballot for a Divisional Assembly representative for Dakema in the Yamaga District, one *Min-to* (Popular Party) partisan was killed, and several received more or less severe wounds. The *Kaishin-to* organ adds that during the day (4th instant) following the receipt of this telegram, it despatched two inquiries by wire to Kumamoto, but failed to obtain any reply, from which it infers that the disturbance had become so bad as to make telegraphic communication impossible. Naturally, the Radical journals throw all the blame on their political opponents. They allege, among other things, that the day of election was to have been kept secret so as to avert disturbance, but that intelligence of the date fixed was privately conveyed by one of the Prefectural officials to the Conservative Party, who were thus enabled to master the situation. Whether this be true or false, it is plain that great excitement prevails in the Prefecture, for we read that even the conduct of ordinary agricultural pursuits has been interrupted for some time, the farmers finding it unsafe to work in the fields unless they have help within easy reach. The *Fiji Shimpō* publishes a telegram sent from Kumamoto on the afternoon of the 4th, which says that the police found it necessary to arrest two hundred and fifty of the Popular Party, and that a raid was made on the police station by the friends of the impounded politicians for the purpose of rescuing the prisoners. From

this it would seem that, whatever may have been the case during the early stages of the disturbance, the chief offenders against law and order at the close were the Radicals. Governor MATSUDAIRA'S position is doubtless difficult, and every impartial person must be unwilling to take a harsh view of his conduct; but he certainly has not achieved the ends of good administration, for both discontent and disorder are rife in the districts under his control. He nevertheless enjoys the reputation of being a very able official, and the Home Office, under its present chief, is not likely to condone any shortcomings. But what hot politicians the Japanese are, to be sure! A Divisional Assembly (*son-kai*) is a body with comparatively insignificant functions. Its members cannot be said to enjoy any special consideration or to exercise any considerable influence. Yet farms are left lying fallow, heads are broken, multitudes do battle, arrests have to be made by hundreds, and police stations are raided, all in the interests of two or three candidates for such an assembly! Truly Kämpfer's insight, so conspicuously displayed in many directions, did not err when he said that the Japanese would fight to the death for a principle. That, at any rate, is a trait of the national disposition which must now be fully recognised and reckoned with.

TAXATION IN JAPAN.

PROFESSOR DROPPERS has addressed to our columns an interesting letter on the subject of the land tax. We have to thank him for the full and explicit information he affords as to the sources of information relied on by him in forming his estimate that the tax amounts to twenty-five per cent. of the net produce of the land. The subject has been much talked of, and the fact that a thoroughly convincing figure has not yet been arrived at, indicates the difficulty of the task. Japanese fiscal administration has had much light thrown on it by the recent researches of Professor DROPPERS, but, while according a just measure of praise to the industry of this gentleman in collecting statistics and to his insight in employing them, we must confess that we are not yet convinced of the correctness of his conclusion as to the ratio between the land tax and the produce of the land. A simple explanation will suffice to indicate our reason for disagreeing with him. Let us take his very clear statement, namely, that the land tax amounts to twenty-five per cent. of the net produce of the land. We are not quite certain whether he intends to limit this estimate to the rice crop only, but we reject such an interpretation since it would deprive his statement of all significance as an *exposé* of the burden of taxation. The annual rice crop of the empire is thirty-eight million *koku* in round numbers. Professor DROPPERS seems disposed to

take a larger figure, but it is well to assume moderate bases of calculation. The net crop, we are told, is 15 per cent. less than the gross yield. Hence, 25 per cent. of the net crop of rice is a little over eight million *koku*. During the present year the price of rice has averaged about 7 *yen* per *koku*, but if we put it at the low figure of 6 *yen*, the value of eight million *koku* is forty-eight million *yen*, an amount which exceeds by about six million *yen* the total land tax collected by the Government. In other words, by applying Professor DROPPERS' ratio of 25 per cent. to the rice crop alone, we obtain a figure considerably greater than the total amount actually levied by the Government as land tax. Even if the price of rice be assessed, for the purposes of this calculation, at only 5 *yen* per *koku*, 25 per cent. of the net crop would represent the whole land tax. But what then becomes of the other produce of the land: tea, silk, tobacco, millet, barley, buckwheat and other cereals, beans, root crops, vegetables, drugs, cotton, hemp, dye plants, timber and so forth? It will certainly not be an excessive estimate to put the total annual value of all this produce at 150 million *yen*, and if here also we apply Professor DROPPERS' estimate of 25 per cent. of the net crop, we obtain an additional amount of nearly 32 million *yen*. Hence, finally, 25 per cent. of the total net produce of the land represents 80 million *yen*, or nearly double of the tax actually levied.

Let us look at the matter from another point of view. The value of the rice crop—supposing the yield to be 38 million *koku* and the price 6 *yen* per *koku*—is 228 million *yen*. Assessing all the remaining produce—tea, silk, cereals, root crops, &c.—at 150 million *yen*, we have the total produce represented by 378 million *yen*. Now the land tax is 42 million *yen* in round numbers. Hence it appears that the land tax is 11 per cent. of the gross produce, which is about one half of Professor DROPPERS' estimate.

The above estimate is sufficiently striking. But there is still another item to be included, namely, the tax on urban lands. Professor DROPPERS and the authorities he quotes speak as though the rice crop alone was to be considered in comparing the amount of the land tax with the produce of the land. Not only must all the other crops be considered, however, but also we have to remember that the tax is levied upon building lands as well as upon agricultural lands. The tax paid by the lands upon which all the cities and towns of the empire stand has to be deducted from the total impost before we begin to compute what fraction the latter represents of the agricultural produce.

These considerations induce us to hesitate before accepting the Professor's conclusion. His investigations *in loco* may have led him to fix the burden of the rice crop at the very high figure of 25

per cent. of the net harvest; but if that be the case, then it follows, as we have shown, that all the remaining varied and valuable produce of the land is not taxed at all, and that the urban lands escape altogether. We find it impossible to credit anything of the kind.

A word as to the nature of the impost levied on the land. We have more than once spoken of the impost as "rent," not "tax," and Professor DROPPERS now denounces this as "loose writing." It involves the theory, he says, that the State is landlord and that the farmers are tenants, whereas "no one pretends that this is the case." But that is precisely what we do "pretend," and for a very cogent reason. No land-holder in Japan ever possessed a title-deed until such documents were granted by the Meiji Government. Under the feudal system no land-occupier was empowered to sell his holding. He might sell the good-will of it with the consent of his chief, but with the fee simple of the land he had no competence to deal. In 1871, when the fiefs were restored to the Central Government, the latter became not merely theoretical but also practically owner of all the land in the empire. A re-assessment was then made, and the holders were granted title deeds assuring to them the right of perpetual occupation, on condition that they paid to the original owner—the Government—a perpetual rent representing a certain fraction of the assessed value of the land. Professor DROPPERS appears to think that because much of the land thus acquired is now sub-let, the annual sum paid to the Government by the registered holder cannot be regarded as rent. He also lays stress upon the fact that the registered holder is "as much an independent proprietor as any peasant in Europe or farmer in America." But sub-letting does not at all effect the nature of the original arrangement, and the so-called proprietorship is nothing more than the right of perpetual occupation. It is not, of course, pretended that the State is landlord and the occupier tenant, in the ordinary acceptance of the terms. Our position is that, inasmuch as the occupier disbursed nothing originally for his title, but came into occupation simply on condition of paying a certain annual sum in perpetuity, that sum must be regarded as rent rather than as tax. We are disposed to infer from one remark made by our correspondent that he has not considered this part of his subject with the care usually distinguishing his work. He writes:—"The share that goes as rent to the landlord always increases with the advance of prices of agricultural products, but the Japanese land tax remains essentially the same from year to year, and has actually decreased in the last fifteen years." Now, without pausing to dispute the general theory here advanced, we may observe that if Professor DROPPERS' argument has any force, it tells against his own position.

For the condition under which the land came into the possession of its occupiers was that the annual sum payable by them should be subject to re-assessment every five years. The Government has never enforced that condition, but if one evidence of the relation of tenant and landlord be that the former's yearly payment is liable to vary according to the market price of agricultural products, then that evidence undoubtedly exists in the case of Japanese land.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held in the Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. There were present, Messrs. J. T. Griffin, A. Wilkin, Rev. G. Meacham, Rev. E. S. Booth, Rev. J. C. Ballagh, G. Sale, O. Balk, J. B. Hartley, L. Pollard, and many ladies. Mr. Griffin, the president presided.

The report and accounts, together with statistical table of attendances—given below—were taken as read, and adopted. The officers for the ensuing session were elected as follows:—President, Mr. Griffin; Vice-president Mrs. Van Petten; Committee, reading and musical, Mrs. Loomis, Miss Efford, Miss Griffin, and Mr. Fenton; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. Sale. Refreshment Committee; Mrs. Efford, Miss Deyo, Mr. Adams, Mr. Gibbs. A vote of thanks was accorded to the outgoing committees and officers, the late secretary Mr. H. W. Sale, now in Kobe, receiving special mention.

A short but most enjoyable programme of music was given during the course of the evening. Miss Moulson and Mr. Griffin opened with a pianoforte duet; Dr. Russell contributed "Awake, Awake," with violin obligato by Mr. Ramseger; Miss C. Rice, "Sunshine and Rain"; Miss Griffin and Mr. Griffin closing with a Sonata, arranged as a duet, from Mozart.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Committee has again to report a very successful season, the Society continuing to flourish in every direction. The members on the roll have increased to 131 and during the past session more true literary work has been done than ever before: the members, friends and distinguished visitors have contributed no less than thirteen lectures, essays, or original papers. The Cash Account shows a balance in hand of \$109.66 while, in addition, the Society possesses considerable furniture, books, and other property quite sufficient for its needs for some time to come.

The Society passed the milestone of its 100th meeting on Friday, 11th December, 1891, when a special "Centennial" programme was arranged, including a history of the birth and growth of the present institution, which began its career as the Yokohama Reading Circle in the autumn of 1855.

Appended hereto for the perusal of Members is the Secretary's "List of Meetings," with attendance table and comparative figures for the last three seasons. The Treasurer's account is also attached, including his explanations, analysis and comparison with the accounts of recent years.

With the presentation of this report the officers and members of the various Committees hand in their resignations accompanied by their best wishes for the continued prosperity of the Society.

LIST OF MEETINGS—SEASON 1891-1892.

Meeting.	Present.	
No.	No.	
95	37	Annual Meeting. General.
96	80	Adoption of Rules. General.
97	130	Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" (Magic Lantern illustrations.) Lecture by Prof. Dixon.
98	48	A Paper on the Origin of Coat (Substance from a lecture by Prof. Huxley.) Geo. Sale.
99	300	Musical Songs. J. T. Griffin.
100	91	Centennial Meeting. History of the Society, by Mrs. H. Loomis.
101	65	The Dangers of Washing (Original). Mrs. W. H. Smith.
102	93	A Paper on the Customs of Japan (Original). Mrs. D. C. Greene.
103	97	Lecture: "Burns and his Age." Prof. Dixon.
104	85	Evening with Lowell.
105	99	A Paper "Frontier Life on the Prairie" (Original). A. J. Wilkin.
106	120	Evening with Tennyson.
107	86	A Paper "Maxims of Maimonides." Dr. Stephenson.
108	731	"Some Phases of the Moon;" Lecture, by Rev. E. S. Booth.
109	68	A Paper on Carrier Pigeons. W. Barrett, R.N.
110	701	A Paper on The Red Cross Society. Dr. Whitney.
111	125	"Certain lines of research and discovery in modern Psychology." Lecture by Prof. Ladd.

Average=97

Largest number present at any one meeting 1890/91 1891/92 1892/93
365 247 300

Smallest number present at any one meeting	45	41	37
Average Attendance at any one meeting	68	97	97
Total Membership	83	108	131

TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS—SEASON 1891-1892.

1891.		
Oct. 1 To Balance Forward from season 1890/1891		\$115.75
Sept. 30 To Members' Subscriptions, 131 @ \$1.00		303.00
Sept. 30 To Sale of copies "Mo Hitozo"		00.50
		\$519.25
1892.		
Oct. 1 To Balance brought down		\$109.66

1892.		
Sept. 30 By Rent Van Schaick Hall, 17 meetings @ \$7.50.		\$127.50
Sept. 30 By Stationery		43.86
Sept. 30 Postages and Coolie hire		9.07
Sept. 30 Refreshments		24.43
Sept. 30 Sundries		7.10
Sept. 30 Magic Lantern hire		7.15
Sept. 30 Piano Transport		7.15
Sept. 30 Printing New Rules		20.45
Sept. 30 Furniture account		

1 Table and Box		\$ 3.55
5 doz. Cups and Saucers		3.75
3 Trays		3.00
1 Coffee Urn		5.75
1 Cost 1 pr. Curtains		12.44
2 Rugs		13.00
1 Mirror, Hangings & brush		3.75
1892.		
Sept. 30 By Cash in hand		109.66
		\$497.25

E. & O. E.

H. W. SALE.

Hon. Sec. Treasurer.

CASH ACCOUNT.—The Extras for season 1891 and 1892 are heavy.	
Furniture taken	\$43.86
Rent 50% more	40.00
Printing New Rules	10.45
Piano transport	7.15
July Meeting, Aerated waters	5.10
Extra Meeting over season	7.30
	\$133.91

1890/91.	1891/92.	1892/93.
Receipts	\$274.37	\$399.50
Expenses	274.37	275.75
Cash in hand	\$11.	\$123.74
		109.66

Refreshments have cost more than last season. But the variety and the quality has been better than ever, last season \$86.88, this season \$143.48.

Stationery. A slight increase over last season, \$45.66 against \$30.20 for 1890/91. This is accounted for partly by the fact that all the members' invitations are printed specially for each meeting as it was found to take too much of the Secretary's time to write in the dates and titles of the Meetings on the cards as in previous seasons. A growing society requires new methods from time to time.

H. W. S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SHUSHI AND HIS INTERPRETERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Through the kindness of a friend I have lately had an opportunity of reading the very interesting and suggestive papers of Dr. Knox and Mr. Haga upon the philosophy of Chu Hsi, or, as you call him here, Shushi, in the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan. Allow me to remark, parenthetically, that it is surely a mistake to pronounce the names of Chinese philosophers otherwise than as they are pronounced in Chinese. Certainly the converse is never done when treating of Japanese philosophers in China. My own appreciation of the papers in question has been considerably interfered with by the difficulty I have experienced in recognizing familiar designations under so strange a form. This, however, by the way. My present object is to offer a few observations upon the subject so ably treated by the two scholars above mentioned.

It must be clear to all that the only key to the cosmogonical philosophy of Chu Hsi is to be found in a correct terminology. Once discover the true translation for *ri* (理) and *ki* (氣) and the theory becomes plain enough. Now there are two methods by which the systems of Chinese thinkers may permissibly be examined. The first is by interpreting them by other systems—working, that is, upon the lines laid down in Comparative Mythology. The other is by dealing with them upon their own merits, isolating them from all other speculations by whomsoever indulged in, and approaching them with a perfectly open mind. The second of these methods is surely the fairer of the two; it is also the likelier to be really fruitful, for the reason that if, upon examination, the system we are studying is found to present features similar to those of other systems, the discovery will have been arrived at by a process free from bias and predilection, and must, therefore, be all the more significant. Now the late Canon McClatchie, a Chinese scholar to whom the utmost respect is due, unfortunately chose the former. He was a great student of Chu Hsi, but he was not an unbiased student. Paganism, said the Canon, is Paganism all the world over, and therefore Paganism as we find it in China must be

interpreted by Paganism as we find it in Greece. And so this excellent clergyman proceeded forthwith to identify Shang-ti (上帝) with Jupiter; and, as Jupiter was a person of exceedingly immoral habits in his domestic life, every possible passage relating to Shang-ti had to be, and was, interpreted in a correspondingly unfavourable sense. However, as on another page he identifies Jupiter with Pan Ku (盤古) and Shang-ti with Chronos, Baal, and Buddha (佛), this is not worth going into. Suffice it to say that, in order to understand Chu Hsi, Canon McClatchie turned up his Anaximenes and one or two more authorities upon creation, and in consequence of what he found there immediately translated *li* by Fate (ἀνάγκη) and *ch'i* by Air. These renderings are surely most unfortunate, and would never have been adopted but for the Canon's irresistible predisposition in favour of what I may call the homogeneity of Paganism. Of course *ch'i* means air, just as it means vapour, courage, temper, feeling, influence, aspect, and a variety of other things. But in cosmogony it means simply nebula; the primordial cloud, which, formed by the accumulation of discrete molecules, was the immediate germ whence proceeded the universe as it exists to-day; and as those constituent molecules were essentially material, the true sense of *ch'i* is to be found nowhere but in the word Matter. *Li*, on the other hand, is that which acts upon it and directs its movements—immaterial, self-existing, and intelligent; and this is nothing else than mind.

Nothing, I think, can be clearer than the truth of my contention when we come to compare the theories of Chu Hsi with those of our modern thinkers. The first sentence of his forty-ninth chapter runs as follows: "In the entire Universe, where there is no Mind (*li*) there is no Matter (*ch'i*) and where there is no Matter there is no Mind." Immediately we are reminded of an almost identical saying of Rothe's: "Es gibt ohne Welt keinen Gott." The idea in both cases is that the Universe, whether differentiated or undifferentiated, is the eternal manifestation of the Eternal Reality; that manifestation is as necessary a property of that Reality as the existence of the Reality itself; that the Eternal Reality is never *only* Reality, but always being manifested in Matter and its transformations. We then come upon another utterance of considerable interest, to the effect that "Mind first existing, then certainly Matter exists; and Matter, when accumulated, forms Mass"—that is, the diffused elementary particles come together and solid shapes are the result. Nothing could be more in harmony with the latest scientific hypotheses than the latter part of this sentence. The former part, which implies, or at least suggests, a time before the manifestations of Mind had taken place, and thus appears at variance with the first sentence of the chapter, may, I think, be easily explained. "It is quite true," says Dr. Chapman, in his work on 'Pre-Organic Evolution,' "that the Reality referred to is termed 'Cause' in the proper philosophical sense of that word, and consequently the Manifestation is 'effect'; but the point to be carefully noted is that the causal connection thus noted is logical, not chronological. . . . The phenomena which we, from our point of view, arrange as before and after one another, are only, according to the Spencerian conception, the continuation of one great act, as it were, of the Eternal Reality, which has been going on ever since, if one may use such an expression, the Reality has been in existence—that is, from eternity." Here, again, we find a curious and striking similarity with the theories of Chu Hsi. "Abstractly," says Dr. Knox, "*ri* precedes *ki*; but really there is no *ri* apart from *ki*, nor any *ki* apart from *ri*. Nothing is prior, for both are eternal. . . . Wherever there is *ri* there is also *ki*." "The universe is not created, but is an unending process."

I therefore fully agree with Dr. Knox that the philosophy of Chu Hsi was pantheistic. Mr. Spencer certainly does not call himself a pantheist; but it is difficult to resist the conclusion that had Chu Hsi known as much physical science as exists to-day he would have formulated a philosophy differing in no marked degree from Spencerianism. Even as it is, both systems deal with the intensely interesting subject of pre-Organic Evolution, and lead to very much the same conclusion. We are even reminded, by Chu Hsi's theory of the inseparable companionship of Mind and Matter, of Professor Clifford's theory that each particle of Matter is accompanied by a corresponding particle of Mind stuff. The same doctrine is reached by different methods and different trains of thought.

Much more evidence might be adduced, but I think I have said enough to establish the opinion I have expressed above. Surely it is a more satisfactory conclusion to find that the philosophy of Chu Hsi is virtually at one with the philosophy of the best European thinkers, than that it was a mere

phase of the contradictory and childish mythologies of old. Permit me to ask two questions before concluding. What does Dr. Knox mean by saying that Lieh-tzu (列子) lived in the age preceding Confucius (p. 39)? He was considerably later; probably, indeed, a very little earlier than Mencius. And I should very much like to know whether Korea has produced any writers upon either the Confucian or the Taoist system? This enquiry is prompted by a remark of Dr. Knox on page 3 of the Transactions under notice.

Yours obediently,
October 2nd, 1892.

F. H. B.

WHAT IS THE MATTER NOW?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—That the shares of the Bank of China, Japan, and Straits, Limited, are very much depressed at the present moment every one knows; that they have been and are unduly depressed most people believe; most people also believe the management when they say it will not be necessary to make a call, and "Sufferer" must have heard this in common with all shareholders; but if he still doubts, would another denial from the management satisfy him? I fear not.

"Sufferer" is just a little out in his figures. I think the shares are £15.50 paid up, but the first issue was allotted at 10/ premium=£1.15.0 and the second issue at 100 per cent. premium £2.10.0. The first year the Bank paid 16 per cent. on 25/ and not 18 per cent. on 30/ as "Sufferer" says. Whilst sympathizing with "Sufferer" on the present depression, I think a little sympathy might also be extended to the management who have so skilfully piloted the Bank through the unprecedented hard times, without having had to make a call; and now that better times are undoubtedly dawning, let us hope the call will not be necessary, and the shares will soon rise to their proper value.

Yours truly,

BETTER TIMES IN STORE.

Yokohama, October 1st, 1892.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

"Better times in store" has given one more good reason for making the enquiry: "What is the matter now?" According to his figures the average paid up cost of the shares of the Bank of China, Japan, and Straits, Limited, is £22.6. The current quotations are Tls. 2.50 in Shanghai, market nominal, \$3.50 in Hongkong, vide Bisset & Co.'s report. I will ask "Better times in store" to mention, if he can, any solvent monied institution that has suffered such a heavy depreciation in its stock value as is here shown. If there is no need for a repletion of the capital paid in, it is passing strange that matters should be as they are. It is incomprehensible, away beyond the conjecture of a puzzled community, why, if serious losses have not been experienced, shares should stand at the figure they do. To say that the management should have sympathetically extended to them for their skilful pilotage of the bank through the unprecedented hard times without having to make a call, is kind indeed. It might be eminently proper for the shareholders to present the management with a substantial testimonial at Christmas time, if they shall have enough of their investment left wherewith to purchase the thing. It may be the proper thing to thank a set of men to whom you confide the trust and management of nearly three million dollars of your money if at the end of two years and a half you are able to realize in the open market \$700,000 for your millions. Where the trouble lies no fellow can find out. Yokohama is said to have done well, Hongkong reports no heavy losses, Shanghai went into the Exchange business, and the Courts said pay the penalty. "Better times in store" does not seem secure in his idea that a further call will not be made. I with him say, "Let us hope the call will not be necessary."

Yours &c.,

A SUFFERER.

THE TYPE-WRITER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Type-writer has come to stay. Just as the fountain pen seemed to be approaching perfection, the Type-writer comes in, and goes as far ahead as that was ahead of the gray goose quill.

Merchants now dictate their letters to a clerk who takes them in shorthand, and then writes on the Type-writer. With the pen a person can write from twelve to twenty-six words a minute; with the Type-writer an amateur ought to write forty; an expert can more than double that speed.

It is according to reason that the Type-writer should be the swiftest; only one stroke makes a letter. When a Japanese writes the ideograph for "salt" he makes about twenty strokes; when we write it

we make about ten; the Type-writer is satisfied with four. It is said that fifteen characters a second have often been made by experts. That is equal to one hundred and sixty words a minute. That is a spurt, and is done with words which have been repeatedly practised upon by the operator. To maintain a speed of eighty or one hundred words a minute on ordinary matter for a long time, puts one into the list of experts.

It is said that only one person in five hundred who studies shorthand succeeds in learning it. I am disposed to accept the statement, for I belong to the four hundred and ninety-nine. Type-writer exchanges are numerous in the United States, and they will sell any make, they say, at a reduction. This means, that a great many persons who buy, fail to make a success of it, and sell to the second-hand men.

What are the difficulties? It takes time to get ready to write. Where one can pick up a sheet of paper and begin to write, it is much easier than to arrange the Type-writer. It requires constant practice to acquire speed on the Type-writer, and at first it is slower than the pen. Impatience to write fast leads a man to override himself, so that he does not succeed as well as he would if he were more prudent. A fine little book, "Type-writer Speed" says: "The way to learn to write fast is to write slow. Speed is of slow growth, and comes imperceptibly."

The difficulty of composing while writing is another reason, probably, which has led some to sell out, and to go back to the pen. With the pen one does not have to stop and think how to form the letters, such familiarity with the Type-writer will not come to the ordinary man. Some operators can write blindfold, or with the eye constantly on the copy.

Another objection may not occur to many. When I wrote a letter, especially if I was in a hurry, the receiver did not read it in a minute; he had to work his passage. Then he could come back the next day and see whether he had worked out the wrong interpretation. Thus the letter lasted a while.

On the Type-writer a letter does not admit of so many permutations as it was customary to give to one of Horace Greely's epistles.

There is probably a physical reason which has caused some to give up. The Type-writer placed on a table of the ordinary height is very fatiguing. It should be much lower. After all, it is likely that some are adapted to it and others are not, so before you buy a Type-writer you would do well to consider whether you will be supple and patient enough to succeed.

For manifolding the Type-writer is excellent. A stencil paper can be placed in the machine, the ribbon removed, the writing done, then the stencil paper placed in a frame aid with a printing roller a large number of perfect copies taken.

Does the reader know any way to ink the ribbons? If so please let the fraternity know.

G. T. S.

October 1st, 1892.

TAXATION IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a short criticism in the *Japan Mail* of September 6th on my article on Taxation in Japan you take exception to my statement that the national land tax requires at least 25 per cent. of the net rice crop of the farmer, and you say:—"But if we understand what Mr. Droppers has advanced on this subject, he relies chiefly on information furnished by farmers in certain districts of the country, and it is impossible to feel that isolated assertions coming from such an obviously biased source and unchecked by independent research can be accepted as conclusive." Perhaps the best answer I can give to your doubt as to whether I am right, will be to mention the various sources of my information.

My first knowledge of the subject was derived from various works, written some years ago, on the economic conditions of Japan, such as Rein, Fesca, and more lately Rathgen. In the two former works are estimates of the burden of the Japanese land tax that are even higher than mine, and Rathgen's (whose account of the taxes is most admirable) is certainly not lower. These are important authorities, two of whom have made careful and detailed studies of the agriculture of Japan. Moreover, in a pamphlet entitled "Land Reform in Japan," Professor Eggert of the Imperial University says:—"These 2½ per cent. of the taxable value of the land are equal to about 30 per cent. or even 40 per cent. of the annual harvest, besides which additional local taxes, e.g. the so-called land rate, increase the heavy burden of the Japanese farmer." My statement of the matter was that the national land tax required on an average at least 25 per cent. of the net crop of rice, an estimate which is far more moderate than the previous

one, and when we take into consideration the meaning of the word *net*, moderate from every point of view.

My second source of information is the Land Tax Reform Bureau. This Bureau, you will remember, began its work in 1873, and finished it, I believe in 1882 (of this last date I am uncertain), and based the value of the land on the amount of the average net product, which was estimated to be 85 per cent. of the gross product, the remaining 15 per cent. being allowed for the so-called expenses of production, namely, seed, manure and other small outlay of capital, but, curiously enough, not including the wages of farm labour. It was from this net product that the tax, amounting to 3 per cent. of the value of the land, was to be subtracted; the remainder was net profit to the owner or cultivator and was calculated to be not more than a return of 6 per cent. of the value of the land, or, in other words, twice as much as the land tax. According to these experts, six-tenths of the crop went to the land owner, three tenths to the State in the shape of land tax, and one tenth to the local governments. The State tax was therefore 33 1/3 per cent. of the net crop. It was found, however, that in many cases the farmer did not receive six-tenths of his crop, and thus in 1877 the land tax was reduced 1/3, from 3 per cent. to 2 1/3 per cent. of the value of the land. Even according to this estimate, however, a reduction of 1/3 would leave the general average of the tax more than 25 per cent. of the net crop.

The farmer received 2/3 of the net crop—the national land tax was 1/3 of the net crop—or the tax was 33 1/3 per cent. of the net crop at the rate of 3 per cent. But as the rate was reduced to 2 1/3 per cent. the amount was reduced 1/3, or 33 1/3 per cent. minus 5 1/3 per cent., equal to 27 2/3 per cent. Thus after the year 1877, according to the reckoning of the presumably best informed Japanese, the national land tax absorbed 27 2/3 per cent. of the *net* crop of the farmer. My figure, however, was put at 25 per cent., a proportion which, I am sure, is regarded as extremely moderate by every well informed Japanese.

My third source of information is derived from my own observation of farming conditions in the central part of Japan, and also from the observation and investigation of Japanese students who are interested in the same subject. The latter are not likely to be biased, since in the great majority of cases they own no land and are simply students of political economy. My own study is possibly, as you suggest, biased, because farmers are apt, like other classes, to exaggerate their own burdens. I have, however, always tried to get, not the opinion of farmers but the facts of their farming operations, the exact amount of rice each piece of land yields per *tan*, and how much tax is collected. As the tax is a fixed amount annually, it is not easy to be deceived on these points. I am quite ready to acknowledge that in Gumma-ken, Nagano-ken, and Tokyo-fu where I have particularly studied farming conditions, the tax is, as a rule, higher than in the southern part of Japan. But these discrepancies are easily taken into account, and my modest figure of 25 per cent. of the net crop of rice is altogether too low for some of the central provinces of Japan.

I have still another piece of evidence to offer to prove the truth of my statement. According to Government statistics, the rice crop of 1887 was 39,999,000 *koku*, the largest crop of rice obtained in Japan up to that time. As the previous year's crop was over 37,000,000 *koku*, we are justified in supposing that there was nothing abnormal in the year 1887. Dr. Rathgen, in his *Japan Volkswirtschaft* (page 539), calculates (by dividing the amount of taxes received from rice land by the average price) the amount of rice paid to the Government on this crop as 8,751,400 *koku*, or about 24 1/3 per cent. of the gross crop and 25 1/3 per cent. of the net crop. For the two preceding years, 1886 and 1885, the tax would likewise be about 24 1/3 per cent. of the net crop, while for the year 1884 it was more than 39 per cent., or nearly 40 per cent. of the net crop for the whole of Japan (the total crop of rice being 26,349,883 *koku* and the amount paid as taxes being 8,721,700 *koku*). Dr. Rathgen does not give figures for years later than 1887, but as the three last years I have mentioned are free from any peculiar disturbances, they may be considered as fairly proving the rule that the national land tax absorbs on the average at least 25 per cent. of the net crop.

I am perfectly aware that it is hazardous to generalize off-hand from a few figures on so complex a matter as a national land tax, especially in Japan. In the first place the tax does not vary with the amount of the crop or with the price of rice, but is generally a fixed sum independent of price. Thus, when the price of rice and other agricultural commodities is high and the crops relatively good, the tax is comparatively low and easily paid. In the years of depreciated paper

(1880 and 1881) the farmer was in clover, as his tax was but a small matter. Dr. Rathgen reckons that out of a total crop of 31,360,000 *koku* of rice in 1880, the farmer paid only 4,441,700 *koku* to the Government, or about 14 per cent. of his net crop, and as he also got much higher prices for the remainder of his crop he was in very easy circumstances. But such a period of depreciated paper is wholly abnormal, and does not give any clue to the average burden of taxation. It would be quite as fair to estimate a man's ordinary strength by what he can lift under the stimulus of a good dose of whiskey.

Another difficulty is the enormously disproportionate character of the tax. The *Fiji Shimpō* (May 3rd, 1892) states: "there are inequalities in the rate of the land tax, not only in different prefectures, but in different *kori* and villages, and, strange to say, even in adjacent lands of the same village." For instance, the rate in Osaka-fu is calculated on the average to be about 2 1/3 times as heavy as in Yamaguchi-ken, and these are by no means the extreme differences if we take smaller areas. The *Fiji Shimpō* acknowledges the difference in the rates between different areas to be at least one to four or five. Where such discrepancies exist it is difficult to strike an average; but I have tried to avoid extremes by selecting prefectures which are acknowledged to be normal.

Still another fact to be taken into consideration is the new land year by year brought under cultivation. The normal rice crop is at present about one-fourth larger than it was fifteen or twenty years ago, and this new land is, as a rule, taxed at a much lower rate than the rest, in spite of the various reforms introduced from time to time. It is more than likely that the share of the crop required to pay taxes is far less than 25 per cent.,—probably not more than 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. on this new land. But these are exceptional cases and do not disturb the average percentages of those lands brought under the appraisal of the Land Reform Bureau of 1873-77. In the latter area, comprising, say, four-fifths of the rice land of Japan, I think that an estimate of 25 1/3 of the net crop necessary to pay the national tax is extremely moderate.

There is a great deal of loose writing on the subject of the Japanese land tax, and one example of this, I believe, is the statement frequently made in the columns of the *Japan Mail* that the land tax is not a tax but a rent. Mr. Taguchi, editor of the *Tokyo Economist*, and Mr. Sakatani in the *Hochi Shimbun* also uphold this view. Yet there is little or nothing in the theory that will hold water. If the land tax were a rent the State would be landlord and the farmers would be tenants, cultivating the soil as property of the State. Yet no one pretends that this is the case. In whole prefectures the landlord and tenant system is established, and the landlord demands his rent from his tenants with unflinching regularity, and he pays his taxes to the Government out of these rents. Where the peasant cultivates his own soil as proprietor, he does not regard the government as landowner, but he is as much an independent proprietor as any peasant in Europe or farmer in America. Moreover, the share that goes as rent to the landlord always increases with the advance of prices of agricultural products, but the Japanese land tax remains essentially the same from year to year, and has actually decreased in the last fifteen years. The old theory of feudal times, that the land belonged to the lord of the province, or to the Emperor, was never definitely formulated, and was never more strictly held in Japan than in the feudal period of Europe. As well claim that the tithes paid in England are not taxes, but a form of rent due to the Government, as that the Japanese land tax is rent. Private property in land was recognized anciently in Japan, but theories had to be constructed to suit feudal conditions. Beyond the demands of feudal relations there is no basis whatever in the whole theory, and it is hard to see what reason there can be for advancing it, except as a means of justifying a tax that ought really to be justified on the ground of necessity.

Yours respectfully,

GARRETT DROPPERS.

September 30th, 1892.

PARCELS POST REGULATIONS.

The Department of Communications has promulgated the rules relating to the operation of the Parcels Post System, which are to be enforced from the 1st October, 1892. The following is a translation of them:—

DETAILED RULES RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF PARCELS POST SYSTEM.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL RULES.

Art. 1.—Parcels post matter will only be received at Post Offices specially appointed for the purpose.

Art. 2.—At the request of the sender, the delivery of any parcel may be certified; or special delivery made; or the parcel can be left at the post office till called for.

Provided, that no special delivery is made in districts where no Parcels Post Office is established.

For the certificate of delivery or special delivery an appropriate fee will be charged, in accordance with the general rules.

Art. 3.—If a parcel is addressed to a district where no Parcels Post Office is established, it will, at sender's option, be forwarded to the nearest Parcels Post Office where it will be kept till called for.

CHAPTER II.—POSTING.

Art. 4.—The word "Parcel" (*kosutsumi*) must be inscribed on the cover of a parcel, which must be taken to the Parcels Post Office, where a receipt for it will be given.

Any parcel deposited in a pillar post will not be considered as a parcel—even if the word "Parcel" is on the cover—and the fee for the ordinary letter post will be levied upon it.

Art. 5.—The sender of any parcel must fill up form A. (appended), and the postal fee and commission will be paid in stamps to be affixed thereto.

Art. 6.—Any parcel to be forwarded by Parcels Post must be carefully packed in such a manner—according to the character and shape of the article—that unless the cover is destroyed no injury can possibly accrue to the article within.

Any parcel, the value of which is to be registered, must be packed in such a manner that the nature of the article cannot possibly be seen from the outside; and at least three seals must be placed on the cover.

Art. 7.—Coins, old coins, old cash, gold or silver, articles of gold or silver, jewels, or articles of jewellery, must be packed in tin cases with cover, or strong wooden cases, and secured so as not to shake about within the case. The covers must be secured with wax, nailed down, or tied with string and then sealed.

Postal stamps, post-cards, stamped wrappers, and other stamps, as well as valuable bonds or notes, must be packed in the manner described in the above provision.

Any article for which the permission of the Post Office must be obtained before it can be forwarded as a parcel, or any article which emits a strong odour, must be packed in a tin or wooden case in accordance with its nature, so as to prevent injury to other parcels. The name of the article must be inscribed upon the cover of the package.

Art. 8.—If the packing of a parcel is considered unsatisfactory at the Post Office, the authorities have power to demand its re-packing by the sender.

Art. 9.—The inscription upon the cover must be correct and in plain writing.

Provided that, if the inscription cannot be written on the parcel owing to its shape or nature, the address may be written on a stick, card-board, or wooden label, which must be tied to the package.

Art. 10.—The inscription on the cover may only comprise the names and addresses of the sender and the receiver, their occupations, firms name, trade marks, and dates.

Provided that the above rule does not apply to any further inscription required by the regulations.

Art. 11.—If the Post Office considers that any parcel contains an article prohibited from being sent by Parcels Post, or that the article is not such as is described on the cover, the official at the Post Office may at any time open and examine the parcel in the presence of either the sender or the receiver.

Art. 12.—If the sender of a parcel by post doubts the accuracy of the address of the receiver, the address may be supplemented or changed at the time of posting, and he may request the Post Office to return the parcel if the receiver's address is not found.

CHAPTER III.—POSTAGE FEES.

Art. 13.—Postal fees and insurance premia must be paid by the sender upon posting the parcel.

Provided that the above rule does not apply in the case of a parcel being returned to its original sender.

Art. 14.—The mileage by which the fees are determined will be fixed in accordance with the

table of mileage determined by the Department of Communications.

If the collection and delivery offices of a parcel lie within the same postal district, the lowest mileage will be applied.

Art. 15.—The weight of a parcel must be in accordance with the scale authorized by the Post Office.

Art. 16.—Should any parcel be re-directed or returned, extra fees will be levied.

Art. 17.—The extra postal fee for re-direction or return of a parcel will be levied on the sender.

In accordance with the provisions in Art. 27, if the receiver requests that a parcel be delivered or re-directed to any other address than that which is inscribed on the cover, the extra fee will be levied on the receiver.

Art. 18.—If the receiver of a parcel refuses to pay such fees for special delivery, or the hire of a ferry-boat, the parcel will be returned to its sender and the extra fee will be levied on him.

Provided that, if the receiver of a postal parcel requests it to be re-directed, he cannot refuse to pay the fee demanded. If he refuses to receive the parcel, he must pay the fees incurred in returning the package to the Post Office from whence it came.

Art. 19.—The amount of unpaid fees or insufficient postage will be added in postal stamps by the Post Office, who will state on the cover the amount to be collected on it.

Art. 20.—No extra insurance premium will be charged on any registered parcel, which is re-directed or returned.

CHAPTER IV.—DEPOSITED PARCELS.

Art. 21.—Any parcel which is left at a Post Office till called for, will not be given to the applicant without the production of a receipt.

The receipt above mentioned must be forwarded to the receiver of the parcel by the sender.

Art. 22.—When the parcel to be kept at the Post Office till called for arrives, its arrival will be communicated to the addressee immediately.

Provided that the above provision does not apply to any parcel which has not the address of the receiver upon the cover.

Art. 23.—The length of time which a parcel will be kept in the Post Office will be 15 days from the day the parcel is received.

When the fifteen days have elapsed the parcel will be returned to the sender.

Art. 24.—When the addressee of a parcel deposited at the Post Office desires it to be delivered, he must present the original receipt for deposit signed and stamped.

Art. 25.—If the original receipt for deposit is mislaid, or the notice of arrival is received without the receipt, the fact must be communicated to the sender. Upon receiving such notice the sender must obtain from the Post Office authorities at the place of departure a duplicate copy of the original receipt, which must be sent to the receiver.

In the above case, the receiver may request the Post Office to prolong the term of deposit.

Art. 26.—If the receiver of a parcel deposited at the Post Office desires to receive it by his agent, he must inform the Post office of the name of the person representing him by giving a power of attorney on the back of the receipt, stamped with his seal under the signature. The process of receiving a parcel by representative will be in accordance with the provisions of Art. 24.

Art. 27.—The sender or receiver of a parcel to be deposited at the Post Office may request the Post Office to re-deliver or redirect such parcel, or to return it. In the case of re-directing, unless the parcel is to be deposited at the Post Office again, the original receipt for deposit will become invalid.

Art. 28.—The provisions in the foregoing chapter are also applicable to specially deposited parcels.

CHAPTER V.—TRANSMISSION.

Art. 29.—If the cover of a parcel is injured during transmission, the Post Office will re-seal it, and the fact will be recorded, the officer in charge stamping it with his seal.

Art. 30.—Any person receiving a parcel addressed to him, must stamp his seal on the receipt of delivery.

If any member of the household or a servant receives the parcel, the fact must be inscribed on the receipt, signed in the person's own name and stamped.

If a parcel is addressed to a person lodging in another person's house, the master of the house will have to sign and stamp the receipt also.

If a parcel is addressed to a person in any Government office, shrine or temple, school, hospital, business firm, association or club, ship, etc., the person possessing the proper authority alone shall sign and stamp the receipt.

Art. 31.—No person who receives a postal parcel can break its seal before impressing his seal on the delivery receipt.

In cases where it is so opened, he is considered

to have received the parcel without prejudice to the Post Office who's responsibility at once ceases.

Art. 32.—If a parcel is not delivered at the first call, owing to the absence of the receiver, it will be attempted to be delivered once more within a week, and if not delivered then, will be returned to the sender.

Provided that a parcel of special delivery will be subject to the time of ordinary delivery.

Art. 33.—If the person to whom a parcel is delivered has altered his residence, the Post Office shall immediately despatch form B. (appended to the rules,) to the sender, asking him to redirect or return it.

When a sender receives the above notice, he must immediately attach the required direction, erasing the unnecessary one, and add the appropriate postal stamps, before returning it to the Post Office.

Provided that any parcel posted in accordance with the provisions of Art. 12 will be returned without the foregoing notice being served.

If the altered address lies within the same postal district, and consequently no additional fees are required, the parcel can be re-directed without any notice being given.

Art. 34.—After the serving of the notice mentioned in the foregoing article upon a sender, five days will be allowed to elapse, reckoned from the expiry of the time for the ordinary post delivery, in which to reply, after which period, no answer being forwarded, the parcel will be returned to the sender.

Art. 35.—If at the time of delivery of a parcel no external sign of injury is noticed, and the weight remains unchanged, the receiver cannot refuse delivery.

"External sign of injury" means, that such noticeable damage has been done that the article within the parcel may reasonably be considered to be injured. Any ordinary rubbing or abrading of the cover in transmission, or increase of weight through dampness or change in the atmosphere, does not come under the provision of the present article.

By the above provision, if the parcel is refused, the reasons for so doing must be stated in writing, and the document handed to the postman.

Art. 36.—Should the addressee refuse to receive a parcel through any of the reasons assigned in the foregoing article, the Post Office, having examined into the cause of complaint, and finding the objection reasonable, will return the parcel to the sender.

Should, the Post Office however, consider the objection unreasonable, the receiver will be summoned to the office and the parcel examined in his presence.

If the receiver fails to answer the summons, and the examination proves that there is no plausible ground for refusing delivery, the parcel will be handed over to him without further delay.

Art. 37.—When the sender of a parcel resides outside the Parcels Postal district where a parcel is returned, the package will be kept in the nearest Parcels Post Office, and the fact notified to him. Upon receiving the notification, the sender must present the original receipt before re-delivery will be made.

If he desire to receive the parcel through his representative, power of attorney must be given to, and presented by such representative.

Art. 38.—After the lapse of 15 days from the date of despatch of the notification mentioned in the foregoing article, should no demand have been made for the parcel, it will be considered as undeliverable postal matter.

Art. 39.—The express provisions in Arts. 35 and 36 will also be applicable in cases where the sender of a parcel receives it back.

Provided that, when a parcel is refused by the receiver for reasons assigned in the 2nd clause of the 35th article, the sender must also state in writing his reasons for receiving it back, which statement must be handed to the postal delivery.

Art. 40.—After the sender has handed his statement of reasons for receiving back a parcel to the postal deliverer, he, or his representative, must immediately proceed to the Post Office and state those reasons to the official in charge.

Art. 41.—Upon completion of the process provided in the foregoing articles, the Post Office officials will open the parcel in question in the sender's presence, and ascertain the amount of damage done, if any. Should the parcel have sustained damage, two copies of certificates of such injury will be prepared, and one handed to the sender.

Art. 42.—Should a sender simply hand his statement of reasons to the postal deliverer, and neither he nor his representative appear at the Post Office, as provided in Art. 40, the official in charge will issue a summons.

If the sender fails to comply with the summons,

his complaint will be considered annulled, and the parcel will be returned to him. In such a case the sender cannot refuse to receive delivery.

Art. 43.—Any parcel for which a certificate of injury is issued will be kept at the Post Office until an indemnity is paid.

If indemnity is not demanded, the parcel will be returned to the sender immediately.

Art. 44.—Any undeliverable parcel will be treated in the same manner as undeliverable letters.

If any undeliverable parcel be subsequently demanded of the Post Office, the fees mentioned in Art. 16 will be levied.

CHAPTER VI.—COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE.

Art. 45.—Any indemnity or compensation for injury sustained by a parcel while in transit must be demanded of the Head Post Office which controls the office from which the parcel was sent.

When demanding indemnity, an application stating the nature, number and price of the article, and amount of compensation required, as well as the reasons for such demand, must be presented to the head office, accompanied by the original receipt and the certificate of injury.

If the postal fees are also desired to be returned, the fact must be stated in the application mentioned in the foregoing clause.

Art. 46.—If either the original receipt or the certificate of injury is mislaid, the applicant may obtain fresh copies of them from the Post Office.

Art. 47.—The indemnity paid for damage to, or loss of a registered parcel will be determined as follows:—

1. When a parcel is lost or wholly destroyed, the indemnity will be the total amount insured.
2. When a portion of the contents is lost or damaged, the indemnity will be proportionate to the amount of such damage.

Provided that, if the amount registered exceeds the real price, no indemnity will be paid for such excess.

Art. 48.—The indemnity paid for loss of, or damage to, an ordinary parcel will be determined as follows:—

1. When a parcel is lost or wholly damaged, the indemnity will be to *sen* for every 100 *monme* in weight.
2. When a portion of the contents is lost or damaged the indemnity will be to *sen* for every 100 *monme* of such damage.

Art. 49.—In cases where the return of postage as well as indemnity for damage are demanded, the amount will be determined as follows:—

1. When the parcel is lost or wholly damaged, the whole amount of postage will be returned.
2. When a portion of the parcel is lost or damaged the postage will be in proportion to the weight of such damaged portion.

Provided that the estimated amount of postage to be returned shall be proportionate to the fees paid.

Art. 50.—When the Head Post Office receives an application demanding indemnity for damage, the case will first be examined into, and if the demand be considered unreasonable, the fact will be communicated to the applicant. If found to be reasonable, the amount of indemnity will be determined in accordance with the provisions of Arts. 47 and 48 and then notified to the applicant.

If repayment of postage be demanded, its estimated amount will be communicated to applicant.

Art. 51.—When an applicant for indemnity and return of postage fees is dissatisfied with the amount awarded, he must, within 5 days from the day of receiving the notification of the amount, state his reasons for dissatisfaction to the Post Office.

If no such application is filed within the period, the Post Office will consider the applicant satisfied, and act accordingly.

Art. 52.—The application for indemnity for damage may at any time before its settlement be withdrawn at the desire of the applicant, and he can demand back the delivery of the parcel deposited in the Post Office.

Art. 53.—If a parcel is found after an indemnity for loss has been paid for it, the Post Office will notify the sender of the fact.

Art. 54.—On receiving the notification mentioned in the foregoing article, the sender must present to the Post Office an application demanding back the parcel, accompanied with the said notification. At the same time, the money for indemnity for loss and the returned postage which he had received must be returned to the Post Office.

Here follow facsimiles of the forms mentioned in the above Rules, viz:—

(1) Form A.—The form of application to be used when posting a parcel, the form being written in blue, and showing.

- (a) Mileage
- (b) Number
- (c) Weight
- (d) Post-mark

These columns to be filled in by the receiving post office.

Original from

- (e) Name and address of sender.
- (f) Name and address of receiver.
- (g) Date.
- (h) Remarks (i.e., any request as to treatment of parcel, &c.)
- (i) Column for postage stamps, and other columns containing particulars of office of despatch, &c., which are filled in by Post Office.
- (2) Form B.—For the registration of a parcel (written in purple ink).
- (a) Mileage.
- (b) Number.
- (c) Amount registered.
- (d) Weight.
- (e) Post-mark.
- (f) Name and address of sender.
- (g) Name and address of receiver.
- (h) Date.
- (i) Remark.
- (3) Form C.—For communications from the Post Office.

These columns
to be filled in
by the appli-
cant.

Filled in by Post
Office.

Filled in
by appli-
cant.

RULES OF THE KANAGAWA PREFECTURE SILK MERCHANTS' GUILD.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL RULES.

Art. 1.—The present Guild is organised by silk merchants in Kanagawa Prefecture in accordance with Notification No. 56 of the Kanagawa Prefecture, promulgated in the 25th year of Meiji, and is named the Kanagawa Prefecture Silk Merchants' Guild.

Art. 2.—The office of the Guild is established at No. 5 Honcho Ichome, Yokohama; where all affairs relating to the Guild shall be transacted.

Art. 3.—The object of the Guild is to ensure harmonious co-operation on the part of all its members, for the development of the silk trade; and to provide for their united consideration in the interests of their business.

Art. 4.—When a member of the Guild notifies that circumstances have necessitated the suspension of his business, the rights and obligations of such member shall be suspended.

Art. 5.—Every member of the Guild must have a shop in Yokohama, and must deal in silk.

Art. 6.—Members of the Guild shall not only obey the present rules, but also must observe any resolution passed at a general meeting, and must abide by any act done by the President of the Guild in accordance with the present rules.

Art. 7.—Rules relating to the conduct of business shall be determined by resolutions passed at a general meeting, and shall obtain the sanction of the Governor of Kanagawa.

Art. 8.—Brokers who are members of the Guild shall elect two representatives every month, who shall represent them at the general meetings of the Guild.

Art. 9.—Matters relating to brokers shall be determined by resolutions of their own.

Provided that rules relating to the business of brokers, or any other important matter, must obtain the sanction of the Guild.

CHAPTER II.—ENTRANCE AND RESIGNATION.

Art. 10.—Any person desiring to become a member of the Guild must present to the office an application signed by more than two wholesale silk merchants who are members of the Guild as introducers, together with security money, and must sign his name in the book containing the present rules kept at the office; after which he shall request the persons on duty at the office to hand him a certificate.

Art. 11.—When the application has been received, a certificate shall be filled in at the office and handed to the new member. Such certificate must be hung up in the new member's place of business.

Art. 12.—The certificate shall be prepared at the office, and its cost shall be charged to the new member at the time of handing it to him.

Art. 13.—Any person desiring to resign from the Guild, must present his resignation together with his certificate to the office, after he has completed the steps necessary in abandoning the trade.

Art. 14.—When a resignation is received, the office shall see that all the responsibilities of the member as such have been discharged, after which the process of annulling his certificate shall be completed; and his security money shall be returned.

CHAPTER III.—SECURITY.

Art. 15.—In order to secure that the members of the Guild shall obey these rules and conduct their business honestly, they shall deposit the fol-

lowing sums by way of security, in accordance with the distinctions here set forth:—

- (1) Security for a silk merchant yen 500
- (2) Security for a broker:

One who employs a manager
(*tedai*) yen 200

One who has no manager yen 100

Art. 16.—The security shall be held by the office, and shall be paid in either of the following forms:—

- (1) Cash.
- (2) Government Bonds.

Provided that cash thus received shall be deposited in some safe bank by the President, and the interest paid to the depositor. In case of depositing Government Bonds they must be accompanied by a power of attorney.

Art. 17.—In the following cases the President may, with the sanction of the Committee of the Guild, subtract a certain amount from the security:—

- (1) When the subscription for the expenditure of the Guild is not paid.
- (2) When a member refuses to pay his share of any outlay which the members of the Guild agree to incur.
- (3) When compensation for breach of agreement is not paid.

Art. 18.—When, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, any part of the security is subtracted, the member concerned must make up the deficiency within 7 days from the time when notice of the fact is given to him.

Art. 19.—The words "Transaction Prohibited" shall be superscribed on the security when received, and no sale, pawning, or mortgaging of such security shall be allowed.

CHAPTER IV.—GENERAL MEETING.

Art. 20.—A general meeting shall consist of all the members of the Guild engaged in the silk trade, together with two representatives of the brokers.

Provided that the representatives of the brokers may not take part in a debate relating to the business of silk merchants only.

Art. 21.—A general meeting shall be of two kinds. The one held in January of every year shall be termed the "Fixed General Meeting;" and the other, which may be held at any time, shall be termed a "Special General Meeting."

Art. 22.—A special general meeting may be convened either by the President of the Guild, should he consider it necessary, or at the request of one-fourth of the whole members of the Guild.

Art. 23.—The date for holding the Fixed General Meeting shall be communicated by the President to the members, at least 3 days before hand. In the event of opening a Special General Meeting, the reasons for the step shall be notified, and the date shall be communicated as soon as convenient.

Art. 24.—No general meeting shall be opened unless more than one half of the whole number of members be present.

Provided that, if the meeting is held a second time, and yet the attendance does not reach the due half of the whole membership, then more than one third of the whole number shall constitute a quorum.

Art. 25.—A resolution passed at a general meeting must have been voted by more than one half of the whole number of members present. If the number be equally divided, the President shall have a casting vote.

Art. 26.—If the matter be considered of no great importance, the President may communicate the question to every member and form a decision upon their replies, instead of convening a Special General Meeting.

Art. 27.—The detailed rules of debate shall be determined separately.

CHAPTER V.—OFFICERS AND THEIR RIGHTS.

Art. 28.—The following officers shall be appointed in the Guild:—

- President 1
- Vice-President 1
- Committee 5
- Clerks.

Art. 29.—The offices of President and Vice-President shall be honorary; and the term of office shall be one year. They shall be elected at a fixed general meeting.

Provided that they may be re-elected.

Art. 30.—The election of the President, the Vice-President, and the Committee shall be by closed ballot. A Committee of 7 members shall be first elected, and this Committee shall then proceed to elect the President and the Vice-President from among themselves.

Art. 31.—The President shall represent the Guild, control its affairs, appoint clerks and other officers, preside at the general meetings, open the meetings, determine the order of debate, and enforce the resolutions.

Art. 32.—The Vice-President shall assist the President, and shall represent the President when the latter is otherwise engaged.

Art. 33.—The members of the committee shall be present at conferences of the President and the Vice-President, and shall assist them.

Art. 34.—The President and the Vice-President shall observe the condition of the silk trade, and maintain the credit of the Guild, in fulfilment of the object mentioned in Art. 3.

CHAPTER VI.—EXPENDITURE, TAX COLLECTION, AND REPORT.

Art. 35.—The method of compiling the Budget of revenue and expenditure of the Guild shall be determined by a resolution passed at the General Meeting held in January every year. Provided that, if there be any insufficiency in the Budget, a resolution to make good the deficiency may be passed at a Special General Meeting.

Art. 36.—The accounts of the previous year shall be presented to the Fixed General Meeting for approval.

CHAPTER VII.—BREACH OF AGREEMENT.

Art. 37.—Any member who violates these Rules or the rules for the conduct of business, or a resolution duly passed by the Guild, or an instruction duly issued by the President, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 25 *yen*, according to a resolution passed at a general meeting. The reasons for the infliction of such penalty shall be minutely recorded, and shall be advertised in the public press.

Art. 38.—When a penalty, as provided in the foregoing article, is inflicted, the facts of the case shall be reported to the Prefectural Authorities.

CHAPTER VIII.—ADDITIONAL RULES.

Art. 39.—Should any disagreement arise between members of the Guild, or between members of the Guild and outsiders, whether Japanese or foreign, and should both parties to the dispute, or either of them, request the Guild to act as arbitrator, the President shall comply with the request in conference with the members of the Committee.

Art. 40.—In case of any dispute connected with a transaction between members of the Guild and outsiders, whether Japanese or foreign, should the parties to the dispute be dissatisfied with the arbitration of the Guild, or, in defiance of such arbitration, insist upon their own view, a special measure may be adopted by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Guild.

Art. 41.—Whenever the present Rules are amended or changed, the amendments or changes shall be communicated to the Governor of the Prefecture for approval.

Art. 42.—Business Rules determined according to the express provisions of Art. 7 and resolutions taken by General Meetings, shall have equal validity with the present Rules.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held on Monday evening at the Club Hotel, the president, Mr. J. T. Griffin, in the chair. There were also present.—Messrs. J. Ph. von Hemert, O. Balk (hon. sec. and treas.), W. B. Mason, S. E. Unite, E. Batavus, J. Davidson, C. A. W. Pownall, E. Schiff, E. C. Fox, O. Kiel, G. Hodges, and the Rev. E. C. Gardner.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the meeting was held in conformity with the Rules of the Club which said that the annual general meeting must be held on the first play-night in October. That happened to be their first play-night for the session, so they would first proceed to business and play afterwards. He opined that the report and accounts having been distributed to members, would render it unnecessary for them to be read aloud—they would therefore omit the reading and put them to the meeting.

Mr. Fox moved and Mr. DAVIDSON seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

ANNUAL REPORT—SESSION 1891-1892.

The Committee of the Yokohama Chess Club have much pleasure in presenting their second annual report.

At the Annual General Meeting held on October 1st, 1891, the following Officers were elected.—President—Mr. John Griffin; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. Oscar Balk; Committee—Messrs. J. Ph. von Hemert, J. R. Merian, and E. Batavus. During the year Mr. Merian resigned, and Mr. H. L. Fardel was elected in his place.

The membership shows a slight decrease, there being 48 names on the books against 53 in the previous year. Thirteen members left the Club and eight new members joined.

The Club Meetings were held on Mondays, as before, at the Club Hotel, and on Thursdays during the first half of the session at Mr. Fardel's residence on the Bluff (by kind permission), and during the second half of the session also at the Club Hotel.

During the session a Handicap Tournament was held, for prizes kindly offered by the President (and Mr. Schiff, Thirteen competitors entered, who were divided into five classes. Mr. Meikle (II), with a score of 20 games out of a possible 24, took the first prize, a handsome silver-plated fruit dish. Mr. Fardel (III), with a score of 18, took the second prize, a valuable set of Chinese ivory chessmen.

Mr. Balk (I) and Mr. Batavus (II) tied for third and fourth places with a score of 17 games each.

On December 5th, 1891, the first match was played with a Tokyo team at the Rokumei-kan. The teams numbered seven a side, and the Y. C. C. was victorious by 13 games to 12, although three of its members were playing for Tokyo. Unfortunately, all efforts to arrange a return-match in Yokohama proved unavailing. However, two correspondence games were played with the members of the Tokyo Club who had played in the match, and were both won by Tokyo.

The return of Mr. Griffin from a visit to Europe was made the occasion of a convivial gathering on July 13th, the President being entertained at dinner by about twenty members who heartily welcomed him back to Yokohama.

The accounts are very satisfactory and show an income of \$78.40 and an expenditure of \$161.65, with a balance in hand of \$161.25, besides substantial assets. The Club subscribes to the *British Chess Magazine* and the *Deutsche Schachzeitung*, and the weekly chess column of the *Japan Mail* is reprinted on slips and forwarded to each member.

Their term of office having expired the Committee beg to place their resignations in the hands of members.

For the Committee,

O. BALK, Hon. Secretary.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance brought forward from last year	\$144.50
Subscriptions and Entrance fees:	
40 Members at \$3	\$120.00
2 Members at \$5	\$10.00
	130.00
Sale of chessmen and boards	30.40
	\$160.40
EXPENDITURE.	
20 Sets chessmen and boards (stock)	\$16.00
10 Meetings at the Club Hotel	48.00
11 Meetings on the Bluff	36.50
Subscriptions to Periodicals	39.90
Stationery, advertising, postages and petty	51.15
	\$191.45
Balance in Treasurer's hands	161.25
	\$322.90

O. BALK,
Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

J. PH. VON HEMERT,

The CHAIRMAN announced that five new members had been proposed, and that their election would require confirmation at that meeting. They were:—Messrs. R. A. Mowat, C. Griffin, Adams, H. Stone (Tokyo), and Kinglin.

There being no objection the election of the five new members was declared.

The CHAIRMAN then congratulated the Club upon its late successful season. He reminded them that this was not to be all laid to the credit of the committee, but to the members themselves. Then, turning to the election of officers, the speaker said that he thought that the club should elect a president of more influence in the community, one that would confer more dignity upon them. They all knew that when the Club started he had tried to induce Judge Hannen to take the presidency. Judge Hannen did become a member and appeared among them, but he would not take the position of president, as he said that his removal to Shanghai was imminent and therefore it would not be fair to the Club for him to take the office. He (the Chairman) thought that the Club could not do better on the present occasion than to elect as his successor the present Judge of Her Britannic Majesty's Court, Mr. R. A. Mowat. He had very great pleasure in proposing him for the office.

Mr. O. KEIL—I take much pleasure in seconding.

Mr. FOX—Would Judge Mowat take the position?

The CHAIRMAN—No doubt he will. I cannot say so positively. I may add that Judge Mowat has been for many years one of the best chess-players in Shanghai. He is a splendid player over the board and an enthusiast in problems.

Mr. W. B. MASON—I think we are all very sorry to lose our president on the grounds which he has himself put forward. If he himself thinks that it will be in the best interests of the Club, then we cannot do better than follow his suggestion. On any other grounds I do not think that we would be willing to lose him.

The CHAIRMAN—I much appreciate your remarks. I do think that it is best to do as I propose. The president of a club is not supposed to hold the office permanently or to be always present at the meetings. I have been president for two years and I think, that on the grounds I put forward, the change would be desirable.

Mr. FOX—On those grounds we accept your resignation.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you.

His Honour Judge Mowat was then declared elected president.

Mr. O. KEIL—I believe, as does the President, in rotation and change in offices. I therefore propose that Mr. Griffin be our secretary and treasurer for the ensuing year.

Mr. DAVIDSON—I second.

The CHAIRMAN—It seems to me that this is rather a backward progression.—(Laughter.)

think you would do better to have a total change and give me a rest for a year. I am in your hands, however. If you think it necessary, then I must take the office, but I do not hanker after it. I will always do my best as a faithful member of the Club to further its interests as a private member.

Mr. POWNALL thought that after the services which Mr. Griffin had rendered the Club as President, it would only be doing the right thing to pay him the compliment of electing him their secretary and treasurer.—(Hear, hear.)

The election was unanimous.

Mr. DAVIDSON then proposed Messrs. Merian, Balk, and O. Keil as the committee. They would make, he thought, a good, sound committee all round.

Mr. UNITE—I propose, as an amendment, Messrs. Keil, Batavus and Balk.

Mr. O. KEIL—I really do not know what to do on the committee. The Cup is forthcoming all right and I would rather not serve.

The CHAIRMAN—I think, after the generous manner in which Mr. Keil has presented us with a Championship Cup that we should place him in the position.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. B. MASON begged to second Mr. Davidson's motion.

Mr. FOX seconded the amendment.

The vote resulted in a tie—five on each side—and the chairman gave his casting vote for the original motion, which was then carried by six to five.

Mr. POWNALL proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Committee, President, and Secretary for past services.

Mr. KEIL seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN in acknowledging the vote remarked that the spirit of unanimity which at present prevailed would go a long way towards making them known not only in Asia, but in Europe also, as a Chess Club. He hoped that he should make the office of treasurer and secretary as successful as it had been in the hands of Mr. Balk.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. DAVIDSON put before the meeting a proposal to change the Club's place of meeting from the Club Hotel to the Oriental Hotel.

A conversational discussion ensued in which several present declared that they had not been comfortable in the Club's room during the last session, and thought that the matter should be remedied.

Mr. BALK said that he had attempted to get the management of the hotel to let them a better room but had failed. He reported upon the room at the Oriental Hotel and thought that the benefit to be derived from the change would be doubtful.

Eventually the matter was left to the incoming Committee, with a suggestion that as the Club had money in hand—and did not propose to hoard it for their grandchildren as one member facetiously put it—that a little more expense for a better room would not be objected to.

The meeting then dispersed.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, September 12th.
In my last letter I was betrayed, by a mistake in either reading or copying the figures, into a false inference concerning the importance of Commissioner Peck's statistical report on the increase of products and of wages in New York during the year, September, 1890-1891. That increase in each case was a thousand-fold more than I stated, and thus weakens my inference a thousand per cent. I had no intention of misrepresenting; I simply made an egregious mistake. The report, however, has been carefully examined by experts and economists, and has been found weak and faulty in many respects and points; so that it may not, in the end, prove exceedingly useful as a Republican campaign document.

President Harrison has issued his letter of acceptance, which is a very lengthy and detailed discussion of a large number of topics. Mr. Blaine has also written a letter, in which he recommends that the Republicans emphasize the questions of the tariff, reciprocity, and the national banking system.

Not only the new Great Northern Railway, but also the Canadian Pacific, have withdrawn from the Transcontinental Association, and have made a big cut in freight rates from Boston to St. Paul. As other roads have cut still lower, there is a prospect that shippers will be benefited by another "war," which may become, not merely transcontinental, but also trans-Pacific.

The September *Forum* contains an able article entitled: "A Chinaman on Our Treatment of China," and signed by Yung Kiung Yen.

Mrs. Tei Sono, "the first female lawyer in Japan," has been rapidly making friends in this country. She was present, and made addresses at Mr.

Moody's Northfield (Mass.) Conference during the past summer. She has received not only cordial sympathy but also material help for her projected school for the Christian education of high-class girls and women. She has been endorsed and aided here by Dr. Griffis and Bishop Brooks, and will be helped in England by Lady Somerset. She has perfect faith in the success of her undertaking which has progressed so far that she expects soon to return to Japan, via England. She is truly the Niishima of female education in Japan.

A number of prominent Chicago people have recently started on pleasure trips to Japan; among them may be mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Fred. S. Winston, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. McCagg, and Messrs. Goodrich and Holmes. The last two young gentlemen prepared themselves by a summer course of study of the Japanese language under Prof. S. Chôyô in the Parisian School of Languages in this city.

Daniel Dougherty, the noted lawyer and orator of Philadelphia, died September 5th. He was a Democrat, and best known by his two eloquent speeches nominating Honerck (in 1880) and Cleveland (in 1888) for the Presidency.

Two days later, Death struck a more "shining mark" in the person of the beloved Quaker poet, John Greenleaf Whittier, who passed away peacefully, after a short illness, at Hampton Falls, N. H. His body was taken to his home at Amesbury, Mass., and lay in state from 12 till 2 o'clock on September 10th. The funeral was conducted, by his own request stated in his will, "in the plain and quiet way of the Society of Friends," and the body was buried in the family lot in the Friends' Cemetery. Had he lived till December 17th he would have reached the age of 85.

It is scarcely necessary to write much about Whittier's character as a man or as a poet. He and his poems are known the world over; and he is best reflected in his poetry. His writings breathe the sweetness, tenderness, purity, sympathy, charity, simplicity, peace, earnestness and manliness of his life. They may not rank as high as the work of some others, but they are undeniably and thoroughly good. "If not the most sublimely gifted, he was the most divinely blessed of our poets, and the most beneficent."

Whittier's last lines were those written as a tribute to Oliver Wendell Holmes, who is now the only one left of the old coterie. Whittier will undoubtedly be honoured with many tributes, and has already received one by the Hoosier poet, James Whitcomb Riley, who published in the *Indianapolis News* the following lines:—

WHITTIER—AT NEWBURPORT,
September 7th 1892.

"Giftless we come to Him who all things gives
And lives because He lives."

—The poet's last lines.

Hail to thee and all good cheer,
Though men say thou liest here
Dead,
And weep all uncomforted,
By thy faith, reborn mine,
Life still lights those eyes of thine
Clear
As the autumn atmosphere.
Ever still thy smile appears
As the rainbow of thy tears;
Bent
O'er thy love's vast firmament.
Thou endurest—shalt endure,
Purely, as thy song is pure.
Hear
Thy mail hail; good cheer, good cheer.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

The schools of this city opened September 6th with a largely increased attendance, which is likely to amount to about 150,000. In spite of increased and increasing accommodations and facilities, schools are crowded and intending pupils can not find room.

The first Monday in September is permanently fixed as "Labour Day," and a holiday for schools and business houses. "From Hell Gate to Golden Gate and the Lakes to the Gulf," the workmen celebrated with processions, picnics and orations.

The intelligent and moral people of this country seldom take any interest in pugilistic contests; but they were warranted in giving a little attention to the recent fight at New Orleans between Sullivan and Corbett for the championship of the world. Every one is certainly justified in rejoicing that the big, drunken and debauched bully, John L. Sullivan, was beaten by a well-educated, gentlemanly and temperate athlete, whose victory was due, according to the unanimous opinion of the press and "Sports," to his practice of absolute teetotalism.

Auditor Ackerman's report of the World's Fair expenses for August has been published. The total receipts to September 1 were \$10,400,000, and the total expenditures amounted to \$8,750,000, so that the balance on hand was about \$1,650,000. But, inasmuch as the monthly expenses account exceeded \$1,000,000 in August, and will be still larger in September, and as the former sources of income

are practically exhausted, and prospective sources are not immediately available, another issue of debenture bonds for \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 will probably be soon placed upon the market.

The work in Jackson Park is being rapidly pushed forward, so that as much as possible may be completed by the time (Oct. 21st) of the dedicatory ceremonies. The principal exposition buildings are practically finished, except the manufactures building and machinery hall, and are now being cleaned. These two exceptions are nearing completion, and, unless some accident occurs, will be ready by Oct. 21. The work on the State and foreign buildings is progressing rapidly; but not many of them will be finished by that date.

The returns from the Arkansas election indicate that the Democrats have carried the State by an immense majority under the new election law, but with a falling off of 30 to 40 per cent. in the total vote.

It is reported from Italy, that Hon. Albert G. Porter, the U.S. Minister at Rome, has tendered his resignation "to enter politics."

The steamer *Caroline Miller*, which attempted to carry contraband arms during the Haytian troubles, has turned up again under the name of *South Portland*, and now lies in the harbour off Bedloe's Island with a United States officer on board. She is suspected of being loaded with munitions of war for the Venezuelan revolutionists, and may be seized by the Government for violation of the neutrality laws.

This morning's paper announces that the *Kite* has arrived at St. Johns, Newfoundland, with Lieut. Perry and his company. It is reported that only one life was lost; that the party is in good health; and that the expedition was a success. Important discoveries were made concerning the icy regions, and probably will soon be revealed to the public.

The cholera epidemic in still a cause of much anxiety in this country. Sir Edwin Arnold has expressed himself as of the opinion that our fear is groundless and ludicrous; but, while we should deprecate such a degree of worry as might increase or even invite danger, we feel that every precaution ought to be taken. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It was with this idea that President Harrison made a special and hurried trip to Washington to consult about the advisable measures of defense. It was decided to issue, not a proclamation, but a circular, relating to quarantine restrictions upon immigration. In this circular collectors of customs, medical officers of the marine hospital service, foreign steamship companies, State and Local Boards of Health, were instructed that vessels from foreign ports, except those afloat at that date, should be detained for at least twenty days. That very day a case of cholera was discovered in New York City in the person of a Russian who had landed the previous Sunday, but had not since been heard of. The President's circular restored the public confidence somewhat; but Dr. Jenkins, the chief health officer of New York, renewed the anxiety by wild talk to the effect that he looked to the State laws, and not to the President for authority, and that he did not care a— for the President's circular, but would detain a vessel just as long or just as short a time as he pleased. The crisis scarcely seemed a proper time for standing on technicalities or strict interpretation of State rights. The public would naturally feel less confidence in a Tammany official than in a National officer of tried reputation, like Dr. Hamilton, who had been specially sent to New York City to oversee the quarantine arrangements.

The stringent regulations have caused a great deal of inconvenience to some, but have been a source of comfort to the people in general. Tourists coming or returning from Europe have encountered embarrassing delays, and, perhaps, have been unnecessarily detained in some cases. Some of these persons, mostly on the *Normania*, have sent complaints to the press, and have evidently had reason to complain. But their grievances were really due more to the misrepresentations of the steamship company than to the unreasonable demands of the quarantine regulations.

A number of vessels have arrived in New York with clean bills of health, or after inspection have escaped the long quarantine: but many ships have come here infected. The above-mentioned *Normania* from Hamburg has thus far been the most unfortunate. The usual excitement over the matter was increased, when it was reported one day that a vessel loaded with rags from Hamburg had reached New York City through Long Island Sound. But this route will now be carefully watched, and extra quarantine stations have been or will be established at Sandy Hook and on Fire Island. The inhabitants, however, in the vicinity of the latter place have protested, and even used force to prevent landing of passengers from infected vessels. An encouraging feature is the diminution

in the number of deaths from cholera. It is also gratifying that the cholera scare has not yet seriously affected business matters.

Among the forthcoming publications by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., are found: "Japan," a compact history, by Dr. W. E. Griffis, and "An American Missionary in Japan," by M. L. Gordon, M.D. Professor and Mrs. J. M. Dixon are in Chicago en route for St. Louis, Mo.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, August 26th.

"Are we to have a visitation of cholera in England?" is the question uppermost in current topics at the present moment. After raging in Russia for some time, the dread epidemic is travelling west, and already its devastating ravages are being felt as close to us as the port of Hamburg, where, according to an official report, there have been 219 cases during the present week, of which 75 have proved fatal. The following details are given by a correspondent writing from the affected district:—"The streets present a gloomy aspect, which is made additionally lugubrious by the cholera ambulances driving in all directions. The police form cordons round houses in the streets most affected while the dead bodies are removed. The disease carries off its victims with terrible rapidity, causing death within a few hours, and even in one hour, after the appearance of the first symptoms." Special precautions are being taken in all British ports against the importation of the disease through consignments of rags, and the dirty clothes which are worn by many of the destitute Poles and Russians seeking a refuge on our shores, are in most cases committed to the flames. While it is earnestly hoped that these well-timed preventative measures may prove effective in their purpose, an outbreak of the epidemic in any of our ports within the next few days would hardly come as a surprise. However, as our sanitary arrangements are invariably very much in advance of those in existence on the Continent, it is more than probable that in this event the gruesome disease would be kept considerably in check, and its destructive influence limited both in radius and severity.

From morbid conjectures *apropos* the cholera I will turn to things more cheerful—matrimonial affairs to wit. Last week the Duke of Devonshire was married to his old love, the Dowager Duchess of Manchester. The duke and the lady who is now his wife are said to have been very much attached to each other in early life, but indolence, which has always been the chief characteristic of the Duke, induced the lady to receive the attentions of the late Duke of Manchester equally from a motive of pique as with a desire to infuse more energy into her lethargic lover. This seems to have had the contrary effect upon Mr. Spencer Cavendish, as he then was, and the lady he has now married became the Duchess of Manchester. The Duchess was the daughter of the Count von Alten, of Hanover, and in addition to great personal beauty, had a charming vivacity of manner and a sparkling wit which won for her, for more than a quarter of a century, one of the most prominent positions in London society. It is an open secret that even after her marriage the Duchess of Manchester exerted a powerful influence over the Marquis of Hartington, and in any important political course that he adopted she would invariably be his mentor. It is not surprising, therefore, that ever since the death of the late Duke of Manchester, two years ago, speculations have been current as to the date of the marriage which has just taken place, but the difficulty was that the late Duke of Devonshire held strong opinions on the impropriety of second marriages. It is a tradition in the Cavendish family that they should only marry once, and as Lord Hartington held strong views of filial duty, he was prevented from making the Dowager-Duchess his wife during his father's lifetime.

The Duchess of Devonshire was fated, however, not to spend an undisturbed honeymoon, for within 48 hours of the wedding, her son, the Duke of Manchester, more familiarly known in sporting circles as "Uncle Kim," succumbed to an illness with which he had been more or less prostrated for several weeks. The late Duke, of whom perhaps the worst that could be said was, that "he was nobody's enemy but his own," was 39 years of age at his death, and leaves a son of 14, who inherits the title, and two younger twin daughters.

The rumours that have for some little time gained currency which point to Princess Victoria, the daughter of Princess Christian, as the future bride of the Duke of York, have been somewhat strengthened lately by a lengthened visit of the Princess

to Osborne, where she is said to have been in especial favour with the Queen.

Boulogne is to be the scene of a "Beauty Show" to be held next month, which is promised to be of an international character, not omitting Japanese ladies, I believe. More details later on.

Mr. Stead devotes several pages of his *Review of Reviews* this month to a "character sketch" of Sir Charles Dilke, the newly elected member for the Forest of Dean, in spite, he says, of the fact that probably many fathers of families seeing the name of its subject upon the cover of his magazine will refuse to buy it. Mr. Stead deals with close attention to detail with the career of the late Under Secretary of State, from his earliest days, and needless to say, the ingredients, as given, do not always smack of the nicest flavour.

A pretty little scandal has been afloat the last few days in sporting circles, having reference to the threat of a prominent bookmaker to post a Royal sportsman. It is tolerably well known of course, that among the Princes there are those who owe "the Ring" more than they will ever pay, and it is said that one of these personages treated a leading member of Tattersall's with great contempt when spoken to on the subject. A co-operation amongst the fraternity is likely to be the result, and a scandal may ensue which would easily be the first of the season. "Bookies," like a good many other people, don't like to be ruffled, and in this instance if they so determine, they are quite strong enough to carry out their threat.

The l.b.w. law in cricket, as it stands, has often proved of manifest unfairness to the bowler, and public attention is at the present time being specially turned to the necessity of effecting a reform in this matter. Cricket, now, is played on one side of the wicket, the on, and the leg side is almost entirely neglected, owing to the rule that no ball which does not pitch straight can get a man out l. b. w. Such a rule not only robs the bowler of a most deadly style of attack, that from the leg, but gives the batsman an opportunity of using his legs to cover the wicket, instead of his legitimate guard, the "willow." An alteration in the law would doubtless be a step in the right direction.

The Rev. Jrio Jos. Nouri, D.D., S.S.D., the Chaldean archdeacon of Babylon and Jerusalem, who recently made an ascent of Mount Ararat, reports that he discovered there what he firmly believes to be the veritable ark of Noah. Thus he describes it—"The bow and stern were clearly in view, but the centre of it was buried in snow and one side of it had fallen down and was decayed. It stood more than 100 feet high, and was more than 300 yards long. The wood seemed very peculiar. It was dark reddish, almost iron coloured, and seemed very thick. It is between 5,000 and 6,000 years old." The Reverend explorer goes on to say that as it is nearly always covered with snow it would be possible for it to be preserved for ages and ages, perhaps 20,000, or 30,000 years.

The following interesting little advertisement appeared in a Bayreuth paper a day or two since:—

A YOUNG SOLID LADY.

Knowing the German, English and French language seek a place in family as lady society or by children. The young lady goes also in the outland. Ask in the exp. of the stranger lists.

—Do you want anything in this way in Yokohama? "Among the Arthropophagi" is the title of the latest dramatic novelty. The play is written by Mr. Theodore Westmark, the Austrian explorer, who has turned his knowledge of the Dark Continent to effect, and will put on the stage something approximating the Africa he has seen and lived in. Mr. H. M. Stanley will figure as the hero, and the *dramatis personæ* include Mons. de Brazza, the French rival of the discoverer of Livingstone. The prologue shows Mr. Stanley and his friends starting from Brussels for the Congo, and the following are the different scenes:—"On the Equator," "A Victim of Men," "Ou Pourd l'Avant," "King Pokutala's Palace," and "Among the cannibals." The last act includes a realistic encounter with a man-eating tribe.

THE "HIROSHIMA MARU" COLLISION.

The following was issued as an express at 1.30 on Tuesday, by the *Kobe Herald*:—"The *Hiroshima Maru* which arrived here this morning from Nagasaki, has been in collision with the No. 1 *Kure Maru*, the despatch vessel which was anchored off the central Hatoba yesterday. The collision occurred at a few minutes before 3 a.m. to-day, just after the *Hiroshima Maru* had cleared Akashi Strait, and passed Matsuga-no-hana light. The big steamer struck the despatch boat aft, near the engine-room. Neither the officer of the

Original from

watch nor the pilot on board the *Hiroshima Maru* saw the *Kure Maru's* side light. The two men on the outlook confirm this statement. The despatch vessel was attempting to cross the *Hiroshima's* bow. Immediately the vessel's position was observed, the *Hiroshima's* engines were put astern, and to this doubtless is due the fact that the despatch boat was not instantly sunk. Boats were at once lowered, and the *Hiroshima Maru* stood by until the disabled vessel had been beached on Awaji-shima. No lives were lost. The *Hiroshima Maru* proceeded on her voyage at 4.20, arriving here at 6.30 this morning. The steamer will probably have to go into dock, as the stem is twisted and one or two of the bow plates are fractured.

We are able to supplement this information with additional news. Just prior to the disaster the Chief Officer, Mr. N. Tate, with the object of relieving Captain Pyne as much as possible, knowing him to be recovering from an illness, went to the chart-room to report the ship's position, and was proceeding to give effect to the order received, viz., to slow down, as the Commander was not desirous of making the port before daylight, when he caught sight of a mast-head light close ahead. He had barely spoken to the second officer, who was on watch at the time, when he saw that a collision was imminent, and immediately ordered the helm hard a starboard, giving the signal to the engine room, "Full speed astern." The steamer appeared to be endeavouring to cross the *Hiroshima Maru's* bows, and a few seconds afterwards the collision occurred, the huge merchant steamer crashing into the despatch boat just ast the engine-room. Captain Pyne was on the bridge in a moment, ordered the second officer, Mr. V. C. Nightingale, away in the quarter-boat at once with instructions to bring away as many as possible, and to report what help was needed; and kept his command as close to the other vessel as possible. Shortly afterwards the 3rd officer, Mr. Henry Taylor, was ordered to proceed to the wreck in the big pinnace. After some time had elapsed the quarter-boat returned, bringing the Captain of the despatch vessel and a lady. Asked why he had left his ship and not allowed others to leave, for it was feared that the vessel might sink at any moment, the Captain merely said:—"Oh, he would see if his ship could be towed to Kobe, or whether she would sink." It had not occurred to him to remain on board to the last, and to make an effort to beach his vessel. Finally, he returned to his vessel, and sent off in the *Hiroshima's* boat another lady and two children, in charge of a lieutenant, and these five were brought on to Kobe. Fortunately the tide and the impetus of the blow from the *Hiroshima Maru* carried the little vessel towards the shore, and after some time a number of fishing boats took her in tow, the Captain having evidently resolved upon beaching her if possible. In this he was virtually successful, though she toppled over and settled down just as she reached shallow water. A little more delay, such delay as it is easily conceivable would have resulted had Captain Pyne not troubled himself as to what the Captain's presence on board meant, would have put a very different complexion on the affair. The *Hiroshima Maru's* bow shows unmistakable signs of the force of the blow, the stem being turned round and started, and several plates being somewhat staved in, besides the starting of numerous rivets etc. As stated in the express, the steamer will require to go into dock for repairs. The following is an extract from the official log:—"At 2.30 a.m. Matsugahana light abeam half a mile. Altered course to E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 2.45 a.m. observed a white light bearing E. N. E. On approaching closer found it to be a steamer with no colored light visible, and crossing the bows to starboard. Seeing the position of the approaching steamer, instantly put helm hard a starboard and engines full speed astern, but owing to close proximity of the two vessels, a collision was inevitable, *Hiroshima Maru* striking the said steamer on the starboard quarter. Instantly lowered boats in charge of Second and Third officers and rendered every possible assistance, standing by disabled steamer until Captain was fully satisfied of his steamer. Steamer proved to be the No. 1 *Kure Maru* bound from Kobe to Kure, Hiroshima. 4.20 a.m. proceeded towards Kobe under easy steam, arriving in port at 6.30 a.m." The *Hiroshima Maru* was bound in from Nagasaki via Shimomoseki, and was to leave to-morrow for Australia, etc.

THE HOTEL FIRE IN KOBE.

Perhaps the most serious fire the Concession has experienced broke Wednesday, and resulted in the total destruction of the Hotel des Colonies. The hotel, as residents know, consists of two buildings—one of two stories and the other of three. At about twenty minutes past nine, as Mr. Boudou, the proprietor, was sitting in his office on the ground floor, one of the servants came in and told him that a fire had broken out on the top story. He ran upstairs, and found that the walls of the room from which water for the adjoining bath-rooms was heated, had caught fire, and that matters were already looking serious. The bathrooms were situated between the two buildings, on the north side, and the fire, which must have been smouldering for some time when discovered, had got into the roof, not only of the three-storied building but of the adjoining one. At once the alarm was given, the fire bell was rung, and within a few minutes the Concession fire engine arrived with Captain Sim and various other members of the Fire Brigade. By this time, however, short as it was, the fire had attained such hold that there was little hope of saving the buildings. Passers by who saw the first outbreak say that its progress was extraordinarily rapid. At five-and-twenty minutes past nine only a little smoke was observed coming from under the roof, yet ten minutes afterwards the whole roof was wrapped in a blaze. By this time Japanese fire brigades began to arrive, and quickly got to work on the flames, and a considerable body of Japanese police came down and reinforced the Concession constables, keeping back the crowd and giving the firemen room to work the hose. The commander of the Japanese man-of-war *Tsukuba-kun* also sent a body of men to assist, and under the direction of an officer they rendered very efficient service. For a while there was a scene of much excitement, guests and boarders bringing out their valuables, and the insurance company's agent directing energetic salvage operations. The coolies worked as only Japanese work at a fire, bringing out heavy and light articles and pitching them on to the ground in a promiscuous mass, apparently caring little in the excitement of the moment whether their endeavours to save property resulted in loss of life. Indeed, in connection with these salvage operations, an unfortunate accident did occur in which one man lost his life. As the fire got complete hold of the roof, various portions of the coping gave way from time to time, and fell into the street in blazing masses. One of these masses of burning material fell just as a large and heavy wardrobe was being lowered into the street, and whether, as is supposed, the men leaning over the verandah were struck and forced to let it go is not clear, but at any rate the blazing coping and the wardrobe came to the ground together with a crash, and when the smoke cleared away a Japanese was seen lying underneath the mass. He was immediately taken out and carried away, but was found to be so severely injured that he died an hour or so afterwards. Fifteen minutes from the time the outbreak was discovered it was seen that both houses were doomed. The fire ran along under the roof with incredible rapidity, and the rooms below were soon a mass of flames. It was curious to note how the flames seemed almost to make the light of the sun pale by comparison, while they were so fierce that it was necessary to stand some considerable distance off to avoid being scorched. Naturally a fire in the Concession drew a very large number of foreigners, and the visitors brought by the *Empress of China*, some of whom were entering the hotel with their luggage just as the alarm was given, showed up in great force. At twenty minutes past ten, about an hour from the outbreak, the double stack of chimneys on the south side, which at the time of the earthquake last year fell through the verandah, came down with a crash, falling right through to the ground floor and bringing a large quantity of blazing woodwork with it. Some portion of the mass of brickwork fell outwards, and it was feared at one time that one of the coolies was buried under the debris, but we are glad to learn that examination has proved this fear to be groundless. By eleven o'clock the two large buildings had been reduced to a mass of smoking ruins, in the midst of which several tall chimney-stacks stood bare and gaunt. Though it was found impossible to save any portion of the hotel buildings the efforts of the firemen to secure the safety of the godowns adjoining belonging to Messrs. I. Marians & Co. were more successful. At one time it appeared as if these godowns, one of which is of wood, were bound to go, especially as the space between was so narrow that firemen found great difficulty in working, but by constantly pouring water upon the walls and extinguishing flying sparks they were preserved from danger, though the roofs are damaged by tiles having been torn off by the coolies, as usual

according to Japanese methods of fighting a fire. Several of the boarders have lost all their belongings and effects—a serious matter in some cases. One gentleman escaped loss by the skin of his teeth. The policy on his effects would have run out yesterday afternoon, and as he had omitted to take steps to renew it he would have been a serious loser if the fire had taken place to-day instead of yesterday. Beyond the instance to which we have referred, where one of the salvage coolies lost his life, no one seems to have been hurt or injured in any way. As the fire occurred in the daytime, all the guests got out safely, but seeing the rapidity with which the fire extended it is unpleasant to contemplate what might have occurred had the fire taken place at night. We learn that the buildings are insured with various companies in the following amounts:—Royal Insurance Co., \$10,000; Liverpool, London & Globe, \$8,000; Commercial Union, \$7,000; Manchester, \$5,000; South British, \$5,000. In addition, the furniture is insured in the Manchester Insurance Co. for \$14,000.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

CRICKET.

BLUFF V. SETTLEMENT.

One of the most extraordinary games of cricket that has been played in Yokohama for a long time came off on Saturday, between the above teams. The Settlement went in first, represented by Tate and Layard, the latter being early retired, but the former, getting well set, made the big score of 60 before he was caught by Mair off Crawford, the batsman having successfully resisted all the attempts of White, Murdoch, and Wheeler to get at his sticks. There was no other score above the 20 of Parlett, and the innings closed for 134. Snow retired hurt, Showler not out, and the last man did not bat. But the extraordinary part of the game has yet to be recorded, and this can be told in a few words. White and Crawford went in and held up their wickets till, including 6 extras, they had beaten their opponents by 9 runs. White, not out, 63; Crawford, not out, 74; and this was against the bowling of Burn, who took five wickets in the match last week, and Edwards (W.) When each bowler had delivered 16 overs, Layard and Tate were put on, but with no better effect, and after their three overs the game closed. If there are two or three more men who can resist the attacks of such bowlers as Burn and Edwards in this fashion, then there need not be much fear about the result of the match pending with Kobe. Following are the scores:—

SETTLEMENT.	
Mr. Tate, c. Mair, b. Crawford	60
Mr. Layard, b. Murdoch	0
Mr. Burn, run out	9
Mr. W. Edwards, b. Murdoch	6
Mr. Dodds, c. White, b. Crawford	28
Mr. Parlett, c. and b. Murdoch	20
Mr. Cocksedge, c. Murdoch, b. White	40
Mr. Crouch, c. Nash, b. Crawford	3
Mr. Snow, retired hurt	14
Mr. Showler, did not bat	3
Mr. Ansdar, did not bat	3
b. & W. 2.	134

BLUFF.	
Mr. White, not out	63
Mr. Crawford, not out	74
Dr. Wheeler	—
Mr. Mair	—
Mr. Murdoch	—
Mr. Nash	—
Mr. Moss	—
Mr. Young	—
Mr. Cruickshank	—
b. & W. 2.	6
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AN INCIDENT OF EXTRA-TERRITORIALITY IN JAPAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tokyo, July 5th.

A situation of great interest in its bearing on the question of the Capitulations has lately arisen in this country out of a course of combined action and inaction on the part of the Portuguese Government. The extra-territorial immunities which are enjoyed by the Western Powers under their treaties with Japan provide exemption for the subjects of those Powers from Japanese jurisdiction of every kind, with the one exception that civil cases in which Japanese are defendants are heard in Japanese Courts. But the treaties which confer these immunities enjoin at the same time—constructively, at least—that the Powers thus granted exemption from the territorial jurisdiction shall provide efficient substitutes for the Japanese tribunals and laws. In the British Treaty, for example it is stated, in Article V., that "British subjects who may commit any crime against Japanese subjects, or

Original from

be subjects or citizens of any other country, shall be tried and punished by the Consul or other public functionary authorized thereto according to the laws of Great Britain." The treaties with Portugal and other countries contain identically the same provisions. It is clear therefore that, constructively, from the actual terms of those covenants, not to speak of the obligation imposed by plain duty and necessity, each Power is bound to provide and maintain the proper machinery for exercising jurisdiction over its nationals in Japan. The Consular Courts established under these conditions are of many and diverse kinds. While some of the Great Powers—England, the United States, Germany, and so forth—have acted up to their pledges, and have equipped tribunals that are fully equal to the needs of the case, several of the Consuls of the smaller Powers are *merchants only, with neither legal education nor legal experience*, and therefore unqualified to administer justice. Portugal, it is to be remarked, has been a grievous sinner in this respect. For 22 years after the conclusion of her treaty with Japan her sole representatives were unsalaried trading Consuls, with powers so circumscribed as to correspond only with those of a committing magistrate. Judicial control was entirely subordinate to the tribunals of the Portuguese colony of Macao, some 1,500 miles away. Hence, when an offence was charged or a claim preferred against a Portuguese subject in Japan, the Consul could only hold a preliminary examination and then refer it to Macao for instructions. At the end of 1883, as the result of protests made by Japan at the Treaty Conference of the previous year, the above unsatisfactory state of things was somewhat bettered by the appointment of a Portuguese Consul-General to this capital, with diplomatic as well as consular powers. But as the new official's jurisdiction was for some unexplained reason, limited to the metropolitan district, the old evil of subordination in Macao still existed at the rest of the treaty ports. In 1886, under this peculiar system, a Portuguese at Nagasaki who had actually confessed the theft of a hundred dollars from a Japanese was allowed to go scot-free because the Portuguese resident merchant-consul avowed incompetence to issue a warrant for his arrest. After this flagrant miscarriage of justice the link with Macao was at last cut, and in 1887 the Consul-General's Court in Tokyo became the Portuguese tribunal of reference for all Japan. With so much by way of preface, I pass to the direct subject of this letter.

At the close of last year the Portuguese Government, from motives of economy, resolved to abolish the post of Consul-General in Japan, without, however, informing the Foreign Office in Tokyo of their decision, which, in fact, was only made known to Viscount Enomoto, the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, in January, from the lips of the Consul-General himself. No alternative provision was made by the Lisbon Cabinet. It was not even proposed to revert to the original clumsy system of connexion with Macao. To Japan's immediate and earnest remonstrance, coupled with the request that the Consul General should at least be replaced by a properly-qualified Consul with full judicial power, the Portuguese Foreign Office only replied that the matter should be considered. Months passed, nevertheless, without any sign from Lisbon; and the Consul-General left Tokyo five weeks ago, not word as to the fact or the cause of his removal having been said by Portugal to Japan, nor any intimation been made that steps would be taken to reequip a proper judicial tribunal. Meanwhile, Viscount Enomoto had informed the Portuguese Government that, in view of their failure to make arrangements in due time for the proper exercise of consular jurisdiction, Japan would herself be compelled to assume jurisdiction over the Portuguese subjects—about 140 in number—throughout the empire after the 30th of June. No answer having been received to this notification, it was repeated, through the Japanese representative in Lisbon, on the eve of the date already named; but the Portuguese Foreign Office merely replied that the matter would be attended to in due course. Japan waited another fortnight and then took the decisive step of which Portugal had been fully warned. An Imperial Ordinance was issued yesterday, proclaiming that "the stipulations concerning consular jurisdiction which are contained in the treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government on the 3d of August, 1860, shall henceforth cease to be in force."

Portugal's reasons for thus failing to provide for the due judicial control of her subjects in Japan have yet to be heard. Until a more satisfactory explanation is forthcoming, it must be assumed that her having neglected to avert the present mischance, in spite of having had ample time to do so, can only be the result of indifference or carelessness, or possibly of her

having regarded the Japanese *ultimatum* as a mere threat. Japan's view of the case is, on the other hand, clear enough. The Emperor's advisers evidently hold that Portugal, by her failure, after fair warning, to maintain the discharge of the international obligations which she deliberately assumed under the treaty of 1860, has forfeited her title to the immunities conveyed by that treaty, and has practically abdicated her powers of consular jurisdiction. They doubtless hold, too, that by the provisions of the new Constitution the Government of Japan was bound to immediately terminate a state of things which permitted even as few as 140 people, of whatever nationality, to remain within the boundaries of the empire without any properly constituted means for their judicial control. Yesterday's ordinance has done that. By it every Portuguese subject in Japan is placed henceforward under Japanese law, and made answerable to Japanese tribunals. Moreover, owing to the extraordinary inaction of the Lisbon Government, this condition of things has come to pass without the concession by Japan of any *quid pro quo*. Portugal loses everything and gains nothing. The restrictions upon trade, travel, and residence, which would ordinarily be removed in consideration of a foreign Power's acceptance of Japanese jurisdiction, are still binding on the Portuguese in Japan, notwithstanding the extinction of their consular tribunals. *The Portuguese residents are, in fact in the position of subjects of a non-treaty Power.* Nor is there any prospect that the Japanese Government will surrender the jurisdiction now assumed. Yesterday's step is plainly final and irrevocable, if for no other reasons than that re-surrender would be tantamount to the making of a fresh treaty containing extra-territorial provisions, and that no Japanese Government could nowadays venture on such a course. It would be a strange ending of a strange case if Portugal should adopt the only practicable means of escape from her present dilemma, by proposing to make a treaty of equality with Japan similar to that lately entered into by Mexico. With Japan's assent, which certainly would be forthcoming, equilibrium would be more than restored to Portugal. For, while her subjects would then be admitted to the privileges of unrestricted trade, residence, and travel, as a set-off for the forfeiture of consular jurisdiction, they would at the same time have a clear start of the subjects of the other Powers, from whom those privileges must continue to be withheld as long as the present treaties remain in force.—*The Times.*

THE "TIMES" LEADER.

The curious "Incident of Extra-Territoriality in Japan," of which our Correspondent sends us an account in a letter which we printed yesterday, may very possibly be found to mark an epoch in the history of the foreign relations of Japan. Extra-territoriality has, so far, been a characteristic of the intercourse between the Japanese kingdom and the principal foreign Powers. It means that the Japanese Government have agreed by treaty to grant certain privileges to the subjects of the Powers in question, among these privileges being exemption from Japanese jurisdiction of every kind, except in civil cases in which Japanese subjects are defendants. These privileges are accompanied by corresponding restrictions on trade, travel, and residence, and imply a reciprocal obligation on the part of the Powers enjoying them to provide efficient substitutes, in the shape of Consular or other authorized and recognized Courts for the Japanese tribunals and laws. The whole system is a makeshift, no doubt, but it is more or less the natural out come of the peculiar relations which have subsisted in the past between foreign Powers and Japan. It is an inconvenience in many ways, and probably, sooner or later, it will come to be regarded as an anachronism. In the meanwhile, it exists, and, with goodwill on both sides, it can be made to work *tant bien que mal*. The greater Powers, such as England, Germany, and United States, have equipped tribunals that are fully equal to the needs of the case, and, except that the existence of these tribunals involves restrictions on trade, travel, and residence, which are not likely to be relaxed so long as the tribunals themselves are maintained, there is, perhaps, not much exception to be taken to them. But the case appears to be very different with some of the smaller Powers, which, while claiming all the privileges to which they are entitled by treaty, neglect to provide Courts of competent jurisdiction and capacity, and appoint Consuls who are merchants only and entirely without legal education and experience, to exercise the judicial authority involved in the right of extra-territoriality.

Among these smaller Powers Portugal appears, according to our Correspondent, to have been a grievous sinner. For many years after the conclusion of a treaty in 1860 between Portugal and Japan,

the extra-territorial Court of Portugal was presided over by an unsalaried trading Consul whose limited judicial authority was entirely subordinate to the tribunals of the Portuguese colony of Macao, some 1,500 miles away. It need surprise no one to learn that as a result of this manifestly impracticable system there were frequent miscarriages of justice, and in particular that a Portuguese at Nagasaki who had actually confessed the theft of a hundred dollars from a Japanese was allowed to go scot-free in 1886 because the Portuguese resident merchant-consul avowed his incompetence to issue a warrant for his arrest. Such a state of things was manifestly intolerable, and in 1887 the link with Macao was cut and the Consul-General's at Tokyo became the Portuguese tribunal of reference for all Japan. But Portugal does not seem to have been able or willing to maintain for long this not too lofty standard of judicial propriety. At the end of last year the Portuguese Government resolved to abolish the post of Consul-General in Japan, and actually did so without even so much as notifying its resolve to the Japanese Government. The Japanese Government first heard of the matter from the Consul-General himself, and their earnest remonstrances and representations only elicited the reply from Lisbon that the matter should be considered. The Consul-General left. No steps were taken to reconstitute his Court, and the Japanese Government very properly notified to Portugal that in the event of the extra-territorial jurisdiction being allowed to lapse the 140 Portuguese subjects resident in Japan would on a certain date be placed under Japanese jurisdiction. The Lisbon Government again only replied that the matter would be attended to in due course. Again the Japanese Government forbore to act, though they warned the Portuguese Government at the same time that their patience had its limits. At last, on July 4, an Imperial ordinance was issued, proclaiming that "the stipulations concerning 'Consular jurisdiction' which are contained in the treaty concluded with the Portuguese Government on the 3rd of August, 1860, shall henceforth cease to be in force."

Thus has Portugal lost the right of extra-territorial jurisdiction in Japan, and with it all the advantages enjoyed by a treaty Power. Henceforth Portuguese subjects must be content to submit to all the restrictions on trade, travel, and residence which are imposed on other foreigners in Japan, without enjoying the privilege accorded to other foreigners of suing and being sued in their own extra-territorial Courts. "Hippocleides doesn't care" is probably the sentiment of the Portuguese Government, and really, when the character of the Portuguese extra-territorial Court as described by our Correspondent is considered, there is perhaps no particular reason why any one else should care. But the matter will hardly be allowed to rest where it stands. Had they been so minded, the Portuguese Government might, it would seem, have followed the example of Mexico and secured the removal of existing restrictions on trade, residence, and travel, in return for a surrender of their extra-territorial jurisdiction. As matters stand, the jurisdiction is lost beyond recovery, but the restrictions still exist. Such a state of things could hardly be expected to last in the case of any other Power than Portugal, and the probability is, as our Correspondent points out, that even Portugal will at last awake to the consequences of her neglect and be compelled to sue for a treaty of equality similar to that concluded with Mexico. In existing circumstances she will probably get it for the asking, and thus another permanent breach will be made in the fence of extra-territoriality with which Japan has, to her annoyance and mortification, so long been surrounded. The question is how long, in such circumstances, will other Powers think it worth their while to maintain the fence. By submitting to Japanese jurisdiction, the subjects of Portugal would, on the conclusion of a treaty of equality, be admitted to the privileges of trade, residence and travel without restriction, and thus, as our Correspondent points out, they would have a clear start of the subjects of other Powers, from whom those privileges must continue to be withheld as long as the present treaties remain in force. If the *status quo* is to be maintained, it is perhaps as well that this advantage should only be secured by a Power so supine, so dilatory, and so unenterprising as Portugal. But it seems certain that, as soon as one of the more active and enterprising of the Powers thinks it worth its while to purchase greater freedom of commercial intercourse with Japan by the surrender of its territorial jurisdiction, the whole system of extra-territoriality, as applied to Japan, must forthwith come to an end.

THE COTTON SPINNING INDUSTRY IN SHANGHAI.

Mr. CONSUL-GENERAL HANNEN, in his report on the trade of Shanghai for 1891, writes:—

It has long been obvious that there was a wide field for the introduction of cotton spinning and weaving in China. Cotton is grown in great abundance all over the lower reaches of the Yangtze River; there is an almost unlimited demand for cotton fabrics, and labour is cheap and abundant. Two questions, however, presented themselves: the first was whether or no Chinese cotton could be successfully manipulated by European machinery so as to compete with American cotton, and the second, was what was likely to be the attitude of the officials in regard to any attempt to erect mills on the part of foreigners. The latter, indeed, was not left long in doubt. An absurd jealousy pervades the Chinese official mind of all foreign enterprise bearing on native trade, as if their mere success must necessarily mean taking bread out of the mouths, and money out of the pockets, of Chinese subjects. In the present case it was patent to any unprejudiced observer that the introduction of foreign capital for enterprises of this kind could only mean an unmixed benefit to China as a whole. If it succeeded, it would provide cheaper clothing for the people, it would give employment to a great number of labourers, and it would stimulate the production of cotton. But arguments of that nature have little weight in China, and the hostility of the officials was sufficient to deter foreigners from making any serious effect in that direction.

So long ago, however, as 1878, a Chinese company was formed to start a cotton mill. In the Trade-Reports from this Consulate for 1878-1879, a full account was given of the organisation of this company. The project was under the official sanction and protection of the two principal Viceroy, and by way of encouragement a monopoly of the business was granted them for ten years. The company was launched at a time of great prosperity, but long before the mill was ready, evil days had come, the promised capital was not forthcoming, or had been prematurely squandered, and for ten years and more the project languished. After much re-organisation and several changes of management the buildings were at last completed, the machinery erected, and the mill is now and has been for over a year in full working order.

The erection of the mill and its general control, so far as working is concerned, have been under the management of an American gentleman from Massachusetts, to whom no small credit is due for having grappled successfully with the many difficulties incident to the installation of a concern of the kind. So far as it has gone, it has demonstrated satisfactorily, what was long disputed, that Chinese cotton can be woven into cloth of a superior quality. The cloth turned out is an imitation of American drills and sheetings, 36 inches wide and made up in pieces of 40 yards in length, average weight 14 lbs. The present selling price in the Shanghai market is: for drills 2.32 taels and 2.40 taels, and for sheetings 2.35 taels and 2.42 taels per piece.

The working power of the mill at present is 550 looms and 21,000 spindles, and the turn out is 130,000 yards per week. There are at present 4 foreign employés, but doubtless some of these will soon be dispensed with. All the operatives are Chinese, who have been trained to the work within the brief period since the mill began, and they do their work quite as efficiently as foreign hands, though in some departments double the number is still required. The weekly wages for female hands runs from \$1 to \$1½, say 3s. to 4s. 6d., and for males from \$1½ to \$4, or 4s. 6d. to 12s. Cotton, ginned, costs delivered at the mill, 10 taels and 11 taels per picul, or say 3½d. and 3¾d. per lb.

Another venture in the same direction is a mill for the production of cotton yarn similar to that imported from Bombay. This company is also purely native and, with the exception of two foreign employés as superintendents, is entirely run with native hands. The machinery is English, and I understand is of the best description, specially adapted to the manipulation of Chinese cotton. The production is 8 bales per day of 400 lbs. each, and it finds a ready sale at what is understood to be very remunerative rates.

There seems every reason to expect that yarn spinning, now that the thing has once been started, will soon develop into a very large industry in Shanghai. The experience gained so far tends to show that yarn can be produced here at least as cheaply as in Bombay, and considering the enormous import of last year, and the rate at which the demand continues to grow, there would seem to be room for 50 mills of the capacity of the present one before the demand can be overtaken.

Whether the cotton cloth mill is likely or not to

meet with the same measure of success as the yarn mill remains to be seen, but at the present moment it is somewhat doubtful. That a well managed concern would hold its own in the production of strong coarse fabrics is probable, perhaps certain, but good management is a thing not to be obtained with Chinese directors. As an instance of the divided counsels that prevail on the Board of this particular company, it may be mentioned that half the looms are of English and half of American manufacture, that having been the result of the difficulty in agreeing on such a fundamental point as the supplying of the machinery. One party wished the order to go to England and the other to America, and as neither would give way, the result was the compromise above stated.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Hotel.

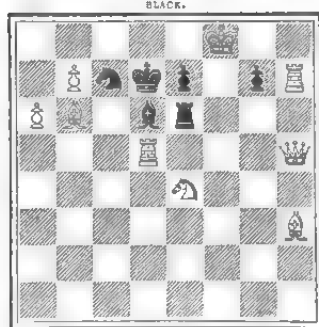
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 37.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—B to Q B 8 1—Any move
2—Q. R. or Kt mates accordingly.

Correct solutions received from Omicron, Scacchi, Omega, W.H.S., J.D., Digamma, and Ed. B. Ed. B. is also credited with correct solution of No. 35.

PROBLEM No. 39.

BY ED. BATAYUS, YOKOHAMA.



White to play and mate in two moves.

THE FORSYTH NOTATION.

An explanation of this method of problem notation which has been adopted by a few chess publications, may be of use to some of our readers. It possesses certain advantages, of which, brevity is not the least. The board is numbered from left to right, beginning at the top left-hand corner. The figures represent the number of vacant squares, the capitals mean White pieces, and the small letters, Black. The problem by Mr. Batavus above would be stated in this notation as follows:—

5 K3 P k1 k p r p R P B i b r 6 R3 Q4 Kt 10 B 16.

The Annual meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held in the Club-rooms on Monday last, 3rd instant. The new officers are as follow:—President Mr. Justice R. A. Mowat, Secretary Mr. Griffin. Committee, Messrs. Balk, Keil and Merian. The club meets for play every Monday and Thursday from 5 to 11 p.m., and visitors to Yokohama, who are chess players, will be cordially welcomed on club-nights.

The great contest of Masters at the Dresden tourney still fills the home chess journals. We transcribe two further games from the *Illustrated London News*. The first is a favorable specimen of the style of the veteran Winawer, while the other introduces a young and rising player, Herr Mackovitz.

CHESS IN GERMANY.

Game played in the Dresden Tourney between Messrs. Winawer and Bardeleben.

(STAUNTON'S OPENING.)

WHITE—MR. W. BLACK—MR. B.
1—P to K 4th 1—P to K 4th
2—Kt to K B 3rd 2—Kt to Q B 3rd
3—P to B 3rd 3—Kt to B 3rd
4—P to Q 4th 4—Kt takes K P
5—P to Q 5th 5—Kt to Kt sq.
6—B to Q 3rd 6—Kt to B 4th
7—Kt takes P 7—Kt takes B (ch.)
8—Kt takes Kt 8—P to Q 3rd
9—Q to B 3rd 9—B to K 2nd

10—B to K 3rd 10—Castles.
11—Kt to Q 2nd 11—Kt to Q 2nd
12—Castles (Q R)

Too dangerous against so experienced an antagonist. The object is to advance the King's side Pawns to the attack on Black's King.

13—Kt takes Kt 12—Kt to K 4th
14—Kt to Kt sq. 13—P takes Kt

P to K R 4th, carrying out the original intent, was now necessary. B takes P, Q to R 5th.

15—P to B 4th 14—B to Q 3rd
15—Q to R 5th

A telling move, rendered possible by White's failure to advance P to K 4th. Black threatens B to Kt 5th, winning the exchange, as well as Q takes P.

16—Q to K 2nd 16—P to Q Kt 3rd
17—P to B 3rd 17—B to K B 4th
18—P to K Kt 3rd 18—Q to B 6th
19—Kt to Q and 19—B to Kt 3rd
20—P to K Kt 4th 20—P to K B 4th
21—Q R to Kt sq. 21—P takes P
22—P takes P 22—P to K 5th
23—Q to K sq. 23—Q R to K sq.
24—P to R 3rd

This is bad, but he had no good move. If K to Kt sq., R to B 6th; s5, Kt takes R, P takes Kt (dis ch.); s6, K to R sq., B to B 7th wins a piece.

25—Kt takes R 24—R to B 6th
26—Q to B 2nd 25—P takes Kt
27—P to Kt 3rd 26—R to K 5th

Clearly the only way to protect the threatened B P. But Black's Bishops now operate with crushing effect, and, though the exchange ahead, White cannot defend his position.

28—K to Q sq. 27—B takes P (ch.)
29—R takes B 28—R takes Kt P
30—K to K sq. 29—Q takes R
31—K to Q sq. 30—B to Kt 5th (ch.)
32—Resigns. 31—Q to B 4th

The two checks threatened are fatal. The position may be studied with advantage. The game is one of exceptional interest.

Game played in the Dresden Tourney between Messrs. Mackovitz and Porges.

(GIUOCO PIANO.)

WHITE—MR. M. BLACK—MR. P.
1—P to K 4th 1—P to K 4th
2—Kt to K B 3rd 2—Kt to Q B 3rd
3—B to B 4th 3—B to B 4th
4—Castles. 4—Kt to B 3rd
5—P to Q 3rd 5—P to Q 3rd
6—P to B 3rd 6—Castles.
7—B to K Kt 5th 7—B to Kt 3rd
8—Kt to R 3rd 8—B to K 3rd
9—B to K 5th 9—Kt to K 2nd
10—B takes Kt

So far, the moves on each side are of a very ordinary character. This capture is of doubtful value, and turns out positively bad, though it has a promising appearance.

10—P takes B 11—Kt to B 2nd
11—Kt to B 2nd 12—Kt to B 4th
12—Kt to B 4th 13—Q to K B sq.
13—Q to K B sq. 14—Q to R 3rd
14—Q to R 3rd 15—Kt (R 4th) to B 5th
15—Kt (R 4th) to B 5th 16—Kt takes Kt
16—Kt takes Kt 16—B takes Kt
17—P takes B 17—Q to B 6th
18—Resigns.

A curious termination. White can defend by R takes P (ch.), followed by R to Kt sq.; or s8. P to Kt 3rd, B takes P (ch.); s9. P takes R, Q takes P (ch.); s10. K to R sq., Q to B 6th (ch.); s11. K to Kt sq. and Black mates in two moves.

A new magazine will shortly appear in London under the title of the *Chess Fortnightly*. Herr Lasker is to be editor, and will furnish the game department with copious and careful annotation.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 30th.

A Government commission will be appointed to enquire into the cases of the evicted tenants in Ireland.

London, October 2nd.

Mr. N. R. O'Connor, the new British Minister to China, has started for Peking.

A Russian scientific expedition is about to start on a two years' exploring expedition in Eastern Tibet.

London, October 6th.

Owing to the recent outbreak and general dissensions, the leave of the officers and men of the 1st Life Guards has been stopped.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate of England, is dead.

TENNYSON, Alfred (Lord Tennyson), D.C.L., F.R.S., Poet Laureate, third son of the late Rev. G. C. Tennyson, the elder brother of the late Right Hon. C. Tennyson D'Eyncourt, was born in 1809, at his father's parsonage, at Somersby, Lincolnshire; his mother, who died in 1865, being a daughter of the Rev. Stephen Eytchey. He was educated by his father, and in due course proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1829 he gained the Chancellor's Medal by a poem in blank verse, entitled "Timbuctoo." With the exception of a volume of poems published in conjunction with his brother Charles, when they were boys, and a prize poem, composed whilst an undergraduate at Cambridge, Mr. Tennyson did not publish anything till 1832, when "Poems chiefly Lyrical" appeared, and from 1832 the steady and rapid growth of his fame may be traced. The two volumes then issued were in part merely a republication, but the most important poems were those added to his former productions. It was at once apparent that the author of the "Morte d'Arthur," "Locksley Hall," the "May Queen," and the "Two Voices," was in like the first rank among English poets, a reputation which was more than sustained by the two great works which followed. So well known and popular, indeed, had Mr. Tennyson become before the publication of the "Morte d'Arthur," in 1830, that it seemed only a matter of course, upon the death of Wordsworth, in 1850, that the privilege of wearing "the laurel greener from the brows of him who uttered nothing base" should be offered to him. The "Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington" was published in 1852, on the morning of the funeral; and since that occurrence few events of more than ordinary interest in the eyes of Englishmen have taken place without eliciting from the Laureate some poem worthy of the occasion. He has written "Poems chiefly Lyrical," published in 1830; "Poems," in 1832; "The Princess, a Medley," in 1847; "In Memoriam," issued anonymously, in 1850 being a series of elegies—a tribute of affection to the memory of Arthur Hallam, a son of the eminent historian, and the chosen friend of the poet in his earlier days at Cambridge; "Maud, and other Poems," in 1855; "The Idylls of the King," in 1859; "Enoch Arden, and other Poems," in 1864; "The Holy Grail, and other Poems," published Dec. 25, 1869; "The Window, or the Songs of the Wrens," in 1870; and "Gareth and Lynette," in 1872. "A Concordance to the entire Works of Alfred Tennyson," published in 1869, is a remarkable proof of the Laureate's great popularity. At the Commemoration of 1892, the University of Oxford, giving expression to the universal feeling of England, conferred on the poet the honorary degree of D.C.L., and the Fellows of his own college, Trinity, Cambridge, endorsing the judgment of the sister university, subscribed to purchase his bust (by Woolner), which they have placed in their library, and in 1869 they unanimously elected him an honorary fellow of the college. In 1870 Mr. Tennyson republished "The Lover's Tale," a poem which was originally printed in 1835, but soon withdrawn from circulation. In the re-issue it is accompanied with a reprint of the sequel, a work of the author's mature life, "The Golden Supper." After this followed "Ballads, and other Poems." Among his dramatic compositions are, "Queen Mary," 1855; "Marion," 1861; "The Cup," a play which was represented at the Lyceum Theatre, Jan. 3, 1881, Mr. Irving taking the principal character (as also was "Queen Mary"); "The Falcon," produced by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal; and "The Promise of May," a drama in three acts, brought out at the Globe Theatre, Nov. 13, 1882. In Dec. 1883, Mr. Tennyson accepted a peerage as Baron Tennyson of Aldworth, Sussex, and of Freshwater, Isle of Wight. Since then he has published "Becket," "Tiresias and, at the end of 1890; "Locksley Hall—Sixty years After," 1890; "Demeter and other poems,"—Men of the Time.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

Kobe, October 4th.

The *Hiroshima Maru* collided with a Japanese despatch boat near Awajishima yesterday. The latter was beached but no lives were lost. The former had a few plates on the bow dented and fractured.

Kobe, Tuesday, 10.22 a.m.

The Hotel de Colonies caught fire at nine a.m. this morning, and was entirely destroyed. The fire is now under control. The premises were insured in the Phoenix and Royal Insurance Societies.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct. 14th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 15th.*
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 8th.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 14th.‡
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 10th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 22nd.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Oct. 30th.

* China left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 27th. † Ancona left Kobe on October 6th. ‡ Calcutta (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 5th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 8th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 9th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 11th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 13th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Oct. 17th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 21st.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Middlesex, British ship, 1,742, Clarke, 1st October, —New York 16th May, Oil.—China & Japan Trading Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 1st October.—Kobe 30th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 2nd October.—Vancouver, B.C., 18th September, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 2nd October.—Kobe 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,020, Watton, 2nd October.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 2nd October.—Hachinohe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 2nd October.—Otaru via ports 28th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thomasina McLellan, British ship, 1,788, Mann, 2nd October.—New York 25th May, Oil.—W. J. S. Shand.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 3rd October.—Mojito 1st October, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 4th October.—Hakodate.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 4th October.—San Francisco 17th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Smith, 5th October.—Hongkong 29th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Gleneagles, British steamer, 1,837, Sommer, 5th October.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 5th October.—Otaru via ports 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 5th October.—Kobe 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 6th October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Sinon, Evers & Co.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 6th October.—Hongkong 30th September, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 380, Yoshizawa, 6th October.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Fukui, 1st October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 1st October.—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 1st October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Walter, 2nd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, F. H. Seymour, 2nd October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 3rd October.—Hongkong and ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 3rd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 3rd October.—Shinagawa, Light.—Lighthouse Department.

St. Andrews, Norwegian steamer, 2,009, H. Hansen, 3rd October.—Hongkong via ports, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 4th October.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Brown, 4th October.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 4th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 4th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 5th October.—Mojito, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 6th October.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,648, A. Clark, 6th October.—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

—Mrs. T. N. Hooper, Miss T. D. Davis, and Mr. Matsumoto in cabin; 10 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss L. Bambridge, Mr. C. Barker, Rev. and Mrs. Barron, Mr. F. Bartlett, Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Beattie, Mr. S., and Miss Beaupied, Mrs. Bentley, Miss Bostwick, Miss Bosworth, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bourchier, Mr. R. A. E. Brierley, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. A. Burditt, Miss Isabella Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Mr. W. Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Max Christlieb, Rev. and Mrs. J. Cornwall and child, Mr. C. S. Cummings, Mr. H. J. Cummings, Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Davies, Rev. G. R. Davis, Mr. R. J. Denn, Mr. A. B. de Guerville, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Faucher, Mr. A. C. Fuller, Count and Countess Gelves, Mrs. John Gilman, Rev. W. H. Gillespie, Miss E. I. Glover, Rev. and Mrs. N. Gould, Miss Graham, Rev. W. H. Grant, Miss Graves, Mr. S. M. Green, Miss Griffith, Mr. C. Hrad, Mr. J. Head, Mrs. Hillier and child, Major Hutchinson, Mr. B. T. B. Hyde, Dr. F. E. Hyde, Mr. F. E. Hyde, Jun., Mr. N. G. Mitchell Jones, Rev. Fred. Jackson, Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Kepler, Mr. Landers, Mrs. Leigh, Miss Leigh, Miss Bessie Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Lincoln, Mrs. and Miss Lowry, Mr. A. Mass, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm, Mr. and Mrs. Mann, Lord Cecil Manners, Mr. J. R. Moore, Mr. Moore, Mr. Thos. Mosch, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. McCagg, Mr. T. W. Newcome, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Nevins, Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Noble, Mr. Nolde, Jun., Miss Sarah G. Noble, Miss Willa C. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. North, Mr. Oakley, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Parson, Jun., Mrs. D'Arcy Paul, Miss E. H. Plankinton, Rev. J. T. Scott, Rev. Mr. Seaton, Miss E. R. Scidmore, Mr. S. J. Stephens, Mrs. F. II. Stevenson and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. Smart, Mr. Max Turtill, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Walne, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Winston, and Mr. Frank Worthington in cabin; Mr. R. W. Blake, Lieut. H. C. Burrows, Dr. and Mrs. Grieg and infant, Miss Sinclair, and Mrs. Westwall and children in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss McCause and daughter, and Mr. W. F. Madarag in cabin; Captain McKilsar in second class, and 31 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. F. E. Saville, Mr. L. B. Tate, Miss Davis, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Hope, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Price, Miss Patterson, Mrs. Ye Cha Yuen, Mr. Mark B. Grier, Mr. W. B. White, Miss Tate, and Miss E. Houston in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss L. E. Hughes, Miss A. G. Waters, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. J. H. Garther, Miss M. and Miss E. Gray, Miss L. B. Blake, and Miss M. Bomar in cabin. For Hongkong: Colonel J. C. Ardagh, Mr. A. Romanoff, and Mrs. H. Andrews in cabin; 190 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Kirk and Madame Piorkowska in cabin. For San Francisco: Miss Wyckoff, M.D., and Mr. J. E. Janssen in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Butcher, Mr. Woodford, Mr. Newton, Mr. Rikoshio Sing, Mr. Yamada, and Mr. Tmili in cabin, and 17 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Sharland in cabin; Miss Yamamoto Kihni in second class, and 42 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—Dr. Mas. Mori, Mr. R. Gartner, and Mr. Lo Fat Sang in cabin; Mr. M. Furunaga and 14 Chinese in steerage. For Kobe: 3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Glauret, Mr. and Mrs. Dalton, child, infant, and amah, Major Robinson, Major and Mrs. Wynne-Eyton, infant, and servant, Mr. S. George, Mr. J. Rickett, Mr. Wong Sing She, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Phillips, Mr. J. H. Hingston, Captain Babinaton, Mr. D. Nowrojee and servant, Mr. J. Pestonjee and servant, Mr. Denning, Mr. Denning, Jun., Sergeant J. W. Edmonds, and Mrs. Ah Kai in cabin; 1 Indian and 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Wrightson, Mrs. Gerard, Miss Kopsch, Mrs. Drummond and child, Miss L. Masters, Rev. J. H. Worley and family, Rev. H. S. Jefferys, Rev. J. Sharp, Lieut. Takakuwa, Messrs. T. Takanouchi, Gower, John Mill, and J. Inglis in cabin; Messrs. T. Yamaguchi and Jas. Henderson in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. Eckley, Mrs. L. W. Eckley, Lieut. Arbouin, Mrs. Andrews, Mr. Romanoff, and Mr. A. C. S. Manners and native servant in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Varona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 550 bales; Waste Silk, 181 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 30th September at 10 a.m. and arrived at Shiwotsu at 1.20 p.m. Left at 3.35 p.m.; had light easterly winds to Oshima, which was passed the same day at 9.54 p.m.; thence moderate N.E. winds with fine clear weather to Rock Island, passing, the 1st October, at 1.24 p.m.; thence to port light N.E. winds, which continued fine throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st October at 7.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Hachinohe the 29th September at 3 p.m.; had gentle to fresh southerly breeze and overcast rainy weather and head sea; at 9 p.m. wind very unsteady with very low barometer, overcast, threatening weather and continuous heavy rain. On the 30th at 2.30 a.m. weather clearing up and finer looking; at 7 a.m. passed Yamada with fresh breeze and fine clear weather with heavy south-easterly swell, ship rolling heavily; at 11.20 a.m. passed steamer *Miike Maru* bound north; at 2.45 p.m. passed Kinkasan with light variable winds and calms with heavy south-easterly swell, ship still rolling heavily. On the 1st October light variable winds and clear weather swell decreasing; at 9.44 a.m. passed Inuboye; thence to port had fine, clear weather and moderate to fresh W.S.W. winds; passed Noshima at 6 p.m.; passed Kannon-saki at 10.30 p.m. Arriving at Yokohama the 1st October at midnight.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Otaru the 28th September at 1 p.m.; had overcast rainy weather with fresh north-easterly breeze and very low barometer. Arrived at Hakodate the 29th at 7 a.m. and left the 30th at noon; had fresh north-westerly breeze and heavy south-easterly swell and fair weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 1st October at 11.15 a.m. and left the same day at 2.25 p.m.; had fine, clear weather and strong N.W. and northerly winds up to port. Arriving at Yokohama the 2nd October at 2.35 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Left San Francisco the 17th September; crossed 180th meridian in lat. 46.00 N., on the 27th, 10 days out; on the 2nd October at 8.10 p.m. in lat. 34.40 N., long. 151.47 E. passed and exchanged night signals with O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*. Time, 16 days and 15 hours.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th September at 2.12 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th October at 2.39 a.m. Passage, 5 days, 10 hours, and 45 minutes; had moderate to strong N.E. winds with head sea the entire passage.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 1st October at 1 p.m.; had strong west and S.W. winds, cloudy, and squally, increasing to moderate gale at midnight; from which time to Hakodate fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 2nd at 8.45 a.m. and left the 3rd at noon; had fresh breeze and fine weather, wind decreasing gradually, the following morning fine clear weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 4th at 9.12 a.m., and left the same day at 1.08 p.m.; had light breeze and fine weather until midnight, freshening afterwards to fresh breeze to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th October at 1.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th October at noon; with light winds and fine clear weather off Oshima wind hauled to N.E. fresh and clear with moderate head sea remaining same to arrival at Yokohama the 5th October at 7.30 p.m.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 30th September at 10 a.m.; had throughout the voyage fresh north-east winds (monsoon) and moderate, partly rough, sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th October at 4 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The activity noted in our last has continued. In Yarns buyers seem handicapped by short supply of spot cargo, and it would appear that they were willing to do considerably more than the sales show, (provided they could get the assortments desired) as prices for Yarns soon to arrive have been advanced 30 to 50 cents. T-Cloths and both 8½lb. and 9lb. Shirtings have been done at full rates. In fact, sales have been made all along the line at current, or in some cases better prices, and at the moment there is nothing in staple goods which seems to drag.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	\$1.60 to 2.20
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	1.05 to 1.50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 22 inches	0.32 to 0.16
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds. 42-3 inches	6.00 to 9.20
Faffacholas, 12 yds. 43 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.8½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.74 to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.34 to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
	1.82½ to 2.07½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.23 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.27½ to 0.30
Medium	0.24 to 0.26½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.23
Common	0.14 to 0.17
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Pilots, 34 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.54½
Cloths—Presidents, 34 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Cloths—Union, 34 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.49
Manilets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 325, Two-fold	32.00 to 33.50
No. 425, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
No. 205, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 165, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 101 & 4, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Sales have been steady, but market is without any new features to note, and quotations are unchanged except for Galvanized Sheets, which have been in some demand, and are up 20 to 30 sen, owing to light stock on hand just at the moment.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

We intimated in our report a fortnight ago that part of the cargo of the steamer *St. Andrews* would be carried on to Kobe. She left on the 3rd inst. taking 32,000 cases Russian Oil. Against this, however, we note the following arrivals:—

Steamer *Glennagles*....."Comet".....40,000 cases.
Steamer *Middlesex*....."Comet".....64,437 cases.
Steamer *T. MacLellan*....."Chester".....66,500 cases.

Notwithstanding these arrivals prices have remained firm and close at recent rates.

QUOTATIONS.

	PER PICUL.
Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devon	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Sales have been active both in Brown and Whites, and there seems less stock than last reported, notwithstanding the arrivals during the week. Holders appear to have things their own way for the present, and have pushed up prices all round, buyers being free takers at the advance.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.05
Brown Daitong	4.15 to 4.20
Brown Canton	6.20 to 6.25
White Java and Penang	5.50 to 7.75
White Refined	

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 30th ultimo, since which date settlements by foreigners amount to 750 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 7 piculs; *Filatures*, 180 piculs; *Re-reels*, 407 piculs; *Kakada*, 72 piculs; *Oshu*, 81 piculs. In addition to these figures, there have been considerable direct shipments, making the total export business equal to 900 piculs.

Quotations are practically unchanged from last week, although the market is much more quiet, and

buyers would be glad of some reduction in prices which so far sellers refuse. These latter are, however, rather anxious to be moving, although they will not accept the offers which buyers are able to make, and with one or two exceptions, there are no alterations in prices since last week; good qualities being scarce are very firmly held, while medium and inferior grades could probably be obtained on easier terms.

Exchange has gradually advanced to quotations given below in sympathy with an upward market for silver in London.

Arrivals have come down pretty freely of late, the interior merchants hurrying their stock forward, attracted by the high prices ruling here. The present stock list comprises 7,400 piculs of all descriptions, as per details at foot.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail of the 2nd October taking 550 bales for Europe. The present export figures are 17,611 piculs, against 14,330 last year and 4,577 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—A small business in these during the week, but high prices have been paid for good silk. *Shinshu*, \$670; *Foshu*, \$660, with other grades in proportion.

Filatures.—Less doing in this department during the week, although prices are well maintained. *Kameisha* has been done more than once at \$900 per picul, but the majority of shippers do not seem able to pay this figure. They make offers of about \$20 less, which so far sellers will not accept. One parcel *Shojukan* has found a buyer at \$910. In fine sizes, there has not been a large business, but good silks have brought good prices.

Re-reels.—This class has shown the largest results during the present week, medium grades being in special demand. Very ordinary *Foshu* silks have been done at \$720 to \$730; *Bushu* and like quality at the same rates.

Kakada.—These show a smart reduction on the last rates paid, which were more or less fancy prices. At the present values these silks look good and worth the money.

Oshu.—Considerable purchases of medium *Sendai* at 630. *Hamatsuki* are held for higher figures, but with no business doing.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

	Nom.
Hanks—No. 14	\$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 21 (Shinshu)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 34	550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	930
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	830 to 850
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakadas—Extra	Nom.
Kakadas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakadas—No. 14	780 to 790
Kakadas—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakadas—No. 24	690 to 700
Kakadas—No. 3	670 to 680
Kakadas—No. 34	650 to 660
Kakadas—No. 4	630 to 640
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	630 to 640
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	670 to 680
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 7th Oct., 1892:—

	Season 1891-1892.	1892-93.	1890-91.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	7,446	5,109	1,522
America	9,858	8,744	2,923
Total	17,304	13,853	4,445
Settlements and Direct	17,611	14,330	4,577
Export from 1st July	20,900	14,800	4,500
Stock, 7th October	7,400	13,800	13,700
Available supplies to date	28,300	28,600	18,200

WASTE SILK.

A large business in this market amounting to 2,140 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 136 piculs; *Noshi*, 1,207 piculs; *Kobisa*, 797 piculs. Nothing done for direct export this week.

The purchases made seem more or less speculative, and prices have been strongly advanced. Cables from consumers protest against these figures and say they cannot afford to pay them; but some of our buyers appear able to go on at quotations, while on the other hand Japanese are becoming excited and look for still higher prices.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

There have been two shipping opportunities, the English mail of the 2nd instant taking both *Waste and Cocoons* for Europe, while the Canal steamer *Carmarthenshire* had about 100 bales *Cocoons* for New York. These departures bring the present export figures up to 4,239 piculs, against 3,656 piculs last year and 2,732 at the same date in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—Only one transaction to note at the previous price of \$105 per picul, 75% yield.

Noshi.—A very large business in this class, *Shinshu*, \$110; *Zaguri*, \$105; *Oshu*, \$132½; *Filature*, \$130; *Joshu*, from \$63 to \$76. Holders now stand out for a strong advance on these prices.

Kibiso.—Large purchases in *Filatures* at from \$85 to \$112, sellers now asking an advance of \$10. Ordinary *Mino* has been done at \$55, with other grades in proportion.

Mawata.—The stock is small, consisting chiefly of old fibre, new season's produce only having come forward in very small quantity. No business has been done as yet and no price named.

Sundries.—Nothing done in these. Supplies do not come forward freely of *Neri* and kindred sorts, so that there is no business to report.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	\$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshin, Good to Best.....	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best.....	110 to 125
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	80 to 82½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	75 to 77½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	70 to 72½
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good.....	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low.....	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 7th Oct., 1892:—

	SEASON 1892-93. PICULS.	1891-92. PICULS.	1890-91. PICULS.
Waste Silk.....	3,398	3,656	2,507
Pierced Cocoons.....	641	—	225
	4,239	3,656	2,732
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July } Stock, 7th October.....	PICULS. 10,050 15,050	PICULS. 5,750 15,000	PICULS. 6,400 11,500

Available supplies to date 25,100 20,750 17,900
Exchange has gradually climbed up to the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71½; 4m/s. U.S. \$72½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.75.

Estimated Silk Stock, 7th Oct., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	460	Cocoons.....	1,160
Filatures.....	3,400	Noshi-ito.....	7,136
Re-reels.....	2,786	Kibiso.....	6,508
Kakada.....	397	Mawata.....	88
Oshu.....	340	Sundries.....	158
Tayssam Kinds.....	17		

Total piculs..... 7,400 Total piculs..... 15,050

TEA.

Stock has increased since last report owing to buyers holding off. Sales reported have again been mostly of the higher grades. Export seem to run neck and neck with last season, shipments in both instances being about 26,400,000lb.

Choicest.....	740 PICULS.	\$32 to 33
Choice.....		28 to 30
Finest.....		25 to 27
Fine.....		22 to 24
Good Medium.....		19 to 21
Medium.....		17 to 18
Good Common.....		14 to 16
Common.....		12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady but now, at close of the week, gives indication of rising above the extremely low rates which have been prevailing of late.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3.63
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	2½ d. dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	3½ d. dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight.....	74½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	71½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	72½
Silver.....	38½

FOR SALE, THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL: SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:

No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji. Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

In a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. Cooper, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says:—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout Word.

May 21st, 1890.

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL L'POOL INTERN'L EXHIBITION, 1883.

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SPECIAL BRANDS:—

"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
"Richmond Smoking Mixture."
Superfine Bird's Eye.
"Golden Brown" Fine Cut.
Bright & Black Plug Cavendish.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 15TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可認者信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 15TH, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on the 13th inst., by the Rev. E. C. Irvine, M.A., BROOKE HYDE PEARSON, second son of Charles Pearson, late 4th Dragoon Guards, to KATE CAMPBELL, youngest daughter of the late John Coleman Griffith of Toronto.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. NAKAJIMA, ex-President of the House of Representatives, was appointed Japanese Minister to Italy on the 7th inst.

MR. ISHII HACHIROEMON has been chosen as representative for Kamakura in the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly.

THE resignation of Mr. Isahaya Ichigaki, a member of the House of Peers, was accepted on the 7th inst.

A DESPATCH from Sendai reports that a rumour in current that Governor Funagoshi, of Miyagi, has sent in his resignation.

THE Chrysanthemum gardens at Dangozaka, Tokyo, will be opened to the public on the 20th inst.

MR. ODA SEIBEI, representative of the highest taxpayers in the Upper House for Miyazaki Prefecture, died on the 3rd inst., in the 32nd year of his age.

MESSRS. KOMATSU, President of the Yokohama Local Court, and Sugiyama, a Judge of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, were released from their posts on the 8th inst.

A FATAL explosion took place in an elementary school at Higashiku, Osaka, on the 6th inst. &

4.30 p.m., by which a teacher was killed, and three pupils wounded, two severely.

THE Japanese Standing Squadron, consisting of the *Chiyoda*, *Naniwa*, *Musashi*, *Yamato*, and *Katsuragi*, left Shinagawa on the 8th inst. on a cruise round the coasts of Hokkaido.

THE election to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Kataoka Shutoku, a member of the Chiba Prefectural Assembly, has resulted in the return of Mr. Tsuji Mokichi, a Progressionist.

KAWAMINAMI MASAO, a *shinoku* of Kagoshima, who gave himself up to the Kyoto Police the other day, confessing to having sent a bomb to Mr. Kono, Minister of State, was released on the 5th inst., his statements having proved false.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt in Tokyo on the 8th inst. at 1h. 35m. 54s. p.m. The duration was 20 seconds, and the direction from E. to W., the maximum horizontal motion being 0.2 millimetre in 0.3 second.

DURING a severe blow on the 23rd ult. two fishermen belonging to Takenomura, Nina District, Shimane Prefecture, were drowned by the capsizing of their boat off the shore at Koromura.

THE quantities of tea that arrived at Kobe from the interior during last month, and were sold to foreigners were 552,800 *kin* and 611,700 *kin* respectively, the quantity that remained in stock on the 30th ultimo, being 50,034 *kin*.

THE foreign trade of Soul, Korea, during July last amounted to yen 6,351,969 in value, of which yen 3,252,284 represented imports of Japanese goods, and yen 2,650,100 imports of other foreign commodities, and yen 439,585 exports.

THE 7th inst. being the 3rd anniversary of the birth of H.I.H. Princess Fumi, Imperial messages with presents were despatched to her Palace at Azabu by Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor, Empress, and Empress-Dowager, and H.I.H. the Crown Prince.

PRINCESS MORI, Marchioness Nabeshima, Countesses Ito, Inouye, Matsukata, and Kuroda, Viscountesses Miyoshi, Kabayama, and Mrs. Kuki have been commanded by H.I.M. the Empress to form the Committee of the Tokyo Charity Hospital.

THE following naval appointments were gazetted on the 6th and 7th inst.:—Saito Yuzo to be Paymaster of the *Fingei Kan*, Hagiisawa Kwan-ichi to be Surgeon of the *Itsukushima Kan*, Nakajima Saiya to be Surgeon of the *Musashi Kan*.

MESSRS. HORIBE KATSUSHIRO, Okuda Masaka, and several others of Aichi Prefecture have received Government sanction to establish a go-down company to be called the *Nagoya Soko Kaisha* with a capital of yen 200,000. The premises are to be constructed near the Nagoya Railway Station.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Kobe brings the intelligence that on the 6th inst., while efforts were being made to float the *Kure Maru*, now lying in deep water, having collided with the *Hiroshima Maru*, the hawsers snapped and the vessel foundered. Two workmen were drowned, and some ten were injured.

SOMEWHAT severe shocks of earthquake were felt at Nagoya on the 6th and the 7th inst. Since the occurrence of the disastrous earthquake of October last, 1,168 earthquakes have been registered at that town. The number of

shocks felt in Tamba and Haguri Districts of Owari Province during the same period, total twice this amount.

NAKANO and Takashima Divisions of Yuraku District in Gumma Prefecture were visited by a violent hail storm on the afternoon of the 1st inst., which raged for about half an hour. Some stones are said to have been over 5 *momme* (one *momme*=58 grains troy) in weight, and accumulated to a depth of almost three inches. Much damage was done to the crops.

A MAN named Yoshino Isobachiro, formerly a reporter on the staff of the *Hokuriku Shimpō*, who enthusiastically supported the interests of the *Fuyu-jo* candidate in the last general elections in Ishikawa Prefecture, was sentenced on the 6th inst. in the Kanagawa Local Court, to major confinement for three years, for having fatally assaulted a political opponent during the election disturbances.

THE hearing of an appeal raised by Mr. Kitahara Rokuzo, of the *Yokohama Boyeki Shim-bun*, against a decision of the Local Court, by which he was sentenced to two months' major confinement for having traduced officials, concluded in the Tokyo Local Court on the 7th inst. He has now been sentenced to major confinement for one and a half months, and fined seven.

SALES in the principal lines of imported goods were somewhat smaller this week, but the lull was to be expected after the large buyings of the previous fortnight. Prices are still maintained, sellers refusing the offers of inland merchants, but the hardening exchange will no doubt enable them to come down a point or so without disadvantage within the next few days. There appears to be a slight scarcity in certain descriptions of woollens and several orders have been booked for arrival. Metals are moving off at unchanged rates, the native stocks having run low. Country traders seem anxious to lay down their winter supplies of Kerosene, fearing a further possible rise, and quotations are firm. A rise of 20 cents. has taken place in Brown sugars, buyers rushing in to replenish their extremely low stocks before a further appreciation of silver takes place. So anxious indeed are they, that delivery has been taken from the hatoba, and "futures," at higher rates, have changed hands in several instances. There is very little to note in Tea, sales being moderate and business lacking life. Another "boom" in Raw Silk took place during the earlier part of the week, and settlements to the amount of 2,178 piculs are registered by foreigners. The "leviathans" managed to clear the ground of certain grades of silk now in free demand in the States, but the market closes steady. Quotations are falling in sympathy with the rise in exchange, but holders still only look with favour at top prices. Owing to the rapid selling during the last three months, summer reelings are getting scarce, while there is some falling off in colour, quality and general preparation. The business in Waste Silk has been chiefly confined to two or three operators, who, competing with one another, have paid high rates for good fibre. Settlements for the week are 2,331 piculs, but stocks are heavy, and everything tends towards a lower market somewhere in the near future. The total export figures of Raw Silk, up to the present, is 19,919 piculs against 14,425 piculs last year, and 4,731 piculs the year before. In Waste Silk the figures are:—1892, 6,674 piculs, against 4,495 piculs in 1891 and 3,828 piculs in 1890. Exchange is slowly advancing and a return to 3/- for sight should not be far distant, provided that silver continues to rise in London.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT SAIGO.

COUNT SAIGO, President of the National Union, and his followers have been making a political tour in the north-eastern provinces, and their movements have been reported in our columns from time to time. Their absence from Tokyo extended to nearly two months, and it was understood that they projected a visit to Sendai and its neighbourhood after their last meeting at Shirakawa in Fukushima Prefecture. Meanwhile Nagano, Ishikawa, and Yamanashi Prefectures sent invitations to them, but as they had no time to spare, and conferences had to be held in Tokyo soon, they left Shirakawa on Thursday, the 6th inst., for the capital, and arrived at the Ueno Station on the afternoon of that day. There they were met by Mr. Inouye Ki, a Privy Councillor, Messrs. Sone, Furusho, Abe, Maki, and several other members of the Diet, as well as by about a hundred members of the National Union. Proceeding to the office of the Party in Shiba Park, Count Saigo delivered a short speech, in which he declared that he and his followers had been welcomed everywhere, and that he was pleased to think that he had made a large number of new acquaintances. Subsequently Messrs. Arai, Hayakawa, and Ooka related the principal incidents of their travels, and the meeting broke up at 4 p.m.

The *Hochi Shimbun* reports that while Count Saigo and his party were at Honjo in Akita Prefecture, the supporters of the National Union entertained them at a restaurant. Soon after they had sat down to dinner, one of the guests was taken suddenly sick, and presently everybody began to feel ill, Messrs. Nita and Hayakawa, members of the Diet, suffering conspicuously. Some one cried out that the keeper of the restaurant was probably a member of the Popular Party and had poisoned them all. A barrister among the guests forthwith began to talk of a criminal case, and for a moment much excitement prevailed. But fortunately, a very well-known supporter of the Popular Party and his son were among the *invités*, and it was observed at this juncture that the father was tending his son who had been taken violently sick. People began to reflect, therefore, that the thing could not have been instigated by the Popular Party. Subsequent investigation showed that the cook had boiled a certain kind of sea-weed in a copper saucepan to make jelly, and the saucepan being old, the jelly had emerged in a very deleterious condition. Fortunately no one was seriously injured.

The President of the National Union returned from his political tour a few days ago, but has decided to start again for Miyagi Prefecture on Wednesday next. Messrs. Ooka Ikuzo, Furusho Kamon, Arai Go, Kawamura Jun, and Yamana Jiro are to accompany him. The Count is expected to return to Tokyo in about a week.

MR. ITO KENKICHI M.P. V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

In connection with the singular occurrence which occupied the attention of the House of Representatives on the closing day of last session, the *Kaishin Shimbun* published a statement to the effect that Mr. Ito Kenkichi M.P. had been engaged distributing bribes to some members of the Diet to induce them to vote for the appropriation on account of constructing men-of-war. This assertion appeared in the columns of the *Kaishin Shimbun* on the 22nd June 1892, and Mr. Ito at once instituted a libel suit against the *Kaishin*. The case came up for hearing on Friday last, Messrs. Miyake, and Aoki, acting as counsel for the plaintiff, and Messrs. Isobe, Kubota, Asakura, and Hatoyama for the defendants, namely, the Editor and Publisher of the *Kaishin Shimbun*. Judge Matsunaga presided, as Chief Judge. Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, M.P., appeared as a witness, and after he had answered the usual preliminary questions, the Judge asked one of the counsel for defendants to explain the

nature of the evidence which they sought to obtain from Mr. Inagaki. Thereupon Mr. Asakura rose and said that the news published in the *Kaishin Shimbun* on the 22nd June, to the effect that Mr. Ito Kenkichi and Mr. Inouye Kakugoro had been guilty of distributing sums of from yen 200 to 800 yen to certain members of the Diet, to induce them to support the appropriation for the construction of men-of-war in the third session of the Diet, had originally been reported by Mr. Segawa Mitsuyuki, one of the staff of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, who alleged that he had received the information from Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, M.P. The defendants therefore desired that Mr. Inagaki should state exactly what he knew on the subject. Mr. Inagaki replied that he had indeed informed Mr. Segawa of the alleged facts, because he believed them to be true. One evening Mr. Kuga had come to him, and implored him to vote for the Bill referred to, saying that if he would promise to do so, an appropriate reward should be given to him. Mr. Kuga had further explained that several members had already consented to vote in the desired sense, and that, as he was distinctly informed, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and Mr. Ito Kenkichi had been the means of inducing Messrs. Tatekawa Okazaki, and Chiba to pledge their votes in consideration of receiving sums varying from yen 200 to yen 800. Mr. Kuga also represented himself as instructed by Mr. Okamoto Masanosuke, who had been commissioned by Mr. Honshuku, Superintendent General of Accounts in the Naval Department, to approach Mr. Inagaki with a similar proposal, and to offer him yen 200. But Mr. Inagaki, indignant at the nature of such corruption, refused the offer, and told Mr. Kuga that he should disclose the scandalous procedure in the Diet. Mr. Kuga thereupon implored him to keep silence, but he, deeming it his duty to divulge the truth, had told the story to Mr. Segawa, and had subsequently brought up the subject in the House. The result of the latter step had been a secret session on the 14th of June. Returning home somewhat early on the evening of that day, the witness had met Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, who stopped him and said:—"Why did you make such cruel revelations. You have caused me much annoyance." Mr. Inagaki thereupon asked how Mr. Inouye proposed to defend himself, but Mr. Inouye refused to inform him, saying that it would be known soon without telling. "I should not have believed," continued Mr. Inagaki, "the word of Mr. Kuga so readily had not a similar offer been made to me previously by Mr. Okamoto with regard to the question of the land-tax. Mr. Okamoto asked me to vote against the Bill for the Reduction of the Land-tax; and declared that if I promised to do so, he should pay me two or three thousand yen at once. But as I was in favour of the Bill, I declined to agree." Mr. Inagaki further alleged that he had been asked by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro to work with him in pushing his policy, for which service from five to seven hundred yen would be given to him. This offer had been made to him soon after his arrival in Tokyo after the general election, but he had refused to accept it, because Mr. Inouye's policy was different from his. "Having already had all these offers," concluded the witness, "I believed that Mr. Kuga was telling me the truth." The Court, at this stage, adjourned till the afternoon. On its re-assembly, the counsel for the defendants asked the Court to summon Mr. Yamada Toji, Chairman of the Special Committee of the House of Representatives, which had been appointed to investigate the Bribery Case, so that he might be asked to state what had transpired in the secret session. But the application was refused on the ground that such a step would contravene the Law of the Houses. It was proposed to summon several other witnesses, but the Judge considered it unnecessary. Mr. Kubota, counsel for defendants, applied to have the proceedings postponed for that day, in order that Messrs. Okamoto and Kuga might be summoned to give evidence. The Public Procurator supported this application, but the Judge would not grant it. Finally,

Mr. Yamamoto, Public Procurator, argued that though the *Kaishin Shimbun* alleged that the publication of the news had not been for the purpose of libelling Mr. Ito Kenkichi, but in the interests of the public, the evidence adduced by the defendants was not clear enough; nor could the testimony given by Mr. Inagaki be considered sufficient to establish their case. Therefore, the defendants ought to be dealt with according to the provisions in Clause 2 of Art. 358 of the Criminal Law. The Court was closed at 3.20 p.m.

The Judge, in this case, appears to have been guided by the principle that no evidence was admissible except that which bore directly upon the plea advanced by the defence. On the part of the *Kaishin Shimbun* it was not claimed, so far as we can see, that the accusation made in that journal's columns against Mr. Ito Kenkichi was true. The paper did not undertake to prove its allegations, but confined itself to pleading that it had them a trustworthy source, and that it had published them, not with any malicious or libellous intent, but in the interests of public morality. This defence excluded the testimony of any witness except Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, with whom alone the reporter of the newspaper had communicated, and as Mr. Ito figured in Mr. Inagaki's story at third hand only—Mr. Inagaki had been told by Mr. Kuga who had been told by Mr. Okamoto who had been told by Mr. Ito—it is probable that the Court will not consider the basis of the story sufficiently solid, so far as concerns Mr. Ito. But, for the rest, it is an ugly tale. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro figures in an especially equivocal light, for with respect to him there is a direct allegation, namely, that he offered a sum of money to Mr. Inagaki if the latter would support him in the House. Mr. Inouye is not directly implicated in the libel suit, but it is of vital importance to him as a politician to be able to obtain a verdict at the bar of public opinion, and he now stands arraigned on an ugly charge. We trust that the career of a man so gifted is not destined to be tainted thus early by the breath of corruption.

The civil suit brought by Mr. Ito Kenkichi, M.P., against the *Kaishin Shimbun* for libel, was heard at the Tokyo Local Court, on Saturday the 8th instant. The ground of action was that the newspaper had published matter charging Mr. Ito with receiving bribes in his capacity of member of the House of Representatives. We have already reported a portion of the proceedings in the criminal case between the same parties. The Court opened at 11.10 a.m. Messrs. Miyake, Yamamura, and Aoki, represented the plaintiff, and Messrs. Ichijo, Kubota, Asakura, Tomita, Hatoyama, and Isobe appeared for the defendants. Mr. Miyake, counsel for the plaintiff, demanded damages to the amount of 2,100 yen as an indemnity for injury done to his client's reputation. He said that the plaintiff, being a member of the Diet, his conduct is watched by the empire, and no libel more injurious could possibly be uttered than the statement published by the defendants that his convictions had been changed on account of the receipt of a bribe. The indemnity demanded was calculated on the basis of the cost of advertising. The number of newspapers published in the empire was about 120, and in each of them an advertisement of 50 lines would have to be published for 7 days, the total cost of which, estimated at 5 yen per line, would be 2,100 yen. Mr. Asakura, counsel for the defendants, denied that any such indemnity was required, inasmuch as the proceedings of the Court as well as the judgment would be published in the newspapers, which would suffice to rehabilitate the reputation of the plaintiff. Mr. Hatoyama, who also appeared for the defendants, denied that any such precedent as that proposed was recognized in Japan, and argued that as a man's honour cannot be estimated in money, the question of indemnity ought to be left to the Judge. Mr. Isobe, another counsel for the defence, rose at this point and inquired:—"May I con-

sider that Mr. Ito's honour is only worth 2,100 *yen*? a sally which provoked loud laughter in Court. Mr. Aoki gravely replied that the price of Mr. Ito's honour was inestimable, but that 2,100 *yen* only was demanded in connection with the present suit. Mr. Isobe then urged that no such indemnity was required to enable the plaintiff to reestablish his reputation. In France a franc is sometimes asked for, simply as a sign that the complainant's innocence is established, and he thought that such a course would meet the exigencies of the present case. The Public Procurator supported the plaintiff; and the Judge announced that he should deliver his decision on the 14th instant. The Court rose at 12.30 p.m.

The *Kokkai* states that Mr. Kuga, whom Mr. Inagaki Shimesu gave as his authority for the charges of bribery, intends to institute a suit against that gentleman on account of the statements made by him in the Criminal Court, which statements, Mr. Kuga alleges, were fabricated by Mr. Inagaki and are calculated to injure the reputation of the complainant.

MR. OI KENTARO.

A REPORTER of the *Kokkai* recently obtained an interview with Mr. Oi Kentaro, who is now busily engaged organizing the Eastern Radical Party. Mr. Oi said that, in pursuance of his project, he had held a meeting at Shimodate, but that the attendance had been much smaller than he expected, owing to another meeting being held by the Radical Party at Mito on the same day. He was nevertheless of opinion that his strength in the eastern provinces was now an assured fact, and, further, that he can count on a number of supporters in the western provinces, especially in Gifu, Shizuoka, Miye, and Osaka. The ceremony of inaugurating his new party is to take place at the end of the present month; and the avowed objects of the party are to sweep away all the accumulated Administrative abuses; to reconstruct the organization of the Opposition, which is now based on the control of the members of the Diet, and to amend the system of centralized political power in the sense of distributing it among local districts, the prime aim contemplated being to eliminate petty clashing of personal interests, and to concentrate political effort on the great affairs of the country. Such being the objects of the new association, Mr. Oi proposes to commence with the most difficult question of the day, i.e. Foreign policy. The reason of Treaty Revision not being accomplished is, according to him, that the Government has always slighted popular opinion, and the people have always attacked the views of the Government in return. Such a difficult question cannot possibly be settled unless the Government and the people work together harmoniously. Further, as slow and gradual progress is absolutely necessary, the Eastern Radical Party proposes first to approach the problem of regaining tariff autonomy, and when that is settled satisfactorily, other matters relating to foreign policy can be taken in hand.

TROUBLES IN KUMAMOTO.

AFTER midnight on the 29th ultimo, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, Takata Juro, Sakurai Koki, Makino Yuki and other well known members of the *Kokken-to*, assembled to the number of about 600, and, dividing their force into several parties, suddenly invaded Dakema Division. They knocked at the doors of members of the Popular Party, and shouted "Open! Open! An important message from Mr. Masunaga!" Mr. Masunaga being a distinguished member of the Radical Party, the door were opened in most cases, whereupon there followed an inrush of about ten men carrying drawn swords, who bound the master of the house with ropes, and carried him away to the residence of Mr. Hashimoto Kichizo, a member of the *Kokken-to*. These disorderly proceedings continued throughout the night, some forty members of the Popular Party being abducted by force. Strange to say, the police stationed in the village took no notice of what

was going on, nor did they communicate the fact to the Yamaga Police Station. On the other hand, whenever they saw any member of the Popular Party carrying a stick for self-preservation, they took it from him. On the 1st instant when a certain Mr. Takaki Buntaro, a member of the Popular Party, was entertaining some of his friends in his house, fifty men suddenly invaded the place, carrying naked blades. Mr. Takaki and his visitors retreated up-stairs, and drew away the ladder of communication, whereupon some of the rowdies thrust their swords through the mats, and demanded with threats where the fugitives were hiding, but receiving no reply, they smashed every article of furniture in the room and destroyed the *tatami* and *shoji*. At last the retreat of Mr. Takaki and his friends was discovered, and the invaders, forcing their way to the upper story, plied their sticks and fists so vigorously as to disable the unfortunate Radicals, whom they finally bound with ropes and dragged them through the street to the *Kokken-to* club. Messrs. Takaki, Nakamitsu, Masuda, and three others were all seriously wounded. Mr. Shiro Maiao, one of the men captured during the night of the 29th ultimo, escaped and carried information to the Police Station and the local authorities, when some gendarmes at once went to the rescue, and the Public Procurators promised that commissioners should be sent immediately. Mr. Shiro despatched messages to various political friends in the neighbourhood, and these assembled in considerable force and marched to Dakema Village. The rowdies having notice of their coming, built a fortress on a hill commanding the road, and when the Radicals approached, missiles were hurled down on them so that they could not pass and had to beat a retreat. A political meeting of the Popular Party was to have been held at Yamaga on the 1st instant, and Messrs. Furusho Kanjitsu, and Tanaka Kencho were staying in the town for the purpose. But soon as the above disturbance was reported, they retreated to Kumamoto, and gave information to Mr. Nakanishi, Chief Public Procurator, and other authorities. Among the roughs who invaded Mr. Takaki's house Somemaki Kumashichi, Otsuka Eikichi, Mino Tamekichi, Murata Masakichi, and Yamaguchi Chohachi are known, and of these the three former have been already arrested.

We have given these details exactly as they appear in the *Hochi Shimbun*, but they will of course be received with caution as an obviously *ex-parte* statement. Experience has not taught us that accounts of election disturbances published by either *Jiyu-to* or *Kaishin-to* organs can be taken without the proverbial grain of salt, though we do not pretend to think that there is any deliberate intention of misrepresenting facts, or that political bias betrays the writers into stronger partiality than is provoked on similar occasions in our own country. We know what complexion the Radicals in England imparted to the action of the Irish Constabulary, though no more loyal or scrupulous policemen are to be found anywhere. The constables stationed in the Dakema Division of Kumamoto are probably maligned by the *Hochi's* accusation of wilful indifference to the lawlessness of the *Kokken-to* and undue harshness towards the Radicals.

On the 6th instant Mr. Matsudaira, Governor of Kumamoto, who is now in Tokyo, received the following telegram from the Kencho in that Prefecture:—"In the disturbance at Dakema village, one of the *Jiyu-ha* and another of the *Kokken-ha* were wounded, but neither is seriously hurt, nor are the wounds caused by swords. No destruction of any house is reported, but in six houses belonging to members of the *Jiyu-ha*, *shoji* and articles of furniture were destroyed; and one house of the *Kokken-ha* suffered similarly. Five of the *Kokumin-ha* and two of the *Jiyu-ha* have already been arrested, one of the five having been apprehended by a gendarme. There is one more of the *Jiyu-ha* still to be arrested. Hoping to obtain a majority in the election for the Divisional Assembly, the *Kokken-ha* partisans captured 22 of the *Jiyu-ha* members,

and kept them in a closed room, but the police released them, and sent them back to their houses. Things have been very peaceful since." This telegram shows that the stories sent to Tokyo and published by the vernacular press are, for the most part, great exaggerations. Nevertheless it is evident that the violence has been chiefly on the side of the *Kokken-ha*.

THE THIRTY-THIRD NATIONAL BANK.

ON Monday the 3rd instant, Messrs. Shibusawa Eichi, Abe Taizo, and Suyenobu Michinari, who form the Committee appointed to make a final settlement of the affairs of the Thirty-third National Bank, convened a meeting of creditors at the Bankers' Hall. Out of 20 creditors 15 were present. Mr. Shibusawa took the chair, and reported the arrangements that had been come to in various matters relating to the bankrupt concern. Mr. Suyenobu then asked whether resolutions were to be passed by a majority of those present, or whether unanimous approval would be necessary. Were the Commercial Code in force, the express provisions of Art. 1036 would have been adopted—namely, that resolutions in such cases are binding if passed by a majority of those present, provided that their claims aggregate more than a moiety of the whole indebtedness. But no such rule was considered applicable under existing circumstances, and it was therefore decided to submit the question to the Minister of State for Finance. The next business was to determine the amount of the Bank's assets. These were found to aggregate something over 237,000 *yen*, the liabilities being 800,000 *yen*. It was explained that, owing to various circumstances, the whole of the assets could not be collected at once, some were payable monthly and others annually. To call up the whole immediately would involve the necessity of making certain reductions. The Committee therefore asked the creditors whether they were content to entrust the matter to the hands of the Committee. One of the creditors demurred, on the ground that, as ultimate payment must be exacted whether one year or thirty were involved, the best plan would be to make immediate collection. But the remaining fourteen creditors opposed this view, and declared their willingness to leave the matter in the Committee's hands. After some further discussion a resolution was finally taken that the whole management of the affairs of the Bank be entrusted to the Committee.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN TROUBLES IN CHINA.

It appears that the anti-foreign agitation is not at an end in China. Two reports published by the latest files of newspapers in Shanghai show that the spirit of unrest is abroad again. The proximate cause of excitement is the appointment of the well-known and liberal Mr. Wu Tacheng to be Governor of Hunan in place of Governor Chang, who seems to have made himself acceptable to the "patriots" of that peculiarly bigotted province. H.E. Wu is believed, probably with justice, to have been chosen for the governorship because the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung wishes to wean the people to a more liberal attitude, and as the people, or at least a section of them, would much rather remain in their present state of infantile conservatism, they object to the prospect prepared for them. Accordingly, there has been a new crop of anti-foreign literature. Dr. Griffith John conjectures that the old offender Chou Han is the author of the latest brochures. Chou managed to evade the consequences of his original outburst of fanaticism. He succeeded in getting himself officially reported as a fugitive lunatic, whereas the printers who published his writings were thrown into prison. It is suspected that the so-called madman has collected his wits sufficiently to compose a number of fresh essays, the chief purpose of which is to excite popular feeling against the new Governor Wu. The brochures boldly declare that Wu is banded with the barbarian devils, and that the latter, "whose covetous eyes have been glaring on Hunan for several decades with tiger-like fierceness," will quickly follow him in order to erect chapels and open places of business, the

result of which procedure would be "to eternally deprive the countless myriads of Hunan of the wherewithal to support life. There is much more in the same style. The people are openly incited to rebel against Wu's authority, and Kuo Sung-tao, the first Chinese Minister to Europe, as well as the Marquis Tseng, are denounced as devils and foes of their country. The anti-foreign faction cannot be said to be acting with much astuteness when it pits itself thus openly against the authorities.

The second incident alluded to above was a big meeting of students in a temple in Ch'angsha (in Hunan.) The three colleges and the twelve districts of the Fu were represented, the Presidents of the Colleges being present. It is also stated that the notorious Chou Han was among the audience, making himself particularly busy. The purpose of the meeting was to protest against the coming of Governor Wu, but we do not learn that the character of the proceedings was indicated in any way, except by placards pasted on the walls, denouncing the new Governor and inviting the people to exterminate foreigners. The most significant incident of the affair was a distribution of anti-foreign and anti-Christian literature on a large scale. The correspondent of the *North China Daily News* estimates that something like a thousand dollars must have been spent for the purpose of disseminating these vile tracts, among them being an unabridged copy of the notorious "Death Blow to Corrupt Doctrine." Naturally this correspondent observes that such doings constitute a striking commentary on the despatch addressed a year ago by the Tsung-li Yamen to Lord Salisbury, attributing the anti-foreign riots entirely to the circulation of this inflammatory literature, and announcing the Imperial Government's determination to "take most stringent measures for its suppression." It is an interesting fact that among the brochures recently issued, there is one denouncing the Kolao Hui, against which society the Government itself is now carrying on such an active campaign. The appointment of H.E. Wu to govern Hunan is probably the best evidence yet furnished of the Peking Government's resolve to check this dangerous anti-foreign agitation.

A POINT IN THE NEW GAME LAW.

Busy politicians are already beginning to pick holes in the new Game Law. They claim that the Government has acted unconstitutionally in fixing the sums to be paid for hunting licences without consulting the Diet. This criticism is based on the view that such fees are a tax; that the Constitution guarantees Japanese subjects against all taxes not levied according to the provisions of law, and that no law can be enacted without the consent of the Diet. But are license fees a tax? We do not see how such a proposition could be established. An essential element in the definition of a tax is that it is levied for the purpose of defraying the expenditure of the State. A fee paid for the privilege of pursuing game does not satisfy, and cannot be made to satisfy, that definition. It is a purely optional payment, made by a man, not as a unit of the nation, but in pursuit of his own pleasure or profit. If gaming licence fees be a national tax, then the price which the City Authorities of Tokyo propose to charge to any householder who desires to avail himself of the new water supply, will also be a tax. It is altogether a perversion of terms to allege that the sum paid by a subject of his own volition in exchange for a certain privilege, and left unpaid by any one who does not desire to enjoy that privilege, is a tax.

THE LATE NAGASAKI FIRE.

We have considerable pleasure, says the *Rising Sun*, in stating that the contemptible miscreant responsible for the recent incendiary fire at the Great Northern Telegraph Co.'s office, which had a narrow escape from resulting in the loss of several innocent lives, has been tracked, thanks to the vigilance of the police, and a full confession obtained. And what adds considerably to our

feelings on the matter is the fact that the villain in question is the enterprising party responsible for the daring attempt, made a short time ago, to set fire to Dr. Arnold's house, a compliment which at the time was scarcely appreciated, but is now thoroughly understood. The double incendiary, and would-be murderer, is named Fukui Kamakichi, and he was discharged from a very good situation — a store *banto*, on suspicion of having left a door unlocked, when closing one night, with anything but honest intentions. He afterwards succeeded in getting several other situations, but of course lost them as soon as his employers got wind of his doubtful propensities. One of his last situations was at Dr. Arnold's, and from the chain of evidence now unfolded there is not much doubt that both the recent cases of incendiarism were the result of malice engendered in consequence of his dismissal from that place. In addition to this, however, the man must have been a confirmed pilferer, as upon his house being searched a most miscellaneous collection of stolen articles were discovered, many of which were of themselves sufficient evidence of guilt. There is one consolation, now that he is safe under lock and key, and that is, he is likely to remain there for a good few years to come. In connection with the matter it is some satisfaction to Mr. and Mrs. Kragh to know that their servants, who were at first suspected of complicity, are entirely innocent.

WHALING AND SEALING.

THE Russian Naval Authorities seem to have committed a blunder of which the utmost advantage will naturally be taken. The story of the affair appears in the columns of the *Kobe Herald*—

Early on the morning of September 10th the whaling barque *Cape Horn Pigeon*, Captain Scullum, of New Bedford, Mass., U.S.A., was looking for whales in the Okhotsk Sea in Lat. 46.30 N. and Long. about 146° E. The vessel was lying to under lower top sails when a schooner was sighted bearing down upon her. This schooner afterwards proved to be the *Marie*, a new and very fast little craft which had sometime previously been taken by the Russians for sealing. Those on board the *Cape Horn Pigeon*, never anticipating any trouble, quietly waited for the schooner to come up, Captain Scullum thinking she might want to communicate with him about something or other. But when the schooner came near enough, a boat was lowered from her in which a Russian naval officer and nearly a score of sailors, all armed with rifles and bayonets, pulled off to the barque. The officer, followed by his men, boarded the barque, and the long and short of it was that he arrested the *Cape Horn Pigeon* on suspicion of sealing, took her crew on board the schooner, put his own men in charge of the *Pigeon* and brought her into Vladivostok, the schooner arriving in port however, four days before the larger vessel. The result of the affair was that when the case came to be enquired into by the Russian Admiral it was satisfactorily proved that the *Pigeon* was perfectly guiltless of sealing, and after some days her papers were returned to her, her flag restored, and she was allowed to proceed. But she has lost her chance for this season, and her owners can justly claim very heavy damages from the Russian Government for the loss. The crew of the *Pigeon*, it is said, were treated with the utmost inconsideration by the Russians; they were refused food, and had it not been for the humanity of a Chinese comrade they would have starved. The Government allowed the crew 50 kopecks of food a day, well enough in its way—but unfortunately the men could never get possession of even this allowance. An interesting feature in connection with this affair is to be found in the fact that the Whaler was in Vladivostok early in July last, and ought therefore to have been known. The *Marion* was in port when the vessel was taken in under the Russian flag, but nothing could be done. Four days after arrival, however, the Stars and Stripes were again flying from the mast head, and the next thing, doubtless, will be the despatch of official representations to Washington and the lodgement of a claim for fifty thousand dollars, which the Captain estimates to be the amount of his loss.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, LIMITED, KOBE.

THE Report of the Directors of the Oriental Hotel, Limited, Kobe, states that the total earnings in working account during the year ended August 31st amounted to \$53,253.52;

showing a profit of \$8,552.26. After making reasonable provision for depreciation, viz.—On Buildings \$500.00, on Furniture \$937.50, on Steam Launch \$60.80, total \$1,498.30, there remains, after the payment of Auditors' fees (\$100,) a balance of net profit for the year amounting to \$6,704.72. From this amount an interim dividend of 5 per cent. on ordinary shares for the half-year ended 29th February, 1892, was paid on the 30th May last, absorbing \$3,700, leaving now available for distribution the sum of \$3,004.72. From this the Directors recommend the payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares, making 8 per cent. for the year, and that the balance of \$784.72 be carried to credit of Reserve Account.

RAILWAY DIVIDENDS.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* says that the private railways expect to declare dividends at the following rates per annum as the result of their working for the last half year,—April to September:—Sanyo Railway, 3.3 per cent.; Kyushu Railway, 4 per cent.; Kansai Railway, 3.6 per cent.; Osaka Railway, 6 per cent.; Ryomo Railway, 6.5 per cent.; and Sanuki Railway, 6 per cent. With regard to the Koku Railway, the line between Tokyo and Hachioji, the *Pomori Shimbun* says that the brisk trade in silk considerably augmented its traffic, and the company is likely to pay a dividend, for the same interval, of 7½ or 8 per cent. As far as we can ascertain the dividends paid by these companies during the fiscal year ended last March, were as follow:—Sanyo Railway, 3.4½ per cent.; Kyushu Railway, 5.1½ per cent.; Kansai Railway, unascertainable; Osaka Railway, 5 per cent.; Ryomo Railway, 6.3 per cent.; Sanuki Railway, 4.2½ per cent.; Koku Railway, 6.6 per cent. The six months of the warm season include the busiest times for railway traffic in this country, but the past summer was not a very favourable one for these railways. Unless they do an exceptionally large business during winter, their dividends for the year, with perhaps one exception, are not likely to touch the figures of the previous twelvemonths.

MEMORIAL PAVILION.

SOME days ago we reported that a certain Mr. Shimizu of Shizuoka proposed to construct a pavilion in Ukojima to commemorate the promulgation of the Constitution and the convening of the Diet. As all necessary preparations have been completed, the promoters are now engaged raising subscriptions throughout the empire. The project has been strongly supported by the wealthy classes of the country, and the amount raised is already large. Mr. Shimizu proposes the erection of a stone monument 30 feet high, 10 feet wide and 2½ feet thick, the stone being obtained from Miyagi, where a beautiful kind called *Kiukmei* is produced. The inscription is to be carved by a well-known stone-cutter, Mr. Miya Kinen, and over the stone will stand a three-storied pavilion, the first floor 48 feet square and 36 feet in height; the second floor 24 feet square and 24 feet in height; and the third, 20 feet square and 20 feet high. In addition to portraits of famous statesmen and politicians placed in the second storey, as mentioned in a previous issue, various documents concerning the Imperial Diet, as well as reports of the proceedings of both Houses, are to be kept, so as to enable people to study the complete history of Parliamentary institutions of Japan.

A CHINESE PLOT IN AMERICA.

WE take the following from the *New York Sun*.—"The arrest of two Chinamen for an attempt to enter the United States by way of Canada has disclosed a plot against the life of the Emperor of China. The officials who searched the men found two cloths covered with Chinese figures and decorated with emblems. They were submitted to an expert in Chinese characters, who reported as follows: "In each case the documents are certificates of membership in Chinese societies. The smaller piece of cloth certifies that Leong Chou has joined a social society called 'Leong Jon How Tong,' at San Francisco. His initiation was on

Jan. 20th, 1883, and cost him \$3. The larger and more highly illuminated document tells a tale which would doubtless be very interesting to the Emperor of China, if known to that individual. It appears that a society exists in China, having for its object the removal by murder of his highness (sic) the Emperor. The society is called Yea Hing. Its President is Yeong Hoo. One Lung is the holder of the certificate in question, and was admitted to membership in Dec. 21st (year not named), in China, for which privilege he paid \$10. The dark red spot just below, on which I have placed a pin, is supposed to be a drop of blood from the veins of the heathen who was admitted to this particular class of highbinders."

COUNT INOUE AND THE KUMAMOTO QUESTION. It is reported in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the Japanese Christians who have been agitating in connection with the charges preferred against the Governor of Kumamoto and the Master of a Primary School there, were received in audience by H.E. Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, on the 6th instant. The delegates were Messrs. Yokoi and Hiraiwa, both very prominent among Japanese Christians. In reply to their inquiries Count Inouye said that he already had cognisance of the affair, and had addressed a despatch on the subject to Governor Matsudaira, who had replied that the reports circulated were erroneous. "But," continued the Count, "whether the things reported were true or false, I hold most emphatically that a Local Governor has no business to interfere with the religious convictions of the people of his district. Were such a method of procedure permitted, we should have one Governor extending protection and countenance to the advocates of his own religious creed and seeking to impose disabilities on its opponents, while his successor might very possibly take a precisely contrary line. The result would be intolerable abuses. I have therefore issued most explicit instructions to Governor Matsudaira that on no account is he to interfere with the religious convictions of the people under his jurisdiction." Messrs. Yokoi and Hiraiwa expressed themselves satisfied with this assurance, but whether Governor Matsudaira will like it, is another question. Count Inouye is much too far-seeing a statesman to allow his judgment to be obscured by details in such a matter. Read between the lines, his instructions to Governor Matsudaira evidently mean:—"Rumour may have exaggerated, or even grossly misrepresented, the facts of the case, but I hold it a part of every Governor's duty to avoid the birth of such rumours. A Governor must act so that not the shadow of material shall be furnished for constructing suspicions of a disposition on his part to favour officially one form of religious belief and to discountenance another. An absolutely neutral and impartial attitude must be displayed in all his procedure, and if he becomes the subject of damaging imputations of favoritism, the consequences must lie on his own shoulders."

THE "KAISHIN-TO."

DETAILED accounts were published a few days ago of alleged dissensions among the leaders of the *Kaishin-to*, Mr. Takata Sanaye and others being represented as favouring a moderate policy, while Mr. Ozaki Yukio and his fellow-thinkers advocated implacable opposition to everything official. These tales have now been emphatically contradicted by the principal organ of the *Kaishin-to*, the *Mainichi Shimbun*. It is possible that the smoke was not entirely without fire, but as to this we are not in a position to hazard any conjecture.

ADVERTISING.

THE art of advertising is certainly carried to extraordinary lengths in Europe and America in these enlightened days. Evidently the most perfect form of advertisement would be a leading article setting forth the merits of the object advertised with all possible graces of style and attractions of metaphor or apologue. There is reason to think that even that point has already

been reached by some journals, but the great dailies still adhere to the fiction of avoiding any such collusion. They are steering, however, perilously near a complete fall, as may be seen by the following extract, taken from the columns of the *St. James's Budget*, where it appears in all the glory of leader type and in a place of honour among the leading articles:—

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Here is a little story which should gladden the heart of paterfamilias and convey a valuable hint to those about to become "English wives." An uncle promised his niece a wedding dress whenever she should stand in need of that commodity. The auspicious day on which such an article would be necessary hove in sight, and the uncle, true to his pledge, presented the young lady with a cheque for £50 with which to make herself beautiful at the important event. The young lady, wisely resolving to have competent advice on so momentous a subject, conferred with a friend who had some six months previous herself become an English wife. "An expensive wedding-dress is an odious extravagance," quoth the youthful matron. "I wish I had never thrown away my money on one."

"And yours was such a beauty!" replied the prospective bride.

"It was; but it is a white elephant now. I have never had a chance to wear it since. And my husband calls it a 'beastly thing,' and says it will never be any use until he's dead and I go to the hymeneal altar again. 'I'll sell it to you for a third of what it cost.'"

"It would just fit me. Our figures are so alike. And the rest of the costume, dear?"

"You can have the whole affair—veil, shoes, all. None has ever seen daylight since my wedding."

A long pause ensued. The maiden was considering the offer. Presently she said, "I'll tell you what I'll do, dear. I don't believe I'll buy a wedding dress at all. I'll hire yours for the occasion just as people hire their flowers for the same ceremonies. How much will you take for the use of it for one day?"

"Two pounds,"

"It's a bargain. What a capital idea! And I shall look just as well as if I had spent the whole £50 on a dress."

And this thrifty young damsel became an English wife in an exquisite costume which was glowingly described in all the ladies' and fashion papers, but for the use of which she paid only £2 sterling. And already, from this small beginning, there is springing up an industry which consists in the application of the "hire system" to wedding costumes. Soon, no doubt, we shall see numerous advertisements in this style:—

Young ladies about to marry.—Do not throw away your money on useless Wedding Dresses, but call at A. B. and Co.'s and see the things of beauty which you can hire for the day at most reasonable prices.

THE CODES.

It is stated that the Government has at last decided to appoint a special committee to revise the Codes and that the following experts will constitute it:—

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

Marquis Saionji Kinmochi.

MEMBERS IN FAVOUR OF IMMEDIATE OPERATION.

Mr. Ume Kenjiro	Mr. Kishimoto Tatsuo
Mr. Hasegawa Takashi	Mr. Motoo Keizaburo
Mr. Yokota Kuniomi	Mr. Kumano Toshizo

MEMBERS IN FAVOUR OF POSTPONEMENT.

Mr. Obata Yoshine	Mr. Hozumi Yatsuka
Mr. Kinoshita Hiroji	Mr. Matsumo Teichiro
Mr. Tomii Masaaki	Mr. Murata Tanotsu

The *Nichi Nichi*, in publishing the above intelligence, says that both parties are fairly represented, but that the opinion of Marquis Saionji is still unknown. Some allege that he is in favour of immediate operation. The rules of the conference not having been yet prepared, it is difficult to say what method will be adopted in passing resolutions, but if the ordinary procedure be followed, and the chairman be empowered to give a casting vote when the members are equally divided, there is declared to be distinct advantage on the side of those who favour immediate operation, but we do not quite follow this reasoning. To us it seems that a Committee constituted like the above, with a virtually neutral President, may fight for many a year before the issue is decided.

ORIENTAL SOCIALISTS ASSOCIATION.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, Messrs. Miyaji Mohei, Tada Kanjiro and 125 others, lately organized a club under the name of the Oriental Well-wishers' Association (*Toyo Kiyu-kai*). The first matter taken in hand by the Association was the abolition of the gambling laws. A large number of supporters through-

out the empire joined the Association, and it was decided that a great conference should be held in Tokyo at the end of the present month. Further, the title of the association was changed to the Oriental Socialists (*Toyo Shakai-to*). The members intend to present to the Diet, next session, a petition praying for the abolition of the gambling laws, and they announce that their chief object is to protect labourers, artisans, and small farmers against the tyranny of employers and landowners. It does not appear that they hold any very extreme doctrines like those associated with Socialism in the West, but perhaps time will develop a similarity.

THE MINISTER PRESIDENT AND THE CODES COMMITTEE.

THE *Kokkai* publishes what purports to be a verbatim report of a portion of the speech delivered by H.E. Count Ito to the members of the newly appointed Codes Committee. How this speech was obtained, we do not know. It does not appear in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and the *Kokkai* represents Count Ito as having enjoined upon the Committee strict silence with regard to everything connected with their proceedings. Evidently under such circumstances we cannot accept the *Kokkai's* account as absolutely accurate, but it contains nothing that might not have been said by the Minister President. Versions, more or less extended or abbreviated, of almost all official utterances appear in the vernacular press. In many cases they must be partly conjectural. An important instance was that of the speeches said to have been recently delivered by Counts Ito and Inouye to the Local Governors. The proceedings of the periodical conferences of Local Governors are invariably private. No reporters are allowed to be present, and if anything gets abroad, it must be surreptitiously divulged. Hence the speech attributed to Count Ito on the occasion of the meeting of Governors and published by a portion of the vernacular press, could not be confidently accepted as a *resumé* of the views actually formulated by the Minister President. For this reason we did not notice it specially at the time, though as an intimation to the Local Governors that the Cabinet desired to stand aloof altogether from party politics, and that, consequently, the demeanour of the Governors in such matters must be strictly neutral, the speech may well have been uttered by Count Ito. The address now ascribed to His Excellency by the *Kokkai* runs thus:—"The subject which the Government submits for your deliberation is not the enforcement of the Codes, nor yet of a certain portion of them. What you are asked to consider is the effects likely to be produced upon the conduct of business by putting into operation from the beginning of next year such portions of the Commercial Code as are urgently needed from a legal point of view, the Law of Companies and the Law of Bankruptcy, for example; and again, whether if portions of the Civil Code, namely, the Law of Persons and the Law of Succession, be again subjected to revision, the remainder may be put into immediate operation without inconvenience. You, gentlemen, were concerned in the compilation of the Codes; owing to your positions in the Judiciary you have to do with the practical application of the laws, and as Professors in the University you are versed in the principles of law. We trust, therefore, that you will endorse the purpose for which this Committee has been assembled, and that you will employ all expedition in discussing the matters submitted for your deliberation. You will understand that it is not proposed to have decisions adopted by a majority vote in the Committee. What the Cabinet desires is to have the opinion of each member laid before it for purposes of comparison."

The address is said to have been of considerable length, but only the above portion is reported. From it we gather that the object of the Government is to discover whether some *via media* cannot be struck out with respect to the Codes. It will be remembered that at the last moment the House of Peers, when passing the Bill for postponement, added a proviso to the

effect that so soon as the revision of any portion of the Codes was completed, such portion might be put into operation immediately, without awaiting the date fixed in the text of the Bill, namely, January 1st, 1896. This provision was evidently dictated by a spirit of compromise. It completely changed the character of the Bill, for whereas the original proposal was that the operation of the whole of the Codes should be deferred for four years, the effect of the corollary, added at the eleventh hour, was to fix four years as the maximum period for the work of revision, and to sanction the enforcement of each portion simultaneously with the completion of its revision. The House of Representatives passed the Bill with the above rider, and upon the Government devolved the duty of elaborating some practical programme out of this decidedly indefinite outline. Apparently the desire now is to obtain the views of the best experts and most notable publicists, and fortified by these, to adopt some plan. The Committee's views may, and we sincerely hope that they will, indicate a practicable method of satisfying at once public opinion and the undoubted legal requirements of the empire. They may, on the other hand, show that no such method is available, and that the only resource is to undertake the huge and tedious task of revision *ab initio*. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the question to the Japanese nation. The Government does well to move with the utmost deliberation, and to adopt every precaution so that the country may not suffer from the effects of precipitate or hysterical action.

Apropos this subject, we may refer briefly to the singular criticisms that have been penned about the Cabinet's procedure in the matter of the Codes. Journalists, with ignorance so crass as to be scarcely credible, have accused the Ministers of deliberately flouting the Diet and public opinion by withholding from the Emperor a Bill duly passed by both Houses of the Legislature. These critics are obviously ignorant of the elementary fact that no such thing as a positive veto is provided by the Japanese Constitution. If a Bill passed by the Diet fails to obtain His Majesty's Sanction, the only method by which the public becomes aware of the fact is a negative one, namely, the non-promulgation of the measure in the form of law. The Constitution itself prescribes no procedure on this point, but the 32nd Article of the Law of the Houses says:—"Bills which, after having been passed by both Houses of the Diet and presented to the Emperor, may receive His sanction, shall be promulgated before the next session of the Diet." Hence, if a Bill which has passed both Houses is not promulgated, the fact that it has failed to receive the Imperial Sanction is negatively established. As to whether a Bill has been presented to the Emperor, and as to its fate when presented, the public, under normal circumstances, can know nothing until the opening of the next session of the Diet. Thus, writers who, on the ground that a Bill passed by the Diet last June has not yet been either promulgated or openly vetoed, accuse the Cabinet of violating the Constitution and flouting public opinion—such writers only exhibit their own ignorance of the whole question.

CEMENT FOR THE YOKOHAMA HARBOUR WORKS. If the materials used in Japanese public works were, as a rule, subjected to the amount of inquisitive criticism that has been lavished by the vernacular press on the cement purchased for the Yokohama Harbour Works, newspaper columns would be filled with this subject to the exclusion of all others. The latest sensation is an action taken by the Tokai Cement Company against the Governor of Kanagawa, because that official, when inviting tenders for the cement required to complete the works, limited the tendering companies to three, namely, the Asano Company, the Aichi Company and the Onoda Company. There is not the smallest doubt that the system of limited tender is permitted by the Law of Finance, and we shall not be surprised to hear that the Court has refused to entertain the suit of the Tokai Cement Company. Mean-

while, however, some of the vernacular newspapers are edifying their readers by suggesting various singular reasons for the action of the Kanagawa Authorities. The simple fact is, according to unimpeachable information, that not every manufacturer of cement in Japan can be trusted to supply a thoroughly serviceable article. It says nothing against the Japanese that such should be the case. On the contrary, considering how new the enterprise of cement-manufacture is, very great credit is due to them for having already attained such proficiency as to be able to supply cement for a work of the magnitude and importance of the Yokohama breakwaters. But the imperative duty of those carrying out the work is to employ only material that can be relied on, and, guided by this consideration, they limited the tenders in the present case to the three companies above mentioned. The journalistic friends of the excluded companies decline, however, to regard the matter in this light, and are disposed to infer favouritism and corruption to an extent that does more credit to their fancy than to their sincerity.

The Onoda Cement Company is especially singled out as the object of attack. The works of this Company are in Yamaguchi Prefecture, and much, if not the whole, of its capital was subscribed by *Shizoku* of Choshu. Naturally, therefore, Count Inouye, though not a shareholder, is interested in the success of the enterprise, and this fact furnishes excellent food for scandal to certain writers. They tell a story remarkable not less for ignorance than for imagination. When cement was first needed for the Yokohama Harbour Works, we read, Count Inouye wished General Palmer to use the Onoda product, but the General declined to do so on the ground that the cement was manufactured according to the German method, of which he had no experience. Now, however, strange to say, the cement has been found suitable, and when General Palmer submitted some objections to Mr. Mitsuhashi, sub-director of the Harbour Works Bureau, the latter declined to hear him, alleging that he had no business to interfere. To this story other items are appended, but they do not profess to be more than mere rumours or conjectures.

Could it have been possible to construct a clumsier tale? In the first place, the process employed at the Onoda Works is not German at all. In all essentials it is English, having been adopted by Germany from England, where there are numbers of works making cement in virtually the same way. In the second place, when General Palmer, nearly two years ago, in the course of an inspection of Japanese Cement Works, reached Onoda, we happen to know that he did not possess the slightest information about the origin or affairs of the Works. He viewed them simply from an engineer's point of view, and he found there first-class apparatus, an ample and judicious expenditure of capital, an excellent modern process, and good materials not only abundant but also within easy reach. The cement itself did not yet satisfy the stringest tests which were considered necessary, but time alone was needed to bring its quality to a high standard, and we presume that eighteen months of intelligent experience have placed the works abreast of the best in the empire. Truly we think that some of the Japanese journals should adopt as their motto "Axes to grind." They allow themselves to become the tools of any person who arrives with a story in which either a foreigner or an official figures, and the consequence is that they often make themselves extremely ridiculous in the eyes of discerning folks.

It is also reported that the Nippon Cement Company, Osaka Cement Company, and all the principal merchants in the capital who are engaged in the cement trade, assembled at the *Seikwa-ro*, Nihonbashi, on the 7th instant. They invited the attendance of Mr. Kanai Tsunenobu, Counsel for the Tokai Cement Company, and obtained from him minute details of

the case. After a long conference they all, except Mr. Asano Soichiro, agreed to assist the plaintiff in his suit. We suspect that they will have their trouble for their pains.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A REGULAR meeting of the above Society was held on Friday, October 7th, at the rooms of the Geographical Society, Nishikonyacho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, Mr. Edmond R. Holmes in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, as they corresponded with the report published in the *Japan Mail*. After that the following gentlemen were proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected:—Messrs. H. Baehr, F. Grosser, J. Schedel, and R. Mitomo. A set of pamphlets entitled:—"The principles of a photographic lens simply explained," by Messrs. R. & A. Beck was distributed amongst the members, and a printing frame, of ingenious construction, by the same firm, was shown. This frame was of metal, except the back, and was of such construction that the whole of the print could be examined at once. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Photo-Club, Orahais, offering the use of the Club to any member of the Photographic Society of Japan who may visit Algeria. The new "Concentric lens" of Messrs. Ross & Co., was shown by Mr. W. K. Burton, along with work done by it, and by other wide angle lenses of the same focal length. The new lens did not give absolute definition with the maximum aperture of f-16, but it gave exactly the same definition at the edge as at the centre of a fairly large sized plate. With an aperture of f-22 it gave absolute sharpness very nearly to the edge of a plate 22 by 12, the lens being 12 inches focus and a flat object at right angles to the axis of the lens being focussed. In fact, the field was truly flat, and this was the first lens of which such a statement could be made. A "Universal" lens by the same firm was also shown. This was of the type of the "Rapid re-symmetrical," but was twice as rapid. It was an outcome of the new Jenel-optical glass. Mr. K. Ogawa, as well as Mr. Burton, spoke of its high qualities as a portrait lens. The Foreign Secretary had been asked to report on a sample of Mr. J.B. Obernetter's plates. He had found them very rapid, although not quite up to the rapidity of the most sensitive plates in the market in Japan, and of exceptionally good quality. A very ingenious portable metal tripod stand, each leg going into a small tin box less than 3 inches long, was presented to the Society by Mr. R. Mitomo. A set of small prints on bromide paper were shown by Mr. K. Arito, and were much admired. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting resolved itself into a *conversazione*.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

THE following report will be presented to the shareholders of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, at the nineteenth ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's offices, Hongkong, on Monday, the 10th October. The net premium collected for the year 1891, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$1,298,031.71. After providing for a bonus of 20 per cent. on contributions paid in May last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$241,947.21. From this sum the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of \$7.00 per share, equivalent to 28 per cent. on the paid up capital of \$25 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$42,000, raising the reserve to \$842,000. The balance remaining of \$129,947.21 they propose to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, and thus close the account for the year 1891. The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—Balance of working account to the 30th June 842,392.37; add estimate of premium to 30th September, \$330,000.00—\$752,392.37. Estimate of losses to pay, \$240,000.00—\$512,392.37. Since the general meeting the directors have had to deplore the death of the Hon. Phineas Ryrie, which took place on the 22nd February last, and the Hon. J. J. Keswick resigned his seat on leaving the colony. Mr. A.

G. Wood and the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving were invited to join the board. In accordance with clause 110 of the articles of association, Messrs. D. R. Sassoon and C. J. Holliday retire, but offer themselves for re-election. Messrs. J. H. Cox and R. Lyall, auditors, retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

THE COUNT TOKUGAWA CASE.
KOJIMA TADASATO and others concerned in this strange case are now undergoing a preliminary examination before Judge Okada, and many witnesses have been summoned. It is rumoured that the result of the examination will probably be that a charge of obtaining money by false pretences will be framed against the prisoners. Several vernacular journals, the *Mainichi*, the *Fumuri*, etc., publish a report that when the barrister, Mr. Kojima, was negotiating with Count Tokugawa, Messrs. Oi Kentaro and Hisamatsu Shigeru, his fellow-barristers, advised him to abandon the affair, but Kojima refused to follow their counsel. Mr. Hisamatsu then went to see the Factor of Count Tokugawa and recommended him not to allow the Count to sign any promissory notes Kojima might bring, as such a proceeding must prove disadvantageous to both parties. But the Count signed the notes for some unexplained reason. As soon as Messrs. Oi and Hisamatsu ascertained the fact, the former went to Yokohama to find Kojima, who had preceded him, but unfortunately he failed to meet him. Returning, therefore, he waited for Kojima at the Shimbashi Station with Mr. Hisamatsu. Once more they advised Kojima to abandon the thing *in toto*, but he flatly refused to do so. His well-wishers, indignant at his obstinacy, declared that their friendship with him must cease thenceforth, and with that the three parted. The following morning Kojima was arrested. We give these stories for what they may be worth.

ROWING NOTES.

There appears to have been a certain amount of difficulty in getting up "Fours" to take part in the coming regatta, and, judging from the appended list of names, there will undoubtedly be more "squalls" amongst our oarsmen before the day arrives. A glance at the list of names will suffice to show this. Out of 26 men no less than 6 take part in both "Seniors' and Juniors'." This must produce discord before long, for, to do justice to his comrades, a man, say in the seniors', must put "all he knows" into that boat whilst there is time to practise. How Messrs. Hood, Gibbs, Eyton, Smith, Watt, and Kingdon, can manage to row in Juniors' and Seniors' we find it difficult to understand. Evidently there is no distinction between Juniors' and Seniors' here. This is, or appears to be, a sore point, and places the Committee in a most uncomfortable dilemma. Why not run the Club "Fours" as they are done in Kobe, where all who have graduated as "Griffins" have the option of rowing in the "Fours" at a following regatta. The words "Senior and Junior" otherwise are misnomers. Seven crews could easily be made up, and, although the club possesses few boats, the rowing could be done. The "Griffins" could row in a distinct race. A few boats ought to be made with fixed seats for Griffins, and no man allowed to enter a race where sliding seats are used until he shows a certain knowledge of rowing. Here is a suggestion for the Committee. It is a suggestion, that, if carried out, would revolutionize rowing in Yokohama. At the present time men absolutely raw and with no idea of rowing, are being continually put into Club Fours, much to the chagrin of old and experienced oars, who have the disagreeable work of getting the tyros into some sort of shape before the races. Quality not quantity is what should be aimed at. The latter we have, and the former we have, but the one is swamped by the other. Up till now the weather has been unfavourable for rowing. Northerly winds—and plenty of 'em—have produced heavy seas, and the undaunted "Four" venture out, and patronize the Creek. One hardly dares to offer a word of advice to our four representatives, yet, judging from what was done a few nights ago in the Creek, one might

be allowed to suggest to a certain member that he screw less. This is a common failing, and will prevent the boat getting a good "way" on. Of the Fours mentioned below, very little can be said, as only a few of the most enthusiastic have been out. When this rough weather clears off there will be a rush for boats, as well as a rush for men. Seniors will want some of the juniors, and the juniors will stand on the beach and cry aloud for their strokes. One more word with regard to the Interport race. We hear that Moore, the best of the Kobe men, cannot come up for the event. This brings down the betting on Kobe.

SENIOR FOURS.

Black boat—Kingdon, bow; Hall, 2; Hood, 3; Barton, stroke; —, cox.
Green boat—A. B. Smith, bow; P. Morriss, 2; J. Eyton, Jr., 3; Campbell, stroke; —, cox.
Blue boat—Watt, bow; Thompson, 2; Bengen, 3; Lane, stroke; —, cox.
Red boat—Gibbs, bow; Blanchard, 2; Burn, 3; Martin, stroke; —, cox.

JUNIOR FOURS.

Red boat—Mair, bow; Watt, 2; Kingdon, 3; Hood, stroke; —, cox.
Blue boat—Abbey, bow; Rogers, 2; Crouch, 3; Gibbs, stroke; —, cox.
Black boat—L. Eyton, bow; Kilgour, 2; Marshall, 3; J. Eyton, Jr., stroke; —, cox.
Green boat—C. Abenheim, bow; Favre-Brandt, 2; Schmidt, 3; A. B. Smith, stroke; Campbell, cox.

HARBOUR REGULATIONS.

It is twenty-five years since a harbour-master of Yokohama was appointed through the zeal of Sir Harry Parkes. It proved an easy billet, for owing to the impossibility of getting all the Powers to agree to any draft of harbour regulations, Captain Purvis' functions never went beyond drawing his salary. Since then the question of harbour regulations has been repeatedly on the tapis, and if its history could be accurately written, a remarkable tale of how not to do it would be the outcome. Yet everyone admits that some machinery for proper supervision and arrangement is essential, above all now that we are to have a harbour with breakwaters, piers, railways and all the luxuries. Accordingly, the Government has decided once more to undertake the work of compiling regulations, and the Minister of State for Communications, having been commissioned to choose a committee for the purpose, has nominated—says the *Nippon*—the following gentlemen:—

Mr. Kurino Shuichiro, Director of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office.
Mr. H. W. Denison, Legal Adviser to the Department of Foreign Affairs.
Mr. Utsumi Tadakatsu, Governor of Kanagawa Ken.
Mr. Egi Chu, Councillor in the Department of Home Affairs.
Mr. Ishikawa Ariyuki, Controller-general of the Revenue Bureau.
Commander Dewa Shigetō, Department of the Navy.
Mr. Kawazu Sukeyuki, Vice-Minister for Communications.
Mr. Tsukahara Shuzo, Director of the Marine Bureau.
Mr. Komatsu Kenjiro, Councillor in the Department of Communications.
Captain J. M. James, Marine Bureau.

The above members of Committee are to hold their first conference on the 18th instant in the Department of Communications.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CODES COMMITTEE.

THE appointment of the Codes Committee has roused journalistic interest to a high pitch, and furnished for the Opposition press an excellent topic to attack the Government. And not the Opposition press alone, for the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* figures in the van of the assault, showing a degree of uncompromising hostility that must surprise the public. Our contemporary, having given a short history of the Codes, and then emphasized the fact that their postponement was voted by both Houses of the Diet, and only waits to be sanctioned by the Sovereign, proceeds to point out that four (query, three?) months have already elapsed, and yet the Government have taken no decided step, so that

it would almost seem as though the official intention were to ignore the resolution of the Diet altogether. The next session is drawing nigh, and the Houses will find no difficulty in passing a Memorial to the Throne on the subject, so that to stave off the question now is only to bring it on in a more acute form two months hence. Referring to the appointment of the Codes Committee, the *Nichi Nichi* argues thus:—"We do not say that the opinions of experts are unnecessary; nay, they are most important. But since the Bill has passed both Houses of the Diet, it is a legislative fact, and the Government will ultimately have to adopt a definite policy, even though a committee of experts be assembled to investigate the matter. If the Cabinet fail to adopt such a policy, it will be liable to the charge of shirking its responsibilities. But the Ito Cabinet knows well what is meant by a Responsible Government, and neither the Minister President nor his colleagues will venture to have recourse to any shuffling measure. Nevertheless, they must perceive that such a great undertaking as is apparently to be entrusted to the Committee cannot be accomplished in a month or two, and yet only about 50 days remain before the opening of the next session of the Diet. Do they really think that the task can be completed in so short a period, and that there will be enough time for the Committee to pass resolutions, for the Imperial sanction to be obtained, and for the Codes to be promulgated before the next session commences? If they do not, then the appointment of the Codes Committee can only be to perform the burial rites of the Bill passed by the Diet. Can such an act be called an act of the Ito Cabinet?" The *Nichi Nichi* concludes its first article on the subject by declaring that the only measure feasible for the Government is to obtain the Imperial sanction to the Bill, and then to devise machinery for amending the necessary parts of the Codes afterwards. In a second article, the same journal writes that the Codes are known to be full of defects and that their revision is imperative. To that end the Bill for postponement must become law. But if the Ito Cabinet consider it necessary to enforce the Codes whether they are perfect or not, what occasion is there to appoint a Committee now? In short, the Cabinet seems to lack courage to decide this, the most important topic of the day. The *Nichi Nichi* alleges that even those who desire the immediate operation of the Codes acknowledge their imperfection, while those who are in favour of postponement acknowledge their necessity, but urge that the present drafts require much alteration. Such being the case the two sides will be of one mind ultimately, if only the task of revision be completed. Why then does the Government hesitate to seek the Imperial sanction so that the Bill postponing the date of operation may become law?

The *Hochi Shimbun* views the question from several different stand-points, and concludes that if the Government approves the Bill passed by the Diet, it should become law at once; but if not, then the Codes should be enforced at once. Our contemporary finds it very strange that the Government neither expresses its opinion on the subject, nor adopts the resolution of the Diet, but simply appoints a Committee to formulate new views. But the *Hochi*, whatever may be the value of its general criticism, seems to write without due reflection; for the Codes cannot possibly be enforced before the date now actually fixed, January 1st, 1893, and the Government in of course not called upon to express any opinion until the Emperor's sanction has been given or withheld.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* attacks the Government roundly. It says that if the Ministers of State consider the resolution of the Diet worthy of respect, they ought to act on it at once; and if not, they ought to enforce the Codes at once. It sees no necessity for handing over the question to a Committee, and it charges the Cabinet with pusillanimity for having recourse to such a device. Moreover, it asserts that the persons appointed as members of the Committee,

with two or three exceptions, are all administrative officials under the control of the Cabinet. Is it a correct procedure on the part of a Cabinet composed of all the renowned statesmen of the empire to leave to the decision of subordinate officials one of the most important questions of the day, concerning which both Houses of the Diet have already passed a resolution?

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* argues that both Houses of the Diet having considered the problem profoundly, made all the necessary investigations, and passed the Bill after full debate, the Government, unless it regards the Bill as of little moment, is bound to seek the Imperial Sanction. If the Cabinet is perplexed, the proper course is to adopt the resolution of the Diet. But this view does not seem to have occurred to the Ministers. For a long time the Bill was laid aside, and now a committee is appointed to investigate it. Even though the Government has no intention of treating the Diet slightly, the latter cannot fail to draw the inference:—"A resolution adopted by 600 members of the Diet appears to have less weight than that of a committee composed of 12 young men. How small is the confidence which the Cabinet places in the opinion of the majority of the Diet!" The *Yomiuri* avows that it finds no words to defend the Cabinet.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* holds that the appointment of a Committee is too late. It would seem that though 60 (?) days have elapsed since the formation of the Ito Cabinet, their opinion on the question is still unsettled, and they intend to make up their minds after the Committee's report is received. How easy-going! The tone of the *Kokumin's* article is one of scornful reproach. It concludes that the Government does not propose to leave the resolution of the Diet forever inoperative, but intends to enforce a portion of it, and leave the rest for future consideration. That is not a manly method. If the Ministers deem it is necessary to enforce the Codes immediately, let them so do without hesitation. If they scotch the Bill by entrusting its investigation to the hands of a committee, who will be held responsible for the result?

All these journals from which we have quoted, with the exception of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, belong to the Opposition. The *Hochi*, *Mainichi* and *Yomiuri* are *Kaishin-to* organs, and the *Kokumin* is strongly Radical.

COUNT YAMAGATA AND THE JUDICIARY.

H.E. COUNT YAMAGATA delivered, on the 8th instant, to a meeting of the Chief Judges of Appeal Courts and the Chief Public Prosecutors, a speech which we translate from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:—"Gentlemen, I have requested you to assemble to-day, for the purpose of considering some points connected with the future policy of the Department of Justice. It has fallen to my lot to be appointed to the control of this Department. I cannot claim to have any experience in judicial business, and my one constant solicitude is that I may not prove unworthy of the trust reposed in me. Happily I am able to hope that with the assistance of you, gentlemen, whose knowledge of judicial affairs is extensive, I shall be able to discharge successfully the duties of my onerous position. Reviewing the situation, I find that, owing to the labours of Count Yamada when he presided over this Department, the various Codes of Law have been gradually compiled; the organization of the Law Courts has been put into operation; the basis of the Judiciary's independence has been firmly established; and the several affairs relating to the dispensation of justice have been almost brought to a state of completion. If this rate of progress can be preserved, there will be no difficulty in raising our judicial system and the conduct of its business to the standard of Western States. Yet, though the laws be ever so complete, if their practical application be not attained, neither can the foundations of the Judiciary's power be made sure, nor the advantages of the Codes be realized, nor the good results obtainable under the Con-

stitution be achieved. I observe that the newspaper press has of late been publishing rumours that reflect injuriously upon the conduct of this Department's business. These may be merely the gossip of the hour, but things that have no existence do not cast shadows, neither can there be smoke without fire. We cannot treat such rumours with complete indifference, and I earnestly hope that the officials upon whom judicial responsibilities devolve will devote themselves with such sincerity and judgment to the discharge of their duties, that no material whatever shall be furnished for the voice of evil report. In the management of affairs I need scarcely remind you that abuses spring from two sources, from the measure itself and from the men that apply it. The laws may be as beautiful and flawless as jewels of the finest water, but they will be futile and profitless if the men that administer them are incapable of the task. On the other hand, if the laws be faulty, evil consequences are inevitable. Therefore, what I would ask of you, gentlemen, is to consider the measures that should be adopted if the officials charged with the administration of justice are not properly qualified, and the method that should be employed to revise or supplement the laws in the event of their imperfection. I ask you, gentlemen, who are well versed in judicial business, to give me the benefit of your full counsels on the present occasion, and I trust by your co-operation to be able to avoid any serious errors."

This is a very significant utterance of the Minister of State for Justice. The vernacular press has been complaining of late, with considerable warrant, that there still remain in the Judiciary men of the old school who are not versed in foreign jurisprudence or competent to deal with the issues coming before the Courts of Law under the novel circumstances of the present era. That this should be the case is inevitable. The reconstruction of the Japanese Judiciary has been in progress for only twenty years, an interval much too short for the complete weeding out of men of the old school, whose presence was of course unavoidable. Little by little the ranks of the Judiciary have been recruited from students of the *Meiji* era, at first by a system of selection and subsequently in accordance with the method of public examination. But the process has necessarily been gradual, and before the old hands could be pushed out, the promulgation of the Constitution assured to the Judges life tenure of office. Under these circumstances, the final reform of the Judiciary must be aided by the Judiciary itself. The Judges must employ the pressure of conscience and counsel to eliminate any elements that impair the efficiency of the Bench. It is a distinctive trait of Japanese disposition that men are always ready to bow to the dictates of right, provided that those dictates can be clearly demonstrated. The Judges to whom Count Yamagata addressed himself will know how to facilitate the reform he has in view.

Although the Constitution guarantees tenure of office to all Judges, under the provision that "no Judge shall be deprived of his position unless by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment," the Administration is not entirely without means of removing incapable men. For in the law by which disciplinary rules applicable to judicial functionaries are fixed, "all details as to suspension from office,"—we quote from Count Ito's Commentary—"as to placing on the Retired List, as to transfer of appointment, and as to superannuation, are to be mentioned." Thus, in the Law of the Organization of the Courts, we find the following two articles:—

Art. 74.—When a Judge becomes so enfeebled, either physically or morally, that he can no longer discharge his functions, he may receive from the Minister of Justice, in virtue of a decision by a general assembly of Judges of Courts of Appeal or of the Supreme Court, an order to retire from the Judicial Service.

Art. 77.—Judges, when they retire from the service, shall receive a pension, in conformity with the Law of Pensions.

These provisions have already been enforced

since Count Yamagata came into office. For Judge Komatsu Seiji, Chief Judge in the Yokohama Local Court, and Judge Sugiyama Kobin of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, have been ordered to retire under the Law of the Organization of the Courts. Judge Komatsu received his appointment in 1875, and was then employed in Osaka. Promoted to be Director of the Bureau of Civil Cases in 1887, he was transferred to the chief judgeship of the Yokohama Local Court in 1891. Having been one of the Commissioners for the compilation of the Codes, he is doubtless regarded as a man of ability, but apparently he is past his work. Sugiyama Kobin was a semi-official in 1869; in 1877 we find him serving as Secretary of the Department of Justice, and in 1887 he became a Judge. It is stated that two other Judges, fearing the same fate, have sent in their resignations, namely, Judge Hashimoto Gennosuke, of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, who became a semi-official in 1871, a Public Prosecutor in 1881, and a Judge in 1883; and Judge Ryokaku Hikoroku, of the Yokohama Local Court, a *Sanin* of the tenth grade whose record we are unable to trace.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DROWNING OF SIR CECIL SMITH.

THE Penang correspondent of the *Straits Times* wires on September 24th as follows:—"As the police steam pinnace was coming down the Kinta River on Thursday with his Excellency the Governor and Messrs. Treacher, Denison, and Hanson on board, she struck a snag, and sank. All the officials were saved; but the Governor sank twice before he was rescued. Two servants are missing." It appears that Governor Sir Cecil Smith had been inspecting the railway and works at Kotah Bahru and was on his way down to Teluk Anson. After going about six miles down the river, and just at the confluence of the Perak and Kinta rivers, the launch which contained the Governor struck a snag, was apparently swung round by the current, capsized, and sank. Everyone on board was precipitated into the water. The attention of the other launch, which was about two hundred yards ahead, was attracted to the mishap by a shout, and she was immediately turned back to render assistance. In the meantime his Excellency had been rescued by a Perak Malay, and by the time the other launch reached the spot all were safely on shore except a Chinese boy and a Malay, who sank and were never seen again. Fortunately the catastrophe occurred only about from twenty to thirty yards from the bank. A Malay was steering the launch at the time; but no blame whatever is attributed to the steering, for it is impossible to tell where a snag may be. A quantity of baggage was lost. The accident occurred about 1 o'clock. After a brief rest, the Governor and the whole party embarked on the other launch and went straight on to Teluk Anson, reaching there the same evening. At once his Excellency embarked on the *Sea Belle* and came straight to Singapore. He experiences no bad effects from his immersion and is attending to his official business as usual.

MEMORIAL ON TREATY REVISION.

In the last session of the Diet the members of the *Fiyu-to* proposed to present to the Throne a Memorial on the Subject of Treaty Revision, which was supported by the members of the *Kaishin-to* and some others. But disagreement arose among the *Fiyu-to* members on the question of mixed residence. Mr. Oi Kentaro's party, the *Kwantai-Kai*, announced their intention of proposing an amendment of the memorial, in the sense of forbidding mixed residence, but before they could obtain the requisite number of supporters, the session came to an end. Since that time the *Fiyu-to* have made careful investigations on the subject, and the estimate formed by Count Itagaki and other distinguished members of the *Fiyu-to*, during their visits to the provinces, with reference to the trend of popular opinion, convinces them that mixed residence must be allowed if they hope to obtain recognition of Japan's international equality. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* declares that there is now one member of the *Fiyu-to* who expresses a

different opinion on the subject, and that, consequently, the intention of the Party is to present the Memorial next session. All the members of the *Fuyu-to* are said by our contemporary to be bent upon energetically and harmoniously co-operating with the Government and the people for the attainment of this important object of national ambition.

THE "SEMMON GAKKO" AT WASEDA.

We observe that Professor T. Ogawa has become Head Master (*Kocho*) of the *Semmon Gakko* at Waseda, in succession to Professor S. Tahara. Mr. Ogawa recently returned from the United States where he made a special study of collegiate management, and since his appointment to the *Semmon Gakko* in May, the results of his exceptional training have made themselves apparent in many improvements effected in the curricula of the School and its several departments—Law, Politics, Judicial, and Literary, the last including both Japanese and English divisions. Our readers are aware that the *Semmon Gakko* owes its inception and much of its support to Count Okuma, who has devoted not only his great influence, but also large sums of money to rendering the institution a thoroughly excellent place of education. The Board of Directors, with the Count at its head, has of late been accomplishing much to better the condition of the place and its surroundings, so that the institution with its pile of solid brick buildings, its fine auditorium, and its well-kept enclosure presents a most attractive and business-like appearance. The *Semmon Gakko* is now the largest educational institution in Japan, after the Imperial University. Since August of the present year it has received some 350 new students, for whose admittance room had been made by recent extensions, so that the actual attendance in the various departments now numbers 750, being 150 more than the greatest number shown in the previous records of the place. The faculty has been correspondingly increased, so that it amounts to sixty instructors. We note with pleasure that the Literary Section, especially the English, is in a flourishing state. About 250 students are attending the English classes, more than 100 of them being in the Higher Literary Course. This Section is under the charge of Professor Tsubouchi, Editor of the *Waseda Magazine*, and the Rev. F. J. Stanley is the English Instructor, whose lectures to the higher classes on English Literature do not suffer by comparison with those delivered at the Imperial University. It is reported that Count Okuma has under consideration a project for converting the *Semmon Gakko* into a University, and it certainly seems to be worthy of that status.

EXCHANGE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE United States Mint assay value of the Japanese Silver *yen* has been officially fixed, until further notice, at sixty-six and four tenths cents (\$66.4) in United States Currency, at which rate all fees paid at the Consulate-General, Yokohama, will be received. Invoices should be made out, in Silver *yen*. In accordance with the foregoing the following tariff of fees is established:—For Invoice Certificate *yen* 3.77, for extra Copy of Invoice *yen* 3.00, for Currency Certificate *yen* 1.50, for Landing Certificate *yen* 3.77, for Bill of Health *yen* 3.77, for endorsement to Bill of Health *yen* 0.75.

SHANGHAI V. HONGKONG.

HONGKONG has been badly beaten at cricket by Shanghai. The match took place on the Shanghai ground, the Shanghai team scoring 314 runs in its two innings, and the Hongkong team 157, or just half of the former total. Seven matches have now been played in all between the two places, and of these Hongkong has won two, Shanghai four, and one was drawn. The *North China Daily News* gives the following record of the matches:—

The first was in February, 1866, at Hongkong, and was won by the Hongkong team by an innings and 264 runs; it may be noticed that one of the then Shanghai team is still a resident of this port, and is still among the leaders on the cricket field and the tennis lawn. The second and third matches were

played at Shanghai in May, 1867, the former being won by Shanghai by an innings and 36 runs, and the latter, a single-innings match, by 91 runs, Hongkong, it seems, only playing ten men. The fourth match was played at Shanghai in October, 1889, after the celebrated forty days of rain. The scores were very small, Hongkong making only 147 altogether, and Shanghai 149 with three wickets to fall. The fifth match was played again at Shanghai in September, 1891; Hongkong batted first, and made 268 runs. Shanghai in the first innings made only 180, and had to follow on. When 300 runs were scored, the innings was declared closed with two wickets still to fall, the not-out batsmen having made 20 and 50 respectively. Hongkong went in again requiring 213 runs to win, and when stumps and the match were drawn, their score stood at 72 for four wickets. The sixth match was played at Hongkong in February last, and won by the home team by an innings and 132 runs.

Our Shanghai contemporary concludes, not without apparent reason, that, on the whole, Shanghai possesses better cricketers than Hongkong, but we greatly doubt whether, in arriving at this dictum, sufficient allowance is made for difference of ground. We do not allude to the general fact that Shanghai possesses one of the best pitches in the world—though that must always count for a good deal in the education of a team—but rather to the radically unlike natures of the grounds. The Hongkong pitch is characteristically fast and bumpy; the Shanghai, almost exactly the opposite. It is well nigh impossible for a player who has been batting or bowling habitually on either ground to perform the same operations successfully when suddenly transferred to the other. We who speak, played in both the interport matches of 1867, and we can well remember how curiously badly the best Hongkong bats—they were good ones—shaped on the Shanghai ground. They hit short to leg and high to the off, and altogether were not in it. Shanghai has sent a team to Hongkong only twice, and on both occasions the northerners sustained crushing defeats, being beaten in 1866 by an innings and 264 runs, and in 1892 (February) by an innings and 132 runs. Another match played now in Hongkong would probably end in a victory for the home eleven. A notable illustration of what the change of ground signifies was furnished by the scoring in a scratch match played subsequently to the big event. The sides were England v. Ireland and Scotland, and the best men of the Hongkong and Shanghai teams were engaged. Captain Dunn and Quartermaster Sergeant Jeffkyns, the two great willow guns of Hongkong, who had remained long enough at or behind the wicket in the first match to become more or less familiar with the pitch, made great scores—88 and 98 respectively—but five others of the southern cracks could knock up only 14 runs between them. The Yokohama and Shanghai victories have much more in common. It is a veritable pity that the great settlement cannot be induced to send a team here.

THE SHANGHAI MURDER CASE.

THE trial of the United States Marshal, James A. Frame, for the murder of the saloon keeper Geo. Lemon, at Shanghai, concluded on the 1st October, after a lengthy trial. Mr. Leonard, U.S. Consul-General in delivering judgment said:—James A. Frame, It is not necessary for me to speak at any length to you. I will simply say that you have had as fair a trial as could possibly be given, in which you have been prosecuted with great fairness and defended zealously, and the Court has endeavoured to arrive at a perfectly fair judgment in your case. The Court finds a verdict,—in which all the assessors agree,—that you are not guilty of murder, as charged in the complaint or information, but that you are guilty of manslaughter, and I adjudge and sentence you therefore to imprisonment for one year and six months from this day in the gaol of the Consulate-General and to pay a fine of \$100.

The sentence—eighteen months' imprisonment and a fine of \$100—pronounced upon Frame for shooting Lemon in a Shanghai gin-shop, is commented upon adversely by more than one newspaper. The United States Consul-General, in pronouncing sentence, did not attempt

to offer any explanation of the reasons which had influenced the Court in framing its verdict, and this singular reticence is unfavourably commented on by the *North China Daily News*, which journal appears also to think that the prisoner did not receive his deserts. Other newspapers adopt a similar tone as to the inadequacy of the sentence, but in every case their analysis of the case seems defective in one important respect: they fail to show that any grounds existed for ascribing malice pre-pense to Frame, and of course without malice pre-pense there can be no "murder" in the eyes of the law. Frame was a man of excellent general conduct and peaceful disposition; he was an official of the United States Consulate in the discharge of his duty; he had often, when discharging similar duty, been in danger, yet it did not appear that he had ever resorted to undue violence; he was perfectly sober at the time of the occurrence; and finally, he had no special reason to bear enmity towards Lemon, who seems to have been nothing more than a somewhat truculent saloon-keeper, quick to resent the invasion of his gin-shop by a Consular official. Yet the advocates of the murder theory would have us believe that this man went into a saloon and deliberately shot Lemon—the latter was playing cards with two visitors and while his wife was looking on, and having shot him, immediately went and gave himself up. We find great difficulty in reconciling all these facts with the theory of murder. It is distinctly a pity, however, that the Consul-General did not think it worth while to take the public into his confidence as to the bases of the verdict.

DEATH OF MR. TONG KING-SING.

A DISTINGUISHED and widely respected Chinaman has been lost to his country by the death of Mr. Tong King-sing, the organizer and for some time Chief Director of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company. The *North China Daily News* has the following notice of his decease:—

News was received yesterday of the death of a man of light and leading among Chinese civilians, though indeed he was a titular official, Mr. Tong King-sing, to whom more than to any other civilian, the solid progress in the arts of peace that China has made in the last twenty years is due. We gave a sketch of his life only last June, when we reported the banquet that was given to him at the Gordon Hall, Tientsin, to celebrate his sixtieth birthday, and need only now recapitulate the chief points in his career. He began life as an assistant in an auctioneer's office in Hongkong in the early days; was afterwards a colonial government interpreter, and then for many years in the service of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.; and throughout his life his honour and integrity have been spotless. For two years he travelled in the West with the late Mr. George A. Butler; and the Kaiping colonies, the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co., and the Tientsin Railway, remain to testify to his wide knowledge, his energy, and his powers of organisation and administration. He was a consistent friend to foreigners, many of whom he attached to himself warmly, and his death is an enduring loss to Chinese and foreigners alike.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

REUTER telegraphs that the Parnellites have decided not to accept any scheme of Home Rule which does not give them complete control of the Police, the Judiciary and the Land. It is well that this demand should be clearly formulated before Parliament has been committed to any legislative measure. For though the control of the Police and the Judiciary may be conceded, it is most improbable that England will agree to surrender to the tender mercies of agrarian agitators the loyal land-owners, of whom almost the whole are of English lineage. These unfortunate owners have already suffered sufficiently. In many cases they have been reduced from affluence, which belonged to them without demanding any undue sacrifices from their tenants, to comparative penury. Security of property, the most valued result of civilized government, has been destroyed, and sufferings as undeserved as they were unexpected have been inflicted on some of the best subjects of the realm. The English people do not regard these things without sympathy and even indignation; but there has always ex-

isted a firm conviction that, whatever party may be in power, the Parliament at Westminster will never consent to any form of Home Rule which is not accompanied, or rather preceded, by a final settlement of the land question. We are not told, however, that the Parnellites decline to have any settlement imposed on them. They insist on being given a free hand. Well, we do not believe for one moment that they will get it. On the contrary, the unreason of the demand and the consequences involved in granting it, may very likely disgust a great many Englishmen who are now disposed to concede Home Rule out of utter weariness of spirit, if not from a sense of supposed justice. It may stagger even Mr. Gladstone. For the Grand Old Man is a conservative at heart. His liberal associations often carry him to great lengths, but it is an old saying in the Tory Camp that if he be scratched deeply enough, the Conservative kernel will surely be reached. The insatiableness of the Parnellites ought to penetrate to the old statesman's solid substratum. We trust that it will. Certainly we cannot conceive him introducing a Bill by which the agrarian rapacity and unscrupulousness of the Irish agitators would be granted free exercise. And if Mr. Gladstone casts off the child of his old age, who can be found to adopt it with any hope of securing its reception by English society?

MEETING OF THE CODES COMMITTEE.

THE *Jiyu* and some other papers state that the Codes Committee assembled on the 8th instant; that Count Ito, Count Yamagata, and Mr. Mutsu were present at the first conference, and that the Minister President of State delivered a speech, which has already been translated in these columns. The *Jiyu* reports that at the conclusion of the Minister President's speech, Mr. Murata Tamotsu, of the House of Peers, a member of the Committee, attacked the Count vehemently. Mr. Murata declared that the Bill for postponing the operating of Codes had passed both Houses of the Diet by a large majority, and that the people are anxiously waiting for its promulgation. If, therefore, a Committee were now organized, not only would the fact be regarded as a slight to the Diet, but also the credit of the Government must be impaired. He was followed by Messrs. Tomii, Hozumi, Kinoshita and Matsuno, members in favour of postponement, who propounded all sorts of questions. One asked whether the Committee had been appointed to determine whether the resolution of the Houses should be sanctioned by the Emperor or not. To this Count Ito replied that the giving or withholding sanction from the Bill was a matter of Imperial Prerogative. Another inquired whether they were commissioned to determine the propriety of enforcing the Codes immediately or postponing their operation. The Count answered that this question had been already determined by the Diet, and consequently no occasion existed to investigate it now. Thereupon several members demanded what was the nature of the business entrusted to them. Count Ito explained that the Codes, as they stand, are single bodies of laws, but he desired them to investigate whether it is possible to divide the Codes into parts, and enforce certain portions of them at once. The other side urged that such a duty could only be undertaken after the Imperial sanction had been given to the Bill for postponement. The discussion at this stage became somewhat warm, whereupon the Minister President smilingly said:—"Pray let us desist from cavilling, and confer harmoniously." The members then ceased to argue, and some proposed to compile rules of debate, but they rose without having accomplished anything.

The above account is furnished by the *Jiyu*. The same paper reports that the Cabinet, regarding the publication of the proceedings in newspaper columns as disadvantageous, the Minister President requested the members to observe secrecy as to their second meeting which was held on the 10th instant. Nevertheless, some of the vernacular journals are in a position to report that at the second meeting the Com-

mittee decided to investigate the question, whether or no the Codes could be divided into parts. The *Jiyu* thinks that if division be declared feasible, Count Ito will seek Imperial sanction for the Bill, on the basis of putting the most urgent portions into immediate operation.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbum* and some other papers report that the *Rokujikkai*, an association organized by those who are in favour of postponing the operation of the Codes, held a meeting in the Yanagiya, at Nihonbashi, on the 10th instant. Over a hundred persons assembled. The idea of those present was that the Government, instead of obtaining Imperial sanction for the Bill passed by the Diet, had convened a nondescript committee to re-investigate the question, thus openly flouting the Imperial Diet. Hence public opinion must be invoked to bring about the granting of the Imperial sanction. The methods to be pursued are, first that every member of the association shall visit such members of the Diet as they know, and request their assistance. Secondly, that newspapers shall be utilized for attacking the Government and rousing public indignation. It was decided to hold a general meeting on the 14th instant. Messrs. Suzuki Manjiro, Takahashi Banzo, Nakamura Yaro and a few others are the principal figures in the association. They contend that the Diet is insulted, and that redress must be demanded in the next session.

It is alleged by the opposition press that the appointment of the committee was proposed by Count Yamagata, Minister for Justice. The Codes were promulgated while Count Yamada was Minister for Justice, and Count Yamagata Minister President. The latter now holds the portfolio of Justice, and he naturally favours the immediate enforcement of the Codes. Hence he proposed to elect a committee, by the decision of which the question might be settled.

A reporter of the *Kokkai* went to see some influential member of the Cabinet, and asked him why the Government had adopted a measure calculated to arouse public indignation and suspicion. The Minister replied that the Cabinet considered the question so very important that all possible deliberation ought to be adopted in deciding it, and for this reason the Committee was appointed. Such being the sole desire of the Government, there is not the slightest ground for alleging that the Cabinet is cowardly attempting to shift its responsibilities to the shoulders of the committee.

RESIGNATIONS AMONG THE JUDICIARY.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that several members of the Judiciary who were closely concerned in the gambling scandal, have either sent, or are about to send, in their resignations. Public Procurator Imai Konichi, of the Supreme Court, submitted his resignation on 11th instant, and Chief Public Procurator Takagi Hideomi of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, absented himself from the recent meeting of Chief Judges and Chief Public Procurators, and is expected to resign. These two officials were prominent among the men who pushed forward the case against their colleagues on a charge of gambling. On the other side, Public Procurators Kato and Naka, who figured among those accused of gambling, are said to be equally bent on leaving the Judiciary, the verdict of the Administrative Court having given them cause for umbrage.

RECONSTRUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

It is rumoured that the first work Count Ito intends to undertake is the reconstruction of Administrative Organizations. The object of the reconstruction is to lessen the number of officials, and extend the functions of those remaining. When the new system is promulgated, it will probably be found that a large quota of semi-officials are dismissed, and that the number of *Sonin* officials is more or less increased, according to the work devolving on them. In some Departments, however, the services of

many *Sonin* officials will be dispensed with. For instance, the Department of Education, the chief function of which is to superintend the educational affairs of the country, has nevertheless a total personnel, in the shape of Secretaries, Councillors, and so forth, greater than the personnel of the Department of Home Affairs. Evidently that cannot be right. A very careful investigation is to be made as a basis for elaborating the new organizations, which will probably be promulgated before long. These facts are given by the *Nippon* and other vernacular journals.

CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

THE United Chambers of Commerce held a second meeting on the 29th ultimo in Kyoto. Mr. Hamaoka Kotetsu, President, being absent, Mr. Tamura Takei, Vice-President, took the chair at 10 a.m., and the business was commenced at once. The third reading of a proposal containing various amendments of the Regulations relating to Chambers of Commerce was passed. Then a report of the Committee on the establishment of a Central Commercial Conference was read as follows:—

1. The Committee recommend the establishment of a Central Commercial Conference.
2. The Central Commercial Conference shall be superintended by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and its functions are to discuss the following matters at the request of the Ministers of State:—
 - (a) Laws and Regulations relating to commerce, and the manner of their enforcement.
 - (b) Important matters relating to commerce, concerning which any Chamber of Commerce has already expressed its opinion.

The recommendation was discussed, and after a few questions had been asked, the Committee's scheme was passed without opposition, the second and third readings being carried forthwith. The meeting was closed at noon. We take these particulars from the *Shogyo Shimpō*.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS AND THE CABINET.

THE Opposition in the House of Peers is represented as being in the embarrassing position of having nothing to oppose. Absolute ignorance prevails among the public as to the policy which the Government intends to pursue towards the Diet. Resolute and persistent attempts were made by the organs of the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to* to "draw" the present Ministers of State when they assumed the reins of Administration, but the Ministers appear to have thought that no special reason existed for adopting in Japan a form of procedure unknown in any other constitutionally governed country. Cabinets when they come into power in Western States do not publish a bill of fare setting forth the viands which they intend to serve up for the nation's delectation. They unbosom themselves by means of Bills submitted to parliament, and of measures taken in connection with foreign policy. The Ito Cabinet doubtless intends to follow the same system, instead of furnishing to its enemies material wherewith to undertake a crusade at once. But this, though prudent and proper from the Government's point of view, does not suit the other side at all. The various sections in the House of Peers opposed to the Cabinet—the *Sanyo-kai*, the *Konwa-kai*, and the *Yamato Club*—and their leaders, Princes Konoye and Shimazu, Viscounts Tani and Suga, General Ozawa and so forth, are casting about for some solid planks to construct a platform, but their search appears to be poorly rewarded. At present rumour, interpreted by the Tokyo News Agency, alleges that they have been able to fix upon no line of action more promising than to revert to the old question of official interference in elections, and to pick holes in the new Game Law. They are also credited with a resolve to oppose the Radicals' pet measure, re-assessment of the taxable value of land.

COUNT ITO'S ILLNESS.

COUNT Ito's indisposition seems to have assumed quite a troublesome character, chiefly owing to his Excellency's refusal to abstain from discharging his public duties. On Tuesday last he appeared much better, whereupon he immediately resumed his active business habits,

the result being a rise of temperature in the evening, and a still further increase of fever the following morning. Dr. Hashimoto prescribed complete quiet, but the Minister President gave audience to a number of visitors, and gastric fever ensuing, the physicians declared that unless all work were abstained from for a week or ten days, the consequences might be serious. Count Inouye called on Thursday morning, and impressed on Countess Ito and Mr. Ito Miyoji the absolute necessity of denying the Minister President to all visitors. Since then, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, who came upon specially important business, appears to have been the only person admitted.

MINING INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

THE conferences of the above Council were commenced on the 20th ultimo; and its proceedings have been reported from time to time. It was closed on the 1st instant. From the 23rd ultimo onwards, the amendment of the Mining Regulations was discussed. When the conferences finally closed, the members of the Council had their photographs taken together, after which Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, entertained them at luncheon, and expressed his sincere thanks for the trouble they had taken. After luncheon the Count delivered a short speech, in which he declared that the Government would carefully consider the resolutions passed by the Council.

VISITORS TO THE CHICAGO "WORLD'S FAIR."

THE following letter appears in the *Christian Chronicle and Missionary Tidings* for September:—

DEAR SIR,—By the last American Mail I received a private letter, containing some items which may be of interest to our missionaries and their friends.

In view of the great rush expected at Chicago next year, nearly all the accommodations in the hotels and private boarding houses have been already engaged by the prospective visitors to the Columbian Exposition. Latest advices state that the public school buildings have even been leased for next July and August as sleeping apartments. It is becoming a serious question, where will the multitudes who contemplate visiting the Exposition, find accommodation, as 200,000 visitors per day are expected.

Chicago's present capacity was tested by the recent political convention, when thirty-five to forty thousand guests crowded every available space. Consequently, new companies have formed and new hotels are in process of erection.

A few months ago some benevolent gentlemen—well known and public spirited men in that city—being encouraged by the clergy, conceived the idea of a large hotel for Christian people, missionaries, and their friends. While a small profit will of course accrue to these Christian citizens, as stockholders, the main desideratum is the accommodation of Christian visitors in one pleasant place, amid congenial surroundings, at the least expense possible. This hotel now being erected on the Lake Shore within ten minutes walk of the Exposition grounds, will have over one thousand rooms, and accommodate 2,500 guests.

From the secretary, a philanthropic gentleman so well known in Chicago, I received last week an answer to a private letter of inquiry written two months ago. The special favours he offers to my family he permits me, if I wish, to extend to any of the missionaries and their Christian friends who think of attending the Fair. I am only too happy to offer these rare privileges to my fellow-workers and their friends in Japan, if they wish to secure pleasant quarters, at minimum expense, in Christian company. Applications for membership in their Columbian Visitors' Association, to obtain rooms in this "South shore" hotel, must be made at the earliest date possible. From thirty-five States and territories hundreds of applications from the clergy and the churches have already been received at the office. While those living in the United States must pay, on making the application, two dollars for membership ticket and ten dollars in advance at same time for the room, yet we in Japan have the special privilege granted us of not paying anything, even for our membership ticket, until our arrival next year in the U.S.A. This is a matter of honour with us who may contemplate going, as we shall be expected to occupy the rooms engaged; or by our substitute, as the membership ticket is transferable.

The conditions are:

- (1) The applications must be made through me, because of this private arrangement and special privileges to the missionaries and their Christian friends in Japan.
 - (2) The Application to be made now, or by December 15th, at farthest, stating about the time, within the six months (May to November) the rooms will be required.
- It may be necessary, from the numerous applications already received, for this association to erect a second building; and if so, the management desire to know at the earliest possible moment.

The hotel will have all the modern conveniences, and appliances. Large rooms, lighted by electricity, preparations for safety in case of fire, located on a quiet residence street, in prohibition district, and no saloon or near the hotel. An excellent restaurant, on the European plan, will be conducted on the grounds by the same association, where meals will be provided at the moderate rate of twenty to sixty cents each, according to the tastes of the individual. An auditorium, seating fifteen hundred people, is being erected, as part of the hotel, for religious services and

Christian social gatherings. The rates for rooms will be only one dollar to a dollar and half per day, according to location of the room, which is one half to one fifth the rate now charged at the hotels, and possibly one tenth of what will be charged next year.

Membership in the association, by application now or very soon, will secure these low rates. If any rooms are not engaged, parties going to the hotel next year will at that time be compelled to pay two to five dollars per diem.

This being purely a gratuitous matter on my part, without fee or reward, I shall be glad to receive applications, but must frankly say that my numerous duties will not allow me time to answer multitudinous letters containing inquiries. Knowing from experience some of the serious difficulties in securing rooms in Philadelphia while attending the Centennial in 1876, where only nine millions of visitors were present during the six months, I cheerfully make known this great boon to be conferred on missionaries and their friends, who may attend the Columbian Exposition, where thirty millions at least are expected.

Your cordially,

FREDERICK J. STANLEY.

Tokyo, Sept., 28th., 1892.

UBIQUITOUS REBELS.

WE take the following from the *North China Daily News*:—

We are in receipt of a communication from a foreign friend residing at Wuchang, stating that a friend just arrived from the Tchan district has given him the following piece of news. One morning in the middle part of the last moon the people of Suchow, a place 100 miles distant from the confines of the Honan province, woke up and saw a state of things that was calculated to greatly disturb their peace of mind. They found that some unknown parties had, during the night, planted little white flags on all the streets and important highways. All the way from Suchow to the border of Kiangsi the highways were strewn with these ominous little white flags, covering a distance of about 300 li. When the authorities learned of this, they were greatly alarmed, and not without reason, as this is evidently the work of some secret faction inimical to the government. That on a single night the secret enemies of the Throne should have been able to plant these flags over such a distance, serves to show the strength and number of their order. There has been no further development from this strange movement on the part of the secret foes, consequently the authorities have done nothing beyond reporting the incident to the high authorities, at the same time taking measures to secretly investigate the affair. A certain Hunanese has been arrested, and in his house was discovered a book containing a long list of names of the people belonging to some seditious faction. The man, Yang, is being tried, but the officials are afraid to bring about the arrest of the others whose names are recorded in the book. It was reported that this man Yang was to be punished by decapitation on the 15th of the moon (last Wednesday) in order to ease of minds of the citizens.

TELEGRAMS.

SEPTEMBER, 1892, shows a better telegraphic record by 25 per cent. than September, 1891. The *Kokkai* gives figures. For September of the present year, the domestic messages sent over the wires were 461,000, and the foreign messages, 4,900; making a total of 465,900. For October of 1891, the home messages were 364,000 and the foreign 3,500; aggregating 367,500. The sums collected were as follow:—September 1892: domestic telegrams, 97,900 yen; foreign telegrams, 10,500, making 107,500 yen in all; September 1891: domestic messages 79,900 yen; foreign telegrams, 8,980 yen, aggregating 88,880 yen.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.

THE godown on No. 49-A, was broken into on Saturday night. The marauders effected an entrance by cutting through the roof, after removing a quantity of tiles. An aperture of half a yard square was made, but it is presumed that the contents of the place, consisting of only a few bales of cotton yarn with their iron bands still on, did not tempt the thieves, as nothing was abstracted. The police are enquiring into the affair, but probably the matter will end in the thieves' resultless trouble and their consequent disappointment.

MR. ISHII'S ORPHANAGE.

WE have received a donation of \$20 from G. S. on behalf of this excellent charity, whose sore financial straits were brought to our notice by a recent letter from Mr. Pettie. We shall be pleased to receive and acknowledge any further sums on its behalf.

THE EMPEROR AND THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that His Majesty the Emperor will leave Ueno Station at

11 a.m. on the 21st instant, and will travel as far as Tochigi, where accommodation will be provided in the Prefectural buildings at Utsunomiya. The return of the Imperial party will take place on the 27th instant, by the train leaving Utsunomiya at 9.30 a.m. We believe that it is the intention of the Government to invite certain foreign guests to witness the manœuvres, but no information is yet forthcoming as to the arrangements for that purpose.

THE CHINESE CONSULAR SERVICE.

A NUMBER of changes in the Chinese Consular Service is announced in the *London Gazette* of the 30th August. The notification reads as follows:—Foreign Office August 20th.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Thomas Watters, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Foo-chow-foo; Alexander Frater, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Swatow; Thomas Lowndes Bullock, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at New-chwang; George Brown, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Kiukiang; and James Scott, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Shanghai.

MR. KONO HIROMAKA IN HIROSHIMA.

A TELEGRAM from Hiroshima reports that while Mr. Kono Hironaka, a distinguished member of the *Jiyu-to*, was delivering a political speech in Hiroshima, a *soshi* invaded the platform and pushed him down from the rostrum. About an hour later Mr. Kono re-commenced his speech, but a number of *soshi* demolished the rostrum. Fortunately no one was hurt, but the meeting had to be closed. We take this from the *Jiji Shimpō*.

SUICIDE.

M. F. PILLON, architect of No. 162, was found shot dead on the Bluff about seven o'clock on Saturday last. The unfortunate man had evidently taken his own life with a pistol.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

That the *Kaishin-to* (Progressionist party) is in an embarrassing situation becomes every day clearer. It was reported that, at a recent meeting of the party at Count Okuma's residence, Mr. Takata, editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, proposed that the policy of indiscriminate opposition to the Government be abandoned in favour of a more reasonable and moderate line, and that the suggestion led to an animated discussion, creating much ill feeling between the supporters of the motion and its opponents. We are not enlightened as to the ultimate result of the discussion, but it would seem that the proposal was rejected by the majority of those present at the meeting. Moreover, attempts were subsequently made to deny the whole incident, but the public seems to be persuaded that something of the kind actually did occur. That such an idea should have been ventilated in the *Kaishin-to* camp—if indeed it was ventilated—proves that the politicians hitherto conspicuous as the most implacable antagonists of the Government, have come to perceive the unreason and suicidal effects of their uncompromising policy. An apprehension that this discussion may possibly lead to an incurable dissension among the Progressionists, and evidences of daily growing coldness between the *Kaishin-to* and their allies, the Radicals, are regarded by some well-informed persons, as the causes of the great zeal which the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* displays in advocating the immediate dissolution of both the Progressionist and the Radical parties, and the formation of a genuine and united Popular Party. Be this as it may, there seems to be little question that the *Kaishin-to* keenly feel their isolation. This is shown by a significant article in the *Hochi Shimbun*. Ostensibly the writer prides himself upon the strength of the Popular party, but his real aim evidently is to rouse the sympathy of the Radicals and re-awaken the zeal of Progressionists who appear disposed to slacken their antagonism to the Cabinet. The *Kaishin-to* organ acknowledges that the Popular Party

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cannot surpass the Official Party in point of knowledge and ability, and even admits that in worldly experience, in tact, and in honorable distinction, the former is decidedly inferior to the latter—a rare admission from a party organ. What, then, asks our contemporary, is the source of the immense influence wielded by the Popular party? An answer is found in the incorruptible consistency with which the Popular party has espoused the cause of the nation at large. Let this consistency be once shaken and the fate of the Party is sealed. Those who doubt the truth of this observation are referred to the situation of the Eastern Radicals. Their sudden loss of influence is to be ascribed to their unworthy and inconsistent action. "If, therefore," states the *Hochi*, "the Popular Party wishes to maintain its influence and its hold on men's affections, it ought not to make the slightest change in the policy it has hitherto pursued." The *Hochi* goes so far as to condemn every attempt to follow what is commonly called a negative policy, for it says that "so long as the old programme of the Popular party remains to be carried out, no new question, howsoever important it may be in itself, should be brought up for discussion."

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which, though not an avowed organ of the *Kaishin-to*, is strongly in sympathy with that party, writes in a similar strain. It fears that some of the Opposition politicians may be disposed to change their opinion; and in order to prevent anything so untoward, it recommends the inhabitants in every locality to hold political meetings and exact some distinct pledges from their Representatives before the latter repair to the capital for the next session of the Diet. The articles of faith which every genuine Opposition politician ought to subscribe are seven, we read; viz., first, that public expenditure be economized so as to secure the development of the national resources; secondly, that the reduction of expenditure be effected on the basis proposed by the Popular party in the first session of the Diet; thirdly, that the control of local police be vested in local autonomic communities; fourthly, that *Gun-cho* (District Headmen) be made elective; fifthly, that the franchise be extended; sixthly, that the local Government be thoroughly purged of officials who interfered in the last general elections; and seventhly, that the Diet maintain the same firm and strong attitude which it adopted in the first session.

A very noteworthy circumstance is that, while the *Hochi Shimbun* has distinctly given it to be understood that Count Okuma's followers will not agree to the so-called positive policy of the Radicals, the latter's organ is apparently reluctant to say anything on the subject. Evidently, however, the *Fuyu* does not wish to give offence to the Progressionists. For while keeping silence on the real point at issue, it seeks to propitiate them by recommending "the Radicals, the Progressionists, and the Independent Popular party (a new political body) to make common cause and attack the Ito Cabinet on the two questions of the Codes and the Game Regulations." The *Fuyu* does not say anything as to the necessity of combination on any other point.

The question of the Codes is in everybody's mouth. Probably the truth is that the public has been taken by surprise. It had been confidently assumed that the new Cabinet would advise the Emperor to sanction the Bill postponing the operation of these bodies of law. There was of course no positive ground for this belief, except a general supposition that the majority of the new Ministers of State were in favour of postponement. The recent appointment of a Committee to see if certain portions of the Codes can be carried out independently, has, therefore, caused great excitement among the advocates of postponement, while the *Kaishin-to* organs and others are delighted at obtaining a new handle to attack the Cabinet. The agitation against the Government no doubt derives much of its apparent force from an

erroneous supposition that the Ministers of State are still undecided what course to pursue with regard to the Bill for the postponement of the Codes. Politicians will probably calm down in some degree when it becomes clearly known that no uncertainty has ever existed on this point.

Never has the vernacular press been more unanimous than with reference to the present question of the Codes. Every paper in the capital, not even excepting those usually regarded as expressing the opinions of one or other section of the Cabinet, has strongly condemned the step just taken by the Government; and it is feared in certain quarters that the trouble may culminate, not only in a grave conflict between the Executive and the Legislature, but even in a serious dissension among the younger sections of the official world. The journals are greatly puzzled to find out the true object of the Cabinet in nominating a Committee to discuss the Codes. Some writers conjecture that the step is nothing more than a device to prevent serious dissension among the Ministers of State, of whom several—including Count Yamagata—are believed to actively advocate the immediate enforcement of the Codes. The Ministers, according to this hypothesis, decided to make a compromise rather than to precipitate a collision among themselves, the compromise consisting in the enforcement of certain portions of the Codes from January next. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, whose strong disapproval of the Government's step is held to dispel any suspicion previously existing of that journal's connection with the Minister President or any other member of the Cabinet, observes that some persons fear that, if sanction be once given to the Bill for the postponement of the Codes, there will be no chance of ever putting these bodies of law into force at all. In order to avoid such a calamity, they seem to think it necessary to carry out at least some parts of the Codes without delay. Our contemporary assures these persons that their apprehension is entirely unfounded, for scarcely a man in Japan objects to codification, and there surely cannot be any insuperable difficulty in effecting whatever changes may be desirable in the new Codes. The *Nichi Nichi* holds that the Cabinet has no justification for its hesitation in dealing with the question, and recommends that the Emperor be advised to sanction the Bill for postponement, and that a fresh Bill be then submitted to the Diet proposing the carrying out of portions of the Codes from a certain date. This is the method approved by the *Kokkai* also, and by most of the other papers. The Constitutional aspects of the question, we have already discussed in full.

Next to the Codes, the new Game Regulations have been most keenly discussed during the present week. The Opposition papers, especially those belonging to the *Kaishin-to*, claim that the Game Regulations are really a law and ought to have been submitted for the consent of the Diet. Various points are raised to sustain this contention. Our limited space forbids us to do more than reproduce the more important of these points, together with their refutation by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. First, it is claimed that fees for shooting licenses belong to a class of revenue which, whatever may be its name, ought to be considered as tax. To this the *Nichi Nichi* replies that it is an incontestible principle that whatever portions of the revenue are levied for the purpose of defraying the general expenses of the State, belong to the category of "taxes," while those portions which are collected by way of compensation for expenses specially incurred by the State, fall under the heading of fees. The payments collected for shooting licenses belong to the latter class. Secondly, it is stated by the *Kaishin-to* papers that the Government itself has hitherto looked upon the fees for shooting licenses in the light of a tax, these fees having always been classed in the Budget as taxes. The *Nichi Nichi* replies that such a circumstance cannot alter the fundamental nature of a fee, and further avers that the inclusion of license fees in the category of

"taxes" in the Budget has been an error on the part of the Minister of State for Finance. Thirdly, the critics claim that since the Game Regulations concern a right of property, they ought to be regarded as a "law," this claim being based on the assertion that every owner of land possesses, not indeed a right of property in the game found on his land, but certainly the exclusive right of pursuing such game. In support of this contention, the *Kaishin-to* papers point to an article in the new Civil Code, which provides that "the usufructuary has the right to hunt, shoot, and fish over the usufruct property." From this provision, it is inferred that the intention of the law is to recognize the principle that the right of pursuing game is included in the right of ownership of land. The *Nichi Nichi* retorts that it is futile to quote legal provisions not yet in operation, for the purpose of interpreting a disputed point in regulations actually in force. The fact that the Government has issued the Game Regulations as an Imperial Ordinance must be taken as a proof that it does not admit the principles of the right of pursuing game, claimed by the *Kaishin-to* papers. It is an acknowledged principle of the science of administration that all open spaces, even though belonging to private individuals, must be free of access to all persons. In countries where game cannot be obtained except by giving special care to its propagation and preservation by private individuals, the right of pursuing it may justly belong to the owner of the land where it is found. But in a country like Japan, where game is a natural product as much as minerals are, the right of pursuing it is theoretically free to all. The provision in the Civil Code referred to by the *Kaishin-to* organs is derived from French law, and is, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, contrary to the natural custom of Japan. Such, in brief, are the points discussed by the vernacular press. Apart from the constitutional aspect of the question, it is conceded on all hands that the new Game Regulations are very much superior to the old.

It is rumoured that the Minister of Home Affairs has under contemplation the introduction of further changes in the personnel of local officials, and that his deliberation in carrying out his intentions is owing to the difficulty of finding suitable persons to take the places of the officials to be dismissed. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is a ready believer in this report, and urges the Minister of Home Affairs to effect as thorough changes as possible, reminding him that there ought to be no scarcity of proper candidates for local Governorships.

The *Kokkai* seems to think that the Cabinet is inclined to carry out the Civil and Commercial Codes because it is desirous of opening negotiations for the revision of the Treaties. It is natural, says our contemporary, that the members of the present Cabinet should desire to crown their political career with the honour of bringing to a satisfactory issue the difficult question of Treaty Revision; and the *Kokkai* will be the last to throw any obstacle in their path without grave reasons for so doing. But it will oppose the Ministers with all its might, if they venture to disregard the united opinion of both Houses of the Diet on the question of the Codes, and if they seek to sacrifice the interests of the nation to the uncertain benefits of Treaty Revision.

The *Fiji Shimpō* also writes on the question of Treaty Revision, but makes no reference to that of the Codes. It thinks that, if properly approached, the foreign Powers will be found well disposed to the claims of Japan. But before taking up this question of Treaty Revision, our contemporary earnestly advises the Cabinet to provide against all danger of dissension within itself, a curse which has always befallen the Government every time it undertook the task. If there be any Ministers inclined to differ from the general opinion of the Cabinet on this subject, they must, says the *Fiji*, be at once told to leave the Government.

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NYOHO-ZAN AND NANTAI-ZAN
FROM NIKKO.

THE invaluable Guide Book of Messrs. CHAMBERLAIN and MASON is unsatisfactory in its descriptions of the ascent of Nyoho-zan and Nantai-zan from Nikko. These trips are perhaps the most beautiful and interesting that can be made from Nikko, but comparatively few people attempt them, probably because the Guide Book's references are so incomplete. The book contains no suggestion as to the existence of a second route to Nyoho-zan. It speaks only of the path by the Futa-ara Shrine, whereas no one with practical experience of the two routes would think of choosing the latter. Very probably the compiler of the Guide Book's account trusted himself entirely to the guidance of *Kago*-bearers or baggage-carriers. These will always select the Futa-ara path, for the simple, but in their eyes amply sufficient, reason that neither pack horses nor *Kagos* can follow it to any great distance. When one hires a saddle-horse or a *Kago* in Nikko for an excursion occupying the whole day, the price charged is the same whether the place where these means of conveyance are abandoned be several miles nearer or several miles farther from the bourne of the journey. Proceeding on horse-back by the Futa-ara route, one finds, it is true, a tolerably easy path up to the extreme point where riding is possible, but on the other hand, the ascent of the mountain from that point occupies fully four hours at a moderate pace, and if ladies are of the party five hours must be allowed. The work of the horses and their attendants, however, is only three hours, and the route is comparatively free from deep ruts or inconvenient rocks. These facts sufficiently explain the selection made by horse-boys and *Kago*-carriers, for the other path is traversable on horseback or by *Kago* throughout a much longer distance, and one stretch of it is decidedly rough and difficult. This second route is reached by proceeding, in the first place, as far as the little hamlet at the foot of the hill below the Urami water-fall, and then turning sharp to the right. As far as the Urami hamlet, of course, the road is capital; good enough to be cantered over. But through a distance of about four miles after leaving this road, obstacles of various kinds have to be encountered; none of them in any respect serious either for *Kago*-bearers or horses during daylight, but many of them sufficiently formidable to render walking difficult after sunset. Hence the coolies, if left to themselves, avoid this latter path. Between the two routes, however, there is no room for an instant's doubt so far as concerns beauty of scenery and general facility. Entering the hill from the Futa-ara Shrine, one does indeed enjoy some charming prospects, and has further the satisfaction of viewing the Nana-taki, or

seven water-falls, which enjoy a wholly undeserved reputation, being simply little runlets trickling down a steep scarp of scoriae, viewed from the edge of a precipice. But the Urami route winds along the brink of the gorge leading to the Jikan waterfall—a stretch of scenery hardly to be surpassed in the vicinity of Nikko—and thence, through a distance of many miles, becomes a miniature avenue, creeping over grassy slopes and soft knolls, dotted with clumps of graceful trees precisely after the manner of an English park, and commanding everywhere views of entrancing loveliness. About a mile and a half from the foot of Nyoho-zan, this path enters a forest of remarkable beauty, the timber fine and varied, and the undergrowth consisting of that most picturesque of forest carpets, the broad-bladed *Sasa*. Up to the very point where, from a glade in this forest formed by the wide bed of a torrent almost dry in summer, a *torii* marks the entrance to the precincts of the mountain itself—up to this very point one can easily ride on horseback or in a *Kago*, the only rough part of the road—that in the immediate vicinity of the Urami hamlet—being more than atoned for by the smoothness and regularity of the remainder. Thenceforth the climb, itself much less trying than that by the Futa-ara path, takes one over beds of mosses, azalea, and rhododendrons, and under the shade of fine trees to the very summit; a distance traversable by good pedestrians in two hours, and by ladies or very leisurely walkers in three. It will thus be seen that the time on foot by the Urami route is only 3 hours at most, against 5 by the Futa-ara, the total time of the former, by conveyance and on foot, being 7 hours, and that by the latter 8. These, it should be again observed, are times computed for slow walkers: good pedestrians may shorten the former by an hour and the latter by an hour and a half. The Guide Book speaks of 4½ hours for the ascent by Futa-ara from Nikko, and 2½ hours for the descent, but the prodigy upon whose feat this calculation is based must have been a prize sprinter. Nothing of the kind is within the compass of an ordinary mortal. If ladies are in the party, the proper estimate is 7 hours for the ascent, 4½ for the descent, and 1½ on the top, making 13 hours in all from the moment of leaving to the moment of returning to Nikko—by the Urami route. The one thing to be avoided is nightfall before the bad section of the path has been negotiated. Any one overtaken by this misfortune must count on several stumbles and falls, and a delay of some two hours, for it is out of the question to progress at any reasonable pace when the track steps steeply downward by mud-holes of greatly varying depths, hidden by tufts of grass and bushes. A start should therefore be made at 5 a.m., so as to get back to Nikko at 6 p.m. Anyone who has

sufficient energy to follow these directions, and sufficient confidence in the experience here recorded to defy the representations of interested guides and coolies, may count—a fine day of course being assumed—on one of the most delightful trips procurable in Japan.

With regard to the ascent of Nantai-zan from Nikko, the Guide Book contains only a very meagre description, and its language as to the time occupied is not less perplexing than in the case of Nyoho-zan. The great majority of tourists never think of ascending Nantai-zan except from Chiussen-ji, and in this choice they are wise in some respects, for Chiussen-ji lake and the Kegon waterfall are objects that should not be missed. But the climb from Chiussen-ji—which, by the way, another dreadfully zealous pedestrian achieved on the Guide Book's account in two hours, whereas everyday folks require fully three—is abominably steep, and its exceptional character—steps of stairs varying in height from three or four feet to as many inches and formed by roots of trees—is pretty sure to produce an impression of some days duration on the muscles of dwellers in plains and cities. In fact to climb Nantai-zan from Chiussen-ji is more trying than to make the ascent of Fuji-yama from Gotemba, assuming that all the orthodox rests are availed of in achieving the latter feat. Everyone not pledged to that most futile of all youthful ambitions, the construction of pedestrian records to the destruction of cardiac valves and the waste of tissue, ought to avoid the ascent of Nantai from Chiussen-ji, and adopt the far wiser and pleasanter programme of attacking the mountain from the Nikko side and descending by Chiussen-ji lake. In this way strain and struggle are altogether avoided, and a large addition is made to one's acquaintance with the beauties of Japanese scenery. For the ascent from Nikko is pleasant beyond description. The path turns to the left from the Urami hamlet, and passing thence along the grassy slopes that overlook the Jikan water-fall, finally enters a noble forest, presenting every variety of wood-land loveliness. At a wonderful spring, the ice-cold water of which is stored in crystal-clear cisterns for the use of pilgrims, the tourist finds two spacious but weather-beaten and dilapidated huts, with rude facilities for boiling rice and a store of straw-sandals to re-shoe wandering religionists. This hamlet is called Shizu. It is 5,600 feet above the sea-level, and since it can be reached on horseback, there remains a height of only 2,600 feet to be negotiated on foot, as against nearly 4,000 feet from Chiussen-ji. The ascent, moreover, is incomparably easier than that from Chiussen-ji. It conducts one through a forest of weird beauty, the very trunks of the trees being green and their branches festooned with mist-nourished mosses entangling sun-light of silvery softness—precisely such a forest as one might expect

to find peopled by the elves and fairies of nursery tales. At intervals views of wonderful grandeur and compass are disclosed, and the last mile below the summit and beyond the edge of the forest is a vast carpet of azaleas, rhododendrons, *satsuki*, cranberries, bilberries, and heather. Finally, it is to be noted of this route that it preserves all the exquisite freshness and purity of Nature hiding herself in mountain solitudes, whereas the Chiusen-ji path is not only disfigured throughout by the litter of generations of pilgrims, but is also redolent with the painful odour that accompanies these single-suited ascetics throughout the final stages of their perspiring journey. From Nikko to Shizu on horseback is a matter of 4 hours—the Guide Book says 3, but that is "record" time—and from Shizu to the summit is 2½ hours at most, while the whole return journey by the same route is an easy 5 hours, making eleven and a half hours in all, exclusive of a rest on the summit. For persons intending to return to Nikko instead of descending to Chiusen-ji, it is imperative that a very early start—say 5 a.m.—should be made, for to be benighted in the forest below Shizu is a perilous experience, so broken and rocky is the path. We have not the least doubt that when the vicinity of Nikko is made more familiar to tourists, the regular track to Nantai-zan from Nikko will be *via* Shizu, the descent only being made on the Chiusen-ji side.

THE ALLEGED ANTI-CHRISTIAN ACTION OF THE GOVERNOR OF KUMAMOTO.

THE Minister of State for Education has been interviewed by two prominent Christians of Tokyo, Messrs. YOKOI and HARA, with reference to the alleged unconstitutional attitude of the Governor of Kumamoto towards the Christians in his Prefecture. In reply to a direct question from his visitors, the Minister stated that the affair had already received attention from him, and that queries addressed to Governor MATSUDAIRA in person had elicited from the latter an avowal that he had never given any prohibitory injunction whatever to school teachers with regard to their own Christian sympathies or antipathies, and that the much talked of dismissal of pupils from a Primary School had not been in any way suggested or approved by him. In fact, Governor MATSUDAIRA seems to have convinced the Minister that, so far as concerned the letter of the law, no censurable step had been taken.

It appears very probable that all this talk has its origin in indiscreet application of the general principle laid down for Government schools throughout the empire, namely, that the instruction there shall be purely secular, no religious element of any kind being imported into the curriculum. It is easy to conceive that a little excess of zeal on the part of school-masters ap-

plying this rule might assume the appearance, if not the reality, of unconstitutional interference with liberty of conscience. We can scarcely suppose that prominent Christians like Messrs. YOKOI, HARA and others would have publicly moved as they have done were they not fully assured that ample justification existed for their remonstrances. Yet the persons incriminated may have been inspired, not by any anti-Christian bigotry, but simply by an ill-judged estimate of their duty towards the Educational Regulations. After every excuse has been offered, however, there remains this to be said, that Regulations ought not to be officially applied in such a manner as to create umbrage and discontent. One of the main purposes of the rule which excludes religion from the curriculum of Government Schools is to ensure for every subject of the Emperor the liberty of conscience guaranteed by the express provisions of the Constitution. But if the rule be so enforced as to constitute an actual or apparent barrier to that liberty, there can be no question that the intention of the Government is wholly defeated. Who is to be held responsible for these untoward incidents? If the inhabitants of Kumamoto Prefecture be so constituted that they are prone to put an exaggerated and mischievous interpretation on official instructions, then evidently special care ought to be exercised by the Local Officials in framing and issuing instructions. On the occasion of the general elections last spring, Governor MATSUDAIRA doubtless acted strictly within his own conception of impartial duty, but somehow the Headmen and people of the Prefecture resorted to methods which constituted a public scandal. Now, again, we have the same Governor MATSUDAIRA taking steps which he considers warranted by law, yet somehow his subordinates are betrayed into apparent breaches of the Constitution. All this is very unfortunate, to say the least of it. Kumamoto Prefecture has become an Administrative disgrace, and the reputation of the Central Government is concerned in restoring order there.

One fact brought into prominence by this incident is the liberal attitude of the vernacular press towards Christianity and religious beliefs in general. No Japanese journal has been found to approve, on religious grounds, the action attributed to Governor MATSUDAIRA and the masters of Primary Schools in Kumamoto. We deem this very remarkable. Let us reverse the case, and suppose that there was question of an English Magistrate setting his countenance against the spread of Buddhism in an English parish, and of the Principal of a National School in England expelling a pupil for persisting in the study of the *Sutras* contrary to instructions. How many British journals would be found to condemn the conduct of the Magistrate and the Principal as subversive of the right of freedom of conscience? We are bound to applaud the liberality and justice, no less than the Constitutional insight, shown by the Japanese press in this instance.

THE NEW GAME LAW.

THE long talked of Game Law has been promulgated. It consists of 34 articles which are translated elsewhere in our columns. The first point to which one turns with interest is the classification of protected birds and animals. We find that a close season is established for all kinds of game from the 15th of March to the 14th of October. These dates are sufficiently comprehensive, but inasmuch as there are no grouse or partridge south of Yezo, the prohibition of shooting prior to October the 15th seems proper. It has been, or used to be, the habit with sportsmen in this country to attack the pheasant covers from October 1st, but there can be no doubt that the proceeding is premature, for the young birds have scarcely passed the chicken stage at that date. In Yezo, however, the hazel-grouse of Siberia—locally known as *Yama-dori*—is very common, and becomes strong on the wing in September, so that the prohibition of its pursuit before October 15th seems unnecessary. The question is, however, does the new Law protect this hazel-grouse at all? Among the game birds enumerated in the 25th Article, the *Yama-dori* is mentioned. *Yama-dori* in Kanagawa Prefecture, Musashi province and their vicinity, signifies copper pheasant, but in Yezo the term is applied to the hazel-grouse. In which sense the Law employs it, we cannot be sure; but inasmuch as all kinds of pheasant would be included in the term *Kiji*, which stands first on the list of game birds, it seems not improbable that *Yama-dori* is intended to designate the hazel-grouse. If so, the limits of the close season are too extensive from the sportsman's point of view, and the same may be said with respect to quails and pigeon, both of which are certainly shootable before October 15th. But the Law errs on the right side. Hitherto the unfortunate game birds of Japan have enjoyed virtually no protection, and it is well that some breathing space should now be secured to them. Englishmen reading the list of game-birds will probably be surprised to find that it includes the Bulbul, the Shrike and the Jay, but ideas differ as to the suitable billet of a charge of sportsman's shot. Most welcome is the list given in Art. 24, where fourteen kinds of birds are taken permanently under the protection of the law. Some of the birds enumerated in this list are difficult to identify. The *shijugara* (literally, the forty-sparrow), or tomtit, is familiar enough to every one. In Japanese thickets he is just the same perky, brisk little rascal that enlivens the hedge-rows of the old country. Besides, has he not been immortalized by IKKIU's answer to the old lady who mournfully brought to the great scholar the body of her pet tomtit, seeking an epitaph? "The span of human life," said IKKIU, in whose days longevity seems to have been the

exception, "is fifty years. But you, wee bird, advance a perpetual claim to forty. You have not died too soon." But what is the *gojūgara*, or "fifty sparrow?" He passes the limits of our ornithological knowledge. The *Yoshi-kiri* is another puzzle. In Japanese encyclopedias we find him variously designated as the *Yoshi-wari*, or reed-divider; the *Yoshi-kiri*, or reed-cutter, and the *Yoshiwara-suzume*, or reed-sparrow. He is not an unfamiliar acquaintance, indeed, for we have often seen him flash across a brake of white *Yoshi*, filling the air with hurried chirping. But like Betsy Prig at the crisis of the immortal duel, we cannot "put a name to it." At all events he is a species of sparrow, and even that mercy to the "blithe wanderer of the wintry air" must be gratefully received. For the poor sparrow is ostracized from all the lists. The bird whose fall GOD marks, the bird whose "bright blue eggs together laid" break upon the sight of so many a child like a blessed revelation, must continue to be the prey of every setter of trap or disposer of gyn; must continue to be stalked in his saucily selected perch by murderers with shiny bamboos, deluding whistles and hooded heads. Well, the sparrow, a born marauder, has brought this fate upon himself. The Kingfisher, too, is not exempt. Whatever supply of his gorgeous plumage is furnished by Japan for ladies' hats, will not be interrupted. For the rest, however, the little denizens of the grove and copse are henceforth happily taken under the protecting wing of the law, and we sincerely hope that these prohibitions will be strictly enforced. There is however, one striking *lacuna* in the new Law: no provision is inserted prohibiting the sale of game birds during the close season. This seems to us a fatal omission. A close season is virtually useless if no attempt is made to control the sale of game birds in the market. The surest and easiest way to prevent violations of the law is to see that no means are available for disposing of game out of season.

It will be observed that the law recognises every land-owner's right of property in game. The terms of Article (4) bearing upon this part of the subject leave something to be desired in point of clearness. Clause 2 forbids the pursuit of game in places where prohibitory notifications are posted; the notifications referred to being official. But in the 5th Article it is provided that a local Governor shall be competent to issue such a notification for the protection of any private estate, on application from the owner. A discretionary power is thus given to the Governor, but of course his discretion will never be exercised to the detriment of a land-owner, and it consequently follows that every land-owner will be able to procure the issue of a notification protecting his land, should he be so inclined. Moreover, apart from this special measure of protection,

the 7th clause of the 4th Article provides that all fenced or enclosed land, or land where any agricultural product is cultivated, must not be trespassed upon in the pursuit of game without the consent of the owner. The sportsman is thus altogether precluded from snipe-shooting, unless he obtains permission from every farmer owning rice-fields in the district visited, a condition difficult to fulfil. He is further precluded from the pursuit of pheasants except in covers which can be beaten without entering cultivated land, also a difficult condition. Indeed the effect of this Law must be virtually prohibitive of sport, so far as foreigners are concerned, for the stock of game within treaty limits is so small that these new obstacles will probably prove deterrent. Of course such a result was inevitable so soon as property in game received legal recognition, but it will nevertheless provoke some dissatisfaction.

An interesting question is the method that will be adopted in classifying foreign applicants for licenses. The tests prescribed for Japanese are evidently inapplicable to foreigners, and unless some special regulations be issued bearing on the subject, we see nothing to prevent an unscrupulous foreigner—if any should think it worth while—from taking out a professional license of Class B, and thus escaping with a fee of one *yen* instead of ten. It was rumoured at one time that an intention existed of discriminating against foreigners in the provisions of the Law, but happily that idea, if it ever existed, was abandoned. The foreign sportsman has inflicted very little injury on the game of Japan. It is the Japanese professional who, aided by the absence of any prohibitory law, has wrought serious havoc by paying no attention to seasons or to the necessity of leaving a head of birds for breeding purposes.

In speaking of foreigners, we assume that some means will be taken by their Representatives to obtain for them the privileges, subject of course to the prohibitions, of the new Law. There is nothing in the text that would enable foreigners to obtain a license, but the Japanese Government, we do not doubt, will be willing that foreigners should enjoy whatever sport may be procurable, on an equal footing with the people of the country.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press*, alluding to the recent news of further anti-Christian demonstrations at Hangkow, says:—

The circumstance raises the query whether, under present conditions—the Chinese Government being professedly unable and in fact unwilling to afford the missionaries adequate protection from outrage and murder—the missionaries of any denomination should be allowed to reside more than fifty miles from a treaty port. Of course if this were conceded, it would be a great triumph to the Chinese, one for which they have been scheming for some years, and to secure which doubtless these murders and outbreaks have been specially got up. But if, in order to effectually protect their missionaries, the Treaty Powers were to require

them to withdraw from the interior and such remote districts as they at present penetrate, it would be necessary and equitable for the Powers to demand the opening of a large number of additional ports within a fifty mile radius of which the missionaries would find a much larger field of labour than they are ever likely to successfully cover. The truth is China is so vast, and its population so numerous and so impregnated with hostility to the foreigner, that it is a mistaken policy to attempt too much at once. The outworks of this pagan stronghold should first be stormed and carried, and the work in the interior entrusted to native converts until such time as a civilised Government can be established that will execute law and justice, preserve order, and protect the stranger. The Peking Government is obviously growing more disinclined to enforce fulfilment of treaty stipulations by its officials or to make reparation for injuries or loss sustained through their action. This has been proved repeatedly of late; in fact, ever since Sir John Walsham assumed the post of British Minister. In the House of Commons, on the 11th ult., Mr. T. W. Russell elicited from the Under Secretary of State the fact that Sir John Walsham has demanded compensation for the outrage on Dr. Greig, and is pressing the claim on the attention of the Chinese Government. This outrage occurred in August, 1891, more than a year ago; it was a brutal attack on a medical missionary by Chinese soldiers without the shadow of excuse or justification, by which the worthy doctor was seriously injured, and the case admitted of neither argument nor discussion. The claim could and should have been settled in a day. But with characteristic shamelessness and procrastination the Chinese Government have contested or deferred it, and the British Minister, with equally characteristic feebleness, has allowed it to be shelved. And so it is with scores of other claims equally just and indisputable. All of them are disputed, inch by inch, and postponed from year to year in the despicable hope that they may ultimately be abandoned in very disgust and despair. This mean policy is sometimes only too successful, but it will eventually recoil on the heads of the unprincipled mandarins. The patience of the Treaty Powers will some day become exhausted, and they will come to a mutual agreement to sweep the antiquated, corrupt, and obstructive machine which passes for Government at Peking out of existence, and take upon themselves the task of civilising and administering the Chinese Empire, even as Morocco will have to be administered, in the interests of the world at large and for the general good of the human race.

There is another alternative which our southern contemporary fails to formulate, namely, that the home Government may grow weary of complications owing their origin entirely to missionary effort. Even those who have the warmest appreciation of missionary labours may well rebel against the notion that international relations should be imperilled in order to create a field for Christian propagandism. The proposition advanced by the *Hongkong* journal amounts to nothing less than this—that China must be forced, against the wishes of her people, to open a sphere for the spread of an alien faith. Just conceive for a moment, if imagination be capable of the flight, what sort of reception would be accorded by a Western State to such a demand were it preferred on behalf of an Oriental Power. China is described by the *Hongkong* newspaper as "a pagan stronghold." "Pagan" signifies a worshipper of false gods. But China does not believe herself to be a worshipper of false gods. And which of us will undertake to say that the Buddhist deity is anything else than another manifestation of the GOD whom Christians pray to? At any rate, we have no manner of right to deny to the Chinese or to any other people the same freedom of conscience that we claim for ourselves. We have no manner of right

to demand that sections of Chinese territory shall be specially set apart as spheres for the preaching of a creed which in Chinese eyes is just as much "pagan" as Buddhism is in ours. It is a mockery of the avowed spirit of Christianity that its propagandism should be taken under official tutelage and should be made the subject of international negotiation. The opening of new ports in Chinese territory is doubtless to be desired, not less in the interests of China herself than in those of foreign trade. But to stipulate for their opening as a field for missionary labour in exchange for the withdrawal of missionaries from the remote interior, would be a basis of agreement against which the missionaries themselves could scarcely fail to protest. In truth, the troubles caused by Christian propagandism are one of the ugliest features of the age. The patience of the British Government must be sorely tried by them, and one of their inevitable consequences is gradually to throw discredit on missionary labours altogether. Diplomats naturally ask themselves whether any well regulated sense of the dictates of duty requires that the missionary shall penetrate into the remote interior of the Chinese Empire in search of converts, while the vast native populations of the treaty ports and the neighbouring cities remain unconverted in his rear. No one, indeed, has ever satisfactorily explained this anomaly, so far as we know. No one has intelligibly accounted for the necessity which drives missionaries into the interior when almost limitless fields for their ministrations offer themselves within easy reach of the treaty ports. At times of public distress, when famine or flood afflicts the country, the missionary, on his long journeys of hardship and charity, would carry with him the approval and well wishes of every one. But it seems strange and abnormal that he should divert from the port populations labours which are at least as much needed there as anywhere else. Explanations may extenuate but cannot obliterate the fact that the great majority of anti-foreign outbreaks in China have been directed against the foreign propagandists of Christianity, their native converts and the institutions they establish. Christianity loses much of its beauty in the context of such unchristian responsibilities. Gradually the "Christian propagandist" comes to be regarded with dislike and distrust, as the *fons et origo* of disturbance and friction. Dr. GREIG, for example, a man said to be of blameless life and devoted zeal, is now taken as the text of a very severe homily read by our Hongkong contemporary to the Chinese Government and to Great Britain's Representative in Peking. Nothing is publicly known of the communications that have passed between Sir JOHN WALSHAM and the Tsung-li-Yamen on this subject, yet the leading Hongkong journal does not hesitate to declare that "the claim could have been settled in

a day," and that the delay which has occurred is due to "the characteristic shamelessness and procrastination of the Chinese Government, and the equally characteristic feebleness of the British Minister." Dr. GREIG's reputation does not gain by association with such intemperance and precipitancy. With his lawless assailants rests, of course, the original blame of thrusting him before the public in this unwelcome role. But the question for missionaries to ask themselves seriously is whether they are fulfilling the true dictates of their calling when they needlessly brave perils the sequel of which is to bring their own propagandism into unwholesome notoriety, and to foster international enmities which they should take the lead in averting and allaying. The missionary's best friends are too often compelled to confess with pain that tact and judgment are conspicuously wanting in his moral furniture. Does no obligation rest on him to shape his course so that national animosity and bloodshed shall be avoided? That he should brave personal peril and suffering for the sake of his cause is one thing; that he should involve whole communities and peoples in disputes and animosities is altogether another. The QUEEN'S Government must inevitably consider the problem in this light from time to time. Underlying the harsh and impatient criticisms so frequently uttered by the local foreign press against British officials, those gentlemen doubtless recognise a spirit to which England owes much of her empire, and with which, even in its most unsightly manifestations, Englishmen are disposed to sympathise. But it may very well happen that the high policy of State which HER MAJESTY'S Ministers are seeking to pursue in the best interests of the empire, encounters a hampering, if not altogether marring, obstacle in ebullitions of that spirit evoked by troubles for which tactless and over-zealous missionary labours are responsible. We do not believe that it is the true mission of the press to be the gauntlet-bearer of every foreigner who comes into collision with Chinese in the interior, neither do we believe that the vision of HER MAJESTY'S Ministers is always arrested by the veneer of blundering patriotism and indiscreet ecstasy which so often satisfies local criticism in the East.

THE CODES.

WE reproduce elsewhere the comments of the Opposition press and of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the appointment of a Committee to consider the new Civil and Commercial Codes. All the journals quoted condemn the Government strongly. Condemnation was to have been expected from the *Kaishin-to* organs under any circumstances, so far as regards their general attitude towards the Cabinet. But when we consider that the *Kaishin-to*

leader, Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, opposed the Bill for postponing the operation of the Codes until 1896, and introduced an amendment in the sense of enforcing certain portions of them immediately, we are not prepared to find the organs of his Party so strongly advocating total postponement now. However, it has to be remembered that strong feelings were evoked by the discussion of the Bill, and that its passage through both Houses of the Diet was hailed by the Opposition as a signal defeat of the Government. Hence there is natural anxiety about its fate, and the prospect of its becoming a dead letter rouses an acute sense of umbrage. But what astonishes us is that the criticisms of these journals are apparently based on a total misconception. Each and every one of them, from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* downwards, attacks the Cabinet on the ground of want of courage and decision. They all write under the impression that the appointment of a Committee is a mere device by which the Ministers of State hope to evade the embarrassment of dealing conclusively with the Bill, and seek to shift their own troublesome responsibilities to other shoulders. Now if this were a warrantable hypothesis, we should certainly concur most heartily in the censure showered on the Cabinet by the Opposition press. If it were really the case that the Government was manœuvring to shirk its duties, and that the appointment of a Committee was a mere subterfuge to delude or wheedle the public, there could be no second opinion as to the Cabinet's culpability. But even to us, looking at the matter as pure outsiders, the case presents an entirely different aspect. In the first place, it is impossible to believe that the ITO Cabinet would descend to any such unworthy and suicidal paltering. In the second, the critics appear to have paid no attention to the significance of indications furnished by the prescribed procedure in respect of Bills that have passed the Diet. Were it provided that such Bills should be submitted to the EMPEROR for His Majesty's sanction or disapproval; in other words, were there any provision for a positive veto, then the silence of the Government might be reasonably construed as evidence of vacillation or evasion. But there is no such provision. The process of vetoing a Bill in Japan is purely negative. A measure which receives the Imperial Sanction must be promulgated before the next session of the Diet. That is all that the law says on the subject. By construction it follows that unless a Bill is promulgated before the next session, it must be considered as having failed to obtain the Imperial Sanction. Now what has happened with regard to the Bill for the postponement of the Codes? It passed both Houses of the Diet last June, and we are already in the second week of October, yet

the Bill has not been promulgated. Surely the lapse of such an interval is in itself sufficient proof that the Bill has not received, and will not receive, Imperial Sanction. The Opposition journals appear to think that the Government's resolve not to recommend the Bill for HIS MAJESTY'S approval can be established only by a public announcement that the EMPEROR has vetoed it. But the Government is not competent to make such an announcement; the law does not permit it. If the public cannot draw a confident inference from the lapse of 3½ months without any sign of promulgation, there must be extraordinary reluctance on the public's part to draw any inference at all. Moreover, in addition to this negative testimony, we have the positive evidence that the Government has appointed a Committee of experts to express an opinion as to the probable effects of enforcing certain portions of the Codes at once. Can anyone honestly pretend to imagine that the Ministers of the Crown have convened this Committee in order to solicit from it guidance as to whether they should advise the Emperor to sanction the Bill, or whether they should recommend him to withhold his sanction? The notion is altogether ridiculous. Beyond all reasonable doubt the fate of the Bill, so far as concerns the Imperial Sanction, has already been irrevocably determined. Were not such the case, no Committee would ever have been appointed. It is laughable to think of Count ITO and his Cabinet interposing between themselves and the Throne a Committee of thirteen irresponsible outsiders. No, the Bill is dead. A committee has been invited to express. Certain opinions because the Government seeing that the Imperial Sanction has been withheld, and being nevertheless persuaded that some satisfactory manner of dealing with the question should be sought, is framing a measure for submission to the Diet next session, and desires to obtain an expression of outside views on one phase of the matter. This hypothesis tallies exactly with the final attitude of the Diet itself towards the Bill. Just before passing the measure, the Diet introduced a provision which amounted to a virtual declaration that certain portions of the Codes might be put into immediate operation, while others required revision. But the Diet made no attempt to distinguish these portions. Its evident intention was to entrust the duty to a revising Committee. That is precisely what the Government seems to be doing. Doubtless the Ministers of the Crown have very distinct ideas of their own as to the parts of the new laws which are immediately needed by the nation. But they desire to consult the opinion of the prominent opponents and prominent supporters of the Codes, before elaborating a project for the consent of the Diet. It is easy to see how much more expeditious will be the process

of determining at once that certain portions may be enforced and that certain other portions must be amended, instead of laying the whole before a revising committee, and awaiting the issue of the latter's labours before putting any part into operation. The problem is of immense importance to the empire, alike from a domestic and a foreign point of view. We altogether applaud the Government's caution and deliberation. But as to the phantasy that the Cabinet, in the second week of October, is still plunged in uncertainty and perturbed by timidity about the manner of dealing with a Bill which passed the Diet in June, it may be dismissed with a smile. The Bill is dead, and the question now is, what shall replace it?

THE CODES AND THE CONSTITUTION.

THE Vernacular press continues to discuss with considerable excitement the question of the Codes. It is certainly a subject worthy to occupy a large share of public attention, but as is too frequently the case, the path to wholesome controversy seems to be blocked by misapprehension. Anxiety to find a pretext for attacking the Government appears to betray Opposition journals into an unreasoning mood. They evidently think that the Ministers of the Crown are managing this matter entirely by their own authority and in defiance of the course prescribed by the Constitution. There is room for such suspicions under the system which governs the management of Bills in Japan after their passage through both Houses. But there ought not to be any room for them in the minds of men disposed to credit the Ministers of State with even a moderate sense of administrative obligations. The Constitutional duty of the Cabinet Ministers with respect to a Bill which has passed the Diet is perfectly plain. They must submit the Bill within a reasonable limit of time for the EMPEROR'S consideration. That is beyond all question. Were the Cabinet competent to withhold from the SOVEREIGN'S consideration a measure which has received the sanction of the two Houses, the practical result would be to elevate the Cabinet into a supreme tribunal, with power to over-rule the decisions of the Diet and to dispose finally of all legislative projects. Such a system would not only render the Constitution a dead letter, but would also exclude the EMPEROR altogether from an important part of the administration of his realm. The Ministers, therefore, have no manner of right to abstain from laying before the Throne any Bill which has passed the Diet. If the EMPEROR sanctions the Bill, then, according to the Constitution, he orders its promulgation, and the duty of promulgating it devolves upon the Ministers. But if the EMPEROR withholds his sanction, then, of course, promulgation is

not ordered, and there the matter ends so far as concerns that particular Bill. It is in this latter case that material is furnished for public uncertainty. The fact that the SOVEREIGN has declined to sanction the Bill is not announced. No machinery for announcing it is provided by the Constitution or the appended laws. Promulgation of a law being the sole method of letting the nation know that it has obtained the SOVEREIGN'S approval, the negative fact of non-promulgation is the only circumstance from which the nation can infer that the Imperial sanction has not been accorded. But assuredly the enemies of the Government have no right to infer that because a Bill is not promulgated, it has never been, and never will be, submitted to the SOVEREIGN at all. In such a suspicion there is involved a charge of plainly unconstitutional autocracy against the Ministers of the Crown. There is involved something more also. There is involved the hypothesis that the SOVEREIGN himself takes no intelligent interest in, and has no earnest knowledge of, legislative and political problems that concern the most vital interests of his empire. If the Ministers of the Crown were sufficiently contemptuous towards the Throne and careless of the Constitution to deliberately exclude the SOVEREIGN from his due share in the Government, is it likely that the EMPEROR himself would submit quietly to such effacement? The notion appears to us quite extravagant. That the EMPEROR is thoroughly posted from day to day not only in every debate of the Diet and in every measure passed or rejected by it, but also in all the doings of the Cabinet and in the political and social problems of the time, is a well known fact; a fact that has been often proclaimed with applause and delight by the very journals which now, by implication, represent HIS MAJESTY as content to play the part of a mere puppet. It is most unlikely that the EMPEROR, in dealing with a Bill, would refuse to be guided by the advice of His Ministers, but that he should agree not to be consulted at all, and above all, that he should suffer His Ministers to dispense with distinct Constitutional provisions affecting one of his most important prerogatives, is beyond belief. We mention these things because, strange as it may seem, some of the Opposition journals manifestly ignore them, and do not hesitate to accuse the Government of having withheld the Codes Bill from the EMPEROR'S consideration, and appointed a Committee of experts merely for the purpose of obtaining a pretext for further delay. Were the Government guilty of such procedure, it would not deserve to retain the nation's confidence for a day. But since the Diet's first meeting, no Cabinet has ventured to behave in a fashion so arbitrary and unconstitutional. Bills opposed by the Government while under debate in the Houses have always, after their passage

through the Diet, been speedily submitted for Imperial sanction, and promulgated, on receipt of that sanction, without loss of time. There should be no doubt that the Codes Bill also was duly submitted to HIS MAJESTY, and that, having failed to obtain sanction and thus become a dead letter, the Cabinet is now engaged collecting materials for the construction of another measure or the modification of the present one. It must be inferred, of course, that the Ministers of the Crown advised HIS MAJESTY to withhold sanction from the Bill, but in doing so they were acting as strictly within their Constitutional functions as they would be exceeding those functions did they adopt any means of publishing the fact that sanction has been refused.

THE PORTUGUESE AFFAIR AGAIN.

QUITE a hubbub is being raised, we perceive, about a rumour, emanating from some mysterious quarter, to the effect that certain documents are found to be missing from the archives of the Portuguese Legation as handed over to the keeping of the French Chargé Affaires. "One Aggrieved," that old assailant of his former Consul-General, returns again to the charge, mounted on this new hobby, and is exultingly truculent because the *Japan Mail* has taken no notice of his questions, and because it preserves silence in the face of this alleged new discovery. Violent and wrathful as are the attacks of "One Aggrieved," and perseveringly as he endeavours to conceal his previous discomfiture under present bluster, it is impossible not to be amused by his writing. We freely forgive all the hard things he has said about us in consideration of the diversion his assaults have afforded. As to this matter of missing despatches, however, might it not be well to ascertain first whether any despatches are really missing, and secondly what their contents are supposed to have been, before raising such a commotion about them? For our own part, we do not propose to busy ourselves with any such idle rumours. And what is more, we beg once and for all to inform "One Aggrieved" and any others of his compatriots who think that the interests of their country are promoted by conducting a scandalous campaign in the public press against an absent gentlemen who until quite recently represented their Sovereign at the Court of Japan—we beg to inform these persons that it is not our intention to have the rôle of conducting Mr. LOUREIRO'S defence thrust upon us. We undertook to show that the charge originally preferred against him—namely, the charge of having wilfully kept his Government in ignorance of Japan's intentions—was entirely false, and we demonstrated its falsity beyond all room for reply. That we assumed this task was primarily because the general question as

between Japan and Portugal could not but be affected by such an untruth, if left unrefuted, and secondly because, where charges which we know to be unjust are publicly advanced against an absent official, we deem it a duty to repel them. But with regard to Mr. LOUREIRO'S manner of discharging his duties in general, the care taken by him of archives in his keeping, his competence or zeal in a Consular or Diplomatic capacity, and, in short, all other matters that concern him, we refuse to be counted his advocates. His nationals may settle their own disputes with him in their own way. If they think it manly or dignified to advance against him in his absence journalistic accusations fabricated out of every rumour that circulates and elaborated by suspicious more ingenious than generous, that is their affair. We are happy to think that such methods find no toleration among Englishmen.

One phase of this new departure is worth notice, however, in consideration of its bearing on the attitude of the Portuguese Government. A suggestion is made that the documents now said to be missing were, in fact, the very communications which would have enlightened the Government in Lisbon as to Japan's intentions, and that, failing to receive these despatches, the Portuguese Foreign Office cannot be said to have treated Japan's remonstrances with discourtesy or indifference. We observe that this contingency troubles the *Hyogo News*, and for the information of that journal we proceed to submit some simple facts. In January of the present year, Japan entered her first protest in Lisbon against the abolition of the Portuguese Consulate-General in Tokyo. Portugal replied in terms which did not dispel Japan's uneasiness, and a telegram was sent from Tokyo asking that definite action should be deferred pending the receipt of detailed explanations which should be submitted from this side forthwith. These detailed remonstrances having reached Lisbon and been, we presume, duly examined, the Portuguese Government replied that Japan's views should receive consideration, and that the resolution adopted in connection with them should be communicated in due season. Now observe what followed. On the very day after penning the above promise to Japan, the Portuguese Government addressed another despatch to its Consul-General in Tokyo, confirming the abolition of his office and ordering him to make arrangements for leaving Japan as soon as possible. Could indifference and discourtesy be carried further? Within twenty-four hours of an official engagement to consider Japan's remonstrance and reply to it in due time, Portugal took the very step against which Japan had protested, and never conveyed one syllable of intimation, either then or subsequently, to the Japanese Government. The Portuguese Consul-General, on re-

ceipt of the above instructions, notified the fact to the Japanese Foreign Office, and thereupon (towards the end of May) an urgent telegram was addressed by Japan to Lisbon, intimating that the removal of the Consul-General and the abolition of his office would impose upon this empire the duty of resuming the jurisdictional functions which had been delegated to Portugal by treaty, but for the proper discharge of which no Portuguese machinery existed any longer. No notice whatever was taken of this telegram by the Lisbon Foreign Office. On June 10th the Consul-General took his departure. Once more Japan telegraphed to Lisbon that, inasmuch as the jurisdictional arrangements which had been instituted in the sequel of special negotiations in 1883 and 1886, were now entirely dislocated by Portugal's act, and inasmuch as no other arrangements had been substituted, the Japanese Government would be warranted in at once assuming judicial charge of Portuguese subjects in Japan. Desiring, however, to proceed with all friendliness and consideration, this act of resumption should be deferred until July 1st, any cases that occurred in the interim being held over. In addition to this message, which some writers are disposed to call an ultimatum, a more detailed communication, in the same sense, was addressed to the Governor of Macao. Portugal now broke her curious silence. She would reply, she curtly said, in due time. The first of July came, however, without another word from Lisbon. Apparently the statesmen in that capital considered that Japan's intimations might be treated as mere persiflage, and that the duty of providing for the preservation of law or order within his dominions need not give the Sovereign of Japan any concern. Still the Japanese Government postponed final action, and it was not until the 14th of July that the Imperial Ordinance was issued abrogating Portugal's extra-territorial privileges. These are plain facts. It is impossible that any reasonable person, with such a story before him, should justify the treatment which Japan received at Portugal's hands. Further, as to the suggestion that some despatches were suppressed by the Portuguese Consul-General in Tokyo—a suggestion which seems to lack any rational basis—it is evident from what we have said that the knowledge which Lisbon possessed of Japan's views and intentions could not have been affected by anything of the kind.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE DIET.

AN Imperial Rescript, countersigned by all the Ministers of State, was issued on the evening of the 12th instant, convening the Diet to meet for its third regular session on the 25th of November. The Constitution directs that an interval of forty days must separate the issue of this Res-

cript from the meeting of the Houses, and the interval allowed on the present occasion is forty-three days. Until quite recently no indications were discernible as to the course likely to be pursued by the Opposition, in the next session, but judging from present appearances, the Government's enemies are disposed to base their attacks upon the treatment that has been accorded to the Bill for the postponement of the Codes, and upon the fact that the new Game Law fixes the fees to be charged for shooting-licenses, and thus, according to the views of hostile critics, infringes the terms of the Constitution, where it is provided that no new tax shall be imposed without the consent of the Diet. Of course the validity of this last ground of assault depends entirely upon the question whether a fee charged for a hunting license is, or is not, a tax. The Government, fortified by the opinions of Japanese and foreign juriconsults, and by the definition of the term "tax" which this empire adopts, in common with Germany and some other European States, declares that such a fee is not a tax. The Opposition, with equal confidence but with much less authority, contend that it is. Turning to the Constitution for guidance, we find it laid down in the 62nd article that "the imposition of a new tax or the modification of the rates (of an existing one) shall be determined by law;" but that "all administrative fees or other revenue having the nature of compensation shall not fall within the category of the above clause." From this it appears that the only kind of payment which can be demanded from Japanese subjects without the consent of the Diet, is an administrative fee having the nature of compensation. What is meant by such a fee? Count Ito's Commentary contains a definition. "Administrative fees," we there read, "as mentioned above, are such as are collected from private individuals for undertakings engaged in, or for transactions conducted, by the Government for them at their request or for their benefit. They are in their nature different from taxes, which are imposed as a common duty to be discharged by all. For instance, railway fares, warehouse charges, school fees and the like, may be fixed by administrative Ordinance, and need not be settled by law." Now it is plain that a fee charged for a license to pursue game fails to satisfy one of the essential characteristics of a tax. "A tax"—we quote again from the Commentary—"is the contributive share of each subject in the public expenditures of the State. It is neither benevolence paid in response to exaction, nor a remuneration for certain favours which have been received upon a mutual understanding." The fee paid for a license to pursue game assuredly cannot be regarded in any sense as a share which each subject is under obligation to contribute towards

the expenditure of the State. But although this distinction suffices to exclude such a fee from the category of "taxes," properly so called, it does not suffice to include it in the category of "administrative fees" having the nature of compensation" which the Government is Constitutionally entitled to levy without reference to parliamentary authority. We must go a step farther, and enquire whether the principle of compensatory benefit is involved in the imposition of the charge. To us it appears quite plain that such a principle is involved. Until the promulgations of the recent Ordinance the right of private property in game was never recognised. No individual was competent to preserve game. In feudal days this privilege was exercised by the Shogun and by many Daimyo, but under the Centralized Government its exercise has been confined to the SOVEREIGN. Now, however, private right of property in game is for the first time legally recognised, and the Government undertakes to secure to every landholder in the country the ownership of the game on his land, provided that he, on his side, pays a fee for the privilege of preserving, and provided also that every pursuer of game pays a fee for a license to pursue it. In a word, all game will be protected by the Authorities on condition that people who desire to kill it shall pay for permission to do so. The sums thus levied will go to defray the administrative expenses incurred by the Authorities in preventing violations of the newly established right. Any surplus will naturally be added to the revenue of the State, but the prime purpose of the fees is to meet expenditure connected with securing this new benefit to the people. From this point of view the definition of "an administrative fee having the nature of compensation" seems to be distinctly satisfied, and the payments prescribed by the Hunting Regulations appear to be excluded from the category of taxes requiring the consent of the Diet. Different schools of juriconsults may entertain different views on this question, but for our own part we see little reason to doubt that the spirit of the Constitution is in accord with the practice of the Government. At all events, as a chief plank in the Opposition's platform, the matter does not look particularly promising. It ought to occur—one cannot help thinking—to the agitators in the camp of the "outs," that the men who framed the Constitution are more likely to interpret it correctly, and to be supported by the Throne in their interpretation, than outsiders who have no special qualifications for the task.

COTTON-SPINNING IN JAPAN.

THE successful era which has dawned for the cotton-spinning industry in Japan is beginning to inspire ambition too large to be satisfied with supplying the home markets only. An article in the *Kokkai* illustrates the growth of this feeling. The writer sets out by enumerating the various factories. According to his statement, the total number of spindles in factories owned by organized companies is 325,940, at which there are employed 5,623 men and 16,588 women. In addition to the above, the prosperity of the business has encouraged further enterprise, so that, in the prefectures of Okayama and Yehime, about five thousand additional spindles, and in the Kwansei districts some fifty or sixty thousand, will soon be at work. Speaking broadly, the *Kokkai* believes that much of the prosperity indicated by these figures is due to an exceptionally plentiful crop of cotton and to the steady decline in the gold price of silver. The latter factor represents, in effect, a constantly increasing duty imposed upon imported yarns and cotton manufactures, and thus creates powerful discrimination in favour of the home-made goods. The *Kokkai* believes that anything like a failure of the cotton crop in Japan, or appreciation of the gold-price of silver, would throw the Japanese industry back to the comparatively enfeebled condition of two or three years ago. Up to 1890, the quantity of Bombay yarn imported monthly into Yokohama and Kobe averaged 150,000 bales approximately, but it subsequently declined, until the average at present is only four or five thousand bales. These are the *Kokkai's* figures. We take from the Customs Returns the following items by way of supplement:—

Imports of Cotton Yarn during the past 7 years.		
	Quantity. CATTIES.	Value. Yen.
1885.....	21,397,380	5,190,094
1886.....	24,630,386	5,905,457
1887.....	33,296,530	1,235,203
1888.....	47,439,639	13,611,898
1889.....	42,810,912	12,522,039
1890.....	31,908,302	9,928,061
1891.....	17,337,600	5,589,289

It will be seen that the trade in this staple reached a maximum in 1888, and that thenceforth it rapidly declined until, in 1891, the quantity imported was nearly 25 per cent. less than in 1885. As to the fact that, despite this reduced quantity, the value of the import for 1891 is put at a higher figure than the value for 1885, it is to be remarked that the method employed by the Customs in converting sterling into *yen* differed considerably in the two years, the *yen* being taken in 1885 at a uniform value of 4/2, whereas in 1891 it was reckoned at its true market price from month to month, namely, about 3/3. The natural gold price of the *yen* was 3/6, approximately, in 1885. Hence the true value of the imported yarns for the two years stand thus in Japanese currency:—

Original from..... 6,176,211 Yen.
1891..... 5,589,289 Yen.

It is interesting to note that, according to these figures, the price of foreign yarns, expressed in Japanese currency, was 10 per cent. higher in 1891 than in 1885. This difference must be chiefly attributed to the appreciation of gold. The fact is that, in effect, a duty of over 9 per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed by exchange upon imported yarns in the interval between 1885 and 1891, and that they were consequently handicapped to that extent in competition with yarns spun in Japan. In the present year the discrimination in favour of Japanese manufactures is still more marked, for a further appreciation of some eight per cent. has taken place during the past twelve months in the silver price of gold. Assuming the cost of production and other charges to be equal, the foreign merchant must now obtain fully 34 *sen* for every shilling's worth of his yarns, whereas he could be content with 29 *sen* in 1885. Exchange has taxed his business to the extent of 17 per cent. in 7 years. No trade could prosper under such circumstances.

A most striking feature of this record is the steady increase in the import of raw cotton during the interval under review. The figures stand thus:—

Imports of Raw Cotton since 1885.	
	CATTIES.
1885 ... Quantity imported ...	9,638,418
1886	6,635,782
1887	10,052,726
1888	24,076,476
1889	64,463,365
1890	52,141,752
1891	80,084,113

From this table it appears that the import of raw cotton was nearly nine times as great in 1891 as in 1885.

Turning finally to the general question of cotton fabrics, yarns &c., we find that the record for the past 7 years stands as follows, after the Customs Returns are corrected in accordance with the actual rates of exchange for each year:—

Value of Imports of Cotton Fabrics, Yarns &c.	
	Yen.
1885	9,943,562
1886	10,534,645
1887	15,372,148
1888	18,353,990
1889	17,261,759
1890	14,116,766
1891	9,091,417

These figures speak for themselves. It should be noted, however, that although the value of imported cotton fabrics and yarns fell in 1891 to a figure less than that for 1885, the value of the raw cotton imported in the former year was over 8 million *yen*, against less than one million *yen* in 1885.

The *Kokkai* assigns four reasons for the success now attending the cotton-spinning enterprise in Japan. They are, first, the low price of labour; second, the length of the working hours; third, the fact that the expense of fire-insurance is not incurred on the factories; and fourth, the comparatively trifling outlay on account of carriage to market. These reasons are apart from the questions of crop and exchange. It seems a singular notion that to save the cost of insurance should be regarded as an econo-

mical advantage, but with that phantasy we need not concern ourselves. What interests us more is to read that Japanese cotton-spinners are beginning to look for markets abroad, and that they hope soon to find customers in China, Korea, Australia and Siberia. If they learn to correct their defects of organization, a bright future probably lies before them, not in cotton-spinning alone, but in other lines of manufacture also.

THE BERLIN LIBEL CASE.

OUR correspondent from Germany reported, in his last letter, the beginning of a monster law suit in Berlin. The defendants are Mr. KARL PAASCH, a well-known German merchant, who resided in China a few years ago, and seven other parties, mostly printers and book-sellers, involved as accessories. They are accused of having insulted and libelled the German Foreign Office, the Imperial Ambassador Herr VON BRANDT, the Secretary of Legation VON KETTLER, Consul FEINDEL, the Councillors of Legation VON ECKARDSTEIN, LINDAU, and COHN, as well as the Interpreter and Vice-Consul Dr. LENZ. Two brochures, confiscated some time ago and bearing the sensational titles, "A Jewish-German Embassy and its coadjutors; Secret Hebraizing; a Government within a Government, and the World-Dominion of the Jews;" and "An Open Letter to His Excellency the Imperial Chancellor Count VON CAPRIVI," form the main *corpora delicti* before the Court. Another anti-Semitic pamphlet and an appeal to German electors of all parties and both confessions, figure less prominently in the trial. The entire material submitted to the court embraces no less than 2,000 printed pages, the reading of which consumed a great deal of time. The facts in the case as gathered from various utterances of the Berlin press seem to be briefly these: Some time in 1887 or 1888, Mr. PAASCH submitted to the Chinese Government a series of projects on the building of railways and the starting of coal and iron mines in China, without having received the consent of the authorities concerned. In the documents before the court PAASCH describes his experiences at the Peking Embassy: how the Viceroy received him kindly and highly honoured him; how, with the consent of the Ambassador, he worked out his projects behind the closed door of the Legation; how all the details were discussed with his Excellency; and how he desired to induce some of the German princes to invest in the proposed enterprise. But at this point he claims that the Ambassador opposed him and was of opinion that without Jews and bribing nothing could be accomplished, Herr VON BRANDT even going so far as to say: "However good your prospects, the Jews will do the business,

depend on it." The pamphlets then go on to speak of double dealing carried on through many months; of strange excitement caused by the 600 million marks involved in the matter, and of persistent efforts made to gain possession of the plans in order to dispense with the projector. The attack upon the Legation culminates in an assertion that an attempt was made to remove PAASCH by means of poison. The defendant speaks of how he was hunted through Peking; how his arms were taken away; how under the Ambassador's personal leadership his house was searched and valuable papers seized, while he himself was declared insane in order to find a pretext for his arrest. He was seized, he goes on to say; put into the large anti-chamber of the Embassy; forced into bed and given medicine; in fact, while quite well, treated as if he were ill. Owing to all this he avers that he became so excited that he twice attempted his own life. After these allegations had been read, Counsel for the Crown remarked: "If the defendant desires to prove all this, the plaintiffs point to the Vice-Consul Dr. LENZ, present in the Court, as an eye-witness of the events said to have then transpired. He will show that Mr. PAASCH was at the time down with fever and delirium and that in the latter's own interest it was necessary to put him into irons." This witness when called, stated in effect that Mr. PAASCH had been most kindly received by the members of the Embassy; that in the spring of 1888, suspicions as to his sanity arose in the mind of Mr. VON BRANDT; that these were confirmed by the defendant's action and letters; that he left Peking in dread of being poisoned; that sixty men searched for him everywhere; that three revolvers were taken from his trunk to prevent his doing mischief; that in his house papers were found in which the members of the Embassy were represented as confessing that they had treated him in a rascally manner; that Mr. PAASCH, covered with dirt and in an indescribable condition, suddenly reappeared; that he called for a half-bottle of poisoned champagne; could be quieted only with opium; made vicious assaults upon those near him, and was forced into bed and bound. Mr. VON BRANDT, the witness said, spoke to him with the utmost kindness, and the members of the embassy, in the interest of Mr. PAASCH, made known that he suffered from the effects of a sunstroke to guard against malicious tongues speaking of *delirium tremens*. Letters written and remarks made by the defendant were related by witness in proof of the assertion that Mr. PAASCH was insane at the time. In the course of the proceedings and in compliance with a request made by the defence, the Court decided to take depositions by commissioners to be specially appointed. The following inter-

rogatories are to be addressed to parties now in the East: (A). To the former Professor and present Custom-house officer EUGENE PANDER at Hangkow, whether the Ambassador, Herr VON BRANDT, had threatened the defendant with removal by executive order and with confinement to a lunatic asylum. (B). To his Excellency the Ambassador VON BRANDT:—(1) Is it to be ascribed to any public or private activity of Herr VON BRANDT that the railway projects of the defendant PAASCH failed to receive the approval of the Chinese Government? (2) What truth is there in the assertion of Mr. PAASCH of attempts against his life by poison or otherwise? (3) What about the claim that Herr VON BRANDT endeavoured to serve private ends by causing these projects to fail? (4) Were the ancestors of Herr VON BRANDT Jews; are relatives of his still Jews; and what is the nature of the relations existing between Herr VON BRANDT and the former President of the Imperial Supreme Court, Dr. VON SIMSON? To the Court it is quite immaterial, in itself, whether Herr VON BRANDT derives his descent from Jews or not; but the whole tendency of the writings before the Court shows that the defendant thinks it disgraceful to be a Jew, and thus intended to lower Herr VON BRANDT in public estimation. Hence not only § 185 but also § 186 (Libel) would apply here. (5) Has Herr VON BRANDT said that in the whole Foreign Office there was not a single decent individual, and that not BISMARCK, but Herr VON BLEICHROEDER, was the real master there? (6) Has Herr VON BRANDT abused his official position for purposes of gain by way of commercial transactions, and is he in debt? (7) Has he endeavoured to do violence to the lady named in the brochure? (8) What is the reason of the donation of two stags made to the Zoological Garden at Berlin? Two of the defendants, Mr. PAASCH and Dr. H. F. WESENDONK, claimed the right to be present when these depositions are to be taken and requested the Court to give them notice of time and place. At the next term two other witnesses, one a clergyman and the other a member of the nobility, are to be called by the Court to give evidence on the extraction and the circumstances of Herr VON ECKARDSTEIN and his family. This law-suit has aroused the greatest interest, not only in Berlin but also throughout Germany. Everything considered, a prompt decision of the case would seem to be in the interest of all the parties to the trial; but owing to the necessarily slow processes of the law in a suit like this, present indications point to long continued and frequently delayed judicial proceedings.

GAME LAW.

We, with the advice of Our Privy Council, hereby sanction the Game Law, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

[Imperial Sign manual]
(Great Seal.)

(Dated) the 5th day of the 10th month of 24th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) GOTO SHOJIRO Count,
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 84.

GAME LAW.—CHAPTER I.

Hunting Implements and Method of Hunting.

Art. I.—The term "hunting" used in the present law, means to capture birds or animals by the agency of fire-arms, nets of any kind, falcons, or rope or poles armed with bird-line.

The exact nature of the implements mentioned in the foregoing clause shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. II.—Hunting by the agency of explosives, gun-traps, or dangerous gins or pit-falls, shall not be lawful.

With respect to any hunting implement or method of hunting not enumerated in the foregoing clauses, local Governors (or the Superintendent General of the Metropolitan Police in Tokyo) may enact regulations for control and superintendence, by permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. III.—Before sunrise, after sunset, in a street, or within range of any thickly populated locality, or place where a crowd is assembled, or of any building, ship, or train, hunting is interdicted.

Art. IV.—In the following places no hunting shall be allowed:—

1. Imperial Preserves.
2. Places where notifications prohibiting hunting are posted.
3. Public roads.
4. Public parks.
5. Grounds reserved for Shrines and temples.
6. Cemeteries.
7. Private grounds, fenced, or enclosed, or in which any agricultural product is cultivated. Provided that this prohibition shall not apply if permission of the owner or superintendent of such land shall have been obtained.

Art. V.—Local Governors may, in accordance with an application of a landowner, or for any other reasons which they deem sufficient, issue a notification prohibiting the pursuit of game.

CHAPTER II.—HUNTING LICENSES.

Art. VI.—Any person desiring to pursue game must obtain a hunting license by applying to the Local Governor. Provided that the pursuit of game within fenced or enclosed grounds without the use of fire-arms shall be exempted from this provision.

Any person against whom the penal provisions of Art. XXX. have been enforced, shall not be competent to apply for a license before a period of one year has elapsed.

Art. VII.—Hunting licenses shall be divided into two kinds; namely, licenses for professional, and licenses for amateur, pursuers of game. Each of these kinds shall be subdivided into classes A. and B.

A license for professional pursuers of game shall be granted to any person who makes hunting an occupation; and a license for an amateur pursuer of game, to any person who hunts for pleasure.

Licenses of class A. shall be granted to any person who pursues game without fire-arms, and those of class B. to any person who employs fire-arms.

Art. VIII.—The following shall not be competent to receive a license for the professional pursuit of game:—

1. Any official of or above the rank of *hannin*, or any persons entitled to receive the treatment of such an official.
2. Any person who pays income tax.
3. Any person who pays more than 15 *yen* of land-tax.
4. Any member of a family the head of which pays more than 15 *yen* of income tax.

Art. IX.—The following fees shall be paid for licenses according to the kind:—

Professional license	Class A. <i>yen</i> 0.50
	Class B. <i>yen</i> 1.00
Amateur license	Class A. <i>yen</i> 5.00
	Class B. <i>yen</i> 10.00

Art. X.—The period covered by a license of class A. shall be one full year, from the 15th day of the 10th month (October 15th); and that for a license of class B. shall be from the 15th day of

the 10th month to the 15th day of the 4th month of the following year.

Art. XI.—A license can be used only by the person to whom it is granted. Provided that any person who has obtained a professional license of class A. may be accompanied by not more than three persons without licenses, as his assistants.

Art. XII.—A pursuer of game must carry his license with him when he goes out in pursuit of game.

Police, gendarmes, forestry officials, or Headmen of *shi, cho*, and *son* are competent to call for the production of a license. Keepers in preserved districts may also do so within their own districts.

In the above cases, no pursuer of game can refuse to produce his license for inspection.

Art. XIII.—If a license is lost, the fact must be notified to the Police Station of the district, and to the office where the license was originally obtained.

When a license is lost or destroyed, its holder may apply for a new license. In such case a fee of 25 *sen* shall be paid.

Art. XIV.—No person under 15 years of age shall receive a license of class B.

Art. XV.—Within 30 days after the expiration of the period covered by a license it shall be returned to the office where it was originally received.

CHAPTER III.—ESTABLISHMENT OF HUNTING PRESERVES.

Art. XVI.—Any subject of Japan who desires to establish a hunting preserve, must limit the period of preservation to 10 years, and apply for permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce through the Local Governor.

Limitations relating to the establishment of Preserves shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XVII.—Any person desiring to rent a forest, field or sheet of water belonging to the Government for the purpose of establishing a hunting preserve, must apply for permission through the Governor who administers the district.

If the proposed hunting preserve belongs to another person, the permission of the owner or controller must first be obtained.

Art. XVIII.—The maximum area of one hunting preserve shall be 1,500 *cho* (3,750 acres), and the annual fee shall be at the rate of 10 *yen* for that area. Provided that, in the case of lands extending beyond the above limit, preservation shall be permitted on condition of a payment of 1 *yen* for every 100 *cho* above the limit.

The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may, according to the nature of the ground, reduce the fee mentioned in the foregoing clause.

Art. XIX.—Within a hunting preserve no one except a person carrying a license and having obtained permission, may pursue game.

Art. XX.—Even within a hunting preserve no one who has not obtained a hunting license may pursue game.

Art. XXI.—When a hunting preserve is abolished, or its area decreased, the fact must be notified to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, through the local authorities.

Art. XXII.—If the person in whom a permit is granted for preserving game, violates the present Laws, or disobeys the Rules referred to in Clause 2 of Art. XVI., or if it be considered that the maintenance of hunting preserves is injurious to the public interests, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may annul the permit for the whole area, or for a portion, of such hunting preserve.

Art. XXIII.—In the cases provided in Arts. XXI. and XXII., the fees already paid for a permit shall not be returned.

CHAPTER IV.—PROTECTION OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

Art. XXIV.—The capture of the following birds and animals is prohibited:—

1. Cranes of all kinds.
2. Swallows of all kinds.
3. Skylark.
4. Wagtail.
5. Titmouse (*Parus minor*).
6. Tomtit (*Parus ater*).
7. *Gajugara* (kind of *parus*).
8. *Yoshikiri* (kind of sparrow.)
9. Wren.
10. Cuckoo.
11. Wood-pecker.
12. *Hitaki*.
13. Starling.
14. Pipit (*anthus japonicus*).
15. Deer under 1 year of age.

Art. XXV.—The following birds and beasts are protected during the period commencing from the 15th day of the 3rd month to the 14th day of the 10th month, during which period their capture is prohibited.

1. Pheasant.
2. Copper pheasant (*Yama-dori*), or Hazel-grouse (?).
3. Quail.
4. Wild-goose.
5. Wild-ducks of various kinds.
6. Snipe of various kinds.
7. Moor-hen (*Gallinula Chloropus*).
8. Swan.
9. Brown-eared Bulbul.
10. *Tsugumi*.
11. Herons of various kinds.
12. Pigeons of various kinds.
13. Shrike or Butcher bird.
14. Jay (*genus garrulus*).
15. Water-rail.
16. Deer.
17. Wild stag or antelope.
18. Hare.

According to the nature of the ground and by permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, Local Governors may extend or shorten the period mentioned in the foregoing provision, provided that such extension or curtailment shall not exceed 30 days.

Art. XXVI.—Even in the case of birds and beasts enumerated in Arts. XXIV. and XXV., should it be considered that their removal or capture is conducive to the protection of wild cocoons, or to the pursuit of scientific research, or to other purposes, the local Governor shall have competence to sanction such removal or capture.

If it be considered necessary to remove or capture noxious birds or beasts, the Local Governor may grant a permit for the purpose.

Art. XXVII.—Even in the case of birds and animals which are allowed to be captured, it shall be competent for the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to forbid their capture, irrespective of these Laws, should a measure of special protection seem necessary.

Art. XXVIII.—It is prohibited to take or sell the eggs or young of the birds enumerated in Arts. XXIV. and XXV.

CHAPTER V.—PUNISHMENT.

Art. XXIX.—Any person who pursues game without a license, or who obtains a license or a permit for establishing a hunting preserve by false representations, shall be subject to a fine of not less than 10 yen and not more than 100 yen.

Art. XXX.—Any person who violates the provisions of Arts. II., clause 1 of Art. III.; or of Art. IV., clauses 1 to 6; shall be subject to a fine of not less than 5 yen and not more than 50 yen.

The license of a person fined under the foregoing Articles, shall be suspended.

Art. XXXI.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art. IV. clause 7; Art. XII, clause 1 and 3; Art. XXIV; Art. XXV, clause 1; or Art. XXVIII, shall be subject to a fine of not less than 2 yen and not more than 20 yen. Provided that, with respect to violations of Art. IV. clause 7, the penalty shall not be imposed unless the land owner or the person who has charge of the land takes legal proceedings.

Art. XXXII.—Any person who violates Arts. XIII clause 1; Art. XV; or Art. XXI, shall be subject to a fine of not less than 1 yen and not more than 1.95 yen.

ADDITIONAL RULES.

Art. XXXIII.—The present Law shall go into force from the 15th day of the 10th month of the 25th year of Meiji (Oct. 15th, 1892). Provided that licenses for pursuing game without fire-arms shall become operative from the 15th day of the 10th month of 26th year of Meiji (Oct. 15th, 1893).

Any person who has obtained a license for pursuing game prior to the operation of the present Law, shall not be required to take out a new license. Provided that, if the possessor of such a license falls under the category set forth in Art. VIII, he must apply for a new license in accordance with the provisions of Art. IX.

Art. XXXIV.—The Shooting Regulations promulgated in the 1st month of the 10th year of Meiji (January, 1877) by Notification No. 11, shall cease to be operative on the day the present Law goes into force.

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR THE PRESENT PERIOD.

We hereby sanction a change of period for pursuing game, and order the same to be duly promulgated.

(Imperial Sign-Manual)
(Great Seal.)

Dated the 5th day of the 10th month of 25th year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) GOTO SHOJIRO, Count
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 85.
Game Licenses of Class B granted under the

provisions of the Game Law promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 84, in the 25th year of Meiji, shall, for the present period only, be valid from the 15th day of the 11th month of the 25th year to the 15th day of the 4th month of the 26th year of Meiji (Nov. 15th, 1892 to April 15th 1893).

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TAXATION IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have perused with much interest Professor Droppers' elaborate letter on this topic and your leading article in reply to it, in the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 7th instant. I do not mean any disrespect to Professor Droppers, when I say without hesitation that his ideas on the subject of the land tax in Japan seem to me not a little confused and in some respects antiquated. I confess that I have not had the opportunity of seeing his article in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, out of which the present discussion has arisen; but from the short extract which you published in one of your editorial notes on the 6th ultimo, he appears to labour under the delusion that the farmer's burden continues still to press upon him as heavily as it used to do some years ago. Professor Droppers' proposition would have passed had it been made in the days when the abnormal depreciation of the price of rice and a few other circumstances combined to reduce the tillers of the soil to a pitiable state. It was then, or about then, that the distinguished German scholars quoted by your correspondent carried on their investigations, and it is no wonder that their labours should have revealed a painful state of affairs among the farming class. But it must be observed that in the past few years things have rapidly mended, until the farmers are now in a position to make no small profits out of their lands. Their burden to-day is practically about one half as heavy as it was in former years. Several causes have been in operation to bring about such a state of things, but I may mention (1) the steady rise of the price of rice; (2) the equalization of prices throughout the country by the rapid extension of railways; (3) increase in yield by the introduction of chemical manures and by improvements in the mode of cultivation and the selection of seed; and (4) the gradual decrease of the rate of interest.

Let me now prove my assertion by means of a few plain figures. According to the "Tenth Annual Statistical Report," which is the latest, the average yield of rice *per tan* (= $\frac{1}{10}$ of an acre) for the five years ending 1890 was as follows:—

Year.	Average yield Per Tan. koku.
1886	1.42
1887	1.52
1888	1.44
1889	1.21
1890	1.57

From these figures we obtain an average of 1.40 koku for the above mentioned five years, taken together. Professor Droppers will agree that this is an extremely moderate datum to start with. Let us suppose that rice sells now at only 5 yen per koku, though in point of fact the price ranges between 7 and 8 yen in the larger centres of commerce, and even in remote rural districts farmers can get at least 5.30 yen. Taking, then, the moderate sum of 5 yen per koku for the price of rice and 1.41 koku per tan for the yield of the cereal, we find that the farmer's gross receipt from a tan of his rice field is 7.05 yen of which the net income will be 5.99 yen. Let us next see how much of this goes to the Treasury as land tax. According to the same Statistical Report, the average assessed value of land (used for rice cultivation) was 40.25 yen per tan in 1890. Two and a half per cent. of this sum represents the amount paid as land tax. Thus it will be found that the farmer pays 1 yen and some odd *rin* (mills) in the shape of national land tax.

We have thus obtained the two necessary data for our present purpose. The farmer gets, at the lowest possible estimate, 5 yen 99 sen per tan after deducting 15 per cent. on account of cost of production; and against this amount of net receipt he pays 1 yen by way of national tax. Hence his land tax represents 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of his net crop of rice. Even if we put it at 17 per cent. this figure still differs widely from the percentage calculated by Professor Droppers. The difference becomes greater still when it is remembered that his "25 per cent." and my "17 per cent." repre-

sent respectively the minimum and maximum limits of the farmer's burden. Practically it will be found that at present the farmer is paying as land tax very much less than 17 per cent. of his net crop of rice. From my own personal experience, I can safely state that the returns of farm products as given in the Statistical Report I have quoted above never err on the side of exaggeration.

Professor Droppers' observations, as I have already remarked, apply only to a state of things that existed several years ago. Taking the average assessed value of land for 1885, namely 45 yen 97 $\frac{2}{3}$ sen,* as the basis of calculation, it is found that the farmer had to pay in that year 1 yen 14 $\frac{2}{3}$ sen as land tax per tan. The average yield of rice for five years ending 1885 was 1.17 koku per tan; at the rate of 4 yen per koku, we get 4 yen 68 sen for the gross receipt or 3 yen 98 sen for the net receipt of the farmer from a tan of his rice field. On the basis of these figures, it will be seen that the land tax in that year represented 28 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. of the net produce of the rice field.

I entirely agree with Professor Droppers, and the authorities he quotes in his letters, in the belief that there certainly was a time when the farmer had to pay nearly as much as three-tenths of his crop in the form of land tax. But that state of affairs, fortunately, has already passed away; and, as I have pointed out, the farmer is now in comparatively easy circumstances. In the above calculations I have taken the rice crop alone into account, but, as you Mr. Editor point out in your editorial, we must, in order to form a fair estimate of the farmer's burdens, take into consideration various other things which he raises on his rice field after harvesting that cereal. Barley, wheat and rye are the principal products in this category. The average yield of barley, wheat, and rye for the 11 years from 1880 to 1890 inclusive was 8 to 4 shō per tan. The Statistical Report now before me does not give prices for rye; but from those for wheat and barley, I observe that the average price for these two products for the 6 years from 1885 to 1890 inclusive was 3.45 yen per koku. Taking 2.50 yen as the average price for barley, wheat and rye, it will be found that the farmer receives an additional net income 1 yen 78 sen. Besides, he always plants beans on the margins of his rice fields and also he knows how to turn the rice and barley straw to various profitable uses. When these things are taken into consideration, it will be conceded that the farmer obtains enough from his by-products to increase his total net receipt, ("net" is used here in the sense in which it is used by Professor Droppers) to 8 yen at least. Thus we see that the farmer pays 1 yen as the land tax against a net receipt of 8 yen, or a gross receipt of 9 yen 40 sen. The land tax is thus 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of his net receipt, or 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of his gross receipts.

The same results may be obtained by another process of calculation. The average rice crop for the 10 years from 1881 to 1890, was 34,372,283 koku, which, at the rate of 5 yen per koku, yields 171,861,415 yen. Now, out of the so called land tax for 1891, amounting to 38,771,339 yen, the share actually borne by rice fields was represented by 27,894,300 yen. Assuming that the above mentioned average of 171,861,415 yen represented the net proceeds of the rice crop for 1891,—as we may certainly do in view of the low figures taken—we find that the ratio of land tax paid for rice fields in that year was 16 per cent. of the net crop. Estimating all other things produced on land at 100 million yen net—a moderate estimate considering what varieties of important products are included in this category, such as silk, tea, sugar, barley, wheat, potatoes, etc.—estimating these products at 100 million yen, we have 270 million yen in round numbers representing the whole net income of the farming class. The tax which the farmers paid on account of this aggregate sum of their net income was, in 1891, 27,894,500 yen on rice fields (ta 田) and 6,436,470 yen on upland farms (hata 畑), amounting in all to 34,330,970 yen. Thus the tax actually levied on land devoted to agricultural purposes in 1891 was 12 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the net proceeds of the products of all kinds.

Professor Droppers states that "he is quite ready to acknowledge that in Gumma Ken, Nagano-Ken, and Tokyo-Fu, where I myself have particularly studied farming conditions, the tax is, as a rule, higher than in the southern part of Japan." I wonder if Professor Droppers is "ready" to prove his singular assertion or rather concession. Nagano and Gumma are the very localities, which, being the centres of sericulture, are better capable of bearing their agrarian burdens than most of the southern provinces; while the propinquity of good markets and the high value

* The difference between this and the average for 1890 (40 yen 57 $\frac{1}{3}$ sen) is chiefly accounted for by large reductions in the assessed value of land effected by Law No. 22 of August 1889.

Original from

of the land place the farmers of Tokyo-fu in a similarly advantageous position.

Another misleading statement occurs in his letter. Quoting from the *Yfi Shimpō*, he remarks that "there are inequalities in the rate of the land tax not only in different prefectures, but in different *kōri* and villages, and, strange to say, even in adjacent lands of the same village." There can be no inequality in the rate of the land tax, that being fixed at 2½ per cent. of the assessed value of land throughout the whole Empire. What differs is not the rate of the tax but the assessed value of land. Practically the result is the same, but in discussions of this kind it is well to observe accuracy in the use of technical terms.

I presume I have shown sufficiently clearly that the farming class is not so badly off as some writers are fond of representing it to be, so far at least as the land tax is concerned. In my own Province, Hōki, where the assessed value of land is unduly high, it is generally admitted that the capital invested in rice fields yields an interest of 7 to 8 per cent. per annum. I believe that such is the case in many other localities.

The agitation for the reduction of the land tax originated in times when there really were grounds for it, but it is now maintained for the most part by politicians for reasons they know best. It is a pity that, in spite of the protest of the independent educated classes, the popular fallacies on this question continue to delude not only the bulk of the people but also several otherwise judicious students of current affairs.

I remain, Yours respectfully,

M. ZUMOTO.

October 9th, 1892.

MR. ISHII'S ORPHANAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I feel impelled to acquaint your readers with the present condition of Mr. Ishii's widely known Orphanage. It is nearly a year since I wrote you on the subject, and then only casually in connection with Earthquake Relief work.

I write entirely on my own responsibility, without even telling Mr. Ishii of my intention.

After the terrible floods of last July, Okayama's severest experience for 238 years, the noble hearted head of the Orphanage and his 200 children jumped into relief work, and forgetful of self, did all they could for the sufferers. This special calamity, added to that of the great earthquake and its resultant institutions of various kinds, all good and worthy, have so diverted the funds of charity-lovers, as to make the strain of existence on older organizations a very severe one.

By the help of special gifts just before and during the summer, a much needed dormitory for girls has been erected, but cannot be used because lacking \$57 worth of *shoji* and furnishings. There have been eight deaths among the weakest of the children since August.

This and other causes seem to necessitate a little better food and sanitary precautions. However, the match-making industry is paralyzed for lack of funds with which to buy materials, and worst of all, there is nothing in sight for food itself beyond this week. Moreover, it is contrary to the fixed principles of the institution to borrow money under any circumstances whatever.

The Asylum ought to have \$10, a day of outside assistance. Its more than 200 inmates cannot be fed, even in the simplest fashion, on less than \$5 or \$6. All reserve funds, so far as Okayama is concerned, are used up, though there is plenty for the present at the Nagoya Branch, where 60 more children are cared for.

The situation is desperate, and a faith less than Mr. Ishii's would quail before it.

Aside from the financial problem, the condition of the Asylum is excellent. Its general spirit and *esprit du corps* leave little to be desired. More attention is being paid than hitherto to the educational part, and the general training of heart, head, and hand goes on apace. The youngsters are studying shaving, printing, match-making and praying, in about the right proportions, and with a zeal and courage that make them an example to their elders, and show them to be worthy of the fullest sympathy and most generous assistance.

Yours sincerely, JAMES H. PETTEE.

Okayama, September 30th, 1892.

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA V. NEW-COMERS.

The New-comers proved too much for the older residents on Saturday afternoon, compiling a score of 156 to the latter's 81. Certainly the light was bad and the wicket anything but easy towards the end of the game, but Yokohama gave themselves away rather too easily—Dodds was caught by Burn off Watson before he had scored, and Layard was similarly cut short in his career by White, when three only had been notched to his credit, while four others, displaying too great a preference for "skying," were caught out before they had contributed many runs. The highest scores on this side were made by E. R. Morris 20, not out, and K. F. Crawford 18. Mair was the best man among the New-comers, his total reaching 48 before the sticks were scattered by a neat ball from Phillip. G. W. B. Watson came next with 33; he was caught by Layard off Crawford. Scores:—

New-Comers.

Mr. White, c. Cockedge, b. Phillip	17
Mr. Tate, c. Young, b. Phillip	4
Mr. Mair, b. Phillip	48
Mr. Crouch, c. Layard, b. Phillip	8
Mr. Watson, c. Layard, b. Crawford	33
Mr. Burn, c. Young, b. Phillip	7
Mr. Chope, c. Crawford, b. Murdoch	0
Mr. Garfit, b. Crawford	16
Mr. Alcock, c. G., c. Schmidt, b. Burn	19
Mr. Griffin, not out	2
Mr. Alcock, H., c. and b. Murdoch	8
L. b. 1, w. 2, b. 4	8

156

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. Cockedge, c. White, b. Burn	0
Mr. Layard, c. White, b. Burn	3
Mr. Crawford, c. Watson, b. Burn	18
Mr. Dodds, c. Burn, b. Watson	0
Mr. Phillip, c. Crouch, b. Burn	12
Mr. Murdoch, not out	10
Mr. Nash, b. Burn	0
Mr. Braess, c. Burn, b. Tate	0
Mr. E. R. Morris, not out	20
Mr. Young, b. Burn	5
Mr. Schmidt, did not bat	7
b. 5, l. b. 2, w. 1	81

SEQUAH AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Sequah has undoubtedly proved the most popular prestidigitateur that has ever appeared at the Public Hall. Throughout the long entertainment of Wednesday evening he succeeded in holding the enthusiastic attention of his large audience with the greatest ease. For the moment, his successes as a "medicine man" were eclipsed in the showman. The thickly packed gathering in the hall was a splendid testimonial to his abilities in both lines, and should prove one of the most gratifying ovations that he has received on his Eastern tour. For the greater part of the evening he was entirely unsupported, unless the presence of a gentleman from the audience, who mounted the platform in response to his request for an unsophisticated assistant of thirteen or fifteen years of age—but whose appearance and behaviour sadly belied those charmingly youthful stages of boyhood—can be taken seriously into account. Later on he was joined by his talented wife, and then the climax of the entertainment was reached. There was a refreshing air of candour by which he manipulated the obedient cards, and he even deprived the travelling smoke trick of its air of mystery by naming the chemical agents employed. His untrammelled open-mindedness of the merits of particular Yokohama trading establishments was amusingly exemplified by his advertising of one store while receiving material aid from the assistant of another—but that by the way; his apparent disregard of the sacred rights of property, especially in the matter of watches, hats, and handkerchiefs was another prolific source of merriment. In regard to the hat the owner was perhaps slightly to blame—he was leaving Japan by the night mail boat and evidently had been pressed for time, hence the incongruous and seemingly unending accumulation of pretty trifles inside. The flags of all nations exhibition was far more successful than on the previous occasion, the appropriate music to each display being forthcoming this time. Altogether, these drawing room tricks were most successful, each and all displaying the perfection of a professional hand, demonstrating most forcibly the varied gifts of patience, perseverance, and dexterity of mind, hand, and wrist which Sequah possesses.

Space will not permit of a detailed description of the seance of thought transmission given by Mr. and Mrs. Sequah; suffice it to observe that the display of physical phenomena eclipsed all that we have previously had the pleasure of witnessing in Yokohama. Both artistes,—for artistes they are in

every sense of the professional synonym—have thoroughly trained their faculties in this direction to a marvellous degree of perfection, and they richly deserved the appreciative plaudits which the delighted house liberally showered down. The Indian club swinging, given by special request, again delighted everybody present, and a repetition would have been welcomed, had not the great strain already put upon the performer been sympathetically recognised. Ten minutes in Wonderland, as performed by the Davenport Brothers, brought the function to a close.

A word must be said about the stage arrangements. It is seldom that such a complete and tasteful interior is displayed on the other side of the footlights, at least east of Suez. The whole proscenium was fitted up as a drawing-room; the silken and heavy gold embroidered hangings are, we understand some of the purchases which the entertainer has made during his sojourn in Dai Nippon. He had packed them up, ready for shipping home, when the deputation from Yokohama residents waited upon him to ask for another exhibition of his skill upon the Public Hall platform, and he there and then unpacked them. In so doing he was enabled to give a unique, if perhaps gorgeous setting to his entertainment, which proved, however, most artistically pleasing to the eye, and a welcome relief from the plain, almost studiously bare, adornments of our chief place of public amusement.

MARRIAGE OF MR. B. H. PEARSON AND MISS GRIFFITH.

The nuptials of Mr. Brook Hyde Pearson, and Miss Kate Campbell Griffith, of Toronto, Canada, were duly solemnised on Thursday afternoon at Christ Church, Yokohama, in the presence of a large number of friends and near connections. The sun, which had been fitfully hiding from view all the morning, behind a thick canopy of driving rain clouds, burst through in all its glory just before the service commenced, bringing vividly to mind the old adage—happy is the bride whom the sun shines on. The position of the windows in the English church forbade the entrance of any floods of mellow light to add warmth of colouring and effect to the picture presented by the presence of a bevy of fair bridesmaids gathered around a graceful bride, but the interior of the church looked very pleasing with the palm and evergreen decorations around and about the rood screen. By the hour appointed every invited guest had taken the place assigned to him or her among the congregation, the task of conducting to seats falling upon Messrs. Barton, Hoyt, G. W. B. Watson, Archer, P. Morris and T. Morris. The bridegroom and his best-man, Mr. Stedman, then took up positions near the altar rails, and after a short interval the organist, Miss Leech, announced the arrival of the bride. She was attended by Mr. Tilden, Mr. Blad, Mr. Henson, and Mr. Layard, as groomsmen, who escorted Miss Eldridge, maid of honour, Miss Gibbins, Miss Wilcox, Miss Grigor, and Miss Fanny Eldridge, the bridesmaids. Miss Eldridge was attired in a costume of yellow crêpe, of a shade of deep chrome, with Leghorn hat and yellow trimmings to match. The bridesmaids wore dresses of heliotrope crêpe, with Leghorn hats and yellow trimmings to match; they carried bouquets of marguerites tied with long yellow ribbons, the gifts of the bridegroom. Miss Beryl Dodds, in white silk, and carrying a basket of marguerites, which she afterwards strewed in the path of the returning bridal party, and Master Allen Fraser, in a sailor suit, acted as attendants. The bride, who entered leaning on the arm of Dr. Stuart Eldridge, wore a dress of pale cream Bengaline silk, trimmed with satin to match, and caught up with love-knots of point lace. It was made with a long train, Princess back, and leg-of-mutton sleeves. Over the whole dainty confection was draped a snowy tulle veil, surmounted by a chaplet of natural flowers. In her hand she carried an ivory prayer-book. Mrs. Stuart Eldridge wore a handsome dress of rich silver gray silk trimmed with steel passementerie, and a garnet bonnet with trimmings to match. The Rev. E. Champneys Irwine officiated, and the service was most impressively rendered. Upon the return into Church, after the signing of the registers, the procession reformed and left the sacred edifice to the strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March. A reception was afterwards given at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Eldridge, and was largely attended, most of the four hundred invites accepting. The bride's going-away costume consisted of a brown cheviot, tailor made gown, trimmed with brown silk, and hat to match. The honeymoon will be spent

THE WORK OF MISSIONARIES.

By Y. ISOGAI.

(Translated from *Kirisuto Kyō Shimbun* of Aug. 19th and 26th.)

Since the coming of foreigners to our lonely island some forty years have elapsed, during which period not only have our people made great progress, but a land that for two thousand years had been devoted to idol-worship is now a land where the western religion is being widely propagated. At present there are many of our people engaged in extending this religion, and so it can by no means be said that the Christians and the various forms of Christian work are all the direct results of the labours of missionaries. Indeed, the part done by our own workers is probably the larger.

But let us look back some twenty years and see how many Christians there were and what other results were apparent. The first missionaries, few in number, were accustomed to go around explaining Christianity, or were carrying on school-work with a few pupils. They did not know well the condition of our country, and were very awkward in their use of our language. For these reasons their pupils were but a handful, and their preaching was listened to by but a few. These meagre results may perhaps be accounted for in part by the fear of persecution, or perhaps by the wide difference between their ways of living and ours. Indeed, the opportunities for missionaries then to do either evangelical or educational work were so vastly inferior to the doors that are open now, that we can only congratulate them and ourselves too.

The work of missionaries from the first has been very varied, but their most helpful endeavours have been in the two lines of education and evangelization. Let us inquire which of these two has hitherto been of greater benefit, and which promises hereafter to be the more helpful to Japan.

So far as the past is concerned, we cannot say very much about the direct great results of the first generation of missionaries. For in educational work the men of talent they raised up were very few, while in evangelical lines there were no conspicuous results. But, by the aid of God, the patient labours of the first generation of missionaries resulted in a certain number of Christians and of pupils. Who is not grateful to the missionaries every time he calls to mind this early period of their struggles! What trials, what difficulties they endured for Japan!

But the reasons why Christianity is being widely accepted now, and why the work of the Christian Church is becoming more and more conspicuous, are because of the devoted zeal and love of the Japanese leaders, who, some ten or fifteen years ago, were uncombed and poorly dressed students, learning on week days from the early missionaries how to read English and listening to their Bible explanations on Sundays. They hardly looked then as though they would become the well-dressed pastors and teachers of to-day. To put it in a word—these pastors and teachers were the pupils of missionaries, who thus, by means of education, indirectly effected a very great work. For what they harvested was planted again, and springing up has yielded many hundred fold.

If now we look at the work of the missionaries in evangelical lines, we shall reach about the same conclusion. Formerly, when our people everywhere were still looking on Western affairs with great dislike, and were counting Christianity as a corrupt and baneful religion, those who were ready to break from past associations and take the unusual course of listening to missionaries were few. Those who went from curiosity to see the foreigner or to hear his preaching were mainly bores and hirelings, only "weeds in the grain," who when curiosity was satisfied failed to go any more. Very few of these curiosity-people ever became Christians. The thing, however, about which there can be no question is this, that the far-sighted and thoughtful ones felt that the religion of the civilized world must be well worth studying, and so with unbiased mind and heart they sought the truth and finally became believers for life, with a real love for this new religion. It is this class of persons who to-day are the pillars and foundations of the Churches. These are the influential pastors whom everybody knows and whose names need no mention.

Thus in the first period of Christianity in Japan, both evangelical and educational works were alike essential—both effecting about the same results. But how is it in the next generation? As the months and years have gone by, our country has at one step entered upon the Era of the Restoration. Both the number of Christians and also that

of pupils in mission schools have greatly increased. Churches have sprung up in all directions. Pastors and teachers have gone forth in goodly numbers. There will henceforth be an Era of the Restoration in Japanese Christianity. Let us examine this change closely.

The whole condition of Christianity here has already changed. By the aid of Japanese pastors and teachers the two main lines of evangelical and educational work are almost able to hold their own. We must still borrow financial help from the missionaries, but in what else do we need their aid? Or, how can missionaries henceforth effect the most good for our country? Let us study this question.

"Do not make a precedent of the past." It is useless to say: "If missionaries in the past had only done thus and thus." Such talk is of no more account than reckoning the years of a dead child. I desire to drop all that and speak about the work of to-day and of the future.

I thank you, missionaries, for having come to our lonely island, and for having planned with one mind and purpose to show forth the glory of God. But yet, if you plan to spend your lives for the sake of Christianity, I have some suggestions to make, not only that we may be the gainers, but that you may have the very best results from your labours. This is by no means any expression of dissatisfaction with you. Whether men of your ability will listen to what I can say is a matter of doubt. What I want to say is not to all missionaries. Of course some—but I will offer my suggestions to the large majority.

There is no need of my going into details here as to how much Japan has advanced within a generation. I think you all know. Well then, your work of to-day is still virtually the same as it was in former times—mainly limited to education and evangelization. Besides these two, there is more or less of indirect work in philanthropic lines, but that is, comparatively, insignificant.

In practically considering evangelization and education, the question arises as to which you regard the more important. It seems to me it is evangelization. Those who give themselves wholly up to educational work are very few. The most of those who are connected with teaching have their hearts in evangelistic work, and are not in earnest in their teaching. If you leave the Concessions you must have a teacher's resident passport, and so for the sake of living in the interior you evade the law by wrongly accepting a teacher's responsibility, while really you are zealous only for evangelistic work. You have the name of teaching, while spending very little time in school and giving almost exclusive attention to the work of evangelization. In some extreme cases, where the schools have not succeeded, they have been closed, and some Japanese have personally employed the missionaries for the ostensible purpose of teaching theology, while their real purpose is to do merely evangelistic work, thus giving a colour of deception to their actions. So that it is perfectly clear that you regard this form of work as the more important.

Now do not reply that I regard evangelistic work as useless. As though I could fail to recognize its necessity! But if, instead of aiding us by direct evangelical work, there should be some other way of your effecting a wider good, what then? Would you still be so devoted to evangelistic work that you couldn't possibly change? (In this article I mean by evangelistic work, direct, not indirect work. It hardly needs to be said that I regard every believer, without reference to surroundings, whether learned or ignorant, male or female, as under obligation to work indirectly for Christ.)

Now among the obstacles foreigners encounter in doing evangelistic work are:—

1. Their lack of ability in the use of the language. This, to be sure, is no fault of missionaries. Being in a foreign land and among a foreign people you cannot fail to feel the difficulties of the language. As you well know, Japanese who speak English are well nigh countless, yet those who speak like an Englishman or American can easily be counted on one's finger. And do not even these exceptionally able linguists occasionally use Japanese English? The fact is you cannot become skillful in our language. If a comparison be made between even those who have been here twenty or thirty years and one of our own people, the foreigner must be called very deficient. And because of this general lack of ability to use Japanese, you cannot reveal your real thoughts, nor set forth minutely your rich stores of learning. Though you have earnest faith, you fail to affect your hearers. Even those of you who in your own tongue can inspire a throng of people with torrents of eloquence, show such a lack of mental vigor when using Japanese, that our people quickly get weary in listening.

2. The difference in ways of thinking, or in na-

tional character. No one denies this difference between the East and the West. This is one reason why a foreigner finds it so difficult to become intimate with our people and to get at their real hearts. So whenever any of our people who are not used to foreigners venture to make inquiries of a missionary concerning religion, it is seldom indeed that a fitting reply is given. All our people can do is to sit and listen to a sermon, or when calling upon the foreigner they can only speak with him on commonplace matters. Just contrast with foreigners one of our ministers, or an understanding friend or relative, who, in a familiar way easily explains what the inquirer doesn't understand; and which is the superior? Thus again are not the difficulties of foreigners doing direct evangelistic work in the interior amply evident? Will you still persist in direct evangelization?

As to out-of-the-way places where the old customs are yet the rule, and where foreigners are rarely seen, many are yet to be seen gathering out of curiosity to hear foreigners preach. These hearers are "birds of a feather flocking together," and to regard them as sincere seekers after truth is a gross mistake. Yet there are many missionaries who entertain this erroneous opinion. Now what work should you missionaries undertake? I say, *Education*. This, henceforth, will bring the greatest benefit to Japan. Just look at modern Japanese society. There are schools and teachers to be sure, but look at the middle and upper classes in the interior and see the young men and women who need education. They are mainly children of poor and ignorant parents. Some of them are not worth educating. Nay, the most of them are so stupid that you could not educate them. But they are not all so. There are some who are naturally bright and who would, if educated, become great scholars or would achieve great deeds. Even though they should not become exceedingly celebrated, it is important that they should gain an education for the sake of their future influence. It is a matter of deep regret to leave such treasures in the mud where educating influences do not now reach them. Who does not sigh at the thought of them! If you missionaries can control the time and money you spend in direct work, why should you not use some of it in training up their precious souls? It is by no means easy work to gain these pearls and treasures. Even though you wring out sweat and blood for years in this work, the common people's opinion is likely to be that its value is very small. Yet one pearl is worth mountains of broken tiles and pebbles. To train up one man of ability is vastly better for the whole country than to preach to a thousand rustics. And it is far easier to teach the one of ability than to influence the thousand poor. If you would only patiently take up this work, many men and women of large ability will surely be the result of your work. Why go on wasting your strength in direct evangelistic work!

Now I would not suggest that you independently go into western education. Rather I would advise you to select some Japanese who will assist you to understand the condition of Japan, to know the needs of society, and to work in the way that will be of greatest benefit to our country. Let those of you who have already gained a name as teachers go on in this line, while those who have not yet engaged in this work should arouse themselves and open more schools.

But some will object thus:—"Results are seen at once in evangelistic work, while in educational work direct results are almost impossible. Considering merely the number of adherents, there are advantages in direct work, for there is no difference in the worth of men's souls. If we can gain ten by preaching where we should gain but one by teaching, is not the worth of direct work apparent at a glance?"

I say, no, not as it seems to me. For I have already shown how comparatively fruitless your direct work must be. And, even supposing you cannot gain many by educational work, if your bright and intelligent students become believers, their leavening influence will be felt widely in the middle and upper strata of society. But the fact is, in working for dull and ignorant and stupid men and women you effect nothing more than securing nominal Christians. There is no need of our troubling you to evangelize such people, for all that can be left for us to do. But in educating those young men and women we beg your earnest assistance. This is the business of which Christ spoke—raising up "fishers of men." Do not, we entreat you, use aimlessly your gifts of wisdom and faith, which we highly value.

Your labours then are essential, as I have shown in educational lines. If you would take part of the money you use in evangelistic work and put it in education, or if you would use your own means and the aid you get from intelligent friends, to extend and more this kind of work, in a few

decades you would gain conspicuous results. My desire is that you will not be short-sighted workers seeking for instant and visible results, but that you will make far-reaching and responsible plans. Education for has its aim not the graduating of large numbers, but the training of useful talents. The value of a school cannot be divined from the number of students, but from the quality of its graduates. And therefore, schools with splendid buildings and thousands of pupils might as well be closed, unless their graduates are of value to society. On the other hand, a small private school in a mean looking house, and in a narrow-minded community, provided it turns out men who lead the people aright, or who perchance influence the whole nation, must be called a true success.

Now bear with me for my final words; if missionaries will go into the interior, open schools and work with such a full heart that the years shall seem only days, pupils may be few, and your results may be only one or two men of talent in even twenty or thirty years, but that is no reason for lamentation and regret, the world may think your success small, but God will accept your labors as indeed great.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE."

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

BY W. LAIRD CLOWES.

GOLD MEDALLIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

IV.—A LETTER OF MARQUE.

It has already been said that the account of the battle of Toulon had been sent to *The Times* by Lieutenant Thomas Bowling, R.N., a half-pay officer who had been a guest in the *Nife*. In this corresponding with a newspaper this officer had, of course, broken the regulations; and it must be admitted that the peculiar circumstances of the case did not tend to diminish his fault in the eyes of his superiors. All that he had to say should have been said to their Lordships, and not to the public; and when the natural excitement consequent upon participation in the stirring events concerning which he telegraphed had subsided, Mr. Bowling was as willing as any one to admit this. Unfortunately, he had acted upon the impulse of the moment, and under the conviction that a whole country was waiting in awful suspense to hear what he happened to be able to relate; and this rashness cost him dearly. On Wednesday the moribund Admiralty summarily removed Mr. Bowling's name from the Navy List, and ordered that the delinquent should be informed that his services were no longer required by her Majesty.

The next step taken by their Lordships was more important, and possibly more necessary. They convened by telegraph a meeting of certain naval officers of high rank and great experience at the Admiralty. They also obtained the presence of the sorely-worried Prime Minister, and of several of his colleagues; and by three o'clock in the afternoon of Friday the Admiralty, as such, had ceased to exist. Its place had been taken by, and its powers transferred to, a Supreme Board of War, and the nominations to the Board had all been duly confirmed by her Majesty. This Board was constituted under the presidency of one of the Royal princes, a personage of great tact and experience in the conduct of affairs, and devoid, of course, of political bias; and it consisted of two branches, the Naval and the Military. Of the Military it is unnecessary here to say more than that it was not, as the Naval branch was, a new formation. The Naval branch was placed under the control of a Chief Director of Fleets; and for that high and responsible office Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh, an Admiral of the widest knowledge, remarkable decision of character, and unrivalled administrative ability, was chosen by acclamation. Immediately under him were the chiefs of the various departments, viz., the Staff and Intelligence Department, the Construction Department, the Engineering Department, the Ordnance Department, the Hydrographic Department, the Stores Department, the Sanitary Department and the Secretariat Department. Many of the old permanent officials were retained, but many also were discharged; and for these retired officers and a few civilians, who were chosen because they possessed special technical knowledge, were substituted. The chiefs of departments were, in all cases, officers of flag or post rank; several being men who, although they were on the retired list, were still full of work and energy, and, in spite of the fact that the new arrangements could obviously be not expected to work with direct smoothness at first, the knowledge that such officers as Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh, Sir George Lyon, Sir William Howl, Sir Mewstone Hewart, and their likes, had undertaken the management of affairs, exerted from the very

first, a salutary influence on the rather depressed spirits of the Royal Navy.

The Channel Fleet had sailed from Vigo before the advent of the Board to office: but several fast cruisers were despatched to intercept it, and new orders were sent to the coastguard vessels and the various dock-yards; with the result, that by Saturday, May 2nd, without the occurrence in the interim of any further mishap, the following ships, with steam up and everything ready for sea, were assembled within proper defences at Spithead. Battleships: *Hercules*, *Neptune*, *Audacious*, *Iron Duke*, *Hotspur*, *Belleisle*, *Royal Sovereign*, *Anson*, *Camperdown*, *Benbow*, *Howe*, *Rodney*, *Triumph*, *Superb*, *Conqueror*, *Achilles* and *Black Prince*. At Plymouth were the coast defence ironclads *Hecate*, *Hydra*, *Gorgon*, *Cyclops*, and *Prince Albert*, and the armoured cruisers, *Northampton*, *Shannon*, *Aurora*, *Immortalité*, and *Narcissus*. And in the Channel were the lighter cruisers *Forth*, *Thames*, *Mersey*, *Indefatigable*, *Latona*, *Melampus*, *Inconstant*, *Intrepid*, *Naiad*, *Arethusa*, *Medea*, *Medusa*, *Barham*, *Bellona*, *Barrosa*, *Seagull*, *Rattlesnake*, *Spanker*, *Sharpshooter*, *Barracouta*, *Grasshopper*, *Salamander*, *Skidjack*, *Curlew*, *Speedwell*, and *Sheldrake*. These ships were largely manned by Naval Reserve men, who had by this time become available in considerable numbers, and by members of the recently-disbanded Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers, a corps which at last began to be appreciated. The reinforced French Channel Fleet, consisting of the ironclads *Tonnerre*, *Requin*, *Victorieuse*, *Furieux*, *Suffren*, *Vengeur*, *Fulminant*, *La Galissonnière*, and *Tempête*, with the cruisers and gun vessels *Surcouf*, *Aréthuse*, *Coëtlogon*, *Duguay-Trouin*, *Epeuvier*, *Lance*, and *Salon*, beside torpedo vessels, had gone out with the intention of meeting our Fleet on its way from Vigo, but had been evaded, and was still at sea. For the moment the country was almost re-assured, although reports that were in themselves sufficiently bad reached England almost every hour, of merchant vessels captured or burnt, both in the Channel and in the Mediterranean as well as elsewhere.

In the meantime Mr. Thomas Bowling, after having travelled with all haste by way of Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Holland, had reached England on Friday, May 1st, and had found, to his intense chagrin, that his occupation had deserted him. An officer who loved his profession as he did could have received no heavier blow. No one doubted his bravery, his capacity, or his single-heartedness. He owed the loss of his commission to no fault that reflected on his honour, but solely to the very impulsiveness which, in other circumstances, might have shown him the way to professional distinction. His position was not enviable, so far as his professional prospects were concerned.

Thomas Bowling, or, as he was invariably called in the service, Tom Bowling, was a lieutenant of a little more than eight years' seniority, and had worn his extra half stripe for scarcely three months when it was taken from him. Rich and well connected, a favourite in society, and a man of great ability, he was, according to the opinion of nearly all his unprofessional friends, wasted in the service. They would have preferred to see him in Parliament, or in the army, or even living the life of an English country gentleman. But Tom Bowling did not adopt that view. He was not fond of unnecessary talk, therefore he had no Parliamentary aspirations. He did not think that the army opened a more suitable career than the Royal Navy to an Englishman. And as for country life, he liked it only as a temporary relaxation. It must be admitted that he was not particularly well fitted for military life as we know it in England. His small, wiry figure would have looked wholly insignificant in the uniform of any regiment; and he had for what may be called the superior niceties of dress an unaffected contempt, which would scarcely have harmonised with the pipe-clay conventionalities of the parade ground or the fashions of a garrison ball-room. The sea was the only place where he felt completely at home. He could shoot or hunt on every day of a fortnight's leave, but at the end of that time he had always had enough of it, and invariably longed to be on board ship again. He was completely wrapt up in his profession; and although he had an income of nearly twenty thousand a year, he would, when he returned to England on the 1st of May, have gladly surrendered the whole of it rather than lose his commission.

He heard the news as soon as he arrived in town, and for a moment it overwhelmed him. But he was not a man to be for long cast down. He had been foolish, but he had done nothing to be ashamed of. His naval friends still had confidence in him: he was rich, young, and strong, and he had an equable buoyancy of spirits that no misfortune could permanently depress.

"They have kicked me out of the service," he said to an officer whom he met in that cheerless

waiting-room in which the Admiralty has for generations permitted its professional visitors to cool their heels, "and I suppose that they are right. But if I live I am going to find my way in again, so I'm not going to sell my uniform yet, though I hope that when I put it on once more, I shall find another half stripe at least on it."

"I'm devilish sorry, Bowling," said his friend, "and I wish you all the luck in the world, but you'll find it an uphill game, I'm afraid. After all, you know, they've let you down pretty easily. They might have court-martialled you."

"And shot me, perhaps," continued Bowling, laughing; "for heaven only knows what they can do in war-time. One of the things that I must certainly do is to take a course of Queen's Regulations before I get back into the service."

"And what else are you thinking of doing in the meantime?" asked his friend.

"Well, I've come here to take Uncle Humphrey's advice, if I can get it, and whether I can get it depends upon whether, in his new billet, he has leisure to see me; I was his flag-lieutenant years ago. You see, France has decided not to observe the stipulations of the Treaty of Paris, and both she and we are issuing letters of marque. My own idea is to get a ship and make a privateer of myself. Do you know of any one who will stand in with me?"

The officer smiled. "I shouldn't mind something of the sort myself," he said, "but I'm going to commission the *Gossamer* to-morrow morning. I wish you were going with me, old chap; and I'll take you on board as a passenger if you like to come; but as for helping you in the privateer business, why, I haven't any money to put into it. I wish I had."

"I can get the money, I suppose said Bowling" awkwardly. "The most serious difficulty is to get men. It is a pity that I can't serve under you as my skipper. That's what I should like."

"Thanks for the compliment," returned Lieutenant St. John warmly; "but I am booked. If you take my advice, you will command your own craft. You won't find a better qualified man. They are digging up all the retired commanders and lieutenants for the new men-of-war, the coast defence business, or the merchant cruisers. There is a terrible dearth of officers, as well as of gunners and stokers; and I really am almost astonished that they plucked up courage to get rid of you. You may take it as settled that you won't be able to get any retired naval officer, who is fit for duty, to join you."

"That's encouraging. Then I must get the best men I can. Do you know any yachtsmen who are worth their grub and who know something of navigation?"

"I know Day. He would, I am sure, go with you if I were to advise him to do so. I will give you a line to him. He is a barrister, who, instead of practising, likes to wander about the world in a twenty-ton yawl, or to hunt for treasures on desert islands, or to do anything of that kind. You may trust him as a sailorman as you would trust yourself, and I happen to know that he is in town. I daresay, too, that he can introduce you to some more men of the same sort. How are you going to get a ship?"

"I haven't the ghost of an idea yet. I only got home this morning, and I haven't had time to look about."

"And what sort of a sum are you prepared to pay for her? Don't think me inquisitive. I may be able to help you."

"As much as I can raise," answered Bowling. "I'm ready to put all I am worth into the business, and I fancy that I know others who will take a share. Do you really know of a vessel?"

"Yes, I do, but the figure is high. Of course when war broke out, no man-of-war that happened to be lying in the contractor's yards was allowed to leave. Now, there's a very fine armoured cruiser in the Tyne. She has been built for one of the South American Governments, and she is practically ready for sea. Indeed, she was to have been handed over yesterday. I happen to know that the builders are going to offer her to the Admiralty for £300,000. That's a big sum, but the craft is a very smart and likely one, and she can do her 17 knots without using forced draught. Why not try to get her? The Admiralty—I mean the Board of War—is scarcely likely to buy her; for we can hardly man the ships we have."

Bowling knitted his brows and gazed reflectively at the bare floor. "Humph!" he exclaimed after a pause, "it is a big sum; but I'll think about it. Who are the builders?"

"The Elswick Company; and the ship's name is the *Valdivia*."

"Then give me that line to your friend Day. I'm staying at the Grand Hotel."

St. John scribbled a hasty note and gave it to Bowling. "Good-bye," he said, "and good luck

to you, and don't forget to drink the saucy *Gosamer's* health." And, having been at length summoned to the presence of one of the chiefs, he hurried away upstairs.

Bowling himself saw Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh or, Uncle Humphrey as he was affectionately called in the service; but when, after giving him as many details as possible of the Toulon affair, he sounded him upon the subject of restoration to the Navy, the Admiral assumed a rather horny-eyed expression, and gave him no encouragement. "You have contravened the Queen's Regulations; you must take the consequences as they have been dealt to you by the late Board." That was Uncle Humphrey's verdict, and the brief interview was ended.

But Bowling, who knew the Admiral well, was not very astonished when, later in the day, a messenger brought him a note which ran: "My dear Bowling, make it convenient to take an unofficial breakfast with me to-morrow morning at the Admiralty at eight o'clock, and in the meantime believe me, yours faithfully, Humphrey Thornbeigh."

It was barely noon when Bowling left the Admiralty—noon on Friday, the 1st of May. He walked thoughtfully to his hotel, sat for five minutes with a pipe between his lips in the smoking-room, and then rose suddenly, left a message as to where he might be found and hurried across the road to Craig's-court. His solicitor had an office there. The solicitor was a little Jew, shrewd, but honest as the day.

"Look here, Lawson," Bowling began, as soon as he was in the presence of the lawyer. "I've not come to spin you a yarn about the battle, and I don't want sympathy, and I don't want advice; I just want your help. Can you give me the rest of the day, luncheon time and all?"

"I suppose I can, if it is a matter of business," said Mr. Lawson.

"Very good. First of all, tell me how much money have you in the house? I want a deuce of a lot at once. In the meantime be good enough to send this note to Mr. Day, of Gray's Inn, and let the messenger ask Mr. Day, with my compliments, whether he can make it convenient to call and see me here as soon as possible."

The solicitor called a clerk, and despatched him with the note. "I could let you have a thousand in an hour, Mr. Bowling," he said.

"A thousand! Why, man, that's of no use to me. I want heaps more. What am I good for? How much can you raise on me? How much can you borrow on me?"

"What do you want?"

"I want three hundred thousand pounds by this time to-morrow."

Mr. Lawson fell back gasping. "Three hundred thousand pounds!" he ejaculated. "What?"

"Three hundred thousand pounds," repeated Bowling. "Can you raise it, or can you not?"

"I dare say I can raise it, if only I have time enough; but by this time to-morrow—"

"If you can't do it, or the greater part of it, someone else must. But you can do it; you have interest with bankers, and people of that sort. Now, be a good fellow and spare no pains, and no expense; and, above all, waste no time over the business. Sell me up entirely if necessary, body and soul. Get rid of everything."

"But, Mr. Bowling," said the solicitor, who suspected his client of sudden madness, "in justice to yourself, let me know what you are going to do?"

"You know that what have deprived me of my commission?"

"Yes."

"Well, I'm going to buy it back again. I'm going to endeavour to render them anxious to have my services once more. To be brief: I'm going to buy a ship, and take out letters of marque, and get to sea as soon as I can manage it. Now you know all you want."

"But surely you are not going thus hastily to embark your whole fortune in such a precarious venture?"

"Well, don't let us argue, that is my intention. Now, will you take the needful steps at once: you must be mine for the next day or two. You must give me a room in which I can see people, and a clerk to write letters, and a boy to run messages; and I must be able to carry on here, if necessary, night and day."

Lawson made no audible reply, but rang a bell, in answer to which a second gentleman of Hebrew physiognomy entered.

"Lazarus," said the solicitor, "Mr. Bowling wants to raise three hundred thousand at once—mind you, at once. Please see what can be done, and don't lose a moment. You have the papers, and Mr. Bowling will be close at hand. I wish him to have a table here. Put another also for Mr. Brownlow, who is to hold himself at Mr. Bowling's entire disposal until further notice. I

can undertake no further business to-day. If anyone calls, say that I am engaged."

Mr. Lazarus disappeared. "He'll do his best," said Lawson, "and I'll do mine."

Mr. Brownlow was a most capable clerk and shorthand writer, and he saved Bowling no end of trouble. He took down from Bowling's dictation a long telegram to Messrs. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co., asking that firm to send immediately to London an agent fully competent to negotiate for the disposal of the *Valdivia*. He also took down telegrams to several people who, Bowling imagined, might be willing to assist or join him. Finally the clerk took down a telegram addressed to the proprietors of the *Times*. "In consequence of my dispatch to you from San Remo," it ran, "the Admiralty has removed my name from the Navy List. I intend to take out letters of marque, and I shall be glad to learn what assistance or co-operation you may be inclined to render me in fitting out a vessel. Time presses."

In the course of the afternoon Mr. Day called in reply to Bowling's note. He was a tall, unlitid, slim, slightly bowed man, with black hair and moustache, spectacles, and a somewhat hesitating and nervous manner of speech. He looked very little like a barrister, and still less like a sailor; and at first, Bowling was very far from being favourably impressed. But it soon appeared from his conversation that Mr. Day knew a good deal about the sea, and what was perhaps as important, he proved to be an intimate friend of the Duke of Norland, a nobleman who, besides being of immense wealth, possessed an adventurous spirit, and had much influence.

"It is very curious," said Day, after Bowling's plans had been partially explained to him, "that only last night, when I was dining with the Duke, he suggested that I should buy a steam yacht and fit her out as a privateer. He offered to supply some money—he didn't say how much—and I told him that I was quite ready to put down what I could afford, though that, I am sorry to say, is only a matter of a few hundreds. The worst of it is, however—and I told him so—that I know nothing about steamships. I'm quite willing to join you in any capacity; indeed, I shall be only too pleased if I can be useful. I'll go and see the Duke at once, and try whether I can't persuade him to take a hand in your venture. Of course, he won't go himself; but I don't doubt that he'll take a share, possibly a big one." And Mr. Day departed, promising to lose no time and return later.

This was satisfactory, as far as it went. Not less so was the reply of the proprietors of the *Times*, who, in the course of the afternoon, sent a representative to Craig's-court. This gentleman, after thanking Bowling for his account of the Toulon affair, listened to the outlines of the scheme, and then said he was empowered by his principals to take on their behalf a twentieth share in the first cost of the vessel, on condition that a twenty-fourth share in the net profits—if any—of the venture should be guaranteed to them, and that Bowling should contrive to act as their correspondent. Lawson at once drew up a form of agreement to this effect, and the representative of the *Times* took it away with him, he also promising to return later.

The next visitor of importance was an emissary from Elswick. He had, upon receipt of Bowling's telegram, been dispatched by special train to town, and brought with him full particulars of the *Valdivia*. These were briefly as follows:—

The *Valdivia* is a steel twin-screw armoured cruiser of 6900 tons displacement, with engines capable of developing 8000 indicated horse-power with natural draught, and of giving a speed of seventeen knots, and capable of developing 12,000 indicated horse-power with forced draught, and of giving a speed to nineteen knots. The vessel's dimensions are: Length, 328ft.; beam, 60ft. 8in.; depth to upper deck beams, 35ft.; mean draught, 21ft. 10in. She has a complete water line belt of compound armour, over 6ft. 5in. wide, with a maximum thickness of 12in., a complete protective deck of 2in. steel, and above the deck a light central redoubt 134ft. 6in. long, armoured with 4in. steel. The armament consists of four 9.2in. 23-ton breech-loaders thus disposed, viz., one on the fore-castle, having an arc of training over 135 deg. on each bow; one on the poop, with a similar arc of training on each quarter; and one in a sponson on each broadside amidships, with an arc of training over 180 deg. on the beam. Each of these guns fires on barbettes over an armoured breastwork, and is covered by a steel screen. The secondary armament consists of eight 4.7in. quick firing guns disposed in pairs in lightly armoured steel turrets, one on each bow somewhat abaft the barbettes, and one on each quarter somewhat before the barbettes. These guns all train over arcs of 135 deg. The twelve guns above named are on the upper deck, where also are mounted four 6-pounder

quick-firing guns, and six 5-barrelled Nordenfelt machine-guns. In each of the two tops there is a Maxim gun of rifle calibre; and on the main deck there are ten 6-pounder quick-firing guns, three being on each broadside within the redoubt, two forward and two aft. There are six ejectors for Whitehead torpedoes, one in the bow and one in the stern, being under water. There are also three powerful electric search-lights, a steam-cutter, and steam-pinnace, and the usual boats and fittings. The ship has two funnels, and has fore-and-aft sail on two light masts, each of which is provided with a military top. The coal capacity of the bunkers is 400 tons, an amount sufficient for 7,000 knots, steaming at a speed of ten knots.

The Elswick agent laid before Bowling these, together with more detailed particulars, as well as plans, diagrams and inventories; and Bowling very speedily decided that, if he could raise the necessary money, the vessel would exactly suit his views. She was of a type, fast and well armed and fairly well protected, especially at the water-line, that was absolutely unrepresented in the Royal Navy, although the Chilean ship *Arturo Prat* was on very similar lines. He felt that, while she promised to be an excellent cruiser, she was powerful enough to tackle, in case of need, any but the most formidable battleship. Having, therefore, engaged the agent to remain for twenty-four hours in London, and to keep open Messrs. Armstrong's offer for that length of time, Bowling set to work with renewed energy to solve the financial problem.

In this he was greatly assisted by the Duke of Norland, who in the course of the evening drove to Craig's-court with Day. The Duke was an eminently practical man. He was too old, he said, to go to sea in the *Valdivia*, and he could, he knew, be more useful on shore. What he would do was this. He would undertake, in conjunction with his friends, to form a syndicate which should take a half share in the cost and a two-fifths share in the proceeds of the venture, provided that Bowling and his friends would bear the remaining half of the cost and accept the remaining three-fifths of the proceeds. In the meantime, Bowling might draw on him personally to the amount of a hundred thousand pounds.

During the interview, in the course of which this unexpectedly satisfactory arrangement was arrived at, several of Bowling's friends, who had been summoned by telegraph, called; and as Day had mentioned the business to some of his acquaintances who were yachting men, several of them also dropped in. Moreover, the representative of the *Times* returned; the Duke sent round to the clubs for certain of his friends, naval and otherwise, in whom he placed confidence; and the emissary from Elswick was summoned from his hotel. By midnight, therefore, a committee of ways and means, with full powers, was in session in the largest room of Mr. Lawson's office, and when it broke up at daylight, nearly everything was settled. The Duke drove home; Day and two of his friends departed to visit the various ports and to engage men; and Bowling, finding that it was nearly five o'clock and remembering that he was due at Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh's breakfast table at the Admiralty at eight, relinquished every idea of turning in, and instead, wrote some letters, had a cold tub in the kitchen by favour of Lawson's housekeeper, and then walked over to Whitehall.

Sir Humphrey was waiting for him. "Well, Bowling," he said, "yesterday you came to see the Admiral, who, I hope, made you feel that you had behaved most improperly. To-day you have come to breakfast with an old friend and shipmate, who is very sorry that you are out of the service, and who will do all that is in his power to help you. I don't mind saying that I look upon you as too good an officer to lie rusting on shore in such times as these. What are you going to do? Have you any plans?"

Bowling related not only what he proposed to do, but what he had already done; and Uncle Humphrey's grey eyes sparkled. "You haven't let the grass grow under your feet," he said: "but you don't suppose that I'm going to let you take such a fine fighting craft as the *Valdivia* out of the country, and man her with a lot of 'long-shore ullage' that will render her anything but a credit to anyone concerned. Not I! yet since you have been so prompt, so energetic, and I may add, so disinterested, I don't feel that I should be altogether consulting her Majesty's interests by thwarting you. Perhaps, even, it is my duty to help you a bit. Oblige me by ringing the bell, Bowling."

A servant appeared, and Sir Humphrey ordered him to bring in certain volumes and lists which he mentioned. When they were before him he said, "Now Bowling, you know how hard pressed we are for men. I'm afraid we can't spare you much that is worth having. But here are the names of

some retired officers, commissioned and otherwise, whom we intend to call out. Some have not been long out of employment, as you may see. If you like to choose half a dozen of them, and can let me know that they are willing to go with you, I'll undertake that the Royal Navy shall want them just at present. Do you understand? I believe that they may be as useful with you as with us, for the *Valdivia* is a fine craft, and you ought to be able to make something of her. But, mind you, I reserve the right to take these officers when I want them, and I expect you to submit yourself in a general way to my orders. You know me well enough to understand exactly what I mean. You have your chance, Bowling, and it seems to me a bright one. May God bless you."

Bowling was much moved by Sir Humphrey's kindness to and confidence in him. He selected two warrant officers and three lieutenants, substituting for his first choice one or two names which Sir Humphrey suggested as being more suitable. Then, with a feeling that some of his most formidable initial difficulties had been removed, he bade good-bye to his patron, walked to his hotel, packed up his gear, and, in pursuance of an understanding which had been come to at the meeting in Craig's-court, took the earliest possible train to Newcastle, where, alone, he could attend to the immediate fitting for sea of his first command. In the train he enjoyed the most refreshing sleep that had come to him since the catastrophe off Toulon, for new hopes and enthusiasms had taken the place of old anxieties and despondencies.

V.—THE ATTACK ON THE ROCK.

The Naval policy of France in almost all her wars with Great Britain has been to gain, if possible, some material advantage without deliberately risking a fleet action. The naval policy of Great Britain has simply been to seek the enemy's fleet, and to endeavour to sink, burn, or take it. On numerous occasions France has missed the opportunity of gaining a great victory because she has preferred the prospect of securing ultimate advantages. On occasions still more numerous Great Britain has won a great victory because she had no eye for anything more distant than the foe. The methods of action have been contrasted over and over again, and most ably by Captain A. T. Mahan, U.S.N., in his volume on "The Influence of Sea Power upon History." This valuable work appeared some time before the sudden outbreak of hostilities off Toulon; and so convincing is it, at least to the Anglo-Saxon mind, on the subject of the relative values of the traditional naval policies of the two Powers, that it is difficult for an Englishman to believe that, after the publication of that book, France could ever again have been capable of playing her old part. But service traditions are not easily destroyed, and after having, in a moment of unreflecting rage, fallen upon the British in the Mediterranean and practically annihilated them there, France settled down into her usual modes of war. It is true that she reinforced her own *division cuirassée du nord*, and sent it, as has been shown, in search of the home-coming British Channel Squadron; but that was on the impulse of the first heat of hostilities. She soon sent word to it to proceed to Gibraltar, whither she also dispatched a strong squadron from Toulon, leaving in that port only sufficient vessels to watch the very small and enfeebled British force which, after the Toulon disaster, had assembled at Malta. The captains of the partially disabled British ships would, no doubt, have all proceeded to Gibraltar after the battle, especially as Gibraltar had been named by the commander-in-chief as his rendezvous; but several of the vessels were so mauled and leaky that they needed immediate docking, and, as everyone knows, there is unfortunately no dock at Gibraltar, while at Malta there are good facilities for ships of all sizes. The consequence was, that after the Toulon affair, the *Colossus*, *Thunderer*, *Victoria*, *Polyphemus*, and *Surprise* went to Malta, and only the *Trafalgar*, *Dreadnought*, and *Australia* to the Rock.

Thither also went the French *division cuirassée du nord*. The *Australia*, which, having received but little damage in the action, was kept on scouting duty in the Strait, sighted it early on the morning of May 2nd, and at once steamed in to report. Of course, a British force of two battleships, a belted cruiser, and the three first-class torpedo boats, Nos. 7, 18, and 70, which, apart from stationary and harbour craft, constituted the entire floating strength at Gibraltar, could hope to do very little against a French fleet of eight ironclads and six cruisers, besides torpedo boats. The Malta cable informed the Admiral that he must, for the present, harbour no hope of succour from the eastward. He depended, therefore, for help upon the fleet which he knew was gathering at Spithead, and, in the meantime, he made up his mind to confine himself mainly to the defensive.

But his prospects looked blacker than ever when, on Sunday, May 3rd, a second hostile fleet coming from Toulon was sighted. This included the ironclads *Formidable*, *Devastation*, *Hoche*, *Amiral Baudin*, *Terrible*, and *Indomptable*, which, with the *Victorieuse*, *Requin*, *Furieux*, *Suffren*, *Fulminant*, *Vengeur*, *Tempête*, and *Tonnerre*, made a fleet of fourteen ironclads, besides smaller vessels, designed for the attack on Gibraltar. The idea of the directing brains in Paris was, no doubt, that, if Gibraltar fell, Malta would fall too; and that, after the capture of these strongholds, the Mediterranean might be reduced to the condition of a French lake.

Gibraltar had been held, even by many French writers, to be impregnable. A very great number of heavy ordnance, including two 100-ton, and a battery of 38-ton guns, of tolerably modern construction, had been mounted in it, and in the matter of water and of provisions it was better prepared against a siege than it had been at any previous period of its history. But it lacked armoured defences of the most recent kind, as, for example, Grison cupolas; and it also lacked a proper supply of quick-firing and machine guns. Yet it was very strong. So, too, was the French fleet.

The two French fleets, having effected a junction, kept under easy steam off the Barbary coast between Ceuta and Tangier during the whole of Sunday, and never approached within about ten miles of the Rock; but after sunset, having crossed to the European side opposite Tarifa, they steamed eastward under cover of the land, and barely outside the limit of Spanish territorial waters. Thus they reached the mouth of Gibraltar Bay, where, formed into two divisions, they opened a furious fire at a range of about 9,000 yards on that face of the fortress which extends from Europa Point to the new Mole. Each division moved independently and slowly in a circle, and the wind coming briskly from the north-west, the smoke was borne away in such a manner as to inconvenience neither side; but, as the night was dark, the practice was at first very indifferent. The garrison and the warships lying off the old Mole replied promptly and spiritedly, but used search lights, and so, after a time, assisted the aim of the enemy, who, throughout, showed no lights at all. Discovering their mistake, the defenders turned off their lights, and used instead rockets, which were fired well to seaward, and burst, if not over, at least in the direction of the foe, and, for brief intervals, showed them clearly under the bright blaze of the magnesium stars. But the range of the rockets was not sufficient to render their light thoroughly effective, and they seemed to help the attack fully as much as the defence. The French further improved their situation by occasionally throwing on to the Rock a species of carcass, which burnt very brilliantly, and could not be extinguished. Whenever one of these fell near a battery, the enemy seemed to find no difficulty in getting the range immediately, and poured in so hot a fire that for a time that particular position became almost untenable. Even the solid rock failed to resist the enormous force of the heavy mellite shells which were hurled against it in bouquet as light and opportunity served, and which, bursting, brought down hundreds of tons of debris, choking up the casemates, and sometimes burying guns and gunners in common ruin. These shells also, when they burst, as they once or twice did, in a gallery or any comparatively confined space, evolved suffocating fumes that all near were obliged to crawl away, or to remain and be stifled. All night, from sunset to dawn, the bombardment continued without intermission, for not until day-break was the fleet out of sight behind Cabareta Point, and it continued its fire as it was within range. It withdrew apparently intact, and a few hours later it was seen cruising as before on the south side of the Strait, still fourteen ironclads strong. Some ships, no doubt, had suffered; but the Rock, it was tolerably clear, had suffered more. The loss of life, it is true, had been small in comparison with the huge number of projectiles that had been thrown into the place, but the damage to the material had been enormous; and both inhabitants and garrison looked forward with considerable uneasiness to the prospect of a long succession of nights similar to the sleepless night of the 3rd of May. The ships at anchor off the old Mole had not been struck, and they were therefore able, upon the withdrawal of the French, to proceed to the mouth of the Bay, so as to be ready, in case

* Picric Acid is supposed to form the main constituent of mellite. "Picric acid is very deficient in oxygen, as its formula shows. The products of its explosion will, therefore, largely consist of the actively poisonous carbonic oxide, and hence, as a blasting agent in mines, it would be objectionable. In digging out some shells which had been charged with some picric acid explosive and fired into earth, some French soldiers were poisoned by the noxious fumes some time after the shells had been fired and burst." Major Cundill's "Dictionary of Explosives," 1890, Page 87.

of need, to afford some protection to any British vessel that might seek shelter beneath the fortress; but they could attempt nothing more, and, indeed, the whole attitude of the defence, during the days of anxiety and nights of horror that followed, was, so far as the men-of-war were concerned, perforce a very passive one.

But there was an opportunity for the torpedo boats; and nobly did they avail themselves of it. The following account of the exploits of boat No. 70 on the second night of the attack is taken from the *Daily News*. No. 70, it should be explained, was a 125ft. boat, 13ft. broad, with a displacement of about 75 tons, engines of 670 indicated horse-power, and a smooth water speed of 19.5 knots. She was built at Poplar by Messrs. Yarrow and Co., in 1886, and carried, in addition to her torpedo armament, three machine guns, and a crew of sixteen officers and men. The *Daily News* correspondent, who was, by profession, a medical man, was permitted to accompany the boat as volunteer surgeon. There were thus seventeen all told on board the little craft when she went out on as perilous a mission as was ever undertaken.

"Gibraltar, Tuesday, May 5th.—Last night at ten o'clock, the French fleet having about an hour earlier renewed the bombardment, the Admiral, after consultation with the Governor, sent for the three lieutenants commanding the torpedo boats in harbour here, and explained to them that he was desirous of trying whether or not it might be possible to do damage to the enemy, but that he could not afford to risk the sacrifice of the only three boats at his disposal. He therefore asked one of the lieutenants to volunteer. All three volunteered at once. The Admiral pointed out the great danger of the mission, and offered to allow the officers to reconsider their decision. All volunteered again. He then thanked them handsomely, but said that he could not avail himself of the services of more than one; upon which the officers, retiring for a few minutes to consider the matter, ultimately settled it by throwing poker dice. Lieutenant Penherne, of torpedo-boat No. 70, won, throwing five sixes. The losers then begged to be allowed to accompany Penherne in any subordinate capacity, but this was not permitted by the Admiral, who nevertheless complimented the other lieutenants on their zeal. Penherne was ordered to wait his opportunity for going out, and, acting in accordance with his own judgment, to run into the enemy's fleet, and do his best to torpedo one or more of the ships. With some difficulty I obtained permission to go with him.

"By a quarter to eleven we were all on board, with steam up for full speed. The enemy was at the time throwing in a very heavy fire on our batteries, which were replying steadily; and there seemed to be a good opportunity for us to get away without exciting much attention; but it was a little too light to suit Lieutenant Penherne. There was very little moon. The stars, however, were bright between the masses of scudding cloud, and he decided to wait until some heavier masses of vapour which were coming up from the westward should give him a greater degree of concealment. Knowing, as I did know, how anxious this gallant young officer was to get at the enemy, I could not help admiring the coolness which prompted this decision. There was a brisk westerly breeze, with a short lumpy sea not altogether most suitable for torpedo-boat work; but the unsuitableness of the weather would, we hoped, give us the better chances of success, by putting the enemy to some extent off his guard.

"By half-past twelve, the bombardment still continuing with full fury, Lieutenant Penherne found the sky to be much more obscured, and determined to cast off. We had lain during the previous hour and a-half inside the old Mole, watched with curiosity by a small crowd of people who, though they did not know on what mission we were bound, had discovered for themselves that we were about to leave harbour. Our first movements could not greatly have enlightened them, for as soon as we were clear of the Mole head, we steered straight to the westward across the Bay, as if we were making for the mouth of the Palmones. Our immediate object was to get out of the way of shells, and we succeeded, but not until we had had a very narrow escape. Scarcely had we started ere a big projectile came screeching over the Mole, sent the people flying, panic-stricken, and pitched quite close to us in the water, where it burst. We were not more than twenty feet away, and part of the column of mud and water that shot up fell on us, while the waves caused by the explosion made us heel over until our port side was altogether under. But we were not damaged. Penherne had ordered all of us to put on cork belts, had seen that the machine guns were well supplied with ammunition, had loaded all five of our torpedo tubes—after having carefully examined the torpedoes—and had had

the dingy's cover removed. By this time we were under the Spanish side of the bay—very much, I am afraid, within Spanish waters. We altered our course to port therefore and steamed slowly down the coast, and so near to it that as we passed Algeiras Island we could see the Algeiras people backed by the lights of their town, watching the bombardment. We could even hear—for we were sheltered by the shore, and such wind as reached us was from the right quarter—the exclamations of the crowds whenever any exceptionally loud or brilliant explosion attracted their attention. I could not resist being reminded of a firework night on the terrace of the Crystal Palace, though the circumstances were so terribly different. So occupied were the Spaniards that they did not seem to notice us, in spite of the fact that we passed within a couple of cables of three of their gunboats; and we went quietly on, confidently expecting to find a French cruiser, or at least a torpedo boat, waiting somewhere off Cabareta Point to upset all our plans. Surely enough we did sight a craft of some kind there, but keeping inside Pigeon Island, we avoided being noticed by her, and thus reached the open Strait. Here we altered course again, this time to starboard, and still stole along under the coast. From our new position the scene behind us was fearfully grand. The wild puffing rattle of heavy projectiles in the air was continuous. Ever and anon, high in the darkness, there came out a red blotch of flame and silver smoke, and a minute later we heard the report of an exploded shell. More than once several of these blotches of red flashed out almost simultaneously. Below them on each side tongues of flame leapt out at the rate, I should suppose, of from forty to fifty a minute. Those from the grim old rock came from all sorts of elevations. Those from the enemy came, of course, all from the water, but were directed upwards. And against the dense bank of smoke that rolled to leeward the dark hulls of the French ships stood out clearly and plainly at every flash.

"We went westward until we were abreast of Tarifa, and until the flashes from the French ship seemed to spring up, not from dark hulls, but from the horizon. 'You must go below now,' said Lieutenant Penherne, coming slowly to me aft where I was sitting on the after conning tower. 'I will only have the fighting hands on deck. But you can get inside this conning tower if you can find room alongside the lookout there. If we get into the thick of it, I may go into the forward conning tower; but I don't yet know whether, when we are steaming at full speed, I shall be able to see anything from it; and, if I can't, I shall stay on deck, and not use the director, or anything else, but discharge the torpedoes with my own hands. Now—with a smile—down you tumble. England, you know, expects every man to do his duty. You have to write a dispatch, and patch us up if we get hit; so, down you tumble, and out with your stylographic pen and your saw and bandages. You must cut us up on the cabin table. Let us have a look at it.'

"He led me below, and stood by, cutting up some tobacco in his palm, while I opened my instrument case and loosened my bundles of lint rolls. I recollected that between me and the enemy's shot there would be no better protection than is afforded by a steel plate about as thick as a piece of cardboard, and I admit that I felt very nervous; but Penherne was absolutely cool. When he had cut his tobacco he said: 'Those beggars will see the spark of my pipe if I'm not careful. Can't you lend me something to cover it up?' I offered him the top of a small metal box. This he fitted to his pipe, after he had bored a few holes through the tin with the point of his knife. Then hastily cramming in the tobacco, lighting it, giving a couple of vigorous puffs, and clapping on his impromptu cover, he climbed on deck again, and as he went up the ladder, cried, 'I hope this pipe will last me till the business is over. So long!'

"No sooner was the lieutenant on deck than he altered the boat's course again, and headed his craft right across the Strait for Al Kazar Point. It was already nearly a quarter-past-two, and seeing that the sun would rise at half-past four, we had less than a couple of hours darkness before us. But we were now steaming fast, and gradually swerving more to the eastward; and as, in the middle of the Strait, there is a constant current in that direction, we were making good progress. From my place in the after conning tower, I could only see the points of Penherne's elbows as he held his night glass to his eyes, for he stood just forward of the funnel; but heard him, from time to time, giving the order to alter course one point more to port, and I knew that we were getting up behind the French fleet. Soon, indeed, I could see it on our port bow, still circling slowly in two divisions, with a bank of smoke to leeward, and the vivid flashes of guns and bursting shells all around

it. The spray was now flying over us and the boat was throbbed from stem to stern with the vibration of her machinery, for Penherne had clapped on full speed. Right ahead loomed a long low black mass, without lights. It must have been a French torpedo boat on the look out. Another point to port enabled us to clear it easily. The enemy must have either not seen us, or mistaken us for one of his own boats; for there was no hail and no symptoms of alarm; and now, not two miles before us, was the leeward division of the foe's ironclads.

"Penherne laid down his glass, and stepped to the foremost broadside torpedo tubes, which were trained upon the beam. Taking the lanyard in his hands, he stood upright between them. The enemy must, by this time, have seen us, for the flames glowed above the top of our funnel, and shone on the spray that came swishing over our nose. Nearer and nearer we drew, but still there was no sign that the enemy believed anything to be wrong. His ships were circling in column of line ahead, with about three cables between the vessels; and the leader of the line—apparently a flagship—was just coming round to port, after having delivered her fire, when we came within range of her. Confident that he was mistaken for a friend, Penherne altered course yet another point or two port, as if to pass under the ironclad's stern. There was at once some indistinct shouting from the ship's bridge and poop; but Penherne did not heed it, and when he was on the enemy's quarter, and not a hundred yards from it, he pulled his right hand lanyard, and I saw the starboard torpedo glisten for an instant as it leapt with a splash into the waves. The French, too, must have seen this, and I can only attribute the fact that they did not immediately open a heavy fire on us to the probable circumstances that the starboard guns, having just been engaged, were cooling, and so, of course, were unloaded. The second ship of the line was by this time coming up slowly on our starboard bow. Penherne shouted 'Hard-a-port!' and even as he did so, I heard the muffled explosion of our first torpedo. We swung round quickly, crossing close under the second ship's forefoot; and, while she towered over us, Penherne pulled his left lanyard and sent his second torpedo into her broad bows. The weapon had barely fifty yards to travel, and the almost instantaneous shock of its explosion jolted us up as if we had ridden over a submarine volcano, and, smashing the glass in the little scuttles of the conning tower, covered me with the fragments. But there was so much smoke, spray, and darkness that I could not see the results. 'Helm amidship!' shouted Penherne, running aft to the other two torpedo tubes. 'Keep her steady now; and once more steaming with wind and current, we tore across to where the rearmost ship of the French line was still firing deliberately at the Rock. She, however, ceased that fire as we approached, and devoted her whole attention to us. Her consorts also began blazing at us from almost every side; for we had placed ourselves, as it were, within the horseshoe formed by the encircling squadron. Nor was this all; the shells from Gibraltar were dropping all around us. Yet Penherne, who, at the after tubes, was quite close to me, was calm and cool. Red rents began to open in our funnel as the Hotchkiss projectiles struck it. Machine gun bullets, fired at too acute an angle to penetrate, rattled upon our deck. 'Come in, Penherne, I cried involuntarily. 'You have done enough, in all conscience.' But he took no heed, for he was carefully training the port after tube upon the last ship. We neared her rapidly. A perfect storm of bullets swept over us, and some penetrated my tower. Penherne stumbled backwards, and knowing that he was hit, I rushed to the companion. But as soon as my head appeared at the top of it, he sang out, 'Don't be a fool! Keep below!' and I saw that, though he lay low at full length on deck, he was watching the foe and had the lanyard ready in his hand. I could not obey him; indeed, for a moment I could not move. We were passing the last ship's port quarter. Her side was crowded with men, who were firing at us with rifles. Penherne struggled and cried out as if with pain, and then the spell passed away from me, and I clambered on deck and ran to him. He had the lanyard in his teeth, and, as I reached him, he raised himself with an effort, threw himself violently backward and discharged the torpedo. 'I have done it!' he cried. And then came a roar behind us, and a blast of wind, as our third torpedo struck its mark.

"That explosion relieved us, for the last ship of the line fired no more, and we left her in the darkness.

"Penherne, as gallant an officer as ever ornamented the Navy, was dead. No fewer than five bullets had struck him, and two at least had inflicted wounds, either of which would have been mortal. It was with the last ebbing remnants of

his strength and consciousness that he pulled the lanyard.

"Sub-lieutenant Smith, who had been all night in the fore conning tower, and who had been wounded in the shoulder, took command of the boat, and brought her into the bay just before sunrise. Although Lieutenant Penherne was the only person on deck while we were under fire, we have lost two bluejackets killed and five wounded, by shots which pierced the vessel's deck or sides. The boat herself has been struck by over a hundred Hotchkiss and machine gun projectiles, and has a good deal of water in her; but her engines and boilers are untouched, and she can easily be made ready for work again in a few days.

The French temporarily drew off almost immediately after we left them. As I write they are in sight on the other side of the Strait; but there are only eleven instead of fourteen of their ironclads, and we have therefore the best grounds for hoping that we have disabled—if not actually sunk—three vessels. This looking to our comparatively small loss, is very satisfactory. Yet the fall of so marvelously brave and cool an officer as Lieutenant Penherne is a heavy price to pay for success. His body has been brought ashore in the admiral's barge, which was expressly sent for it, and it is to be buried this afternoon with all honours."

It afterwards appeared that No. 70 had actually sunk the *Victorieuse*, and had so seriously disabled the *Suffren* and *Tonnerre* as to oblige those vessels to proceed, under convoy of the *Troude* and *Lalande*, to Toulon to be docked and repaired. This misfortune, though it did not relieve the British force at the Rock from the presence of any considerable part of the enemy, had the effect of rendering the French very shy and careful. Each night they renewed the bombardment; but not until they had first surrounded their fleet with such a crowd of torpedo boats that undetected approach from any quarter was rendered almost hopeless. On the night of May 6th, torpedo boat No. 18 tried to steal out and repeat the exploit of No. 70, but was at once driven back by a heavy fire from some French craft which were lying in wait in the shadows on the Spanish side of the bay, where, apparently the Spaniards were quite willing to shut their eyes to their presence. This may be explained by the fact, since discovered, that the French ambassador at Madrid, without asking for any pledges in return, secretly informed the Spanish Government that, if Gibraltar fell into French hands, it should upon the conclusion of hostilities be delivered over to Spain.

Two nights later, on the night, that is, of Friday, May 8th, the French made a counter attack upon the *Trafalgar* and *Dreadnought*, which lay with their nets out, as far up the Bay as was considered safe. The *Dreadnought* was the southernmost of the two; the *Trafalgar* was two cables astern of her, and both vessels headed to the southward. Around them and outside their nets was a strong boom composed of spars and wire hawsers. It was jumpable by torpedo boats, but it was very securely moored, and was, moreover, so thoroughly fitted with ugly spikes and hooks that no boat could hope to jump it without receiving severe damage. The attack was made at about midnight by two divisions, each of six torpedo boats of the 14ft. class. They crept in under the Spanish shore, and were unseen until they were nearly opposite Algeiras. A chance beam from one of the searchlights of the *Australia*, which lay inside the ironclads, then showed them up for an instant. The officer on the *Australia's* bridge promptly extinguished the light, and flashed to the *Trafalgar*: "Torpedo boats about to attack from direction of Algeiras." The senior officer had already directed what was to be done in the event of such an attack, and, as the night was not so dark but that the enemy, when once his position was known, could be pretty easily seen, the French were under observation some minutes before fire was opened upon them. One division attacked the *Trafalgar*, and the other the *Dreadnought*. Some of the boats fired their torpedoes from outside the boom; others jumped the boom and fired afterwards. Two torpedoes exploded in rapid succession against the *Trafalgar's* nets, and three against the *Dreadnought's*; but no harm worth mentioning was done, and, in the meantime, the boats themselves were suffering awfully. Two were "hung up" on the boom; five got over it, but were almost blown to pieces when inside by the concentrated quick-firing gun fire from the ships; and all these five were sunk. The two on the boom struck their flags and called for quarter, and the remaining five either got away to the French fleet or were run ashore on the neutral ground to save them from foundering. The loss on the side of the attack was, in addition to the loss of boats, at least sixty men killed or wounded; while the defence escaped with only two men

This ill-judged but pluckily executed onslaught had been covered by an unusually hot fire from the French fleet, which, on perceiving that the attack had wholly failed, drew off for the rest of the night, and was not anywhere visible in the morning. The garrison's hopes that it had gone elsewhere, were, however, disappointed, for on the evening of the 9th the bombardment was resumed with greater fury than ever; and for several nights afterwards it was continued. It was only temporarily interrupted by an incident, an account of which will be found in the next chapters.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Hotel.

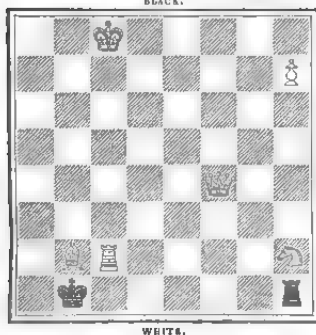
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 38.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to K R 5 1—Anything.
2—Q, B, or Kt mates accordingly.

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.D., Omega, Scacchi, Digamma, and Omicron.

Correspondents who sent in a solution beginning with Q to K R 2 will find that if Black plays Q x P (ch.), there is no mate next move. This defence is somewhat cleverly obscured.

Additional correct solution of No. 37 received from J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 40.
BY G. E. BARBIER.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The Yokohama Chess Club is settling down to hard work at its meetings for practice. It is proposed to start a Tournament among the members at once; and the contest for the Championship will be held later on, when all the combatants have knocked off the summer rust in a series of preliminary encounters. There is some talk of the Club moving its head-quarters from the Club Hotel to a fine suite of rooms in Main Street, but no decisive action has yet been taken.

Looking over the records of half a century back we cannot help remarking the bright radiance of John Cochrane, who used to electrify the English chess world, from time to time, during his meteoric visits to the old country. He lived and worked for a great part of his life in Calcutta; and was influential in spreading a knowledge of our noble game in the Bengal presidency. Staunton speaks of him as a "celebrated master, at once the most original and brilliant player of the day." Staunton and Cochrane played much together in 1842 and it is estimated that over 600 games were contested by them in that year! Cochrane was indeed a very Rupert in the fray, brilliant and venturesome even to the verge of rashness, a refreshing contrast to the modern school of ultra-cautious calculation. We append two short games which will illustrate at once Cochrane's weakness and strength.

GIUOCO PIANO.

BLACK. WHITE.
Mr. Staunton. Mr. Cochrane.
1—P to K's 4th 1—P to K's 4th
2—K Kt to B's 3rd 2—Q Kt to B's 3rd
3—K B to Q B's 4th 3—K Kt to Q B's 4th
4—P to Q B's 3rd 4—Q to K B's 3rd

This is an exceptionally able move. The proper play is Kt to K B's 3rd.

5—P to Q Kt's 4th
(P to Q's 4th is also a good move, and in that case the following variations are probable:—
5—P to Q's 4th 5—P takes P
6—P to K's 5th 6—K takes P or (A)
7—Q to K's 5th 7—Q to K's 5th

Winning a piece.

(A.)

7—P takes P 6—Q to K Kt's 3rd
And the opening player has a fine game).

6—P to Q Kt's 5th 5—B to Q Kt's 3rd
7—B to K's 2nd 6—Kt to Q R's 4th
8—Castles 7—Q to K Kt's 3rd
9—P to Q's 4th 8—P to Q's 3rd
10—K Kt to his 5th 9—Q B to K R's 6th
10—K Kt to his 5th 10—B takes K Kt P

In making this sacrifice, White evidently overlooked the move of B to K R's 5th, which Black had in reserve.

11—K takes B 11—P to K R's 3rd
12—K B to K R's 5th 12—Q to B's 3rd
13—K takes K B P 13—P to K's Kt's 3rd
14—Kt takes R 14—Q takes Kt
15—B takes P (ch.) 15—K to his 2nd
16—B to his 5th

And White Resigned.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

WHITE—MR. C. BLACK—MR. S.
1—P to K's 4th 1—P to K's 4th
2—K Kt to B's 3rd 2—Q Kt to B's 3rd
3—P to Q's 4th 3—Q Kt takes P
4—K Kt takes P 4—Q Kt to K's 3rd
5—K B to Q B's 4th 5—P to Q B's 3rd
6—K Kt takes K B P

This sacrifice is one of Mr. Cochrane's many brilliant conceptions. It certainly merits consideration, since the first player obtains a fine attack, and forces the adverse King into a very exposed and dangerous situation.

7—B takes Kt (ch.) 6—K takes Kt
8—Castles. 7—K takes B
9—Q B to K's 3rd 8—K to his B's 2nd
10—P to K B's 4th 9—K Kt to K's 2nd
11—P to K B's 5th 10—P to Q's 4th
11—K to his Kt's sq.

He should have retreated the King to his own square again. By playing him to the Kt's he loses the game.

12—P to Q B's 4th 12—P to Q Kt 4th
13—Q B P takes Q P 13—P takes P
14—Q Kt to B's 3rd 14—Q B to Q Kt's 2nd
15—P to K's 5th 15—P to Q Kt's 5th
P to K R's 3rd would, at any rate, have prolonged the game.
16—P to K B's 6th 16—P takes P
17—K P takes P 17—Kt to K Kt's 3rd
18—P to K B's 7th (ch.) 18—K to Kt's 2nd
19—Q to her 4th (ch.)

And Black surrendered.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

{REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."}

London, October 8th.

The China trade section of the London Chamber of Commerce has resolved to recommend the Council to urge the Government to adopt such measures, in concert with Europe and America, as shall lessen or remove the fluctuations in exchange between silver and gold using countries.

London, October 9th.

The Oriental Bank will pay a dividend of four shillings in the pound in January.

The cholera has broken out at Marseilles.

Desperate fighting has taken place between the French and Dahomeyans.

London, October 11th.

The Parnellite Congress has resolved that the Irish must control the land, judiciary, and police.

London, October 12th.

Lord Tennyson's remains were accorded a splendid funeral. Westminster Abbey was crowded, and the procession to the grave included the leading political, literary, and dramatic celebrities. The Queen and the Royal Family were represented by proxy.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Singapore, October 1st, 1.30 p.m.

The Jeblu report for the past half-year recommends a dividend of ten per cent. and the addition of \$15,000 to the Reserve Fund.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, September 26th.

A request has been made by the Canadian Government that a British man-of-war going to Vladivostok may be directed to enquire into the recent seizure of the Canadian sealing vessels by a Russian cruiser.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe..... per N. Y. K. Friday, Oct. 21st.
From America... per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 15th.*
From America... per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Oct. 22nd.†
From Hongkong. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 16th.‡
From Hongkong. per O. & O. Co. Monday, Oct. 17th.§
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Oct. 23rd.
From Canada, etc. per C. P. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 30th.
From Europe via Hongkong..... per N. D. Lloyd. Wed' day, Nov. 2nd.

* China left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 29th.
† Belgic left San Francisco on October 5th. ‡ Empress of Japan left Hongkong on October 8th. § Gaelic (with English mail) left Hongkong on October 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Canada, etc. per C. P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 17th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per N. Y. K. Tuesday, Oct. 18th.
For America... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Oct. 21st.
For Europe, via Shanghai... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 23rd.
For America... per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 30th.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 31st.
For Europe, via Hongkong... per N. D. Lloyd. Friday, Nov. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Farquhar, 3rd October.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 7th October.—Sealing Cruise, 137 Seals, 45 Otter, and 4 Bear skins.—Captain.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 8th October.—Shanghai and ports 1st October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 8th October.—Hongkong 29th September, Nagasaki 4th October, and Kobe 7th, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 8th October.—London via ports 7th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Vyvyan, 9th October.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Pigmy (6), gunboat, Lieut. Commander Hewett, 9th October.—Shanghai via ports.
Colonist, British steamer, 1,467, Mann, 10th October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Williamson, 11th October.—London via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Strathavon, British steamer, 1,740, Durdin, 11th October.—New York via ports, Coal.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, Edwards, 14th October.—Hongkong via ports 4th October, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Peterborough, British ship, 1,680, Murchie, 14th October.—New York 28th May, Oil.—R. Isaacs & Bro.
Calédontien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 15th October.—Marseilles 25th September, Hongkong 5th October, Shanghai 9th, and Kobe 14th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 8th October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Naclif.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Smith, 8th October.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Farquhar, 9th October.—London via ports, General.—Corney & Co.
Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Homery, 9th October.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 10th October.—Kobe.
Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 11th October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 11th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Wm. R. Clutterbuck, 13th October.—Kobe.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 15th October.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, MacMillan, 15th October.—Australia via China and Japan ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Wong and child, Miss Wong, Mr. Wm. Bean, Mr. and Mrs. Ichinose and child, Mr. J. J. Quin, Dr. Y. M. Kin, Dr. and Mrs. McCarter, Mr. H. Orih, Captain T. H. James, Messrs. Chan, Wong Wlu Jeong, A. L. Robinson, C. W. Mathews, H. Rumsay, and Lieut.-Commander F. H. Gilmore in cabin; Mr. Wong's suite (9), Messrs. Chas. King, H. S. Sniffer, Alex. Fredrickson, J. McNumara, and J. H. Agnew in second class, and 32 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. M. Johnson, Miss Viney and maid, Mrs. D. Woodd, Mr. Chung Seng, Mrs. Drewell, and Miss Drewell in cabin; 1 Japanese boy in steerage.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Voemans and child in second class. For Victoria, B.C.: 88 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Walter, infant, and nurse, Messrs. Fukushima, Katano, Tsuboi, Boëlle, Maurier, Herconel, Arai, Takahashi, Toyoshima, Odou Vinal, and Mrs. Swain in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Lieut.-Commander F. P. Gilmour, Messrs. V. H. Besterscheff, W. G. Hockridge, Kunihiko Iwadare, Wm. Klein, John Mace, C. Douglas Pennant, John Winters, and Domi Zervas in cabin.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hellyer and amah, Mrs. Blish, Mr. O. Vindis, Mr. and Mrs. Greyraud, 4 infants, and 2 amahs, Mr. Minault and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Alvares and infant, Mrs. Alvares and the Misses Alvares, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fish, Messrs. W. P. Fish, E. E. Fish, H. R. Loving, Abdulkadar, Ng. Yut Rum and infant, J. Littlefield, E. Russell Jones, S. Wurin, Daniel Ward, and Wood Fosdick in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Noble, Mrs. Ye Cha Yun, Miss Davis, Miss Waters, Miss Pyles, Miss Gaither, Miss Blake, Miss Gary, Miss Reynolds, Miss L. Hughes, Miss M. B. Bonar, Mrs. Gorham, Mr. and Mrs. Awoki, Mr. and Mrs. Percival, Mr., Mrs., Miss, and Master Dickerson, Mrs. and Miss Wilcockson, Mr. and Miss Cooper, Admiral K. Tsuboi, Admiral Yamazaki, Lieut. M. Tsuchiya, Lieut. Sento, Captain Walter, Messrs. G. W. Vanderbilt, M. Rosenthal, Shinagawa, Bean, Rev. J. Newton, Messrs. Takino, M. Reid, C. Fox, C. Barker, and J. Miyabara in cabin; Mrs. S. Shinjo, Mrs. J. Shioda, Lieut. Kamimura, Messrs. Shi Chun, Ng Yei Hoy, S. Kuroda, and Mr. Vanderbilt's two servants in second class, and 53 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. Williams, Mr. A. E. Bloomfield, Rev. D. P. Seaton, Mr. and Mrs. Greenough, Mr. J. C. Edwards, Mr. Geo. Turner, Mrs. and Miss Senator Stewart, Messrs. C. T. Roundell, A. Fairbanks, W. Fairbanks, Connolly, Calthorpe, and P. K. Thomson in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	353	799	1,573	2,725
Hyogo	161	—	—	161
Yokohama	5,337	—	1,979	7,316
Hongkong	558	—	—	558
Poochoo	585	—	—	585
Amoy	60	236	—	296
Total	7,034	1,735	3,552	12,341

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	ST. L.
Shanghai	—	272	—	272
Hongkong	20	347	—	347
Yokohama	—	1,654	—	1,654
Total	20	2,253	—	2,273

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 453 bales; for Italy, 20 bales. Waste Silk for France, 254 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$2,262.49.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 89 bales; Waste Silk, 199 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain

Haswell, reports:—Left Woosung the 2nd October at 9 p.m.; had fine clear weather with the wind, gentle to fresh N.E. breeze. Arrived at Nagasaki the 4th at 2 p.m. and left the same day at 9 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 5th at 10.25 a.m.; had fine weather. Left at 2 p.m.; passed Island Sea had fine clear weather with wind from light to gentle breeze. Arrived at Kobe the 6th at 10 a.m. and left the 7th at 2.30 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 6 a.m.; had fine weather with wind moderate to strong breeze. Leave Shanghai the 1st October at 11 a.m. and off Woosung wanting tide.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market quiet, owing in part to lack of descriptions desired at present. The gradual rise in Exchange, with the firmness at the close, has also acted as a check on trade, buyers now asking some reduction in prices, and where their demands are not acceded, they are content to sit down and wait developments. Importers have not given way as yet, and will no doubt try hard to maintain the firmness which characterized the market during the previous fortnight.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.60 to 2.20
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.55
P. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.05 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 32 inches	1.12 to 0.16
Velvets—black, 35 yds, 22 inches	6.00 to 9.20
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-3 inches	0.55 to 0.70
Taffetas—black, 12 yds, 43 inches	1.15 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.32½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24½ yds, 30 inches	1.82½ to 2.07½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—30 yds, 32 inches	\$0.23 to 0.39
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.27½ to 30
Medium	0.24 to 26½
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.20 to 23
Common	0.11 to 0.17
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.11 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilot, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—President, 51 to 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Union, 51 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 28.75
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 28.50
Nos. 25/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 25/32, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
Nos. 25/32, Good to Best	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 35/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 35, Two-fold	32.00 to 33.50
No. 42, Two-fold	35.50 to 37.75
	PER BALL.
No. 20, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 20, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Fair demand still continues at unchanged rates. Interior merchants appear to have allowed their stocks to run down and are now purchasing supplies on a slightly hardening market.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 4 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Market remains firm at quotations, with an increased demand both from Tokyo and the interior, buyers seeming anxious to stock up now to some extent for the Winter needs, rather than take chance against a further possible rise.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devoe	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

We raise quotations to-day on Brown's 20 cents. Stocks are very light and buyers have rushed in,

taking delivery from the hataba on arrival, and for "futures" paying a still further advance. Market closes firm with a rising tendency.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.20 to 4.25
Brown Daitong	4.35 to 4.40
Brown Canton	6.20 to 6.25
White Java and Penang	5.50 to 7.75
White Refined	5.50 to 7.75

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated October 7th. Since that date settlements by foreigners amount to 2,178 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 103 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,746 piculs; *Re-reels*, 381 piculs; while *Kakeda* sorts give a minus quantity of 52 piculs. A few direct shipments bring the total business up to 2,200 piculs for the week.

From the above figures it will be seen that we have again experienced a local boom, similar to those which have been so frequent during the present season, and in which one or two buyers operated very heavily, carrying all before them and clearing the market of certain grades of silk, for which there would seem to be a strong demand by American consumers. These outbreaks are naturally followed by a period of calm, and while writing, the market is steady and firm at quotations, holders looking quietly on and waiting for another large operation similar to that which has enlivened our market a few days ago.

The general conditions of trade remain the same. Exchange is gradually working up and quotations for silk are slightly lower in proportion.

Supplies come in freely from the interior, but summer feelings are very scarce, producers having sold off their stock readily during the last three months, the moment it was off the swifts; consequently, there is no accumulation of prime quality summer feelings such as we have seen in previous years, and the present arrivals begin to show some falling off in color, quality and general preparation.

There have been four shipping opportunities. The German mail *Nuernberg*, on the 8th instant, took 84 bales for Europe; the *City of Rio*, same date, 1,654 bales for New York; the French mail *Saghalien*, on the 9th instant, 473 bales for Lyons and the English mail *Ancona*, 13th instant, 89 bales for the same destination. These departures make the present export figures 19,919 piculs against 14,425 piculs last year and 4,731 piculs at the same date in the previous season. It will be noted that our "present export" figures are more than equal to the last two seasons' put together at same date.

Hanks.—A fair amount of buying at well maintained prices, stock being reduced to 400 piculs. The principal sales show *Tonioka* at \$655; *Chichibu*, \$650; one parcel *Toshu*, fine size, bringing \$670 and another parcel \$660.

Filatures.—There has been a huge business in this class, American orders predominating. Quotations are unchanged, although a few lots were at one time bought at some slight concession. The market closes strong, especially for fine silks, holders feeling sure that they only have to sit still and buyers will come on again.

Re-reels.—These have brought high prices for good silks, the best *Toshu* marks realizing \$860 in several places. Second grade silks can be had at \$100 less, but for well known marks of recognized quality, full prices must be paid.

Kakeda.—There is some little pause after the heavy buying of a fortnight ago. There are some good silks left in this department, and they seem to be good value at present quotations.

In other sorts no business, holders asking extreme prices.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shimizu)	\$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Toshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 2 (Shimizu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 2 (Toshu)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 2 (Shimizu)	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	930
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750

Original from

Kakadas—No. 24	690 to 700
Kakadas—No. 3	670 to 680
Kakadas—No. 34	650 to 660
Kakadas—No. 4	630 to 640
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	Nom. 630 to 640
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom. 670 to 680
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom. 610 to 620
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 14th Oct., 1892:—

Season	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Europe	8,092	5,291	1,557
America	11,512	8,744	3,031

Total	{ Balea 19,604	14,035	4,588
	{ Picula 19,919	14,475	4,731

Settlements and Direct	23,100	15,500	4,900
Export from 1st July	7,200	15,200	14,700
Stock, 14th October	7,200	15,200	14,700

Available supplies to date 30,300	30,700	19,600
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WASTE SILK.

Again a large business in this department, purchases being confined to two or three operators who have competed with each other, paying high prices for good fibre. Settlements for the week are 2,341 piculs: Cocoons, 142 piculs; Noshi, 1,577 piculs; Kibiso, 622 piculs.

The general conditions of the market remain as last advised, and the last three days the market has been much more quiet. Cables from consumers are not very encouraging. Stock here is heavy and there seems no reason why we should not see a lower market in the near future, especially with a hardening exchange.

There have been three shipping opportunities, the German, French and English mails taking nearly 2,500 piculs among them. The present export figures show a total of 6,674 piculs, against 4,495 piculs last year and 3,828 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—One or two small transactions on the basis of our quotations, a few parcels light yield being also done at \$90.

Noshi.—Strong competition among buyers for good fibre, best *Oshu* being freely taken at \$150 with other sorts at proportionate prices.

Kibiso.—Filatures are wanted, but buyers generally cannot pay what sellers now ask. They are willing to go on at last rates, but holders require more.

In other kinds no business. Holders of *Mawata* are not yet inclined for serious business; the producers of *Neri* are so busy in other transactions that they neglect this cheap produce, which they think hardly worth attention in view of the more important things which claim their notice just now.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Buslu, Good to Best	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	80 to 82
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 77
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 72
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 14th Oct., 1892:—

Season	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Waste Silk	5,854	4,495	3,490
Pierced Cocoons	820	—	338

	5,674	4,495	3,828
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Settlements and Direct	12,400	7,600	7,500
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Export from 1st July	15,900	14,600	12,000
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Stock, 14th October	15,900	14,600	12,000
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Available supplies to date 28,300	22,200	19,900
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Exchange has gradually hardened as the price of Silver appreciated at home. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents 2/11½; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$72½; 4m/s. U.S. \$73½; PARIS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.88.

Estimated Silk Stock, 14th Oct., 1892:—

Raw.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	400	Cocoons	1,320
Filatures	2,780	Noshi-ito	7,250
Re-recia	2,950	Kibiso	7,120
Kakada	670	Mawata	130
Oshu	380	Sundries	180
Taysam Kinds	20		

Total/piculs	7,200	Total piculs	15,900
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TEA.

Very little life; sales moderate; quotations as noted below.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	\$32 to 33
Choice	28 to 30
Finest	25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is gradually working its way upwards, and it is hoped that the extremely low rates of the past few months will soon be left behind.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3/6
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3/7½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2½/10 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	3½/10 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	70½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	72½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	73½
Silver	38½

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FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL L'POUL INTERN'L EXHIBITION, 1889.

ENGLISH MANUFACTURED
TOBACCOS
RICHMOND
CAVENDISH CO.,
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SPECIAL BRANDS:—

"Pioneer" Golden Flake Cut.
"Richmond Smoking Mixture."
Superfine Bird's Eye.
"Golden Brown" Fine Cut.
Bright & Black Plug Cavendish.

IN ALL USUAL SIZES.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

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USE **MILKMAID**
CONDENSED MILK
Largest Sale in the World.
The Original and the Best.
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May 14th, 1892.

FOR SALE,

THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:

SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:
No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji. Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribunes in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out I quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. Cooper, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World. May 1st, 1890.



Contractors — the British Admiralty, Foreign Governments, Leading Steamship Companies, & Yacht Owners in all parts of the World.



STEAM LAUNCHES & YACHTS

Fitted with KINGDON'S PATENT MACHINERY (of which we are sole makers) are far superior to any others. The chief advantages are:—

1. Wonderful Economy of Fuel.
2. First-class Workmanship.
3. Moderate Prices.
4. Greatest obtainable power for weight and space occupied.
5. Quickness in raising steam.
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 17.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 22ND, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可照會信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 22ND, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

At St. Andrew's Church, Shiba, Tokyo, on Tuesday, the 18th October, by the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw, HERBERT WILLIAM, son of George Sale of Yokohama, to ALICE HANNAH, daughter of the late William Mawe of Chislehurst, Kent.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COUNT ITO has recovered from his indisposition. The Emperor left Tokyo to-day to attend the Autumn Manœuvres.

THE Japan Mail Steamship Co.'s steamer *Shinagawa, Maru*, which ran ashore at Kabuto Island, has been floated off.

THE P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Bokhara* has been wrecked on the Pescadores with terrible loss of life.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Saga received by the Home Department, reports that the Admonition Law was enforced in the town on the 17th inst. against 101 persons.

A GREAT reduction in passenger's fares on the vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha running between Kobe and Otaru will be effected on and after the 16th inst. The reductions will be as follows:—First-class, 25 per cent.; second-class, from 16.6 to 25 per cent.; and third-class, from 11.1 to 33.3 per cent.

THE 17th inst. being the day fixed for the *Shinjosai* (the thanksgiving service to the gods of harvest) the usual service was held by the Emperor in the Palace. Members of the Imperial Family, Ministers of State, attendants in the *Fakonoma* and the *Kinkeinoma*, officials of *Chokunin* and *Sonin* ranks in various Depart-

ments, Superintendents of Shinto and Buddhist sects, peers, and persons holding rank above sixth class second grade and decorations above sixth class, were admitted to worship at the cenotaphs.

Our of 1,115 applications presented to the Patents' Bureau last month, 1,035 were granted, for which fees to the amount of 1,313,968 yen were paid. Compared with the previous month the figures show a decrease of 17 applications and 44,534 yen in fees, but an increase of 661 patents granted.

THE total receipts of the Kansai Railway Company during the past half year were yen 98,663,097; the expenditures amounted to yen 46,346,250, leaving a profit of yen 52,316,847; yen 2,379,694, brought over from last account being added, makes a total sum of yen 54,696,541 for distribution.

THE new Regulations for the organization of Prefectures were put into operation in Aichi Prefecture on the 1st inst., and the general election of the members of the Prefectural Assembly, the formation of which has in consequence been altered, took place on the 15th inst. Out of 38 representatives for the rural divisions only 10 were returned from the *Min-to* partisans, no *Min-to* candidates being successful in the urban divisions.

MESSRS. WADATE FUKA, Secretary of Yamagata Ken; FUJIO GOROKU, Secretary of Gifu Ken; WATANABE KAISUKE, Chief Police Inspector of Chiba; IKENAGA TAN, Chief Police Inspector of Ehime; HAOI SHIJIKU, Councillor of Akita Ken; SAWA ROKU, Councillor of Ibaraki Ken; UMEWAKA SEITARO, Councillor of Miyagi Ken; TAJIMA HIKOSHIO, Councillor of Aomori Ken; HARAKAWA GOMPEI, Councillor of Aichi Ken; and ISHII YOKU, Governor of Prisons in Hiroshima, were placed on the Retired List on the 13th inst.

THE Directors of the Sanyo Railway Company met on the 13th inst., and resolved to declare yen 117,000 as dividend for the past half-year, at the rate of 3.3 per cent. per annum, and to carry forward yen 1,770 to the new account. The Company lost over yen 11,600 during the last six months in consequence of the damage to the track caused by inundations. It has been decided to extend the Company's line as far as Mibara, and to raise a loan of yen 2,000,000 in order to complete the work. Material to the value of £40,980 is to be purchased from England.

THE foreign trade of Japan during last month amounted to 16,616,847.030 yen in value, of which 6,073,117.180 yen represented imports, and 10,543,729.850 yen exports, showing an excess of 4,470,612.670 yen in sales. The following is the amount of Customs Duties collected at various ports during the month:—365,806.591 yen at Yokohama; 133,404.674 yen at Kobe; 9,040.778 yen at Osaka; 10,816.411 yen at Nagasaki; 3,411.988 yen at Hakodate; and 2,131.588 yen at other ports; total 524,512.030 yen.

THE epidemic of dysentery continues to spread, notwithstanding the efforts made to check its progress. In Tottori Prefecture, the week ended the 9th inst. gave 45 patients and 16 deaths, totalling 680 and 164 respectively from the commencement. Some 316 fresh cases and 67 deaths were officially reported in Fukuoka Prefecture during the week ended the 7th inst., bringing the aggregate from the beginning up to 9,421 patients and 1,916 deaths. Hyogo Prefecture, from the 3rd inst. up to the 9th inst., reported 295 new patients and 90 deaths. These figures make a total of respec-

tively 2,494 and 576. The number of persons who were attacked by the epidemic in Wakayama Prefecture during the 7 days ended the 8th inst. was 91, of whom 6 have died, aggregating 1,710 patients and 123 deaths from the commencement. In Aichi Prefecture 136 fresh cases and 40 deaths occurred during the week ended the 28th ult., totalling 1,436 and 265 respectively.

A MAN named Takahashi Gengoro, who resides in Bambacho, Honjo, Tokyo, was sentenced some time ago by the Tokyo Local Court to 12 years' hard labour on a charge of having suffocated his infant child and buried the remains under the floor of his house, poverty leading him to commit the crime. The convict appealed against the decision, and the Tokyo Appeal Court reversed the first judgment on the 14th inst., finding the man not guilty on the ground of insufficient evidence. He was, however, sentenced to 7 days' detention for having interfered the body outside a cemetery.

DURING August last, the import and export trade of Jinsen, Korea, amounted to yen 243,475 in value, of which yen 164,786 represented imports, and yen 78,689 exports. Imports and exports by Japanese merchants were respectively in value yen 63,261 and yen 70,481; by Chinese merchants yen 98,307 and yen 7,176; and by foreign merchants yen 3,248 and yen 1,032. The values of articles over yen 3,000 imported and exported by Japanese merchants were as follows:—Imports: yen 6,604 bar copper; yen 11,606 other copper goods; yen 7,789 lead; yen 11,680 muslin; and yen 14,818 miscellaneous goods. Exports: yen 24,332 refined rice; yen 11,271 uncleaned rice; yen 27,406 large beans; and yen 4,397 small beans.

TRADE prospects continue bright, and the week closes with more business done. Yarns have advanced 50 cents per picul, and are eagerly bought at that; glb. Shirtings have especially been enquired for but Reds are quieter. With the approach of the cold weather a steady demand has set in for Woollens, and the market closes firm. Metals find a steady sale at late quotations. The stocks of Kerosene have been increased by a further arrival of 65,500 cases of "Comet," but prices have not altered. The total supply of oils in the Nakamura godowns is reported at 700,000 cases of all descriptions, a quantity amply sufficient for present demands. The sugar "boom" continues, and the eagerness of buyers, more especially of Tokyo, has pushed up the figures all round; the quotations close firm. The sales of Tea were chiefly confined to higher grades, but the season is practically over. Raw Silk is coming in from the interior freely, but prices have fallen, holders being surprised by a sharp rise in Exchange. American buyers seem to think that little business will be done for the States until the Presidential Election is over, and are consequently hanging off. The quality is declining, the silk sent in within the last few days showing signs of cold weather reeling. Export figures now stand: 1892, 20,758 piculs; 1891, 16,520 piculs; 1890, 5,084 piculs. The Waste Silk men have been quiet this week, but prices are maintained by holders, who still expect high prices and buyers who will accommodate themselves to their demands. Consumers claim that the present high prices must decline, as owing to the dearthness of raw material the spinning trade is proving unprofitable. The export figures are: 6,955 piculs, against 5,358 piculs last year and 4,564 picul sat the same date in 1890. Exchange, after many fluctuations, closes at a slight advance.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE PERIOD OF GAMING LICENSES.

There appears to be some perplexity as to the reason that a special Ordinance has been issued, enacting that, for the present period only, gaming licenses issued under the provisions of the new Game Law shall not be valid before November 15th, instead of October 15th as has hitherto been the case, and as will hereafter be the case according to the new Law. The explanation, we believe, is simple. The Law having been promulgated on the 5th of October, came into the hands of the Foreign Representatives on that day, or the day following. Now the Japanese Government is understood to be willing that the privileges conferred by the new Law shall be extended to foreigners, provided, of course, that its prohibitions also are applicable to them. As to the manner of enforcing the prohibitions, however, the Foreign Representatives must exercise the competence vested in them by their Governments, since the penalties prescribed by Japanese laws cannot be applied by Consular tribunals under the present jurisdictional system. The course hitherto followed in such cases has been that each Representative re-enacts the particular Japanese law in question, supplementing it with penalties of his own. It was obviously necessary that a reasonable interval should be left for this process of re-enactment. Hence the postponing Ordinance above alluded to. Her Majesty's Minister and the majority, we imagine, of the Foreign Representatives will have no difficulty in legislating so that the privileges of the new Law may be enjoyable by, and its prohibitions binding on, their nationals before November the 15th. But should it happen that any Representative is not endowed with competence to take such a step of his own authority, and that previous reference has to be made to his Government, the result will naturally be that his nationals cannot obtain licenses until these legislative proceedings are completed. The Japanese Government doubtless holds that if Foreign Powers insist on exempting their nationals from the prohibitions of any Japanese law unless it has been re-enacted by their Representatives in Japan, it is their duty to provide machinery on the spot for such enactment, and that, failing such provision, their nationals must be temporarily excluded from any privileges conferred by Japanese laws.

APPLICATION OF THE LAW OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COURTS.

By the express provisions of Art. 74 of the Law of the Organization of the Courts, Mr. Komatsu, Chief Judge of the Yokohama Local Court, and Messrs. Sugiyama and Hashimoto, Judges of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, have been placed on the Retired List. Concerning the reasons of this measure, we find some interesting comments in the *Kokkai*. Our contemporary says:—"According to the Constitution, no Judge can be dismissed unless by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment, and the same principle is embodied in Art. 73 of the Law of the Organization of the Courts. Such being the case, the position of a Judge is virtually immovable, and the existing abuses of constant friction in judicial circles seem beyond redress. When Count Yamagata assumed the portfolio of Justice, he was determined to correct these abuses, and to adopt such measures as would put a final period to disgraceful events like the recent gambling scandal. Hence he applied the provisions of Art. 74 against the above three Judges. But there is considerable criticism as to the justice of the proceeding. For the provisions in question are applicable only to the case of Judges who, by reason of old age, have become enfeebled either physically or morally, and can no longer discharge their functions. Judges who are not weak either in health or in intellect cannot properly be brought within the operation of the article. Mr. Komatsu was appointed to his last position in 1891, and since then he has been actively engaged performing judicial functions. He is still under 50 years of age, and his

physical and moral strength is no way enfeebled. Further, though it is rumoured that Mr. Sugiyama is neither well versed in law, nor zealous in discharging his duties, he is physically strong, as all his fellow-judges can certify. These officials, therefore, could not properly be placed on the retired list under the provisions of Art. 74. But as Mr. Komatsu sat in very few cases since he was appointed to his last position, there are grounds for suspecting that he neglected his duty, and from that point of view, he ought to have been dismissed or fined in accordance with the decision of a Disciplinary Court. Further, if Mr. Sugiyama was considered unfit to discharge his duty, he ought to have been advised to present his resignation, and in the event of his refusal, some other means of contriving his retirement could have been found. Since the Constitution expressly guarantees life tenure of office to all Judges, it is somewhat difficult to correct abuses in the Judiciary, and Count Yamagata's speech to Presidents and Chief Procurators of Law Courts indicated that he appreciates the difficulty. Whether the Presidents and Procurators gave him the useful counsels which he sought, there is at present no way of knowing, but rumour confidently asserts that a large number of Judges will be removed from the Bench before the end of this month. Such a measure is absolutely necessary, yet if all these Judges be placed on the Retired List under Art. 74, a new abuse will be created. For, in the face of such contingencies, Judges, apprehending sudden dismissal, might adopt a servile attitude towards officialdom. Hereafter, therefore, steps should, if possible, be taken to make the removal of Judges depend upon the verdict of a Disciplinary Court so as to avoid all danger of misapplying the provisions of Art. 74 of the Law of the Organization of the Courts."

THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN KOREA.

For some time past there has been talk of the removal of Colonel Kajiyama, Minister Resident in Seoul, and the appointment of an able Plenipotentiary in his room. It is now reported by the *Nippon* that the rumour is well founded, and that, according to the assertion of a certain member of the Diet, reputed to possess a thorough knowledge of the doings of the Government, the appointment will be made in a short time. The same authority is credited with saying that, as the present Minister is an officer, he ought to be suited for the position, but unfortunately Colonel Kajiyama is not at all like an officer. He obtained the post through the influence of Count Yamagata, when the latter was Minister President of State, and it is alleged that some members of the Cabinet have expressed a fear of offending the Count should his nominee be removed. The *Nippon* of course declares that no such consideration ought to be taken into account in filling so important a position as that of Japanese Representative in Korea. Who will succeed Colonel Kajiyama is still undecided, but probably one of the Directors of Bureaux in the Foreign Office or some Councillor in the Home Office. The post is said to have been offered to Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, but he is too wise and has too much experience to accept it. We imagine that all this requires to be largely discounted, but it probably represents a certain section of public opinion.

THE GAMBLING SCANDAL.

The Government now in power evidently regards the Judicial gambling scandal in much the same light as it was regarded by ourselves at the time, namely, as a national disgrace in which all the high officials concerned showed themselves more or less unworthy of their positions. We do not for a moment mean to say that the playing of a game, which may be called Japanese whist, by magistrates and Public Procurators at a restaurant in a private room, is a crime, or that persons engaging in such a pastime deserve punishment. There is certainly a great deal to be said against the practice in a country like Japan where official example counts for so much, and where the very men who adopted this method of amusing

themselves, might be required, the following day, to apply the stringent laws of the land against gambling. But we do say that the case was essentially one to be settled quietly. If the practice had become in any degree notorious, and if due pressure failed to correct it, then the Minister of State for Justice had a remedy under the "Loi Organique des Tribunaux," where it is provided that a Judge must not commit any act forbidden by administrative orders, and that the commission of such an act shall expose him to be transferred, suspended or retired. But to construct out of the affair material for a public trial, the evidence against these high judicial officials—one of them the President of the Supreme Court—being collected by a preliminary and apparently illegal process in which restaurant-keepers, dancing girls *et hoc genus omne* were the principal witnesses—such a disproportionate and imprudent procedure reflected much discredit on the men who contrived it. Viscount Tanaka, who held the portfolio of Justice during the early stages of the complication, seems to have fully appreciated its disgraceful character, but failing to adjust matters satisfactorily, he left the Cabinet. The Ito Ministry is plainly resolved to show its intolerance of such doings in the most emphatic manner. Already a number of resignations of Judicial officials have taken place. Among those who are supposed to have pressed the case or countenanced it, Mr. Miyoshi Taizo, Vice-Minister of State for Justice, Mr. Matsuoka Koki, Public Procurator General, Mr. Nozaki Keizo, Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Local Court, and Mr. Takaki Hideomi, Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, have already resigned; and among those charged with gambling, Judge Kojima Iken, President of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Isobe Shiro, Chief Public Procurator of the Supreme Court, have also left the service. The vernacular press further states that Mr. Imai Kenichi, Public Procurator of the Supreme Court, who is reported to have been one of the chief instigators of the prosecution, and Messrs. Takaki Toyozo, Koto Soichi, and Naka Sadataka, Judges of the Supreme Court, have now tendered their resignations, an example which will probably be followed by Judges Kurizuka, Kishimoto and Kameyama of the same Court. The three last were among the defendants. At first they were naturally unwilling to resign, their position being that so long as the instigators of the scandalous prosecution remained in office, the victims ought not to suffer. But the former having now left the service, the latter are about to follow suit, and it is expected that all friction in the Judiciary will thus be terminated.

In connection with changes in the Judiciary, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the new Chief Judge of the Yokohama Local Court will be appointed in a day or two, and that, when all the Chief Public Procurators now assembled in the capital have returned to their posts, there will follow a considerable weeding out of antiquated Judges of the old school. Indeed, the *Nichi Nichi* regards these changes as of sufficient importance to be called a virtual remodelling of the Judicial personnel throughout the empire.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA'S RIDE.

Berlin papers give additional details of Major Fukushima's ride. According to the *National Gazette*, a telegram received by the Japanese Legation at Berlin reports him as having reached Omsk, a populous town of Western Siberia, situated at the confluence of the Irtysh and Om. Owing to the terrible heat, he was compelled to ride at night only. As is well known, he left Berlin on the 10th of February and reached St. Petersburg by way of Posen, Warsaw, and Vilna. Supplied by the Czar with a special ukase, or imperial order, he continued his ride by way of Tver, Moscow, Nishni-Novgorod, and Kazan in the direction of the Ural Mountains, which he crossed by the old pass at Ekaterinburg. Entering the vast steppes of Western Siberia, he followed the old highway till Tiumen, turned

then towards the south-east and reached Omsk on the 13th of August. Major Fukushima's further plans are to ride on to Semipalatinsk, up the Irtysh valley; then along the mountains that mark the southern boundary of Siberia to Irkutsk; and thence to Vladivostok on the Pacific. From that point the Major intend to cross the Korean peninsula and ride along the coast of China down to Shanghai, the end of his journey. The greater and more difficult part of the way lies still before him, but so far no untoward accident has marked the progress of the bold rider.

JUDGMENT IN A SUIT AGAINST THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO."

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, a leading Tokyo periodical, was defendant in an action for libel brought on behalf of Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Education, the trial of which took place in the Tokyo Local Court on Friday last, the defendants obtaining a verdict on the ground of insufficient evidence for the prosecution. The judgment ran as follows:—

JUDGMENT.

KAKITA JUNRO, Defendant,
Publisher and Printer of the
Kokumin-no-Tomo.

NAKAMURA SHUICHI, Defendant,
Editor of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*.

The facts of the suit for libel instituted against the above defendants, as proved in the Court, are these:—The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, in its issue, No. 160, published, on the 13th July, 1892, an article entitled "The Department of Education," in which the following sentences occurred:—"Who has prevented the intellectual development of the nation? It is the Department of Education! The Department of Education which has revived the doctrine of Confucius, when the people were considering which standard of morality they should adopt, science or religion. Signs had made themselves apparent of the union of the individual principle and the national principle, and the people desired to effect the union harmoniously. But at this stage the officials of the Department of Education disseminated literature of nationalistic tendencies, and encouraged the growth of conservatism, thereby leading the people to advocate a false national principle. When large numbers of students from various lower schools were about to enter the higher schools, the Department of Education made rules prohibiting any student, educated otherwise than in the Government Middle Schools, from entering the High Middle Schools. It was this same Department of Education that attempted to suppress private scholastic institutions in general by protecting a few schools. May it not be truly said that the Department of Education has been a thorn in the side of the Meiji Government? All these things were done simply for the benefit of a party in the Department, and in the interests of that party enemies were created in the educational society of the empire." The Public Procurator considered the above to be a libel on the Minister of State for Education, and therefore instituted a lawsuit against the defendants. But the Court finds that the impugned paragraphs are nothing more than attacks on the administration of the Department of Education, and that they do not contain any insult to the Minister of State for Education individually. Therefore, in accordance with Arts. 224 and 236 of Code of Criminal Procedure, the case is dismissed.

The above judgment was delivered in the Tokyo Local Court on the 14th October, 1892, in the presence of Matsuyama Haku, Public Procurator.

(Signed) { NAGAI JIRO, Chief Judge
MOCHIZUKI GENJIRO, Assistant Judge
HIDASHIMA KOICHI, Assistant Judge.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

THE Japan Society has issued its Review of the First Session. Remarkable success has attended the work of the Society up to the present. The session lasted from April to July, 1892, during which time four ordinary meetings were held, at which the following papers were read:—

"Ju-jitsu—the Ancient Art of Self Defence by Slight of Body," by Mr. T. Shidachi, LL.B., (Tokio), M.J.S., illustrated by practical demonstrations by the Lecturer, assisted by Mr. D. Goh, Hon. Sec.

"The Uses of Bamboo in Japan," by Mr. Chas. Holme, F.L.S., Member of Council. Illustrated by the Collection presented by him to the Museum of Economic Botany at Kew Gardens.

"Some Japanese Industrial Art Workers (Cépe

Printers, &c.)," by Mrs. Ernest Hart, M.J.S., &c. Illustrated by specimens from her Collection.

"The Naturalistic Art of Japan," by Mr. W. Gowland, F.C.S., F.L.C., M.A.I., M.J.S., (late of the Imperial Mint, Osaka).

The average attendance at these meetings was no less than 170, an extraordinary number, testifying not only the influential character of the Society but also the interest felt by the people of London in Japanese matters. If the Asiatic Society of Japan could record an average attendance of even a fourth of the above, it would count itself fortunate. The second session is to last from October 1892 to July 1893, and arrangements have already been made for the reading of the following papers:—

"Japanese Proverbs and some Figurative Expressions in the Japanese Language," by Mr. N. Okoshi, Acting Consul-General in London, Member of Council.

"Certain instances of the Adaptation of European Designs to the Decoration of Japanese Swords," by Mr. M. B. Huish, LL.B., Member of Council.

"Wood and its Application to Japanese Artistic and Industrial Designs," by Mr. George Cawley, M.I.M.E., M.J.S., &c. (late Imperial Engineering College, Tokio).

"The Family Relations in Japan," by Mr. D. Goh, Hon. Secretary.

"Ancient Japanese Lacquer Work and Artists in Lac," by Mr. Ernest Hart, Member of Council.

"Japanese Shipping, Ancient and Modern," by Dr. F. Elgar, LL.D., F.R.S.E., &c. (late Director of Dockyards at the Admiralty) Member of Council.

"Some Difficulties encountered by beginners in the Study of the Japanese Spoken Language," by Mr. A. Diósy, Hon. Secretary.

"The Popular School of Japanese Pictorial Art," by Professor Wm. Andersoo, F.R.C.S., Chairman of Council.

"Japanes Fans," by Mrs. Salway, M.J.S., &c.

Mr. Gowland's essay on the Naturalistic Art of Japan must have been very interesting, for, apart from the exceptional knowledge which the writer has of his subject, the paper was illustrated by an exhibition of a hundred and twenty-four pictures by Japanese old masters, selected from his fine collection. About one half of these pictures, we read, represented the *Shijo-riu*, or Naturalistic School, founded by the immortal Okyo during the close of the eighteenth century, and the remainder illustrated the three great earlier schools from the fourteenth century onwards. We reproduce below a few notes from Mr. Gowland's paper, as epitomized in the reports of the Society's meetings. The essay will appear *in extenso* in the First Volume of "Transactions," to be issued in the last quarter of 1892:—

The chief schools or styles by which the advance and development of Japanese pictorial art have been effected are four in number, viz., The Chinese, including the Buddhist School, dating from the 5th or 6th century; The Yamato Tosa, dating from the beginning of the 11th century; The Kano, dating from the middle of the 15th century; The Shijo, dating from the middle of the 18th century.

There are no traces existing in Japan of indigenous pictorial art. The earliest paintings in the country are either Korean or Chinese. According to traditional records, Korean and Chinese painters came to Japan from time to time during the 5th and 6th centuries, but up to the 9th century, the time of Kanakoka, the first great artist of native birth of whose work any specimens exist, we are surrounded by haze and uncertainty. Even for some time later we still are often on the ground of tradition rather than of history.

In the fourteenth century we have the advent of a famous painter of the Chinese and Buddhist school, Cho Densu, and from this period dates and names are more certain.

The Chinese and Buddhist School.—The paintings of the artists of this School represent the divinities of Buddhism and scenes of its history and faith, personages of old myths and legends, also landscapes and groupings of birds and flowers, either in brilliant colours, or in monochrome.

The Yamato-Tosa School.—After the death of Kanakoka (10th century), the Japanese began to aspire to establish a school which should more fully represent than the Chinese school their national feelings and spirit, and be a truly Japanese school of painting; but it was not until the beginning of the 11th century that these aspirations were fulfilled by the foundation of the Yamato-Tosa School by the court noble and painter, Kasuga Motomitsu.

The Kano, the third great School, was originated by Kano Masanobu (b. 1424, d. 1520) and established by Motonobu (b. 1479, d. 1559). The paintings of this School are in two styles; the first in black and white characterized by few bold sweeping strokes, the action of living objects and the features of a landscape being thus indicated without much detail. The second style was one of brilliant colouring and more careful drawing, and was more often followed for the de-

coration of panels, walls and screens, than for hanging-pictures.

The Shijo or Naturalistic School.—In the preceding Schools, there had been much talk and pretence of making direct copies from nature, but Okyo (b. 1733, d. 1795), founder of this School, was the first artist to make a really honest attempt to copy natural objects.

The name Shijo, given to the Naturalistic School, was taken from the name of the street in which the studio of Okyo, the founder of the school, was situated. It differed from the other schools in its first principles, its motives, and its technique. Its pupils copied natural objects and not conventional drawings of them.

Its painters, rarely inspired by the myths and legends which formed the chief motives of the older schools, were deeply animated by an intense love of simple natural beauties. A twig of cherry or plum blossom, a carp in a wayside pool, a few flying geese, were sufficient for their paintings, which are often as much poems as pictures.

In landscapes they preferred to paint the scenery of their own country rather than the idealized and artificial landscapes of China.

In its technique use of the old, heavy body colours was discontinued, and delicate tones and washes adopted. In black and white pictures deep black was avoided, and harmonious effects in light shades of grey combined with washes of brown, were most successfully produced. All pigments were in fact delicately used.

NEW PEERS.

THE *Mainichi Shinbun* alleges that some new Peers are about to be created. They are all of the lowest grade, namely, Baron. The first is Mr. Matsui Toshiyuki, who was formerly *Karo* (Factor) of the House of Hosokawa (feudal chief of Higo) and territorial lord of Kumamoto. The second is Mr. Date Kuninari. He too held the position of *Karo*, in the noble House of Sendai, before the Restoration, but at the commencement of the Meiji era, he moved to Hokkaido, and has there conducted extensive enterprises of reclamation and settlement. Third on the list stands the name of Mr. Yoneda Torao, who receives his patent of Baron in declared consideration of the eminent services of his father, the celebrated Nagaoka Kenmotsu, chief Factor of the House of Hosokawa, who was one of the first to give practical expression to the principle of administrative centralization in the closing days of the Tokugawa Regency. Mr. Yoneda Torao himself possesses no small claims to the distinction now conferred on him, for, in the year 1867, he was one of the captains in the van of the Imperial Force directed against Oshu, and in 1874, on the occasion of the Yeto Shimpel *émeutes*, 1876, when the trouble occurred in Choshu, and 1877, when the Kumamoto Seige took place, he distinguished himself signally. Since that time he has served in the capacity of an Imperial Chamberlain. A fourth name is mentioned, that of Mr. Date Masato. He also becomes a Baron, but we have no information at present as to his antecedents. These creations of course make no addition to the members of the House of Peers, since the number of representative Barons is a fixed fraction of the whole Order, and all Peers below the rank of Marquis are sent to the Diet by election.

THE WEBSTER CASE.

THE trial of Webster, a British subject, who was arraigned at Niigata on a charge of murder, came off on the 10th instant before Mr. J. C. Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul at Hakodate, who proceeded to Niigata for the purpose of conducting the trial *in loco*. The facts of the case were obscure, so far as public knowledge was concerned, until evidence was heard in open Court. We now learn from the reports published in the vernacular press, that Mr. Takatsu Yusuke, Public Procurator, appeared to watch the case on behalf of the Japanese Government, and that Mr. Kenny, Acting Registrar of H.B.M. Court at Kanagawa, discharged the duty of Prosecutor. The charge against Webster was that, on the evening of August 5th 1892, while walking in Hama-cho, Niigata, he threw a stick at one Kazama Yoichiro, who was passing, and striking him on the right temple, inflicted an injury which subsequently proved fatal. The father of the deceased was the first witness called. He stated simply that on the evening in question, his son had proceeded on an errand, carrying a lantern to a certain shop, and that

while returning, he had received a fatal blow from a stick thrown at him by the prisoner. Dr. Harada Motosada described the results of a post-mortem made by him, and stated that death had undoubtedly been caused by a blow received on the head. Oda Shikajiro, who is not identified in the printed reports, also related what had occurred and a constable corroborated this testimony. For the defence, it was claimed that a stone had been thrown at Webster, and that he replied by hurling his stick which unfortunately had struck a passer-by. A foreigner, the original of whose transliterated name appears to be Sinclair, testified that he was in Webster's company in a drinking shop on the 5th of August when a crowd collected outside. The saloon-keeper ordered them to disperse and they complied after a time, but as they were going away, some one threw a stone which struck Webster. Thereupon the latter sent his stick at the crowd, but the witness did not believe that it had hit anyone, for he had seen it ricochet from the eaves of a house, and rebound to the feet of the prisoner. After some further testimony, the Acting Judge decided that Webster had been guilty of manslaughter and sentenced him to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. So far as we can discover from this evidence, the man was innocent of anything like murderous intent. More or less baited and even assaulted by a mob, he gave way to passion and threw his stick blindly with most unhappy results. The ends of justice are doubtless fully served by the sentence.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND THE SOLDIER'S BREAD.

SOME days ago the vernacular press published an anecdote about the Emperor and a soldier's shoe, which we reproduced. The *Nippon* now reports that, a short time ago, His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince went to inspect the Artillery Barracks at Ichigaya. While the Prince was visiting the men's rooms, the twelve-o'clock gun was heard. Shortly afterwards, the Prince asked one of his attendants to procure some luncheon, whereupon the latter addressed himself to an officer, who, however, replied that nothing was immediately available except some brownish bread for the soldiers, and that he should therefore order some viands at once. The Prince, overhearing this, said that any food good enough for the soldiers was good enough for him, and that he asked for nothing better than the brown loaf. When it was brought to him, he declared that he too was a soldier and that soldier's food suited him excellently, whereupon he lunched off the dry, coarse bread. The following day the Prince again asked for the same kind of loaf for lunch, but as there was no such bread in the Palace, a messenger had to be sent to the barracks, to obtain some. The Prince was much pleased, and said that he found the bread to his taste. The *Nippon* eulogises him and predicts that he will become one of the most popular Emperors of Japan.

THE INDEPENDENT POPULAR PARTY.

THOSE who have had patience, and who are sufficiently interested in the subject, to follow the labyrinthine actions and interactions of Japanese political parties during the past two years, probably remember that a section of the Radicals separated themselves, last autumn, from the main body of the *Yiyu-to*, and organized the Independent Popular Party (*Dokuritsu Min-to*). The cause of the split was not nominally attributable to any deep political considerations, but had connection rather with some question of regulations. These divisions, however, do not occur among men whose hearts are sincerely set upon working in unison, and the public was probably prepared to find that no practical talk made itself subsequently heard of reconciliation between the *Yiyu-to* and the seceders. At the head of the latter were Messrs. Kusumoto Masataka, Kawashima Jun, and Nakamura Yaro, all very distinguished members of the Lower House. The *Pomuri Shimbun* now reports that the Independent Popular Party, under the direction of these gentlemen, has recently received considerable accessions of strength, and that it has held a meeting for the purpose of

determining the policy to be pursued by it in the next session of the Diet. The resolutions said to have been adopted are these:—

(1.) The Government not having yet declared its policy, it is impossible for us to lay down any definite programme. Judging, however, from the consultations held by the present members of the Cabinet before they assumed office, they are not likely to follow the same lines as their predecessors but will, to some extent, adopt the dictates of popular opinion. In that event, we need not attack them uncompromisingly, nor need we hesitate to support any Bill presented by them, should it meet with public approval. It is therefore our resolve, as Independent Members, to discharge the duties and obligations of the people's representatives, taking care only that the Government does not violate the provisions of the great Constitution.

(2.) Any enterprise which the Government thinks it necessary to inaugurate must be submitted by it for the Diet's approval. In such a case the Diet ought to avoid hasty and ill-considered discussion, so as to establish the precedent of harmonious co-operation between the Executive and the Legislature.

(3.) We, on our side, will present Bills relating to freedom of speech, to the preservation of personal rights, to the promotion of the nation's interests, and to the general good of the country.

The above is the first declaration of policy made by any party since the present Cabinet came into power. It is, of course, well understood that the *Kaishin-to* will continue their implacable hostility to the Government, but the announcement now made by the leaders of the Independent Popular Section possesses much importance as an indication of the attitude not unlikely to be adopted by the bulk of the *Yiyu-to* in the next session.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF ORIENTALISTS.

THE Japan Society publishes the following for the information of its members:—

International Congresses of Orientalists will be held in London, at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., under the Presidency of Professor F. Max Müller, K.M., &c., from 5th to 12th September, 1892; and at Lisbon under the Presidency of His Majesty the King of Portugal, from the 23rd September to the 1st October, 1892.

The following Papers, amongst others, will be read in Section V. (the Far East) of the London Congress, of which Section Sir Thomas Wade is President, and Professor B. H. Chamberlain, Hon. M.J.S., Secretary for Japan:—"Modern Japanese Literature," by Mr. Walter Deening;—"On the Lotus, as used in Ornament," by Mr. A. H. Goodyear, M.A.;—"On Buddhism in Japan," by Mr. C. J. W. Pfundner.

At the Lisbon Congress there will be a Section (I.) specially devoted to Japanese Studies.

Mr. T. B. Clarke-Thornhill, M.J.S., &c., Secretary H.B.M. Legation, Lisbon, has been appointed, by the Council, Delegate of the Society to the Lisbon Congress.

The invitation from the London Congress reached the Council too late to allow of the appointment of an Official Delegate of the Society. The Society has, by resolution of the Council, contributed to the funds of both Congresses.

The Subscription, entitling to privileges of Membership, of the Lisbon Congress is £1; of the London Congress: Gentlemen, £1, Ladies, 10s.

Members of the Japan Society wishing to join either Congress, or both, are requested to apply, as soon as possible, to

ARTHUR DIOBY } Hon. Secs.
DAIGORO GOH }

HARBOUR REGULATIONS COMMITTEE.

THE first meeting of the above committee is to be held in the buildings of the Department of Communications at 10 a.m. on the 18th instant. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that the draft of the Regulations was compiled some years ago, and that whenever any question occurred relating to the harbour, the draft was referred to, and amended, so that it will probably require little alteration now. One question, however, must be discussed and settled by the committee, namely, whether the Harbour Regulations should be promulgated as an Imperial Ordinance or as a Law. This point is of great importance, inasmuch as it has a close connection with the existing Treaties. For instance, there is an article in the Regulations to the effect that "any person who violates their provisions shall be punished by a fine of not less than 5 yen and not more than 100 yen." On the other hand, in Art. 15 of the Hakodate Harbour Regulations, which went into operation on the 18th of September, 1865, it is expressly provided that any person violating the provisions of the Regulations shall, under Consular jurisdiction, be liable to a fine of not more than 500 Mexican dollars or to imprisonment of not more than 3 months. These two articles are in obvious conflict. Some persons propose to amend the terms of the draft, altering the fine to \$500, while others are in favour of making no

change, but rather adding a clause to the effect that Art. 15 of the Hakodate Harbour Regulations shall cease to be operative on the day when the new Regulations go into force. Bearing directly on the general problem is the language of Art. 4 of the Stirling Convention between Japan and Great Britain, which provides, that "British ships in Japanese ports shall conform to the laws of Japan. If high officers or commanders of ships shall break any such laws, it will lead to the ports being closed. Should inferior persons break them, they are to be delivered over to the Commanders of their ships for punishment." This provision leaves Japan great latitude. In accordance with its terms, she is obviously at liberty to enact strict regulations without consulting anybody, and without laying herself open to any interference on the part of foreign Powers. But has not the above provision been invalidated by subsequent Treaties, asks the *Nichi Nichi*. These two questions will be the principal points of discussion by the committee. Under any circumstances, however, the Regulations cannot fail to be of public benefit.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* appears to overlook the 3rd clause in the 3rd article of the Austro-Hungarian Treaty, which runs, thus:—"The place where Austro-Hungarian citizens shall reside, and where they shall erect their buildings, shall be determined on by the Imperial and Royal Consular Officers in conjunction with the competent Local Authorities; the harbour regulations shall be arranged in a similar manner." This is the clause virtually responsible for all the delay that has occurred in putting harbour regulations into force in Yokohama. It involves the necessity of obtaining the consent of all the Consuls of all the Powers before promulgating any system of harbour control, and that consent was found so impossible to obtain, that the draft regulations were finally pigeon-holed in disgust and despair. Doubtless the attempt would result differently if made now, and might have resulted differently if made at any time during the past five years, but the experiences connected with it in former times were sufficiently strange to deter further effort.

As this committee, says the *Nichi Nichi*, is composed of officials already drawing salary, they require no extra allowance. Judging, however, from the plan pursued in the case of the members of both Houses of the Diet who were lately appointed members of the Railway Council, Mr. Denison of the Foreign Office and Captain J. M. James of the Marine Bureau ought to receive appropriate remuneration. Count Kuroda, however, has arranged with them that an allowance shall be dispensed with. With regard to sundry expenses, such as paper, ink, charcoal &c., a grant ought to be sought from the Treasury. But the Count has contrived to economise the necessary amount in the expenditures of the Marine Bureau and other offices of the Communications Department, so as to avoid the necessity of asking for any extra disbursement by the Treasury.

This committee held its first conference in the Department of Communications on the 18th instant. All the members except Mr. Denison, who is indisposed, and Messrs. Mekada and Ichinose, assembled, and the proceedings were opened at 11 a.m. by the following speech from Count Kuroda:—

GENTLEMEN,—The object of harbour regulations, as I need scarcely remind you, is to maintain order within a port, and, by a proper system of superintendence, to secure increased safety for vessels lying there. Under these circumstances, there is no country where regulations do not exist for the control of all the important harbours. From the time when Japan was opened to foreign intercourse, the need of such a system was appreciated, and we find in the Treaties a clause which says:—"The harbour regulations shall be arranged by the Consul and the Japanese Authorities of each place, and if they cannot agree, the matter shall be referred to and settled by the Diplomatic Agent and the Japanese Government. In accordance with this clause, harbour regulations for Hakodate were determined by officials of

the Bakufu Government in consultation with the Consuls in 1867. Further, after the Restoration, similar conferences were frequently opened for a like purpose in respect of Yokohama and Kobe, but unfortunately no decision could be reached and the matter was dropped. The new works in Yokohama Harbour being now on the point of completion, it becomes essential that a system of regulations should be enacted without delay. The matter touches foreigners as well as Japanese subjects, and must therefore be treated with the greatest accuracy and the fullest consideration. For these reasons I have asked you to come together, after due reference to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. I trust, gentlemen, that you will appreciate my purpose, and give the matter your mature reflection. Detailed information as to any points in the draft will be supplied by the officials concerned.

Mr. Taukahara, Director of the Marine Bureau, then entered into a minute explanation of the points to be considered, and the Committee proceeded to examine and discuss the draft regulations. It was decided that the meetings are to be held on Wednesdays and Fridays, and that the next shall take place on the 21st instant. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* notes that although there are foreigners on the Committee, no interpreter is required as Captain J. M. James can discuss everything in the Japanese language.

THE "IZUMO MARU" CALAMITY.

On the occasion of the wreck of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Izumo Maru*, which perished in a typhoon off the Korean coast last April, fifty-six lives were lost. The Company, says the Tokyo News Agency, adopted most energetic means to find the bodies, expending considerable sums for the purpose, but the strength of the current in the locality of the catastrophe baffled these efforts except in a few cases. The Company then set about raising a subscription among its own people and charitable outsiders for the relief of the relatives of the dead. The sums contributed, together with a donation from the Emperor and Empress, reached a total of over 5,500 yen. In distributing this money among those for whom it was destined, a covering letter was sent by the persons who started the subscription to each of the recipients. From the letter we learn that the exact amount raised was 5,582.468 yen, of which 300 yen came from the Emperor and Empress. The letter is signed by Messrs. T. H. James, A. Macmillan, M. Kato, A. Kondo, M. Asada and K. Uchida.

THE PARCELS POST.

The Parcels Post Regulations, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, have been enforced in the capital since the 1st instant. The system ought to confer great convenience on the public, but the result thus far has been very unsatisfactory. The alleged reasons of this failure are stated by our contemporary. A Parcels Post system necessarily brings official and private carriers into competition. Hence in Europe the Government always concludes a contract with private carriers, and entrusts them with the transmission of parcels at a minimum rate. As the number of parcels increases, the carriers are always found ready to lower their charges. But in enforcing the new system in Japan the Government made no such contract, and the consequence is that all the Railway and Steamship Companies begin to fear that the authorities will impose on them the obligation of carrying parcels free of charge in consideration of some small subsidies. They have already been compelled to discharge such functions in connection with their service, so they are far from pleased with the present prospect. The six private railway companies held a meeting in Osaka some days ago, and passed a resolution that when the Parcels Post system came to be enforced throughout the empire, they should not agree to carry any parcel unless the Government undertook to pay the fare of one third-class passenger for the goods. On the other hand the Japan Railway Company, the Nippon Unyu-Kaisha, the Tsuun-Kaisha, the Chugiu-Kaisha and some other carrying companies, have already remodelled their organizations with the idea of reducing charges so as to compete with the Government institution. Mean-

while, the people in remote districts of the empire where communications are very imperfect, have been anxiously awaiting the operation of the new Regulations. They are disappointed, however, since the Parcels Post System has been enforced in Tokyo alone for the present. Moreover, even in the capital there are many private carrying companies, and as their method of transmission is expeditious and no complicated process like that prescribed by the Post Office is required, very few parcels have been entrusted to the Post Office. On the first day of putting the new regulations into force, there were only three applicants, and on the following day, two. Should the system become operative throughout the empire, the Government will incur heavy loss, as all the towns have private companies which carry very cheaply, and the Post Office will be employed for the transmission of only such parcels as are destined for remote regions whither no private company finds it remunerative to extend its operations. Under these circumstances the Department of Communications will have to ask for a large appropriation from the Treasury every year, without conferring any marked benefit on the people.

PNEUMAGRAMS.

We alluded some time ago to the pneumatic despatch system in Paris. The *Pall Mall Budget* gives the following interesting account of it, and at the same time discloses the fact that a similar system is employed by the General Post Office in London in lieu of the telegraph:—

Englishmen familiar with Paris have probably often received or sent a *carte télégraphique*, or, if they have been lordly in their expenditure, they may have invested an extra twopenny on a closed telegraphic letter. In either case they have been able to send a message, unlimited in the number of words, at a speed that competes with the electric telegraph. The secret is simple. Traversing Paris is a system of pneumatic tubes connected with the different telegraph offices, and the message, instead of being "wired," is blown to its destination. Of course the actual journey takes longer, but no time is lost in operating and transcribing the message. The identical piece of card or paper on which the sender wrote, is handed to his correspondent at the other side of Paris. Consequently, although the air current is to the electric in speed as the tortoise to the hare, yet, like the tortoise, the air message wins the race.

This then is the system in Paris with which not a few Englishmen are familiar. But very few of us know that an almost identical system prevails in London, for the benefit, not of the public, but of the Post Office. Suppose, for example, that the manager of the Grand Hotel or the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* wishes to send a telegram to the City. He will go to the West Strand telegraph office, write his message on an official form, and hand it over the counter. He then imagines—good innocent man—that a busy operator at once converts his twelve words into telegraphic dots and dashes; that these are reconverted at the other end, and the message neatly written out for delivery. As a matter of fact, what happens is this: the actual form on which the message was written is put into a little cloth box, called a carrier, and blown through a tube to the central telegraph office at St. Martin's-le-Grand; it is then placed in another tube and blown onward to its destination—say, Leadenhall-street. So far no operator or transcriber has touched it, and no electric needle has oscillated to convey its meaning. The actual piece of paper that was handed in at West Strand is now, after the lapse of four or five minutes, at Leadenhall-street. But it would never do to let this same piece of paper fall into the hands of the person to whom it is addressed. The secret of its transmission would then be out, and the public would clamour against being charged telegraphic rates for a message that is not telegraphic. So the twelve words are carefully copied on to a pink telegram form, and thus, blushing at the official deception, are delivered to the addressee.

The method of working the tube system is easily described. In the basement of the central telegraph office at St. Martin's-le-Grand are four powerful engines which work the same number of air pumps. The pumps are so arranged that they exhaust the air from a large cylinder called the vacuum cylinder, and press the same air into another cylinder called the pressure cylinder. To these two cylinders all the tubes that radiate underground from the G.P.O. are connected. The tubes are in most cases three inches in diameter, and the "carrier" is a little cylinder of stiff cloth, about six inches long, that fits easily inside the tube. Into this carrier are placed the messages, in bundles of perhaps fifty or a hundred at a time. If the messages have to travel inwards to the G.P.O. (say from the West Strand), the little carrier would be put into the up-tube, which is connected with the vacuum cylinder in the basement of the central building. Directly it is slipped into the tube at West Strand, and the valve opened to let it pass, the little carrier finds in front of it almost a complete vacuum, and

behind it the pressure of the atmosphere. By this pressure it is driven along at the rate of about half a mile a minute, and delivered into the central hall at the General Post Office (West). A boy takes the carrier out of the tube, and the bundle of messages out of the carrier. These are rapidly sorted by girls seated in the same room, and made up into other bundles to go out to different offices. As soon as a bundle of fifty or more is ready for, say, West Strand again, an outgoing carrier is filled, and placed in the down-tube connected with the pressure cylinder, and pushed outwards by the compressed air at about the same speed that the other carrier had been sucked inwards.

LIABILITY FOR LOSS.

A CURIOUS case is reported by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The facts as given are these, omitting the name of the Yokohama firm which is said to be concerned:—At the close of August, Mr. Tsukui Heiyemon sent to a certain Firm in Yokohama a quantity of *habutaye* which he had contracted to furnish. The value of the *habutaye* was about 500 yen, and its transport was entrusted to the Domestic Carrying Company (*Naikoku Tsuun aisha*). The Yokohama Firm received the goods and gave an acknowledgment, promising to inspect them in the course of two days and pay the money after inspection. When, however, the day for payment arrived, the Firm announced that the *habutaye* had been lost, and gave information of the fact to the Yokohama police as well as to the owner of the goods. The latter claimed that, as the goods had passed into the keeping of the Firm prior to the alleged loss, the Firm must be held responsible for the amount, but it was replied on behalf of the Firm that, inasmuch as inspection had not taken place, nothing could be known about the real contents of the bale: it might have been packed with stones or tiles. Therefore no liability could be admitted. Mr. Tsukui put the matter into the hands of Messrs. Okamura and Kokura, and there is a possibility of its coming into a Consular Court. We find the story almost incredible, but give it for what it may be worth.

TREATY REVISION AND THE CODES.

UNDER the above caption the *Kokkai* discusses the question of the Codes. It says that the Statesmen of this empire have always declared that unless the existing Treaties with foreign Powers be revised, the work of the Restoration is incomplete; and ever since the civil war of 1877 ended, and the reconstruction of the national government commenced, every measure adopted was in the interests of Treaty Revision. After Count Ito had reorganized the Government, and become Minister President of State, the Codes were compiled; the organization of the Law Courts was established; the method of appointing Judges by examination was enforced; the system of local administration was framed, and many other improvements were introduced, simply on account of Treaty Revision. In other words, the importation of foreign institutions was solely to accomplish Revision. Further, the latest act of Count Ito in appointing a Codes Committee is a direct proof of the Government's intention of disregarding the resolution of the Diet in order to re-commence the negotiations for Revision. Such an intention may be good, but to sacrifice the national interests on the shrine of an uncertain success does not seem a wise course. On the other hand, if the Cabinet seeks to attain a reputation for itself at the expense of the people, the *Kokkai* promises to attack it with the utmost vehemence. Then follows the usual advice, namely, that Imperial sanction be sought for the Postponement Bill, and that a Codes Amendment Bureau (*Hoten-shusei-kyoku*), be established at once, so that ultimately, with the concurrence of the Diet, suitable Codes, may be enforced. Thereafter the Treaties may be revised, and the work of the Meiji era achieved with the concurrence of the people, not in defiance of them.

Certainly it is strange to find the *Kokkai* alleging that the compilation of the Codes took place after Count Ito became Minister President, namely, after the close of 1885. Such a historical blunder was not to have been expected from the *Kokkai*. Has our contemporary forgotten that the first Committee to revise the

Codes was appointed in 1886 under the presidency of Count Inouye? In other words, has it forgotten that the Codes were altogether compiled by 1886, and only awaited revision before being promulgated? The matter is not of very great consequence so far as concerns our contemporary's general argument, though we may remark, *en passant*, that inasmuch as the compilation of the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure was begun long before 1877—the date fixed by the *Kokkai* itself as the inauguration of pro-revision progress—the allegation that they were compiled for the sake of Treaty Revision is obviously absurd. But no error of fact bears comparison with the wonderful declaration that everything done by Japan during the past fifteen years has been in the interests of Treaty Revision. The country, then, has cared nothing for progress and everything for Revision. How grateful should she be to the unsympathetic attitude maintained by foreign Powers during the early years of her aspiration! And how keenly the people must desire Revision! And how little for its own sake does reform commend itself to this nominally reform-loving nation!

FIRST HIGHER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

For the first time in its history, the Calendar of the First Higher Middle School has been published in English. In it we have a terse and succinct account of the institution, from its inception in 1875 as the *Tokyo English Language School*, down to last year, when all the instructors became Professors. Possibly the most interesting thing in the brochure is the account of the *Kōyūkwaï*, a society formed by the joint efforts of the instructors, officers, and students of the School. This society consists of several sections. The Literary Section publishes a monthly magazine, which is distributed among the members. The Boating Section possesses many boats, and holds a regatta every year on the River Sumida. The Sections of Fencing, Archery, and Athletic Sports hold two meetings each, annually. The Baseball Section meets once a term. The Judo and Lawn-Tennis Sections have trials of skill from time to time. The Pedestrian Section has a walking tour to the environs of the city once a month or every other month. Each section of the society has its own rules and is managed by a manager and committee. The Literary Section has as its mouth-piece the *Kōyūkwaï Zasshi*, a publication that this month reached its 19th issue. Its contents are of no mean order. They include a contribution from Mr. Konakamura, well known for his researches into the feudal sociology of Japan, and from Mr. Nakamura on the Penal Law of the Samurai, and several Japanese poems by various authors. But perhaps the most interesting contribution is that which occupies the place of honour in the number—we mean Professor Arrive's address at the last Graduation Ceremony of the School. We subjoin a translation of it, from the Japanese:—

I ought to have some apprehensions at having on this occasion to discharge the duty of representing my learned colleagues before you; notwithstanding, while fully recognising my imperfections in the tricks of speech, I assure you that I am happy to be able to congratulate you on your success, because I know full well what it has cost you to obtain it. You have, at last, after five long years of application, finished your studies in this school, where you have had not only to learn mathematics, history, logic, and other sciences which lie in the domain of the Higher Middle instruction; but where you have also received lessons of wisdom, of virtue, and of patriotism. You are content to see that your efforts have brought you to the first halting-place in your student life, and your satisfaction is very justifiable, since it comes from duty accomplished. We enter into it with all our hearts, and all the more so since that which causes you joy is not the perspective of reposing on your laurels, but the opening before you of a new career, more considerable still, in the Imperial University, which from to-day lies open to you. These sentiments do you honour, gentlemen; you aimed far and high without entertaining any illusion about the difficulty of attaining your noble end. You must be aware then, that the rational culture of the Mind, the intellectual and moral development of each man, is the indispensable condition of advancement in society in modern times.

Formerly, birth and fortune, as well in Japan, I believe, as in other countries of the world, were sufficient for the attainment of high office, of whose duties the holder often acquitted himself without too much difficulty, but you know that to-day such is no longer the case. Industry, commerce, medicine, economic administration, war even, have become complicated sciences. It is not enough to possess *savoir faire*, courage, style, or honesty to discharge the functions which they involve; one must be the master of many branches of knowledge, and at the same time capable of applying them all in an instant, and this can only be acquired by methodical and unceasing work. You have often heard it said that might tends to become the sole sovereign of the world, but you know well that this is a mistake, if one speaks of merely material might. The great force of our days is that which has begotten and maintained the liberties of peoples as well as of individuals, and which will be, I truly hope, your chief weapon, that which permits one to say to others without the possibility of a reply: "I am your equal; I have the right to the same treatment and the same independence." This idea is knowledge, is mental culture in all its extent. Misfortune to him who believes himself sufficiently enlightened and remains in relative ignorance: he is destined to be one day overwhelmed. A nation in short defends its interests, struggles on the field of battle, or in economic strife, through the individuals that compose it, and that which makes the individual, that which renders him of some utility in this struggle, is his knowledge of science; of this science always progressing and whose limit will never be reached. Doubtless there are talents and natural gifts that are of great value and that cannot be replaced. I am delighted to confess that in this respect you are happily endowed; but even if you were gifted to the extent of the most illustrious men, your innate gift would remain sterile, unproductive, like the richest gold mine itself, if left unworked. Then, gentlemen, prepare to carry into the battle of life the virile part of your understanding, cultivated by study, and of your courage ripened by a sound philosophy. Regard as precious and decide the age you have attained, and put the years to profit by work. I mean the modest and persevering work that makes discoveries and still goes on to make fresh ones, and not that whose be-all and end-all is to repeat presumptuously "Eureka," while the world continues its evolution, and which spend itself for naught in sounding declamation. Above all, under present circumstances your country has need of an *élite* of young men to make her appreciated and loved; she needs *savants*, and artists, and valiant men and true patriots, and it is upon you that her hopes repose; it is upon you, with a prevision of the future, that the solicitude of your august and venerated sovereign is fixed. I wish it were possible for me to give you to-day at least a glimpse of all the responsibility that devolves upon your title of graduates of this school, and of all the importance of the years which are to follow. You are young, scarcely yet beyond your twentieth year; in a manner of speaking you are keeping 'your vigil of arms' for entrance upon the knighthood of life; you are preparing to enter the lists at the moment when everything around you is undergoing a transformation. The future is big with extraordinary events; perhaps you will be witnesses of considerable changes in the world, and you ought to be ready to meet them, each one in the part that has fallen to him, one as a lawyer, another as an engineer, this one as an economist, that one as a statesman; but whatever be the situation in which you may find yourselves, remember, my dear friends, that you have always the truth to seek after, good to do, and a country to serve and to love.

LAND IN KORE.

WHEN Osaka became an open port, its citizens were full of great expectations, and went about singing a song the refrain of which was *wa nai ka, don don!* Their great hopes were not realized. The Settlement at Kawaguchi was destined to serve merely as the home of a little community of missionaries, and it has never been recorded that the bright and enterprising town profited appreciably by becoming accessible to the *ke-tojin*. Indeed, writing now at a distance of a quarter of a century, the only tangible result we can recall of that festive inauguration was the discomfort of a pseudo-sinologue. A one-eyed smattering of the language had made him king among his blind associates, but when it was discovered that he had neither the knowledge nor the audacity to interpret the refrain of the Osaka psalm, he fell from his perch of pretension and never succeeded in climbing up again.

It has fared better with Hyogo, however, which had recently the pleasure of being associated with its neighbour Kobe as an emporium of foreign trade. Land there, says the *Kokkai*, has suddenly sprung upwards. In Fukudaikumachi, where a Customs office has been established, a *tsudo* (36 square feet) used to be purchasable for from 5 to 11 *yen*, but after the opening of the port it went up quickly to 16 *yen*, and now buyers are found at 20 *yen*. There has been some singing of *ifa nai ka*, in Hyogo, we suspect.

* * *

A portion of Tokyo, also, has been brightened by a similar sun of prosperity. Odemma-cho in the Nihonbashi ward used to be the favourite resort of all country-folks who came to the city to lay in stores, but facilities of communication have now been developed in favour of Tadokoro-cho, Shinosaka-cho, and Tachibana-cho, so that not only are the wholesale dealers there driving a roaring trade, but the price of land also has gone up to 35 *yen* per *tsudo*, or forty-two thousand *yen* an acre. But after all, that is still a paltry figure. Here in the Japanese part of Yokohama, we can more than double it with ease, and Kobe proper would regard it as very small potatoes.

DINNER AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL.

ON Friday the 14th instant, Mr. A. B. de Guerville, Honorary Commissioner for the Chicago World's Fair to Foreign Countries, entertained a large party at dinner in the Imperial Hotel Tokyo, to meet Mr. Winston, Director of the World's Columbian Exposition. The guests were:—

H. E. Viscount Hijikata, H. E. Count Goto, H. E. H. L. Coombs, M. Collin de Plancy, Mr. T. Winston, H. E. K. Kuki, Mr. Sanomiya, Marquis Kuki, Mr. Edwin Dun, U.S. Legation, Vicomte de Bondy, Captain Brinkley, M. Casonave, Marquis di Rudini, Vicomte de Labry, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Deering, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Green, Mr. Shibusawa, Mr. Okakura, Mr. Okura, Mr. Yokoyama, Mr. Wollheim, Prof. Milne, General Legendre, and Mr. Charles Smith.

The health of H.I.M. the Emperor of Japan having been proposed in a few well chosen words by Mr. A. B. de Guerville, who very briefly alluded to the zealous efforts Japan was making in connection with the World's Fair, H.E. Viscount Hijikata, Minister of State for the Imperial Household, proposed the health of the President of the United States, to which Mr. Coombs, United States Representative, replied.

After thanking the Minister for the Household Department for proposing the health of the President, Mr. Coombs said:—In speaking of the President of the United States of America I can say that in ours, like other countries, all men do not agree upon the same ideas of policy, yet they recognize in our President a man of firmness, character and ability eminently fitting him to fill that high station, and in his person to magnificently represent the strength, dignity and grandeur of our Republic. I am requested to refer to the World's Columbian Exposition. In this connection the President has given his untiring energies towards this great work. It might appear that the Exposition is local in its character, and therefore based upon motives of national selfishness. Such is not the case; on the contrary, it is of interest common alike to us all. While in a great measure its success must depend upon the enterprise of the nations within whose domains it is held; yet it is international in its display and seeks the universal enlightenment of mankind. It is in commemoration of the discovery by Columbus of that great Western world; and its people desire to make it characteristic and in keeping with the grandeur of that event. So the President has invited the Nations to participate in carrying out these purposes, by adding the splendour of their achievements to this one occasion. It will be a scene calculated to arouse the enthusiasm and excite the best endeavours of all nations. While on one hand may be seen all that is modern in arms and "the circumstance of war," on the other hand the still more progressive arts of peace will display before a wondering world the varied features of their handiwork. It will be a lesson for all races. There will be a communion of the spirits of science brought together from the different points of the earth. Preliminary to the opening of the "Exposition" will be seen in New York harbour the warlike armaments of Nations,

each representing the dignity of its flag, the proved examples of the progress the ages have made in naval architecture. At the same time may be seen reproduced the caravels of Columbus, of four hundred years ago, which partook of the spirit of that age and were constructed by the munificence of the Queen of Spain. This will be an opportunity, rarely afforded, for Japan to exhibit before the eyes of the world those things which best attest the genius of her people. From the sword of the Daimyo, bespeaking the warlike spirit of a time forever famous in the history of Japan, to the products of the soil, bronzes, carvings, paintings, as well as beautiful specimens of cloisonné. In conclusion, I am privileged to call upon Mr. Winston, the guest of the evening, and Director of the Exposition, who will emphasize the invitation already extended to Japan to meet with us under the skies of that great Western City where in arts and nature's resources, empires, kingdoms and republics will vie to bear away the palm of enlightened prosperity.

Mr. WINSTON, in reply said, that if he should undertake to cover the minutæ of the Exposition he would require at least 3½ hours and he feared that the patience of the company might possibly be exhausted. He desired to correct any misapprehension which might arise from the statement of Mr. Coombs, that a prominent feature of the Exposition would be a modern man-of-war of the United States, by assuring the gentlemen present that they should not be deterred from visiting Chicago on account of this gun boat, as it was built on a brick foundation and could neither move a foot nor fire a gun. He would not enter upon a description of the various features of the Exposition, as they had been fully covered by the gentlemen who had been sent out to exploit the enterprise, and he felt that, in particular, Mr. de Guerville was deserving of great credit for the successful manner in which he had laid the matter before the people of Japan. He would, however, quote the words of a New York gentleman present, who had visited the grounds and buildings at a recent date. He referred to the fact that there was some feeling between New York and Chicago, and in quoting from Mr. Elias Smith, the President of the Chamber of Commerce of New York City, one of the greatest institutions of its kind in the world, he felt he was quoting from the enemy but from competent authority. Mr. Smith's statement was that the Columbian Exposition was certain to be the grandest that the world has ever seen, and that Chicago was the only city in America which could have carried it through to success. The speaker then briefly referred to the business features of the Exposition; that it was felt by his Directors that any International Exposition which did not surpass all previous ones is necessarily a failure; that they were under the burden of excelling the superb Exposition of 1889, held at Paris—the home of Art—and that the task seemed insurmountable. That the cost of opening the gates at the Paris Exposition was about \$8,000,000, while it would cost Chicago \$18,500,000; that while they could not hope to excel Paris in an artistic way, he believed the Columbian Exposition would be grander than any ever before held. Mr. Winston referred to the large appropriations made by the various States and Nations, which would make the gross amount expended something like \$35,000,000. He had been asked by a Japanese gentleman to say something about Chicago, but as the gentlemen present from New York and Boston well knew, a Chicago man was noted for his reticent disposition and reluctance to praise his city, and he must therefore decline to discuss the subject. He stated that his directors were greatly surprised, as well as pleased, to learn that Japan ranked so high among the Nations in the amount appropriated for Exhibits at the World's Fair, being third in the list. He could not understand this until coming to Japan and reading her recent history; but a knowledge of what had been accomplished by the men of to-day in Japan, in the last 20 years, in bringing forward their country towards the front rank of nations, explained everything. From these men might well be expected a full appreciation of the manifold advantages to their country in making the fullest exhibition of their arts and industries at the great International Exposition so soon to be held by their near and friendly neighbour. He thanked the gentlemen of Japan who were present for all that they had done and were doing for the Exposition, and particularly for their graceful gift to Chicago of a reproduction of the Temple of the Phoenix. Chicago was often called the Phoenix City, in having risen from its own ashes, and when the great Exposition ended on November 1st, 1893, all of the great and costly buildings would be levelled to the ground save alone the temple from Japan, which would be maintained and preserved as a reminder of the

Columbian Exposition and of the kindly relations existing between Japan and the United States. In conclusion, Mr. Winston expressed the thanks of his Directors for the help rendered the Exposition by the United States Legation, and for the friendly spirit shown by the other Legations, and closed by saying that he had two requests to make; that the authorities of the Exposition now knew that Japan would be well represented by her exhibits but they wanted more—that she should also be represented by her men, who had accomplished such wonders and whom all desired to meet. He had had the honour of meeting the ladies who were interested in the exhibit of the women of Japan, and he urged that every encouragement should be given the ladies in the work. Mr. Winston then proposed the health of the Japanese Commission, represented by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Count Goto.

H.E. Count GOTO, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, briefly expressed thanks, on behalf of the country, for the kind terms in which Japan's action had been referred to, and on his own account for the pleasant opportunity which had been afforded him that evening to meet the representatives of the great World's Fair, and to learn about its progress.

Mr. C. SMITH said that though he had not intended to speak, he could not choose but answer the challenge addressed to him by his friend Mr. Winston. He had visited all the international exhibitions ever held, from the London Exhibition of 1857 onwards, with the solitary exception of the Vienna Exhibition, and, speaking with full remembrance of everything he had seen, he could say confidently that nothing approaching the magnitude of the display now in course of preparation at Chicago had ever been witnessed. Of course there was a drawback in the site. New York ought to have had the show.—(Laughter.) But Chicago had got it by a fluke, and he did not grudge her the honour, for she had saved New York a great deal of worry and trouble, and she was doing the thing on a really superb scale. Mr. Winston had spoken of 18½ millions. He thought that the account was defective. The good people of that enterprising and retiring city would find that a few more millions must be added. They had recently asked Congress for an additional appropriation of five millions and Congress had given them two and a half. They ought to have had their five. He himself had been summoned before a Committee of the House and had expressed a strong opinion in favour of five. But Chicago would want more before this colossal affair was off her hands, and the country would help her, for she deserved to be helped. They must not mind all the talk they had heard about men-of-war and fleets. He wanted to tell them that Chicago had nothing whatever to do with that. It was entirely New York's business. New York expected to welcome the fleets of the world and have a small display on her own account that might prove a not unworthy prelude to the little show which Chicago was preparing. But he did not wish to confine himself entirely to the World's Fair. He was a great lover of art, and it afforded him much pleasure to hear of the attention which artistic affairs were receiving at the hands of the managers of the Exhibition. But before everything to was a merchant, and as President of a Chamber of Commerce numbering over a thousand members, he had to think of the interests of the cause of which his life had been devoted. They had heard some very pretty things said that evening about the comity of countries and about international reciprocity. Well, reciprocity was just what he wanted—radical reciprocity. Looking at statistics, he found that considerable commerce took place between Japan and the States. But it was not reciprocal. On the contrary, it was a very one-sided affair. America sold Japan light—he hoped that it was something more than a mere flare of kerosene—and a bagatelle of machinery. Japan sold America pretty well all the tea she had to sell, a good portion of her silk, a quantity of bric-a-brac, and some not insignificant sundries. It was a decidedly lop-sided reciprocity, and he should like to know how the balance might be redressed. That was one of the objects he had in coming here. What steps could be taken to place the trade of the two countries on a more equal footing? He was an earnest seeker after information bearing upon that problem, and should be grateful to anyone that afforded it. The World's Columbian Exposition would assuredly prove of great advantage to Japan by affording her an opportunity to discover new markets for her productions. He trusted that it would also afford America an opportunity of discovering some Japanese wants which she might minister to.

Mr. KUKI, Director of the Imperial Museum and Chief Commissioner for Japan to the Colum-

bian World's Fair, said that he had listened with great interest to the friendly and practical remarks made by the previous speakers, and that he desired to express his thanks for the courtesies extended to himself and his nationals that evening. For many years, in fact ever since Japan entered upon her modern route of international intercourse, she had found a staunch friend in the United States of America. She owed much, from a moral point of view, to a country where her youths received kindly welcome and invaluable education that opened out to them a new career of national usefulness, and she owed much from a material point of view to a country which had contributed so largely to her commercial development. But over and above this she lay under obligations to America which needed no enumeration at his hands, and which were certainly not likely to be forgotten by his countrymen. Appreciative and kindly allusion had been made to the sum appropriated by Japan for the purposes of the World's Fair. Japan herself, however, understood well that it was an insignificant amount, but her resources were small and she had done what was possible within her limits. To one point he might allude with satisfaction in connection with the appropriation. It had been voted unanimously by the Diet. Consensus of opinion had not been exactly characteristic of the proceedings of the Diet in its early stages, but no dissentient voice had been raised on the subject of the appropriation, and he trusted that this unanimity of good will might atone in some degree for insignificance of amount. He himself felt a special interest in the wonderful display now preparing at Chicago, for it had been his honour and his pleasure to represent his country during some years at Washington, and he had learned to heartily respect and esteem the nation to which he was accredited. Hence he was particularly pleased to find himself associated with the preparations which his country was now making to contribute to the Exposition, and he did not doubt that the results would be of great benefit to Japan. All the nations of the world would derive advantage from an undertaking offering them such a unique opportunity to become acquainted with one another's resources and capabilities, but Japan, as one of the least known, would be, perhaps, the largest gainer, and, appreciating this fact, she was devoting her best energies to make a worthy display. He trusted that the results would be to cement still more closely the relations happily existing between his country and the Great Republic, and that the Exposition would prove a means of achieving in the fullest sense the reciprocity of commercial transactions which he joined with the last speaker in desiring.

THE FOURTH NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE place to be chosen for the Fourth Industrial Exhibition has for some time been regarded by commercial folks as a matter of no little moment. Rumour says that the locality has now been fixed, and that Kyoto, is to be favoured, the year indicated being 1895. If this be the case, an appropriation for the purpose will doubtless be sought from the Diet next session. The year 1894 is the eleven hundredth from the transfer of the Court to Kyoto by the Emperor Kwammu, and the people of the city intended to organize some form of celebration. But as the Exhibition is to open the following year, they will doubtless postpone the celebration until then. We take these facts from the *Shogyo Shimpō*.

YOKOHAMA SILK MERCHANTS.

WITH reference to the organization of a new Guild the Yokohama silk merchants disagreed, and broke up into two parties, the friction between which was very great. Particulars were published in these columns at the time, and we explained that the dispute had been settled by Messrs. Otani Kahei and Hara Rokuro, who, acting as arbitrators, compiled a draft of regulations for the new Guild, which was accepted by both parties, and presented to the Governor of Kanagawa Ken for his consent. The Governor also expressed his approval some ten days ago, but since then neither the officers of the Guild have been elected nor its by-laws drafted. The reasons of the delay, according to the vernacular press, are that when the difference of opinion had been adjusted by the arbitrators, the Ono and Mogi party agreed to sign the memorial on condition that an amended draft should afterwards be presented to the Governor, as many provisions in the Regulations

Original from

were not suitable. On the other hand, the Kimura and Hara party declared that the word "Traders," used in the Regulations, was intended to designate merchants doing business with foreigners, and that if brokers, whose functions lay among Japanese only, were allowed to join the Guild, the spirit of its organization would be violated. Hence the brokers must be excluded afterwards, a memorial to that effect being presented in the name of the Guild. But after the original draft had been approved by the Governor, Messrs. Ono and Mogi had an interview with that official, when they protested against the proposal of excluding brokers from the Guild, and the Governor at once communicated this protest to Messrs. Kimura and Hara, and advised them to abandon their proposition. Thereupon the latter party, becoming very angry at the former's failure to keep their promise, announced their intention of not being present at the general meeting, and the result is that the election of officers cannot yet be carried out. On the 10th instant, Messrs. Otani Kahei, and Hara Rokuro, the arbitrators, once more requested both parties to assemble, but so few obeyed the summons that no question could be discussed. How the dispute will end no one ventures to predict.

THE "NIPPON" AND THE GAME LAW.

THE new Game Law had evoked much hostile criticism from the Opposition press, on the ground that its promulgation by the Government without previous reference to the Diet is *ultra vires*. The *Nippon* now attacks it from another standpoint, namely, that of game preserves. The argument advanced by our contemporary is attributed to a certain scholar said to be well versed in legal lore. It is the old and familiar contention that regulations providing for the preservation of game are framed, not for the public benefit, but in the interests of a limited number of the community. By paying a sum of 10 yen, 1,500 *cho* (3,750 acres) of land can be preserved, and an additional fee of 1 yen extends the right to every 100 *cho* above the limit. Hence by disbursing 50 or 60 yen, an owner or sportsman can preserve some sixteen or seventeen thousand acres of land for his own use. No common hunter can afford to pay such a sum, but well-to-do people will find no difficulty in doing so. Such a law will have the effect of driving poor hunters into remote districts, and they will ultimately lose their source of livelihood altogether, while the rich will enjoy the whole privilege of preserving and killing game. Hitherto no such distinctions between rich and poor had been made in this country as those existing in Europe, but now the unhappy system is introduced suddenly. Will the country be contented?

It might have been confidently predicted that this objection would be raised. There is no denying its force, but on the whole we believe that a law of the kind now promulgated has the balance of advantage on its side. The plain fact is that under the old system game was fast disappearing from the country, and its total extermination was only a question of time. Universal experience shows that if game birds and animals are left to the mercy of everybody who desires to capture them, their continued existence is out of the question. It is true that, in proportion as the work of preservation progresses, the field of the professional hunter becomes narrowed, and ultimately he can continue his trade only in the character of a poacher. But it is not less true that if the professional hunter be free to pursue his present programme, his occupation must finally become fruitless altogether, whether in the form of poaching or in that of the legitimate pursuit of game. The result of game laws recognising private property in game and providing for its preservation, is that the existence of the game is assured though the professional hunter's prospects are marred. The result of the absence of such laws is that the game is exterminated, and that the professional hunter is equally deprived of his occupation, though by a different

process. There should not be much difficulty in choosing between the two courses. Professional hunters are a very small element of the population in Japan. As a rule they do not obtain a livelihood from the pursuit of game, but only an addition to their means of subsistence, the rest being derived from farming or manual labour. The new game law recognises the right of property of every land-owner, however small, in the game on his land. It follows that the game on their farms will henceforth become a source of revenue to petty agriculturists, instead of being, as it is now, at the mercy of every prowler with a gun or a fowling-piece. Hence, if the professional hunter suffers, his misfortune is balanced by the gain of another class of men little higher than himself in the social scale and equally in need of every pecuniary privilege they can obtain. These things are worth the *Nippon's* consideration. Another point too, which we should have expected to see raised, is the question of a tenant's right to kill game. We cannot discover that the new law recognises the tenant at all: its provisions seem to apply to owners only. Possibly this will be a matter for subsequent legislation.

THE "MARY ROSE."

THE interest aroused by the story of modern naval warfare, "The Captain of the *Mary Rose*," will doubtless expose the details to considerable criticism. The successful attack of the French torpedo squadron from Cherbourg *vid* the Needles has already been pronounced by naval men an almost impossible feat. For, in the first place, it is inconceivable that the commanders of the Portsmouth Squadron would have been content with such inefficient precautions to ward off attack; in the second, the helplessness of the batteries and torpedo station in the Needles can scarcely be credited; and in the third, the precision with which the French attack is supposed to have been delivered, two hours after midnight, against a fleet lying in two lines, the ships being in positions concerning which the attacking force cannot have had any previous information, seems little short of miraculous. Another point which has attracted attention is of minor importance. It will be remembered that one of the Spithead fleet, the *Minotaur*, is represented as having been blown up, owing to her electro-contact mines being fired by the explosion of a torpedo. Concerning this, a correspondent writes to *The Engineer* as follows:—

SIR,—In your issue of August 12th, in the story of "The Captain of the *Mary Rose*," the author states that H.M.S. *Minotaur* was blown up by the explosion of a torpedo having fired one of her E. C. mines. I do not think this possible, as mines will not go off unless a current has been passed through them; also, mines have been picked up after counter mining, with the case all smashed and the mine not exploded.

SUBMARINE.

But, after all, the moral which the story is intended to point will not lose its value because some of the events described are open to criticism. The author of "the Captain of the *Mary Rose*" shows England a heavy loser in these early engagements. We suspect that, although the events he describes may never occur, his story will cost the country a few millions.

"A FOREIGN MEMBER."

THE following letter appears in *Nature*.

SIR,—It may perhaps interest you and your readers to hear that by the Imperial Ordinance of June 25 a committee has been established for the investigation of the earthquake phenomena, with the view of finding methods of predicting earthquakes, if possible, and of ascertaining the nature of construction, building, and otherwise, best calculated to resist the effect of the shocks. President Kato, of the Imperial University, has been nominated the president, and myself the secretary. Other members of the Committee are Furuichi (Director and Professor of Civil Engineering, Engineering College, and Head of the Engineering Bureau of the Department of the Interior), Tatonno (Professor of Architecture, Engineering College), Tanabe (Professor of Civil Engineering, Engineering College), Tanakadate (F.R.S.E., and Professor of Physics, Science College), and Nagaoka (Assistant Professor of Physics, Science College). Koto (Professor of Geology, Science College), and Kochi (of the Geological Survey), Sekiya and Omori (Seismologists), Nakamura (of the Meteorological Bureau), and a foreign member, Prof. J. Milne. Other members will be nominated by and by. The Parliament has granted

42,000 yen for this year, chiefly for the purchase of various instruments. The committee will be glad to receive any communication or suggestion on the subject. Address: Earthquake Investigation Committee, care of the Department of Education, Japan.

D. KIKUCHI.

Imperial University, Tokyo, July 21st.

"A foreign member, Professor J. Milne!" Professor Kikuchi is one of those thoroughly loyal lovers of science and liberal thinkers who recognise no distinction of nationality where philosophy is in question. We wish that he had constructed his catalogue of members a little differently. Perhaps he thinks that *Nature's* readers need no information from him when he introduces Professor Milne as a member of the new Committee. The idea is doubtless correct. But *Nature* does need some information as to the sense in which Japan regards the foreigners who have aided her early essays in the path of science, and this was certainly an opportunity for saying a graceful word on that subject. However, we must not quarrel too much with the act where the intention cannot reasonably be doubted.

MR. LABOUCHERE'S IDEA OF A CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION.

MR. LABOUCHERE was charged by *The Times* with "disregard of the most salutary conventions of political intercourse," because he revealed certain matters which were supposed to be confidential. His answer was:—"I have been accused of many things, but this charge has never before been brought against me, for no one has ever more strictly drawn the line of demarcation between confidential and non-confidential communications. This particular communication was not stated to be confidential; indeed, had this been suggested, I should have asked that no communication should have been made. If it is precisely because I do know the difference between what is said in confidence and what is not that I assert that I know that the Queen did interfere, and that I have not the remotest intention of saying how I know." This is delightful. Mr. Labouchere's creed about a confidential communication is that it may be at once published on the market cross provided only that its source be concealed.

THE LOSS OF THE "BOKHARA."

WE publish to-day a terrible piece of news, the total loss of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Bokhara*, which was wrecked in the recent typhoon on a voyage from Shanghai to Hongkong. The *Bokhara* left Shanghai on the 8th instant, carrying the following passengers:—

For London—Mrs. Cuniffy and child. For Ismailia—Mr. and Mrs. Chain. For Bombay—Messrs. Bishop and Lalma. For Hongkong—Major Turner, Capt. Dunn, Lieut. Boyle, Capt. Dawson, Lieut. Burnett. Q.M. Sergt. Jeffkins, Sergts. Donegan and Mumford, Messrs. C. Wallace, Tavener, Purvis, Ralf and Dr. Lowson.

She had thus nineteen in the cabin, and there can be little hope that all of these are among the twenty-three survivors. It is sad indeed to think that the men who travelled from Hongkong to engage in a cricket match with Shanghai, should have met with such a catastrophe on their return journey. Major Turner is a very old friend, known doubtless to several people in this Settlement. He served with the 73rd Highlanders in Hongkong in 1867, and played in the match between that colony and Shanghai in that year.

Sand Island where the *Bokhara* was cast away, is one of the outlying portions of the Pescadores. It is not marked on any map with which we are familiar, though the charts show it. The *Bokhara* was a nineteen year old ship, having been launched in 1873. Her builders and engineers were Messrs. Caird and Co. of Greenock, and her tonnage was 1,637 registered and 2,940 gross. She had a straight flush deck and was counted a first-class sea boat, though it is conceivable that she may have been a trifle too old for the China service at the change of monsoon. Only a few years ago she was a station ship between Yokohama and Hongkong. Commanded by

Original from

Captain Sams, of the R.N.R., an old and tried officer, such a vessel would have been capable of riding out any storm if only she had a clear offing. But it is very conceivable that Captain Sams was running for anchorage when the steamer struck, and that she at once became a total wreck in the boiling sea. The ship left Shanghai on the 8th instant, and must have encountered the full fury of the typhoon which blew on the 10th and 11th. She was found by H.M.S. *Porpoise*, which went in search of her from Hongkong, so soon as grave fears for her safety began to be entertained. Telegrams received at the Yokohama Office of the P. & O. Company from both Hongkong and Nagasaki are to the same effect, namely, that the total number of persons saved was only twenty-three, including two passengers. A private telegram received in Nagasaki from Shanghai gives the names of the passengers saved — Dr. Lowson and Lieutenant Markham, and adds that 170 were lost, including 20 passengers. These figures are difficult to understand. The list of first-class passengers extracted, as above, from the columns of the *North China Daily News*, shows 19 passengers and among them the name of Lieutenant Markham is not mentioned. But if two passengers were saved and twenty lost, three names must have been omitted from the Shanghai journal's list. Moreover, the steamer's crew numbered only 120, and consisted chiefly, we believe, of Lascars and Seaside Boys. Hence, even on the hypothesis that three names were omitted from the newspaper copy of the passenger list, it would seem that the total loss of life ought not to have exceeded 119. Possibly the vessel carried a number of Chinese passengers of whom no special mention was made. It is many years since anything so terrible has happened upon these coasts.

According to the August list, issued by the P. & O. Company, the officers of the ill-fated *Bokhara* were as follows, although there may have been one or two changes: Commander C. D. Sams, R.N.R.; Chief Officer, G. H. Prickett, R.N.R.; Second Officer, G. F. S. Ingles, R.N.R.; Third Officer, H. M. Perfect, R.N.R.; Fourth Officer, W. H. Sweny, R.N.R.; Surgeon, E. D. Y. Pole; Head Steward, H. Baigent; Chief Engineer, P. O'Bryan; Second, A. B. Cockburn; Third, W. Muir; Fourth, G. W. Hills; Boilermaker, J. Simpson; Electric Winchman, L. Bartoluzzi; Carpenter, C. Gianaglici; Boatwain, E. Bonivento. The *Ancona* has been dispatched to rescue the survivors who, however, may have been taken off by either the *Porpoise* or the *Bombay*.

No further news is yet to hand concerning the terrible disaster on the *Pescadores*, and we will probably have to wait the arrival of the mail for further details. We learn that Mr. and Mrs. Chain, who are among the lost, only recently passed through Kobe, and made the acquaintance of several people here. They were on a voyage round the world. Several others of those so sadly lost are well known in Kobe. Captain Renny of the *Sorachi Maru*, who must have been within a few miles of the ill-fated *Bokhara* on the night she was lost, has kindly supplied us with his experiences as follows:—Left Hongkong the 6th inst. at 7 a.m.; had moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather to Chapel Island, which was passed next day at 7 p.m. From thence to Okuse fresh and cloudy, passing there at 7 p.m. the 8th. On the morning of the 9th, the wind still increasing from N.E., and sea rising fast, at daylight decided to put back and run for anchorage—mountainous seas. At noon anchored with port bower and 70 fathoms under Lamyit Island, wind still increasing from same direction and barometer falling. At midnight strong S.E. gale. Bar. 29.59, thick weather. On the 10th it was blowing a whole gale. Bar. 29.39, wind S.E. by S., engines going ahead to keep strain off anchors. At 8 p.m. perfect gale from N.N.E.; could not see twice the length of ship. Bar. at 29.33. At midnight still blowing as hard with terrific squalls, en-

gines half speed. Bar. 29.31. On the 11th at 2 a.m. Bar. inclined to rise; wind N.N.E. At 4 a.m. Bar. 29.33, moderating a little; wind North. At 8 weather commenced to improve, Bar. 29.44. At noon barometer stood at 29.50. wind still moderating. At 2 p.m. wind N.N.W., heavy rain; up anchor and proceeded. High mountainous sea outside. On 12th at 4 a.m. reached Turnabout. Found a very strong set to the E.S.E.; all that day and the 13th moderate N.E. monsoon, big sea. On 14th at midnight passed Yokosima; on 16th at 10 p.m. Muroto-saki, and on 17th at 10 a.m. arrived at Kobe. —*Kobe Chronicle*.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SHOOTING REGULATIONS.

SOME of the Japanese journals, in reporting a meeting of the Foreign Representatives, or, to speak more correctly, of a majority of them, which took place recently at the Italian Legation, conjectured that Treaty Revision was the subject of discussion. This hypothesis could not have been entertained had proper attention been paid to the methods of negotiation pursued of recent years in the matter of Treaty Revision. The meeting in question, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* points out, was held for the purpose of considering some points connected with the newly issued Gaming Regulations. Of course no public information is obtainable as to the details of the conference, but the result is known, namely, that the Representatives present resolved to take the necessary steps for securing the privileges of the new Regulations for their nationals, by subjecting the latter to their prohibitions, that being the condition stipulated by the Japanese Government. It may be well to explain, for the information of people who do not follow these questions very closely, that when we speak of "prohibitions" we do not refer to "penalties." The penalties prescribed by the Gaming Regulations are not applicable, of course, to foreigners. It is for the Foreign Representatives to determine what penalties shall be employed to punish violations of the Regulations by their nationals, and the penalties thus fixed will be inflicted by judgment of Consular tribunals. Such has been the practice hitherto with regard to all similar enactments.

THE CEMENT AFFAIR.

THE *Shogyo Shimpo* publishes particulars of the cement affair to which we recently alluded, and explains why the Governor of Kanagawa restricted the competition to the Asano, Aichi, and Onoda Cement Companies, excluding all other applicants. In August last, we read, when some cement was required for the harbour works, the Asano, Aichi, Osaka, and Nippon Cement Companies were considered to be qualified, but the cement sent by some of them was of such inferior quality that it could not be used. Taught by this experience, the Bureau decided to limit the tenders to firms that could be trusted, and out of the three that competed, Mr. Asano Soichiro's tender was finally accepted, a contract being concluded with him at *yen* 20.404 per ton. The cement thus purchased is of exceptional quality, and the total amount contracted for is 6,000 tons, to be supplied in 10 months from October. To ascertain the quality of cement, chemical tests have to be applied, and for such a purpose as use in harbour works, the cement must have at least a certain strength. The system adopted in appraising a cement is to express its quality in the form of a fraction, of which the price is numerator and the strength denominator. Thus, though the Aichi Company's tender was only 18 *yen*, and the Onoda Company's 19, Asano's figures were really the most favourable owing to the greater strength of the cement, which means that smaller quantities of it suffice for a given work. Finally, no provision of the Financial Law was violated, for Art. 24 expressly sanctions precisely the method of limited contract that was employed.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.

ORDERS for silk handkerchiefs, says the *Kokkai*, are received twice a year, in the spring and in

the autumn. The goods ordered in spring are generally sent to Yokohama or Kobe in May or June for exportation, and the autumn goods at Christmas. There have been very few orders this autumn, however. The consequence is that places like Nagoya having already completed their work of this nature, the price of labour has fallen 30 to 40 per cent. It is stated that the total number of handkerchiefs manufactured in Gifu Prefecture from January to June this year was 8,300 dozens; in Miye Prefecture 8,840 dozens; and in Aichi Prefecture 67,300 dozens. Moreover, the last Prefecture exported 22,500 chair-covers. Out of the above total, 72,000 dozens of handkerchiefs were exported to America, and 12,240 dozens to France, England and Hawaii; and all the chair-covers went to America. The labour of sewing these handkerchiefs was from 23 to 30 *sen* per dozen. Some 60 dozens of handkerchiefs, made for exhibition to the Chicago World's Fair by Messrs. Shoda Co., are to cost, it is said, 70 *yen* per dozen, and Mr. Hashimoto will send 35 dozens at 3 *yen* per dozen. The reason assigned for the decrease of orders this autumn is that the manufacturers took to using inferior materials, thinking solely of cheapness, with the result that their goods fell into bad repute. There are over 3,000 females engaged in manufacturing handkerchiefs, and some of them can earn only 8 to 9 *sen* per day. If the manufacturers do not take care to employ good material, there will soon be no demand for Japanese silk handkerchiefs, which recently promised to become such an important article of export.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES AND THE NIPPON RAILWAY.

A CORRESPONDENT who recently travelled over the Railway from Tokyo to Aomori writes:—The carrying capacity of the Tokyo-Aomori railway is about to undergo a test as severe as that through which the Tokaido Railway so successfully passed in the spring of 1890, when the manœuvres of the combined land and sea forces were held within and off the coast of the provinces of Mikawa and Owari. The sham fight of two years ago exceeded in scale anything of the kind till then undertaken in Japan, and the share which fell to the Railway Department in the transport of troops, &c. was carried out in most creditable style. It is reported that over thirty-five thousand troops are to be collected by the end of the week in the plains beyond Utsunomiya, and the task of conveying almost the whole of them, with horses, artillery, baggage and other accessories, will fall on the Nippon Railway Company. Temporary extensions to platforms are being erected at several stations, while the double line from Ueno to Omiya Junction, a distance of 17 miles, which has been in the course of construction for some time past, is being rapidly pushed forward, and as there apparently remains only a short distance to be ballasted, it will no doubt be available in the course of a day or two. The long and continuous heavy gradient (1 in 40) in the Hakone district was the greatest obstacle which had to be overcome in the transport of troops from Tokyo toward Nagoya on the last occasion, but the Nippon Railway will not be thus handicapped, as their line from Tokyo to Utsunomiya and several miles beyond is almost of one level.

TOKYO MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION.

SO soon as it was announced that the Fourth National Exhibition is to be opened in Kyoto, the merchants of Tokyo determined to present a petition to the Government, praying that the Exhibition be opened in Tokyo as usual. For the above purpose they met at the Teikoku Hotel on Friday last. The sense of the meeting is summarized thus:—The merchants do not oppose the idea of opening the Fourth National Exhibition in Kyoto on the selfish ground that local interests would suffer. Their contention is that from the points of view of population, extent of the city, number of houses, amount of products, prosperity of industries, volume of foreign trade, state of banking enterprise and so forth, no comparison holds for a moment between Tokyo and Kyoto. Moreover, Tokyo is

the seat of Government, the centre of Commerce, and the great site of national industry. Hence the only really suitable place to open a national exhibition is Tokyo. They further allege, that although the prime purpose of the national exhibition is to encourage domestic industry, it is also necessary to afford an opportunity to foreigners to inspect the various products of the country, with a view to developing exports. This end will evidently be better served by an exhibition in Tokyo than by one in Kyoto. Even as regards the Japanese people, it is desirable to open the Exhibition in the capital, for the country will hereafter be managed by the students now studying in various schools and colleges in Tokyo, and an opportunity ought to be granted to them to profit by the instruction which such a display affords. Financially speaking, too, Tokyo is preferable to Kyoto, for more articles can be exhibited and a larger number of visitors will assemble in the former city than in the latter. If the Exhibition be held in Kyoto, commissioners will have to be despatched from Tokyo, which mean extra expense. The advocates of these views intend to assemble all the business men in the capital, and, after obtaining their concurrence, to present a petition to the Government on the one hand, and enlist the assistance of the Diet on the other, when the Bill seeking an appropriation on account of the Exhibition comes up for discussion. At the meeting much discontent was expressed about Viscount Sano's decision to open the Exhibition in Kyoto, in order to celebrate the 1,100th anniversary of the city's having been chosen by the Emperor Kwammu as the capital of the country. Viscount Sano made this ruling when he was in the Government as Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

Nothing further has been publicly announced as to the rumoured intention of the Authorities to invite a certain number of foreigners to be present at the approaching autumnal manœuvres. But in view of the fact that less than a week now remains before the manœuvres commence, it does not seem likely that any steps will be officially taken to enable foreigners to witness the affair. There is no apparent reason, however, why anyone who takes an interest in such things should not travel to the ground and see the parade independently. The Imperial party, as we have already stated, sets out on the morning of the 21st instant, and, proceeding to Tochigi Prefecture, takes up its quarters in the Prefectural buildings in Utsunomiya. It may safely be inferred, therefore, that Utsunomiya is within easy reach of the place chosen for the campaign. Doubtless there will be a large influx of Japanese visitors into the town, but Utsunomiya is a big place, and there should be no great trouble in obtaining accommodation in some of its many inns. The beautiful weather that has now set in after our recent long and unseasonable spell of rain, will probably last for some time, and if it favours the manœuvres, an exceptionally pleasant and interesting trip might be made to Utsunomiya after the 20th instant.

Of course the precise scheme of the approaching manœuvres is not published, nor is the exact place of their occurrence known. But what is certain is that the Emperor will leave Tokyo on the 21st instant, and that the general body of officials and persons invited will follow on the next day. To the north-east of Utsunomiya is a hill called Karasu-yama, in the neighbourhood of which the Armies of the East and West, as the two bodies of assembled troops are called, will come into conflict on the 23rd. The engagement will be renewed near Mibu, between the towns of Tochigi and Utsunomiya, on the 24th, and the two Armies, aggregating 35,000 men, will be massed at Utsunomiya on the 25th. The following day a grand review of the whole force will be held on the Hirado Moor, which is about a rd (2½ miles) from Utsunomiya. That evening there will be a big entertainment in a wooden building specially erected for the purpose, and

the Imperial party will return to Tokyo on the 27th instant. With the exceptions of two or three persons occupying high positions in the Government service, we cannot learn that any foreigners have been invited.

MR. ITO KENKICHI M.P. V. THE KAISHIN SHIMBUN.

In previous issues we reported the hearing of a libel suit instituted by Mr. Ito Kenkichi M.P. against the *Kaishin Shimbun*. Judgment was delivered on Wednesday last in favour of the defendants, both the civil and the criminal case being dismissed with costs. Following is a translation of the Judgment:—

JUDGMENT.

Defendants { Takanami Teikichi, Printer and Publisher of the *Kaishin Shimbun*.
Iwai Masunosuke, Editor of the *Kaishin Shimbun*.

The facts of the suit for libel instituted against the above defendants, as proved in the Court, are these:—The *Kaishin Shimbun*, in its issue No. 2,810, of the 22nd June, 1892, published a paragraph entitled, "The Origin of the Scheme for Purchasing Members," in which the following sentence occurred:—"At all events, Mr. Ito Kenkichi has recently been engaged in purchasing members of the Diet at prices varying from 200 to 500 or 600 yen." The Court finds that the above paragraph contains no personal insult to Mr. Ito Kenkichi, the plaintiff. Therefore, in accordance with Art. 224 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the case is dismissed.

The above judgment was delivered in the Tokyo Local Court on the 9th October, 1892, in the presence of Yamamoto Tatsuroku, Public Prosecutor.

Signed { MATSUNAGA MITSUKICHI, Chief Judge.
KIDO KOJIRO, Assistant Judge.
NAKAJIMA SEISUKE, Assistant Judge.

Not being yet informed as to whether an appeal will be taken from the above judgment, we are restrained from discussing it. But we may go so far as to say that we find the Judges' dictum incomprehensible, for assuredly no greater slander could well be uttered against a member of Parliament than to say that he has been engaged bribing his fellow members.

A STEEL FACTORY IN JAPAN.

We desire to direct the attention of persons interested in the question of establishing a Steel Factory in Japan, to a letter published in our correspondence columns to-day from Messrs. J. Birch and Company. It contains information some of which may be new, and hints that can scarcely fail to be valuable. There is no talk just now of reviving the project of a Steel Factory. The hostile vote of the House of Representatives last session seems to be accepted as conclusive by the present Cabinet, for the present at all events. But the subject is not dead, and any Japanese who may happen to be investigating it, will do well to read Messrs. J. Birch and Company's letter.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION.

The Barristers' Examinations commenced on Wednesday last in the buildings of the Ueno Park Museum. They were to have been continued on the following day, but owing to an extraordinary and disgraceful incident the proceeding had to be suddenly suspended. The incident is reported as follows:—On Wednesday, over a thousand candidates assembled in the examination hall, and were examined on the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure. During the day a rumour went abroad that there were "cribbers" in the hall, and that the inspector of the examination had taken the papers from them. At the conclusion of the day's work, one of the candidates made a statement to the above effect, but no notice was taken of it. On Thursday morning, about 8 o'clock, the candidates again assembled in front of the hall, and one of them delivered a speech in which he referred to the rumour, saying that such scandalous conduct reflected disgrace on all the candidates. For his part, he was resolved not to be examined

until the culprits had been ascertained, and he asked the rest to support him in this resolution. Loud cries of approval were raised almost unanimously, but when the door was opened to admit the candidates, they all crowded into the hall and took their seats, regardless of the high resolve expressed a moment previously. The first question having been set, every one was busily engaged writing out his answer, when suddenly one of the candidates, in a corner of the hall, snatched a sheet of writing from his neighbour, and rose to take it to the examiners, crying out that he had found a cribber. The whole body of candidates stood up at the signal, and several rushing at the alleged culprit, beat him to the ground. Cries of "shame!" "Disgrace!" resounded through the hall, and the man fought resolutely for a time, vociferating that he had not been cribbing at all. But his protests were of no avail. The examiners as well as the police officials present, shouted "order" "order," with all their might, but no one obeyed. At last one of the examiners declared that the examination must be suspended till further notice, and the candidates were ordered to clear out of the hall. A large number of students of various law schools subsequently assembled outside the building, and held a conference, when it was resolved that, as the examination had not been properly conducted, a petition should be presented to be Authorities, praying them to appoint new examiners and cause the questions to be recompiled. A Committee consisting of representatives from various schools was elected to give effect to this resolution.

AN ELECTION PETITION SUSTAINED.

In the last general election Mr. Uyeda Nofu was returned for the First Election District of Iwate Prefecture. Mr. Tanikawa Masatada the other candidate, dissatisfied with the decision of the President of Elections, took legal proceedings. The case was heard in the Miyagi Court of Appeal, when it was decided in favour of the plaintiff. Mr. Uyeda then appealed to the Supreme Court, but the Court confirmed the judgment. The Governor of Iwate Prefecture has now issued the following notification:—

NOTIFICATION NO. 57.

The Miyagi Court of Appeal having decided that the return of Uyeda Nofu, as member of the House of Representatives, for the First Election District of Iwate Prefecture, is invalid, and the judgment having been confirmed, the President of Election has announced that the following candidate stands elected by a majority:—

TANIKAWA MASATADA.

(Dated) 15th October, 1892.

HATTORI ICHIZO,
Governor of Iwate Prefecture.

THE END OF A HERO.

A PARAGRAPH appears in the advertisement columns of the *Kobe Yushin Shimpō* announcing the sad end of an able and renowned man. The notice is inserted by the magistrate of the locality where the event occurred. The bare facts recorded are, that a Mr. Muranashi Hisanari (aged 48 years) was found in a dying condition on the road side in the neighbourhood of Fukiawase Village in Hyogo Prefecture on the 25th ultimo; that he was carried to the magistrate's office to receive medical treatment, but that he expired on the 28th. The *Yushin Shimpō* says that the wretched vagrant who fell thus on the road with starvation and illness, was no other than the formerly renowned Mr. Muranashi of Satsuma. One of ten young men chosen by the *Daimyo* of Satsuma to be educated in Europe, he went to London in company with the late Viscount Mori, the late Viscount Yoshida, the late Mr. Samejima and others. After some years' study he returned just as the War of the Restoration commenced, and was at once appointed Commander of a troop under Count Kuroda. In that capacity he proceeded to Hakodate with the force despatched against the insurgents there. After the Restoration he held a high position in the Government, and when Count Kuroda became Colonial Governor of Hokkaido, he served there at the same time with Messrs. Hori, Komaki, Saisho, Yasuda and

others. Suddenly he resigned his office, contrary to the advice of his relations and friends, and from that day forth he was totally lost to everybody, his very name being forgotten by the public. But now at last his death as a vagrant is reported from Kobe. What he did during all those long years is unknown, but assuredly the news of his miserable end will be received with pity not only by his friends but by the nation.

THE CODES.

It is now an undoubted fact that the Government appointed the Codes Committee for the purpose of obtaining an expression of expert opinion as to whether the Codes can be divided into sections, so that the portions urgently needed may be enforced at once. The Committee have held several meetings, and have discussed the question earnestly, their final decision being, that certain sections of the Commercial Code, such as the Law of Companies, and the Law of Bankruptcy, can be separated from the main body, but that the other portions, as well as the whole of the Civil Code, require considerable alteration, before putting them into operation whether piecemeal or collectively. Such being the decision of the Committee, their conferences will be closed in a day or two. It is now rumoured that the Emperor may probably agree, after all, to sanction the Bill for postponement, and that the Government will submit to the Diet next session a Bill providing for the immediate enforcement of certain sections of the Codes. The above news is published by the *Choya Shimbun*, not, however, with any expression of certainty. The *Nippon* also contains the same version, and adopts a more confident tone in announcing it.

A CHINESE NEWSPAPER.

HERE is the account which a Sheffield journal gives of the *Official Gazette* of Peking and its "paragraphists"—heaven save the mark!—"It is not unusual in this country for a tri-weekly paper to become a weekly, or a fortnightly magazine a monthly, but the converse method is unknown. In China, on the other hand, where so many things are topsy turvey, the oldest weekly newspaper in the world—really the oldest, A.D. 911—is now issued three times daily. What a nice time its compositors must have of it! It is not merely three editions, but three issues, all presumably full of news. Under these circumstances China must be the Paradise of paragraphists. This publication is under the immediate superintendence of the Emperor, and the staff is exceedingly active; their principal stimulant being the bastinado. There are no less than six editors (all members of the Academy of Science), so that when one of them is, so to speak, "prostrated," there are plenty to go on with the publication."

WHAT FOX-HUNTING COSTS IN ENGLAND.

"LORD YARBOROUGH, the owner of the North Lincolnshire pack of foxhounds," says the *Pail Mall Gazette*, "in furnishing some statistics relative to fox-hunting, states that there are 330 packs of hounds in England, and Ireland. Assuming the cost of fox-hounds to be £650 for one day per week for the year, staghounds to cost £550, and harriers £200, keeping up hounds in the United Kingdom causes the expenditure of £414,850; and estimating one hundred men hunting with each pack, each man having three horses, that means that 99,000 horses are engaged. Putting the cost of each horse at 15s. per week, this comes to considerably over 3½ millions. So, maintains the noble lord, the cost of keeping hounds and maintaining the hunts in the United Kingdom comes altogether to 4½ millions, independent of the expenses of carriage horses, cover hacks, travelling expenses, &c."

THE CROWN PRINCE AGAIN.

By way of rider to the anecdote reproduced above from the columns of the *Nippon*, about the Crown Prince and soldier's bread, the *Choya Shimbun* now states that His Imperial Highness is extremely intelligent, and that he studies with great diligence. The Emperor has commanded

him never to absent himself from school unless he is indisposed, and His Majesty does not fail to inspect all the marks the Crown Prince receives at school from week to week. It is now settled that until he is 15 years of age the Prince shall follow the general course of education prescribed at the Nobles School, and that he shall take up some foreign language as a special study for three years. Subsequently he will be sent to Europe for some years to complete his education. Japan has never been ruled by a monarch brought up after such a régime.

IN RE ADAMSON, BELL AND CO.

THE *London and China Express* says:—In the Bankruptcy Court on the 8th Sept. a general meeting of creditors was held under the failure of Adamson, Bell and Co., for the purpose of appointing a trustee in the place of Mr. Arthur Cooper, accountant, lately deceased. The debtors were merchants, carrying on business in London, Liverpool, China, and Japan, and the joint accounts show liabilities £563,727, of which £210,772 is unsecured, and assets £14,022. On the motion of Messrs. Crosley and Burn, solicitors for the Yokohama Specie Bank (Limited), creditors for £96,000, Mr. E. H. Fletcher, of the firm of Messrs. Cooper Brothers, accountants, was elected to the vacant office. It was stated that a dividend of about 1s. in the pound would shortly be declared, and that the estate would be wound up in the course of three or four months.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

THE following changes were announced in the Imperial Household at 10 a.m. on the 20th inst.:—

Viscount General Tanaka Mitsuaki, Director of the Bureau of Court Auditors and Court Councillors, is appointed Principal of the Nobles' School for Boys.

Mr. Yoshikawa Akimasa, Director of the Bureau of the Imperial Treasury, and Court Councillor, is appointed Director of the Bureau of Court Auditors.

Mr. Shirane Seisichi, Court Councillor, is appointed Director of the Bureau of the Imperial Treasury.

Prince Iwakura Tomosada, Superintendent of the Peerage Bureau, Superintendent of the Board of Chamberlains, and Principal of the Nobles' School for Boys, has resigned the last mentioned office.

JAPANESE LADIES COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE members of the Japanese Ladies Committee of the World's Columbian Exposition were pleasantly entertained at the United States Legation on the 14th instant, when Princess Mori and the majority of the other members were present. They were invited by Mrs. Coombs to meet Mr. and Mrs. Winston of Chicago, Mr. Winston being one of the directors of the Exposition. The committee was assured by the American ladies, that should any of the ladies of Japan visit Chicago during the Exposition they would meet with a warm reception and be well entertained. The work of this committee, it is confidently expected, will result in a fine Exhibition of Japanese art.

H.M.S. "LEANDER."

It was rumoured, with truth we believe, that, H.M.S. *Leander* was under orders to proceed north for the purpose of receiving and carrying back the crews of two British schooners captured by the Russian authorities while poaching in Russian waters. The vessel was delayed, however, owing to some difficulty connected with shipping stores, which could not be put through the hands of the Customs without a delay of 24 hours, and the detention proved fortunate, for the crews reached Nagasaki in the interval and were thence sent on to Yokohama.

COUNT ITO'S ILLNESS.

COUNT ITO has been suffering from peritonitis, not gastric fever as we erroneously reported in a previous issue. The *Nichi Nichi* said that on Saturday last he was mending gradually. There was not much fever left, but his appetite was very bad, and the only nourishment

he took was a small quantity of liquid food. The consequence was that he had become very weak. He took a stroll in his garden on Sunday, but felt tired very soon, and the doctor advised him to remain quietly in bed. Since then he has improved rapidly, and was able to attend the Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday.

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN JAPAN.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, referring to the recent successful strikes by masons and bricklayers in Tokyo, observes that a new current is beginning to percolate through the hitherto quiet substrata of society in Japan. The working class is about to give an unprecedented colour to political life by putting forward novel questions, social and economical. Already one may see indications that capitalists are making determined efforts to guard their interests against the rising importance and power of the working classes. The latest and most remarkable instance of this has been the combination of cotton yarn manufacturers, to which brief reference was recently made in these columns. In our contemporary's opinion, strikes have not been introduced here in imitation of foreign custom, as some persons seem to suppose, but are natural and inevitable consequences of the progress of industries and general material civilization. An increase of skilled and special artisans—a necessary condition of social advancement—cannot fail to augment the importance of these artisans in particular and of their class in general. In short, the *Kokumin* thinks that it is high time to bestow serious attention upon the labour question, and laments the indifference with which it is regarded by politicians and scholars alike. Much thought has been given to the creation of wealth, but none has ever been bestowed upon the question of the distribution of wealth. The Tokyo periodical suggests the organization of an association for the study of social questions, the membership being open to persons of every party and class. One of the chief objects of the association should be to study the labour question and to establish means of communication between capitalists and working men; in a word, to disseminate wholesome and unbiassed knowledge about the labour problem, and to prevent or mitigate the evils of a conflict between capital and labour.

THE "SHINAGAWA MARU."

THE Japan Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Shinagawa Maru* has been successfully floated, and her safety is assured. We reported in a recent issue that she had struck a sunken rock near Kabuto Island in Shidoura Bay, while en route for Shimonoseki from Kobe. The injury was confined to her fore compartments, but her condition at one time was not such as to inspire hopes of her speedy escape. She is a ship of about twelve hundred tons burden, and her commander is Mr. S. Yoshisawa.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

MR. A. B. DE GUERVILLE, Honorary Commissioner to the World's Fair, has consented to deliver two illustrated lectures upon the Chicago Exhibition on Friday and Saturday, October 28th and 29th; the first in the Teikoku Hotel, Tokyo, and the second at the Public Hall, Yokohama. The proceeds in both instances will be given to local charities, the Yokohama Jizenkai receiving the whole of the Yokohama benefit.

A BYE-ELECTION.

MR. NITTA JINZAYEMON, member of the House of Representatives for the Second Election District of Ishikawa Prefecture, having recently resigned his seat, a bye-election was held. There appears to have been little competition, Mr. Sugiyama Hiromasa, former member of the Diet, being returned. Both the retiring and the incoming members belong to the Popular Party.

COUNT ITO.

COUNT ITO may be now called convalescent, though he has not yet recovered his full strength. His physicians recommend further rest, but the cares of office seem to forbid this, for his Excellency attended the Cabinet Meeting

on the 19th instant, and remained there until evening. He had previously been received in audience by the Emperor.

COUNTRESS ITO'S RECEPTIONS.

We are requested to state that Countess Ito will receive every Tuesday afternoon, commencing from the 8th of November.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The Yokohama Chess Club changes its locale on Monday; the Members will meet henceforth at the new rooms, 86 Main Street.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER HOSPITAL.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of \$10 from J.W., \$10 from N., and \$5 from B.B. for the Leper Hospital at Gotemba.

MR. ISHII'S ORPHANAGE.

We have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of \$20 from P.L.J. as a donation on behalf of Mr. Ishii's Orphanage.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has an interesting article on the present condition of the political world. It should be remarked that this journal is now trying to be strictly independent; at least we hear that the editor, Mr. Takata, a Progressionist member of the Diet, has been requested by the proprietors of the paper to pursue such a line, a difficult task for a party politician. But Mr. Takata is understood to be a man of comparatively moderate proclivities, and his attempts at independence in editorial work have thus far been not entirely unsuccessful. The *Yomiuri* thinks it very strange that, while the Diet is to assemble only a few weeks hence, the political world is in a state of profound calm. The past three sessions of the Diet were each preceded by very different scenes. Is it because both the Government and the Opposition have already completed preparations for the coming phase of their contest; or is it because both those in power and those out of power know well how to keep their secrets? Neither of these explanations satisfies our contemporary. It is disposed to believe that the Government and the Opposition alike have not yet decided upon any line of policy, but are each trying to shape a course in accordance with the movements of the other. They are in fact, watching one another, equally afraid to take the initiative. Such an attitude, though not creditable to the Government, is much less so to the Opposition. If the Opposition is so devoid of confidence in its own strength, how can it hope to compel the Government to undertake the reforms it has been persistently advocating for the past few years? Our contemporary fears that, when the Opposition makes up its mind at the eleventh hour to organize an assault upon its enemy, it may find the latter thoroughly prepared to repel the onset.

The general impression still is that the coming session of the Diet will not be so eventful as the preceding ones. There are, however, some persons who think otherwise. The *Nippon* represents the views of this dissentient class. It believes that the coming session will be just like the preceding; or, in other words, that the country will again witness a serious conflict between the Government and the Opposition. For the primary cause of such conflicts has not yet been removed, which cause is that Government and Opposition alike are too prone to entrench themselves behind a hacknied abstraction, namely, that of the Imperial prerogatives in the one case, and that of popular freedom in the other. So long as these abstractions constitute citadels of resort, just so long will neither the Government nor the Opposition be capable of joining issue in the broad field of practical and material questions. Both sides must come out of their citadels and meet in the open. Then and then alone will there be a hope of their understanding each other sufficiently to work in peace and harmony. Although our contemporary is gene-

rally of the opinion that the coming session of the Diet will witness another serious conflict between the Executive and the Legislature, it is yet not without some hope that the members of the present Cabinet may be capable of acting upon its advice.

The changes of *personnel* in the Judiciary effected by Count Yamagata have been upon the whole very well received by the vernacular press. The Judges placed on the retired list had been declared by a decision of the Court of Cassation to be incapable of discharging their official duties on account of either bodily or mental debility. This is the only process by which Judges can be legally placed on the Retired List. Some papers, the *Kokkai*, for instance, charge the Judges of the Court of Cassation with rashness for pronouncing a decision upon the mental or bodily condition of their colleagues. But the press as a whole approves the step taken by the Minister of Justice, for it is generally admitted that the higher ranks of the Judicial service are filled in several cases by men of the old school, who block the path of promotion for younger and more capable experts. Count Yamagata is loudly praised for having done what his predecessors were unable to accomplish. Some journals hope that he will not rest until the whole Judicial Service has been thoroughly reorganized.

The question of the Codes continues to attract public attention. It is not yet definitely known what course the Government may decide to take on this subject. But an impression seems to prevail that the Emperor has not sanctioned the Bill for postponement, and that the Government will introduce a new Bill in the coming session of the Diet for the postponement of certain portions of the Codes, the rest going into force from the first of January next. The *Naichi Shimbun* protests against such a course; for the Diet will then be placed in an awkward dilemma. If it does not pass the new Government Bill, the Codes will go into force in their entirety, so that the Diet will be forced to agree to the Bill rather than countenance such an undesirable conjuncture. Our contemporary seems to think that the Government, if it carries out this line of policy, will be guilty of taking an unfair advantage of the Diet, but, after all, the Diet can assert itself if it pleases.

The *Nichi Nichi* has commenced to criticize M. Boissonade's recent memoir on the new Codes. The essay promises to be long and elaborate.

The Game Regulations continue to be discussed by the vernacular press. It would seem that the Regulations are not popular, and that this circumstance is taken advantage of by the Opposition papers, especially those belonging to the *Katshin-to*. The latter threaten that the question will be raised in the Diet next session and that a severe lesson will be given to the Cabinet for its temerity, in encroaching upon the functions of the Legislature. The arguments need not be reproduced here as they are merely repetitions of points alluded to in our last weekly summary.

The Opposition papers are still clamouring for the punishment of the local Governors who are accused of having interfered in the last general elections. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* declares itself disappointed in the hope that Count Inouye would satisfy the demands of the Popular party in this matter. The Radical organ (*Fuyu*) on the contrary, evidently believes that the Cabinet will introduce thorough changes in the *personnel* of the obnoxious Governors. It bases this faith on a report that a decisive measure has already been resolved upon, and that the names of the men who are to displace the discredited Governors have been actually submitted for the consideration of the Ministers of State. The recent sudden return of Count Saigo to Tokyo, apparently for the sole purpose of seeing the Minister of Home Affairs, is con-

strued to mean that the leader of the National Unionists, while making a tour in the North-east, was surprised by intelligence that the Government, chiefly in consequence of Viscount Shinagawa's indiscreet avowal in Kyushu, had decided to take decisive measures against the offending officials throughout the country. Whatever pressure the National Unionists may bring to bear upon the Cabinet, the Radical organ is almost confident that the Government cannot easily disregard the earnest demands of the Popular party. Should the Cabinet see its way to taking this step, the *Fuyu* will rejoice at the removal of one of the questions now threatening to precipitate a collision between the Government and the Opposition in the coming session of the Diet.

The Autumn Manœuvres, which are to commence from to-morrow, receive a considerable share of public attention. The various papers view the question from different standpoints, but are all agreed in recognizing the utility of manœuvres on a large scale, and in thinking that the Japanese Army has made wonderful progress in recent years. The *Fiji Shimpō* dwells on the strategical importance of railway extension. The manœuvres of 1881 in the vicinity of Kameyama in Ise entailed an expenditure of 160,000 yen; those of 1885 in Kyushu, 150,000 yen; and those of 1890 at Nagoya, 120,000 yen; while the present are expected to cost only 80,000 yen. The significance of this gradual decrease of expense becomes still more apparent when it is remembered that the scale of the campaigns has considerably increased each time. Various causes, doubtless have contributed to bring about this economical improvement, but the principal are better management and the extension of railways. The last mentioned factor is believed by our contemporary to have exercised the most influence, and the nation is advised to hasten the completion of the railway system. The *Kokkai* invites newspaper correspondents to take notice of the slightest incident connected with the manœuvres. The *Yomiuri* seeks to awaken public interest in the condition of the Army and Navy. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, less enthusiastic, seizes the opportunity to impress upon its countrymen the cosiness of armaments and to deprecate the idea of Japan's adopting an aggressive policy.

The *Fiji Shimpō* writes on educational subjects. It observes that there is a tendency among men of wealth to despise learning. Instances of the misuse of learning may be adduced to excuse such an attitude on the part of parents, but the *Fiji* assures these persons that their apprehension is based on abnormal facts, and that modern education is as necessary to the child of the richest aristocrat as to the youth who has to earn his bread. To men of property, our contemporary gives the advice that they should impart to their sons a thoroughly liberal education; while men unable to bequeath wealth, should procure for their children some special form of instruction. In another article, the same paper alludes to a rumour that in certain quarters a project is mooted of establishing industrial schools throughout the country. Without querying the importance of these schools, the *Fiji* reminds their projectors that suitable teachers for such institutions are not yet available. Hitherto the failure of industrial schools has been principally due to the incapacity of teachers to adopt the principles of science to the practical requirements of the country. Our contemporary seems to think it important to begin with the training of teachers themselves.

The *Nippon* devotes two articles to the question of the Government's attitude towards foreign countries. It believes that the Government, though unbending towards Japanese subjects, is very indulgent to foreigners, and it even accuses the empire's statesmen of servility towards Western Powers. The articles conclude with urgent advice that the terms of the treaties be rigorously enforced, as to compel foreigners to apply for Revision of their own accord.

THE CODES COMMITTEE.

THE members of the Codes Committee meet every day, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, but as the proceedings are kept secret it is impossible to ascertain the precise nature of the discussions or what progress they have made. Rumour, however, asserts that as Count ITO has requested the Committee to investigate merely whether the Codes can be divided into sections for purposes of enforcement, this question has been diligently considered, with the result that the Committee have decided that various chapters in the Commercial Code may be thus separated and enforced without inconvenience. They have now begun to examine the Civil Code with the same object. Those in favour of immediate operation, argue that this Code also may be divided, and that the portions of which speedy enforcement seems necessary may be put into operation without any difficulty. But the other side alleges that the connection between the various chapters is too close to admit of division, and that the Code must be enforced or postponed in its entirety. Under these circumstances, the *Nichi Nichi* thinks that there is little hope of the Committee's agreeing about the Civil Code. Judging from the stage which the debate has already reached, the conference will probably terminate in four or five days.

With reference to the labours of this Committee and the action of the Government, there is growing up an impression that the celebrated Bill may be the means of illustrating more than one interesting and important Constitutional question. Many problems cannot fail to present themselves for solution in these early days of the practical working of the Constitution. To one of these we have already alluded at some length, namely, the procedure with regard to the Imperial Sanction. It is now fully recognised that the Constitution does not provide for anything in the shape of an Imperial veto, and that if the Imperial sanction be withheld from a Bill, no method of publicly announcing the fact exists so far as concerns the Constitution. The whole interval between two sessions is constitutionally allowed for the processes of obtaining the Imperial sanction and promulgating a measure which has passed the Houses, and only in the event of a Bill not being promulgated during that interval can the nation know that it has failed to receive the sanction of the EMPEROR. All this is perfectly plain, if we are guided solely by the text of the Constitution and of the appended laws. But, on the other hand, certain Japanese publicists claim that if the letter of the law be strictly adhered to, the nation has no means of knowing whether a Bill has been actually submitted to the EMPEROR or not, and that, under any circumstances, it is inconvenient for members of the Diet to be kept without this information until the very eve of

a new session. There is undoubtedly a measure of justice in this contention. As a point of legislative convenience, it appears desirable that some machinery should exist for intimating the fact that Imperial Sanction is withheld from a Bill which has passed the Diet. But neither the Constitution nor the appended laws prescribe any such procedure, and it becomes a nice question for publicists to determine whether, and if so how, means of informing the nation by a positive process ought to be provided. Of another and much more interesting problem, too, the outlines are now beginning to shape themselves in public conception. It is the problem whether the SOVEREIGN'S Sanction in Japan may be discriminatory: in other words, whether the SOVEREIGN is competent to extend his Sanction to certain portions of a Bill which has passed the Diet and to withhold it from other portions. In the practice of Western States precedents may be found for both the differential and the integral system, and the relative merits of the two have been discussed by constitutional experts. Arguments in favour of the former may easily be conceived. Take, for example, the case of a Budget submitted by the Government to the Diet. There is nothing to prevent a hostile majority in the Legislature from appending to the Budget, at the time of passing, clauses which the Government could not consent to endorse. In such an event, it might be to the public advantage that the SOVEREIGN should extend his sanction only to the Budget itself as passed by the House. Otherwise the choice would lie only between the alternative of the Budget's not coming into existence, or of its being successfully converted into a device for forcing irksome and perhaps inexpedient conditions upon the Administration. Turning, again, to the very question now agitating the political world in Japan, we find a measure concerning which there is a tolerably genuine consensus of opinion that discriminatory procedure would be of national benefit. The great majority of experts and business men are agreed that urgent need exists for the immediate operation of certain portions of the Codes, whereas the Bill passed by the Houses contemplates the postponement of the whole until the several parts shall have undergone revision. Could Imperial discrimination be exercised between these portions, the postponement voted by the Diet being sanctioned only with regard to the sections clearly indicated as calling for revision—whether because of actual imperfections or in deference to public sentiment—an easy and satisfactory exit from the difficulty would be furnished; and in view of the questions submitted by the Cabinet for investigation by the Codes Committee, an idea begins to prevail that some such course may be in view. We do not ourselves believe that the situation

is likely to be dealt with by the Government in the above manner. Nevertheless, the fact that such a question is now on the tapis in political circles, furnishes a most interesting illustration of the practical problems that suggest themselves in connection with the working of the Constitution.

EXHIBITION OF JAPANESE PAINTINGS AT UYENO.

THE Japanese painters who contribute to the annual exhibitions of modern pictures in the Fine Arts Exhibition in Uyeno Park, seem to go steadily from bad to worse. We speak of the artists who follow the canons of the old Japanese school, and we purposely distinguish among them the men who contribute to these periodical displays, for the works of the best masters of the day are generally conspicuous by their absence. The present exhibition—which will remain open until the end of the month—ought to have been of exceptional size, inasmuch as no pictures were shown at the spring exhibition of fine art products, the directors being induced by want of space and various considerations to confine the display to other classes of objects and to arrange for a special show of pictures in the autumn. But even in respect of quantity the affair disappoints, for though the space available is filled, one can see plainly that, in order to fill it, everything sent in had to be hung. We speak from conjecture, but truly it is impossible to suppose that any attempt was made to select tolerable specimens and reject rubbish, for nothing worse than some of the daubs displayed is conceivable. How many pictures there are in all we have not counted, but probably five hundred is a fairly accurate estimate. Out of these five hundred we doubt whether ten could be indicated that deserve to rank as objects of art. The rest belong to the category of wall-paper, and of a considerable number it must be frankly said that they provoke only ridicule. Japanese paintings excel in one respect only, strength and fidelity of line. As a class they are nothing more than sketches. Pleasing effects and slight conceits that appeal to our sense of the pretty, the delicate, and the quaint, were often achieved by the old masters, but the greatest of them has not bequeathed us anything that displays reverence—enforcing genius as well as art to be admired. Doubtless some of the zealous eulogists of buried masters will rebel against this dictum, but we can only say that if proofs to convict us of a harsh verdict be forthcoming, very many years of search and experience have failed to make us acquainted with them. There is much to charm and to delight in pictures of the Japanese school, but there is scarcely anything that stirs our deeper feelings. So narrow, too, was the range of the artists' conceptions, that he repeated himself

again and again with but slight variation, and out of this failing, supplemented by an essentially Japanese tendency to revere tradition and worship fame, there grew a multitude of stereotyped conventionalities, which the skilled artist knew how to subserve to his purpose, but which became, in the hands of the common painter, mere tricks of calligraphy. These conventionalities may be seen in their crudest forms at the Ueno Exhibition to-day. Year by year they stare at us more obtrusively from the long lines of wasted silk, repeating the assurance that the artists who work for the displays of our time, have retained nothing but the artifices of their craft. Could SESHU and MOTONOBU see the landscapes that now represent their art; could OKYO and GEKKEI witness the grotesque deformities that do duty for their admirably realistic efforts; could MATAHEI and HOKUSAI get a glimpse of the miserable copies that claim modern relationship with their vigour and originality, they would indeed be astounded that such a depth of inferiority could have been reached. What inducements, too, offer for the exhibition of these disgraces? That is a specially puzzling point. Not more than a petty fraction of the crowd of pictures exhibited find purchasers, and in every case the prices are so trifling that the reward of having his effort distinguished by a red ticket must signify very little to an artist. We suspect that the periodical displays of the Fine Art Society, so far as concerns pictures, have ceased to be at all representative of the capabilities of the era. In Kyoto and in Tokyo there are artists capable of doing incomparably better than the tyros who exhibit their failures at Ueno. Are these masters ashamed to see their paintings hanging in the company of grotesque daubs; or do they lack confidence in the competence of the judges; or has experience taught them that it does not pay to contribute? Whatever be the true reason, it is beyond question that such exhibitions as that now going on only bring ridicule on Japanese pictorial art, and tend to discourage the already scant patronage which the public is disposed to bestow on it.

DR. HEPBURN.

ON Tuesday evening the foreign community bade farewell to a man whose name will be remembered with respect and affection so long as Yokohama has any annals. More than thirty years have elapsed since Dr. HEPBURN came to Japan, and during the whole of that time the public's feeling of love and reverence for him has constantly increased. No single person has done so much to bring foreigners and Japanese into close intercourse. His dictionary was the first book that gave access to the language of the country, and remains to this day the best available interpreter of that language. But even more

than his dictionary has helped to facilitate mutual acquaintance, his life has assisted to break down the old barriers of racial prejudice and distrust. For the beauty of his character, his untiring charity, his absolute self-negation, and his steady zeal in the cause of everything good, constitute a picture which could not fail to appeal to the Japanese people. His benevolence, though always large and sometimes even trespassing on the limits of his means, was so unostentatious that few have suspected its extent, and it is probably little known in Yokohama that the whole of the sum gained by the sale of the second edition of his dictionary, amounting to several thousands of dollars, was devoted to the building of a spacious addition to the Meiji Gaku-in at Shirokane. Much would have to be written to convey even a tithe of what the reverend Doctor has accomplished, and of the love that all nationalities in this Settlement bear to him. But though it would please us well to write and others to read, our pen is stayed by the knowledge that public panegyrics are essentially distasteful to one who works entirely for the good to be wrought and in no respect for the praise to be won. We confine ourselves therefore to wishing that the closing years of a well spent life may be full of peace and happiness, and that, in the country to which they return after a long career of usefulness, the home of the venerable Doctor and the kind-hearted lady who has been so faithful a helpmeet to him and so true a friend to his friends, may be full of such sunshine as their memory will always make in our hearts.

THE LEPER HOSPITAL AT GOTEMBA.

WE call our readers' attention once more to the Leper Hospital at Gotemba. FATHER VIGROUX, who, since the death of FATHER TESTEVIDE, has devoted his life and energies to this most merciful charity, again addresses an earnest appeal to all kind-hearted people on behalf of the sufferers under his care. The good FATHER, whose Christian sympathies have led him to dedicate his existence to the harrowing task of ministering to the most terribly and loathsomely afflicted among human beings, finds himself now at the limit of his resources, and is confronted by the intolerable possibility of being compelled to close the doors of his asylum and leave the patients, several of whom are incapable of helping themselves, to die by the way-side. Leprosy claims a good many victims in Japan. We have no accurate statistics relating to the whole empire, but according to figures collected and published in these columns in July of last year, one of the three Leper Hospitals of Tokyo relieved no less than 4,240 patients in the interval between 1883 and 1888. Perhaps it will be well to add a word here, by way of precaution against an impression that

may possibly be created by FATHER VIGROUX' language, the impression that lepers are altogether uncared for in Japan. The State, indeed, does nothing for them, but private charity supports three Leper Hospitals in the capital, where numerous sufferers receive gratuitous treatment. In the provinces, however, there is no help for the plague-stricken unfortunates, and it is easy to conceive that intelligence of the existence of FATHER VIGROUX' asylum at Gotemba has induced, or may induce, many lepers to undertake long and painful journeys in the hope of obtaining at last the shelter and kindly succour which they have so long lacked. The misery of finding the doors closed to them at the bourne of their travels is hard to contemplate unmoved. Such a prospect is sufficient to lend deep pathos to the appeal of FATHER VIGROUX. But when it is supplemented by the far more terrible contingency that the patients who have already been admitted may have to be left without food or medicine, very few, we are persuaded, will hesitate to render some assistance, however small. We look forward with impatience to the time when the Government will see its way to establish, at some of the admirable healing springs with which Nature has dowered Japan, one or two leper settlements, and when a system will be organized for the free transport thither of all lepers incapable of paying their own way. There are, it is true, many things to be considered before launching upon such a scheme, but the sufferings of untended and resourceless lepers constitute a fact that outweighs a mass of theory. Meantime, the question is, shall the misery which FATHER TESTEVIDE and FATHER VIGROUX have done so much to relieve, be intensified by the enforced closing of the Gotemba Hospital? We do not believe that the foreign residents of Japan, who, even in the hardest times, always find means to be charitable, will allow such a misfortune to occur. Yokohama, Kobe and Tokyo lent munificent aid to start the charitable work. It is their merciful enterprise, and they will not suffer it to fall for lack of a little help now.

LADY BOWYER AND MR. GLADSTONE.

LADY BOWYER has replied to Mr. GLADSTONE's letter on Female Suffrage, and has been kind enough to send us a copy of her reply. Five years ago the receipt of such a brochure would have chiefly served to remind us by how large an interval Japan was separated from many of the problems vexing men's minds in the West. But Japan has traversed that interval with extraordinary rapidity. The advent of Lady BOWYER's pamphlet no longer emphasises the width of the gulf dividing the Far East and the Far West, but recalls the fact that, with regard to this particular question, the same agitation disturbs

both, though happily in very different degrees. Already the fair sex in Japan begins to talk about woman's rights and female suffrage, and in some respects the ladies of this empire can urge sounder justification for the claim than their Western sisters, since, despite the generally received notion of woman's subordinate position in Japan, it is a fact that female householders, registered and duly recognised by law as such, constitute an exceptionally considerable element of the country's population. Lady BOWYER and her cause have consequently a very real interest for the Japanese. As for the arguments advanced by her ladyship, it cannot be said that they are novel, nor indeed could it have been reasonably expected that they would be. A wise preception places on the threshold of the thesis that old crux as to a possible difference of political opinion between husband and wife. Under the present dispensation a wife gives herself no independent concern about politics. She is content to reflect her husband's views. In rare cases it happens that she carries from her parents' house to the conjugal home a political creed of her own at variance with that of her husband. Then, unless she be a woman of extreme tact and he a man of rare patience, there is introduced into the domestic circle a perpetually active factor of estrangement. Every public event presents itself diversely to the pair. Conversation must avoid one of the widest spheres of daily interest or else the risk of growing friction has to be incurred. Could anything be more unhappy, except, indeed, a difference of religious conviction? Rare as the misery is now-a-days there are instances sufficiently familiar to constitute a warning. Suppose that woman possessed the franchise. Suppose that, instead of being excluded from any but a passive and receptive part in politics, she was called upon to play an active and self-asserting role, is it not inevitable that she would gradually rebel against the guidance of affection, and seek rather to demonstrate her independence of the ties which previously condemned her to political effacement? That seems to be a plain and natural forecast, but it is a forecast fraught with eventualities not to be contemplated without the gravest misgiving. Lady BOWYER has an instinctive perception that prudent legislators must shrink with alarm from inaugurating a system so dangerous to domestic peace. She has given prominence to the difficulty, but she deals with it after a fashion which we must be pardoned for calling truly womanish:—"Marriage being intended to represent oneness, if husband and wife should not be able to agree in the choice of a candidate, let the wife concede her vote; we do not need duplicates of votes, but that the interests of the gentler sex be adequately represented." Apparently Lady BOWYER would be satisfied with a law authorizing a wife to

exercise the franchise provided that she voted on the same side with her husband, and yet her ladyship avers that "duplicates of votes are not needed." Husband and wife must vote alike, and yet their votes must not be duplicates. It is disappointing that this, one of the gravest aspects of the whole question, should be obscured by such manifest confusion of ideas. If a wife is to be legally bound to vote on the same side with her husband, what is the use of giving her the franchise? The one advantage—if it be an advantage—of such legislation, would be to encourage marriages among politicians; since the camp in which there were most wives would have an obvious advantage at the polls. Yet, a little farther on, Lady BOWYER shows how inconsistent her own aspirations and claims are with the practice she suggests, for she tells us that "women have given evidence of their capacity for intellectual competition with man, proving that they possess faculties suited for enlarged development by exercise in matters of government;" and she adds:—"We appeal to woman's sense of dominion." Women then are to compete with man, to govern him and to dominate him, but, at the same time, they must follow his lead or surrender their political functions altogether. It has always seemed to us that the modern advocates of woman's rights are betrayed into a false estimate by the extravagant aspect which nineteenth-century civilization has imparted to the situation. The "sense of dominion" to which Lady BOWYER appeals has been developed to a species of delirium by the extraordinary, and even unsightly homage which the strong sex pays to the weak in the West. In the presence of woman the man becomes a species of moral and physical menial. He must anticipate her every want or caprice; he must never think of contradicting her; he must not allow her to make an exertion of any kind which he can make for her; he must give way to her everywhere; he must surrender to her the best of everything; he must permit her to squander great sums upon the silly adornment of her person; he must shape his demeanour towards her as though she were a goddess to be bowed to rather than a fellow-creature created to be his helpmeet; he must eschew all topics of conversation that may be above the range of her education or understanding; he must cultivate for use in her society a species of empty prattle or piquant gossip neither edifying nor intellectual; in a word, he must lay aside in her presence his strong natural directness of conduct and originality of thought, and must assume the manners and character of a deferential servitor. There is a logical element in this state of affairs: intuitively, though perhaps unconsciously, the strong sex seeks to atone to the weak for the objective position which the latter is nomi-

nally condemned to occupy towards all the great problems of State and administration. But so soon as woman succeeds, if she ever does succeed, in abandoning her position of tacitly conceded sway, from that moment a new character will be imparted to her intercourse with man. There will no longer be the same reason to compensate her in social and domestic spheres for the disabilities she labours under in politics and public affairs. At present she exercises dominion without the show of power. To obtain the show she would have to sacrifice the reality. Lady BOWYER and her fellow agitators seem to base their claims upon a false interpretation of the concessions already made to their sex. They infer the existence of unrecognised rights from a situation which is really the outcome of romantic chivalry and an emotional sense of justice. It is not wonderful that the mistake should be made. Far more remarkable is the happy fact that, despite the artificial and unnatural relations between the sexes in the Occident of to-day, Europe and America should possess such a multitude of women who satisfy an almost ideal standard of moral beauty and domestic devotion. We have done our best to spoil our women, but happily their better instincts have preserved them from being spoiled. Not always, however. The system is responsible for a type extravagant, affected, shallow, selfish, and unfaithful. It is also responsible for an agitation which seeks to confuse the proper functions of the sexes, and would destroy the home for the sake of humouring a false ambition.

A NEW REASON FOR PRESERVING THE "STATUS QUO."

WE revert, for a moment, to a very hacknied subject, because it seems unwise to leave entirely unnoticed certain comments elicited from the local English press by the letter of *The Times'* Tokyo correspondent and by the leading article of that journal itself on the question of Portugal's forfeiture of jurisdictional privileges in Japan. The comments we allude to appeared in the *Hyogo News*. They consisted of two parts, first, a sweeping denunciation of the correspondent of *The Times*, and secondly, a statement of objections to Treaty Revision. We are already unhappily familiar with the fierce invective invariably employed by a portion of the foreign press in the Far East to attack any man who undertakes to write of Oriental public matters on their merits. The habit of attributing base and sordid motives to such a person has become so constant that, under given circumstances, one can always count with absolute certainty on a renewed display of this exceedingly unsightly form of passion and prejudice. In the present instance *The Times'* correspondent, who had simply sent to the great journal a plain and colour-

less statement of the facts connected with an interesting episode of Portuguese and Japanese relations, is declared to be a man "past a sense of humiliation who, for the benefit of his pocket, deliberately attempts to imperil the livelihood of large numbers of his countrymen," and who "is actually trying with every means at his command, and they are not contemptible, to enable the Japanese to deal at the commercial interests of numbers of his countrymen a very serious blow." Such writing can be described by only one epithet, brutal. Journalists resorting to it would be at once branded with disgrace and marked for universal contempt in any community where wholesome public opinion exercised active sway. But, unfortunately, in Oriental emporia of foreign trade, where men's vista is generally bounded by the interests of commerce and the calls of charity, what is every one's business is no one's business. "Why should it matter to us?" is the common formula. "Let those snarl whose nature it is to do so. If folks who live on low planes of morality find it necessary to drag down to their own degraded level all the thoughts and actions of others, that is their misfortune. We have no mission to mend them. Our home is not here, but our exile, and we constantly hope to turn our backs finally on all this wretched wrangling and Gothic outcry." So the thing goes on unchecked, until at last a savage tyranny of abuse and slander has established its sway. No man is safe from it. Every great Englishman visiting the East, from the hero of Khartoum to the author of the "Light of Asia," has been pelted with the same mud. GORDON summed up his experience in the pithy statement that no man could live in the East who ventured to be fair and liberal. Yet even GORDON hoped that thirty years later things would be found to have progressed a little beyond this stage of barbaric intolerance. The hope was futile in so far as concerns outward displays of the old disgrace, though we cannot doubt that among the foreign communities, in Japan at all events, there prevails a much kinder and fairer spirit than that which GORDON denounced. The sin of *The Times'* correspondent, the sin against which these lampooners gird so furiously, is that he is not a blind partisan. He does not join with them in a campaign of rabid persecution and wholesale denunciation. He advocates the justice and necessity of prudent concessions to Japan's national aspirations and legitimate demands. He looks beyond the mass of falsehood, prejudice and misrepresentation that has been heaped up round the problem of Treaty Revision, and in common with every enlightened Englishman who has ever studied the question, he discerns and advocates the higher interests of the British empire. That is his sin. For that he is held up as an object of public execration by men whose

partisanship is so thorough that even as between Japan and Portugal, in a matter where the latter has behaved towards the former with contumely and towards her own duties with culpable neglect, they fiercely attack the Japanese Government and slander every one supporting its procedure.

We pass from this part of the subject to a more important and perplexing declaration which appears in the columns of the Kobe journal; not a solitary declaration, but one repeated so often and in such emphatic terms that we must accept it as a distinct expression of creed:—"The Japanese are anxious to mercilessly oust every foreigner out of the country."

The *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*, and they voice the views of the majority of the business men, are anxious to make as short work of foreign merchants, as certain other Japanese are to expel Government employees. Treaty Revision to them will not mean throwing open the country, but obtaining the right to drive out all business men by enacting provisions which shall make trade and commerce conducted by foreigners impossible. . . . If the Japanese are persistent, Treaty Revision cannot long be delayed, and British citizens will then witness the collapse of business built by years of unremitting industry and toil, owing to regulations which render them powerless." These utterances have at least the merit of being perfectly unequivocal. Hitherto, the only objection urged by the opponents of Treaty Revision was that Japanese laws were too defective and that the Japanese Judiciary was too inexperienced to permit the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. This contention found an inveterate exponent in the editor of the *Hyogo News*, who, after less than two years' residence in Japan, discovered that not only are Japanese Judges incompetent, but also Japanese laws are based on totally different principles from European, and the Japanese people are not even capable of understanding the Western signification of the term "justice." But we now find that all such contentions were mere subterfuges. The sufficiency or insufficiency of Japanese laws, the competence or incompetence of Japanese Judges—these were nothing more than pretexts. The true basis of opposition is radical distrust of the Japanese. What the foreign enemies of Revision believe is that the object of the Japanese in revising the Treaties is to enact such unfairly discriminating laws as shall "mercilessly oust every foreigner out of the country." After this avowal let nothing more be said against Mr. OI KENTARO and his petty clique who, in their turn, are disturbed by the apprehension that should foreigners be freely admitted to the interior, they will gradually buy up the soil and monopolise the trade of the

conservatives, founded as it is on a tacit acknowledgment of the Occidental's superiority, sounds quite respectable in comparison with the wretched suspicion that Japan's sole aim is to expel every foreign merchant from her shores. A pretty suspicion in truth to cast in Japan's teeth by way of reward for her twenty-five years of unflagging effort to fit herself for intercourse with Western States on equal terms. A pretty suspicion to urge against the *Jiyu-to*, whose latest action was to sever connection with the OI faction, and to declare their faith in the expediency of removing all restrictions upon foreign trade, travel and residence. A pretty suspicion to formulate against the *Kaishin-to* who staunchly supported their enlightened leader's programme of introducing British capital and encouraging the advent of British enterprise by allowing foreign ownership of real estate. A pretty reflection to cast upon the astuteness of foreign diplomatists, who have always accepted Japan's promise that every non-political privilege secured to Japanese subjects by the Constitution shall be guaranteed to foreigners after the abolition of extraterritoriality. But we need not expatiate upon a misgiving so unworthy of Englishmen and so unjust to Japan. If such a fear were really entertained by the foreign community, then all talk about Codes, Judges and so forth would be quite idle, and the plain truth would be that foreigners themselves cling to their present semi-isolation as the only chance of being suffered to remain in Japan at all. Will anybody endorse this monstrous doctrine? Does the *Hyogo News* itself believe it? Apparently not, for side by side with the assertion that "the Japanese are anxious to mercilessly oust every foreigner out of the country," the Kobe Journal says:—"If the Japanese would grant Treaty Revision on a fair basis, we should, with certain reservations with regard to the immediate transfer of judicial jurisdiction, advocate it most heartily." Who has ever suggested or advocated anything else? Does the *Hyogo News* imagine that any Englishman, least of all *The Times'* correspondent, would support a scheme of Revision leaving the Japanese free to drive every foreigner out of the country by unfairly discriminating legislation, even supposing, which is wholly untrue, that any such scheme were proposed by Japan? Nay more: the misgivings and reluctance of the bulk of the foreign residents on the subject of Treaty Revision have from the first been recognised by *The Times'* correspondent and by this journal alike as perfectly natural, and as fully entitled to sympathy and consideration. It is the constant endeavour of the noisy irreconcilables, whose violence parodies the true feeling of the British residents, to represent themselves as standing between the foreign communities and some unscrupulous programme of spoliation and

oppression plotted by the Japanese and supported by foreign renegades. But British merchants in Japan, although they realise that their country's higher interests, as well as broad considerations of international equity, must sooner or later bring about the changes from which they shrink, know and admit that no one has ever yet proposed to leave them out of the reckoning, or to deal otherwise than tenderly, fairly and gradually with local sentiments and vested interests. If the fumes of passion and prejudice that have come to envelop this unhappy subject could be cleared away, if silence could be imposed upon writers who devote themselves to misrepresenting the attitude of their countrymen and to calumniating and aspersing every one that does not think exactly as they think, it would be found that not a hair's breadth divides the views of the better classes of foreign residents from the views of men who, like the correspondent of *The Times* are habitually held up to public execration by local traducers. But nothing of the kind can be hoped. We must wade on through all this welter of scurrility and scandal, comforted only by the reflection that right has always won the day, however prejudice protested or the rabble railed.

THE SITUATION.

THE present political situation is uniquely interesting. With the exception of the commotion about the Codes and the Game Law, a profound silence, evidently of uncertainty, reigns throughout the political world of Japan. What does this calm portend? Is it real or only apparent? Does it signify that the coming session of the Diet will be comparatively peaceful and quiet? Questions like these are asked by everybody, but no one seems able to reply with any degree of confidence. And perplexity increases when we examine those minor questions which, taken together, constitute what is called the "situation" at any particular time. What will be the attitude of the Radical party? What policy will the Progressionists pursue? What colour will the National Unionists decide to display? On these points no writer has been bold enough to attempt any forecast, and, not unnaturally, this state of uncertainty seems to be engendering a strong tendency to doubt and suspicion, not only between the Government and the Opposition, but also between the different parties composing the Opposition. Such is at any rate the case in respect of the Radicals and the Progressionists. The latter, it appears, are much concerned about the reported inclination of some Radical leaders to support the Cabinet on certain conditions. Whether this rumour be true or false, events have not yet shown. But it is interesting to observe that the prospect of a ready-made

the columns of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, an influential weekly journal having strong sympathies with the Progressionist party. The *Kokumin* shrinks, as yet, from absolutely frank speech, but there can be no manner of doubt that it refers to the Radicals when, in a recent article, it "pities a certain party which, relying on the absurd hope that its platform may possibly be adopted by the Cabinet, hesitates and wanders." After devoting some space to exposing what it calls the "absurdity" of such hopes, and, after enlarging upon the clannish character of the present Ministry, our contemporary earnestly repeats its recent recommendation to the Radicals and the Progressionists that they should dissolve their respective parties and combine into a single association with the common object of pulling down clan Government. Various suppositions, observes the *Kokumin*, are made as to the intended policy of the Government. Some imagine that the ITO Cabinet will carry out the important reform of reassessing the taxable value of the land; others, that the three Regulations—i.e. the Public meetings, Newspaper, and Publications Regulations, will be radically revised; others, that the Ministry will try to divert the attention of the people to foreign questions. Various as these suppositions are, they all evidently agree in assuming that the Cabinet possesses a definite policy more or less satisfactory to the Popular party. Those who think thus are ridiculed for setting too high a value upon the sagacity of the present Cabinet. Individually speaking, the members of the present Ministry are all men of the first order. If the sum total of the ability of the several Ministers represented the effective ability of a Cabinet as one body, then the ITO Cabinet would, it is admitted, be the strongest and ablest ever organized during the past twenty years. But in point of fact such is not the case. Too many oarsmen, as the saying goes, drive the boat ashore. The present Cabinet—we quote from the Tokyo periodical—is in one sense, composed of Choshu and Sas-shu elements, and, in another, of the Military and Civil parties. A Cabinet thus variously constituted cannot be expected to possess much effective strength. As to its ruling principle, our contemporary is persuaded that the Cabinet is in effect a defensive alliance against political parties. Hence, the exigencies of defence may find it united, but the union will cease to be trustworthy so soon as there is question of pursuing a progressive policy. Arguing thus, the *Kokumin* finds it easy to understand and credit the report of a so-called "official news agency," which says that the attitude of the Popular party being unknown, the Government is unable to decide on any fixed policy. "Is it not then," the Opposition is asked, "the dream of a fool to imagine that the ITO Cabinet will adopt

the platform of the Popular party?" Our contemporary is convinced that the Ministry's object is simply to carry out the old practice of collecting men of mark within the fortress of officialdom, and it bases this view partly on the rumours recently circulated that offers of office have been made to Prince KONOYE, Viscount TANI, Mr. NAKAJIMA and others. While the Cabinet is thus doing all in its power to keep up the clan system, is it not fatuous, asks the *Kokumin*, to indulge the hope that the Popular party's demands will be conceded. Hence an aggressive alliance against the Government is the true programme for the parties in Opposition. "The only way," concludes our contemporary "of forming such an alliance is to organize a large national party out of the present *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*."

We (*Japan Mail*) repeat our strong doubts of the possibility of such a feat as this union in the present stage of political progress in Japan. As to the prudence of the *Kokumin's* advice, there cannot be much question, from the point of view of effective warfare. But surely with the present Cabinet in Power—a Cabinet of which the two most prominent men are associated with the only really practical measure hitherto taken to throw official ranks open to all classes of Japanese without distinction of clan or party—with such a Cabinet in power it is a mere delusion to talk of Clan Government as the object of the Opposition's attack. Envelop the question in whatever euphemisms they may, or hide it behind whatever pretexts they please, the real object of the Opposition is to introduce Government by Party. Upon them rests the responsibility of attempting to tamper with a brand new Constitution—a performance recognised by all statesmen as fraught with the gravest peril—and upon them also rests the responsibility of agitating for the curtailment of the Prerogatives specially reserved by the Constitution to the SOVEREIGN. We sometimes wonder whether these Radical politicians have ever read, or if having read they ever recall, the words used by the EMPEROR himself in the Preamble to the Constitution:—"When, in the future, it may become necessary to amend any of the provisions of the present Constitution, *We or Our successors shall assume the initiative*, and submit a project for the same to the Imperial Diet. The Imperial Diet shall pass its vote upon it, according to the conditions imposed by the present Constitution, *and in no otherwise shall Our descendants or Our subjects be permitted to attempt any alteration thereof*. Our Ministers of State, on Our behalf, shall be held responsible for the carrying out of the present Constitution, and Our present and future subjects shall for ever assume the duty of allegiance to the present Constitution." How do the leaders of the Opposition reconcile their conduct with the Imperial declarations which we have

here italicized? The system of Party Cabinets for which they contend, represents a vital departure from the provisions of the Constitution. Have they waited for the SOVEREIGN to take the initiative in divesting himself of the prerogative of which this change would deprive him? Or do they seek by agitation and an attitude of defiance to wrest from the EMPEROR powers expressly reserved to him by the Constitution? Finally, do they remember that the "Ministers of State are held responsible for carrying out the Constitution," and are therefore bound to resist the Opposition's endeavours to violate one of its most important provisions?

KEROSENE IN BULK.

AFTER some hesitation, we believe, the Japanese Government has accepted the principle of storing Kerosene in bulk at Kanagawa. This innovation has been already adopted at many places in Europe, and we lately referred to its gradual progress eastward. In Kobe, where the storage of Kerosene is a matter of private enterprise, tanks have already been erected, but in Yokohama the Government retains control of this matter, and doubt seems to have been entertained at the outset as to the safety of the procedure. But, in point of fact, no more difficult feat can readily be imagined than to ignite a cistern full of Kerosene. Had not this been fully recognised on the strength of expert evidence, such a method of storage would never have been permitted, as it is, at numerous places in England. We believe that the old fort at Kanagawa has been chosen as the site for erecting the tanks. Apparently this selection of locality indicates the continued existence of some hesitation on the grounds of safety, but considering that tanks are erected in the very midst of important centres of population and shipping in Great Britain, and that experts have pronounced the tank system of storage to be much safer than the system of storing in tins in godowns, there should be no reason for fear. However, the ground at the old fort will probably cost nothing, and in certain respects the site is excellent. The industry of exporting oil from Batoum is now very largely in British hands, and so extensive are the preparations for carriage in bulk that a fleet of 120 steamers will soon be engaged in the work. Messrs. SAMUEL and COMPANY, the great firm which controls the enterprise, are pushing matters with the utmost energy in the East. They have offered to supply the steel tanks to the Japanese Government at a price equal to only the cost of manufacture, and as we observe that the outlay involved at Singapore in building sheds for storage and for filling, a wharf and a pier, laying a system of pipe lines and constructing three tanks, each capable of holding 15,000 gallons, was only \$60,000, the expenditure on ac-

count of the Kanagawa depot ought not to be great. What may be the nature of the foundations at the Kanagawa fort, we do not know, but doubtless this important point—important in regard alike to expense and to the limits of the tanks' size—has been duly considered. As to the effect which the new system may be expected to exercise upon the selling price of the oil, a forcible illustration is furnished by Singapore's experience, where, after the introduction of a few cargoes in drums, the market fell from \$2.10 per case to \$1.25, the latter by no means representing the lowest figure at which the Company expected to be able to furnish the oil to consumers. The innovation deserves to be welcomed from every point of view, though it will naturally encounter much opposition at the hands of importers who have hitherto monopolised the trade, following the old method of packing in cases.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN" ON PARTY CABINETS.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun*, which may be regarded in a certain sense as the daily edition of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, has a very violent article in reply to our statement that the introduction of Party Cabinets in Japan would be a change in the system prescribed by the Constitution, and that politicians agitating for such a change are directly contravening the terms of the Preamble to the Constitution, which Preamble is an autographic message from the EMPEROR himself to his subjects. It is not surprising that the *Kokumin Shimbun* should be startled by a distinct definition of the attitude assumed by itself and its fellow-thinkers in this matter, and perhaps we may regard the strength of its language as evidence of the disquiet into which it has been thrown by our remarks. But we must beg to be excused from replying in detail to its arguments. The extreme rudeness of its methods effectually place it beyond the pale of serious controversy. We have been accustomed to rank politeness high among the most beautiful traits of Japanese character. The true Japanese, as we have known him for twenty-five years, never forgets to be courteous. Under the most trying circumstances he generally preserves his *sang-froid*, and is guided by the wise old precept that recourse to abuse and ill-temper is an infallible proof of absence of reason. It might fairly have been hoped that this national excellence would have survived the growth even of a newspaper press, but unfortunately the style adopted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* shows that such a hope has not yet been realized. From the foreign side, indeed, no stones can be safely thrown. It would be impossible to find in any part of the world, however close to the confines of civilization, coarser Gothicism and more

intolerant rudeness than are habitually paraded by some of the English local journals at the open ports. But unless Japanese politeness be of an exceedingly superficial nature—a hypothesis which there are no grounds for entertaining—the contamination of this degraded type of journalism ought to be easily avoided. As a rule it is avoided. We can point to many Japanese journals which never debase their columns by rudeness to an opponent, always maintaining a temperate and courteous attitude even in the face of great provocation. In view of editorial ability and literary connections the *Kokumin Shimbun* ought to belong to this better and infinitely more creditable class. But it is difficult to draw any certain inference from a given set of premises in Japan. The hybrid Japanese who assumes the brusqueness of manner without assimilating the moral *bonhomie* that often underlies the foreigner's unconventionality, is a thoroughly unsightly type—a parody, not an imitation. Even in the field of art we observe the same uncertainty of instinct. Judging by precedents, what might be expected of a Japanese in every instance is sobriety and harmony of taste. Yet in the Tokyo salons we occasionally see ladies of refinement and culture displaying costumes in which shockingly incongruous elements and conflicting colours are associated, to the apparent satisfaction of the disfigured wearer. Or again, a Japanese garden, perfect in everything of indigenous origin and arrangement, is destroyed by a fence daubed with a hideously glaring foreign paint. Instinct fails, apparently, to be a trustworthy guide among circumstances altogether unfamiliar. We may, nevertheless, hope that the native politeness and moderation of the Japanese will ultimately assert themselves in the journalistic field, and that the inherent weakness of rudeness and personalities will be appreciated by newspapers of the *Kokumin Shimbun's* stamp. In the meanwhile, however, we are under no obligation to expose ourselves to uncivil assaults by entering the lists with an opponent which takes off the gloves and aims below the belt from the outset. The question at issue is Constitutional not personal. If our contemporary cannot treat it in the former sense and with some regard for the amenities of discussion, we must be pardoned for declining the contest.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Being engaged in kindred pursuits, and having been employed recently as Inspecting Engineers by the Imperial Chinese Government in connection with the large Iron and Steel Works now being erected at Hankow, we have noticed with considerable interest various paragraphs and remarks in your journal with reference to the

establishment of Iron and Steel Works on a large scale by the Government of Japan, and we venture to offer a few remarks thereon, which we trust may not be without interest.

Undoubtedly the manufacture of iron and steel is one of the most difficult industries to establish, a proof of which may be seen in the concentration in but a few countries of the vast bulk of production. Nevertheless, there are no doubt forcible reasons for the establishment of such a manufacture in Japan, as elsewhere; reasons which may cause it to be put aside, to some extent at all events, the economical consideration of manufacture being more costly than importation. Before, however, any settled decision is taken, and any large expenditure incurred, we think that it would be well worth while to make searching preliminary investigations, so as to avoid a repetition of the costly failure which has attached to attempts in many other countries to establish this industry.

One of the least satisfactory methods, from an economical point of view, is to undertake the smelting of ore by means of charcoal; the result undoubtedly gives a very beautiful material, but at a cost more or less prohibitive, and with the certain result of the destruction of adjacent timber on so large a scale that within a short time the country is cleared within the radius of effective transport, and the whole thing comes to a standstill.

In Sweden, where the manufacture of iron by means of charcoal has been more largely and longer carried on than elsewhere, the industry has been maintained principally through the supplies of timber being on an exceptionally large, and the output of iron on a comparatively small, scale; but even in Sweden this manufacture is now becoming less and less. An attempt was made in Italy not many years ago, at Terni, but in a few years the adjoining country was so denuded of timber that it was not possible to continue its employment, and the works came to a standstill. Something of the sort has taken place in Japan itself, we believe, and from the above facts it may be seen that it is only by means of coal—or by gaseous fuel, as in the United States—that the industry can be economically and permanently established, and even then several factors must co-exist in arriving at a satisfactory result.

Firstly, iron ore must exist in sufficient quantity, and of favourable quality.

Secondly, coal must be found in tolerable proximity, and it must be free from any large percentage of sulphur; it also must possess the quality of being capable of being transformed into coke of a density which will permit of its sustaining in the blast furnace the concentrated weight of the charge of ore, flux, etc. It is this quality of coaling, so pre-eminent in the Durham coal, which, together with the proximity of vast ore beds, has caused Middlesboro to become in a short time the greatest iron and steel producing district in England.

Thirdly, a proper flux must also be had, which does not require to be brought from any great distance.

Fourthly, a smaller but still important consideration is that of the existence of fire clay, seeing what large quantities of fire bricks are used in the construction and constant renewal of iron and steel works plant.

Fifthly, the last, but by no means the least factor, is that of labour. There is no form of work to which humanity is put which is more severe and sometimes even brutal, than in almost all stages of the manufacture of iron and steel. And in its higher forms there are perhaps few employments in which the gift of being able to tell the precise heat, or the precise moment at which vast and costly masses of metal should be removed from the furnace to the hammer or rolls, is given to so few individuals. Of a good forgerman or smith it may be said as of the poet, that he is 'born, not made', though long experience, and perhaps heredity also, enter into his composition. In the manufacture of armour plates, for instance, a first-class foreman smith has been known to enjoy the salary of a cabinet minister.

It is frequently observed that it is always a difficult matter to establish an isolated factory, not only on account of the training of labour, but also on account of the difficulty of maintaining trained labour at a high point of efficiency. It is found that when works are grouped in districts, as is usually the case, the labour is of a higher and more efficient type than when they are solitary; and this fact often determines the establishment of new factories in certain districts, rather than in others where cheaper labour or other advantages may be obtained. Where there are several works grouped together, the competition induced puts both masters, foreman and men on the *qui vive*; the later pass from one works to another, gaining experience at each, which is thus diffused among all, and there is no tendency therefore towards crystallization.

Another question of some importance which alone is determined by the nature of the ore, is whether the plant should be laid out for production on the Siemens-Martin or Bessemer systems, which were both originally acid processes. By the former, all kinds of mild steel suitable for ship-building, bridge-building, boiler work and smithy purposes, are produced from ore generally of a hematite character, free from phosphorus; and by the latter, steel of a less ductile quality suitable for rail making may be produced from ores less pure in quality. Where, however, the available ore is decidedly phosphoric, the system to be adopted must be that invented by Messrs. Thomas and Gilchrist, and known as the basic process, by which either rails or mild steel can be produced in special forms of Bessemer or Siemens-Martin furnaces in which there is a basic lining of magnesian limestone, which absorbs the phosphorus during the process of manufacture.

There are other points of minor importance, but we think we have shown how great is the necessity for the most thorough investigation before the character of the plant to be put down is determined on.

It is very desirable that specimens in sufficient quantity, fairly representing the bulk, of both ore and coal should be sent to some iron and steel making country, there to be not only thoroughly analysed, but also tested practically in manufacture, the gain in experience thereby more than compensating for the loss of time entailed.

In our own experience we have not infrequently found that deposits of coal and ore, which had led to the supposition that the industry of iron and steel making could be established, proved, on assay and trial, to be utterly unsuitable for the purpose.

We would suggest, therefore, that the most practical method of ascertaining the possibility or probability of the establishment of an iron and steel industry in Japan would be to make trial borings by means of diamond boring machinery, on a large scale, in those districts where ore and coal are known, or supposed, to exist. Even were the results not in all cases satisfactory for the establishment of iron works, yet the information gained, from a geological point of view, could not fail to be of high value, and discoveries of other minerals might take place which would more than compensate for any other disappointment.

The necessities of a nation must of course take precedence of all other considerations, yet, to those who know how beautiful above most other countries are the fair islands of Japan, there seems something almost painful in the establishment of works which, perhaps more than any others, so thoroughly disfigure large areas of country.

We are, yours faithfully,

J. BIRCH & CO.

August 31st, 1892.

ANOTHER DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As is already known to many of your readers, Japan is about to receive a three weeks' visit from Rev. F. E. Clark D.D., familiarly known as "Father Endeavour Clark." He is expected in Kobe from Australia about Nov. 8th. Dr. Clark was the founder of the first Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, and is now the widely known President of the United Societies.

It has been my privilege to know this man intimately for twenty-three years. I regard his coming to Japan at this juncture as a special Providence, and would like the favour of your columns to state a few facts and make a suggestion or two, that may possibly be of interest or service to some.

I write solely at my own prompting, and out of admiration for the man and his work. I have no formal connection with any one of the 22,000 societies which acknowledge him as their united head, and most loyally follow his wonderful leadership. I have never worn the familiar badge, a C encircling an E, though at heart I am a believer in the Society and its noble work.

In no partisan spirit therefore, but simply as an interested observer of the great movement of the day, I would call attention to this most unique enterprise in the church history of the present century.

Beginning twelve years ago in a single church in Portland, Me. of which Dr. Clark was then pastor, it has grown to a membership of one and a half millions, and now encircles the globe.

Nothing else in the history of Christianity parallels it. Even Methodism, down to a recent date the marvel of the modern church, must yield the palm in rapidity of growth and breadth of scope, to this organized movement among the young people of every Christian sect.

Dr. Clark is the head and front of this widely extended growth. He is its authorised expounder

and advocate. Should Gen. Booth visit this land, whatever we may have thought hitherto of the Salvation Army and some of its grotesque performances, we should be interested to see its founder and inspiring spirit; that is if we have any interest whatever in the great efforts made to uplift our race. Much more then, all of us who care for the moral training of the young are glad, I am sure, to welcome to our sunny land, this "Paradise of Childhood," a man who speaks for 1,500,000 young people, whose lives are dedicated to Christ and the church, and who have enlisted in a crusade against every form of evil.

We wish to give a fair hearing to this organized form of skilled Christian labour, which is wielding so weighty an influence in Western lands.

But aside from the great enterprise which he represents, and the fact that he brings greetings from and commands the most ardent devotion of multitudes of America's best people, as evidenced by the public farewells tendered him at Boston, New York, San Francisco and intermediate points, Dr. Clark is in himself a man of marked personality. The deep meaning term, Christian gentleman, always comes to my mind when his name is spoken. He is the embodiment of courtesy and fairness, an enthusiast without being a crank, intense in his activity, broad in his sympathies, and thoroughly unselfish in all his work and motives. He is a pleasing speaker of exceptional oratorical ability, and a winning writer. His pen runs easily, and he has already published half a score of books. He is the chief editor of *The Golden Rule*, published in Boston, Mass., one of the breeziest and most business-like Christian weeklies in all the world. He is worth seeing and hearing for his own sake, as well as for the cause he represents.

He has received large offers repeatedly to head various business and literary enterprises, but his heart is in his present work, and money could not tempt him to leave it. In ability to read men and organize them into effective companies of workers he has few superiors, and he does his leading with great geniality of temper. In short, he is one of the men of the day, one whom we cannot afford to miss knowing.

He comes to Japan on no holiday trip. His one purpose is to give and to do. He is too modest to press his subject upon unwilling listeners. He is too much wanted in Australia, India, England and America to stay a day where he is not desired. He is a busy man, and if any of us wish to catch him, we must speak in time.

Mr. A. T. Hill of Kobe will have the general superintendence of Dr. Clark's movements in Japan. He would be glad, I know, to answer inquiries or receive suggestions from any.

Might it not be well for Mr. Hill to appoint a sub-committee at each of the ports? Or a better plan yet would be for the Christian workers in each city to choose their own committee to make arrangements for welcoming Dr. Clark and holding one or more meetings with him.

One other suggestion, the Japanese cannot fail to be interested in Dr. Clark and his speeches. Let them be notified and invited to as wide an extent as possible.

On the score of old-time friendship, I secured in advance a promise of a visit to the city where I live and labour. Arrangements are being made to notify 30 outlying stations, when the exact date of his speaking in Okayama is fixed. Should a similar plan be followed in other cities, a large number of people would be favoured, and a vast amount of good could not fail of accomplishment.

Yours truly,
JAMES H. PETTEE.
Okayama, Oct. 10, 1892.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER HOSPITAL IN JAPAN.

On the 15th of August, last year, I addressed to His Grace Mgr. Osouf, at present Archbishop of Tokyo, a report concerning the Leper Hospital founded, at Gotemba, by the regretted Father Testevuide, whose charge had just been entrusted to me.

To-day, I make it my duty to bring to the knowledge of the persons that have kindly taken an interest in our endeavours, the present state of our Hospital, and, at the same time, the development it is on the eve of taking.

During the last year, our establishment did not cease to progress in every respect: the grounds have been considerably extended; new buildings for divers manual occupations have been constructed, and new patients, admitted. The number of the latter amounts, at present, to 54. Most of them are already Christians.

Of course, they are allowed complete liberty of conscience. But they cannot live long in the establishment without hearing their fellow patients,

baptized, praise the Christian religion; they are naturally induced to admire the sentiments and conduct of those that have embraced it, and desire to acquire a better knowledge thereof.

They admire, especially, the fraternal charity of these neophytes, their good humour, their gaiety, the serene happiness of their souls, beaming through their features, often disfigured, and through the very pains of their terrible disease.

Under the immediate action of such a benign influence, the light of faith quickly makes its way into their minds, while their hearts are soon inclined to cherish a religion that appears so beautiful and promises so much peace. Hence all the lepers of the hospital are Christians, or prepare themselves to become so. They form, as it were, a religious community, animated with the best spirit, passing their time in prayer and easy manual labour.

But a short time ago, cast away by their very relations, wandering on all the roads, and in all places haunted by wretchedness, inspiring horror rather than pity, our lepers were the most unfortunate of men. Admitted into our establishment, they live happy at present, and with scarcely any cares for the morrow. Once introduced by baptism into the great Christian family, then, especially, they think, nay, they are convinced, that He who feeds the birds of the air, who gives growth and beauty to the flower of the field and to the lily of the valley, will never abandon His own children.

Must I now own that he who has charge of the leper asylum is more uneasy and anxious? Alas! It is but true. He has to provide for a community of over 65 persons, including the personnel of the administration. The daily expenses are considerable, the medicaments costly: therefore, the alms received are soon absorbed.

The difficulty of covering the ordinary expenses, at present, is already a heavy burden, but the number of patients is on the eve of increasing, and that prospect is the cause of fresh uneasiness.

There are, in Japan, divers places where lepers, flocking together from the neighbouring provinces, meet near a temple, built to the memory of an ancient bonze called *Nichi-ren*, who, we told, had a particular commiseration for this kind of patients. They assemble there to implore his aid, hoping to be cured, or, at least, relieved.

Now, lately, a number of lepers, who had assembled near a temple, famous among all, built at *Minobu*, about 20 leagues from our asylum, heard of the existence of the latter. They, at first, doubted whether it would be possible to find under the sun a place where so much kindness is lavished on a misfortune like theirs. However, they wanted to see with their own eyes; they saw and they believed; they asked for admittance and then hastened to inform their companions.

Three other localities, where lepers assemble in groups, for the same purpose as at *Minobu*, have been visited, and relations have been established with our asylum.

Moreover, on the East-coast of *Chiba-ken*, one of our Christians is acquainted with over 40 lepers and wishes to send some of them to our hospital.

Finally, another Christian has found, on the mountains that form the western border of *Gumma-ken*, at *Kusatsu*, over 60 lepers, who had assembled there to try the efficacy of mineral hot springs. They were very glad to learn that there existed, elsewhere, an asylum where patients of their kind are taken care of. They took our address and asked whether they could be allowed to proceed thither. We could do nothing but give them a faint hope of admittance. But it is very probable that several of them, without awaiting for a positive authorization, will try their fortune and start for our asylum.

Thus, from different quarters, numerous patients are about to take the road to our hospital. A few are already arrived. The last one had traversed nearly a hundred leagues. He fell from exhaustion, a few feet from the threshold of our establishment. Happily he was noticed; was hastily raised up, attended to and comforted. In a few days, he was instructed enough to receive holy Baptism, and then died. He had been led by Providence from so very far, to obtain, just in time, if not the life of the body, at least the life of the soul!

The current is thus established. It cannot but continue to swell, and there is no doubt that, in a very short time, many more patients will knock at our doors.

What must we then do? Must we reject them? Their misery is awful; their disease devours them alive! Less happy than the lepers of the Sandwich-Islands, who live together in a spacious asylum, supported at the expense of the local Government, wisely directed and tended to by Catholic Missionaries and Sisters; less happy than most lepers of Tonkin, who, in the more important provinces, find, near the capital towns, an asylum

where the Royal munificence comes to their aid, the lepers of Japan are for the most part abandoned to themselves. Such as dispose of a certain fortune are able to find refuge and care in certain establishments, public and private; but the poor, with very few exceptions, and those who come and knock at our doors, are without refuge and shelter; nay, often they have no clothes, they suffer from hunger, and despair is in their soul! Shall we yet double their torture by casting them away from the only threshold where they hoped to find rest and relief? Would any of my readers decide the question against them? As for me, I will never have courage enough to do so. I will always accept every homeless patient that comes to us for aid and shelter.

Once more I make an appeal to compassionate Souls, and implore of their charity the aid necessary to relieve so many unfortunate human beings. Our dear Lord, who here below had so great a compassion for these the most wretched of men, will assuredly repay a hundred-fold the contributions of our generous Benefactors: indeed, the best reward secured for the charitable hearts that will kindly listen to my ardent appeal.

P. VIGOROUS, Mission. Apost.

THE YOKOHAMA JIZEN KAI.

Report of the Negishi Charity Hospital for August and September, 1892.

	August 2st.	September 2st.
Patients in Hospital	9	10
Admitted during month	10	10
Died	2	1
Discharged	8	5
Paying patients	2	22
Charity	5	4
Half paying	2	4
Whole number treated	19	30
Visiting patients (free)	30	51
Visiting patients (paying)	31	95
Whole number visiting patients	90	147
Number of visitors	94	58

	CASH ACCOUNT.
By paying patients	39.72
By sale of medicine	5.39
By various sources	17.33
By supported beds	31.00
By Jizenkai	25.08
By deficit (adv. by treasurer)	—
	108.52

	1892.	1891-92.
To salaries of doctor, nurses, and housekeeper	34.74	47.50
To boarding	30.15	45.55
To furniture and instruments	16.92	15.08
To dispensary for medicines	13.01	23.25
To general expenses	8.83	6.04
To books for accounts and stationery	2.08	4.48
To repairs and printing	—	7.00
To amount still due from paying patients	2.81	6.53
	108.52	153.49

H. HIBINO, Physician in charge.
G. AMADA, Steward.

October 22th, 1892.

Note.—The extra salary in September is due to the illness of Dr. Hibino, and the consequent need of a substitute. Dr. Hibino has now recovered. All members are invited to the regular monthly meetings, held for the present at 221 Bluff, on the first Saturday of each month, at 2 p.m.

CRICKET.

ENGLAND V. SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

This match was not fought to a conclusion on Saturday, time being up before England had played half a dozen men, but the draw must be placed to the credit of the Scotch-Irish eleven, who, however, comprised among their number the best bowlers and bats in the Club. Crouch, who has been fielding well of late knocked up the highest score, 43, not out. White, of the English eleven, coming next with 37, also not out. It was a ladies' day, and many fair visitors graced the ground with their presence, afterwards partaking of the Club's hospitality at five o'clock tea.—Scores:—

SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.	
Mr. Crawford, c. Barton, b. Edward	23
Mr. Blair, b. Tate	9
Mr. Munro, b. Edwards	9
Mr. Duff, b. Edwards	2
Mr. Dodds, c. Layard, b. Tate	11
Mr. Burn, c. Layard, b. Tate	12
Mr. Wheeler, c. Layard, b. Edwards	2
Mr. Murdoch, b. Morris	26
Mr. Crouch, not out	43
Mr. Philip, c. Layard, b. Morris	4
Mr. Nash, c. Tate, b. Edwards	0
b. 13	13
	147
ENGLAND.	
Mr. White, not out	37
Mr. Dickinson, c. and b. Burn	0
Mr. Edwards, W. D. S., b. Murdoch	0
Mr. Tate, not out	8
Mr. Morris, b. Burn	26
Mr. Layard, b. Murdoch	10
Mr. Barton	—
Mr. Parlett	—
Mr. Healing	—
Mr. Garrit	—
Mr. Braes	—
did not bat	—
	79

"IS MAN NATURALLY GOOD OR BAD?"

By MR. G. BOISSONADE.

(Translated from the *Revue Française du Japon*.)

This question originated in China, I have heard: it is often discussed in Japan. It appears that three different replies have been made to it. Some say that man is naturally good: hence the wicked would be the exception, which agrees pretty well with what we see in society. Others say that he is naturally bad: then good people are only the exception; which is neither flattering for the human species, nor reassuring for the future of society: moreover, this fact would make it difficult to justify the right of punishing that society has ascribed to itself. Others say that he is neither good nor bad, naturally, and that he becomes the one or the other according to education, example and the surroundings in the midst of which he is brought up.

The question has also been sometimes put to me in conversation, and, without having then much reflected upon it, I have always answered, that "man is rather than not naturally good." Now I am invited by the founders of the Japanese Review, "The Kokkō" (the Light of the Land), to express my opinion upon this problem. What might be sufficient at the time of a few minutes conversation, no longer suffices when the question has to be treated of in writing.

Upon further reflection, I am astonished that only the three preceding solutions have been given to it. Could it not have been also said,

4. That there are good men and bad ones, through their natural propensities:

5. That there are men who are born good and whom example, bad advice, and vices have made bad:

6. Inversely, that men who are born bad have, by example and good councils, become good?

These three new solutions do not exclude the one or the other, because they do not, like the first three, claim to reply for man in general, or the whole of humanity: they make a distinction between individuals. At most, they leave for solution three other subsidiary questions, namely:—

Are the majority of men born good or bad?

Do the majority of men born good remain good?

Do the majority of men born bad remain bad?

To these three new questions, I shall reply in the affirmative.

Man is born, most frequently, with good instincts which reason and education usually confirm and develop; a man born good remains so under the ordinary circumstances of life; there must be particularly unfavourable circumstances for wickedness to succeed in dominating him. A man born bad remains bad, unless he meets with special conditions of good education, of good precepts and of good examples.

But, would there not be room for a 7th solution, to wit, that the same man is almost always alternately good and bad, according to what circumstances happen to him in life, according as events are favourable or unfavourable to him, as other men are just or unjust to him? This solution does not exclude the first two, for it could be applied as well to a man born good as to one born bad; only, as regards the first, cases of wickedness would be accidental with him, whilst as regards the second, goodness would have the character of accident. So many different possible solutions prove that the question has been propounded in too extended a form.

It goes without saying that the world admits that there are men thoroughly good without effort on their part, and that there are others who are bad, radically bad. The first are so good that they do not become corrupted, do not become bad even when surrounded by the very worst kind of examples and under circumstances wherein others only ordinarily good, would become bad. The second are so bad that, notwithstanding good examples and good education, notwithstanding circumstances that confer individual happiness upon them and which, from that very fact, ought to soften their character and keep them from sentiments of hatred or of jealousy, remain bad and pernicious to their fellow creatures. These are, in the two senses, exceptions, and, doubtless, the question is asked as concerning the generality of men only.

Nor will I dwell upon the point of showing what must be understood by "a good man," and what by "a bad man": there are many degrees of goodness as there are of badness. If we call "goodness" virtue and "badness" vice, it is clear that we must not take these two definitions as absolutely comprehensive, for no man possesses all the virtues, just as no one has all the vices.

Nor can we, according to the question asked, specify the qualities that we would require in a

man to style him "good," nor the vices that would make us declare him "bad;" there would be arbitrariness in it, and whilst, among us, some would especially require certain qualities (doubtless those they themselves possess or think they do) and would especially condemn certain vices (those they do not have or think they do not have), others would be different and severer in their exactions.

It is already seen that it is not as easy as it might be thought at first sight, to understand each other upon the position of the question.

For my part, I shall be inclined to call a *good man*, one who has the most sociable virtues, that is to say, one who is far from willingly injuring his fellow creatures and is disposed to be useful to them: in a word, I shall call *good* "a man that really loved his fellow creatures, from the fact that they are so, exclusive of relationship, of private friendship or of services received: I should call *bad*" an egotist, an envious body, one who looks after his own interest and his own gratifications everywhere, always, at any price, at the risk of injuring the most legitimate interests of others.

The first can even push his love of his fellow creatures to the sacrifice of his fortune and even of his life for others; but in that case, he is no longer good, he is very good, but superlatively generous.

The second can push egotism to the sacrifice of the fortune and lives of others to his ambition, to his interest, to his passions; such a one is very bad, he is the worst of men. Whence they have come to that, both come within the exception and as such are out of the question.

In limiting, therefore, the meaning of the words *good* and *bad* with which we are dealing, to the generality of men, the question is still very embarrassing. It is still not stated with sufficient precision.

Are we to inquire what man is (whether he is good or bad) in what is sometimes called "the state of nature," or what he is in a state of civilization more or less advanced to which most known peoples have arrived? It is not easy to form an exact conception to-day of that state called "of nature."

Certain philosophers, like Rousseau in France, have spoken at length about this state of nature; but they have, without doubt, imagined it such as it never existed. It is probable that, before the formation of human societies, when men were living grouped in families, struggling with all the difficulties of material life, surrounded with nature's dangers, exposed to cold and to heat, to hunger, to wild animals, to the attacks of their neighbours, they had for sole guide the instinct of preservation which brought them nearer to wild animals themselves than to civilized man of to-day. What would lead us to believe this is, that the savage tribes that are met with in Central Africa and perhaps in South America, are possessed of the violence and often of the ferocity of beasts.

I would prefer not to call "state of nature," such a quite exceptional situation of man, and to thus style the one in which men are already united into tribes or into bodies of families, having chiefs more or less accepted by all or by the greatest number; those chiefs are ordinarily old men or warriors, and, as all the members of the tribe always know each other more or less, social virtues are developed and anti-social vices are rare or less accentuated; the influence of the common sentiment is relatively stronger than in a larger society; the pursuit of the esteem of others and the fear of their contempt produce therein more efficacious results than in great societies where each one is as lost in an unconcerned crowd.

We have examples analogous to this situation in small communes and hamlets, where every one knows the other, where each one observes the other, where one judges one's neighbour and is judged by him. I would willingly say that in this social state, man is good rather than bad; but this goodness of man is not purely natural, instinctive and primitive; it is the effect of human society for which man is certainly created, and which alone answers for his destiny.

If we now study man in more advanced civilizations, we shall be in a position to say that whatever of good there is in him develops itself more extensively at the same time that natural bad propensities find stronger excitement and more multiplied and perhaps easier modes of gratification. It is in large cities that the greatest number of vices is found, just as there are found there, too, the greatest number of learned men and of ignoramuses, the richest and the poorest men; all the extremes, with all the intermediate degrees.

But, to get as far as to say that there are good and bad people (that one sees every day), is not yet a reply to the question: it must be also known whether there are in the world more good than bad people or the reverse; it is a statistical matter impossible to state in any country;

but I have not the least doubt, that everywhere, especially in Japan, the good are in a very great majority over the bad.

I shall be nearer to giving a satisfactory reply to the question, if I take my stand successively before meetings of men whom others are endeavouring to make share with them extremes of sentiments, good and bad ones. If I concede to those that address them in the two senses, the same amount of talent of persuasion, the same order of feeling, the same modes of action, I believe that those that strive to urge their audience towards goodness, the beautiful, justice, courage, the love of country, will prevail sooner and more completely than those that shall preach vice, hatred, violence, fear, and egotism. Man, here again, would then be good rather than bad.

I will suppose now two different gatherings of men already stirred with opposite passions: some are already inflamed with noble and generous passions, others, on the contrary, are instigated by hatred and anger, by a spirit of vengeance or by fear. I believe it will be difficult, impossible perhaps, that the first should be suddenly induced into evil by a speaker who should censure them for their good sentiments and should preach contrary ones to them; whilst experience shows that oftentimes irritated, furious crowds, ready to proceed to the greatest excesses, have been promptly stopped, subdued and brought back to calm and humane sentiments, by the power of honest speech, firm and imbued with the eloquence that love of justice and of truth inspires. Man, then, would here again be good rather than bad, since he never suddenly changes from good sentiments to bad ones, whilst on the contrary he often does so, and easily, from badness to goodness, from anger to calmness, from hatred to sympathy.

Finally, when I study individuals, I find in them, in each one of us taken separately, what I find in the aggregate of men united into a society, that is, goodness and badness at one and the same time.

Not only is no one absolutely good nor absolutely bad, not only are there men that possess more virtues than vices and others more vices than virtues, but also every man passes, in a sort of way, through periods of virtue and periods of vice. Under the influence of the surroundings in which he is placed, of the facts that he meets with, of the relations that he holds with other men, whatever naturally good there is in him either develops itself or dwindles away, and whatever is bad in him either withers or expands. These changes are sometimes slow and perceptible, sometimes rapid; they are at one time lasting, at another transient.

It was a long ago that one of our sages said that "man is a variable being of diverse nature;" this is, in a word, perhaps the truest remark to make in reply to the question in hand. I think, then, that man would be maligned if he were called naturally bad, and to say that he is naturally good, is neither to flatter nor to deceive him. At all events, if he is not always good, he can become so, and this is the sign of his superiority over all the animals that do not possess moral perception.

Man has two very powerful natural guides to lead him to goodness and to turn him aside from badness, his reason and his heart, that is to say his intelligence and his sensibility. These two guides are united in Religion, that is to say in the belief in God, a Supreme Being sovereignly powerful, who alone possesses the secret of reconciling absolute justice with goodness, and whom reason teaches us to know at the same time that our hearts stimulate us to love Him. As a means towards perfection, man has the gift of communicating with his fellow creatures as much at the present by speech and by writings, as on the past by recollection and by history.

Finally there is in him the sentiment of the duties which he fulfils in the universe: generally, he even thinks that his destiny does not end with this life, that there is another where the wicked are punished and the good are rewarded. Those are immense benefits which even the most perfected animal does not enjoy.

If man were generally bad, he would cease to advance, even slowly, in goodness and better things, he would, on the contrary, stride on with giant steps in badness and in worse doings; he would be worse than the brute creation, which, if it makes no progress, does not retrograde: man would be a monster of nature instead of being the master-piece of creation.

Plato was the first to say, and no one has said it better: The man whose natural disposition is happy and whose education has been good, is the gentlest of living creatures, a creature almost divine; but if his natural disposition is bad and if his education has been insufficient to correct it, he is the most savage of all beings.

I conclude, therefore, in the meaning of my first reply. Man, taken in general, is naturally good,

and notwithstanding the trials of life, more often remains good than he becomes bad. A naturally bad man is the exception, and it is not rare for him to approach being nearly a good man whenever he lives under favourable conditions.

In favour of the natural goodness of man, that is to say, of the greatest number of good men, I can, in concluding, invoke the testimony of the celebrated English traveller, Livingstone, who, after having traversed the most savage countries, died in the centre of Africa: he wrote: "Whatever may be the value of the discoveries that I have made, the one that I look upon as being the most precious, is to have proven the great number of excellent people there are in the world." This remark could only have been made by a man himself excellent.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, September 22nd, 1892.

The two Chinese boys, Tom Bu and Wong Lim Doe, mentioned in a previous letter as detained at Winnipeg, have been admitted by special order from the Treasury Department, and are now in this city with their fathers. They were admitted on condition that they be sent to college, and will leave next week for Ann Arbor, Michigan. During the summer they will be managers of a department in a big exhibit which some wealthy Chinese are arranging to make at the World's Fair. The Treasury agents here are troubled over the outcome, lest a bad precedent has been established.

News comes from San Francisco that the disaffection of the Chinese residents over the Exclusion Bill is increasing. A group of highlanders is reported to have issued a proclamation condemning to death Moy Jin Mun for translating registration notices into Chinese. Moreover, the Six Companies of that city have sent out a proclamation advising and warning the Chinese not to comply with the registration law, because it is "cruel," "bad," "unjust," "mean," "contemptible," etc. They have also sent a strong and urgent appeal to their Emperor to interfere in behalf of the Chinese in America.

Miss Searle, "for nine years associate principal of Kobe College," has been in this city, and gave an address before the Woman's Missionary Board of the Congregational Church. She spoke of the advanced educational and Christian work done in that Kobe institution, "Gate of God," and made an appeal for further enlargement.

Miss Duffield, a sister of Mrs. R. L. Halsey, of Shimonoseki, and Miss Jessie D. Humpstone will soon be in Japan to reinforce the Baptist workers there.

Prof. William A. Houghton, for several years professor of the English language and literature in the Imperial University, Tokyo, and for the past year assistant professor of Latin in the University of the City of New York, has just entered on his duties as professor of Latin in Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. He is a graduate of Yale College.

I have been interrupted in this letter by a call from Massuo Ikuta, Ph.D., assistant in chemistry in the University of Chicago. He referred very pleasantly to the fact that he had received instruction in mathematics from the editor of the *Japan Mail*.

The faculty and students of the University of Chicago are, many of them, already on the ground, and ready to begin work October 1st. There is every prospect of a very large attendance.

All the principal institutions of the land have opened with increased attendance, and anticipate an enthusiastic and prosperous year's work.

The Stars and Stripes boast the honour of having been planted "at the two points nearest the North Pole yet reached by civilized man." The highest point on the west coast of Greenland was 83°, reached by Lockwood and Brainard of the Greely expedition. The highest point on the East coast has been made by Lieut. Peary, who sent the Navy Department the following telegram:—

"United States navy claims highest discoveries on Greenland, east coast. Independence bay, 82 degrees north latitude, 34 degrees west longitude, discovered July 4, 1892. Greenland ice cap ends south of Victoria inlet."

Luca Vescia, an Italian sculptor, who has been in this country about three years, has issued the following challenge:—

The Columbian Exposition having called together artists from all parts of the world, and desiring to ascertain who are the best marble workers in the United States, I, Luca Vescia, sculptor, do agree to deposit the sum of \$500, all contestants to deposit a like sum, as a prize for the best bust made from life, without any measure whatever, from a solid block of marble, and all work to be done by hand. The contest to last seven days, and the working hours to be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily.

Said bust, when completed, shall be placed on exhibition in Chicago.

Artists shall be selected as judges and they shall award the victor the amount deposited.

The contestants shall occupy separate rooms so as not to see each other's work.

Any person desiring to contest for the above can find or address at No. 1401 La Salle street, Chicago.

Some Canton merchants have requested 300 square feet in which to exhibit specimens of Chinese matting.

The Treasury Department has lately made a number of rulings which are of great interest to foreign exhibitors. No import duty will be charged on Foreign exhibits, that are returned or destroyed or abandoned; but the regular duty will be assessed on all articles sold. Representatives of foreign governments will be permitted to treat friends with liquor, on which no duty will be assessed; and exhibitors may give away samples of liquor, cologne and similar articles without being assessed for duty thereon.

Elaborate preparations are making for the dedicatory ceremonies. It is expected that 125,000 people, "the greatest audience ever gathered under one roof," will be assembled in the immense Manufactures Building on October 21st.

Alexander Bergman, the Russian who attempted on July 23th to assassinate H. C. Frick, of the Carnegie Steel Company, in Pittsburg, has been found guilty on five different charges, and sentenced to 21 years in the penitentiary, and one year more in the work-house for carrying concealed weapons. Nothing but drastic measures will ever suffice to crush anarchy.

The trial of Hugh O'Donnell, the leader of the Homestead strikers, is now going on in Pittsburg. It seems a novelty, but is also a relief, to have no great labour troubles to chronicle. It is also pleasant to be able to state, that the *Inter-Ocean* of this city has entered upon a vigorous warfare against the authracite coal trust, whose "combine," it claims, is contrary to an Illinois law passed by the Legislature in 1889.

The political campaign is now well underway. On September 13th McKinley delivered the address at the formal opening and dedication of the works of the America Tinplate Company at Elwood, Indiana, and, of course, claimed the event as a beneficial result of the protective policy of the Republican party. On the 16th the convention of Republican Clubs met at Buffalo, and treated that city to a grand parade and addresses by Whitelaw Reid and others. But on the same day at Winnemucca, Nevada, Senator Stewart, in a convention of the silver party, declared his intention to speak and vote for Weaver. The Democrats in New York State opened the campaign at Brooklyn, September 19th, with a speech by Senator Hill, who never mentioned Cleveland's name till the close, when he referred to their candidates, "Cleveland and Stevenson"! He pleaded for principles, not persons, measures rather than men.

The elections in Maine and Vermont resulted, of course, in Republican victories, but with greatly reduced majorities which afford the Democrats much encouragement. Ex-Speaker Reid was re-elected to Congress.

The Grand Lodge of the I.O.O.F. is in session at Portland, Oregon, and has drawn to its session thousands of Odd Fellows from all over the United States and Canada.

The National Capital is gay and festive over the twenty-ninth encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. The veterans are there with their wives and children, and many visitors have been attracted thither by the cheap rates. September 19th was the first day, and was especially devoted to the formal dedication of the Old Soldiers' Home. The unavoidable absence of President Harrison, detained at the bedside of his sick wife, was the only draw-back. Vice-President Morton was present as a substitute, and made a pleasant address. On the 20th, came the magnificent street parade with 50,000 veterans in line and marching all day long. Ex-President Hayes and General B. F. Butler were prominent and were loudly cheered. Yesterday occurred the first business session, in which the reports of the officers were received, and Indianapolis was selected as the next meeting-place. There is an animated contest between Col. Weissert, of Milwaukee, and Col. Sexton, postmaster of Chicago, for the position of Commander-in-Chief for the next year.

Mrs. Harrison has been very seriously ill, and, though now a little better, is by no means out of danger. She had been ill for some time before her critical condition was fully realized. The President has for a long time been anxious about her; and, although he had to go to Washington to consult about precautionary measures against cholera, he hurried back to Loon Lake, N.Y., where he and his family have been spending the vacation. On September 14th a medical consultation was found necessary, and resulted in the following bulletin:—

Primary disease—pulmonary tuberculosis of the right side associated with nervous prostration. Recent complicated—acute pleurisy, with rapid effusion of water in the right chest necessitating two tapings, with some relief. Present condition critical on account of a tendency to reproduction of fluid. Removal to Washington at present impossible. Prognostication as to immediate future, uncertain.

For several days the popular anxiety was great,

especially because it was found necessary to perform a dangerous operation, which, however, resulted successfully. After that there was a marked improvement daily in her condition; and it was decided that she might safely be removed to Washington, where she longed to be. This journey began in the morning of September 20, and was finished the next morning. She was conveyed on a stretcher in a wagon from Loon Lake to the nearest railway station, three miles distant, and was carried from there to Washington by special trains. It is reported to-day that she is resting well, and feels happy to be "at home" again.

The cholera scare is subsiding. The rigid quarantine regulations are maintained as may be necessary, and are undoubtedly having a beneficial effect. The authorities are sparing no labour or expense to prevent the spread of the epidemic, and are receiving the co-operation of private citizens and companies. Several rich gentlemen of New York have rendered considerable financial assistance; and the Mutual Life Insurance Company has twice subscribed \$20,000 to an exigency fund which is being raised by subscription. It is true that there have been cases of cholera in New York City; but they were sporadic and not frequent. It really looks as if the epidemic had been at least temporarily checked, but it will not do, of course, to relax vigilance while there is any danger from immigration.

It was naturally expected that such rigid quarantine would work inconvenience to many individuals, even Americans, not merely in the delay at quarantine, but also in the refusal of steamship companies to carry either steerage or second-cabin passengers. In this way 400 or more Americans, with return tickets and clean bills of health, are detained on the other side. Likewise, a number of foreigners who were on their way to Chicago to engage in the work of arranging exhibits for the World's Fair, are held at Bremen and other places. But it is probable that relief will soon come to them.

Labour Commissioner Peck, of New York, declined to make public the original documents used in making his famous report, and is reported or suspected to have burned them. Yesterday he was indicted by the grand jury of Albany Co., for having destroyed public documents.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, September 9th.

Although there have been sundry isolated cases of cholera in England during the past fortnight, it is reassuring to note that the Local Government Board has just made the announcement, that so far as the Board is aware, the country is absolutely free from the disease. It is not to be supposed that we are not likely to have any more cases of cholera, but, as I predicted in my last letter, the possibility of an epidemic either in London or the provincial seaports is very remote. In Hamburg affairs are not quite so gloomy as was the case two weeks ago. The official statement yesterday announced 261 fresh cases and 180 deaths. In Paris also there seems to be an improvement, and, in view of the cooler weather prevailing now, the worst of the epidemic may be concluded to have passed. A good deal of friction has been caused by the stringent quarantine regulations in force at New York, where saloon passengers have to remain on the steamer with the disease infesting the steerage compartment and steerage passengers succumbing daily to its ravages. To be cooped up on a vessel where the cholera is carrying off its victims almost hourly within sight and almost under the very noses of the yet untouched passengers seems indeed a miserable state of affairs, and it is hardly surprising that bitter murmurs have been made by the unhappy beings who are thus suffering for the public good. The order: "Don't hesitate to shoot," or its equivalent, should a person attempt to leave the quarantine station, which has been issued by the New York authorities, is, moreover, not calculated to mitigate the misfortunes of those who are the unlucky victims of circumstances. However, the steamship companies are bravely struggling to meet the emergency of the hour, and have now arranged to sail vessels alternately composed of saloon and 2nd class and steerage passengers, so that the former class of passengers may disembark almost immediately after their arrival, and thorough preparation has been made for a fortnight's quarantine of the latter should the regulation continue to be in force.

The Cunard steamer *Campania*, the largest steamer now in the world, and the largest, with the exception of the *Great Eastern*, that was ever built, was launched yesterday at Govan on the Clyde. The *Campania* is 620 feet long 65

feet broad and 43 feet deep, while the *Great Eastern* measured 680 feet long, 82½ feet broad and 58 feet deep. The *Campania* exceeds in length by eighteen feet the two next largest vessels of the White Star fleet, the *Teutonic* and *Majestic*, and is forty feet longer than the famous *City of Paris*. The new steamer will travel 22 knots an hour, and will probably have no difficulty in breaking the present record across the "Herring Pond." The vessel has a straight stem and an elliptic stern, top gallant forecabin and poop, with close bulwarks all fore and aft, the erections above the upper deck consisting of two tiers of deck houses, surmounted respectively by the promenade and shade decks. When completed the vessel will appear in fore and aft rig, with two pole masts. It is only fifty-two years ago that the first Cunard mail—the *Britannia*—traversed the Atlantic, taking fifteen days on the trip against five and a half of the present time.

In the matter of gigantic enterprises the French are not to be outdone. For their Paris Exhibition in 1900 a huge telescope is being prepared—or at least its preparation is contemplated, for it seems somewhat problematical whether the accomplishment of the scheme will be found practicable. The tube of the colossal machine is to be thirty-five yards long, and its mirror is to be three metres in diameter and fifty centimetres in thickness. The cost will be about £100,000 sterling. The success of the project depends upon whether a disc of glass large enough can be made for the great mirror, which in itself will weigh nine tons. As it is estimated that with such a telescope one would be able to discern on the moon anything as small as a man, we ought to hear of some startling discoveries, and perhaps we may be enlightened in regard to the manners and customs of the man in the moon.

Mr. Ruskin's wrath was once greatly kindled at the idea of tourists shooting on Mount Sinai. But even a greater sacrilege than this would appear to have been committed by the invasion of the valley of Hinnon, or Wadi Rabalet, by a line of railway which runs up to the City of Jerusalem itself. The railroad from Jaffa, which has been in course of construction for some time, has just been completed to this point, and the first locomotive steamed through the biblical country a few days since. The line of route is on the west of the road to Bethlehem, not far from the south end of the Montefiore Almshouses. The Temple's site, with Gethsemane and the Mount of Olives, will not be molested, as they are on the other side of the town, but the name Wadi Rabalet, which means "The valley of the Lute," would be more appropriately changed to what in Arabic would signify "The valley of the Railway Whistle."

Not to be behind the times, the *Daily News* has started a correspondence in its columns on the subject: "Why Don't Young Men Marry?" which appears to cover exactly the same ground in its range as the correspondence already going on in *The Daily Telegraph* entitled: "English Wives." Among the many ambitious and disappointed contributors who pour forth their personal wrongs and grievance in the columns of the dailies, I especially note the letter of one signing himself Tartarin de Tarascon, who represents, I think, a large contingent of bachelors about town. I opine that the following extract may not be without interest to some of your readers:—"I concluded that with a better position I should find a better wife. Well, I waited, and I waited so well that my youth fled with the years. The awakening has been sad. At 40, unthinkingly and unwillingly, I fell in love with a girl of 25, who was poor, and not beautiful, or perfect. But love for her filled my heart. I saw nothing else in the world. I loved her as I had never loved before, even at 20. It was very easy to love but difficult to be loved. I had younger rivals, and a young man of 28 succeeded where I failed. The doors of heaven a moment opened to me, and then promptly shut, with the cry 'Too late, too late.' Poor me. For me the solitary room, the solitary life; no one to love, and, later on old age and infirmities, with no dear hands to help, no dear heart to solace. Alone, too late."

The result of the St. Leger, run on the 7th, was contrary to general expectation. Since the victory of Orme in the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park and the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, it had been confidently predicted on all sides that the Duke of Westminster's colt would carry off the St. Leger Stakes. In fact so great a favourite was Orme, that before starting his betting was 11 to 10 on. However, as if to prove how futile are turf predictions, the favourite has been beaten and did not even succeed in getting placed. Baron de Hirsch's La Fleche, 8st. 11lb. with Watts, up, came ahead by two lengths, Lord Bradford's Sir Hugo secured the second place, Original from

and a stable companion of the winner, Watercress, was third. Sir Hugo led for half a mile, when Orme took up the running, and held the lead to the bend for home, where he was beaten, and La Fleche rushing to the front won easily, followed by Sir Hugo; Orme was fifth. Betting on the course was 7 to 2 against La Fleche.

"Die Cholera" is the title of a drama in six acts, which has just been offered to the manager of the Lessing theatre in Berlin, who, however, has declined the tempting bait. Six acts would seem rather a long winded representation; especially of anything so rapid in its progress as the cholera, but then the Germans like to be thorough in their treatment of a subject. In theatrical, as well as in commercial matters, the caterer must be well up to date with his goods, and it is hardly to be wondered at that the all absorbing topic at the present moment in Germany should be trotted out as a subject for stage representation in the Teutonic Capital.

There is no abatement of the Music Hall boom in London. Another one is just going to be built in St. Martin's Lane, where a powerful syndicate has secured a site. A company will be floated to take over the concern with a capital of £100,000. Nothing but Music Halls seem to pay just now in the amusement line, even the Gaiety Theatre, the home of the burlesque, which always has the reputation of being the most popular, is only paying 5 per cent dividend.

Kyrle Bellew had a comparatively short innings in the leading role at the Adelphi in Messrs. Sims and Buchanan's new drama "The Lights of Home." He retired not long after the opening on account of indisposition, and has not since reappeared. Those who have heard Bellew in a heavy part would doubtless have recognised a certain huskiness in his voice, more noticeable in the delivery of impassioned lines. An aggravation of this is, I believe, his chief trouble at the present time.

Mrs. Brown Potter is still "resting."

George Grossmith is starting this month for a tour through the States and Canada, and it is not unlikely that he may be induced to return home via Japan, China and India, giving his popular entertainments *en route*.

Mrs. Langtry announces an Autumn season at the Haymarket Theatre, when she will appear in a new play in four acts, by Messrs. Haddon Chambers and Outram Tristram, entitled: "The Queen of Manoa."

FAREWELL TO DR. AND MRS. HEPBURN.

An "at home" was given in the Van Schaick Hall on Tuesday evening, in order to allow residents an opportunity of bidding farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn, who are leaving Japan for home after a long and well spent sojourn here of thirty-three years. The hall was tastefully decorated with bamboos and vases of flowers, while red lanterns were suspended from the roof. Among those present, in addition to the guests of the evening, were H.B.M.'s Consuls Messrs. James Troup and J. C. Hall, Mr. A. J. Wilkin, Mr. J. A. Fraser, Dr. Meacham, Rev. J. Ballagh, Mr. and Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Van Patten, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Mr. Griffin, Miss Griffin, Mr. W. Campbell, Rev. E. S. Booth and many others. Mr. and Miss GRIFFIN opened the proceedings with a piano duet and then,

Mr. WILKIN after some prefatory remarks, said: A common feeling has brought us together this evening. We are from various lands, in diverse walks of life, of different creeds but one sentiment prevails with us all; it is that compounded of admiration, esteem, love, respect and regret. It is one of the drawbacks of life in the East, that the place of our abode is not our home. Some stay for a few years only, some for more lengthened periods, —and then move elsewhere. Few calculate on finishing their days here: the expectation is to go home some time or other. And so with our honoured guests. The greater part of the last three and thirty years they have spent on these shores; they have given to this land the best of their lives: they have kept the field till the weight of increasing years begins to press on them, and right well have they earned some relaxation from the ceaseless requirements of duty. Pain for our sakes, for the sake of the cause which owes so much to them, would we keep them here; but we recognize that to them by right belongs the reinvigorating influences of the homeland, and this we know, that while life continues they will find work to do. More than half a century of active labour in foreign lands is no small showing. Missionary service in China, and especially fifty years ago, is no bed of roses, and to

many of you it will be difficult to realize this country as it was thirty-three years ago. To land here among strangers, few, very few sympathetic ones among the knot of foreign residents; and the Japanese suspicious, even hostile, was not a light enterprise. Every obstacle placed in their way, uncomfortably lodged and fed, ignorant of the language, they had to feel that there must be years of patient labour before they could hope to make even a beginning of their real work in the discharge of the grand commission with which they came charged. But they held on, and now what is their record, what monument do they leave behind them; and when I say they, I do not separate wife from husband. She has taken part in the labours of the field among the Japanese, and besides, among the foreign young people of this Settlement; but even more than by help of such kind a good wife holds up the hands of her husband, she is as the secret supply of oil which feeds the flame. And so I say their record remains with us in that splendid achievement, the Dictionary evolved from chaos after seven or eleven years' patient work, an invaluable boon to merchants and students as well as to missionaries; in the dispensing day by day for a decade and a half of gratuitous medical and surgical help to hundreds and thousands of Japanese, and the introduction to this country, largely thereby, of a recognition of the value of Western Science; in the fragrance of blameless lives which is powerful for good as the dew of Hermon; and lastly in having been honoured by that Master whose work they came to do, by pen and voice in causing the light of the glorious gospel to shine into many dark hearts, and leaving behind them the translated written page to continue their work in years to come. I know the inscription they will grave on this monument:—Not unto us, not unto us, O Lord: But it is our privilege to realize that they have thus been honoured. And now, dear friends, Good-bye! Good-bye! God be with you—to most of us, it must be with the expectation of meeting no more on earth. May health, light, peace, attend the rest of your days; may you see your dearest wishes, your highest aspirations fulfilled;—and to us may the memory of the lives you have lived, be an inspiration that shall help us to nobler aims, less selfish cares, and a truer appreciation of the value of our own being. —(Applause.)

Mr. JAMES TROUP said he was pleased at the opportunity which was presented to him for saying a few words on that occasion, although they were gathered together for the purpose of saying farewell to old and very dear friends. His memory went back twenty-nine years, to a period when, as the youngest member of Her Majesty's Consular service in Japan, he had received a kindly welcome to these shores by their venerable friend. He still remembered the kindly advice which the Doctor had given him, a boy just out from home. Study of the Japanese language in those days was very difficult. There was no assistance to be obtained from dictionary or grammar then, but the advice which the Doctor had given him was of a part with that which he had given to all others who had ever gone to him for philological help. The same recollection brought to his mind the political troubles of that period. Mr. Wilkin had referred to the early days of Dr. Hepburn in this land. He (the speaker) recalled the differences which then arose between the Western Powers and the Japanese; when the Western Powers had even to demonstrate their strength and firmness through the cannon's mouth. During all those troubles Dr. Hepburn continued steadily along with his philological studies, at the same time dispensing the benefits of Western medical science to the suffering natives around him. The Doctor's conduct was in sharp contrast to the public policy foreigners were pursuing. In us were demonstrated the Western power. In him were to be seen the evidences of the civilizing influences which the West had to offer, and in him were exemplified those high moral ideals which are still so well manifested in him. For several years Dr. Hepburn was away from Japan, but he (Mr. Troup) still heard of him as foremost in works of philanthropy, and when he returned here, their former acquaintance was renewed. They had been more or else associated with each other ever since in various modes of social intercourse. The Doctor and his noble wife were now about to leave them. They all looked forward to leaving this country at some time or other, but still they found the parting with old friends very painful. There was this consolation, however, their works followed them. They were all sorry that Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn were going away, and to him (the speaker) it was a great grief. He hoped that peace and happiness would follow them in all their remaining days until the time arrived when they should both attain unto that peace which passeth all understanding. —(Applause.)

Mr. J. A. FRASER, as one who had passed many years here, although disclaiming the title of an old resident, bade good bye to Dr. and Mrs. Hepburn on behalf of the community at large. They had formed an integral part of the Settlement since its beginning, and their removal would leave a great blank; their departure filled them all with a great regret. He wished them many years of complete happiness and peace.

Miss C. RICE then sang, "The Holy City," and the Rev. J. BALLAGH read an original valedictory poem.

Dr. THAWING bade farewell to Dr. Hepburn, whose life had always struck him as remarkable for its heartiness, fidelity and modesty; for its completeness as scholar, physician and missionary; in every respect he had added lustre to America, medicine and scholarship.

Dr. MEACHAM, in the course of a brief speech, paid high tribute to Mrs. Hepburn—in his good wife the doctor was multiplied eleven fold. She was the model of an intelligent, generous and devoted wife. Their going away would leave an aching void in the hearts of all their Yokohama friends which would continue for many a year; but he was reminded of the words of the German princess to a departing missionary: "Christians never see one another for the last time. Adieu." —(Hear hear.)

Dr. HEPBURN, who was greatly agitated, said:—Dear friends, you have made it very hard for us, my wife and I, to leave Japan, by this evidence of the cordial affection and love that you have for us. We never knew that we had gained all this; we never knew the important place which we had made for ourselves in the hearts of the people of Yokohama; we never knew that we had gained what we have. We loved every one about us, we had a sincere regard and kindly sympathy for all around us. We were busy with our work through all the years. Every one has his work to do, and every one should do it; I do not claim to have done anything better than my fellow citizens, every one tries to do his best, and I have done nothing more. If I have ever done anything it has been through the talents with which my Creator has endowed me. If I have, or had, talents they were quite moderate. I do not claim that they were more than of a medium character. If I have ever done anything in the course of my life it has only been by persistent industry, by sticking to it, by finishing every task taken up. But now we are beginning to feel old, and our age tells upon us; we both feel the effect of years more every day, both in body and mind. We feel that it is time for us to give up work in Japan. There are others here now, who can take it up with more vigour, ability and success than ever was known to us. It is the teaching of history that we should give place to others—one sower and the other reaper. We are happy to lay down our work and leave it in the hands of others more fitted to carry it on,—like Moses of old we yield to the better fitted. Japan is now entering upon the first stage of her civil and religious life; she is only just entering upon her life as a modern nation, and she needs men of vigour, of great parts and high purpose to help her in the peculiar position in which she finds herself. We were very thankful to our God and Father that he called us to this land, to bring the seeds of truth to the dark minds of this people. We are thankful that our lives have been spared so long beyond the ordinary span. There are very few of my compatriots of fifty years ago, living now. I knew the "old men" of Japan before the Opium War. They have laid down their armour now and entered into their rest. We feel ourselves to be obsolete beside the newer lives of to-day, we who knew Morrison, Williams, Milne, Culverton and hosts of others, all now passed away. We leave Japan not because we are tired of it and wish to live elsewhere, but because we feel the stress of age, and my dear wife's health compels us to go. It is delightful to see you all around us; yes, delightful, when we come to compare this place with what it was when I landed 33 years ago. It is a change, a revelation. It was then a fishing village with five or six foreigners living in shanties or temporary huts. What makes it so sad for us to say good-bye in Yokohama is, that we in Yokohama are in a peculiar position. We come from many lands and we hope to go home to them, the Homelands, the Fatherlands, one day,—we are but strangers here, and thus we become one large family. Therefore the saying goodbye to old friends signifies the breaking away, the dropping out from the family. We are sorry to go; I grieve to go, and I know that you are grieving also. But my wife and I go together; as long as we live, and that won't be long now, at our time of life, we shall always remember Yokohama and the delightful friends we leave behind in charge of the work which has now

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reached unto the first stage of its existence. What Dr. Meacham said of my wife, that dear old wife, was not a bit too much.—(Hear, hear.) Fifty years have we journeyed together through troubles and gladness, through troubles on land and sea, through the grief of lost children. We still hang together—she would fain have left me in Japan while she went to America in search of health for a year or so, but I said, we will not part now. And so we bid you farewell; and may the God that through our long lives has anticipated all our wants, bless and comfort you, and may He prove to you the Staff of sure help as He ever hath been to us.

Dr. HEPBURN then resumed his seat by the side of his wife. Throughout the evening many expressions of warm regard and sincere regret at their approaching departure were addressed to the venerable pair. The function closed shortly after ten o'clock.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE."

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

By W. LAIRD CLOWES.

GOLD MEDALIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

VI.—THE SAILING OF THE "MARY ROSE."

It is true that Mr. Thomas Bowling was engaged to be married to Mary Rose, youngest daughter of Admiral Sir Taffrail Stormer, G.C.B. That may be why he renamed the *Valdivia* the *Mary Rose*; but on the other hand it may not; for, for nearly four hundred years, *Mary Rose* has been a good old ship-name in the Royal Navy of England, and it is a name as historically venerable as *Dragon* or *Lion*, and more so than *Royal Sovereign*, *Antelope*, *Unturn*, *Falcon*, *Phoenix*, *Triumph*, or *Victory*. A *Mary Rose*, of 600 tons, capsized during the action with the French at Spithead in 1545, and from fifty years before that time until the close of the last century, there was nearly always a *Mary Rose* in the Navy List. Moreover, when she figured there, she generally figured there to some effect.

One thing, however, is certain. Sir Taffrail, accompanied by his daughter, ran down to Newcastle while the ship was preparing for sea, and lunched with Bowling in his half-fitted cabin; and there being on the luncheon table an unopened bottle of champagne, Bowling carried it on to the fore-castle, and persuaded Miss Stormer to fling it against the gilt scroll work on the cruiser's bows, and to say: "I re-christen you *Mary Rose*." All of which she did very prettily, and with many smiles and some blushes.

That was on Wednesday, May 6th, the day preceding the night on which torpedo boat No. 18 made the unsuccessful attempt to get out of Gibraltar and attack the French fleet. All that day and all the following night the Elswick people worked like bees on board; and next morning Bowling, who had scarcely taken off his clothes or even slept for four days, was able to telegraph to London, "I shall be ready to sail this evening." Later in the day he had the satisfaction of receiving a private dispatch from Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh. In the meantime, the ship took on board her shells and her ammunition, including, for all weapons, cordite as well as ordinary powder.

Bowling had succeeded in collecting a much better ship's company than he had dared to hope for. Germany and America, and indeed nearly all countries, had issued formal proclamations of neutrality, but these did not prevent a certain number of excellent German and American seamen from shipping with him; and, some of each nationality, had, he was delighted to find, served in their own navies, and, if not quite up to his standard of what bluejackets should be, knew what man-of-war discipline was, and had a certain acquaintance with modern guns and modern conditions. He obtained most of his engine-room staff with much less difficulty than he had anticipated. The slower merchant steamers, harassed by the numerous fast cruisers which the French Government chartered, armed and sent to sea immediately after the outbreak of war, had already begun to lie up, and, although the Admiralty took over many of their engineers and stokers, Bowling managed, with the assistance of agents at Hull, Glasgow, and Liverpool, to engage all he wanted, and even to pick and choose a little. His chief engineer, a rugged Scot, named Macpherson, had volunteered into one of the Congressional ships during the Civil War of 1891 in Chili, and had then, on more than one occasion, evinced his complete coolness and his fulness of resource. He came, surrounded by a legend, which he professed to laugh at as utterly baseless, that once, when a shell burst in his engine-room causing a frightful outburst of steam, he ordered all his juniors away, went in alone, shut off every-

thing and was found so badly burnt as to have his life despaired of; but the frightful white scars with which his hands and face were nearly covered lent probability to the story, and helped to inspire a confidence, which it may be said at once, was never misplaced.

Bowling saw no necessity for cutting loose from all the traditions in which he had been brought up. He therefore assumed for himself the title of captain, and gave his executive officers the title of lieutenant. The *Mary Rose's* staff, when completed, and set down as it would have been had the cruiser been one of her Majesty's ships in the Navy List, was:—Captain, Thomas Bowling (late R.N.); lieutenant, John K. Maintruck, R.N. (retired); lieutenant (N), Benjamin Binnade, R.N. (retired); lieutenant (G), Henry B. Tompion, R.N. (retired); lieutenant (T), James Walter Tripper (late R.N.); lieutenant, Frederick Day; lieutenant, William Salthorse, R.N. (retired); surgeon, Arthur Rhubarb, M.D.; paymaster, Noah Nipcheese, R.N. (retired); chief engineer, Alexander Macpherson; sub-lieutenant, Henry Echo (late R.N.A.V.); gunner, George Prism Brown (late R.N.); boatswain, Benedict Tiller (late R.N.); carpenter Michael Plane.

There were also of course, subordinate engineer officers, and there were three young gentlemen, Messrs. Williams, Roberts, and Harris, who had been senior cadets in the *Worcester* or the *Conway*, and who at the urgent request of their parents, who were retired naval officers without interest, were permitted to join the *Mary Rose* as midshipmen. Each of these had had a little experience at sea in a merchant ship.

Mr. Maintruck was an admirable all round officer, whose only service fault was that he had no influential friends. He had seen service in all parts of the world, and after having been twenty-two years a lieutenant, had been obliged, on the score of age, to retire. Like several of his fellow lieutenants, he insisted upon sinking his seniority in favour of Bowling. He was a somewhat old-fashioned man in his notions, and, in common with Mr. Salthorse, who was very little his junior, he affected greatly to regret the days of masts and sails, and to think that modern naval officers were very indifferent seamen. With these supposed opinions of the two old lieutenants Mr. Binnade agreed. They were really his opinions, though not really theirs. He fervently believed that seamanship and navigation, save in so far as they were preserved in his own person, were nearly lost arts. They merely grumbled as a matter of principle, and in their hearts—although they would never admit it—were staunch admirers of what is called the "new navy." Mr. Tompion and Mr. Tripper were thoroughgoing scientific officers of the modern school. Tompion had fallen in love, and retired in order to marry; but having retired had almost immediately lost his innamorata, who had faithlessly married a subaltern in the Buffs. This blow, while it had soured Tompion so far as the whole fair sex was concerned, had rendered him more than ever devoted to his lost profession; and he had therefore seized with avidity the opportunity of going afloat again. Tripper had, in a moment of disgust, retired in order to become manager to a firm which promised, in its prospectus, to provide the world with a torpedo of new and subtle dirigible type; but the company having collapsed before its torpedo had been adopted by any Government, Tripper had found himself thrown without occupation upon his resources. The Admiralty, annoyed at losing him, had insisted upon his returning his commission, and had thus surrendered all claim upon his services. Otherwise, no doubt, their Lordships would have been glad enough to get back so good a torpedo officer.

Mr. Day, barrister-at-law, has already been introduced to the reader as a determined amateur yachtsman. Salthorse declared that he would not join the *Mary Rose* at all unless he was allowed to join as junior lieutenant; for he urged that he had not been to sea for many years, and, in the quasi-retirement of a coast-guard billet, had grown very rusty. Thus it was that he ranked junior even to Day; although in his time he had been first-lieutenant of an ironclad in the Channel, and of a guardship in one of the Scottish ports, and had commanded a gunboat on the West Coast. His modesty met its reward in the respect with which he was regarded by everyone on board.

Dr. Rhubarb was a civilian, young and enthusiastic, and a clever surgeon as well as learned physician. He threw up a rapidly-growing London practice in order to accompany Bowling; and, as he was a bachelor, no one had a right to prevent him. Mr. Nipcheese, the oldest officer in the ship, was a gentleman who sincerely believed that the bone and marrow of the Royal Navy was represented by the accountant branch of the service, and this being his opinion, he was of, course, although retired, a very superior person in his own estimation, and invariably belittled himself as such, except, on occasions, after

dinner, when, if he had been able to lay hands on any Madeira, he would sleep in the ward-room with his feet on the stove, and by turns snore and mumble incoherencies, some of which sounded suspiciously like blasphemies, aimed, however, at nobody and nothing in particular. He would sometimes, when awake, unbend sufficiently to listen to a good story, and even to smile at it in a superior kind of way; but he was never known to tell one. Mr. Echo, by profession a barrister, was a keen officer of a type which was by no means uncommon in the unfortunate Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers. He was an enthusiastic all-round yachtsman, and had, moreover, devoted full attention to gunnery work. Ever since the disbandment of his corps he had continued to keep himself *au courant* with naval matters, in hope that some day the R.N.A.V. would be re-established. He was fully equal to a lieutenant's duties, he was smart and tireless, he volunteered to do any work for which a volunteer was required, and his good nature and ingenuous character rendered him a general favourite. Of Mr. Brown and Mr. Tiller it need only be said that they were pensioned warrant officers, barely over fifty, and as good as the Navy has ever produced. As for Mr. Plane, he had been carpenter in a crack Cunarder, and belonged to the Royal Naval Reserve.

Thursday, May 7th, when the *Mary Rose* sailed, was a great day on the Tyne. Sir Taffrail Stormer and his daughter lunched on board again and remained by the ship until she had dropped down to the Narrows, below North Shields, where they were put on board one of the several tugs and steamers that had come out to bid the cruiser goodbye. As they went over the side, Tompion, who was on the bridge, heaved a sigh of relief.

"I beg your pardon, sir?" said Echo.

"Oh! I didn't say anything," answered the gunnery lieutenant: "I was only pleased to see the last of that little petticoat. I was half afraid that the skipper wouldn't be able to cast off from it. Thank heaven! That's gone! A ship is never a ship while there's a petticoat on board."

Bowling was shaking hands with the Admiral at the starboard gangway. "And look here, Bowling," said Sir Taffrail, "if, with a ship like this under you, you don't come back a bigger man than you sail, I shall think that the Admiralty dealt with you as you deserved. And remember, she shan't marry a man who's not in the service. My father was in the service and my grandfather. I'm in the service, and I'll have my grandsons in the service if I live to have a word to say to their mother. God bless you, my boy." And the Admiral, very red in the face, went over the side after his daughter, sat down in the sternsheets of the boat which was to carry him to the tug, took the tiller-lines, swore at the crew, just as if Miss Stormer had been a hundred miles away, and, when he thought he was unobserved, brushed a tear from his eye and muttered "God bless him!" in so loud and angry a tone that the men at the oars thought that the oburgations had begun anew, and pulled as if his Satanic Majesty himself was coxing them. Mary Rose, who had stood up to wave her handkerchief to Bowling, was captivated by the suddenly-increased impetus of the boat, and fell upon her father's knees, whereupon the Admiral picked her up very tenderly, placed her at his side, and frowned around him as if to say:—"Who dares to tell me that the daughter of Sir Taffrail Stormer, G.C.B., can't stand up in a boat and wave a handkerchief? If there be any such person, let me get at him."

It is therefore fortunate that he did not hear Tompion's ungallant exclamation to Echo:—"There, didn't I tell you so? Serves her right, poor little beggar, for not having stayed on shore."

Bowling ran up to the bridge as soon as his friends were fairly away. In the pleasure of having so fine a ship as the *Mary Rose* under his command, he forgot alike the disappointment of his removal from the Navy, the personal sacrifices which he had made, the terribly hard work of the past week, and the pain of parting with the girl he loved. He felt that untold possibilities were within his grasp; he believed that, while he might render his country splendid services, he might also reinstate himself. And it was in the highest spirits that he took command, ordered full speed ahead, and steamed out against the salt breeze of the North Sea—the first English privateer to leave a British port in the service of Sovereign and country for many a long year. But he was not only in the service of Sovereign and country; he was in the service also of himself and his *Mary Rose*, and it was his business as much to make prizes from as to do damage to the foe. He was, moreover, to some extent in the service of Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh personally; for, but for Sir Humphrey, the ship could not have been officered as she was. Bowling was beginning to congratulate himself that, though he was serving so many interests, he was still mainly

his own master—when he recollected that, enclosed with Sir Humphrey's dispatch of that day, there was a sealed envelope marked, "To be opened only after you have left port. Private and confidential. On her Majesty's service."

He took the dispatch from his pocket, and pulling out the envelope opened it. Within were a letter and another envelope, the latter being addressed to the Admiral Superintendent, Malta Dockyard. Bowling read the letter, which ran:—

"My dear Bowling, I haven't the least idea where you are going to cruise or what you propose to attempt, and it is not my business to inquire; but if you find yourself in the Mediterranean, and will deliver this, you may render the country and yourself a considerable service. Of course I am taking other measures to get the letter, a copy of which I enclose, delivered at Malta; but the enemy seems to be holding the Strait pretty closely, and my messengers may not get through, while you may. I don't advise you one way or another. You have duties to yourself and to your owners. But the Mediterranean used to be a fine privateer cruising ground, and may be so still, and there's honour to be gained there. You have all my good wishes, and I suspect you will not disappoint them. But, again I say, remember your duties to your owners and yourself, and don't be influenced by your sincere friend, H. T."

Bowling whistled and gazed up speculatively at the foretop, over which peeped the covered muzzle of a gun. "He wants me to go to Malta," thought he, "and yet he doesn't want to formally advise me to do so. I should surely pick up more prizes in the Channel. But Uncle Humphrey has something in the wind, and, if I don't take his suggestions, I feel that I shall be a fool. He's not the man to throw out these hints without an object; nor is he the man to mislead me. He has helped me, so, by Jove, if I can possibly see my way in it, I'll help him. But how we shall get into the Mediterranean, heaven only knows!"

He thrust the papers back into his pockets, and looking round and seeing that the ship had by this time steamed well clear of the river's mouth, he ordered the course to be altered eight points to starboard.

It was nearly three bells, and the sun was setting over the land in a blinding blaze of golden splendour. The sea was perfectly smooth; such light breeze as there was came from the north-west, and the ship came round so gently and sped southward so quietly that it was difficult to believe that she was making even the 10 knots which the captain had ordered.

"Running at this speed, when shall we be off Dover, Mr. Binnacle?" asked Bowling of the second lieutenant, who stood by his side.

Mr. Binnacle went into the chart-house, set to work with his ruler and dividers, and in half a minute came out again, touching his cap, with the reply, "At about three o'clock to-morrow afternoon, sir."

"Thank you; very good. Messenger, run down and ask the chief engineer to be so good as to speak to me."

A boy who was in waiting sprang down the ladder, and very speedily Mr. Macpherson came upon the bridge.

"She runs very easily," said Bowling. "We will keep her at ten knots for the present. But I should like steam, if you please, for seventeen knots at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning, and after that time you must be prepared, until further, to use forced draught, if necessary, while we are running down the Channel. Is everything going well below?"

"Couldn't go better, sir," said the chief. "I never had better engines."

"Very good, Mr. Macpherson; I won't try them more than I can help. Thank you."

"We must make shift to get the men smart with the guns, Mr. Maintruck," said Bowling.

"They must be practised at general quarters as much as possible, and I shall go to night quarters to-night, though you needn't let anyone know it. I don't want to tire out the crew, and I hope they will understand that; but we are all rather fresh to our work, and we have no time to waste. Who knows whether we shan't have to fight an action to-morrow? So we must lose no opportunities. Perhaps you will be so good as to speak to Mr. Tompion on the subject. For the present I don't see how we can manage to run any torpedoes; but you may tell Mr. Tripper that I shall bear him in mind, and give him a chance when I can."

Mr. Tompion needed no inciting to duty. Assisted by the Gunner, he had long since made out his quarter bill, and had already exercised his men at the guns, though, of course, he had not yet been able to fire, except on the morning of the 5th, when the ship had been out to test her gun-mountings. In all departments the

regular sea routine of a man-of-war was observed, and it was astonishing with how little friction the men fell into their places, and how rapidly things settled down. From the first the ship was kept partially cleared for action, and the guns were always loaded; but, as all the guns were on the upper-deck, where there was but little protection from the weather, Bowling did not think it necessary to make the men sleep at their quarters. That night, at half-past eleven, he went up on to the bridge and ordered the ship to general quarters, and when less than four and a-half minutes later everything was reported ready, he felt that he had with him the material for an extraordinarily smart ship's company, and that it would be very bad policy on his part either to unnecessarily expose, or to unnecessarily weary a very willing crew.

There were no further alarms during the night. The sun rose at about twenty minutes past four, but already Mr. Maintruck was busy on deck; and all the morning, with but rare intervals, drills of one kind or another were going on. At ten Bowling ordered targets to be dropped, then exercised his guns' crews for an hour at firing at a mark. The practice, especially with the 4.7 in. guns, was much better than could fairly be expected, but naturally it was not very brilliant. In all directions, however, there were signs of improvement, and as officers and men alike were exceedingly keen, the captain was more than satisfied. Soon after three in the afternoon, the speed having already for some hours been increased to nearly 17 knots, the ship was off Dover, and exchanged signals with the shore. Bowling altered course very little, and headed diagonally across the Strait, making for the direction of Havre, so that by ten o'clock at night he was off the mouth of the Seine. Many craft of all kinds were sighted in the Channel, but very little attention was paid to them. They were chiefly British and German vessels, and the captain's immediate idea was to leave as quickly as possible those waters in which he could not expect to encounter something well worth the trouble of capturing. Both Mr. Echo and the carpenter knew almost every steamer that traversed the Atlantic. Bowling therefore ordered them to keep watch on the bridge that night, and having altered course to the westward reduced his speed to 10 knots, and began to look out for a homeward bound French liner.

The French Government, with marvellous promptitude, had issued as early as April 30th a code of private signals copies of which had been given to all outward-bound vessels leaving French ports on and after that date. Captains were directed to communicate with all French ships which they might meet at sea, apprise them of the outbreak of war, and deliver to them a copy of signals. They were directed also to sink or destroy the signal-books in the event of their capture being probable; and, as the adoption of these measures had been reported in England several days before the sailing of the *Mary Rose*, Bowling felt pretty confident that, although hostilities were less than a fortnight old, he would have to depend, not upon ruse, but upon speed and force, for any prize which he might be so fortunate as to take. While, therefore, reducing his speed to ten knots, he still kept steam for seventeen.

Day and Echo relieved Salthorse and the carpenter at midnight. There was a clear moon, and the sea was still smooth. The dark mass of Cape La Hogue was visible to the south-west, and behind it Alderney was just opening out, like a black cloud upon a field of silver.

Day took his station on the bridge; Echo, glass in hand, climbed into the foretop, and had not been there more than a quarter of an hour when he hailed Day with the information that he had sighted three sail in company, at a distance of about eight miles on the port bow, coming up Channel, one, at least, being evidently a big passenger vessel.

Day went into the chart-house and roused the captain, who was sleeping there as best he could, coiled up on some bunting and coats in a corner. Bowling was upon his legs and wide awake in a moment, and in half a minute more was in the top by Echo's side. He had no difficulty in perceiving the strangers, though he could not make out what they were.

"One of them looks uncommonly like the *Normandie* of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique air," ventured Echo.

"And one is a man of war, if I'm not mistaken," added the captain; "and not one of ours either. Keep your eyes open, Mr. Echo, and report all their movements." And Bowling scrambled down again, and mounted to the top of the chart-house, where he was not too far removed from the bridge to be able to give his orders. No sooner was he there than he directed the crew to be sounded off to quarters. Almost at the same moment two rockets went up from the centre ship of the three, and glittered for

a second against the dark blue of the sky. This was clearly a private night signal, for several lights were also shown, and then suddenly extinguished.

"Full speed, if you please, Mr. Day," shouted Bowling, keeping his glass on the strangers, "and keep her a point nearer in." Day gave the necessary directions to the engine room and to the quarter-master at the wheel, but by that time Mr. Maintruck and Mr. Binnacle, both looking very sleepy, were on the bridge, and he was free to go to his station at the quick-firing guns aft.

The strangers, which had clearly been making for Havre, altered course a little when the signal was not answered, and seemed to be about to attempt to get into Cherbourg; but as Cherbourg was already broad on the port beam of the *Mary Rose*, they soon recognised this as hopeless, and, rounding Alderney, headed southward for St. Malo or Cancale Bay. The one which looked like the *Normandie* took station ahead, and the one which looked like a man-of-war took station astern, the three vessels thus steaming in column. In ten minutes' time they were shut out from view by the land, but already it was plain that the *Mary Rose* was rapidly gaining on them.

The three ships were, in fact, the *Normandie*, 6,217 tons, homeward bound from New York; the *Paraguay*, 3,450 tons, homeward bound from South America, and owned by the Chargeurs Réunis; and the cruiser *Duguay Trouin*, of the French navy. The cruiser, detached from the Division Légère de l'Atlantique, had been sent to the mouth of the Channel to look out for homeward bound ships and to see them safely into port, and having fallen in with the *Normandie* and *Paraguay* almost simultaneously off Ushant on the previous afternoon, was conveying them at the speed of 13 knots—all that the *Paraguay* could manage—to Havre, which was their normal destination.

In an hour the privateer rounded the cape, and enjoyed once more the view of the chase. At half-past two the *Mary Rose* was off Cap de Fiamanville, and was well within gunshot of the cruiser, which still kept station at the rear of the column.

"She has a lot of guns, sir," said Tompion, who, for a few minutes, had been consulting a book by the light of the binnacle lantern. "There are five 6.4 in. and five 5.4 in. besides four quick-firers, and five revolving cannon; and she has a couple of torpedo-tubes stowed somewhere."

"I'm glad that you know so much about her. Probably she can't make head or tail of us. If she is really the *Duguay Trouin*, as you make out, I ought to know something about her myself, for I lunched on board her some years ago at Brest. She's an iron ship with no protection whatever, and we could blow her out of the water. Now, I'm going to pass her, Mr. Tompion; and if she doesn't fire at me I shan't fire at her. I want the other ships first."

But the gallant Frenchman had determined to make an effort to save his charges. Just then the *Duguay Trouin* yawed a little, and, at about two thousand yards fired as much of her port broadside as would bear at the *Mary Rose*. No projectile struck, but the spray from more than one splashed across the privateer's deck.

"Give her the bow 9.4 in. gun, Mr. Tompion," said Bowling. "I don't want to sink her; but perhaps you can disable her screw or steering gear. Don't fire, however, until we are a little closer to her. Let the men lie down, Mr. Maintruck. And, by the way, Mr. Tompion please keep the starboard midship gun trained on her as we come up on her quarter."

Again the *Duguay Trouin* yawed to port, and delivered her broadside. A storm of projectiles shrieked past the *Mary Rose's* bridge; a few splinters flew from the woodwork of the charthouse; and a shell burst harmlessly against the base of the sponson of the starboard barbettes. Had the officers remained on the bridge, some of them would doubtless have been hit, but, at the first sign of the enemy's yawing, Bowling had made them take shelter behind the conning-tower.

The privateer was now coming up so rapidly that the Frenchman dared not again yaw to port for fear of being rammed; but he began to circle round to starboard, so as to bring his starboard broadside to bear; whereupon Bowling ordered the two big barbettes guns, of which he had already spoken, to be fired. They were discharged almost simultaneously at the cruiser's stern; and, when the smoke had cleared away, it was evident that at least one of them had spoken with effect, for the enemy's mizen topmast was seen to have toppled over her starboard quarter, and to be hanging with all its hamper in such a position that, as the cruiser continued to circle, it must infallibly foul her screw. And this is indeed what happened a minute later.

But the *Duguay Trouin*, though temporarily disabled, did not cease to fire as the privateer

passed under her stern, and beyond her, in hot chase of the convoy.

"Leave her alone for the present," said Bowling; "I intend to pass the next ship, and stop the leading one. Don't use the big guns again without orders. We can tackle these gentlemen with the small quick-firers and machine guns."

The *Paraguay*, the centre ship, was easily overhauled and passed; but the *Normandie*, having increased her speed to 15 knots, was not so easily come up with, and she was off St. Catherine's Bay, Jersey, ere the *Mary Rose* ran along side her and hailed her to strike. She of course had no alternative; and Bowling, having hastily lowered a couple of boats and put Mr. Williams, an assistant-engineer, and five-and-twenty well-armed men on board of her, returned to look after the other ships. The *Paraguay* immediately after having been passed, had altered her course sixteen points and fled again to the northward. The *Duguay Trouin* had made sail, but the wind being light she had scarcely moved, and before daybreak the privateer was once more within shot of her. Bowling fired a gun across her bows, whereupon she replied with a broadside, which did a little damage and wounded three men; but a couple of well-aimed rounds at 750 yards from the privateer's 9.4in. guns brought the French captain to his senses; and at a quarter past four, being on fire and having thirty men killed or wounded by the bursting of a shell in his battery, he surrendered. Lieutenant Tripper and fifty men went on board and took possession; 150 of the cruiser's crew were, for safety's sake, removed into the *Mary Rose*, and the *Paraguay* having got into Cherbourg and given the alarm, Bowling and his two prizes made the best of their way to Plymouth, where they dropped anchor soon after noon on Saturday, May 9th.

VII.—THE FORCING OF THE STRAITS.

Plymouth Sound was a scene of great bustle and activity, and it was by no means easy for a ship like the *Mary Rose*, which had no claim upon the services of a single man in the place, to get anything done. By night-fall, however, Bowling had not only handed over his two prizes to the proper authorities for adjudication, and communicated his agents concerning the vessels, but had filled up with coal, and put to sea again.

To make up for the time which he had lost, he steamed out of the soundings at a speed of fifteen knots, and, heading for Cape Finisterre, determined for the present to think no more of making any prizes beyond those which he could not do without. By breakfast time on the morning of the 10th he had passed Brest without sighting any French warship, and very early on the morning of the 11th Cape Finisterre was visible, distant about ten miles on the port beam. That evening at sunset, in lovely weather, the privateer passed Lisbon, and on the morning of the 12th she was in the latitude of the Straits, but about two hundred miles to the westward.

Bowling had decided to run at all hazards into the Mediterranean, but he was not disposed to attempt so bold an undertaking without first replenishing all his coal bunkers. He knew that, if he got through the French fleet that was engaged at Gibraltar, he would probably be chased, and he had no mind to be taken owing to lack of fuel. He therefore reduced his speed to 10 knots, hoisted French colours, and, keeping a little outside those waters which he felt were likely to be patrolled by the French scouts and cruisers, he set to work to look for a vessel that would serve his turn.

She came sooner than Bowling had ventured to hope. That afternoon at about six o'clock a trampish-looking steamer was sighted, labouring along at a speed of between seven and eight knots from the southward. The *Mary Rose* passed close to her and hailed her, and her skipper, a little old man whose face was of the texture and almost of the colour of a dried raisin, replied in French that his ship was the *Gédion*, of Rochefort, homeward bound from Gabon with a cargo of palm oil, copal, and caoutchouc. The man was ordered to heave-to, and Day, who spoke French like a native, went with a boat's crew to him.

The dried skipper met Day at the gangway, and unsuspectingly informed him that he had heard down the coast some rumours of war. "Were they," he asked, true?"

Day told him that they were quite true, and that a French fleet was at that moment busy in an attack upon Gibraltar, whereat the Frenchman looked very proud and happy.

"But there are a great many English cruisers about," continued Day: "and if you don't look very sharp, you'll be snapped up before you get into the Charente. Are you steaming so slowly because you are short of coal?"

"Oh, no," said the man: "I have plenty of coal. The reason is that I can't steam any faster. But come to my cabin and take a glass of wine,

and let us drink to the confusion of these English."

"I'm much obliged to you," replied Day; "but really it isn't wine but coal that I've come in search of. That ship is an English privateer, and."

The Frenchman's face grew black. "This is a trap, then?" he asked.

"As you please. You perceive that my ship is now flying her own colours. You cannot escape from her. You must therefore allow her to take such coal as she requires."

"I will allow nothing of the sort. Quit my deck, sir!" And the little dried man assumed an attitude so well expressive of the direct and most contemptuous wrath that he looked positively noble.

"My ship will take you in tow," said Day, not replying to the Frenchman's outburst.

"Never!" cried the little man; and flying at Day, he flung his arms round the lieutenant's waist as if he intended to leave him overboard.

Day's men were all in the boat; and therefore, although he could have very easily tackled the irate master mariner alone, the officer was at a great disadvantage, when a couple of stalwart Frenchmen sprang forward to reinforce their chief. Day lost his glasses, without which he was as blind as a bat; but he was too proud to cry for help, and he struggled manfully against the overwhelming odds; until at last, hot, dishevelled, and angry, he found himself tied ignominiously to the bits at the foot of the steamer's mizen.

During this time Day's boat alongside was hanging on, and suspecting no evil.

"Now, sir," said the French skipper to the prisoner, "I will give your friends coal. Ho, there, Francois and Jacques! Go below and bring up the largest and finest piece of coal you can find."

Day bit his lip but said nothing. "They must see me from the cruiser," he thought; but he was so shortsighted that he did not perceive that the bulwarks of the *Gédion* were too high for anyone on the bridge of the *Mary Rose* in her then position to be able to see over them. In a couple of minutes Francois and Jacques appeared staggering beneath a lump of coal which may have weighed nearly a hundredweight.

"C'est beau, ce gros bloc, n'est ce pas?" asked the French skipper, with a leer. "Croyez-vous que ça suffira? Moi je le crois bien. Essayons-nous! Déroulez moi ce charbon dans le canot de monsieur. Suis étonné qu'on envoie un canot si fragile pour une telle cargaison. Vite! Laissez tomber!"

And before poor Day, with his bad sight, had realised what was in the wind, Francois and Jacques had hoisted the coal over the bulwarks and dropped it clean through the bottom of the *Mary Rose's* boat.

It has been noted that the crew of the privateer was drawn from several nationalities. Cosmopolitan, in consequence, was the bad language which, as the boat filled and sunk, arose from the men who were left floundering in the water. Bowling, from the *Mary Rose's* bridge, saw what had happened, and at once ordered out another boat, but long before it was under way for the *Gédion* the men from the water had by some means managed to scramble up to the Frenchman's deck, to send the little dried skipper sprawling, to release Day, and to haul down the tricolour. No one but the French captain dreamt of resisting.

By this time the privateer had come under the Frenchman's stern, and Bowling was able to see for himself how matters were going. "Send a hawser to us, Mr. Day," he cried, "and we will take you in tow. You shouldn't have let yourself be caught napping in that way. Ha! ha! No one is any the worse, I hope. Can you take charge of her?"

Day, who had recovered his glasses, and who, with them on his nose, was equal to anything, sang out, "Aye, aye, sir! No one hurt!" and sent the end of the hawser, by the second boat, to the *Mary Rose*, which in a few minutes passed ahead, and, with the Frenchman in her wake, steamed off to the southeast.

By daybreak next morning the privateer and her prize were off the mouth of the Wadi Gloug, a little stream which comes down from the mountains of Morocco and enters the Atlantic about twenty miles to the southward of El Araish. There, in seven fathoms, Bowling anchored, and, having brought the *Gédion* alongside, set to work to take out of her as much coal as his own ship could hold. He adopted the precaution of putting the *Gédion* outside the *Mary Rose*, so that, if he were attacked while coaling, his prize would afford him some protection, while he, in consequence of his superior height out of the water, could fire over her, but he was not disturbed. A few boats from the wretched shore came off, and curiously observed what was going forward. Others brought fish, milk, fruits, and vegetables for sale. The natives, however, seemed to know nothing of war, and to realise the existence of no difference

between British and French; and if the *Mary Rose* has arrived to seize their country they would apparently have been equally ready to do a little business with her; for even in that far-away spot her Majesty's image, on a gold or silver coin, was recognised and duly honoured. In the meantime Lieutenant Tripper was able to try most of his torpedoes.

Bowling invited the French skipper to breakfast with him and the honest man, who felt that he had done all that duty and patriotism demanded, graciously accepted.

"I don't know what to do with your ship," said Bowling. "It seems barbarous to set you and your men ashore on such a place as this, and to scuttle the *Gédion*; but I don't see any alternative."

"I am your prisoner, sir," said the skipper, "and I can do nothing, but I warn you that my country will promptly avenge this insult."

"Yes, I know. And of course, if I were to let you go, you would, as soon as possible, find out the nearest French cruiser and set her on my track."

"I should have that honour," assented the little Frenchman.

"Then I can't let you go; that's all. You must remain here!"

"Sir! It is an outrage, an indignity, a barbarism, a piracy!"

"I can't help it. I'm very sorry. Will you remain here ashore or afloat?"

"Sir, you may put me ashore and destroy my ship. That is as you please! But if you leave me master of my ship, nothing shall prevent me from steaming as fast as possible to denounce your dastardly interference with me—your unheard-of robbery."

Bowling touched the bell at his elbow, and when his servant appeared, sent to beg the chief engineer to speak to him.

"I want to know, Mr. Macpherson," he said, when that officer arrived, "whether, without doing the *Gédion* any permanent damage, you can so deal with her engines that she shall be unable to move from here for a week?"

"Certainly, sir."

"Then be so good as to do so, and let me know when the business is finished."

And thus it happened that late that afternoon, when the *Mary Rose* steamed proudly away to the northward, the little dried skipper stood stamping and cursing on his quarter-deck, with the knowledge that the engines beneath him had been deprived of half-a dozen small pieces of metal, without which they were useless. The little pieces of metal were not far off. Mr. Macpherson himself had dropped them overboard, and the depth was only seven fathoms. The local natives, moreover, were capital divers, and the bottom was pretty clean, so that valuable fragments were not lost. But they would require a good deal of looking for. And no wonder that the little dried Frenchman stamped and swore until the *Mary Rose*, steaming with his coal, was below the horizon.

Mr. Macpherson also swore. "This is," he said, "the very dirtiest and vilest coal that I have met with in the whole course of my experience." And Mr. Maintruck, as he saw his white decks growing blacker and blacker, and watched the plumes of funereal smoke above the cruiser's funnels, swore too, but solaced himself by remarking to Salthorse, "Well, they may take us for anything but an Englishman. This is a deuced sight more deceptive than flying a dozen French ensigns. I never saw anything like it, unless it was the smoke from the German squadron at Spithead in '89. Whew! I got a whiff of that, and I shall never forget it."

It is but about eighty miles from the mouth of the Wadi Gloug to the mouth of the Strait of Gibraltar. Maintaining a speed of ten knots, but having ordered steam for full speed to be ready by ten o'clock, Bowling followed the coast as far to the northward as Arzilla, and then, altering course four points to port, kept away to seaward. At eight o'clock, and again at half-past nine, he increased speed until he was running at sixteen knots, until at midnight Cape Spartel bore S.S.E., eighteen miles. He was therefore about fifty miles due west of the narrowest part of the Strait.

The men, excepting the watch, had turned in at the usual hour, but at midnight Bowling turned up all hands and briefly addressed them. He said that, so far as he knew, the French fleet was still bombarding Gibraltar; but that, whether or no, he was going to rush the Strait. If the French were there he intended to do them as much harm as possible in his passage. He was going through at full speed. He did not purpose to use the ram, as he had no desire to damage himself, and as he knew how difficult it was to use the ram with effect. Whatever work might be done must therefore be done with the guns and torpedoes. If he got through, he would, no doubt, be chased—perhaps all the way to Malta, whither he was

Original from

bound. The men, consequently, must be prepared for a long spell of hard work. He had absolute confidence, however, in their willingness to stand by him and his officers. They had already made two very valuable prizes, the due proportion of the proceeds of which, upon their return home, would be at their disposal, and in the Mediterranean there would doubtless be other prizes not less worth having, but that night he was not looking for prizes but for glory. The men, who received the address with enthusiasm, were then dismissed to their quarters, and Bowling, mounting to the bridge, ordered speed to be further increased to seventeen knots, and headed his ship to the eastward.

It was a cloudy and rather dark night. There was but little wind, but there was a heavy swell from the Atlantic, and the *Mary Rose*, as she bounded away before it, took the water over her bows in great showers of spray, and pitched pretty deeply, although, as she had plenty of freeboard, she seldom or never absolutely buried her nose.

"It's not much of a night for torpedo-boats," said Bowling to Tripper. "I doubt whether we shall be troubled with them. They will all have run for shelter."

"Well, even if they are out," answered the torpedo lieutenant, "they will steam very badly in this swell, and we shall have the legs of the best of them."

"I think that we won't use our above-water torpedo tubes," continued Bowling. "I don't quite like the risk of having such quantities of explosives where a chance shell from the enemy may get at them and blow us up. In case of our having an opportunity, I will manoeuvre so as to enable you to use the bow and stern under-water tubes, and these must suffice for to-night. But please, Mr. Tripper, be ready with a second and third torpedo for each. I'm going to do all the damage I can; and it won't be my fault if our friends in the Strait don't remember this 13th of May."

"Sail right ahead!" hailed the look-out in the foretop.

"Kindly go up and have a look at it, Mr. Salt-horse," said Bowling.

Salthorse, who, in spite of his seniority in the Navy, was not lacking in activity when serious business was doing, went up with an agility worthy of a midshipman, and reported that the stranger looked like a cruiser, but was still too far off to be exactly made out.

"Now for the rush, then," cried Bowling, "as he bent over the engine-room speaking tube. "Put on the forced draught," he shouted down, "and give me all the speed you possibly can." To a messenger he said, "Take my compliments to the chief engineer, and beg him to make the best arrangements for getting plenty of coal and for keeping plenty of steam. We shall probably want forced draught all night." And to the gunnery lieutenant, "Please, Mr. Tompion, have every gun that will bear trained on this ship as we come up with her, and be ready to fire at my direction, but not before. Make your men lie down when you safely can, and see that there is plenty of ammunition on deck."

Then he glued his eyes to his night-glass, and with legs apart and greatcoat flapping in the wind made by the ship, gazed over the spray washed bows into the pregnant darkness.

When a vessel is moving by night at a speed of about twenty statute miles an hour she very quickly closes any stationary or nearly stationary objects that may be sighted lying near her course. Soon, therefore, Bowling saw a huge masted mass looming up ahead of him: and his familiarity with the outward appearance of most of the ships of the French *Escadre de la Méditerranée* at once told him that this dark monster was the great protected cruiser *Tage*, the largest unarmoured cruiser in the French Navy. She was a vessel of 7,045 tons displacement and 12,410 indicated horsepower, built at St. Nazaire in 1884, and carrying, in addition to numerous lighter weapons, six 6.4 and ten 5.4 guns. She was moving very slowly diagonally across the *Mary Rose's* course, with her nose to the south-west, and she did not appear to see the privateer until the latter was within a mile of her. Having seen her, she increased speed a little, and came towards the intruder, whereupon Bowling, who by that time felt quite sure that it was the *Tage*, and no other craft that was approaching him, starboarded his helm a bit, and as his ship came round, ordered the starboard 9.4-in. gun to be fired at the Frenchman, who, when the word was given, was barely three cables away.

The *Tage* was clearly taken by surprise, and before she returned the compliment the *Mary Rose's* people had fired their big starboard gun a second time, and had poured in a perfect hail of projectiles from their 4.7-in. and smaller guns. The enemy, who had sent up three rockets, then replied

with a broadside, which being badly aimed did no damage, and with a dropping fire, which had scarcely begun to be effective ere it ceased.

The ships had been moving on two ever-nearing arcs, and were nearly broadside to broadside, when the *Tage* ceased firing. At the same instant she appeared to lose her way.

"Look out, sir," cried Echo suddenly to Bowling, "she has fired a torpedo. I saw it enter the water. There!" and he pointed to a luminous streak which was lengthening out from the *Tage's* side and rapidly approaching the *Mary Rose*.

Bowling put the helm hard over to starboard, and reversed one engine, so that he quickly showed his stern to the enemy, and so handy was the ship, that, to his delight, almost as much as to his relief, he was able to let the torpedo pass harmlessly along her whole length, and slowly vanish into the gloom beyond.

The few seconds during which the danger was imminent were trying ones for all who were aware of it; but the men at the guns were in blissful ignorance, and they continued to pound the *Tage* and to make excellent practice at her. Bowling completed the small circle which the discharge of the torpedo had forced him to begin, and while he was completing it the enemy resumed her fire, although she now fired feebly and in a desultory manner. Several of the *Mary Rose's* men had fallen and had been carried below, and the captain, anxious to make an end as soon as possible of the unsatisfactory combat, put himself in the Frenchman's wake, and almost immediately discovered that in that position he was very little exposed to the enemy's fire, and was, indeed, comparatively safe.

But, since first sighting the *Mary Rose*, the *Tage* had greatly improved her pace, and although cinders and flame as well as smoke, were pouring from the privateer's funnels, and the ship was throbbing like some wild thing burdened with a heart too big for it, the British vessel was little, if at all, superior to her opponent in speed. The *Tage* was heading direct for the narrow part of the Strait, and there Bowling realised that he must expect to find nothing but enemies, while the other would probably find nothing but friends.

Mr. Binnacle, with his sextant to his eye, carefully watched the chase. "I think we are coming up a little, sir," he would say at one moment, and at another: "I believe she is gaining a trifle again, sir."

"What is her distance, do you think?" asked Bowling.

"Well, sir, I haven't the height of her spars, but I should imagine not more than four cables."

"Too far for a torpedo, I'm afraid," remarked Bowling regretfully. "Surely we ought to be able to stop her with our guns. Where is Mr. Tompion?"

In less than a minute Tompion saluted the captain. "We're not making very good practice, Mr. Tompion, I'm afraid," said the latter. "I know it's very difficult shooting with so much water coming over our bows and with the ship pitching so freely, but we must stop the enemy if we can."

"We can only hope for a lucky shot, then, sir," returned Tompion. "I have fired two or three rounds myself, and I know the difficulty. Perhaps if you were to yaw a little so that I could bring one of the sponson guns to bear I might be more successful. I don't like to fire them right ahead for fear of damaging the ship, but if you would yaw two points I could manage it, though, of course, we should lose ground. However, there is much less motion with the sponson guns, and the shooting would certainly be better."

"No! I won't yaw yet," decided Bowling. "I should lose too much. For the present, please, go on firing as before with the bow gun, but see that they don't waste the ammunition."

Below on the privateer's fore-castle the scene was an exciting one. Not only the 9.4-in. gun was engaged, the four 4.7-in. guns immediately abaft it were firing too. But every few seconds, as the staggering ship pitched into the water, sea and spray flew tempestuously over her bows, and threatened to wash the men from their quarters. The guns had no chance of getting hot. They were kept far too wet for that, but that was the only advantage of the situation. The dark object which represented the *Tage* was now hoisted high on the swell, and now nearly hidden by it; and even had there been no spray it would have been exceedingly hard to hit so unstable a mark.

Meanwhile the flying enemy was sending up signal rockets at frequent intervals, and the same time firing desultorily. Tompion was sent for again to the bridge, Macpherson and Tripper were also summoned thither. But Tompion could make no better practice than before; Macpherson could not provide an ounce more steam than he was already providing; and Tripper held out no hope

that a torpedo, discharged at so great range and at a fast-retreating target, would reach its mark. "The torpedo will make its 27 knots, sir," explained the last named officer; "but the enemy is doing her 19, and is already four cables ahead of us. We should only waste the torpedo, for it would have to run over a mile and a-half at full speed to catch up the chase, and I never yet knew a torpedo run more than fourteen or sixteen hundred yards before stopping altogether."

It was therefore tolerably certain that, barring accidents, the *Tage*, if her friends were still off the Rock, must escape. Bowling, whose temper was usually very equable, could not conceal his annoyance; but his attention was suddenly distracted by an unexpected hail from the look-out in the top. "Two sail in chase on the starboard quarter," sang out the man, who had lungs of brass. And there, truly enough, coming out from under the shadow of Cape Spartel were a couple of black hulls from whose funnels were trailing sheets of flame, and sparks, and shrouds of smoke of the very blackest hue. They were a good two miles off, when first sighted, but a brief break in the thick clouds let the moonlight down to them, and Bowling speedily recognised them as two cruisers of the *Surcouf* class. There was no room for doubt. Everyone who saw the *Surcouf* herself at Spithead in the summer of 1891, and who recollects her, must agree that a craft of her type is not easily to be taken for anything else that floats and steams. They were, as afterwards appeared, the *Cosmos* and the *Coetlogon*, third-class cruisers of about 1,850 tons displacement and 600-horse power, each mounting four 5.4-in. breech-loading, three quick-firing, and four machine guns, carrying five torpedo tubes, and having a speed nominally about half a knot superior to that of the *Mary Rose*.

Bowling looked at the chase, half expecting to see her turn, and mentally calculating whether, if she did so, it would be worth while to endeavour to ram her; but he quickly decided that it would not. He recollected that never, up to that time, in the history of modern naval warfare, had the ram been effectively used while the enemy still had sea-room and control of her machinery and steering gear. If he could first disable his opponent, the ram might, he concluded, be his proper weapon, but not unless.

The two vessels astern had already opened fire, but they did no harm, the distance being too great and the swell too heavy. The projectiles, however, came near enough to the bridge to make themselves heard; and as the *Tage* was now firing freely from several revolving cannon which she had got up on to her poop, as well as from the few larger guns that would bear, Bowling determined not to expose himself and his officers more than was absolutely necessary, and to fight the ship, for the present, from the quarter-deck, instead of from the neighbourhood of the conning tower. He still kept the tops manned, of course, with a midshipman in each of them; and, as a matter of fact, the men, even had he ordered them to come down, would have been very unwilling to do so, for in such circumstances the tops are the most exciting positions in a ship.

But although Bowling nominally fought his ship from the quarter-deck, he did not continuously remain there. Followed by a bugler and a couple of messengers, he went everywhere, now watching the firing of the guns on the fore-castle, now mounting upon the hammock nettings to get a wider view, and now revisiting the bridge, in order to consult the chart with Binnacle. For half-an-hour the relative positions of the ships did not apparently vary by a couple of cables' lengths.

Then in the west were seen innumerable lights, as of a floating city; and above them in the black night, shone patches of red, green, and violet stars as the great French fleet—stretching half across the Strait—came westward, alarmed by the repeated signals of its scouts, and signalled in return promises of succour.

Bowling saw that sight first from the bridge. Soon he could see it from the fore-castle, as the ship rose on the swell. His heart beat, one may suspect, a little faster than usual; but his voice was only a trifle rougher and harder than his ordinary voice when, having summoned his officers, he said briefly:

"Gentlemen, there is the French fleet. I want you to help me to take the *Mary Rose* through it. If I fall, the officer who commands must carry her to Malta, and hand over to the Admiral there a dispatch which is now in my pocket. I have weighted it so that it may be sunk, if necessary. But, God forbid! If necessary also, the private signals must be sunk. Mr. Tripper, I shall use the underwater bow and stern tubes. I confide in you to have everything ready; Mr. Macpherson you have done nobly, so far, in your department. Give us, please, all the help you can; Mr. Tompion, (and Binnacle) and tell the officers of quarters

not to lose a shot, and not to fire at a greater range than a thousand yards. Gentlemen, to your quarters, and may our work be well done."

Owing to the fact that she carried nearly all her guns on the upper deck, the *Mary Rose* had been fitted with a considerable number of shot-hoists, which worked through scuttles in that deck. These were, of course, open in time of action, and Bowling had already made up his mind that, rather than trust to mechanical or electrical signalling apparatus, he would pass all orders to the main deck by word of mouth or bugles through the scuttles. Instructions were given for the orders to be handed on in the same way to their destinations, and thus, independent of wires, tubes, bars, and levers, the captain was able to communicate pretty promptly with every department, no matter where he might be. Not the least advantageous feature in the arrangement was that an officer standing near a scuttle could obtain a certain amount of protection from the shield of the gun for the service of which the scuttle was designed, and could thus derive from the shelter some of the benefits of a conning-tower, the same time the real conning-tower, the natural target for all hostile projectiles, was unoccupied.

It was at first impossible to distinguish the order in which the French fleet was steaming, for across the privateer's bows stretched a confused row of lights that bobbed upon the swell, and that seemed to have little or no order at all, but soon Bowling made out that the cruisers, in line abreast, were about a couple of miles ahead of the battleships, which were in similar formation. The entire fleet was coming out in a body. It, therefore, evidently believed that it was being attacked in force, and that a general action might be expected. The *Tage* held on, heading straight for the centre of her friends, and pouring forth more flame, sparks, and smoke than ever. The *Mary Rose*, three or four cables astern of her, held on also, the quartermasters at the wheel having general directions to follow the *Tage* into the enemy's line. All firing at the cruiser had ceased, although the *Tage* continued to fire as before; and *Mary Rose's* men worked silently at their guns, training them on the high hulls that were so rapidly approaching, and eagerly awaiting the word to begin.

The speed of the advancing French was not more than eleven knots; but that of the privateer's was nineteen. The two were thus closing upon one another at a speed of about thirty knots, or, as nearly as possible, 100 yards a minute. At first, it was quite clear the French did not know what to make of the situation, but it may be assumed that the *Tage* made some kind of signal to them, for, when their first line was a mile or so from the privateer, their cruisers began to converge towards the *Mary Rose*, and, as was evident from their augmented smoke, to endeavour to greatly increase their speed.

Bowling stood immediately above the maindeck wheel from which his ship was being steered. He had unsheathed his sword, and he leant upon it as he stooped from time to time over the scuttle to shout down his orders. His face was bloodless, but his lips were set. Behind him stood the bugler, who looked as if, at that moment, he could not have blown a call to save his life. The enemy, on both bows, began to fire. Once or twice the projectiles from their machine guns swept across the deck like hail, until the range was again lost. Then the bigger guns opened, at about a thousand yards, and splinters began to fly from the woodwork above, and from the boats.

Bowling looked up and saw that, owing to the converging movement, the first French line had drawn in to nearly half its former breadth, and that the ships on his port bow had converged somewhat more than those on his starboard, having made a more sudden turn. In an instant, therefore, he ordered his own helm to be put somewhat over to starboard, thus bringing his course nearly parallel with that of the right flank of the French. At the same time he gave the word to open fire, and every gun in the ship at once answered him.

The *Mary Rose's* last movement had had the effect of placing all the French cruisers except one upon her starboard bow and beam. To get near her, the vessels which had been carrying starboard helm would, Bowling knew, have either to risk making an awkward turn, which would expose them to his ram, or to continue going round to port. The one evolution would get them into difficulties with their ships of the left flank, the other would cause them to lose a great amount of valuable time. As a matter of fact, none of these ships ventured to port the helm, but the outside ship, seeing herself, as it were, cut off for the moment from her friends, was obviously determined to endeavour to ram.

She was easily recognised as the *Davout*, a fine steel twin-screw protected cruiser of over 3,000 tons displacement, and 9,000 indicated horse-power, that had been launched at Toulon in 1889, and, as she

headed straight for the privateer's port bow, and came on rapidly, she towered a magnificent object. Bowling shifted his helm a point or so, so as to offer his bow, and shouted in rapid succession: "Ready, bow tube!" "Fire, bow tube!" Then, when the two ships were almost in collision, he swung the *Mary Rose's* head still more to port.

The torpedo hit its mark, striking the *Davout* on the port bow immediately under the anchor davit; and even while the huge column of white from the explosion was still in the air, the *Mary Rose* swept close along the *Davout's* starboard side, and, with guns depressed to their utmost limit, fired down through her armoured deck. The *Davout's* people must have been lying down in preparation for the shock of ramming, for only one of her guns replied to that tremendous salvo; but that one sent its 6-in. shell clean through the privateer's thin citadel armour. It burst, with terrible result, on the main deck close to the wheel above which Bowling stood, and killed or wounded every man in the vicinity; but Bowling, although temporarily blinded and half-suffocated by the smoke and dust which poured up through the scuttle at his feet, was unhurt, and, almost ere the ship had had time to fall off, the wheel was taken by others.

The *Mary Rose* had passed the line of cruisers. She had still to pass the line of battleships a couple of miles ahead, and she now had half-a-dozen cruisers close at her heels.

"I can't see astern as well as ahead," cried Bowling to Maintruck. "Station someone here to pass the word down promptly. I must go into the conning tower or on to the bridge, and chance it." And up he went.

There was but a brief respite. The privateer headed due east, and plunged gallantly through the seas towards the second line, and in three minutes she was in the thick of a fire ten times heavier than anything which she had previously experienced. Strange to say, the machinery in the conning tower worked. The unseen brain in that little steel bandbox directed, for a few moments, everything and everybody in the ship. The manoeuvre which had succeeded so well with the *Davout* was tried again and again more or less successfully with an ironclad. The after torpedo was also discharged. The wheel on the maindeck spun this way and that. The ship darted hither and thither in the smoke. She trembled with the bursting of shells. She echoed with the short shrieks of injured men, she shook with the firing of her own guns, she heeled as the helm was put hard over in order to avoid a blow. But all happened so quickly that to tell it would occupy an hour for each minute of that sharp, hot piece of work. Somehow, to be brief, the *Mary Rose* got through the line, thanks to the guiding eye of Bowling; but barely was she clear ere a shell first against the conning tower and wrecked it. In a moment the guiding intelligence ceased to influence her. Everyone was conscious of the change, and would have been, even had the cause of it not been so plainly evident.

"Poor old Bowling!" cried Tompion to the first lieutenant. "Take command, Maintruck. The skipper's done for. God rest him!"

And, so, therefore, it was to Maintruck that fell the duty now that the *Mary Rose* had traversed her enemies, of saving her from their pursuit. Yet happily Bowling was not done for. The shell had shattered everything in the conning tower, and the flying objects had injured him seriously. Moreover, he was stunned by the shock, and, when found, was bleeding from eyes, nose, mouth, and ears, and was quite unconscious; but though the sight of one eye was destroyed and he had received a dozen other wounds, he had sustained no mortal hurt.

Would that as much could be said for the members of the brave ship's company! Lieutenant Day had his left arm broken by an iron splinter; Lieutenant Saltbush had an ugly wound in the chest from a machine-gun bullet; Mr. Roberts, midshipman, and Mr. Plane, carpenter, were killed by the bursting of the same shell, and of the crew, fifty-seven were killed, and thirty-nine badly wounded. Of small wounds nearly everyone had several, for enormous numbers of splinters had been flying about. Indeed, scarcely a single person, except those whose duties had kept them below, had escaped unscathed; and Dr. Rhubarb had his hands full. Burnt with powder, stained, with blood, splashed with horrible relics of unrecognisable humanity, the main and upper decks of the *Mary Rose* presented a sickening sight. The two quick-firing guns on the starboard quarter were literally covered with the mangled remains of the guns' crews, who had been blown to pieces at their duty; the starboard sponson gun had become unshipped from its mounting, and had to be lashed for safety, and almost every place between decks was simply a hole full of wreckage.

But the engines and machinery, and, indeed the

ship as a whole, was as sound as ever. Very little water came in over the armoured deck, and none below it, and Maintruck, as he looked back at the French cruisers, now in full pursuit, and saw the glint of the rising sun upon their white bow waves, felt easier concerning them than he had felt at midnight.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 39.

WHITE. 1—B to Q R 5 BLACK. Kt x K, or moves, or K to Q sq.

2—Q to K 8 mate

if advances P

2—R x B mate

if K to Q B 3

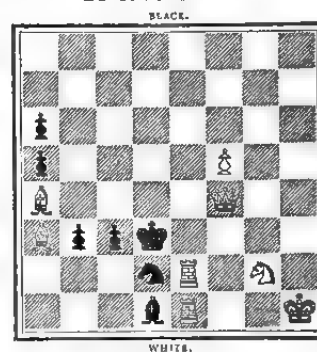
2—P to Q Kt 8,

becomes Kt and mate.

Correct solutions received from Ed. B., Scacchi, W.H.S., Omicron, Omega, J.W.E., and J.D.

PROBLEM No. 41.

By T. M. BROWN.



White to play and mate in two moves.

We are glad to learn that the Yokohama Chess Club has moved into excellent quarters at No. 86, Main Street, and the first Tournament of the present season will be at once begun. All chess-playing visitors to this port will be heartily welcome at the Club Rooms on Mondays and Thursdays, where the Secretary of the Club will be delighted to entertain strangers who are votaries of the noble game.

In contrast with the fiery Cochrane games last week, we give below one of the most cool calculations of modern play. It well illustrates the peculiar genius of the present English champion in making the best of a bad situation when he is cornered. The introduction, game, and notes are from a Home paper.

The Members of the Yokohama Chess Club are expected to muster in full force at the Club rooms on Monday, 24th, at 5 p.m. for the purpose of welcoming to Yokohama Mr. James Marshall, erstwhile one of the strong players of the famous Glasgow Chess Club, and now a resident of Kobe.

The following is the notification for the Tourney in the Y. C. C. of which we spoke a week or two ago.

AUTUMN TOURNEY.

Entries are invited for a short Tourney (to be finished by Christmas).

The Tournament will be an open one with no handicap. There will be no entrance fee and no prizes. It will not be conducted on the same plan as previous Tournaments in this Club but be played-off in rounds: two wins to decide a round; draws not counting. The play will be governed by Staunton's Rules of Chess as adopted by the Club.

Entries will close on the 31st instant at 5 p.m. in the Club rooms, when all players will be paired-off by lot.

The following is perhaps, the most extraordinary game played at the Dresden Congress. M. Winawer adopted an entirely novel defence against what is commonly known as the "slow" form of attack in the "Ruy Lopez" Opening, and obtained by it an overwhelming counter attack. When completely at his opponent's mercy, Mr. Blackburne executed one of those subtle and brilliant strokes for which he is justly famous, and forced stalemate by the sacrifice of Queen and Rook. We are indebted to the *Storning Post* for the notes:—

"RUY LOPEZ."

WHITE—BLACKBURNE. BLACK—WINAWER.

1—P to K 4

1—P to K 4

2—K to K B 3

2—K to Q B 3

3-B to Kt 5
4-B to R 4
5-P to Q 3
6-Castles
7-P to B 3
8-B to B 2
9-B to K 3
10-P to Q 4
11-K to R sq.
12-P to Q 5
13-Kt to Kt sq.
14-P to B 3
15-B x Kt
16-P to K R 3 (c)
17-R to B 2
18-P to Q Kt 4
19-P to B 4
20-P to R 4
21-B to Q 3
22-Q R to R 2
23-Kt to B 3 (f)
24-Kt to Kt 5
25-Q to Kt 3
26-Q x P (g)
27-B P x P
28-K R to Q B 2
29-R to B 4
30-K to R 2
31-Q to Kt sq.
32-R to B 7
33-P x P
34-Kt x P
35-Q to Q B sq.
36-K to K sq.
37-Kt to K sq. (i)
38-R x R
39-Q to Q sq.
40-Q to Q 2
41-R to B sq.
42-Kt x B
43-K to Kt sq.
44-K to R sq.
45-K to Kt sq.
46-K to R sq.
47-R to K II sq.
48-Q to Q B 2
49-Q to Q 2
50-R x B ch!

3-P to Q R 3
4-Kt to B 3
5-P to Q 3
6-B to Q 3
7-P to K 3
8-P to K Kt 4 (a)
9-Kt to K R 4
10-Kt to B 5
11-Q to B 3
12-Kt to K 2
13-P to K R 4
14-P to R 5 (b)
15-K P x B
16-R to K Kt sq.
17-R to Kt 3
18-Kt to Kt sq. (d)
19-Q to Kt 4
20-Kt to B 3
21-Kt to R 4
22-P to II 4 (e)
23-P x P
24-Q to Q sq.
25-P to Q B 3
26-P x Kt
27-P to Kt 3
28-R to Kt 2
29-Kt to Kt 6 ch
30-P to B 4
31-Q to Kt 4
32-P x P
33-P to B 6
34-Q to B 5
35-Kt to B 8 ch
36-Kt to K II (h)
37-R x Kt P (j)
38-Kt x II
39-Kt to K 6
40-R x P
41-B x R P
42-Q to B 6 ch
43-Q to Kt 6 ch
44-Q x Kt ch
45-Q to Kt 6 ch
46-Kt to Kt 5
47-R to II 6 (k)
48-R to B 6 (l)
49-R x II (m)

Drawn game.

- (a) Bold and original, and, if this game is any test, quite sound.
(b) Black has already an overwhelming superiority in position, proving clearly that White's development must be radically wrong.
(c) Creating a hole, of which Black, later on, does not fail to take advantage. The move is, however, more or less forced, for White could not allow the threatened onslaught, commencing with P-R 6.
(d) Preparing to land ultimately at Kt 6, via B 3 and R 4.
(e) Having established his forces firmly on the King's side, he now aims at weakening the Queen's flank.
(f) P-Kt 5 was quite safe; but Mr. Blackburne was evidently desirous to force an opening. He must have overlooked Black's forcible reply, which loses a piece.
(g) The Knight has no escape.
(h) All this is finely played on the part of the Russian master.
(i) Necessary. Black threatened to win at once with B x R P.
(j) Also beautifully played.
(k) Mr. Winawer had a simple win at this point if instead of the text he had played R-B 8. If, then, 48 R x R, Black replies with Kt-B 7 eb, winning the Queen. White's only defence is 48 Q-Kt 2, when Black has simply to exchange Queens and Rooks, and remain with a piece and pawn ahead.
(l) He could not stand a check either at B 6 or II 8.
(m) Overlooking the highly ingenious resource which his opponent has in reserve, he could still win with the greatest ease if instead of taking the Bishop he had exchanged Queens at R 7. As it is, White draws by effecting a stale-mate as follows:—50 R x B ch, K x R; 49 Q-R 6 ch. If Black plays Kt x Q White is stale-mated, and if Black moves his K, White continues to check and forces the sacrifice of his Q. Mr. Blackburne is entitled to the highest credit for avoiding a loss in such a clever manner, especially with the attack against which he had to contend.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 17th.

A Manifesto has been issued by the committee of the unemployed urging a thousand unemployed to join the Lord Mayor's procession, and afterwards to meet at Trafalgar Square.

The conservative candidate has been elected at Cirencester by a small majority.

London, October 18th.

The French Anarchist Francois, author of the explosion in the café Very, in Paris, in April last, has been arrested in London, after a severe struggle.

London, October, 19th.

At a meeting of the Mercantile Bank the scheme of re-construction was approved. The Chairman stated that the London management were blameless as regarding the frauds. It was proposed to bring new blood into the Board

of Directors. Several speakers censured the Directors in regard to the management abroad, and demanded a more effective control of the branches.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, October 17th.

The P. and O. steamer *Bokhara*, nine days out from Shanghai to Hongkong, is missing. No trace of her can be found, and it is surmised that she capsized in the late typhoon. The Hongkong cricketers were aboard her.

Later.

The *Bokhara* is a total wreck, and lies off Sand island. There are only 23 survivors.

(FROM THE MANILA PAPERS.)

Madrid, October 2nd.

Ernest Renan (the French philologist) is dead.

Madrid, October 3rd.

At Seville an apothecary called Raul entered the office of the Captain-General of Andalusia and fired a pistol shot at him crying, "Via a Republica!" The bullet, which penetrated the victim's chest, was extracted. It is believed that the assassin is not in his right state of mind.

A bomb was exploded at the gate of the Spanish Consulate at Geneva.

London, October 1st.

It is officially stated that Lord Rosebery has requested the East Africa Company to continue to occupy Uganda until the end of March next, in order to facilitate the evacuation of that place, the Government in the meantime giving pecuniary aid to the Company, but reserving freedom of action with regard to all future arrangements.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. V. K.	Friday, Oct. 28th
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 2nd.*
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 28th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 31st.†
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Oct. 31st.†
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 23rd.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Nov. 2nd.

* *Belgia* left San Francisco on October 6th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on October 15th, ‡ *Empress of India* left Vancouver on October 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 22nd.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 23rd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 25th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 29th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 30th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 31st.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Nov. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 15th October.—San Francisco via Honolulu 28th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 15th October.—Shanghai and ports 8th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 15th October.—Hakodate.
Phylphemus, British steamer, 1,803, W. Lee, 16th October.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Galio, British steamer, 2,600, W. G. Pearne, 17th October.—Hongkong 12th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Ehlers, 18th October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 19th October.—Hongkong via ports 8th October, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, Pantou, 19th October.—Tacoma via Victoria B.C. 1st October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ghaos, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 15th October.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Glencagles, British steamer, 1,837, Sommer, 15th October.—Hongkong via Moji, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathavon, British steamer, 1,740, Durdin, 16th October.—Sydney Australia, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, Edwards, 16th October.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 17th October.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Agmy (6), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Hewett, 17th October.—China and Japan ports.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 18th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Vyvyan, 19th October.—Havre via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 20th October.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, Pantou, 20th October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Phylphemus, British steamer, 1,803, W. Lee, 21st October.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Dr. and Mrs. C. F. Stokes, U.S.N., Mr. Tappenbeck, Mrs. Colley, Mr. R. E. Bredon, Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Reynolds, Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Jenkins, Mr. Horace E. Ware, Mr. H. G. Julian, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Miss M. E. Brokan, Miss S. Couch, Miss M. Morrison, Mrs. Goodrich, Mrs. Blanchard, Miss Susan Searle, Rev. M. E. Gordon, Rev. E. P. Bliss, Mr. C. H. Wilsie, Mr. W. T. Leighton, Rev. H. K. Miller, Rev. and Mrs. A. D. Woodworth and child, Miss C. Penroo, Mr. A. Utsch, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Swallen, Mr. J. B. G. Pidge, Miss Ellen Strong, Mr. R. W. Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Barnes, Mr. T. A. Glover, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. T. Fritch and 2 children, Miss Julia Miller, Mr. C. J. Prince, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hurlburt, Mr. J. Mather Jones, Mr. W. A. Whalley, Dr. Foote, and Mr. Wm. Ware in cabin. For Hongkong: Dr. and Mrs. Thwing, Miss Thwing, Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Thwing, Mrs. M. E. Morrison, Mrs. M. Hampton, Mr. W. J. Davidson, Miss Ruth C. Bliss, and Miss M. E. Butler in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Hitchcock, Mrs. W. Thompson, Messrs. G. Wolde, P. R. Powers, Captain F. D. Walker, and Captain W. B. Furber in cabin; Messrs. Yano Yatsu, G. Noguchi, Ah Lay, and Ken Hing in second class, and 26 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. Hoedmaker, Mr. M. Deras, Mr. Edward Bedloe, Mrs. Susman and child, Mr. C. E. Wigmore, and Mr. M. Trottee in cabin; a Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. John Logan, Mr. C. L. Gorham, Mr. H. H. Hirsch, Captain S. Ashton, and Mr. Chun Wing and servant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong:—Commodore and Mrs. Bury Palliser, Messrs. C. H. Thompson, W. M. Wood, J. Sampson, H. W. Slade, J. M. G. Manuk, G. L. Duncan, and Lieut. Meynell in cabin. From Shanghai: Mr. Sampson, Dr. and Mrs. Atterbury and infant, and Mrs. and Master Denby in cabin. From Nagasaki: Mr. A. D. Goodrich, Mr. R. P. Davis, Mr. Sterling, Mr. and Mrs. Talcott, Mr. Ball, Mr. J. Rickett, and Mr. and Mrs. Galbraith in cabin. From Kobe: Mrs. L. A. Gould, Mrs. T. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fish, Mr. E. C. Fish, Mr. Upton, and Mr. H. R. Loring in cabin; Mr. Severin in second class. In transit for Vancouver, B.C.:—From Hongkong: Mrs. and Miss Paterson, Mr. B. Murlans, and Mr. A. M. Thomson in cabin. From Shanghai: Mr. L. Berindague, Captain and Mrs. A. J. Booth, Messrs. C. Overbeck, A. Campbell, A. Fleet, W. A. Morling, Raymond, and Prof. Raymond in cabin. From Nagasaki: Rev. L. A. Gould and Miss E. Reed in cabin; Miss Schloger, Mr. L. Wilson, and 39 distressed seamen in second class, and 150 passengers in Asiatic steerage. For Victoria, B.C.: 10 passengers in third class and 71 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma via Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. House, and Miss House, in cabin; 9 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Colonel J. C. Ardagh, Mr. J. A. Jupp, and Mr. and Mrs. von Bose and four children in cabin.

Original from

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Fitch and 2 children, Mrs. N. Terada, Miss Crouch, Mr. and Mrs. Easton, Mrs. Lefavor, Miss M. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Gibbons, Captain Lee, and Rev. E. L. Blissin cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Shirokane and child in second class, and 61 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Capt. and Mrs. A. J. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Brearley, Mr. Belfield, Mr. J. S. Bradstreet, Mr. L. Berindoague, Mr. A. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Elliman, Mr. and Mrs. Fish, Mr. A. Fleet, Mr. A. L. Farrell, Rev. and Mrs. L. A. Gould and child, Mr. Hoffman, Dr. and Mrs. Isham, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Loring, Mr. B. Murlans, Mr. W. A. Morling, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Matsubara, Mr. Maas, Miss Morgan, Mr. T. B. Marston, Mr. C. Overbeck, Mr. H. H. Porter Jr., Miss Parsons, Mrs. Paterson, Miss Paterson, Professor Raymond, Mr. Raymond, Miss Reid, Mr. Shimidzu, Miss Shoults, Mr. and Mrs. Sequah and 3 children, Mr. A. M. Thompson, Mr. Urthlaub and 2 servants, Mr. Woodin, Mr. and Mrs. Wreford, and Miss Watson, in cabin; Mrs. J. Sharman, Mrs. Schloge, Mr. Truscott, Capt. and Mrs. R. M. Walker, 8 children and amah, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Peterson, and Mr. Upton, in second class.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC COAST.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	80	906	700	—	1,686
Foochow	—	—	1,827	—	1,827
Hyogo	105	302	—	852	1,259
Yokohama	629	—	—	—	629
Amoy	75	—	—	30	105

Total 889 1,208 2,527 882 5,506

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	153	—	153
Yokohama	139	—	139
Total	292	—	292

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	CHICAGO AND WEST. COAST.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	—	112	112
Colombo	—	—	80	80
Foochow	440	—	422	862
Shanghai	1,226	—	3,638	5,007
Hyogo	1,859	1,651	475	4,037
Yokohama	1,186	—	29	1,215

Total 4,711 1,651 4,063 888 11,313

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	120	—	120
Shanghai	120	—	120
Yokohama	685	—	685
Total	925	—	925

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Empress of Japan*, Captain Lee, reports:—Left Hongkong the 8th October at 1 p.m.; passed Breaker Point the same day at 10 p.m.; Lamock Light the 9th at 2.10 a.m., and sighted Hea Chu the 12th at 10 a.m.; passed Steep Island the same day at 9.30 p.m. and arrived at Woosung the 13th at 5.50 a.m. From Hongkong to Breaker Point; had light N.E. winds and fine weather; Breaker Point to the Lamocks the wind increased to moderate head gale with barometer slowly falling. On the 9th the wind increased from a strong to a heavy N.E. gale with thick weather with nothing visible beyond 1 mile. On the 10th weather getting worse still thick and heavy sea running and steady N. by E. winds throughout the passage; barometer at midnight 29.49. On the 11th a furious N.E. gale until 9 p.m. wind shifting and the north and mountainous sea running ship being off Turnabout with a current of 4 knots against her; at 2 p.m. barometer lowest reading 29.30. On the 12th at daylight, wind backing N.N.W., weather clearing and sea going down ship stood in for Hea Chu Island, which were passed at noon; thence to Gutzlaff strong N.N.W. winds with fine clear weather. From 2.10 a.m. on the 9th after passing the Lamock Lights until the morning of the 12th no land was sighted, weather being thick with heavy head gales and a dangerous sea running with an average current against the ship of 3½ knots per hour. Balance of trip variable winds and cloudy weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

More business has been done; 9 lbs. Shirtings being especially enquired for. Yarns also are selling at an advance of 50 cents per picul on some sorts. Turkey Reds are quieter; but Woolens are

in more demand. Sellers are firm and market generally is steady.

COTTON PICKS GOODS.

	PER PICUL.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 35 inches	\$1.60 to 2.20
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.65
1. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.50
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Sattens Black, 38 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 15 yards, 21 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 22-23 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Taffetas, 12 yards, 23 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.34½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.92½ to 2.07½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.74 to 1.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 0.61
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Craps, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.12½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.52½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.60
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$20.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 38, Two-fold	33.00 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00

No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 161, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Buying continues at quotations; market steady.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Since our last advices the ship *Peterborough*, from New York, has arrived with 65,500 cases Comet oil. Prices are unchanged and market steady. The stock of Oils in the Nakamura godowns is reported to be about 700,000 cases of all brands.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devoe	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

We noted in our last the excitement existing in this market, which has not abated, buyers—in their anxiety to get sugar—paying all sorts of prices and each bidding a little higher than his neighbour, with the result that rates close firm at quotations noted below:

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.45
Brown Daitong	4.75 to 4.80
Brown Canton	6.45 to 6.50
White Java and Penang	5.65 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 14th instant. Since then settlements by foreigners amount to 433 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 39 piculs; *Filatures*, 205 piculs; *Re-reels*, 74 piculs; *Kakeda*, 40 piculs; *Oshu*, 75 piculs. In addition to this direct shipments have been about 100 bales, bringing the total export business for the week up to 550 piculs.

While writing, buyers have again entered the market for America, and about 500 piculs additional have been settled within a few hours for that destination.

Holders have been surprised by a sharp rise in exchange and have given way accordingly in their quotations. This has apparently brought in buyers again to some extent, especially for good summer-reeled *Filatures* which are now getting very scarce. A part of the trade here seems to expect that we shall see a quiet market until after the Presidential election in the United States.

Supplies have come in freely from the interior, but they show signs of cold weather reeling, and the conditions mentioned in our last hold good to-day.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the Northern Pacific steamer *Zambesi* taking 139 bales for the New York trade and the *Empress of Japan*, which left port yesterday morning, had 685 bales for the same destination. These departures bring the present export figures up to 20,758 piculs, against 16,520 piculs last year and 5,084 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—A small business in these, principally medium *Shinshus* at \$635 to \$650. Other sorts have been neglected, but the stock is small and good quality is very scarce.

Filatures.—There has been considerable business in these, the principal portion of which will be included in our next week's figures. Prices have gradually declined with the rising exchange and show a drop of about \$20 on the week; but when quality is taken into account, they are not very much cheaper than they were ten days ago. Demand for Europe has been light, and it looks as though we might have a dragging market for some little time to come.

Re-reels.—These may also be quoted about \$10 down upon the week, but they are still some \$300 per picul dearer than they were a year ago. Of course exchange is now on a different basis to what it was then, but all the same the difference is very wide. Second grade *Re-reels* have been freely done at from \$750 to \$780, while the well known *Joshu* brands have been rather neglected.

Kakeda.—A very small business in this class. Prices could probably be reduced \$10 from last quotations just to compensate for the rise in exchange, as buyers say; but there is something more than exchange in the question—demand for this class of silk having fallen very light, and during the week there were no transactions of any moment.

Oshu.—The long inaction has been varied by the purchase of 75 piculs *Hamatsuki*, good medium, at \$630 to \$650 per picul.

QUOTATIONS (NEW SILK.)

	Nom.
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	\$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 3 (Shinshu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 4 (Shinshu)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 5 (Shinshu)	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 6 (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 7 (Shinshu)	550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	900
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	885 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	870 to 875
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	860 to 865
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	780 to 800
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1½	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 3	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 3½	640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 4	620 to 630
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	630 to 640
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sendai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 21st Oct., 1892:—

	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
Europe	8,092	5,610	1,577
America	12,335	10,458	3,154
Total	20,427	16,068	4,931
Settlements and Direct	23,050	17,750	5,600
Export from 1st July	9,100	15,050	15,400
Available supplies to date	32,750	32,800	21,000

WASTE SILK.

This branch seems much more quiet the last few days. The last prices are well maintained by holders, who seem to think buyers must give way in spite of the heavy stock now offering. Settlements for the week are 818 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 198 piculs; *Noshu*, 457 piculs; *Kibiso*, 149 piculs; *Sundries*, 14 piculs.

The market has lost much of its firm tone, at least on the side of buyers, and some people think that the present high quotations cannot be maintained. Consumers may be obliged to follow these prices, but they will do so unwillingly as they claim that there must be a reduction in the price of their raw material rather than an advance, the spinning trade having been unprofitable for some time past. The only shipments made during the week have

Original from

been 125 bales Pierced Cocoons which were shipped to New York via the Suez Canal by the steamer *Ghasee*. The *Argyll* which follows her by the same route will carry some more similar produce for the same destination. The present export figures now stand: 6,955 piculs, against 5,358 piculs last year and 4,564 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—The only sale during the week has been a parcel of medium quality, about 200 piculs—at \$90 per picul.

Noshi.—A fairly large business, *Oshu*, good quality, being done at \$140 and \$146; *Shinshu*, \$114; very trifling affairs in *Filatures* at \$130; one parcel *Hachoji* booked at \$127. Nothing done the last three days.

Kibiso.—Some few parcels of *Filatures* were taken at prices ranging from \$105 to \$117½. One lot of seconds, unpicked, was weighed at \$92½. In *Hira* sorts, ordinary *Oshu* was done at from \$45 to \$50, with a small parcel *Shinshu* at \$57½.

Mawata.—Nothing done as yet. New fibre is coming in very slowly; in fact, nothing more than a few sample bales have as yet arrived.

Sundries.—The only sale reported is about 14 piculs *Neri* at \$12 for the uncleaned stock, and the quality is said to be very poor.

QUOTATIONS (NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best.....	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best.....	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best.....	80 to 84
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good.....	75 to 77½
Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary.....	70 to 74
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	—
Kibiso—Joshi, Good to Fair.....	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshi, Middling to Common.....	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good.....	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low.....	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	—
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 21st Oct., 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk.....	5,854	5,299	4,226
Pierced Cocoons.....	1,101	60	338
	6,955	5,358	4,564
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July }	13,400	8,900	9,100
Stock, 21st October.....	17,500	15,200	11,800
Available supplies to date	30,700	24,100	20,900

Exchange has fluctuated considerably with the cabled prices of silver from day to day. After a smart rise, quotations have settled down at or near the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 3/; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$72½; 4m/s. U.S. \$73½; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.80.

Estimated Silk Stock, 21st Oct., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	450	Cocoons.....	1,100
Filatures.....	3,700	Noshi-ito.....	8,200
Re-reels.....	3,600	Kibiso.....	7,950
Kakada.....	900	Mawata.....	104
Oshu.....	400	Sundries.....	146
Tayssam Kinds.....	50		
Total piculs.....	9,100	Total piculs.....	17,500

TEA.

Nothing new to report; sales noted are mostly of the better grades. Quotations still maintained.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest.....	\$32 to 33
Choice.....	28 to 30
Finest.....	25 to 27
Fine.....	22 to 24
Good Medium.....	19 to 21
Medium.....	17 to 18
Good Common.....	14 to 16
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

The week has been characterised by several sharp fluctuations, but after touching 3/- it fell to present quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/11½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/11½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3.68
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3.79
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	2½% dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	3% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight.....	74
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	70½
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	72½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	73½
Silver.....	39½

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February 27th, 1892.

17.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

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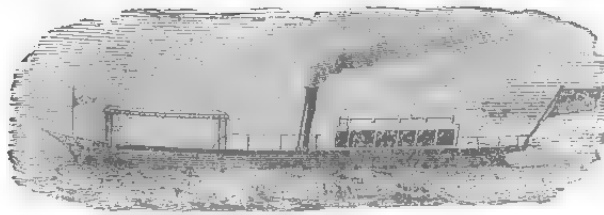
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 18.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 29TH, 1892.

月三十五十二癸明
可麗會信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS, CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 29TH, 1892.

DEATH.

On the 18th September, at Bernburg, RUTH, the beloved daughter of Professor Dr. Eggert, aged 5 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE KUNHIKO proceeded to Kyoto on the 22nd inst.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL proceeded to the Shiba Detached Palace on the 23rd inst.

H.I.H. THE EMPRESS visited the Aoyama Palace on the 26th inst. at 2 p.m.

MR. USHIOA DENGORO was appointed, on the 21st inst., Director of the Yokohama Telephone Exchange Office.

SEVERAL leading residents of Sakai, Osaka &c, intend to establish Spinning Mills there with a capital of yen 250,000.

THE Autumn Manœuvres have been brought to a successful termination, the Emperor returning to Tokyo on the 27th instant.

THE marriage arranged between Prince Konohe Atsumaro and a sister of Marquis Mayeda will take place on the 10th proximo.

THE dividend of the Domestic Transport Company for the second half of this year is estimated at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

THE Tokyo City Assembly has adopted a proposition to raise City Loan Bonds to the amount of 300,000 yen for the Tokyo Water Works.

COUNT ANENOKOJI, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Berlin, has been decorated by the Emperor of Germany with the Third Class of the Order of the Crown.

At the half-yearly general meeting of Shareholders of the Japan Civil Engineering Company (Doboku Kaisha) held in the capital on the 21st inst., it was resolved to dissolve the

firm. The dividend for the past half-year was declared at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

DURING a violent blow on the night of the 14th inst. a fire broke out in a house at Yayoicho, Nemuro, Hokkaido, and before the firemen could successfully grapple with it, 59 buildings were burnt.

THE half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Kyushu Railway Company will take place on the 28th inst. at Moji. The dividend for the past half-year is estimated at 4 per cent. per annum.

A PUBLIC meeting promoted by the traders of Yokohama, was held at the Hagoromo Theatre on the 21st inst., and was attended by over 700 persons. Addresses were given by Messrs. Isobe Shiro, Otsuka Seikichi, Sudzuki Jubi, and a few others.

DURING the absence of Prince Lobanow de Rostow, Russian Vice-Consul at Yokohama, who shortly goes home on leave of absence, Mr. T. Vassilief, *Edve Interprète* of the Russian Legation, will take charge of the Russian Consulate.

PROFESSOR MOTORA YUJIRO spoke before an assembly of over sixty members of the Japan Ladies' Educational Society held at the Nobles' Club, Tokyo, on Saturday afternoon. Amongst those present were Princess Sanjo, Marchionesses Nabeshima and Mayeda, and many other noble ladies.

THE closing of the Exhibition of Pictures at the galleries of the Japan Fine Arts Society in Uyeno, has been postponed until the 10th prox. The presentation of prizes to the successful competitors at the exhibition of pictures in the rooms of the Tokyo Fine Art School at Uyeno, took place on the 28th inst.

MR. MUTSU, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, has issued a large number of invitations for the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, high officials of various Departments, the members of the Imperial Diet residing in Tokyo, newspaper reporters, distinguished Japanese and foreign gentlemen of Tokyo and Yokohama and their wives, to be present at a ball to be held at a Imperial Hotel on the 3rd prox., the Birthday of the Emperor of Japan.

THE total income of the Chikubu Railway Company during the previous half-year was yen 64,261,969, and the expenditure amounted to yen 40,109,248, leaving a profit of yen 24,152,721. Of this sum yen 1,500,000 was added to the reserve fund, yen 700,000 was set apart to defray the expenses of establishing the Company, and yen 21,544,000 was declared as dividend, yen 388,721 being written off to the next account.

THE amount of Government paper currency and bank notes in circulation on the 1st inst. was yen 46,229,585.40, of which yen 16,851,905.00 represented Government notes above a yen face value, and yen 536,076.590 Government notes under 50-sen face value, and yen 24,016,914.50 bank notes. Compared with the previous month the above shows a decrease of yen 374,415.45 in Government notes, and yen 124,798.00 in bank notes.

DURING the month of August last the quantity of coals that arrived at Shanghai was as follows:—Wollongong (Australia) coal, 2,815 tons; Hankow (China) coal, 150 tons; Kaiping (China) coal, 2,464 tons; Tonquin coal, 95 tons; Takashima coal (lump), 1,460 tons; Takashima coal (dust), 4,565 tons; Miike coal

(lump), 4,862 tons; Miike coal (dust), 2,798 tons; Karatsu coal, 6,167 tons; Chikuzen coal, 5,285 tons; Imafuku coal, 5,545 tons; and Amakusa coal, 586 tons.

A GENERAL assembly of the Nippon Kangoku Kyokai, an association formed for the improvement of the prison system in Japan, will take place on the 30th inst. in the University Lecture Hall at Kanda, Tokyo. Addresses will be given by M. G. Boissonade, Mr. Ohara, a member of the House of Peers; Prof. Ume, Mr. Motoda, Mr. Nagashima, and Mr. Ohara, Chief of the Section for Prisons in the Police Bureau of the Home Department.

THE report and accounts of the Kansai Railway Company for the past half-year, presented by the Directors at the regular general meeting of shareholders, show that the receipts during the period amounted to yen 98,663,097, of which yen 46,346,250 was deducted for miscellaneous expenses, leaving a net profit of yen 52,316,847. To this sum yen 2,379,694 brought over from the last account, was added, making a total of yen 54,696,541. Of the above, yen 1,000,000 was voted for remuneration of officers, and yen 51,000,000 was distributed as a dividend among the shareholders at the rate for 3.6 per cent. per annum; yen 1,196,541 being carried forward to the new account. A sum of yen 1,500,000 was added to the expenses incurred by the recent inundations.

H.I.H. THE EMPRESS has honoured the members of the Japan Fine Art Society by visiting the Exhibition, which is now open in Uyeno Park, Tokyo. The Empress, accompanied by Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty; Mr. Hattori, Secretary of the Imperial Household; Dr. Sudzuki, an Imperial Court Physician; Madame Takakura, and many other Ladies in Waiting, arrived at the galleries of the Society at half-past one o'clock on Monday afternoon, and were welcomed by a large body of distinguished persons. The Imperial Party was at once conducted to a tent, where the Empress gave audience to several notables. Then Her Majesty visited Exhibition rooms under the guidance of Viscount Sugi. The Imperial procession returned to the Palace shortly after four o'clock.

THE Import trade is without much alteration, but a somewhat quieter tone prevails. Yarns are a trifle easier, but there is more enquiry for T-Cloths, Turkey Reds, and Velvets, while Shirtings, both heavy and light, are improved in value and firmly held. There has not been a great deal done in Metals, the principal business being in Bar Iron and Wire Nails, which have been taken at full rates. Small parcels of Kerosene are reported sold, and prices fully maintained; and the stock has not been further augmented by arrivals. Quotations for Sugar, both Brown and White, have declined, but stocks of the former are small and well held. There has been a fair amount of Raw Silk sold—over 1,000 piculs having been bought by foreigners, and more than 200 piculs have been shipped direct. Prime qualities have been pretty well cleared out, and many complaints are heard against the colour and quality of the fibre now being brought into market. The transactions in Waste have about kept pace with Raw as to quantity, and buyers grumble at the prices demanded, but nevertheless go on buying. Not a great deal has been done in Tea, the choice grades having entirely disappeared. Full rates have been paid for the small parcels purchased, but stocks are now both poor and small. Exchange has fluctuated, and declined on the week, rates being anything but steady at the close.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

THAT extraordinary avowal attributed to Viscount Shinagawa in a speech delivered in Kumamoto, revived the question of official interference in the last general elections, and excited the supporters of the Popular Party so much that they subsequently subjected the Count and his followers to all kinds of rough treatment. When he arrived in Saga he was hooted in the streets, and his meetings were almost invariably disturbed. His original intention had been to travel to Osaka through Okayama and Hiroshima, but he changed his route, and went to Matsuyama in Izumo Province. There he delivered another speech, which is reported to have thrown the Popular Party into fresh excitement. Extracts from the speech are given by the *Sanin Shimbun* as follow:—"When I went to Saga Prefecture I found that the Popular Party had been destroying the bases of self-government. Thence I proceeded to Karatsu by Kurume, and on my arrival there certain members of the *Kaishin-to* instigated a crowd of about six thousand people to meet me. They beat gongs, hoisted mat-fags, and carried bamboo spears. I noticed that there were two artificial heads of cardboard stuck on the top of long poles. They were intended to represent the heads of Count Saigo and myself. My reference to staking our heads (*namakubi*) on the justice of our opinions, provoked much criticism in the press at the time, so that I am little concerned about that feature of the Karatsu demonstration. But I am more than angry that not only the "destructive" *Kaishin-to* but also the members of the Popular Party should assemble a number of ignorant people for the purpose of injuring the policy of self-government as well as the Constitution. A constitutional government cannot possibly be established unless the principle of self-government forms the foundation of the primary institutions of the country, namely, the organizations of the *Cho* and *Son*. Nevertheless, for the purpose of attaining their political objects, the Popular Party contrive to return their own men to the *Shi*, *Cho*, and *Son* Assemblies, and also to elect their own supporters as Headmen of Divisions. That done, they levy taxes from the people, but how the proceeds are spent is never reported. In fact, they employ the public revenue for their own political campaign. Further, they collect large numbers of ignorant people and educate them in rowdism. Under such circumstances, self-governing institutions become a mere farce and the people are impoverished for the sake of political agitators. I grieve that these things should be, and I would fain see them mended. The men of the Popular Party raise lawless disputes, and cry out that no one desiring to be independent must obey the orders of Local Governors. Doubtless they thus secure a fashion of independence, but it is at the expense of forgetting that there is any such thing as a controlling authority in the empire." The speaker then referred to the system of Credit Associations, a Bill for establishing which he had presented to the Diet, where it failed to come up for discussion. In conclusion he said:—"I intended to declare my own political opinions but I find myself so much irritated that I shall defer further remarks." The *Sanin Shimbun*, in reporting the above speech, says that the Viscount incessantly beat the desk with his fist while he was delivering his address.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, a *Kaishin-to* organ, attacks the Viscount's speech in the following terms:—"Viscount Shinagawa, Vice-President of the National Union, and several of his followers, have been travelling through the southwestern provinces of the Empire for the last few weeks. What have they accomplished during that period? First, they have spread reports representing that fabulous numbers of people attended their meetings. Secondly, they have called the Popular Party a Destructive Party. Thirdly, they have acknowledged that official interference was employed in the last general elections for the purpose of preventing the return of members of that Destructive Party. As to

the first achievement, it is fruitless; for any child can see that the number of people reported to have assembled is fabulous and impossible. As to the third point, it will be made the basis of another motion in the Diet next session. Finally, in a feeble attempt to cloak his own wrong doing, the Viscount called the Popular Party a Nihilist Party and a Destructive Party, and affirmed that to control such agitators, there is no necessity to be restrained by the laws of the country. Can an argument of that nature be called reasonable? Rather must we regard it as an old dream which the Viscount dreamed when he was a member of the Cabinet!" The *Mainichi* then attacks the term "Destructive," used by the Viscount, and points out that in the address to the Throne praying for the dissolution of the Diet, the reason assigned was that the Popular Party had refused to sanction the new enterprises of the Government. Viscount Shinagawa who was one of the Ministers that signed the address, must have interpreted it thus:—"The refusal to grant appropriations for various new enterprises was a destructive act. Therefore those who refused constitute a Destructive Party." If such be the Viscount's idea, he must call the present Cabinet also a Destructive Party. For nearly all the new enterprises of the last Cabinet which the Diet rejected, have been abandoned by the present Cabinet, and will not be re-introduced next session. Count Ito and Count Inouye are strongly opposed to their re-introduction. Are these statesmen also members of the Destructive Party? Has the Viscount sufficient courage to declare that the present Cabinet is a Destructive Cabinet?

Of course there is a considerable measure of special pleading in the *Mainichi's* strictures, but there seems to be some truth also. However, we may leave the Viscount and the *Kaishin-to* organ to dispute the propriety of terms at their pleasure. The result of such a controversy interests us much less than the question which the Viscount's reputed admission has again brought upon the tapis, the question of official interference in the last general elections. Has such an admission really been made? In view of the fact that Viscount Shinagawa refrains from any attempt to contradict the newspaper reports of his extraordinary utterance, it is difficult to credit his power to contradict them. But, on the other hand, what possible purpose could he have expected to serve by making such a declaration? Why should he publicly proclaim that while holding one of the most important posts in the Administration, he abused his power in a manner effectually disposing of his claim to any measure of the nation's confidence thereafter? Nothing short of a hypothesis of temporary insanity could explain such fruitless folly. Then again, the form of speech attributed to him is quite inconsistent with the nature of the alleged declaration. He is represented as having stood up and called heaven to witness that he, Shinagawa, had actually interfered in the elections by every means in his power. We could understand his calling heaven to witness that he had *not* committed the sin of which he was accused, namely, interfering in the elections, but why on earth should he make voluntary oath to the reality of his own misdeeds? Why on earth should he swear that he *had* interfered? The thing is altogether too mysterious. But, beyond question, it has created a most uneasy feeling in the minds of those who, like ourselves, believed that, whatever indiscretions might have been committed by over-zealous local officials, the Central Government never countenanced or instigated a policy of interference. Can we reasonably cherish that faith any longer? The only saving supposition that remains is to attribute the whole discredit to Viscount Shinagawa himself. Whatever high qualities he may possess, discretion does not seem to be among them. It may be that, being entrusted with virtually complete control of election matters in his capacity of Minister of State for Home Affairs, he did actually prompt, or let it be understood that he should not reprove, recourse to measures of the

kind denounced by the Opposition. His retirement from the Cabinet when the agitation had assumed serious dimensions, would countenance this hypothesis. Under any circumstances we are fully persuaded that the Minister President, Count Matsukata, would never have been a willing party to such proceedings. But if it was the misfortune of Count Matsukata's Cabinet to have among its members a man so indifferent to one of the prime duties of a constitutional Government, then we can only say that the Diet's censure was deserved.

JOTTINGS FROM THE "JOGAKU ZASSHI."

THE *Jogaku Zasshi* (Woman's Magazine) laments the appearance of a number of false philanthropists who try to obtain money on the pretence of establishing orphan asylums. There are at present no less than twenty orphan asylums in Japan, but how many of these, asks our contemporary, are maintained by true philanthropists? The *Jogaku Zasshi* is confident that sooner or later the pretenders will be found out and will cease to damage the cause of true philanthropy.

The *Jogaku* pays a high tribute to the virtue of Bishop Williams. Doubtless, says our contemporary, the good Bishop is very far from desiring an *exposé* of his private acts of benevolence and self-denial, but his virtues must be recorded for public benefit, just as he himself recently thought it advisable to move an audience by alluding to the sincerity and devotion of Mr. Osuga, the originator and director of an asylum for orphan girls in Tokyo. The *Jogaku* states that the Bishop is content with clothes bought at a second-hand store in Hikage-cho, and that his cook estimates his table expenses at about 8 *yen* per month. The money which he thus saves is entirely devoted to benevolent purposes. The erection of his church, of the principal hall of Trinity College, and of the *kyu-iku-in* (an asylum for poor children), has been effected principally out of these savings.

For some time past there had been a reaction against female education, but the *Jogaku* states that things began to mend slowly from the summer of last year, and that a marked improvement is observable since the close of the summer vacation in the present year. The revival of a taste for learning among women is said to be specially remarkable in Osaka, Kyoto, and the districts in their neighbourhood. In Tokyo, too, the number of students is reported to be constantly increasing in several female schools.

THE VICE-MINISTER FOR JUSTICE ON THE DISMISSAL OF JUDGES.

THE public having long considered it necessary that some Judges should be placed on the Retired List, no hostile criticism on the late measure of the Judicial Department was at first published in the vernacular press. But the *Kokkai* subsequently attacked it in a long article, which was echoed by the *Hochi Shimbun*. We now read that a reporter of the *Nichi Nichi* obtained an interview with Mr. Kiyoura Keigo, Vice-Minister of Justice, and asked his opinion of the question. Mr. Kiyoura is stated to have spoken as follows:—"I have no explanation to offer, for none is required. The Minister for Justice at the request of the Presidents of the Courts of Appeal, convened a general meeting, at which a resolution was passed that received the approval of the Minister. Whether a certain Judge is considered to have become enfeebled either physically or morally, whether he is or is not competent to discharge his functions any longer, is a point to be determined solely by the Judges of the Courts of Appeal assembled in conclave. They require no doctor's certificate to guide their resolution, for nothing of the kind is provided in the law. It has been stated that the provisions of Art. 74 cannot be applied to any Judge unless he has attained an age of fifty. That is altogether an erroneous view. The word used in the law is simply "enfeebled," and "not enfeebled by old age." Hence, whether a man be young or old, so soon as his moral or physical strength is considered by the Judges of the Courts of Appeal

to be enfeebled, he may be placed on the Retired List. In the present case the Judges of Appeal held that the terms of Article 74 were applicable to certain occupants of the Bench, and the Minister of State for Justice simply adopted their view. No doubt the Judges had good reasons for believing these men to be no longer capable of discharging their duties satisfactorily. In strict accordance with the law, the judicial officers thus designated were placed on the Retired List. There can be no second opinion on the subject."

The terms of the 74th Article of the Law of the Constitution of the Law Courts, to which reference is made above, and concerning the precise significance of which some controversy has been provoked, are as follow:—

When a Judge becomes so enfeebled, whether physically or morally, that he can no longer discharge his functions, he may receive from the Minister of State for Justice, by virtue of a decision of the general assembly of Judges of the Courts of Appeal or of the Supreme Court, an order to retire from the Judicial Service.

According to the interpretation of this Article furnished by the practice just sanctioned, a Judge's competence or incompetence, capacity or incapacity, may always become a subject of discussion at a general meeting of Judges of Appeal Courts or of the Supreme Court, and if the sense of the meeting is unfavourable, a representation to that effect may be made to the Minister of State for Justice, who is then empowered to order the impugned official's retirement from the Bench. On the whole this appears to be a sound system. A Judge cannot look for a fairer tribunal than a court consisting of the seniors of his own profession, and it is easy to see that the permanency of judicial office guaranteed by the Constitution within the limits of law, might engender serious abuses were it not subject to some wholesome qualification.

THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Ever since Count Ito organized the present Cabinet the Opposition has been anxiously waiting to hear the policy which the Government intends to pursue towards the Diet. At first it was rumoured that the Count was compiling a formal declaration, but this report proved groundless, and a studied reticence is observed. Hence all the political parties have refrained from announcing their platforms, except the Independent Popular Party, concerning which we spoke in a previous issue. The *Fiji Shampo* now publishes a rumour to the effect that the members of the Cabinet have been profoundly considering their policy towards the Diet, but that they have yet failed to come to any definite conclusion. Moreover, the whole of the secret Reserve Fund having been spent in the last general election, an additional factor of difficulty is introduced. Several propositions, however, have been made. One is that the Government shall maintain an attitude of reserve (*Chosen-shugi*), and avoid any conflict with the House of Representatives, leaving the latter to do as it pleases. The public may be trusted to pass a just judgment, and should the Popular Party adopt too violent measures, the Upper House will assuredly stand in the breach. The Budget may again fail to come into existence, but if the Government perseveres for a year or two longer, public sentiment may turn towards it. Briefly, this policy is based on the principle that the Cabinet's first duty is to fulfil its obligations to the Sovereign by whose confidence it holds office. Such is the *Fiji's* version.

THE TONKIN COAL MINES.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* translates, from the *Avenir du Tonkin*, and the *Indépendance Tonkinoise*, two items which, whatever may be thought of their accuracy, are of much interest to coal-mine-owners in Japan. We therefore reproduce them:—

The *Avenir* of the 3rd instant says in a leading article:—The results lately obtained by the Société des Charbonnages du Tonkin at Hongay have made it a duty on our part to frankly return to-day upon the views, however slightly sceptic or pessimistic, we expressed a few years ago, at the inception of the enterprise.

We, in effect, augured ill for the success of this affair, which, on the day following its floating, saw, without plausible motive, its shares, issued at \$125, attain \$775, and we thought that these magnificent mines, destined to make the future of the country, would but serve to enrich some adventurous speculators. We are happy to state now that they have not turned out so, and we are happier still to see that the sinking of the Hongkong financial market in the beginning of 1890, thanks to the wise measures taken by the large holders of shares placed at the head of this enterprise and to the skill of the engineer M. Darand, it is upon this stock, there is no doubt, that will be based the recovery of the financial market which for the last three years has suffered such harsh probation.

The effort has been considerable, and our colony has had the satisfaction of seeing at the head of this enterprise men fully determined to well conduct it and to render it a veritable industrial enterprise. We have all witnessed the singular fact of the shares attaining by speculation a formidable price before the technical work had been commenced, and falling off simultaneously with the progress of the work till they touched \$115 per share, a rate which we shall see in a short time rapidly and logically enhanced according to the development of the exploitation and proportionately with the results obtained.

Six millions have been expended to arrive at a definite period of production which will be commenced in the beginning of October. Since the month of March, however, the steamer *Avochie* has made three regular trips per month and, owing to the increasing demand, the Society intend chartering another steamer.

The two centres of production, Nagotna and Hatou, are connected with the Hongay bay by two beautiful lines of railway, one having been in use for the last thirteen months, and the other since a fortnight ago. On a long pier, considered by competent persons as a remarkable work, run three lines and two hydraulic cranes of 50 tons capacity each, which are connected with a warehouse which will be ready in a few days. It is alongside this pier that the steamers of the Society take in their cargo.

Everything has been done so that the operations may be commenced with as little delay as possible, for besides the principal coal depot containing 30,000 tons, a platform close by the pier holds 1,200 to 1,500 tons as a reserve, which by means of ingeniously disposed trap-doors might be put into waggons with the greatest rapidity.

The sifting shop consists of three sieves working 300 tons per day each, or 900,000 kilos per 24 hours. Nagotna turns out 200 tons daily in these sieves; the first bed of Hatou, for which the Society have made arrangements with Chinese contractors, should put out 300 tons per day from the 1st September and 500 tons from January next; the second bed, situated on the opposite side and on the height of the mountain, will be exploited as soon as the miners from France have arrived.

About three thousand workmen, mostly Annamese, not counting the Chinese engaged by the Hatou contractors, are employed in the mines.

The *Indépendance Tonkinoise* of the 3rd inst. publishes a letter from Commodore Fallier dated the 26th Aug. in reply to one addressed him by the directors of the Charbonnages, asking for his opinion on the Hongay coal. It is to the following effect:—That he feels happy to be able to speak of the coal as steam coal. It doubtless possesses the following excellent qualities: it produces no smoke (when it is properly trimmed), deposits no clinkers, for it burns slowly and is entirely consumed. It leaves very little ash and fouds but slightly the tubes, and its consumption is approximately one-fifth less than that of Cardiff coal.

The adoption of this coal will modify the process of trimming, and he thinks that the day of this coal will not have arrived until the firemen understand how to use it properly; in fact it has simply to be put in the furnace little by little and left there without being stirred and it will burn itself out. When the firemen have learned this they will consider this coal particularly convenient, for it saves them the trouble of trimming the fire and cleaning the tubes and furnaces.

The *Porpoise*, which has tried the Hongay coal, has also noticed the absence of smoke and soot in the funnel; this should make it an inestimable coal for men-of-war; it is in fact, above all, a coal proper, without dust.

The Commodore has several times spoken with the Superintendent of the Peak Tramway about this coal and has watched the process of trials that have been made there; he himself verified the indications given him by the Superintendent and the good qualities pointed out by him.

According to what he heard from various sources, he confesses he had been cautious against this coal, but he thinks that the unfavourable reports must be attributed to the inferior article supplied at the outset, and to which is due its bad reputation. But the coal forwarded for trials at which he was present and that which he saw used at the Peak Tramway station are of excellent quality, and he has heard that it is similar to that which the Charbonnages are prepared to henceforward supply.

He has found that it is a slow burning coal, but thinks that a mixture of one-fifth of Cardiff coal will easily remove that drawback, and will cause the coal to burn freely.

He is so satisfied with what he has seen of this coal that he is writing to the Commandant-in-Chief asking his permission to make a trial on a large scale on board a man-of-war. On account of the qualities of the coal, and especially as it is granted that its cost is about one-half less, he considers it a dangerous competitor to Cardiff coal. He is of opinion that Hongay coal has a bright future before it.

THE BERLIN CASE.

In reference to our article upon the great Berlin libel case, a Correspondent gives us a few additional particulars about Mr. Carl Paasch, whom he knew intimately at Peking. Paasch was living at a temple, where he was very comfortably installed, and where he used to give very pleasant and elaborate little dinners. He was a particularly nice young fellow; quite a *persona grata* in society, where his talents as a violinist made him generally welcome. He was then a partner in a German firm at Shanghai, and his object in living in Peking was understood to be

a desire to learn the language—of course with a view to business. But, adds our Correspondent, he was perfectly mad on the subject of Jews; the very mention of a Jew was enough to excite him, and he was wont to launch out into the most unmeasured denunciations of the Jewish race whenever an opportunity occurred, enlarging upon their pernicious influence wherever they might be, and particularly of course in Germany, where he represented them as a standing and a growing danger to the whole Empire. He was in favour of persecution, expulsion, and the severest measures open to Government. Our Correspondent, however, had left Peking before the occurrence of the events we have now published.

MR. FROUDE AND RUDYARD KIPLING'S "EDUCATION."

"ATLAS" in the *World* says: The *Pall Mall Gazette* has been quoting some stories from an American journalist who interviewed Mr. Froude. Mr. Froude's opinion is, it seems, that Rudyard Kipling is "sharp and clever, especially in his poetry. But I should think," he adds, "he had no real education. I do not think that any real scholarship is possible without a thorough knowledge of Greek. To be sure, Carlyle had none." Was there ever a falser generalization than this? What use would a knowledge of Greek have been to Mr. Kipling? Would it have added one whit to the humour and pathos to be found in *Plain Tales from the Hills*? Would it have added greater piquancy to Bret Harte's *Heathen Chinee*, or imparted greater interest to his *Outcasts of Poker Flat*? Would a thorough knowledge of Greek, if possessed by Dickens, have added to the hilarity of Bob Sawyer's supper party; or if by Thackeray, who had but a smattering of it, to the pathetic rendering of Colonel Newcome's deathbed? Mr. Kipling will find that, for all Mr. Froude's lament, he will make infinitely more fame and money than any of the professors of classics who have ten times his education and not a quarter of his natural genius.

A NEW HARBOUR IN THE NORTH.

THERE is talk of a harbour being constructed at a place called Kominato, some thirteen miles South of Aomori, where a fine deep bay, nearly landlocked, offers exceptional inducements. The project is said to have originated with Mr. Ono, Director of the Japan Railway Company, and to have been taken up by shareholders of the Fifteenth National Bank, who, if they obtain official permission, propose to spend 250,000 yen on the works, which they will commence next December, and finish before the close of 1893. Their idea is that the Pacific Mail steamers will prefer the port to Yokohama, inasmuch as they would save 50 hours, and also that when the Siberian Railway is finished, a good port in such comparatively close proximity to Vladivostok will offer many facilities. We regard the programme as exceedingly chimerical. Passengers and goods will come to the centres of population and commerce, not to ports twenty hours distant by rail and fifty hours by steamer, Yokohama is now mistress of the situation. It has nothing to fear except from a good harbour in Tokyo, if anything of the kind were possible.

THE NEW JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE TO ROME.

THE *Kokumin Shimbu*, a radical organ, vehemently attacks Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, one of the most distinguished members of the *Fiyu-to*, who has now temporarily abandoned his political career, and become Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Rome. The article, written in the form of an address to Mr. Nakajima, is a remarkable production. The *Kokumin* alleges that the whole of Mr. Nakajima's career, ever since he attacked the late Mr. Okubo in the Senate to the moment of his election as President of the House of Representatives, was a long spell of subserviency as a tool to Mr. Mutsu, and while on the one hand he was commissioned to throw in his lot in various ways with the Radicals, he was always ready to bow down to Count Ito. His reputation, the lampooner proceeds, is now prone in the mire. A professed Christian, he failed to

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raise the standard of Christianity in Japan; member of the Radical Party, he was unable to prove his sincerity; President of the House of Representatives, he could not represent popular opinion. The *Kokumin's* peroration is that Rome, the city where patriots once rose to fight for liberty, is a neglected ruin. When Mr. Nakajima sees the ruins telling of the past history of the place of martyrs to freedom, what sentiment will be awakened in his bosom?

Comical as all this is, it has an inspiring side. One may smile at such extravagant vehemence, but yet there is a ring about it that appeals to the hearts of Englishmen and of Italians no less. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is stalwart enough to think that no sound Radical should accept office from the statesmen to whom modern Japan owes everything, from the Constitution which allows Mr. Nakajima's party to have a voice in affairs of State, to the freedom which enables the *Kokumin* itself to pen such diatribes. Well, there is nothing like thoroughness. We admire the *Kokumin's* spirit, whatever we may think of its judgment. But does not our contemporary fail to perceive that a very dangerous inference is suggested by its writing: the inference that party politics exercise influence in diplomatic circles? Nothing could be more injurious than to admit such a notion into the practice of a country's representatives abroad. If there be one administrative sphere more than another from which every breath of party politics must be excluded, it is the diplomatic sphere. The rule is strictly observed by all European States. America, indeed, neglects it, but America can afford to do so, for her foreign politics have not yet become a serious chapter of her history. A British, French, German, Italian, or Dutch Representative at a foreign Court is a man absolutely neutral in domestic politics, so far as the world knows or can discover. We hope that the same wholesome principle obtains in the sphere of Japanese diplomacy. If it does, then the post of Minister in a European capital is precisely the post which can be offered to and accepted by any able man, quite irrespective of his political complexion, by any Cabinet whatever its political creed.

A EULOGY ON COUNT YAMAGATA.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun*, a Radical organ, pens a high eulogy on Count Yamagata, in his capacity of Minister of State for Justice. It alleges that the public had long been aware of the friction existing among members of the Judiciary, but that hitherto no Minister had attempted to correct the abuse. One result of the friction was the disgraceful gambling prosecution, or rather persecution, instituted by certain Judges against their colleagues. On Count Yamagata's shoulders devolved the difficult task of restoring order and he at once removed the leaders of both parties. Still the public was not satisfied, as the rest of the offenders remained undisturbed. But now, to the infinite delight of the nation, the Count has meted out to all the measure they deserved. Moreover, the organization of the Law Courts cannot be perfected unless able men are appointed to the important post of Judge, and now the Minister has removed some of the incapables. There are many others still scattered throughout the empire, who must be treated in a similar manner. "We cannot always agree," says the *Kokumin*, "with the Count's political opinions, but we are ready to express our sincere approval of what he has accomplished since he assumed the portfolio of Justice in Count Ito's Cabinet. And in praising Count Yamagata, we cannot help urging Count Inouye, who is known to be a sharp statesman, to make a clean sweep of the local Governors, for whose removal the public has long been looking."

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION SCANDAL.

A COMMOTION greatly exceeding the importance of the event, has been created by the scandal in connection with the examination of barristers. That some of the papers containing questions came into the hands of candidates before the examination, there appears to be no doubt, but after all, that is not an event so unprecedented

as to throw the public into a tumult. Innumerable rumours are circulated. According to some authorities, the papers were sold for 2,000 yen, eighty candidates paying 25 yen each. Others put the original price at 200 yen, and affirm that the purchaser, having taken a copy for his own use, re-sold the information to several other candidates. Then again, we read an accusation against the Faculties of the Meiji Horitsu Gakko and the Tokyo Hoyakuin, who are charged with having divulged some of the questions at lectures. The *Nippon* capped all these stories, for it actually had the temerity to clearly indicate Mr. Namura Taizo, President of the Supreme Court and Chief Examiner, as the culprit, and to allege that he received ten thousand yen for the papers, a number of candidates clubbing to raise the money. The manifest extravagance of such a story deprives it of all value, but the *Nippon*, which was released from suspension only four weeks ago, has been placed once more under the ban, and truly we cannot pity it, for a newspaper which circulates slanders so grave on the evidence of idle talk, cannot expect to enjoy liberty of speech. There were 1,200 candidates at the examination, and the disturbance that occurred when No. 25 *ka*—the competitors sat in rows according to the syllabus—was discovered to be in possession of the questions together with previously compiled answers, is said to have been distinctly spirited and lively. Tables and chairs travelled around with considerable velocity, but it does not appear that any limbs or heads were broken. Several of the rioters were arrested, as also were six candidates suspected of having been implicated in the fraud. They are now undergoing examination. The *Kokai* does not hesitate to lay the blame on the examiners, but that is pure conjecture. Among the candidates the principal culprits, according to the News Agency, are two students of Wafutsu Horitsu Gakko, namely, Maruyama Toshio and Torii Kumakichi. At the examinations in Yokohama, also, a clerk of the Local Court who was a candidate, remained in the office throughout the night preceding the examination and, breaking the seal of the letter which came from the Department of Justice with the question papers, copied the questions and refastened the envelope. He did the thing clumsily, however, so that when Mr. Kozaka, the Public Procurator, received the letter, he suspected something, and going to the desk of the clerk after the latter had gone to the examination hall, found a copy of the paper. It would seem from all this that sufficient care is not exercised by the responsible officials. As for the examinations, they have of course been declared invalid, the Government telegraphing in that sense to every place where they were in progress.

The man who surreptitiously obtained and distributed the papers is said to have been discovered, though he is not yet arrested. It appears that nine persons were under suspicion, but on being brought before the magistrates they were released, with one exception, Takei Kumakichi, who is still in custody. This man formerly was an inmate of the house of Mr. Namura Taizo, the Chief Examiner.

Meanwhile, the occasion has been seized by the students of the Law Schools in the capital for another display of the precocious self-sufficiency so often witnessed in this country of late years. They held a meeting on the 22nd instant, and elected three representatives who were instructed to wait upon the Minister of State for Justice and convey to him a statement of the students' desires. The Minister, being absent from Tokyo at the Autumn Manoeuvres, the deputation was received by the Vice-Minister, to whom the following recommendations were presented:—First, that the last examination shall be declared altogether invalid; secondly, that another examination shall be held in the middle of December; thirdly, that the present examiners shall be relieved of that function; fourthly, that new examiners be appointed from among experts having no connec-

tion whatever with private law schools; fifthly, that the examination papers shall not be printed, but duplicated by some other method; sixthly, that a stricter system of supervision be introduced; and seventhly, that every person whose conduct in connection with the last examination was open to suspicion, shall be excluded from the next. The Vice-Minister seems to have received this youthful deputation very politely, and is said to have promised that their suggestions should receive due attention. But really it is too farcical that youths should undertake in such a manner to instruct their elders. Not one of the points advanced by these self-satisfied lads could have failed to occur to the experienced officials who have charge of the affair. In fact, it is already rumoured that, at the first intelligence of the trouble, the Minister of State for Justice resolved that men connected with private Law Schools should be excluded from the board of examiners. But the juvenile Solons of Japan think themselves endowed with divine wisdom to set the whole world straight. Their ineffable presumption is one of the most extraordinary and disquieting features of the time.

In addition to the above deputation, we read in the vernacular press that the five Law Colleges of the capital, the *Dafutsu*, the *Senshu*, the *Seimon*, the *Meiji* and the *Hogaku*, have elected committees of five each to draw up and present to the Minister of Justice a petition in the sense of the advice so kindly and gratuitously furnished by the three representatives. Truly if these young gentlemen knew how amusing their conduct seems to outsiders, they would moderate their pragmatical zeal. Did they ever hear, we wonder, of the celebrated case in America where a fertile-brained youth managed to get a copy of the examination paper by sitting down on the printer's forme, and carrying away an impression on the seat of his pantaloons. That was a phenomenal affair worthy to exercise their ingenuity of prevention, but on the present occasion they seem to be a little wasteful of their intellectual gifts. We do not for a moment mean to condone the dishonesty of those who sold and those who purchased the examination papers: such persons deserve disgrace and denunciation. The students of the law colleges, however, are only adding ridicule to the scandal.

Meanwhile, the Public Procurators are reported to have been engaged in searching for the culprit, and to have finally ordered the seizure of Nakamura Tokujiro, Superintendent of the Meiji Horitsu Gakko. According to rumour, this Nakamura has confessed that, previously to the examination, he sold the second question of the first day's papers, viz., a query as to the punishment for a crime of rape accompanied by fatal violence—to a candidate by name Yoshiike Shigenosuke, for 260 yen, through one Yonekawa Keishi. Nakamura formerly resided in the same house with Mr. Namura Taizo, President of the Supreme Court and Chief Examiner; hence the libel connecting Mr. Namura with the affair. Subsequently, Yuki Dosei and Watanabe Tomozo, students of the Meiji Horitsu Gakko, and Nagashima Shikazo, a probationer of the Judicial Department, were arrested on suspicion.

The irregularity connected with the examination was not confined to Tokyo. Similar reports have also come from Yokohama, Matsuyama, Yamagata, and Osaka. The culprit in Yokohama was discovered, as reported above, but with regard as to the rest, it is not yet known how far the rumours may be credited. As to the printers, it appears that no irregularity on their part was possible. For the Director of the Government Printing Bureau (*Insatsu Kyoku*), to which the work was entrusted, did not hand the manuscript to the printers till very late on the 23rd ultimo, the day previous to that on which they were to be sent to the Judicial Department. The composition was entrusted to a fixed number of the most trustworthy employes, under the strict supervision of the superintendent, and as the men worked all night, and the papers were

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sent to the Judicial Department the following morning, there was no possibility of any proofs being stolen. So, at least, says the *Kokkai*, but we do not follow its reasoning.

This event is not without precedent. Hitherto, similar rumours have been circulated in connection with every examination for barristers, and the Authorities have been considering the propriety of altering the present system. Rumour now says that in future all examinations will be conducted at Courts of Appeal instead of at Local Courts, and will be superintended by Public Procurators attached to the Courts of Appeal. Further, the questions will be determined by the Presidents of Appeal Courts when they assemble, and will not be printed, but each question will be written on a black-board. Such precautions would no doubt prevent any repetition of the scandal.

The students of the six law colleges have presented their petition to the Minister of State for Justice. It contains the following suggestions:—(1) That examiners shall compile the questions on the day of examination, and that each question shall be written out on a blackboard. (2) That the examination questions for local districts shall be compiled separately, and despatched by the Chief Examiner himself. (3) That no name shall be signed to the answers, the number or mark of the candidate only being used. (4) That the number of marks obtained by each candidate shall be published. (5) That the examination papers ought not to be printed. (6) That the answer shall be kept in the hands of the Chief Public Procurator.

The *Jiyu* publishes a dialogue between its reporter and Mr. Namura, President of the Supreme Court and Chief Examiner. The latter declares that as he was totally ignorant of the affair, his honour cannot be impugned by idle rumours: the real culprit will soon be ascertained. He naturally laughs at the charge brought against him by the *Nippon*, and concludes by saying that though the Metropolitan Police have already found the culprit, the duty of publishing his name must be left to the proper authority.

This scandal is apparently destined to have one good result, namely, that of directing attention to several defects in the present system of examinations. As to the printing of the papers, we really fail to see that any valid objection can be raised. Examination papers are printed in all European countries, and that too for competitive contests where the inducements to fraud are incomparably greater than they can ever be in a merely qualifying examination. The Barristers' Examination in Japan is purely qualifying. Any number of candidates may present themselves, and any number may pass. It is only necessary to attain a certain standard of efficiency. If, then, the printing of question-papers can be securely managed in the West for examinations of the most keenly competitive character, surely it ought to be possible to use type in Japan without serious danger where a qualifying test alone is to be applied. The notion of writing each question on a black-board for twelve hundred candidates to copy—there was no less a multitude of would-be barristers at the recent Ueno examination—is altogether clumsy and old-fashioned. On the other hand, it is difficult to perceive why papers intended for use on October 19th should be printed on September 24th. Such an interval greatly increases the chances of mishap. The plan employed is to print all the papers at the Government Printing Bureau in Tokyo, and subsequently distribute them throughout the empire to the various places where examinations are held. If this be necessary, which we doubt, an interval of nearly a month ought not to be required. Again the signing of candidates' names to answers is distinctly objectionable. Nothing of the kind has been permitted in the West for many years—nearly half a century—and the danger of thus enabling candidates to be identified becomes doubly great when, as is the case in Japan, there are to be found among the examiners men who give instruction in

the very schools where the candidates have been educated. It seems inexpedient that even these persons should be on the board of examiners, and certainly it is most unwise that candidates should identify themselves by signing their names to papers. With regard, finally, to the question of publishing the marks obtained by each candidate, there can scarcely be any second opinion. Not only are candidates entitled to know how they stand, but the public also has a claim to be informed about the relative merits of men whose care the conduct of important suits affecting life and property may have to be entrusted.

The News Agency reports that the examination system was precisely one of the things that received attention at the hands of the new Cabinet when it came into office, and that a completely reformed plan has been prepared and is now awaiting promulgation. It cannot, however, be published until the return of the Minister of State for Justice, who is now absent at the autumn manoeuvres. There is reason to regret that this desirable step could not have been taken before its necessity was demonstrated by a scandal like that which has just occurred.

A PICKPOCKET CAPTURED.

A VERY clever capture of a pickpocket was made on Thursday last at the Shimbashi railway station by Mr. C. M. Duff. It appears that Mr. Duff was standing near the baggage office when he felt a touch in the neighbourhood of his waistcoat pocket and looking down, he perceived that his watch-chain was dangling from his button-hole. Without a moment's hesitation, he seized a stalwart Japanese who was standing beside him. The man vehemently protested his innocence, and his declarations were confirmed by two accomplices who showed a disposition to interfere violently. Mr. Duff, however, taking the law into his own hands, treated these gentlemen after a fashion which not only effectually checked their remonstrances, but also deterred the chief culprit from making any serious attempt to escape, though his shrews were sufficiently powerful to promise success had he acted promptly and boldly. A policeman's services were soon in requisition, when it was found that the man had Mr. Duff's watch in his hand, and also that he carried a pair of nippers with which the chain had evidently been cut. Probably the programme had been that, in case of seizure, the culprit should be relieved of the watch and other evidences of guilt by his two associates, but Mr. Duff's conclusive action towards the latter put them out of the arena before these details could be carried out. The man maintained an obstinate demeanour at first, but finally, seeing that the game was hopeless, he made a confession which gratified the police immensely, for it enabled them to identify in him an inveterate pickpocket who, with seven confederates, had for a considerable time been exploiting the citizens of Tokyo. The whole gang were soon in custody, and we learn that no less than thirty watches were recovered.

WINDING UP OF THE BUILDING COMPANY.

THE shareholders of the *Doboku Kaisha* (Building Company), an important enterprise started five years ago under the auspices of Messrs. Okura, Shibusawa, and other well known merchants of Tokyo, held their semi-annual general meeting on the 21st instant, when the accounts for the past half-year were read and passed, a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. being declared. After the regular proceedings had terminated, Mr. Okura, President of the Company, rose and said that the time had arrived to take an important decision with regard to the Company's future. The enterprise had been started five years ago when numerous public and private buildings were in course, or on the eve, of erection, and had been carried on ever since without any special mishap, its condition at the present moment being one of moderate prosperity. But since the promulgation of the new Law of Finance, the provisions of which required that all public works must be

put to open tender and given to the cheapest bidders, the question of excellence of construction had been entirely subserved to that of cheapness, and it had become difficult for a Company with such aims as theirs to compete with the mushroom speculators of the hour. They could not reasonably hope, under such circumstances, for a steady continuance of prosperity, and since they were now in possession of an unimpaired reserve fund of 200,000 yen, and could wind up their affairs without incurring a *sen* of loss or causing embarrassment to anyone, he saw no better course to pursue. The proposition was adopted unanimously, and a Consultative Committee was at once appointed, consisting of Messrs. Shibusawa Yeichi, Terada Masanari, Yokoyama Magoichiro, and Shimokobe Kwanshiro. The Company has hitherto paid a steady dividend of 10 per cent., but as we have seen, altered circumstances have reduced this to 7 per cent. By gradually winding up affairs at the present moment, the shareholders will suffer no loss, the whole of their capital, two million yen being restored to them, together with a reserve fund of two hundred thousand, so that they will have a surplus of 10 per cent. to divide among them. It seems to us to be an act worthy of the reputation of the eminent business men directing this company that they should have the courage and foresight to recommend the closing of the enterprise, at a time when, not only all loss can be avoided, but also the shareholders can retire happily with an actually increased sum of capital to devote to other purposes. The example is excellent. If only it were universally followed what an incalculable amount of suffering and hardship would be avoided. Men like Messrs. Shibusawa and Okura cannot afford to have their names associated with a failure of any kind. When the public entrusts its money to such persons, it has a right to expect that they exercise their sagacity to save the subscribers from loss, and it is just as much the function of that sagacity to calculate the right moment for abandoning an enterprise as to devise clever means of carrying it on. The fact that a Company like the *Doboku Kaisha* cannot find its account in existing circumstances is regrettable, but the wisdom and self-restraint shown by the directors at the last moment establish a precedent which deserves to be noted and adopted universally.

A JAPANESE GEOGRAPHER.

THE *Keigyosha*, a well-known publishing firm in Tokyo, has just brought out a fifth edition of the "*Chiri-gaku Kōgi*" (Lectures on Geography) by Mr. Shiga, editor of the *Kokkai* and joint editor of the *Ajiya*. Mr. Shiga is a born geographer. Passionately fond of travel, he brings keen and quick powers of observation to bear upon everything met with in his journeys. His "*Nan-yo Jiji*" (Current Events in the South Sea), embodying the results of flying visits to Australia and the South Pacific seven or eight years ago, established his reputation as a successful traveller; and the little volume now before us conclusively shows that he is no less a success in the broader field of Geography. The work grew out of lectures delivered by the writer in the interval of his editorial labours before the students of the Tokyo Eigo Gakko, now the Nippon Chu-gakko. It is written in the fresh and charming style of which Mr. Shiga is a master. Its popularity may be judged by the fact that it has reached its fifth thousand in a space of three years, a reception not extended to many works in Japan. Perhaps the most noteworthy feature of the book is its general plan of arrangement. The author aims not at hammering dry facts into the students' heads, but at awakening in them an interest to study Geography, and at pointing out to them the method in which they can most usefully pursue the study. He constantly enjoins upon his readers the importance of relying more upon the power of reasoning than upon that of memory, and he illustrates every general direction by reference to facts with which most students are familiar. Moreover, in several places the book is enlivened by the insertion of very

attractive essays bearing on various topics connected with Geography. Not the least interesting and useful feature is a comparative table at the end of the volume, showing the position, area, population, general geographical features, political system, education and religion, race and character, fighting capacity, finance, climate and occupation, products and merchandize, means of communications, chief towns and ports, and weights and measures of the principal countries of the world.

OUR EAST AND ITS RESOURCES.

UNDER this title, Lieutenant M. Vacilief, of the Imperial Russian Navy, has written concerning the history, natural products and business possibilities of the regions bordering the Pacific which have been explored, settled, and controlled by those subject to the Government of the Emperor. This book contains one hundred and forty pages, in twelve sections. Following a general introduction, comes the first chapter, relating to the discovery and occupation of the shores of Okhotsk Sea, where the earliest post was established in 1659. The second chapter treats of Kamchatka, where the first block-house was erected in 1644. In the next section, we cross to the American Continent, Popof having appeared there in 1711. These pages are rich in dates, and names of the brave men who were the pioneers—those who made the history recorded in this volume. Division fourth gives us the story of the Amur district, from 1638 to the treaty with China in 1858. Subsequent chapters are devoted to the zoology, nomenclature, description of taking, uses, value, &c., of whales, seals, sea-otters, fish, seaweed and other growths of adjacent waters. Our author refers to the services rendered by vessels of the Voluntary Navy in developing the fisheries of the North Pacific. The tenth chapter treats of terrestrial animals, those of commercial value, being: sable, fox, arctic fox (white and blue) squirrel, bear (white, brown, black), otter, river beaver, ermine, reindeer, spotted deer, roebuck, musk, she-goat, mountain sheep, tiger, panther, and *muslinia gulo* (violfrass). We learn *en passant*, that, in 1696, white bears were abundant in Japan. In the eleventh chapter we are told that the vegetable kingdom of the Amur region is very rich, though hitherto little studied. The wide stretch of territory between the Okhotsk Sea and the borders of Manchuria and Korea, is covered with low forest, save some open places. In the north are the large evergreens, the finest growth being on the western slopes of the hills. The cork oak is found in Saghalien. Wild grapes have been found, but the making of wine is hardly a success, peculiarly. The Chinese sell nuts from the natural woods with good result. The mineral wealth of Eastern Siberia and adjacent neighbouring provinces is various and large: gold, silver, tin, lead, coal, amber, naphtha, marble, and many others are referred to. Some details of the working of the several industries are given. The work is printed in St. Petersburg, 1891, at the "Chief Admiralty."

THE CHOLERA AT HAMBURG.

WHEN Reuter's telegram arrived announcing the existence of a terrible state of affairs in Hamburg, during the acute stages of the cholera epidemic, great incredulity was felt here, for there seemed no reason why a town with a strong garrison, and therefore a thoroughly organized ambulance corps, should become so demoralized. But apparently the wires did not exaggerate. The following appears in the *St. James's Budget*:—

Vienna, August 31.—A Vienna doctor, in a letter to the *Neue Freie Presse*, depicts the state of affairs prevailing at Hamburg in the gloomiest colours. He states that the whole sanitary machinery is in the greatest disorder, and that everything has to be improvised. The transport of the sick is effected in sixty hired landaus, each conveying four patients, who are frequently in a dying condition. There are altogether 150 ambulance attendants, who generally wear their ordinary clothes instead of the oil-cloth garments advocated by specialists as a protection against the propagation of the disease. In the Eppendorf Hospital where there are in all 800 patients suffering from various maladies, the number of doctors is absolutely inadequate, and the medical men available have to strain every nerve to cope with the many cases requir-

ing attention. The self-sacrifice displayed by them is worthy of the highest praise. Another drawback at the Eppendorf Hospital is that whenever cholera patients are brought in, some of the ordinary cases of illness have to be removed. In one room the writer saw as many as 200 dead bodies. The epidemic, continues the letter, is raging in all the quarters of the city. At the outset every person seized succumbed, but now only 50 per cent. die. Another doctor reports that furniture vans are being brought into requisition to carry away the dead, and that the whole hospital arrangements show all the confusion incidental to hasty and haphazard initiation. It is now intended to fit up the schools and gymnastic halls as hospitals. In a second letter the writer deals with the Old Hamburg Hospital. The condition of things here is described as infinitely more horrible even than at the Eppendorf Hospital. In dirty, neglected passages bundles of clothing lie four or five hours awaiting disinfection, and in the midst of these packages are numbers of dead bodies laid there anyhow in distressing confusion. The doors of the wards with which these corridors communicate are left wide open, so that the sick can actually see the ever-growing numbers of the dead. To get into the wards themselves people have to step over the corpses and the piles of clothing. Nobody knows the number of sick and dead. The overcrowding in the wards is fearful. In a room fitted up for thirty patients there are as many as sixty, and the sick lie in such close proximity to one another that all nursing is rendered very difficult. Many rest on bare mattresses, which are filthy from use, and have no covering. For every forty to sixty patients there are but two attendants and one doctor. So absolute is the confusion that people who are not suffering from the malady at all are brought into the cholera wards there to contract the disease. Private dwellings where deaths occur are not disinfected. All that is done is to take portable articles to the public disinfection institutions, and even this is carried out without proper precautions, as the public are allowed to enter these places, and may sometimes even become infected there. The Senate has now at last voted half a million of marks to enable the authorities to cope with the epidemic. If only, says the writer in conclusion, one half of this sum had been granted a fortnight ago much misery would have been saved.

COAL AND CHICAGO.

CHICAGO appears to be the victim of a very pretty process of regrating. The elastic city and its bustling territory consume about 2,000,000 tons of anthracite coal annually. The suppliers of this coal have formed a trust, under the presidency of Mr. McLeod—the Scotchman is all there as usual—and the result is that between April and September the price of coal has been forced up at least a dollar and a half per ton. This means 3½ million dollars into the pocket of the Trust, and inasmuch as the members of the pool handle forty million tons of coal in all, there is a nice little sum of sixty millions of dollars concerned in their recent operations, even assuming that they can force the price no higher, which is a very unlikely hypothesis. They appear to be complete masters of the situation in the matter of organization and thoroughness. Such figures are almost bewildering. No wonder that the people of Chicago are beginning to rebel against being victimized by a clever combination. There are means, also, to defeat the regraters, for it appears that, in 1889, the Illinois Legislature passed a law from which the *Inter Ocean* extracts the following sections:—

If any corporation organized under the laws of this State, or any other State or country, for transacting or conducting any kind of business in this State, or any partnership or individual or other association of persons whatsoever, shall create, enter into, become a member of or a party to any pool, trust, agreement, combination, confederation or understanding with any other corporation, partnership, individual, or any other person or association of persons, to regulate or fix the price of any article of merchandise or commodity, or shall enter into, become a member of or a party to any pool, agreement, contract, combination or confederation to fix or limit the quantity of any article, commodity or merchandise to be manufactured, mined, produced, or sold in this State, such corporation, partnership, or individual, or other association of persons shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a conspiracy to defraud, and be subject to indictment and punishment as provided in this act.

If a corporation or a company, firm or association shall be found guilty of a violation of this act, it shall be punished by a fine in any sum not less than five hundred (\$500), nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), for the first offence; and for the second offence not less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), nor more than five thousand (\$5,000); and for the third offence not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), nor more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); and for every subsequent offence and conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

Provided, that in all cases under this act either party shall have the right of trial by jury.

Any contract or agreement in violation of any provision of the preceding sections of this act shall be absolutely void.

Any purchaser of any article or commodity from any individual, company, or corporation transacting business contrary to any provision of the preceding sections of this act, shall not be liable for the price of payment for such article or commodity, and may plead this act as a defence to and suit for such price of payment.

BUDDHISM AND THE GOVERNMENT.

WE have more than once alluded to the difficulties that have arisen between rival bodies of the priests of the *Sōdō* sect, in connection with the election of their Chief Abbot. The election took place about a year ago amidst scenes of the utmost animation and confusion. When the result was declared, the unsuccessful faction raised objections on the ground of corruption and fraudulent practices, and the question still remains undecided. One of the principal reasons why the post is contested with such stubborn perseverance, is that in its occupant is vested the right of controlling the funds of the sect, which are estimated at a large figure. It is now reported that the priests of other sects have taken up the matter, and decided to endeavour to effect a compromise between the contending factions. The question is discussed in the latest issue of the *Tensoku*, which, though it has lost much of the importance it possessed when it was owned and edited by President Kato of the Imperial University alone, still justly claims attention as the organ of the rising generation of Buddhist scholars in Japan. Our contemporary thinks that every sect of Buddhism in the empire is at any moment liable to a scandal such as that now disgracing the *Sōdō Shu*. The whole Buddhist priesthood, not any particular order of it, is in danger of being periodically scorched by the common volcanic fire of avarice and corruption within itself. The *Tensoku* recommends the priests of every sect to turn their attention, not to the patching up of the present quarrel in the *Sōdō Shu*, but to the removal of the primary cause of these occasional scandals in the Buddhist community. The reformation of Buddhism, our contemporary goes on to observe, is the most difficult of the questions claiming attention at the present time. But it believes that the solution of the problem would be greatly facilitated, did the Government adopt one of two courses; namely, either to extend its sphere of control over Buddhism and impose by Ordinance a certain fixed standard of educational qualifications for all members of the Buddhist priesthood; or completely renounce interference in Buddhist affairs, and abolish the present Shrines and Temples Bureau. The former course would help to awaken the priests to the importance of education; while the latter, by inducing them to resign all thought of reliance upon the Authorities, would strengthen the wholesome influence of competition between the different sects on the ground of moral superiority. The *Tensoku* advises the Government to adopt one of these alternatives, but refrains from expressing preference for either.

Apropos Buddhism, the same journal announces the publication of a new treatise on that religion by Professor Tokunaga of the *Daigakuryo*, a college of the *Shin-shu* in Kyoto. Its title is *Shukyo Tetsugaku Gaiokoku* (Skele-ton of Philosophy of Religion). It is divided into six chapters with the following captions:—On Religion and Learning; On the Infinite and the Finite; On the Soul; On Transmigration; On Good and Evil; and On Peace of Mind and Moral Discipline.

DOUBLE MURDER.

A DOUBLE-MURDER is reported to have taken place in Ofujimura, Kaisai-gori, Aichi *Ken*, and Mr. Sano Kunihiro, an unsuccessful candidate in the recent election of members of the Prefectural Assembly, is the guilty man. Early on the morning of the 17th inst. he made a sudden attack upon his wife and child, killing them instantly. He then stabbed himself

in the throat, but not striking a vital place was interrupted by other members of the household before he could carry out his desperate intention. It is presumed that the man was insane, the disappointment of a defeat at the elections having temporarily unhinged his mind. He is now under medical treatment. He was beaten by Mr. Aoki Eiji, his rival in the election, by only one or two votes.

MR. A. B. DE GUERVILLE'S MISSION TO JAPAN.

THE exaggerations published by certain American journals with reference to the results of Mr. A. B. de Guerville's Mission to Japan were not, after all, very extraordinary, seeing that the Honorary Commissioner had the privilege of delivering before the Emperor of Japan and the Imperial Court a lecture illustrated by stereopicon views, which must have greatly aroused the Sovereign's interest in the wonderful World's Fair. But the incident recalls an old query, whence comes the material for these highly coloured narratives? Is there attached to each leading journal a writer specially endowed with imaginative faculties and commissioned to conduct the embroidery business to the limit of his capacities? Or are there, in all interesting centres of society and commerce, correspondents who despatch prismatic information on condition that their identity is concealed? These are mysteries which we, ordinary journalists, cannot hope to fathom. But Mr. de Guerville's case has perplexed us more than usual, because we lately had an opportunity of learning how plain and unvarnished were the facts submitted by that gentleman himself to the Directors of the Exhibition, and how fully credit was accorded by him to all who had assisted him, directly or indirectly, to achieve the success that has undoubtedly fallen to his share in Japan. However, nobody in the present case is seriously hurt by these highly coloured stories. Possibly the journals of the great Republic are correct in the hypothesis evidently underlying their flights of fancy, namely, that nine men out of every ten are rather elated than chagrined when a little Münchansen colouring is imparted to their achievements. But the genuinely earnest worker likes to be reckoned at what he is really worth, and not to be hoisted on windy panegyrics which virtually imply that he is not entitled to solid applause.

SPECIAL SHOOTING LICENSES.

A PARAGRAPH in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* perplexes us considerably. Reference is made to the custom hitherto observed of presenting shooting licenses *gratis* to the various Legations in Tokyo, each member of the Legation being furnished, so that as many as seven or eight licenses went, in some instances, to one Legation. Such a state of affairs, we read, was regarded by some officials as an abuse, and the question was raised whether, under the new Game Law, some restriction could not be put upon the number of licenses thus furnished—as, for example, one for the Minister himself and one for each of the Secretaries. It may well be supposed that the proposition was emphatically negatived by responsible officials, but the fact that any notion of the kind should have been seriously formulated and gravely recounted in a leading newspaper strikes us as very astonishing. What possible difference can it make to Japan whether ten, twenty, thirty, or even fifty free licenses are sent to every Foreign Legation in Tokyo? She surely cares nothing about the sum of money involved, whereas, unless she be greatly changed from the Japan of yore, she must care a great deal about the discourtesy and inhospitality of which she would be guilty did she either limit the number of such licenses, or attempt, as is elsewhere suggested, to exercise any scrutiny into the manner of their use. The Foreign Representatives are her most honoured guests, and it would be little short of dementia to show the slightest symptoms of reserve or illiberality towards them. Of course there is not the least fear that anything of the kind will ever be tolerated by the men at the head of affairs, but the mere ventilation of the question calls for a strong protest against a singularly unwise tendency to strain

at a gnat that is apparently growing up in certain Japanese circles. Self-assertion is a very fine thing, and sometimes its exercise becomes not only respectable, but also necessary. We do not in the least wonder that many Japanese should be inspired by such a sentiment at present. But nothing can be more ridiculous and contemptible than ebullitions of self-assertion evoked by bagatelles and finding vent in wholly wrong directions.

TOKYO WATER WORKS.

It would seem that there is at length a prospect of the Tokyo water works being started. The bill authorizing the Municipality to raise a loan of three million *yen*, was passed by the City Assembly on the 21st instant, and it is expected that steps will be immediately taken to obtain the money. What may have been the cause of the long delay, we are unable to state. Probably it would puzzle any one to give a satisfactory explanation. The question was taken up vigorously in 1886 by private enterprise, and an excellent project, accompanied by specifications, was prepared by a competent engineer. Funds were forthcoming. Everything, in short, was arranged, and there was made to the Municipality a most liberal offer which would have furnished the city with water works without making any call upon the public purse, and would have secured the possession of the concern to the Municipality after the lapse of a term of years. But this capital scheme failed to obtain sanction. The Authorities held that the works must be carried out by public enterprise, and the result is that the city, instead of being within a very brief interval of having a pure water supply, and thus being virtually guaranteed against cholera epidemics, is only now beginning to talk seriously of raising a loan to commence the works. However, better late than never. We trust that the end of these irksome and inexplicable delays has been finally reached.

HARBOUR REGULATIONS COMMITTEE.

ON Friday the 21st instant, at 10.30 a.m., the second conference of the Harbour Regulations Committee was held in the buildings of the Department of Communications. Mr. Kawazu, Vice-Minister, was absent owing to ill-health, so Mr. Utsumi, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, took the chair, and business was proceeded with at once. All the Articles of the draft Regulations, down to Art. 8, were passed without difficulty, but the 8th Art., which referred to the method of procedure in the event of fire on board a ship in the harbour, and the 9th Art., which prescribed the steps for controlling the shipment of explosives or other dangerous goods, provoked a prolonged debate. It was finally agreed, however, that as the exact terms need not be determined at the outset, their consideration should be postponed until the next meeting. A recess having been taken from noon until 1.10 p.m., the conference was reopened with the discussion of Art. 10, concerning which there was again much difference of opinion, but finally amendments approved by all were made. The meeting rose at 3.15 p.m., to re-assemble on Wednesday the 26th instant.

THE WOOSUNG BAR.

THE *North China Daily News*, eternally hopeful, has been endeavouring once more to direct active attention to Shanghai's bugbear, the Woosung Bar, and not without success, it would seem, but the Consular Body has taken up the matter again, and Captain Fife, who was recently in charge of the dredging operations there, has offered to dig out the junk channel to a depth of 24 feet at low water for ten thousand pounds sterling. If such a measure at such a cost would be effective, the marvel is that Shanghai has suffered through all these years without relief. It appears that some shipmasters put the Bar to a species of use, for they simply drive their vessels into the mud, and so keep them there, without the trouble of anchoring, until the tide makes. But even this sorry service must no longer be rendered by the obnoxious obstruction, for it is stated that steamers thus grounded have the effect of

raising mounds, upon which other vessels stick. It is a wretched Bar altogether. The other day, a steamer of the Japan Mail Steamship Company was detained four days before she could get out of the river, and when anxiety about the *Bokhara's* fate was keenest, the *Brindisi* and *H.M.S. Penguin*, which might have proceeded in search of the missing ship, were prevented from putting to sea by the same obstruction.

THE SILK-MEN'S DISPUTE.

ONCE more the friction among the Yokohama silk merchants has been smoothed away, but whether the peace is permanent seems to be quite uncertain. The most recent bone of contention was the question of excluding brokers from the general association of dealers in silk. It was in connection with this question that the party led by Mr. Ono were accused of having been guilty of a breach of promise, but, confident in the justice of their attitude, they determined to open a general meeting for the purpose of passing the new regulations, leaving the Kimura party to attend or not as they pleased. The latter, on their side, contended that a general meeting could not possibly be opened under the circumstances. Owing, however, to the exertions of the go-betweens this deadlock has been brought to an end, and the rival factions having agreed to come together, a meeting will probably be held in a few days.

LOSS OF THE "NAUTILUS."

THE steam whaler *Narwhal*, Captain Flanders belonging to the Eastern Whaling Company, of this port, arrived in the harbour on Monday, having on board the crew of the Company's steamer *Nautilus*, which had been wrecked on the 30th of September whilst lying at anchor in a bay between Great Shantar and Fekshiptoff in the Shantaraki Islands. Fortunately no lives were lost, and the weather not being very bad most of the gear of the *Nautilus* was saved. The *Narwhal* brings 3,582 lbs. of whalebone, and had the *Nautilus* come home to port safe the Company's position would have been good. The casualty has caused a considerable amount of discussion amongst those interested, but as an enquiry will be held we refrain from reproducing the information which has reached us in regard to the alleged causes of the disaster.

SCRIMMAGE ON SHIPBOARD.

A RATHER serious affair occurred on Tuesday on board the sailing ship *Thomasina MacLellan*, in harbour, the consequences of which necessitated the attendance of two doctors to patch up the wounded. It appears that the captain of the vessel was on shore, and the officers, with the exception of the chief mate, were on leave. Six seamen were on board, who demanded permission to go on shore, but were refused, and during an altercation that ensued, they set upon the chief officer in a body. The mate, seeing that the chances were very much against him in a scuffle with so many assailants, took vigorous measures to defend himself, and seizing a piece of deck plank of handy dimensions went in as "skimmer" on the mutinous crowd, and succeeded, after disabling some of them, in inducing the remainder to "sheer off." The officer came out of the fray with a whole skin, but it is stated that the nearest relatives of the cowardly crew would not recognise them as they appeared at the conclusion of the battle.

A DIPLOMATIC CANARD.

THE action of the Foreign Representatives with regard to the new Game Regulations is affording food for comment by the vernacular press. Latest in the field with a tale on the subject is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which says that a certain Foreign Minister having failed to attend the conference, was visited by a colleague and asked to explain his absence, whereupon he replied:—"I represent a Great Power and see no reason for holding consultations with the Representatives of petty States." The visitor is described as having been reduced to complete silence, as well indeed he might. The *Nichi Nichi* alleges ignorance of the name of

this independent Minister, but says that his identity may be inferred from his directness of speech. The story is delightful in its manifest impossibility. Our contemporary is pleased to make merry at the expense of an anonymous diplomatist, but it is scarcely necessary to remark that if such methods were pursued by Foreign Representatives, international relations would soon be in an agreeable condition.

PUBLIC WORKS IN THE HANKOW DISTRICT.

HER MAJESTY'S Consular Officers, in compliance with the instructions issued two years ago—if we remember aright—have compiled many interesting reports of the public works in their districts. Among the latest of these is a report by Mr. Consul Gardner on the public works near Hankow. He writes as follows:—

I have now the honour to state that, after despatching my trade report, I, on March 24, started in a house-boat to visit certain public works about 75 miles down the river. On the morning of the 26th I arrived at a town called Kwang-shih-Kang, where I was visited by the town justice, and by the son of the district magistrate of the Ta-yeh district—a town some 20 miles inland—who brought his father's card and excuses for not calling upon as he could not leave his district town at the time, because the Government examinations were going on. The magistrate, however, sent four civil attendants to attend me while I was in his district, and four soldiers as an escort.

About two miles further down the river we came to a place called Shih-hui-yao (the lime-kilns), where there is a large industry of slaking limestone into lime, and where the contemplated railway for bringing coal and iron from the mines of Wang-shan-shih (coal mines) and Tieh-shan-pu (iron mines) reaches the River Yangtze. From Shih-hui-yao to the iron mines at Tieh-shan-pu is a distance of 17 miles. The work of building the railway was begun about eight months before my visit, and it is contemplated that it will be completely finished in three or four months more. I found the embankment nearly completed, and two miles of rail already laid down. The rails are laid on iron sleepers, both rails and sleepers being supplied from Germany. There were about 1,500 coolies employed on the works at the rate of 5d. a day wages, but in spite of the low wages the works was costing more than it would do in English, and this for two reasons:—first, the very poor physique of the labourers; and secondly, the impracticability of getting them to work hard. Any deduction made for short work would be resented and lead to riots; hence the native officials do all in their power to keep the people in good humour, and cannot, therefore, pay the attention to economy that would be paid at home. With regard to the poorness of physique, I may mention that, in order to measure the work done, wheelbarrows have been got from Germany with iron planks to run them on. A single European could easily trundle one of these wheelbarrows full, but the Chinese put two men to each, do not half fill it, more constantly rest than a European, and do not run it nearly so fast; and yet, on the whole, it is found better work is done with these wheelbarrows than by the native mode of carrying two baskets on the shoulder by means of a pole. A slight, portable railway with trucks is found the cheapest mode of carriage of rubble, earth, &c., and of this there are some three miles or so on the line. Again, as to humouring the people, the land bought has been purchased at the rate of 30l. an acre, which is higher than the market rate, and in measuring the land the vendors have been allowed to measure in such a generous manner that the price paid has really amounted to 60l. an acre. In the 17 miles from the Yangtze to the iron mines there are 140 culverts and bridges; the line runs at the base of limestone hills, yet the cost of quarrying and cutting stones for the culverts and bridges has been very heavy, and expense of cutting and crushing rubble for ballast has been so great that, for the three miles nearest the iron mines, iron ore has been used as ballast, while it is intended to take up and slake the limestone ballast already laid down, and to use iron-ore for that purpose all along the line.

For the cementing of the culverts and bridges, Portland cement imported from England is being used.

A German gentleman, Mr. Schweidtweller, formerly an attaché to the German Legation at Peking, is the engineer who designed, and is superintending, the construction of the line.

Houses for Europeans have been erected at Shih-hui-yao, and at a spot about 10 miles up the line.

The iron-mine at Tieh-shan-pu, 17 miles inland from Shih-hui-yao, is a very interesting sight, there being a hill of iron running some 3 miles and about

400 feet high. According to Mr. Schwarze, the engineer in charge, there is enough iron to turn out 700 tons a day for 1,000 years. Three assays have been made of the iron-ore, with the following results:—One yielded 55.16 per cent. pure iron, the second 62.80 per cent., and the third 67.30 per cent. I am informed that there are similar hills of iron on a smaller scale near Bilbao in Spain, but the only hill of iron of equal dimensions, I have heard of is called Montserrat, and is situated not far from Algiers.

A Tieh-shan-pu there are evidences of great iron works in ancient days in the form of millions of tons of slag or burnt-iron ore in a heap, or rather a hill, showing that smelting must have gone on on the spot for centuries, but the work must have been abandoned many generations ago. I opine that in ancient times the whole country must have been a forest of some species of castanea, and charcoal from this wood was used for smelting the ore. At the present time the district is quite devoid of timber.

If only economic considerations had been consulted, it is on this spot, or near suitable coal-mines, that the Viceroy would have erected his iron-works instead of at Hanyang, close to Hankow; but his Excellency no doubt was influenced by the desire of having them near his official residence for the purpose of supervision. There is a hill spring close in the vicinity to provide water for the requisite engines, but, as yet, suitable coking coal has not been discovered anywhere near in sufficient quantity.

A house for Mr. Scharze has been erected on this spot, and a place to store dynamite. At present there are about 1,200 lb. of dynamite stored there.

During my trip I visited two coal-mines, one at a place called Tao-shih-fu, and the other at Wang-san-shih.

The mines at Tao-shih-fu ("Cock's Head," on the Admiralty chart) are within 600 yards of the river-bank, and the coal here is of two kinds, bituminous and anthracite, but as yet the seams are too narrow for profitable working being only 3 inches or 4 inches wide. At the time of my visit, boring work to endeavour to discover thicker seams was being actively carried on, the instrument used being Gelland's patent boring machine, of which the teeth of the drill are made of black diamonds. There were in all four small shafts at Tao-shih-fu, the deepest of which is 110 feet deep. As yet, only surface coal has been extracted, and that not of good quality, the anthracite being inferior to the soft kind.* It is feared that not much coal will be extracted from these shafts, as it is dreaded there is here a pocket of limestone, which cuts off the coal. At this place, inexpensive houses have been erected, three sinking engines and pumps complete for 360 feet provided, and a short portable railway laid down.

The coal-mine at Wang-san-shih are far more promising. There are here three seams of 24 feet, 3 feet, and 14 feet, the dip of which is at an angle of degrees, nearly due south. The geological formation is Devonian, with metamorphic quartzite, banded quartzite, and limestone to the west. A perpendicular shaft has been sunk to 6 feet with no fault. The first 25 feet were through alluvium, thence through quartzite and a few bands of shale in quartzite. The shaft is being deepened at the rate of 4 inches an hour. Wang-san-shih is only 3 miles from the line of railway and 9 miles from the works, and it was up this that the line comes within half-a-mile of the works, and it was up this that the heavy machinery was brought to the mines by the following ingenious process. A raft, drawing only an inch to the ton, was constructed, and, the machinery being shipped, was dragged up the creek till it grounded; then a dam was built behind which caused it to float, and this was successively and successfully done until the machinery was got to within half-a-mile of the mines. Hand porters took it the rest of the way.

The first sod was turned last October, when the hill was purchased at a very low price from the native owner. The coal put out so far improves as it comes from deeper down, and is of excellent quality, but it unfortunately will not coke, and therefore, though admirably suited for the cotton factory, traction engines, and steamers, is not suitable for smelting purposes.

In order to humour and educate the people, visitors are freely allowed on two days in the month. During my visit to the mines it was a visiting day, and the privilege was taken advantage of by crowds of holiday-makers, mostly women and children in gala dresses, who come with the idea of seeing a conjuring trick, for they, and even many of the higher classes, think that the

* May 29, 1892.—I was informed yesterday that excellent coking coal has never been got from this mine.

quality of the output depends on the skill of the engineer in charge.

It is as yet too early to be sure whether this coal-mine will prove a financial success, but the prospect certainly seems hopeful. It will be a great boon to our steamers, both naval and mercantile, if a good coal can be obtained in this neighbourhood at a moderate price. In all these public works of the Chinese, however, great allowances should be made for the absence of skilled labour, and for defective organisation. It is difficult, also, to make Asiatics understand the value of time; thus, delay in transmitting funds, machinery, &c., has on several occasions stopped the work.

The attitude of the people to these works is exceedingly hostile, and that in spite of the large employment and other advantages they confer. On several occasions the quarters occupied by the European engineers have been threatened; both the engineers and the line itself require the protection of troops, and the presence of numerous Chinese officials specially detached on the service of maintaining order. This is remarkable, as two or three years ago the people about were decidedly amicable, and I can only attribute their present hostility to one cause, and that is the dissemination of the abominable anti-foreign literature which I have from time to time reported on.

The demeanour of the Chinese officials to me during my trip was as courteous as I could desire, and I was treated with the honours due to my official position. Besides being always accompanied by the four civil attendants and the four soldiers sent by the Ta-yeh magistrate, I was met a mile from the mines by a guard of 20 men, and at the mines all the troops were drawn out to salute me. I accepted all outward signs of respect, as I believed that the news of my being properly honoured would have a good effect on the minds of the natives in the neighbourhood.

THE GAME REGULATIONS AGAIN.

A new aspect has been imparted to the recently promulgated Game Regulations by an article in the Law Journal (*Horitsu Shimpō*), where we find it contended that the Regulations, though not a violation of the Constitution, are distinctly a violation of the existing laws of the land. The writer of this article, strange to say, is Mr. Yegi Chu, a Councillor of the Home Department. He does not touch the question of the fees charged for licenses. Apparently he considers that phase of the matter unworthy of discussion. But he asserts that whereas there has now been granted to private individuals a right of property in game, no power to make such a grant was vested in the grantor, since the game in Japan did not belong to the Government at all. His position is that *fera natura* do not belong to any man until he has captured them; that in short, possession alone constitutes the right of property. By way of reference he adduces the case of minerals, but truly it is difficult to discover any analogy. For he claims that minerals, being actually in the ground, are naturally the property of the person owing the ground, and that the Government, before enacting any regulations to control mining operations, was under the prior necessity of assuming possession of all the minerals in the empire, which it did by a special provision in the Mining Regulations. We infer, therefore, that it would have been equally within the competence of the Government to assume possession of the game, and that, had it done so before promulgating the new Regulations, its procedure would have been perfectly *en regle*. Truly these nice distinctions may be abandoned to those that like to discuss them. To us it seems that the State's right of property in game was established fourteen years ago when all killing of game, whether for profit or pleasure, was forbidden except on payment of a certain fee. In other words, the Government has for many years been practically selling to the people permission to capture game, and if it had no title of ownership in the game, such a process of sale was decidedly peculiar.

THE PARCELS POST.

We reproduced in a recent issue a complaint preferred by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* against the Authorities in connection with the new Parcels Post, the gist of the criticism being that, inasmuch as the Department of Communications had failed to make arrangements with the various carrying companies, the latter were

Original from

competing vigorously with the Post Office, the result being that no one found it worth while to send parcels by the new system, sufficient advantages of cheapness and celerity being offered by the private companies. Hence it was predicted that the Parcels Post would be utilized only for purposes of transmission to places so remote and inaccessible that no carrying company could organize a paying service thither. This meant, of course, that the Parcels Post would prove a losing affair, and that a large appropriation of public funds would be required to carry it on. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* traverses the criticism. With regard to the fact that the new system has been inaugurated in Tokyo only, it is pointed out that no other course was possible, inasmuch as a grant of funds for extending the service to the localities was not procured from the Diet last session. This will be remedied from the commencement of the next fiscal year. Speaking generally, the chief use of a Parcels Post is to transmit goods to remote districts whither they cannot be carried by private enterprise with any convenient degree of punctuality. There are many localities in Japan to which no regular service gives access. A parcel sent to any of these destinations has to wait until it can be associated with a sufficiency of other parcels to warrant the carriers in undertaking the journey. The object of the Parcels Post is to correct such a state of affairs, and when the time comes to organize it on an extended basis, the Department of Communications will not fail to make suitable arrangements. No just criterion can be drawn from the working of such a service in a city like Tokyo, but unfortunately until an appropriation can be obtained from the Diet, communication with the localities cannot be established. Neither is it fair to draw any inference from the results of a month's working. The ordinary post produced a revenue of only 17,000 yen the first year, but in the following year it rose to 65,000 yen, and now it stands at 3½ millions, leaving an annual surplus of several hundred thousand yen. As for the *Yomiuri's* notion that the interest of private carrying companies are unfairly injured by the system, it would have been equally reasonable to contend that a postal service should not be established because of the *hikyaku* (letter-carriers) whose trade it destroyed. The interests of the public, not those of individuals, have to be considered. The *Yomiuri* is very kind in tendering advice as to the relations that should be established with carrying companies, but there are plenty of experts in the Government who need no such counsel.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

THE general plan of the Autumn manœuvres, which commenced on the 23rd instant, was that an invading force, landing in Tsugaru Bay, marched southward in three divisions, its ultimate objective point being Tokyo. One division, under the command of Major-General Onuma, having reached Yaita, set out thence for Ujiye on the morning of the 23rd instant. The second division, under Major-General Yamaguchi, proceeded in the same direction *via* Sakuyama; and the third, under Lieut.-General Sakuma, took the old road towards the Kitsure River. This invading force mustered some 18,000 men, and to oppose its advance a force of about equal strength had been assembled in Utsunomiya. The Imperial Army left Utsunomiya at 5 a.m. on the 23rd, and moved in three bodies: the first, commanded by H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, and the second, under Lieutenant General Yamaji, both headed for Ujiye, while the third, under Major-General Kuroki, directed its march towards the Kitsure River. The enemy not being discovered at Ujiye, a force was detached by the defending army to occupy the Kabasu route, which was considered to be one of the most important lines of advance. This body encountered the invaders at Sakurano, and became hotly engaged, whereupon the rest of Prince Shirakawa's corps moved up in support. Its advance being perceived, however, the enemy effected a clever division of force, and executed a vigorous flank attack,

which compelled the Prince's division to fall back on Baba, where a resolute stand was made, a large park of artillery being employed by the Imperial force. But it was found impossible to effect a junction with General Yamaji's corps, so that the Imperial troops were finally overpowered and driven back. Meanwhile the Emperor, leaving Utsunomiya at 7 a.m., had assumed command of the defending army in person. He saw his forces obliged to retreat to Kami Akutsu, where they were again powerfully assailed by the invaders, and being driven across the Kinu River, they retreated to Utsunomiya. At 5 p.m. the Emperor ordered the suspension of the operations. On the 24th the invaders resumed their advance, and occupying Hosekiji, unopposed, attempted to cross the Kinu river. But during the night the Imperial troops had destroyed the two bridges over the river thrown up batteries maintaining 40 guns, and posted a large force under cover along the Shinden road. The enemy were occupied until 1 p.m. bridging the Kinu, and when they resumed their advance, a hot engagement took place, the battle front extending over a mile. A flank attack was carried out by a body of Imperial troops which had crossed the Kinu higher up, but though success seemed to rest with the defenders at first, they were in the end driven back, and at 8.40 p.m. the invading army took possession of Utsunomiya. The Emperor had watched the battle on horseback from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m.

A Correspondent, writing from Utsunomiya under the date of October 25, says:—The grand manœuvres which have been held in this district since last Sunday were brought to close this morning. The final battle between the contending forces, which lasted for about four hours—from six to ten o'clock—was fought in the fields about a mile from here on the highway to the town of Mibu. The weather was fine, and the fighting was witnessed by thousands of people from Utsunomiya and surrounding villages. To-night the whole of the hitherto contending troops will be quartered in the town, and there will be hardly a house in this place that will not be occupied by soldiers. The inhabitants, however, put up with the inconvenience with good will and are high in praise of the behaviour of the men, which speaks much for the discipline maintained. The great review will be held to-morrow morning in the plains about five miles to the north of the town at the same place where yesterday's fighting took place. After the review the troops will begin to return to their respective garrisons.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION.

In a previous issue we reported that Count Ito, before attending the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday last, was received in audience by the Emperor. It is now asserted by the *Kokkai* that the Minister President submitted to the Throne on that occasion, the draft of a new scheme of Administrative Organization, and asked for the Imperial Sanction. The Sovereign addressed many questions to the Count with reference to the draft. If we may credit the above statement, the new organization will be promulgated very soon. Readers of Japanese parliamentary history will remember that the Budget Committee in the first session of the Diet proposed an extensive scheme of administrative reorganization, which was evidently identical, in its main features, with a project prepared by a Special Commission under the presidency of Count Okuma when the latter held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs in 1889. The Budget Committee's proposal, though endorsed by the House of Representatives, did not obtain the consent of the Government, and was indeed declared to be *ultra vires* and unconstitutional. Ultimately a compromise was effected on the Budget, and the Cabinet promised that when it met the next Diet administrative re-organization should be an accomplished fact. The promise was redeemed, but not in a manner that satisfied the Representatives, and it has been understood ever since that Administrative re-organization figured among

the principal planks of the Opposition's platform. The present Cabinet, apparently, has taken up the matter, and will doubtless be found to have dealt with it in a thorough and statesmanlike fashion.

THE WASEDA SCHOOL.

THE ceremony which took place on the 20th and 21st instant at the Semmon Gakko, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of that institution's establishment, seems to have been on an exceptional scale. Before 1.30 p.m., at which hour the exercises were advertised to commence, the alumni, directors, trustees and students of the school,—no outside guests had been invited—to the number of nearly a thousand, had assembled in the spacious auditorium, which, though it occupies the whole second floor of the new and handsome building completed early last year, must have had its capacities pretty severely tested by such a gathering. The proceedings were opened by Dr. Hatoyama, who introduced Mr. Okuma, Count Okuma's son, to preside instead of Count Okuma, the munificent founder and father of the institution. The Count himself has unfortunately been unable to attend any of the meetings held in the auditorium, the difficulty of getting up and down stairs since the shattering of his leg being prohibitive. Apart from this, the presidency of Mr. Okuma Junior was particularly fitting, inasmuch as he was Principal when the school was opened in 1882. The first speaker was Mr. Takata Sanaye, a prominent *Kaishin-to* member of the House of Representatives. Mr. Takata is a leading Director of the Semmon Gakko and served as Manager (*Kanji*) for more than a year. His great natural eloquence and fine address are very familiar to the House of Representatives, and were highly appreciated by his audience on the 20th, loud applause being evoked by his declaration that the Semmon Gakko graduates may yet furnish a Prime Minister or Chief Justice of the empire, and that the institution, judging from the success hitherto attained by it, was likely to become a manufactory of great men, who should fill positions of responsibility in the nation, as editors, lawyers, teachers, philosophers, politicians, and *litterateurs*. The President of the School, Dr. Hatoyama, followed with a pleasant and humorous speech, and was succeeded by Professor Tahara, who, taking the statistics of the past ten years as a basis, drew some very logical and instructive inferences for the benefit of his audience. Mr. Wataru Gaito, editor of the *Miyako Shimbun*, one of the first graduates of the School, then addressed the meeting in a speech full of witticisms and happy points which kept the assembly in a continuous roar of laughter and applause. A representative of the students, Mr. Kiichiro Masuke, of the Political class, was the next speaker. Doubtless he had been selected on account of special aptitude, but certainly the great facility and eloquence which he displayed did much credit both to himself and to the institution. Loyalty to the flourishing *aima mater* naturally formed the key note of his address, and it was plain that his hearers most heartily reciprocated his hope that the Semmon Gakko would be the School of the Empire, and its alumni the leading men of the nation. At the conclusion of the speeches hearty cheers were given for the Semmon Gakko and for Count Okuma. A capital *al fresco* refection, served under the fine old trees in the courtyard, was the next feature, and at its conclusion the "feast of reason" was renewed in the form of speeches and readings. Mr. Shimada Saburo, the *Kaishin-to* leader in the House of Representatives, was of course *en evidence*, his remarkable oratorical gifts being employed to the delight of the audience for some fifteen minutes. The Rev. Frederick T. Stanley also spoke, and it is worthy of note that no interpreter was needed to enable his audience to follow with evidence appreciation an English address of considerable length. Much enthusiasm was aroused by a happy parallel which this speaker drew when, alluding to the facts of history as accomplished on October 21st in the United States by a national celebration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, where independence and liberty are

the foundations of the educational and political institutions, he said that the same day in Japan was linked with the history of America and distinguished in the educational annals of the country by Count Okuma's founding of the Semmon Gakko on principles of independence and liberty. In truth a political allusion is always dear to students who inevitably associate their own careers with that of the political leader to whose enterprise and generosity they owe their education. Addresses by students, reading of plays, and so forth occupied the evening until a late hour. The 21st was devoted to various social entertainments and recreations of a light character. We note that in the course of the addresses the following interesting facts were elicited:—On October the 20th, 1882, the Semmon Gakko, which then consisted of one small frame building, opened with 68 students and 7 teachers. On October 20th, 1892, it had four roomy buildings, one a large edifice of brick, standing in picturesque and spacious grounds, and 756 students with 80 teachers, including about 20 lecturers who give extra lectures on special subjects. There have been 817 graduates in special courses and 343 graduates in the general course, and about 1,000 other students have attended the school without graduating. Since the establishment of the school, its Presidents have been, Count Okuma, and Messrs. Mayeshima, Hidishima, Yamada, Takata, Amano, Tahara, Ogawa, and Hatoyama.

SELF-RECOMMENDATION.

It is not very uncommon to find in Western journals advertisements inserted by men who desire to laud their professional or expert abilities. But to Japan belongs the novelty of a gentleman advertising himself as an incomparable popular representative. Here is the announcement, translated from a vernacular local journal:—"I, the undersigned, desire to be elected member of the Prefectural Assembly. The Saga Prefectural Assembly has been for years in the hands of one political party, but we have never once seen a single good thing accomplished by it. The reason is simple enough: the members, engrossed by the interests of their party, have no time to devote to the welfare of the people at large. The Prefectural Assembly being the Parliament of the province, just and upright members should be elected, who will devote themselves to promoting the tranquillity and happiness of the people instead of scheming in the interests of a political party. If such a member be desired, elect me! To whatever party you may belong, you must elect me!"

PHOTOGRAPHING IN THIBET.

HERE is an account of the first successful photograph taken of the Thibetan Lamassera, as described by a correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Tarchendo:—

Our King, the "Wang" Tarchendo, or *Man tu-se* (Barbarian Superintendent) as he is entitled by the Chinese, and who rules the Thibetan part of the population while the Chinese immigrants are under their *Min-chen-sue*—is still away at his summer palace on the plateau. His town palace, one of the most conspicuous of our buildings, gaudily decorated and kept in better repair than Chinese official buildings are, has three heavily gilt pagoda-shaped ornaments projecting from the main roof, and is an interesting specimen of the Thibetan architecture modified by Chinese elegance of outline. This was one of the first objects which our visitors tried to photograph, but they were prevented by the crowd of followers, who succeeded in obstructing the attempted setting-up of the camera upon every occasion. Nor were our friends more successful in obtaining portraits of individual Lamas. These people are probably the most abjectly superstitious, if not the most sincerely religious, race in the world, and taking their picture means, to their minds, robbing them of their soul. Mr. Pratt, when here, was equally unsuccessful, and we believe that, during his long stay, he did not succeed in taking away with him a single portrait. However, at the great Lamassera situated on the Batong Road, a very fine building of its kind, our lady visitor was ultimately successful, although at some risk. The monastery comprises a large quadrangle, about 100 yards square, of two-storeyed houses, in which dwell the monks and their acolytes. Outside are several detached buildings, heaped full of native offerings of *Tsa-tse*, miniature pagodas of burnt clay, and covered with countless prayer flags. A really magnificent avenue of large alder trees surrounds two sides of the buildings and lines the broad road leading up to it from

Tachienlu, reminding one more of the bold conceptions of the Japanese than the commonly stunted scale upon which roads and tree-plantations are laid out in China. In the centre of the south front is an arched gateway, passing under the second storey of the Lamassera, by which access is gained to the interior of the quadrangle and the stair-cases leading up to the covered galleries and verandahs which run round the dormitories; facing the entrance and in the centre of the north side of the quadrangle is the temple, highly decorated and covered with gold and, unlike Chinese temples, in a state of perfect repair. The Lama Buddhist temples are kept locked and only opened for stated services and festivals, when the strange Thibetan dance occupies the principal part in the proceedings. Here, in an angle of the courtyard, the lady promptly set up her camera; she knew the Lamas were hostilely disposed, but ambitious to succeed where others had failed, notably Mr. Pratt, who two years ago was driven out of the place and fled to the surrounding woods, she took the photograph, and was moving off, when half-a-dozen fierce Thibetan dogs, who had been let loose meanwhile, rushed up, seized her staff with their teeth and wrested it away from her, and she was only saved from further molestation by her companions, who succeeded in keeping the dogs at bay and escorting her through the gateway. Meanwhile, a crowd of scowling Lamas stood round like statues, draped in their crimson scarves, and neither urged the dogs on nor moved a finger to call them off. Such is photography in Thibet, and the only hope is that, in this case, the resulting negatives will prove worth the risk run by the gallant lady amateur to obtain them.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.	
SILVER YEN.	1891.
Exports	5,950,175.380
Imports	6,250,668.530

1892.	
Exports	10,543,729.850
Imports	6,073,117.180

Total exports and imports	16,616,847.030
Excess of exports	4470,612.670

CUSTOMS DUTIES.	
SILVER YEN.	1891.
Exports	278,470.402
Imports	236,578.981
Miscellaneous	9,462.647

Total	524,512.030
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TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.		Imports.		Total.
	Silver Yen.	Imports.	Silver Yen.	Imports.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	5,068,333.120	581,340.000	6,280,478.120		
France	2,253,390.770	360,542.580	2,613,933.350		
Great Britain	1,984,600.080	2,074,305.130	2,272,606.180		
Hongkong	857,001.260	616,561.300	1,573,562.560		
China	573,313.330	616,347.000	1,289,660.330		
Germany	239,934.440	244,159.070	484,093.510		
British India	90,240.310	415,865.200	506,105.510		
Korea	203,560.180	244,690.120	448,250.300		
Italy	103,061.740	7,007.230	201,068.970		
Australia	100,158.540	9,440.280	209,617.760		
Russia	43,233.250	47,909.060	91,142.310		
Canada & other British America	97,573.180	600.480	98,173.660		
Philippine Islands	5,703.180	90,221.633	95,924.813		
Belgium	1,700.000	70,884.180	72,584.180		
Switzerland	120.000	64,507.870	64,627.870		
Turkey	40,701.640	48.016	40,749.656		
Austria	22,509.000	48.016	22,557.016		
Portugal	—	2,303.449	2,303.449		
Sweden & Norway	390.000	1,834.330	2,224.330		
Hawaii	2,085.370	—	2,085.370		
Spain	200.000	1,134.500	1,334.500		
Holland	—	720.700	720.700		
Denmark	—	960.900	960.900		
Peru	—	259.340	259.340		
Siam	40.000	—	40.000		
Other Countries	74,031.410	75,766.260	149,797.670		
Total	10,408,031.280	6,073,117.180	16,481,148.460		

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.		Imports.		Total.
	Silver Yen.	Imports.	Silver Yen.	Imports.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	8,203,128.840	3,100,631.820	11,303,760.660		
Kobe	1,682,622.370	2,471,921.140	4,154,543.510		
Osaka	98,299.580	246,200.490	344,500.070		
Nagasaki	238,010.000	293,355.000	531,365.000		
Hakodate	71,107.000	317.880	71,424.880		
Niigata	3,284.030	617.000	3,901.030		
Shimonoseki	45,995.070	54,359.670	100,354.740		
Moj	54,136.000	—	54,136.000		
Hakata	338.000	49.640	387.640		
Karatsu	27,500.750	—	27,500.750		
Kuchinotsu	58,322.000	—	58,322.000		
Nitumi	3,570.000	—	3,570.000		
Idzumi	36,000	2,303.880	2,339.880		
Shishimi	505.470	3,022.060	3,527.530		
Sasuna	305.700	986.880	1,292.580		

Specie and Bullion { Exports	294,888.340
{ Imports	3,179,148.260

Total	3,474,036.600
Excess of imports	2,884,259.920

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	958,507.350
{ Imports	949,139.600
Imported by Government	164,986.880

DEATH OF THE HIGH PRIEST OF SIAM IN BUDDHISM.

EARLY on the 28th ult. the chief ecclesiastical dignitary in Siam, H.R.H. Somdet Krom Phra, died at the royal temple, Wat Bowarawate, at the advanced age of 80 years. He was the fifth son of the second King of the second reign

of the present dynasty, his original title being Phra Ong Chao Rök. He was subsequently elevated to the rank of Krom Mun Pawarangsri Suriya Pandhu, and, in this reign, to that of Krom Phra Pawaresri Wariya Longkorn. Some months ago His Majesty conferred on him his latest title of Somdet Krom Phra. He was a cousin of the late King, H. M. Phra Chom Klao, and one of his brethren in the priesthood. He was an accomplished scholar, and wrote the biographies of the late four Kings now used for recitation, together with an account of the origin and progress of the orthodox congregation. He also composed many religious books and commentaries on the sacred texts. As a Pali scholar he was almost unrivalled, and he also had a great *penchant* for astronomy, which science he learnt from his colleague, the late King. In the evening His Majesty visited the Wat in state, and performed the usual ceremonies, bathing the body and placing it in the funeral urn. A large concourse of Princes and nobles was present.

WHITTIER AND THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

THE death of the venerable Quaker poet has awakened an echo of regret even in far Japan. The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a eulogistic and most appreciative notice of the sweet and pure singer. It utterly rejects the notion that he belongs to the second class of poets. The themes with which he occupied himself, and which received such admirable treatment at his hands during the eighty-five years of his long life, were not less noble and various than the genius of the man was lofty and versatile. From the abolition of slavery to the lowliest incident of work-a-day life, he spoke with the same perfectly adapted eloquence. The gospel he offered to the world was sympathy with suffering and implacable opposition to tyranny in every form.

Yet here at least an earnest sense
Of human right and weal is shown;
A hate of tyranny, intense
And hearty in its vehemence
As though my brother's pain and sorrow were mine own.

He was essentially the people's poet, most dear from that point of view to the enthusiastic *Kokumin*. Our contemporary urges Japanese singers to abandon their perpetual liting to moonlight, to wavelets, and to blossoms, and to turn their lyre to some of the soul-stirring themes of active life. Apparently the *Kokumin*'s conception of such a theme is contained in a line which it quotes:

Love had he found in huts where poor men live.

THE PRESENT ASPECT OF THE RAILWAY QUESTION.

WE take from a recent issue of the *Yiji Shimo* the following note concerning the present aspect of the railway question:—The nomination of the *personnel* of the Railway Council has already taken place, but as General Kawakami, the President, and other members representing the army will take part in the manoeuvres, the Council is not likely to begin its meetings till next month; and as the engineers who were dispatched to investigate the different proposed railways will not get back for some time, the first question for the Council to deal with, when it does meet, will probably be that of the "management," or more properly speaking, the purchase of private railways. When the two Government railway bills, the railway bonds bill, and the bill for the State purchase of private railways, came before the Diet during its last session, they both, the purchase bill in particular, met with vehement opposition from the majority of the representatives. The measures finally resulted in the passage of a new bill for the "Extension of Railways," which was in a sense an amalgamation of the two Government bills, with the introduction of such modifications as the special committee of the House to which they were entrusted thought fit to make. The Government's proposed policy of State ownership of railways thereby fell through, as the new bill provided for the undertaking of such railway extensions as the country required, and limited, as stated in Chapter III. of the law under the heading of "management of private railways," the purchase by the Government of private railways to such as might be found practically necessary in the prosecution

Original from

tion of the extensions specified in the main body of the law. The railways which will from the outset come within the above limitation are those of the Kyushiu, Sanyo, and Koku Railway Companies. Perhaps there may not be any necessity for urgency about the purchase of the line of the last company, but with regard to the Kyushiu and Sanyo railways, forming as they do a part of the main trunk system of the empire, economical and strategical considerations alike render their speedy purchase by the Government necessary. Under these circumstances the question of dealing with these companies will be the first to be considered by the Authorities. We hear that the shareholders of the Kyushiu railway are prepared at any time to sell their line for the paid-up amount of their shares, so that, should negotiations be opened, the arrangement for settling the purchase will doubtless be speedily arrived at. As to the Sanyo Railway, a report is current that some of the larger shareholders will make a high demand, and that they do not think of parting with their shares unless they receive considerably more than the amount paid-up; and certain politicians have gone so far as to hint that the proposed extension of the Sanyo line from Mihara to Hiroshima, obtaining the capital for the extension by means of a loan, is simply a dodge on the part of shareholders, who, foreseeing that negotiations will soon have to be opened by the Government for the purchase of their railway, took that step with no other purpose than to augment the value of the stock. The *Yiji*, however, has no faith in such rumours and imputations, and states that not only do the terms of the charter of the Sanyo Railway make it obligatory on the part of the Company to complete the line to Hiroshima during the next year, but also they have in stock some 500,000 yen worth of unused railway material which they desire to utilize in this work; and as to the shareholders putting an excessively high valuation on their line, it is quite inconsistent with the fact that the dividends paid by the Sanyo Railway have always been below those of the Kyushiu Railway. So should the Government come to an arrangement with the Kyushiu Railway first, it is not likely that much difficulty will be experienced in making the Sanyo follow suit under similar terms. With reference to the Koku Railway, the shareholders are said to be in favour of waiting until the three lines—the line to the Tamagawa river, the Ome line, and the Kawagoe line, which are destined to become its feeders—are completed, before considering the question of effecting the sale, for until that time, they allege, no proper estimate of the value of their road can be made. At any rate, concludes the *Yiji*, should the average price of the shares and the rates of dividend for three previous years be taken into consideration in conducting the arrangements for the purchase of private railways, a satisfactory settlement ought to be arrived at without much trouble.

Thus writes the *Yiji*, and its remarks are, in the main, a corroboration of the information we ourselves have on the subject. The railways to be made with in the so-called First Construction Period, which therefore it became incumbent upon the Government to survey and report upon for the next meeting of the Diet, comprise:—

THE CENTRAL LINE.

Alternate Lines:—	Miles.
Hachioji via Ina to Nagoya.....	240
Hachioji via Chikuma to Nagoya.....	245
Gotemba via Ina to Nagoya.....	250
Gotemba via Chikuma to Nagoya.....	225

HOKURIKU LINE.

Tsuruga via Kanazawa to Toyama.....	126
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HOKUETSU LINE.

Alternate Lines:—	
Naotsu to Niigata and Shibata.....	110
Mayebashi to Niigata and Shibata.....	160
Toyono to Niigata and Shibata.....	139

OU LINE.

Fukushima via Yonezawa and Yamagata to Aomori.....	309
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SANYO LINE.

Mihara to Shimonoseki.....	159
Kaidaiichi to Kure.....	10

KYUSHIU LINE.

Saga to Nagasaki and Sasebo.....	85
Kumamoto via Udo to Misumi.....	24

KINKI LINE.

Alternate Lines:—	
Kyoto via Sonobe to Maizuru.....	65
Tsuchiyama via Fukuchiyama to Maizuru ..	63
Alternate Lines:—	
Osaka to Wakayama.....	44
Takata to Wakayama.....	45
Yagi to Wakayama.....	47

LINES TO CONNECT THE SANYO WITH THE SANIN SYSTEM.

Alternate Lines:—
Himeji via Tottori and Yoneko to Sakai..... 96
Okeayama via Tsuyama and Yoneko to Sakai..... 90
Kurashiki via Yoneko to Sakai..... 80
The total of these mileages (which are of course only approximate), taking in the case of alternate lines only those which come first in order, is 1,258 miles, and this represents approximately the length of the new railways which it is proposed to construct within the first period. Although some of the lines enumerated have previously been surveyed, the alternate lines are so numerous that 1,500 miles may be safely given as the lowest estimate of the distance to be covered by the surveys, for the prosecution of which there was only the interval of a few months. In July the Railway Department began to organize adequate surveying parties; all the available Engineers of the Department, together with several specially appointed experts being nominated to conduct the survey. The engineers numbered in all thirteen; one of whom was appointed as general superintendent and the others were divided into four parties, the first party having charge of the Central and Hokuriku line surveys; the second of the Hokuetsu and Ou; the third, of the Sanyo and Kyushiu and a portion of the Sanyo and Sanin connecting line; and the fourth, of the Kinki and another portion of the connecting line. These parties left the capital at the latter part of July and have since been vigorously pushing on the work in their respective districts. We hear that, according to the present outlook, the completion of the surveys and the return of the surveyors to the capital cannot be expected much before the end of November; and as some time must be required thereafter for compiling the reports, and for the Railway Council to consider them subsequently, the railway question is not likely to come up in the Diet much before the New Year's holidays. Moreover, in the event of the railway agitation now going on in the different parts of the country becoming reflected in the Diet, as there is reason to suspect, there is a strong probability of the national system of railways for which the new law provides being lost sight of altogether amid wranglings inspired by purely local interests. These circumstances give colour to the *Yiji's* statement that the Government and the Council purpose in the meanwhile to look into the question of the purchase of certain private railways, and as the Kyushiu railway is reported to be the readiest to come to terms with, there is every probability of its case being first taken into consideration. The recent prolonged sojourn of its president in the capital is viewed by some as an indication in this direction.

The Sanyo Railway numbers among its shareholders the most influential capitalists of the country, who can without experiencing inconvenience bide their time, and to the fact of the company's policy being steered by such men may be attributed the prevalence of an impression that the Sanyo Company do not intend to dispose of their property unless on exceptionally favourable terms. The subsidy which the Government grants, in accordance with the terms of the charter, in the form of a single payment of 2,000 yen per mile for every mile of new railway constructed, greatly helped, no doubt, the Company's recent decision to extend the line from the present terminus at the port of Mihara to the town of Hiroshima, a distance of about 50 miles. While the term prescribed by this provision in the charter would expire at the end of next year, the company were in possession of railway material lying idle to the value of 500,000

or 600,000 yen. The conclusion was therefore arrived at to raise the necessary funds by means of loans for 1½ or 2 million yen, and to go on with the extension works. The subsidy of 100,000 yen for the 50 miles is ample to cover the interest on the borrowed capital until it becomes converted into a productive form. Such, we believe, are the facts concerning a step, as the *Yiji* says, which has been likened by some to a man making additions to his house, not for his own requirements, but to get a better price for it from an expected purchaser.

With perhaps a single exception, namely the short line connecting Osaka with the port of Sakai, the Koku railway has been the most successful of all private railway enterprises. It is at present in a most prosperous condition, and its future presents still brighter prospects. Several new independent railways, bound to become its feeders, are about to be constructed. They are the Kawagoe railway, which is to start from the large market town of that name, situated about two ri west of the town of Ageo on the Nakasendo, and traversing a thickly populated portion of the Musashi plain for 23 miles, is to form a junction with the Koku line at the Kokubunji Station; the Ome railway, which begins at a noted chalk deposit about 1½ miles beyond the town of Ome, and is to join the Koku railway at the Tachikawa Station, a distance of about 10 miles; and a short branch line to the Tamagawa river, to be utilized in the transportation of gravel required for the Tokyo waterworks. These railways are expected to be completed within the next year, and the Koku railway will doubtless realize from them a very considerable augmentation of traffic. Besides independent lines which are destined to become its feeders, the company has a project on foot of extending its own line from the terminus at Shinjuku to Misakicho, opposite the military arsenal at Koishikawa, and close to the blocks of new houses with fireproof partitions within the Suidobashi; thus bringing its terminal station nearer the heart of the city. The grant of a special charter authorizing the extension is expected shortly to be made. This work when carried out will add greatly to the value and importance of the Koku railway. The Company, moreover, is about to declare a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum as the result of the working for the six months ended last September, and the shares, the paid-up amount of which is 45 yen, are now quoted at 62.5 yen. With such prosperity smiling on them at present and with such a bright outlook before them in the near future, it is only natural that the shareholders should wish to delay the opening of negotiations for the sale of their property. We append the approximate amount of the capital of these companies, together with the present values of their shares:—

	Capital.	Paid up amount per share.	Present quotation of shares.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Kyushiu	5,920,000.....	38.....	33.3 or 12.4% dis.
Sanyo	7,630,000.....	27.....	22.7 or 16% dis.
Koku	810,000.....	45.....	62.5 or 38.8% dis.

THE "BOKHARA."

The community in Shanghai seem to have been most deeply stirred by the Bokhara catastrophe. To them it came with appalling vividness, for only a few days previously they had entertained the members of the Hongkong cricket team with good cheer and heartiness, and had seen them sail away in all the fullness of youth and strength. In the leading columns of the Settlement's newspapers we find expressions that bear the impress of genuine feeling, and on the afternoon of the 20th instant a large meeting, including representatives of every nationality, assembled in the Court Room of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court for the purpose of placing on record the Settlement's strong pity, and adopting practical steps to succour those bereaved by the calamity. Chief-Justice Hannen presided, and introduced the subject in a brief, well conceived speech. The first resolution was moved by Mr. John Macgregor in terms so sincerely sym-

thetic that we quote the speech in full from the columns of the *North China Daily News* :—

You have heard what has been so fully spoken by our Chairman. Happily it is at but rare intervals of time that a grief like unto this sorrow falls upon any community, and I know of nothing in the history of Shanghai and Hongkong so calamitous and saddening as the occasion which has brought us together here. In the pursuance of the object of the meeting I beg to propose the following resolution which I am sure will meet with unanimous acceptance, namely—

"That this meeting of British and other residents of Shanghai, desires to express its sincere sympathy with those who have been affected by the sad loss of the P. & O. steamer *Bokhara*."

It was only a few weeks ago that I came up in the *Bokhara* from Hongkong, and I could not help observing the alert and diligent care with which Captain Sams attended to the navigation of the steamer, as well as the cordial relations which subsisted between him and his officers; and the friendly intercourse with them, and cheery, clever Dr. Pote, and the typical Chief Engineer who had grown grey in the Company's service, did much to enhance the pleasantness of an agreeable passage up the coast. These are more specially personal considerations. What is more present, I am sure, to all your minds, and what has for the last day or two cast a gloom over these settlements, is the tragic ending to the late interport cricket match in the almost total annihilation of the Hongkong team who were passengers by the *Bokhara*. As a community we deplore the terrible calamity in which our visitors were engulfed, and individually many of us have to sorrow for the loss of friends and acquaintances. Happily my own particular guest, Lieut. Markham, and the brilliant and ever cheerful Dr. Lowson, have escaped the fate of their companions, but sorrowfully we deplore the fate of the others. The Hongkong Garrison has to mourn the loss of eight good men and true, the Civil Service one, and commerce has to bewail the promising career of two men cut short in their prime. We shall long treasure the remembrance of the bright resolute-faced Captain Dunn—a Captain fit to lead anywhere; the genial and kindly umpire Major Turner, revisiting us with a warm heart after a lapse of a quarter of a century; the stalwart, steady, and soft-voiced Dawson, active, kindly Boyle, and cheerful Burnett. Tavernier, gentle always but when he smote the ball, not to speak of the staunch and loyal Goffkins, Mumford and Donegan, and Purvis and Wallace, whom I have already referred to. There is the sorrow of one amongst us who has to deplore the loss of wife and child; he has I am sure our very warmest sympathy. For details of the calamitous event we shall have to wait for the arrival of news from the south, but I am sure in the language of the resolution we all desire without hesitation to give expression to our sincere sympathy with all those who have been affected by the sad loss of the P. & O. steamer *Bokhara*. I have mentioned individual names because they happened to be known to me, but there are, alas! too many others who have also suffered the sad fate of those I have named, and these also are I am sure present to your minds at this moment. With these few imperfect remarks I will again read the resolution, which you have heard.—(Applause.)

The second resolution, proposed by Mr. H. R. Hearn, was as follows :—

That a committee be appointed to enquire what steps should be taken to alleviate the suffering which has resulted from the wreck, and to take the necessary steps to raise funds for this purpose, and that the following gentlemen form the committee, Messrs. N. J. Hansen, J. Macgregor, R. M. Campbell, C. W. Hay, E. G. Vouillemont, W. V. Drummond, J. C. Bois, A. J. H. Catlill, W. B. Russell, James Dick, A. White, Dr. Henderson, Cecil Holliday, E. A. Probst, D. W. Crawford, Brodie Clarke, and Arthur Anderson, with power to add to their number.

A picturesque feature of the affair was a speech by Mr. H. D. Pierce, formerly United States District Attorney of Indiana and now travelling in the East, who, on behalf of his countrymen, spoke some words of earnest condolence, alluding especially to the fate of Captain Sams who "had fought enemies, God only knows of what strength, and fallen in a grave, God only knows where."

The following telegram received from Hongkong was published by the *North China Daily News* on the 21st instant :—

Nothing further re other two survivors. Captain, officers, and crew highly commended; ter-

rific weather; ship helpless; stokehold flooded ten p.m.; exact position ship apparently unknown. Passengers were all below when she struck at midnight. The survivors rushed on deck and were swept off and cast ashore almost naked. Dunn was going with Lowson, but too late. Major Turner's body identified in the morning. The survivors found a fisherman's empty hut and well; they were much bruised and hurt. Wednesday noon, weather hazy, moderated, junks took them to Pehoe, where they were treated well by a Chinese priest. On Thursday they were taken to Makung and kindly treated by a mandarin; all now fairly well. There is to be a memorial service at the Cathedral Saturday afternoon, and there is a proposal before the St. Andrew's Society to abandon the ball on Nov. 30th, and devote the cost to a relief fund for those left in pecuniary difficulties.

All accounts go to show that the typhoon in which the *Bokhara* perished was of exceptional severity. It appears to have had its origin on the north-east of Luzon, and its original direction of travel should have carried it landward at some point in the neighbourhood of Amoy. But it rebounded from the shore and took its way up the Formosa Channel, sweeping along with terrible force and raising mountainous seas. Several steamers were placed in imminent danger. The *Moyune*, which sailed from Shanghai for Foochow on the day after the *Bokhara*, met such waves that grave fears were entertained for her propeller and shaft. "The *Kaifong* had her deck swept from stem to stern, houses smashed in, a boat carried away, engine-room skylights smashed, and so forth, while the firemen refused duty, and the engineers had to take their places in the stokehold. The *Protos* had boats washed away and damaged and companions broken down, while huge seas broke continually over the decks from stem to stern. The *Choyang* made it a strong gale with passing squalls of hurricane force and very high dangerous topping sea. All this was on the Sunday and Monday, the two days which were fatal to the *Bokhara*." It will be seen from the above telegram that the fires of the ill-fated ship had been extinguished, and that, becoming unmanageable, she probably drifted across and down the Formosa Channel, buffeted by such mountains of water that any attempt to let go her anchors, as a last resource, must have been impossible.

DEATH OF MRS. HARRISON.

A TELEGRAM received on Thursday in Tokyo announces the death of Mrs. Harrison on the 25th instant, at the White House, whither she had been conveyed some weeks previously by her own desire and at no little risk. The deceased lady's condition had been recognised as hopeless in the early days of this month, and it is remarkable that she lingered so long. The President appears to have been deeply attached to her. Latest accounts described him as completely broken down by the wearing anxiety of two months' watching and unhappiness. It is to be hoped that the strain of long suspense now culminating in bereavement and supplemented by the exigencies of the Presidential campaign, may not prove too much for his strength. The frequent references made to Mrs. Harrison by the Press of the United States from the time when her illness first developed serious symptoms until the day when all chance of recovery was recognised as hopeless, concur in attributing to her many noble qualities of disposition and intellect, and in ascribing to her helpful companionship much of the success achieved by her distinguished husband.

THE KOMINATO HARBOUR.

We published in a recent issue news from the vernacular press to the effect that the construction of a harbour at Kominato near Aomori, was in contemplation, and that the projectors of the scheme anticipated for the place prosperity which would prove fatal to Yokohama. The intelligence is now supplemented by a statement in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a petition seeking sanction to undertake the work has been

presented by the Fifteenth National Bank—the Nobles' Bank—to the Aomori Prefectural Assembly, the signatories being, among others, Marquis Ikeda, Marquis Hosokawa, Count Matsukata, Mr. Kawashimura, and Mr. Yamamoto. An estimate of construction expenses was not appended, the petitioners merely stating that Kominato offers the best facilities for harbour purposes of any place in the north, and that the construction of a port there would afford great convenience to the Japan Railway Company in transshipping goods. It seems, however, that the Fifteenth National Bank is not first in the field, for Messrs. Murata Tsutsumi, Takenouchi Yoyemon, and Katsura Jiro, having purchased about a hundred thousand *tsubo* (82½ acres) of land in the immediate vicinity of the proposed port, presented to the Prefectural Authorities last September a petition seeking leave to commence the work of construction. Unless, therefore, some arrangement can be effected with these prior claimants, the project of the Bank cannot receive official sanction.

THE LIBEL SUIT.

We have been curious to see what criticism would be evoked by the judgment of the Tokyo Local Court in the libel suit instituted by Mr. Ito Kenkichi against the *Katshin Shimbun*. But the affair seems to have fallen flat, though it is certainly remarkable enough to excite curiosity. The judgment was a model of brevity. It simply declared that, in the opinion of the Court, Mr. Ito had not been personally insulted, though the charge publicly preferred against him was that he had been engaged in bribing members of the Diet. If an M.P. is not insulted, and very grievously insulted, by such an accusation, we should like to know how he can be insulted. The view taken by the *Kokkai*, however, which journal alone comments on the matter, is that the Court found no evidence of malice on the part of the newspaper, and that since malice constitutes an essential element in slander, as legally defined, Mr. Ito Kenkichi cannot be said to have been legally slandered. If the Court intended to convey that meaning, it is pity that it did not manage to suggest something of the kind by its language. The *Kokkai* thinks that a very convenient precedent has been furnished for the guidance of the editor. We, too, think so, but the convenience of the public is also worth considering. The tendency of a portion of the Japanese press at present is to indulge in considerable liberty of attack, and if individuals have no better safeguard than the Tokyo Local Court provides, they are likely to suffer severely. Mr. Ito has appealed, however, so it cannot be said that any precedent has yet been established.

THE WEALTH OF THE UNITED STATES.

RECENT statistics at hand, give the wealth of the United States of America, in sum total of real estate and personal property, and the amount of money in circulation, as estimated by Secretary of the Treasury as follows :—value of all lands, buildings, railways, colleges, etc., at \$64,000,000,000, and the amount of money in circulation, or that necessary to transact all the business of the States at \$2,108,130,092. There is no fixed limit to the amount of money to be issued or coined, though Congress has the power to regulate the issue of such money. The enormous wealth of this country bids fair to compete, in the near future, in commercial transactions, with any nation now in the field.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

THE following Report was presented to the shareholders at the eleventh ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the general agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.), on the 22nd October :—The General Agents and Consulting Committee have much pleasure in laying before the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1891, and an estimate of the present year's working to 30th ultimo. 1891 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is \$510,965.12, out of which the sum of \$227,615.80 has already been paid for a dividend of 10 per cent. to shareholders, and a bonus of 20 per cent. to contributors of premia. It has

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been decided, subject to the approval of shareholders, to dispose of the remaining balance of \$283,349.32, by adding to reserve fund \$180,000, thereby increasing it to \$730,000, paying a final dividend of 6 per cent. to shareholders, and carrying forward the sum of \$73,349.32 to 1892 account. 1892 Account.—This account shows an estimated balance at credit of \$502,925. Consulting Committee.—Since the date of the last general meeting, the General Agents and Consulting Committee have had to deplore the death of the Hon. P. Ryrie. The seat rendered vacant was offered to and accepted by the Hon. C. P. Chater. Messrs. Dalrymple, Davies, Gillies, Sassoon, and Chater, retire but offer themselves for re-election. Auditors.—During the temporary absence from the colony of Mr. Fullarton Henderson, Mr. R. Lyall was appointed to act in his place. Messrs. G. S. Coxon and Fullarton Henderson retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

A BIT OF HISTORY.

HERE is a fragment of history from *Answers*:—"Few attractions drew larger audiences in the year of the first great London Exhibition than the troupe of Japanese hand-bell ringers. Amongst those who visited them were a couple of Yorkshire weavers, who had expended a portion of their savings in a trip to the metropolis. To the astonishment of these good folk, both of whom were themselves hand-bell ringers, the tunes they listened to were ones to which they were well accustomed. Drawing a little closer to the players, they discovered under Japanese attire the faces of several old Yorkshire friends. During a pause in the performance, one of the two strode up to the leader and remarked: "Jabez, thowt I know'd thy face!" "Whist!" retorted Jabez. "We talk nowt but Japanese here."

NANCY HANKS.

THIS celebrated mare, who only a few weeks ago trotted a mile in 2.5, which was two seconds better than the best on record (her own), has now beaten that performance by one second. The event came off at Terre Haute, in Indiana, on a circular track, which had been got into unusually good condition. The first quarter was trotted in 31 seconds, and the half-mile in 1.2½; the third quarter was got over in 29½ seconds, and the mile finished in 2.4. Nancy Hanks was again driven by Budd Doble, who wins \$5,000 by the event, Mr. Robert Bonner having offered a prize of that amount on the accomplishment of a mile in 2.5 on the regulation track.

HARBOUR REGULATIONS COMMITTEE.

THE members of the above committee, in their first two conferences, discussed the first ten Articles of the Draft Regulations. The *Nichi Nichi* conjectures that there must have been some hot debate on Arts. 16 and 17, which relate to the method of constructing lighthouses. Our contemporary urges that the Committee should close its conference soon, but contends that as the questions under consideration are international, the Government should not promulgate the Regulations according to the manner now said to be contemplated. The better process is that the Minister of State for Communications should present the draft of the amended Regulations to the Cabinet, and ask the latter to pass them. By that method of procedure the draft, before receiving the consent of the Cabinet, "would come into the hands of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, who would invite a meeting of Foreign Representatives and Foreign Consuls, and obtain their approval of the various enactments. For, though hitherto no harbour regulations have been expressly promulgated, the Treaties with Foreign Powers contain clauses bearing on the subject, and if it is intended that existing Harbour Regulations shall remain in force, their amendment is inevitable. Without preliminary negotiations, however, they cannot be amended. For instance, the Regulations for Hakodate Harbour, contained in the Convention of 1866, must either be amended greatly or abolished totally. But in accordance with the opinions of Mr. Daisuke

and Captain James, continues the *Nichi Nichi*, the object of enacting harbour regulations is simply to maintain order in harbours, to prevent the collision of ships, and to preserve the harbour. They have nothing to do with tariff questions. From the operation of such regulations every one of the Powers would derive some advantage and none would be inconvenienced or injured. As for the fines or fees levied, every country in the world resorts to similar legislation. Hence, from all points of view no difficulty can possibly arise. Such being the case, the negotiations ought not to involve any of the delay that seems to be expected. The above statement in the *Nichi Nichi* is alleged to emanate from one of the members of the Committee.

The Committee held its third conference in the buildings of the Department of Communications on Wednesday last. As Mr. Kawazu, Vice-Minister for Communications, Mr. Usami, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, and Mr. Egi were absent, Mr. Kurino Shuichiro took the chair, and the business was proceeded with at 10 a.m. The discussion of Arts. 8 and 9 occupied nearly all the time. A proposition was submitted to the effect that, though the meetings were considered secret, the proceedings had always been reported in the vernacular press, and that care ought therefore to be taken with a view to put a stop to such publicity. The proposition was passed *nem. con.* The meeting adjourned at 3.30 p.m., until the 28th inst. We take these items from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Their publication—harmless enough for the matter of that—shows that the resolution to keep the proceedings secret has not proved very effective.

THE TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY.

THE above Company held a special meeting on Tuesday last at the Koseikan, in Kobikicho. Some 90 of the principal shareholders were present. Mr. Takashima Kayemon, Director of the Company, took the chair, and the business was commenced at 2 p.m. The chairman reported that the Yubari Railway had been completed, the works having occupied three years, and that a trial trip was to be made on the 1st proximo. He spoke at some length about the result of the examination of the Company's ledgers by official auditors specially despatched to Hokkaido for the purpose. Happily everything had been found satisfactory. He then gave some explanations as to the capital and other funds of the Company, and went on to say that the railways having now been completed, the wooden-bridges built for temporary use had to be replaced by iron structures. For this purpose a sum of 500,000 yen had already been spent. But the Company's mining works had been so far developed that an amount of 250,000 yen would be recovered. With regard, further, to the purchased railways, 1,050,000 yen was needed for reconstructing bridges, repairing rails, and purchasing new carriages. Finally a sum of 50,000 yen was needed for working capital. Thus the company required a total of 1,100,000 yen. The following propositions were read out:—

1. The Company shall issue bonds for a sum of 1,100,000 yen to be raised in three years: namely 500,000 yen in 1892; 400,000 yen in 1893; and 200,000 yen in 1894. This amount shall constitute the capital of the Horonai Railway.
2. The above debt shall be paid-out of the profits accumulating from the takings of the line during 25 years, commencing from 1895.
3. The interest of the bonds shall be less than 6½ per cent. per annum. The date of their issue, as well as the method of issuing them, shall be determined by Directors in conclave.

Mr. Adachi Magoroku and some others present asked a few questions, but the propositions were voted, it being explained that the Government had promised to pay interest at the rate of 5 per cent. on 500,000 yen, and that the Company would only have to pay the interest on the remaining 600,000 yen. On the other hand, seeing that the Company had realised a profit of 400,000 yen within 3 years from the date of purchase, and seeing that there was every prospect of farther improvement, no reason existed to apprehend any difficulty in paying the interest and the principal. When the

meeting was about to be closed, Mr. Baba Iku-taro moved that whereas hitherto the Director of the Company had been appointed officially, a petition should be presented to the Government, urging the expediency of making his office elective. This idea was opposed on the ground that the by-laws of the Company did not allow a motion to be brought forward without previous notice. Considerable discussion ensued, and finally Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi having taken the chair and the arguments on both sides having been fully propounded, it was proposed that a special meeting be held after the 25th proximo, the date fixed for the general meeting, to determine the question. The proposition was approved by a large majority. Mr. Adachi Tatsu then presented an amendment of the provision relating to the distribution of rewards, but it was rejected. The meeting closed at 3.30 p.m.

THE BUDGET.

It is stated that the Ordinary Budget for next fiscal year has now received the assent of the Cabinet, and that it will be submitted for the Emperor's approval on the 29th instant. As to the extraordinary expenditure, the general idea appears to be that the Government will refrain from proposing any new enterprises, and that the Diet will be left to deal with the surplus in the Treasury. But the Tokyo News Agency alleges that this notion is not altogether correct, and that the Cabinet will not come before the Diet without a plan for disposing of the accumulations which must now amount to a considerable figure.

MACAO.

AFTER years of incessant request and at the eleventh hour, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, the Lisbon Government has now allowed the Governor of Macao to call for tenders for the supply of a dredger and its accessories for the purpose of deepening the much silted up harbour of Macao, and we understand that Sig. Borja has invited the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, and Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Co., Limited, to compete for the contract.

TANK OIL.

THE *Murex*, which arrived here, says the *Hongkong Times*, last Thursday morning (28th ult.) brought 1,250 tons of oil, which she discharged at Messrs. Markwald's tanks in some six hours. She afterwards loaded rice in her upper hold, and left for Singapore on Saturday. She will return with another 1,200 tons of oil this week-end. The oil-drums, we learn, are being now put on the market, and are generally well-received.

RAW SILK TO AMERICA.

THE imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast for the month of September, 1892, were 5,412 bales = 763,132 lbs. = \$3,623,404. The imports of Waste Silk, and Pierced Cocoons in same period were 43 packages = \$4,439.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OF A CHINAMAN.

A CHINESE guide, attached to No. 151, attempted to commit suicide in the Yoshiwara yesterday afternoon. He left home about 2 o'clock yesterday and was not found until this morning, when the police took him in charge. He is in a very critical condition.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The continued silence of the Cabinet as to the policy it intends to pursue, is apparently extremely vexatious to the Opposition papers and even to some of the independent journals. These papers are so embarrassed by lack of topics to assail the Cabinet, that they—especially those of the *Kaishin-to*—cry out against the Cabinet for having no policy to pursue, and accuse it of want of courage to decide upon any definite course of action. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, one of the most persistent in challenging the new Ministry to declare its programme, be-

lieves, like every other Opposition organ, that the Cabinet is bent upon pursuing "a negative policy;" in other words, the policy of projecting no new undertaking. If the Government hopes thereby to avoid collision with the Popular party, the *Mainichi* prophesies that it will be grievously disappointed. For, in the Progressionist organ's opinion, a collision between officialdom and the Opposition may be at any time brought about, first by the former's refusal to retrench administrative expenses; secondly, by its hostile attitude towards any Bill relating to the extension of popular freedom; thirdly, by its reluctance to meet out punishment to the officials charged with interference in elections; or fourthly, by its continued maintenance of the theory of Cabinet irresponsibility, that is to say, the theory that the Ministers of State are not constitutionally bound to hold themselves responsible to the Diet. Any one of these causes is sufficient to precipitate a collision between the Executive and the Legislature. What then is the use of pursuing a negative policy? Nay more, the circumstance that the Cabinet dares not submit to the Diet the projects of new undertakings which were rejected in the preceding season on the ground of want of confidence, is declared to be tantamount to a confession by the Ministers of State that they do not enjoy the confidence of the people. From what has thus far been reproduced, it is evident that the Progressionist party is determined to oppose the Government as uncompromisingly as ever. It is also worthy of notice that the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which is regarded as expressing the views of the moderate section of the Progressionist party, has announced, though in a hesitating and undecided tone, that collision between the Government and the Opposition is unavoidable. Our contemporary bases its conviction upon nearly the same grounds as those advanced by the *Mainichi*. From this, it is to be inferred that the proposal said to have been made by Mr. Takata Sanaye for abandoning the policy of wanton opposition to the Government hitherto pursued by his party, has been rejected by his comrades, and that the moderate section led by him is powerless to sway the counsels of the whole.

It is interesting to notice that the *Mainichi Shimbun* experiences great uneasiness on account of a report that certain politicians have it in contemplation to replace the system of indiscriminate opposition to the Government by a more reasonable and moderate programme. The allusion is, no doubt, to the Radicals and to the moderate section of the Progressionist Party. Those who advocate such a policy are characterized as betrayers of the trust reposed in them by the people. On the other hand, while the Progressionist organs are beginning to declare their disapproval of the policy said to be contemplated by the Radicals, the latter's organ refrains from touching the subject and devotes its attention to the discussion of the various practical questions of the day.

The *Fiji Shimpō* also strongly condemns the negative policy which the present Cabinet is supposed to contemplate. In a certain sense such a policy may be useful at the present juncture, for it may serve to soothe the excited feelings of the people. But it is at best a time-serving policy, and altogether inadequate to constitute any permanent remedy for existing evils. A better course for the Government to pursue would be, in the *Fiji's* opinion, to apply itself to the solution of the various important problems now demanding national attention, such, for instance, as Treaty Revision, the Korean question, the augmentation of the Navy, the method of dealing with the surplus population, and so forth. Our contemporary reminds the Cabinet of the fact that, outside the ranks of party politicians, there exists a class of independent and intelligent observers who take keen interest in current politics. These men wield vast influence in the country. They have hitherto refrained from opposing the Govern-

ment, not indeed because they placed implicit confidence in its capacity and integrity, but, because, considering the past history and the present composition of the Government, they think it safer to leave national affairs in its hands than in those of party politicians. But if the Government really intends to ignore the momentous questions above alluded to, it must be prepared to forfeit the confidence of the independent section of the Diet. Our contemporary concludes its article thus:—"That, in spite of the opposition of the Popular party, the Government is able to maintain its position and power, is owing to the support it receives from the independent section of the nation. If, therefore, it should estrange men of this class, its tenure of power would be placed in serious danger. We wonder if those now in office have well revolved this circumstance in their minds. At all events, we cannot choose but call their attention to the matter."

The Radical organ, the *Fiyu*, observes that the legislation of the Government in recent years has tended to widen the gulf separating the rich and the poor, the high and the low. The creation of new nobles, the grant of official rank to persons who contributed money for coast defence, the establishment of high standards of property qualification for the members of all popular assemblies, from the Diet down to the Village Assembly—these and several other measures have combined to invest the rich and aristocratic with undue political power. The effect of such a state of affairs has been, in the *Fiyu's* opinion, to engender among the people of the lower and unprivileged classes sentiments of resentment against the rich and powerful. The strikes now prevalent among the working population are pointed to as a proof of the gradual growth of socialistic ideas in the lower and oppressed strata of society, a state of affairs which is sincerely deplored by the Radical organ.

The scandal connected with the barristers' examination has attracted much journalistic attention. Rumours of the wildest nature seem to have been eagerly devoured by newspaper readers. The imputations of corruption brought against some of the members of the Examination Committee have been too absurd to merit a moment's credence, and facts are now coming that prove the entire baselessness of these stories. The original offender seems to have been a subordinate clerk in the Department of Justice, who was employed to copy the examination papers before sending them to the printer. There are, however, newsmongers who persist in circulating damaging libels against the members of the Examination Committee, and the Opposition journals are only too ready to give credence to these rumours since they find in them an opportunity to criticise the Administration. The *Mainichi Shimbun* calls upon the Cabinet to deal with the matter in a thorough and impartial manner, taking especial care not to let the principal offenders escape the punishment which they well deserve. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* hints that the increase of uneducated and unscrupulous barristers in recent years is owing to loose and corrupt methods of conducting examinations, and urges the importance of radical reforms. The *Kokumin Shimbun* alleges that partial and corrupt procedure in the system of barrister's examinations is increasing the number of men discontented with the Government. The *Fiyu* sees in the scandal a fresh proof of the general demoralization of the Civil Service, and in strong language bids the Government introduce more rigorous discipline in the ranks of officialdom. The *Kokkai* thinks that the primary cause of such incidents lies in an abnormal increase of the number of law students, a state of affairs brought about by the encouragement which the Government has given to the study of jurisprudence. Thus, by various routes, all these journals make the Government the object of their final assault.

The *Choya Shimbun* is inclined to think that the scandal was caused chiefly by faulty methods

of appointing the Examination Committee and conducting the examination. It advises the Government, first, to fix a certain high standard of qualifications for applicants for examination; secondly, to replace the present method of written examination by oral; to appoint the Committee of Examination only one or two days previously to the date of examination; fourthly, to discontinue the practice of including in the Committee Judges or Proctors who teach in private law schools, and fifthly, to extend the sphere of the subjects of examination. Never was there such a storm about an affair in itself so trivial.

The Minister of Education is the subject of various comments in the vernacular press. The Education Department, feeling the importance of adopting a uniform system of moral teaching in primary schools throughout the country, some time ago invited the scholars of the whole Empire to compile text-books. These books were to be examined by a Committee specially appointed for the purpose, and such of the volumes as satisfied the standard contemplated by the Education Department were to be authorized for use in the schools. The Committee was actually appointed; and the task of examining the various works sent in from different parts of the country had been commenced, when reports injurious to the honour of some of the committee-men began to be circulated in Tokyo. Considerable excitement ensued in educational and publishing circles, and the Minister of Education, Mr. Kono, thought it desirable to suspend the labours of the Committee. It has accordingly been announced that the examination of the books is postponed until April, 1894. Meanwhile, those who have not yet sent in works are permitted to do so up to the above mentioned date. Most of the papers applaud the step taken by the Minister of Education. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, regrets that Mr. Kono has not adopted the more rational plan of abandoning altogether the policy of interfering in the choice of text books to be used in primary schools. Such a policy is calculated to defeat its own end by preventing the adoption of the best works.

The *Fiyu* discusses the importance of introducing reform in the dendrological administration of the country. There are more than 7 million *cho* (17½ million acres) of forests in the possession of the State. The expenses required for maintaining the staff charged with the management of these forests, amount to about 400,000 *yen* per annum, while yearly receipts barely exceed 700,000 *yen*. Our contemporary thinks that the revenue derived from the forests can, under proper management, be increased to ten times the above amount. The introduction of the present system of management has disturbed many of the local customs, and the umbrage of the people is occasionally expressed by wanton destruction of forests. This trouble must be very insignificant, yet the Radical organ thinks it important to revive some of the old customs and adapt the management of forests to the special conditions of each locality. Certain forests now under the direct control of the central Government may be profitably transferred to the charge of the local Governments and even to the control of communal bodies.

The *Fiji Shimpō* repeats its often expressed belief that the Government ought not to commence negotiations for Treaty Revision until all danger of internal dissension has been provided against. It observes that the consummation of this long deferred object will not be very difficult, if the statesmen now in power can preserve their concern for the required length of time. Not that the *Fiji* believes in the capacity of the present Cabinet; but it does believe in the favourable attitude of the foreign Powers towards Japan, and it advises the Ministers of the Crown to adopt every possible precaution against the danger of dissension among themselves before approaching the Powers on so important a subject.

THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GAME LAW.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* has a curious paragraph, which is worth translating:—"We have already reported that the Foreign Representatives held a secret meeting in the Italian Legation with reference to the new Game Law, and that the foreign residents also are moving in the matter. We are now in a position to give further particulars. Hitherto, when any law or regulation affecting the existing Treaties or the privileges enjoyed by foreigners was about to be promulgated, it used to be the custom to communicate the fact beforehand to the Foreign Representatives, or even to ask their advice. But the present Government has naturally refrained from taking any such course with regard to the new Game Law. The Italian Representative regards this as a violation of international usage, and therefore invited all the Representatives to his Legation to discuss the matter. His Excellency the CHEVALIER DE MARTINO having been longer in Japan than any other of the present Representatives, his opinion has generally been adopted by the rest of his colleagues, so the above question also was determined according to his view. The American Minister alone disagreed from the outset, and maintained that the Japanese Government had acted properly. Be these things as they may, however, since it is certain that no foreigner has any title to interfere with the legislative action of the Japanese Government, the Foreign Representatives may be expected to adopt a different attitude soon."

We have called this a "curious" paragraph because it attributes to the Italian Representative, and to some of his colleagues, an attitude which they cannot for a moment be supposed to have assumed. The principle underlying the question is perfectly plain. Japan is absolutely free to legislate as she pleases, provided that her legislation does not disturb any of the privileges guaranteed by treaty to foreigners. The privilege of pursuing game has never formed the subject of any treaty or convention. It has hitherto been enjoyed by foreigners under Regulations enacted by the Japanese Government of their own independent authority, and the condition attached to its enjoyment has been that every foreign holder of a shooting license should observe the prohibitions of the Regulations. It is very possible that when the Regulations were originally framed, steps were taken, as a matter of courtesy and expediency, to consult the views of the Foreign Representatives, because, since the prohibitions of a Japanese law are not considered binding on any foreigner without the intervention of his Representative, the latter's cooperation is always desirable where his nationals are likely to be concerned, and was especially desirable in the early days, seeing that the

Japanese procedure then ran the risk of being very variously and severely scrutinized. Evidently to issue Regulations embodying prohibitions which the Foreign Representatives might refuse to extend to their nationals, would be to invite the dilemma of having either to alter the Regulations subsequently, or to exclude foreigners from their privileges as a consequence of exemption from their prohibitions. Neither alternative could have been agreeable, and it is therefore very conceivable that reference was made to the Foreign Representatives previously to the promulgation of the former Gaming Regulations. But it goes without saying that a voluntary reference of that nature is incapable of being construed into a deliberate abandonment by Japan of her inherent right to legislate as circumstances may dictate for the preservation of her game birds and animals or the control of their pursuit. She has never divested herself of her title either to interdict altogether, or to permit altogether, the killing of game, should either course seem necessary in her own interests. Hence, when she decides that private property in game shall hereafter be recognised, and when, in pursuance of that principle, she enacts regulations ordaining certain new conditions and prohibitions, no manner of obligation rests on her to consult foreign Powers. Her game belongs absolutely to herself, and she is entitled to do what she likes with it. Moreover, she does not withdraw any privilege hitherto enjoyed by foreigners. They will still be competent to purchase licenses and to pursue game, either for pleasure or profit, just as they have done for the past fourteen years. These considerations admitting of no discussion, we are persuaded that the *Hochi Shimbun's* version of recent diplomatic procedure is erroneous. It took something like seven years, if we remember aright, to get the prohibitions of the former gaming regulations extended to foreigners. We cannot be surprised if the process involves a little delay on the present occasion. The only difference is that whereas, pending the issue of the old regulations, foreigners were not debarred from the privilege of shooting, they certainly will be debarred until the prohibitions of the new law become applicable to them. Their Representatives may be relied on not to expose them to any inconvenience on that score.

THE KOREAN QUESTION AND THE TIENTSIN TREATY.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* is perhaps the most persevering and plain spoken among Japanese journals on the Korean question. Hints are indeed heard in certain quarters that our contemporary is not entirely disinterested in urging the Government to pursue an active policy in Korea, it being supposed that the writer of these articles

whoever he may be, is anxious to have the San-yo Railway purchased by the State in view of its importance in case of a campaign in the little kingdom across the sea. But we cannot for an instant allow such suspicions to weaken our faith in the sincerity of the Tokyo paper, for we deem it extravagant and insulting to imagine such a journal capable of the baseness of seeking to start the country on a perilous career of aggrandizement merely for the sake of serving petty private ends. Our contemporary urges, in its latest article, the abrogation of the Tientsin Treaty of 1885, which enjoins on both China and Japan the duty of intercommunication before sending troops to the peninsular kingdom. Since the disturbance of 1884, Japan's attitude, we are told, has been that of a child which, having burned its hand, shrinks perpetually from approaching fire again. But the situation steadily becomes more critical, and it is to be feared, according to the *Fiji*, that, unless Japan is on the alert, she may some of these days find herself altogether out of the race in Korea. Russia gives most uneasiness to the *Fiji Shimpō*. It again refers to the constant stream of Korean immigrants into Russian territory; immigrants said to be treated by the Russian authorities with exceptional kindness, and even to have been appointed, in some cases, to lucrative posts. Neither are China's persistent endeavours to assert her suzerainty in the peninsula viewed with equanimity by our contemporary. Other Powers, too, as England, France, and Germany are, in the *Fiji's* opinion, evolving more or less sinister designs against the peninsular kingdom, and in view of all this, Japan must at once make up her mind as to the policy to be pursued in case of emergency. The post of Japanese Representative at Sōul must be given to a man of exceptional energy and ability: cruisers should be stationed between Jinsen and Nagasaki to secure rapidity of communication in case of trouble; and the San-yo Railway must be completed as quickly as possible. But above all, the inconvenient Treaty of Tientsin ought to be abrogated in concert with China. How is it possible to meet the requirements of an emergency, so long as each empire is bound by treaty to communicate with the other before taking a decisive step? This irksome stipulation may lead to serious misunderstanding between the two countries, and the Japanese Government is strongly urged to take prompt steps for negotiating with China the abolition of the Treaty.

The tone of the *Fiji* is somewhat contemptuous when alluding to the Tientsin Treaty, and this circumstance accounts for the vehemence with which its article has been assailed by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The *Nichi Nichi* is indignant with the *Fiji's* presumption in finding fault with the Treaty of 1885. If that agree-

ment is other than convenient to either Power, it must be to China and not to Japan. For by it China has been practically prevented from carrying into effect her claim of suzerainty over the peninsular kingdom; whereas Japan has established her claim of equal rights with China. Another result of the Treaty, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, is that Japan and China have virtually entered into an alliance to preserve the integrity of the Korean kingdom against internal as well as foreign dangers. As to the complaint that the Treaty stands in the way of prompt action in case of emergency, our contemporary deems such an apprehension entirely unfounded, for the country intending to despatch troops to Korea has simply to communicate the fact, and that can be easily effected by either sending a note to the Representative of the other or by using the wire. What interests us more than this defence of the Treaty, however, is the *Nichi Nichi's* entire agreement with the *Yiji's* declaration that an active and stalwart policy must be pursued by Japan in the peninsular kingdom. The only difference in the position of these two journals is that, while the one displays a want of insight by demanding the abrogation of a Treaty more favourable to Japan than to China, the other takes the practical course of recommending both the Government and the Diet to increase the fighting capacity of the country to a degree commensurate with the bold line of policy now advocated.

The *Hochi Shimbun* writes in a more moderate strain than either of the above journals. It deplores that too many of its contemporaries, when dealing with the Korean question, indulge in the wildest language, regardless of the offence they may thereby give to the Koreans. The policy of the Japanese nation should be, in our contemporary's opinion, to win the good-will and confidence of the Koreans and to act as a friend and guide in their career of progress. Japan's diplomatic programme in Korea should be non-interference in the kingdom's domestic affairs, but to prevent other Powers like Russia and China from tampering with Korean independence. Japan has lost prestige in Korea primarily, according to the *Hochi*, because the Korean nation has become estranged from the Japanese on account of the latter's arrogance and high-handed methods of procedure.

Such are the views of the leading vernacular journals. It is distinctly a feature of the time that an influential section of the press devotes its energies to keeping the Korean question before the public, and to educating a stalwart spirit which the Government may ultimately find embarrassing.

JAPANESE LAWS AND FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

THE writings of the vernacular press with regard to the new Game Regulations indicate that considerable diversity of opinion exists as to the manner and possibility of extending the prohibitions of Japanese laws to foreigners residing in Japan. We are not at all surprised that uncertainty should be shown in dealing with a problem which has provoked so much discussion, and which still awaits a universally acknowledged solution in practice. It will, we are persuaded, be fully recognised one of these days that the only Power occupying a logical position in her relations with the empire of Japan is the United States of America. The laws of a foreign country have no inherent force in Japan. They derive their operative efficacy solely from the fact that the SOVEREIGN of Japan has by treaty placed the subjects or citizens of that particular country under the jurisdiction of their own laws while residing within his territories. The theory so often advanced by writers whose wish is father to the thought—the theory that this privilege of living under his own laws exempts the foreigner from any obligation towards the laws of Japan—cannot be brought into consonance with acknowledged principles of jurisprudence. Mr. F. T. PIGGOTT, in his recently published "Exterritoriality"—a book now accepted as the standard authority on the law relating to Consular Jurisdiction—puts the matter with admirable clearness:—"There is nothing in extraterritorial treaties to prevent the application to the case of the ordinary principle, that a foreigner owes temporary allegiance to the SOVEREIGN of the country in which he temporarily resides: owes temporary obedience to the laws of that country. The fact that his offences are decreed to be judged, and his disputes are allowed to be settled, by the law of his own country, does not remove him from the sphere of this temporary allegiance and obedience, except in so far as it may result from the application of the treaty grant. Indeed, he owes obedience to the laws of England by virtue solely of his temporary allegiance to the foreign SOVEREIGN. It is in virtue of this alone that the laws of England have any binding and executable force over him in that country. Too much emphasis cannot therefore be placed upon these fundamental principles of extraterritoriality, that it has nothing whatever to do with the Sovereign rights of the British Crown or with the so-called omnipotence of the British Parliament; that its existence depends entirely on the will of the SOVEREIGN of the country wherein it is exercised; and as its existence depends on this, so also does its extent; and its extent is to be found expressed in no other document but the Treaty." Such is the only theory consistent with the fundamental axiom of jurisprudence, and, so far as we

know, the United States of America is the only country which fully recognises it in Japan. America holds that all the powers which have not been explicitly surrendered by the SOVEREIGN of Japan, are retained by him, and that to the exercise of such powers by him American citizens are bound to submit. He has surrendered the power of enforcing the penalties of his laws in respect of American citizens, but he has by no means surrendered the right to insist that the prohibitions of his laws shall be observed by them. Hence the United States requires that its people shall obey those prohibitions, and enforces them by the penal clauses of American law, whenever directly applicable, and by the penalties attaching to misdemeanours in the absence of such clauses. Great Britain's position is different. She has never, indeed, so far as we know, openly enunciated the dogma that her subjects in Japan are free from obligation to respect the prohibitions of Japanese laws; but she has invested her Representative in Tokyo with discretionary competence to extend such prohibitions to his nationals by the process of re-enactment, appending whatever penalties may appear necessary for their enforcement. Great Britain's method satisfies all the practical requirements of the case, but is undoubtedly repugnant to the principles laid down above. Turning now from the United States and Great Britain to the other Treaty Powers, we are confronted by an often repeated assertion that they have provided no machinery for giving effective recognition to the prohibitions of a Japanese law, and that consequently no law enacted to meet conditions peculiar to Japan can be made binding upon their nationals. We believe this view to be altogether erroneous. There may indeed be one or two Powers which neither recognise their true position towards extraterritoriality, nor have supplied means to render their false position practically tenable or justifiable. But such cases are probably quite exceptional. The Foreign Representatives are understood to maintain their competence to extend the prohibitions of any Japanese enactment to their people, and an opportunity of testing the matter practically is now furnished. For although the new Game Regulations contain no reference to foreigners, the Japanese Government, it is stated, has expressed willingness to accord their privileges to any nationals observing their prohibitions. Hence a license will be procurable, and the privilege of preserving will be exercisable, by any foreigner whose Representative takes due steps to enforce the prohibitions of the Regulations with respect to his nationals. The method pursued in the case of the former shooting Regulations was peculiar: a foreigner taking out a license entered into a civil contract to obey certain rules. That singular device was not the outcome of inability on the part of the Foreign Representatives to

apply the prohibitions of the Regulations by ordinary legal processes. It resulted from the impossibility of elaborating any regulations acceptable to all the Representatives. Japanese legislators, twenty years ago, were sufficiently sanguine and inexperienced to imagine that laws having a direct interest for the foreign residents might be drafted with the preliminary cooperation of the Foreign Ministers. Seven years were expended in testing the feasibility of this hypothesis in the case of the Shooting Regulations, and patience and hope being then exhausted, the expedient of a civil contract was conceived. But nothing of the kind is possible with regard to the new Game Regulations: their prohibitions must be observed or their privileges cannot be enjoyed. Hence they afford an opportunity of determining the attitude which the various Treaty Powers practically assume towards this important question.

JAPANESE PICTURES AT MUNICH.

LAST Spring, as recounted at the time in these columns, Baron WENDELSTADT, at the request of the Commissioners of the Munich Exhibition of Pictorial Art, then in process of organization, kindly consented to approach the Japanese Authorities on the subject of a contribution from this country. His proposals did not meet with an enthusiastic reception. The Japanese officials interested in such matters understand that while, on the one hand, their country's pictorial art is passing through a transition stage and has not yet cultivated its new tendencies sufficiently to invite the judgment of the public, on the other, Western appreciation of Japanese art can scarcely be trusted to understand the points upon which the Japanese connoisseur sets most value. In a word, the new school shrinks from inviting criticism at this early stage of its career, and the old feels that it is not in touch with Occidental taste. To accentuate this timidity and reluctance we have the fact that the experiment of sending Japanese pictures to European exhibitions has hitherto been pecuniarily unsuccessful. France, which has always led the world in art matters, being formerly regarded by Japan as the most promising field to find appreciation and purchasers, an exceptional effort was made, some thirteen years ago, to send to Paris a really representative display of this country's work, but the pictures fell entirely flat and were returned to their painters in almost every case. Yet, among the number, was a very remarkable effort by the late KANO TAMBÏ, a picture of the Goddess of Mercy creating Man. Admirable in conception and execution, this painting ought to have attracted attention and applause. But whether the motive was not understood, or whether the common fault of all Japanese *aquarelles* when placed in Occidental art, in-

ment, want of assertive power, prejudiced the public, the picture found no purchaser, and, returning to Japan, was acquired for the Ueno School of Fine Art, where it now hangs, undoubtedly a work of genius though thin and unimpressive as to technique. That disastrous experience is still vividly remembered, and its consequences were encountered by Baron WENDELSTADT when he first mooted the question of a contribution to the Internationalen Kunstausstellung in Munich. Ultimately however, Mr. KUKI, Director of the Imperial Museum, and Professor OKAKURA, of the Ueno School of Art, were induced to render assistance, and by their aid a collection of twenty-two pictures was made and forwarded to Bavaria. The artists represented were IMAO KEINEN, KANO TOMONOBÛ, KAWABATA GYOKUSHO, KISHI CHIKUDO, KOMAI RIUSEN, KONO BAI-REI, KOSE SHOSEKI, MAYEDA KIMPU, MORI KAWASOBUN, OGATA GEKKO, OKAKURA SHUSUI, SUZUKI SHONEN, TAZUCHI SHUNRIN, TAKANASHI GYOKUEN, TANAKA GEKKO and UYEMURA KEIZAN, sixteen in all. The pictures were accorded a good place in the Exhibition, but had to be kept by themselves, as they did not bear contact with European paintings. They do not seem to have elicited much admiration, though seven of the twenty-two had been sold at the time of our latest advices. It is interesting and instructive to note the class of paintings that found favour. Two of the seven pictures represented carp, a subject which Japanese artists treat admirably, and were by IMAO KEINEN and TAZUCHI SHUNRIN. Two were of birds, namely, Sparrows in Snow, by KOMAI RIUSEN, and Wild Ducks, by TAKAHASHI GYOKUEN, the purchaser of the latter being the Prince Regent of Bavaria, who paid for it 300 marks (about 100 *yen*), a low figure as compared with European paintings. One was of figures, a Procession in Tokyo, by OGATA GEKKO; an exceedingly clever water colour, capably composed, and full of vigour and motion. One, strange to say, was of animals, Rabbits and Azalea, by TANAKA GEKKO; and one was a moonlight flower scene, by UYEMURA KEIZAN. The lesson taught by this list is that Europe has not changed its original verdict about Japanese painters, and that it still looks for their best efforts in the direction of birds, flowers, and fish. The bold style of HOKUSAI, TANI BUNCHO, YEI ITCHO and their school, with its admirable power of line and directness of effort, will always command approval even in figure subjects. It was fairly represented at Munich by OGATA GEKKO'S Procession. But the connoisseurs of the West evidently do not yet look for more serious achievements by Japanese painters. The two great masters of the modern school—that is to say, the school which aims at bringing Japanese motives into closer touch with Western taste and Western technique—HASHIMOTO GATO and

KAWABATA GYOKUSHO, do not appear to have been appreciated, if we may draw any inference from their failure to find purchasers. These two artists—probably well known to many of our readers by the large and imposing pictures which they displayed at the Tokyo Industrial Exhibition of 1890—sent five paintings to Munich, HASHIMOTO contributing three landscapes, and KAWABATA a seascape and a picture of squirrels. The drawings had undoubtedly much to recommend them, but it must be said generally of the new departure which HASHIMOTO and KAWABATA lead, that, while it has so far broken away from Japanese canons as to invite criticism from a new standpoint, it has not yet approached the Western School sufficiently closely to take recognised rank there. The whole matter is of the deepest interest, for there is involved in these essays and their results no less a problem than the future of Japanese pictorial art. We have not yet had an opportunity to study the criticisms of German connoisseurs, if any such have been penned, but our private advices from Munich are that the first complaint against the Japanese pictures is the impossibility of adapting them to the *entourage* of any European home. It would be strange if this were otherwise. The Japanese have always painted for their own domestic arrangements. Their *Kakemono*, from shape to mounting, are suited only to the comparative isolation of an alcove and to the chaste, sober surroundings of a Japanese room. Out of the artist's sense of congruity there was gradually evolved a love of half tones and limited effects, together with a use of colour that aimed at mellowness rather than strength. How much of this fashion has become inbred in the art, how much may be altered without changing essential characteristics, is a problem awaiting practical solution. From Munich the suggestion comes that what Japanese artists chiefly need is an opportunity to permanently study the works of the best Western masters, so as to familiarize themselves with the ideal at which the artists of the Occident are aiming now and have always aimed. This could be effected only by establishing in Tokyo a museum of ancient and modern masters. But though the moment is said to be particularly favourable for carrying out such a purpose—pressure of bad times in Italy, the cradle of pictorial art, having brought into the market, at comparatively low prices, many beautiful masterpieces—we have little hope that Japan will make the effort. The men who officially direct her art progress at present are determined that she shall strike out a line for herself without bowing to the force of foreign influences; and as for the little school of struggling artists who would fain place themselves in touch with Western methods, they have fallen upon such evil times and so completely out of official favour that no

hope of their immediate success can be entertained. Yet it is a vital question for Japan whether she can win foreign patronage, for no sufficient field offers at home. The great bulk—may we not almost say the whole?—of her art manufactures are destined for Western markets. Did not Europe and America stand ready to buy her lacquers, her porcelains, her silks, her embroideries, her carvings and her enamels, the production of these beautiful objects must come to a speedy end. Her pictorial art is similarly situated. It has lost touch of domestic taste and has not yet appealed largely to foreign fancy. In which direction is it ultimately to turn?

MR. NAKAYE TOKUSUKE.

As a politician, as a journalist, and as an author Mr. NAKAYE TOKUSUKE'S name is well known among Japanese. He was educated in France, and at one time filled the post of President of the Foreign Language School. In the first general election he was returned by a large majority to the House of Representatives. At that time he edited the *Jiyu Shimbun*, but very soon afterwards he resigned his seat in the House, and, abandoning his journalistic career, suddenly departed for Hokkaido, where he seems to have been leading an inactive life ever since. At one time, in a letter to a friend in Tokyo, he said that he had become a swine-herd, but he now, writes a vernacular paper, sends this account of himself:—"I have opened a stationery shop at last, but being without experience in such a trade, I find it extremely troublesome. My shopmen are *soshi* of the old style, and consequently are never ready to utter polite words such as *Irasshai*! or *Arigato-gozaimasu*! to a customer. Thus I am compelled to stand behind the counter myself. So, you see, I have become a humble tradesman; politics and literature trouble my brain no longer. My days are devoted to handling the abacus."

This is certainly a singular transformation. We might call the motive romance, were there anything picturesque about the occupation of a stationer. But Mr. NAKAYE'S doings have a spice of practicality which forbids us to regard him as a mere visionary. Japanese do this sort of thing, and the curious part of it is that they never appear to feel the smallest shame in the presence of any social descent not in itself immoral. Their creed seems to be that a man is not responsible for his circumstances. He can control and direct his own efforts, but he can neither control nor direct his opportunities, and if the latter do not present themselves favourably, the former must necessarily be futile. A philosophy comfortable enough and not without attractions, this way of regarding matters might pass muster were it less invertebrate. But after all, judged by practical results, is not the

creed preferable which regards a man as the absolute maker or marrer of his own fortunes? Some good, easy-going folks are prone to talk of "luck" as a determining factor in every one's career. But if any exact analysis of careers were possible, we strongly suspect that opportunities of much the same value would be found to have presented themselves to the great successes as well as to the miserable failures of humanity. The difference lies in this, that whereas some men, by diligence too stubborn to be dependent on the spur of visible incentive, prepare themselves so that they are always ready to detect and to utilize every opportunity, others are not equipped by study or training either to see their chances or to take advantage of them if they do see them. According to this creed, which, whether formulated plainly or only dimly perceived, is the directing principle of life in the Occident, a man is responsible for his lot, and must shoulder the disgrace of miscarriage by whatever train of circumstances it ensues. Hence the shame accompanying every step downwards on the social ladder, and hence also an almost universal and distinctly demoralizing tendency to make a braver show than the reality warrants. In Japan, where circumstances are apparently held superior to effort, heads need not be hung because the wave of adversity has swept over them. A man's mode of life is a frank counterpart of his means. Mr. NAKAYE, selling stationary in a remote village and struggling with the dilemma of his *soshi*'s brusqueness and of his customers' pique, looks the world as straight in the face and has just as much self-respect as Mr. NAKAYE, member of Parliament and editor of the Radical organ. He would receive his distinguished friends if they came to visit him, and he expects to be received by them, with not less ceremony than of yore, though without the "*Persicos apparatus*." No one is supposed to make any impertinent inquisition into the causes and fashion of his descent from a journalistic and parliamentary pinnacle to the slough of pettiest retail trade. That is his affair solely. But is it? Mr. NAKAYE may have excellent reasons for his choice. We know nothing about that, and we beg him to pardon us if we take him as an object lesson since we discuss not an individual case but a trait of Japanese character. Would it be well for the progress of humanity if men were free to perform these social acrobatics, and to present themselves, after each leap to a lower plane, with the smiling confidence of a public gymnast? Some calamities are too powerful to be averted by human contrivance, but on the whole we suspect that far stouter fibre is manufactured out of the creed which holds a man entirely responsible for his own lot, than out of the complaisance which suffers him to descend to any depth without reproach or scrutiny.

NEW CODES AND OLD CUSTOMS.

(COMMUNICATED.)

I.

IF no Western nation had ever transformed its laws, if each people had developed its indigenous customs into a peculiar and unique body of law, if no importations from abroad had even been employed to systematize or to replace the home product, the spectacle of the undertaking in which Japan has been engaged for 20 years might be thought a strange one. The hostile critic might have free play for his evil prognostications and might enjoyably spend his sarcasms on the doctrinaire process of transplanting and regrafting foreign customs. But, as it happens, there exist few nations of the West, outside the Anglo-American group, which are in a position to throw the first stone of the sort or have the inclination to begin such criticism. They are themselves too vulnerable, nay, they even see no wrong in such a process of transformation, and they uphold it. As England has never in 800 years felt the foot of an armed invader, so she has never in that period acknowledged a faith in any laws but her own. But it is a fact that in almost every other nation of Europe and America (except the United States) the accepted law of the land is not an indigenous one, but was borrowed from the Roman civil law and given to a people whose customs required more or less adaptation to it. This statement is not as yet true of Russia and the Scandinavian nations; but the fondness for German scientific speculation is growing daily in those countries and has made especial headway in the great northern peninsula; and if the advocates of German legal science have their way, as is not unlikely, we shall see a much greater and more important work accomplished than that which Japan is now engaged in. Nor does our statement apply to Italy, the home of Roman law, though even here Austrian law has in part given way to French law; nor to some portions of what was formerly Turkey in Europe.

But if we look elsewhere, we shall see the Western world almost covered by two great streams of legislation, which have taken their rise largely within the present century,—the one from a French source, the other from a German. The former rose earlier and has spread farther; the latter is even yet acquiring its full force. Many countries had the French Code imposed upon them by NAPOLEON, and some of these have never given up the system then received—Belgium, Baden, the Rhine provinces, Poland (in Russia), Geneva, and a few others. Poland has indeed suffered another change of laws and has come under Russian and Austrian codes. Austria herself, for nearly a century, has had a Code more or less kin to the civil law which prevails in districts having such widely distinct individualities as Bohemia,

Galicia, Dalmatia, and the Tyrol. Germany for nearly four hundred years has been slowly putting on the garb of the civil law, until it now bears the same outward resemblance to the indigenous Germanic law that the Japanese Houses of Parliament do to the *yashiki* of Prince SHIMADZU. The Goths of Spain long ago felt the yoke of the Roman law, and for centuries kept the Roman Breviary of ALARIC, under another name, until the Roman law had shaped their whole system. Servia in 1844 enacted a Code modelled on the Austrian. Roumania, in remodelling her laws in 1864, made a code reproducing exactly the order of the French Code and agreeing with it in substance. Greece is founding new Code-efforts on the French and Italian models. Scarcely a State in South America has not in its Code manufacture felt in part the French influence—notably Brazil and Bolivia. In the Orient the dependencies and protectorates of France, Spain, and Great Britain are daily mixing the leaven of European law—as yet more or less separate and intact, because personal status almost always determines the law by which each person is governed, but before long to permeate the lands which its importers govern. There is in fact a world-movement of law, slow and imperceptible, like that of a glacier, but gradually covering and enfolding all the countries lying in its path. It is an illustration of the inevitable, the vigorous and coherent prevailing over the weak and formless. In some instances the indigenous law is entirely displaced; in others it is absorbed; in still others it merely receives scientific form and statement.

We see, then, that the work of Japan is but a drop in the sea, a footpath in the midst of highways, a single shot in the cannonade of centuries. This is not depreciating the importance of the work for Japan itself; for such a task seldom comes more than once in a nation's lifetime, and for each nation it has a right to be considered as epoch-making. But the remembrance that there is in progress a whole world-movement allows us to look with greater calmness on its manifestation in any particular quarter and to judge it more intelligently.

In every country the circumstances leading to the importation of laws have varied somewhat. In every country, too, the same problem, among others, has come up, with more or less urgency,—the adaptation of the new Codes to the conditions of the country. And in every case, again, the same question has had to be met by the advocates of the new laws, viz; How far are they in harmony with existing practices? This, of course, is by no means the whole of the problem. The new rule may directly contradict the old one, and yet be decidedly preferable. Or the new rule may fill a gap which the growing complexities of commerce have left open in the old. Or, then, may be a

conflict of custom, which will justify the legislator in stepping in and settling it as he thinks best. Certainly, where the forms of commerce have changed, or where moral standards have progressed, the law should advance also; and this element of the problem is one of the most important as well as one of the most difficult. But for a greater or less part of the legal system this question will still be the decisive one: Do the new laws substantially conflict with the existing rules as understood and upheld by the people? After eliminating all these considerations of reform, there will be large portions of the law where the mere fact of a conflict must be regarded as an argument against the Code. Not that this need determine the fate of such laws or parts of the Code, for other motives may be of higher consequence than a discrepancy of law and custom. But, at least so far as such a consideration goes in the scale, it will then weigh against the new laws.

Now residents of Japan know, but readers in other countries will hardly believe, that up to the present time positively not a single attempt has been made by the lawyers of Japan to determine carefully whether or not there is such a substantial concord between the existing customs, so far as they have definiteness and legal force, and the portions of the new Codes bearing on the same subjects! Those Codes have been accessible for about two years only, but in that time no one has been found who is willing or able to consider the Code problem from what must be, for the people, if not for the Government also, the most important standpoint. We include the whole class of lawyers in our statement; but of course the supporters of the Codes have had until very lately little or no motive to make special effort on their behalf. We confess to a feeling of abounding astonishment that the Opposition lawyers, with their loud declamations that the new Codes violated the customs of the country, have utterly failed to vindicate their thesis in the only proper and effective way. Their manifesto, published last June, seems to us to be a weak concoction of unfounded charges, disingenuous innuendo, and irrelevant platitudes. The few concrete charges, inserted like plums in sailors' pudding, have been easily refuted by M. BOISSONADE'S able essay (which reads to us like training cannon on a garden gate); and they content themselves with declaring that "we cannot point out how the application of foreign laws in Japan at the present time is founded on misconceptions." This failure on their part is the less excusable as it would have required no effort on their part to secure a basis for comparison. The Government had already provided for them the material. It appears that for fifteen years there has been in existence a printed book containing an abridgment of a collection of the customary laws of Japan. The manuscript unabridged original of this is the source of

the two volumes recently published by the Asiatic Society of Japan, under the editorship of Mr. WIGMORE. These form Parts II. and V. of a series entitled "Materials for the Study of Private Law in Old Japan," and deal with the respective subjects of Contract and Property. They are the records of customary law obtained about 1877 by a Government commission appointed with a view to preparing for the compilation of the Civil Codes. We shall reserve our review of these volumes until the Introduction (Part I.) appears; but we wish here to examine them with a view to answering the question, Are the new Codes in conflict with the existing customs of Japan? The customs here recorded are those of 15 or more years ago, but we may assume that they have continued in substance to exist. The subjects covered by these volumes are of course not exhaustive. Moreover, the new Codes cover many necessary topics not contained at all in the bare records of customs. But it will be possible at least to discover whether the rights and duties established in the Code and in the customs are substantially the same as regards their bearing on the people.

II.

We shall take up our comparison in the order of the Japanese Civil Code, noting as we go the points of importance on which there appears any record in the other volumes. It will of course be impossible to make comparisons of complete validity, for the records of customs here brought before us do not recite the practices of every district on every point. We are able in many cases merely to say that a certain practice was followed in a certain region, without affirming that it was a general one. This, at least, if it is unsatisfactory for our present purpose, is decidedly suggestive of the need of some uniform law to cement in a community of legal rules the regions so long Sundered and embarrassed by feudalism.

Of the preliminary provisions of Book II., "Property," it is needless to say that there are no comparisons to make. If Japanese scholars had been less gentlemen and more men of the people, if they had not stunted their minds with the dry nourishment of the Chinese annalists, and had not acquired a scholarly snobbery which unfitted them for true science, they would doubtless have created a legal literature, as Europe did. They would have formulated general legal conceptions and differentiated rights and obligations. But, as it is, there is not a law text-book to be found (if we except the tedious commentaries on the antiquated Codes of the last millennium,—commentaries which rival the Glossaries of the European Middle Ages in long-drawn-out pedantry); and a legal definition is something that is turned up only by the greatest chance, like a gem under a wayside stone. There was never any scientific, scarcely even any

literary, treatment of the law; and hence we have nothing to compare to the preliminary propositions of the new Code. But one thing at least is worth noticing. Art. 30 of Book II. declares the right of property to be a natural right to use, enjoy, and dispose of a thing within the limits of the law. Now this right of property may never have been given a definition in Old Japan, but at least it *existed*. This is worth while insisting upon, for it is an idea not uncommon among foreigners that Old Japan was a feudalism in which no rights of the common people were recognized and respected. This is not true,—no truer than it was of England under the TUDORS. Many an English farmer in those days saw his corn ruthlessly ruined by the noble hunters who followed the fox; and, seeing, bore it in impotent anger. Many a poor wretch writhed under the arbitrary dealing, mis-called justice, of judges like SCROGGS and JEFFREYS. Many a rich Jew saw his money disappear forever into the hands of the prince who wanted what he pleasantly chose to call a loan. Many a man spent years in Newgate dens at the false suit of some oppressive aristocrat whom he had offended. But the farmer was none the less an owner of property; English justice was no less a national fact; and the action of debt was no less a foundation stone of civil procedure. Whatever may have been in Japan the chicanery of this or that *daikwan*, or the insolence of a drunken *samurai*, law reigned and right existed under the TOKUGAWA Shoguns. The merchant could and did sue the *samurai* when he pleased,—a privilege which did not exist in Sweden, for instance, until the reforms of STRUENSEE in the last century. The feudal lord could not and did not take away the farmer's land as he pleased. It is RÉMUSAT, if we are not mistaken, who says that custom is in Oriental countries a greater tyrant than the so-called despot himself. People forget that in feudal Japan, as in mediæval England, the constitution was set deep in a strong foundation of custom; and the force of tradition and opinion was the sufficient sanction of property rights. Take for proof the statements of the Collection of Customs on this power of the lord to deprive the farmer of his land. There was no fief in which the administration was more strict or the tax burdens more heavy than that of Sendai (Rikuzen *kuni*). Yet there we find it recorded:—"The owner of realty can do as he pleases with it, except that he may not sell it in perpetuity. His ownership is inviolable, unless it is confiscated for crime or taken for public purposes,"—both being recognized processes of English law. Furthermore, "the latter occurs when the feudal officer needs the land for a special purpose or when a reservoir or storage for public use has to be constructed on the land. An order is issued for the taking, and other land is given by way of recompense; but if there

is no other land that can be so given, the owner of the plot taken must suffer the loss, and cannot even claim the price." This right of compensation was thus an incomplete one in this fief. But it may be worth remembering that even to-day the constitutions of at least three of the United States permit the taking of land for public purposes without compensation, and that this has been done by the Legislature of at least one State. In Uzen *kuni*, again, "the person so entered [in the register] as owner has a perfect title, and may sell, pledge, or otherwise dispose of the property. His ownership is inviolable, except in case of confiscation for crime by order of the feudal lord. * * * When saltpetre is discovered in a lot of residence-land, the feudal lord has the exclusive right of mining it; but compensation will be paid to the owner for any injury inflicted thereby." In Idzumo *kuni*, it is related, "[land] may be sold, mortgaged, or otherwise disposed of at pleasure, provided taxes are not in arrear. No one can under any circumstances be deprived of his property against his will." These statements are no less than could be made in any European country. If these extracts were not enough to indicate the general conception of land-proprietorship, the almost universal prevalence of the land-registry system would point unmistakably to the regularity and security of proprietary rights, and the constant employment of the terms *ji-nushi* (land-owner) and *iye-nushi* (house-owner) would indicate the nature of the popular conception.

There is but one respect in which any question may be made as to the propriety of predicating vested property rights in the persons known as *ji-nushi* (land-owners) and *uji-nushi* (house-owners). It is that in most of the *kuni* the transfer of titles in perpetuity was forbidden or was allowed only by consent of the feudal lord. This would be a question to consider in detail, if we were here attempting to make a general defence of TOKUGAWA institutions. But our object is merely to demonstrate that the Japanese people have been, as a whole, thoroughly familiar with the notion of a vested property right, and it does not seem to us that the privilege of sales in perpetuity is a necessary part of such a notion. If it were, then the thousands of Englishmen who have enjoyed the ownership of entailed estates have never known the blessing of property in land. But at any rate three points must be noted. First, this provision was by no means an arbitrary exercise of the lord's will directed merely at the restriction of the people's rights, but an effort to prevent the accumulation of large properties in single hands. Next, the prohibition was merely of sales in perpetuity; the owner might still sell for a term of years, or until he chose to buy back (the German *vorkaufsrecht*), or

might mortgage and especially might give away the land. Finally, these permissible modes of transfer were everywhere used to evade the restriction, and the latter became practically a dead letter. This is amply shown in the records of customs. In 7 *kuni* there is said to have been no restriction; in 15, sales are alluded to, but no reference is made either way to the restriction; in 32, the restriction is mentioned, but in 26 it is said to have been merely nominal. For example, in Shima *kuni*, "the law nominally forbids a perpetual sale, but if in an instrument entitled 'sale of land' there is no express stipulation for buying back, the transaction becomes in fact a perpetual sale, and upon the oral request of buyer and seller the headman changes the name of the proprietor in the land register, and the transfer is complete. Again, in Idzumo, "the transfer is therefore accomplished by making a sale for 10 years, the price mentioned being so high that redemption in that time is impossible. The headman assumes that redemption will be impossible, and, as soon as the transaction is finished, changes the name of the owner in the register of sales." In short, no one who will read through the chapter on Sales can help perceiving the spirit of a real, substantial, independent proprietorship on every page.

These proofs are worth noticing because Mr. GUBBINS, in the Appendix to his able and lucid report on "Taxation in Japan," made in 1883, lent the authority of his name to the statement that "though land-lords in name, the people may therefore properly be regarded as tenants; * * * they possessed only a modified tenant-right against the real owners [*i.e.* the *daimyo*, etc.]" The error doubtless rests at bottom upon the confusion between a feudal lord owning a share of the national sovereign powers, and a mere landlord; but it is none the less a misleading one in investigating legal (we do not say economic) relations. The learned writer seems after all to have been persuading himself against his will, for he afterwards feels obliged to admit that "we are startled to perceive that the holders of land were in some respects on a footing nearly approaching that of owner of an estate in fee-simple in our own country." If this statement had read "in some respects on a footing *above* that of our own country," it would have been nearer the truth, for in some districts of Japan was found the precursor of the American homestead law, that a man has a right even against his creditors to a home for his family (see pp. 35, 123, 125, 126, in Part II. of the Collection of Customs).

We have devoted some space to elucidating this topic, because we think it opens up the whole question of Japan's fitness for the new laws. The question is whether we are pouring new wine into old and worn-out bottles or into bottles reasonably fit to receive it. Are the fundamental legal ideas of the Japanese people alien or

kindred to the continental principles taken as models? We are persuaded, by the evidence before us that here, on the threshold at any rate, the idea of proprietary right is not a new one for Japan. The Code simply expands and phrases a notion firmly-rooted in Japanese society. Just as far as the Japanese can show, on other fundamental points as well, that the Code only takes up, develops, and carries out legal ideas perfectly familiar to the whole Japanese people, just so far they have made a sufficient answer to the objection that the Codes are artificial products and that they neither suit the habits of the people nor can receive an intelligent application. Our subsequent points of comparison will relate to this topic.

III.

THE question of proprietary right leads us naturally (though out of the Code's order) to that of title-registration. We think complacently in some of our Western countries (unfortunately England is here able to show anything but complacency) of the advance that has been made in the present century in the registration of proprietary and hypothecary titles to realty, especially in Continental Europe. Perhaps it would not be safe to say that Japan has preceded all Europe in the establishment of a registry system; for we do not yet know whether before the time of IVEYASU (1600) the Japanese registry system was well organized. But certainly there is no civilized state in which the system has been more thoroughly enforced in all dealings with land for a longer time than in Japan. In England the Saxon shire-register disappeared under the Norman régime, and the Domesday Book was a passing effort at publicity which was not persisted in. Germany, since the early middle ages, had no registry system (except in a few commercial towns like Hamburg, Lubeck, and Bremen) until the Prussian hypothecary-registration law of 1783, and the general registration of land-titles is a matter of the present century. In France, transfers of ownership were not registered (since the feudal system of the Middle Ages) till the Revolution; the spirit of the Roman law having everywhere been unfavourable to this expedient. There is no nation among whose people the idea of land-registration has become so deeply instilled as one of the elements of rights in land as in Japan. The absence of a registry is simply unthinkable to the ordinary Japanese, and his mind turns to the registry as the proper accompaniment of all land-transfers as naturally as the devout Catholic turns to the holy-water font on entering the sanctuary of his religion. The Japanese student smiles when he hears that England has no registry system, and it is practically impossible to get him to consider seriously the many complications arising under Anglo-American law for lack of it. For

him it is a matter of pure speculation, a reasoning about the unreal.

The volumes now before us testify to the almost universal employment of registration throughout feudal Japan for all land transactions. The article of the Code (Book II., Art. 348) prescribing registration is a very fair summary of the old Japanese practice:—"Registration is required in the following cases at the tribunal of the district where the property is situated:

1. Every transfer of realty and of every other right relating to realty;
2. Every modification or abandonment of such rights;
3. Every execution against realty;
4. Every judgment or administrative decree appropriating [realty] for public purposes."

There were of course numerous exceptions and irregularities which cannot be made to fit the above clear and careful enumeration. But it is just these irregularities and infinite small variations (as the above volumes amply show) that more than anything else demonstrate the *raison d'être* of the new Code. Under the feudal system each fief outside of TOKUGAWA control had its own way in its internal administration, and the divergences of custom were naturally and inevitably numerous and conflicting. In one fief one form of book was used, in another a different form. In most regions the register was the only evidence of title; in a few, an official ticket (*tefuda*, *sage-fuda*), something like the *chi-kenfo* or land-certificate of the first 20 years of the *Meiji* period, was relied upon as the muniment of title, usually in connection with a register. In some provinces hypothecs were registered, in others not. In Sendai and a few other places even horses and cattle were registered and tagged. Throughout the country the variations of custom played havoc with legal nomenclature, and the names for the register were legion. *Mizu-cho*, *taka-cho*, *taka-tsuke-cho*, *taka-yose-cho*, *na-yose-cho*, *yeau-cho*, *eye-cho*, *eye-nami-cho*, *ko-ken-cho*,—these are the names appearing in the first half alone of the chapter on "Ownership and Title." This variation is interesting, to be sure, as showing that the use of the register probably grew out of a deep-seated national instinct and was not the result of any command or series of commands by the Central Government prior to the TOKUGAWA Shogunate; for at no time since the tenth century was there any central power capable of enforcing generally an administrative system of this sort. But if it has this interest, it certainly is the reverse of profitable to the nation in this day of administrative unification; and no one can quarrel with the Legislature for co-ordinating these various customs into a single system and applying to the register the new and uniform title of *toki-bo*.

Resuming the order of the titles in the Code, we come next to "Usufruct," with its

sub-varieties of "Use" and "Habitation." The idea of a usufruct (or, in the nearest English law phrase, life estate) was quite familiar in Japan. The commonest example, perhaps, was the estate possessed by the head of a family on retirement,—*inkyō-chi*. This custom of retirement in what we would consider middle age is, as one needly hardly say, nearly universal in Japan, and in the country it often happens that a special plot is set aside for the use and enjoyment of the retiring head. These plots will be found in many land-registers, labeled *inkyō-chi*. As in the Continental usufruct and the English life estate, the holder has no power to dispose absolutely of the land, but may nevertheless rent the property and appropriate the income; and this was the commonest method in Japan. Other than this there do not appear to have been any settled forms of usufruct,—if we may except the titles of the priests to temple-lands in villages, the exact status of which is now a matter of difficulty and remains to be determined. But the circumstances of modern Japanese life furnish many opportunities for the employment of this form of ownership. The elaborate provisions of the Code for the rights and duties arising from this relation are especially indispensable in view of the indefiniteness of the customs on the subject—a state of things mentioned by the compilers of the Customs in the volumes before us. Use and Habitation are merely minor forms of usufruct, involving more limited rights on the part of the occupant, and will be found, if we are not mistaken, to fit very well that practice in Japanese family life of allowing gratuitously the occupation of portions of premises by dependents and relatives.

Superficie (to omit for a moment two other titles), or the right of occupying the surface of another's land with buildings or plantations owned by oneself, is an estate which not merely corresponds to one of the commonest usages of Japanese life, but shows how much more satisfactory has been the resort to French inspiration instead of English. In the English legal system the building is customarily inseparable in ownership from the land. Separate ownership is legally possible, but it is rare; there is no distinct legal conception of such an estate, and there has been too little judicial experience of it to define the customary privileges appropriate to it. In Continental law, on the contrary, a special form of ownership exists for this very purpose,—*superficies* is the Latin term. No one needs to be told how common it is here (in cities at least) for the house-owner to be a different person from the land-owner. In Tokyo, for example, one or two men may own a whole *cho* or *machi*, but the owners of the houses in that block will be still other persons, each one owning one, two, or perhaps more. We happen to think of a young man who is intending to buy a 500 *yen* house situated

within the *yashiki* of a nobleman, and he will rent the ground at 1 or 2 *sen* a *tsubo* per month. In Tosa there seems to be a form of occupation which would come under the head of *superficies*. But the records of customary law unfortunately make no other mention of the rules prevailing with reference to this right of surface-construction, and detailed comparisons are thus impossible. But that this institution of the Code is eminently in harmony with the ways of the country admits of no doubt.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. ISHII'S ORPHANAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I enclose Mr. Ishii's receipt for the \$30, sent from your office, to me, for the Orphanage. Please accept Mr. Ishii's and my own thanks for your part in the matter. You may be pleased to know that before your "Weekly" containing my letter on the Asylum reached Okayama, \$110, had come in response to the appeal. Your \$30, now swells the amount to \$140.

The first \$15 of the sum was sent by telegraph from Tokyo, and reached Mr. Ishii just as the last rice had been eaten, and they were debating selling some old clothes and other things, so as to buy food for supper.

Such a prompt response makes one believe anew in the willingness of many to aid generously a worthy and definite object in case of real need. There is abundant occasion for more help, however, especially as thieves entered the Asylum a few nights ago, and stole 60 laundered suits of winter clothing. A more despicable deed it would be hard to conceive.

The temptation was a keen one to use your valuable columns for such statements. I will endeavour not to abuse the privilege, and to speak only when there seems to be an absolute and dire necessity.

Yours with gratitude,

JAMES H. PETTEE.

Okayama, October 19th, 1892.

THE LATE MR. AND MRS. CHAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—This morning I read in your issue of yesterday the following sentence, quoted from the *Shanghai Mercury*, concerning the lost passengers on the ill-fated *Bokhara*:—"Mr. and Mrs. Chain were American missionaries travelling for the purpose of writing a book."

Allow me to correct the above statement, inasmuch as these late lamented friends were neither missionaries nor travelling for the purpose above named. Having known them before their marriage, from my boyhood, reaching back more than twenty-five years, and having also been associated with Mr. Chain and his partners in business, in the same church, young people's society and social circles, more or less for the past quarter of a century, it may not be out of place to state a few facts concerning these two esteemed friends, whose sad and untimely end we now so deeply mourn. Mr. J. Albert Chain stood at the head of one of the largest business houses, west of Chicago, in the United States: viz., Chain and Hardy, Book Publishing, Stationery, and Art Company, of Denver, Colorado. As two young men, with a few thousand dollars, Messrs. Chain and S. B. Hardy went to Denver over twenty years ago and opened a small book store. In less than ten years their success was so great that they established a wholesale house in connection with their retail department in the same city. Two years ago they organized the large Stock Company mentioned above, composed of several of Denver's best citizens. Mrs. Chain as an artist was well known, East and West, for her paintings of Rocky Mountain scenery. Before her marriage she had been an efficient teacher of art in a large Seminary for young ladies. Both Mr. and Mrs. Chain, during their summer outing last year near Denver, came near losing their lives by a serious runaway accident, while diving down a mountain road. They sustained serious injuries, especially to their nervous system. After several months treatment by skillful physicians they were ordered to travel, particularly on account of Mrs. Chain's nervous condition. They started last March on a two years' tour around

the world to regain their health and obtain information to make them more efficient workers in the Church and various organizations with which they were connected. He was a Ruling Elder in the oldest Presbyterian Church in Denver, and had been several years President of the Young Men's Christian Association of that city, and Mrs. Chain had been a successful teacher of the Primary class in the Sunday School. Some eight months ago we had the pleasure of personally welcoming them to Japan, where they spent nearly five months most delightfully. They formed many pleasant acquaintances here in both missionary and business circles. Mr. Chain having been President of the famous Jackson Photographic Company of Colorado, both he and his wife had taken up the study of photography some years ago as a recreation. He became quite successful as an amateur photographer, and during their two or three journeys through Europe had gathered a large number of valuable views. Aided by these he gave lectures frequently in his home city to aid young churches and charitable organizations. While here they were very diligently engaged in taking photographs of places, people and customs in their travels, to add to their usefulness as Christian lay workers on their return home. The last of July they left for Korea and Northern China, parting with many newly made friends in various parts of Japan, whose sincere sympathy now, in this most sad and sorrowful death in the far-off Orient, may be some consolation to the wide circle of deeply bereaved relatives and friends at home in this hour of poignant grief.

Thanking you in advance for the courtesy extended in the use of your columns,

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,

FREDERICK J. STANLEY.

Tokyo, October 25th, 1892.

LETTER FROM CHINA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Shanghai, October 11th.

The latest excitement in this place has been the visit of the Hongkong cricketers. They were received with the usual Eastern hospitality, the Tander Club drove them about, a smoking concert and a dinner were given in their honour, they were generally fêted,—and our first eleven gave them a good beating at the noble game. There is no doubt that Shanghai possesses a strong eleven just now, but the most sanguine never for one moment anticipated that the Hongkong team would be so easily disposed of. They cannot fairly be styled a *Hongkong* team, as more correctly speaking they were a Garrison team, their being few amongst them belonging to the mercantile body. Their leader was the redoubtable Captain Dunn, whose prowess Shanghai cricketers have experienced in a very marked manner, and it was certainly expected that he would make a large score and tire out many a Shanghai bowler. But the great uncertainty of cricket was never more forcibly demonstrated than in Captain Dunn's case, as he only made 16 in the first innings and was bowled out in the second innings by the very first ball he received. Shanghai went first to the wickets and relied for a large score on W. H. Moule, so it looked very bad for the home team when their champion bat was bowled out after only scoring two runs; and when the innings closed for 112, it was considered certain that Hongkong would achieve a certain and decisive victory. However, Carruthers and Barff, as bowlers for Shanghai, were grand, and to the surprise of everyone Hongkong was dismissed for 78, Carruthers having taken 5 wickets and Barff 4, and Capt. Dunn's score of 16 being the highest made by Hongkong. The game was resumed next day, and at first it appeared as if Shanghai was in a bad way, for the first few wickets fell for very little, and W. H. Moule only scored 9, but his brother, A. I. H. Moule, and Barff made a good stand, and assisted by some smart batting on the part of Carruthers, the score was carried up to 202 before the second innings of Shanghai was finished. Thus Hongkong had to make 231 to tie, and knowing how many good bats were in the team, such an event was not looked upon as impossible, but the bowling of Carruthers was more deadly than ever, and eight wickets fell before him, including that of the Captain for a duck's egg, and the whole side only made 79, or one more run than in the first innings, thus leaving Shanghai the victor by 157 runs. Carruthers undoubtedly proved himself the champion of the match, as he scored 30 in each innings and took 13 wickets for 70 runs. The match was remarkable for one or two other circumstances. In Sergeant Mumford, Hongkong possessed a bowler who put every one in mind of

cricket in his school days, as he bowled under-hand grubbers which looked absurd but proved very deadly, as many of our batsmen had not the patience to play them properly or did not know how to do so, and the result was that Mumford took one wicket in the first innings and no less than six in the second. When his daisy cutters scattered the batsmen who failed to stop them felt very mean. Another extraordinary event was that A. J. H. Moule drove the ball right over the pavilion. This has been done three times before in the history of Shanghai cricket, but it is a hit to be proud of.

There is no doubt that Shanghai was much stronger than Hongkong in bowling and fielding, and Captain Dunn went so far as to say that the former was all round the stronger team, and he ought to know what he is talking about. It had been expected that the match would take three days, and consequently the Banks closed at noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, but the whole was completed early on Tuesday, and consequently a friendly game was arranged for on Wednesday in which the Hongkong men were divided. This gave Captain Dunn and Q. M. Sergeant Jeffkins an opportunity of showing how much they could do with the bat.

The dinner at the Club was largely attended and was of a very jovial character, as harmony began early in the evening and dullness was not permitted to exist. On Friday night the Literary and Debating Society gave a smoking concert in the Lyceum Theatre in honour of the Hongkong team, which was very successful; the comic and topical songs were excellent and enthusiastically received. The next morning the Hongkong team bade farewell to Shanghai, leaving their flag in the possession of the victors, and so closed a week of good sport and jollity.

Training for the races is now in active progress, and notwithstanding the hard times there seems every probability of a good meeting this autumn. The Race Club have had their Grand Stand enlarged and altered at very considerable cost, and these alterations do not give universal satisfaction, as some stupid blunders were made as regards staircases, etc., which the stewards ought to have guarded against, while some blunder was made about ordering the iron pillars, etc., required, so that the Stand is still unfinished though it ought to have been ready before the training began. The result is that an unsightly mat shed has had to be erected on the lawn for the accommodation of trainers and jockeys.

There is still trouble in Hunan. The celebrated Chou Han has come to the fore again more rabid than ever against foreigners, and fulminating threats against all natives of whatever rank who deal or associate with them. The man is not mad, except in his blind hatred of foreigners, and by his public appearance again fully proves the weakness of the Peking Government in not daring to arrest and punish him, or their downright falsity in pretending to the Foreign Ministers that this miscreant could not be captured. A new Governor, Wu Ta-Cheng, has been appointed to Hunan, and as he is a man of strong will and of good feeling to foreigners, his advent in Chang-sha will be looked forward to with interest. Wu married the daughter of Chang Chih-tung, the viceroy, and may therefore be supposed to be working together with him for the suppression of the turbulent braggarts of Hunan, of whom Chou Han is the recognized head. The latter called upon the people to oppose the new Governor, but as H.E. Wu is a man of courage and determination, we shall probably see a conflict between the two before long and there is very little chance that Wu Ta-cheng will be worsted. The new Governor had a long interview with Mr. Chris. Gardener, H.B.M.'s Consul at Hankow, and it is certain that the latter will shortly visit Chang-sha, but it may unfortunately happen that he is unable to do so in a British gunboat, owing to difficulties of navigation in shallow water, and this is a great pity, as a show of force would no doubt effectually silence the Hunan bragging cowards.

All persecution of foreign missions has not ceased. We have recently heard of outrages in Shensi and Szechuan, but it must be borne in mind that the people of those districts are in danger of famine through drought, and their blind superstition may lead them into acts of violence which they would not think about in more prosperous times. While there is drought in the north-west there are floods in Shantung, for the Yellow River has broken its banks again, entailing loss of life and untold misery on the wretched inhabitants of that part of the country. And so it goes on year after year—a glorious country ruined by an effete and despotic Government.

Shêng Taotai, the Director of Chinese Telegraphs, has been at his little games again, and has signed a Telegraphic Convention with the Russian

Minister pledging China to maintain massive rates for messages. But luckily this Convention will have to be ratified before it ever becomes law, and our Chambers of Commerce are aroused, and we have reason to believe that the British Government will not accept all that the monopolists desire.

This same Sheng Taotai has recently been appointed Custom's Taotai at Tientsin, and it was not long before he endeavoured to make some illegal regulations for the transport of grain which were framed to benefit the China Merchants S. N. Co.'s steamers, in which Company Sheng is directly interested. But he will not be able to carry out his own sweet will undisturbed.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, October 1st.

Rev. W. E. Griffith, D.D., has recently returned from his vacation, of which he spent three weeks in Holland and five weeks in London. It is probable that his trip was devoted to recreation, but partly to study and investigation, and that the results may be expected in pamphlet or book. Dr. Griffith's last work, just published by Houghton, Mifflin and Co., is included in the "Riverside Library for Young People," and is entitled "Japan: In History, Folk-Lore and Art." It is a 16 mo., with a map, and costs only 75 cents; so that it is quite an inexpensive and convenient book with which to introduce Japan to American young people. With its compact account of Japanese history, its stories from Japanese folk-lore, and its descriptions of unique Japanese customs, it is an interesting and instructive book.

Dr. Griffith has also furnished an "Introductory Note" to Dr. M. L. Gordon's "An American Missionary in Japan" which is likewise an interesting and valuable book on missionary life and labours in the Japanese Empire.

The Rev. George Allchin, also, is instructing the American people concerning Japan and the Japanese,—by means of illustrated lectures with a lime-light lantern. He is now in Massachusetts.

Messrs. T. Uchida and Y. Yambe, Commissioners; Mr. M. Kuru, architect; and Mr. K. Ito, of the Central Tea Company, have all reached this city, and are busily engaged in making the necessary preparations for the various exhibits at the Columbian Exposition.

In the *Japan Weekly Mail* for September 3rd is an account clipped from the New York *Sun*, of the suicide of a Dr. Scudder. It may be well to explain, that this man should not be identified with the veteran missionary's son who recently committed suicide in this city, but belongs to another family, which, however, may possibly be related.

Mrs. Harrison is gaining strength slowly and improving in appetite, and there is now hope of her ultimate recovery.

Major-General John Pope, who served in the Mexican War, and was prominent in the Civil War, died September 23rd in Sandusky, Ohio. He was the commander who had trouble with Gen. Fitz-John Porter concerning the blame for the defeat of the Federal troops at Manassas Junction in 1862.

Colonel A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, is the new Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The great Pan-Presbyterian Council yesterday closed a week's session at Toronto, Ontario, where it has been discussing various theological, social and moral questions of both special and general interest.

The Presbytery of Cincinnati is about to try for heresy Prof. Henry P. Smith, of Lane Theological Seminary.

The Homestead troubles are by no means settled, but have been transferred to the courts. About a week ago, a number of the officials of the Carnegie Steel Company and some Pinkerton officers were placed under arrest for riot and conspiracy. Yesterday the counter-move was made by the steel company, when warrants were issued for the arrest, on the charge of treason against the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, of more than 30 of the strikers, those who were members of the famous advisory committee. Really, it will be quite gratifying if this struggle can be confined to the courts and fought out on legal lines. All the militia, except 150 guardsmen, have left Homestead.

The war against the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Combine has begun in earnest. States Attorney Longmecker, of this city, has filed a long and strong petition, requesting an injunction to restrain the corporation from raising the prices of anthracite coal, and to stop them from doing business here. It has also been discovered that there is a national law ample and sufficient to cover this case. It was known as the "Sherman Act," and was passed by the unanimous vote of

both Houses. With United States and various State laws so explicit, it looks as if the "combine" might be shattered.

The political cauldron is boiling, bubbling and seething from the heat of the politicians; but the men of the people are quietly thinking and calmly waiting for election day. There is a tremendous lack of excitement, of parades, and processions; but there is deep and careful consideration. It is true that Senator Hill has spoken at a "monster meeting" at Buffalo; and that ex-Senator T. C. Platt, ex-Senator Warner Miller, and others, spoke at a mass-meeting of "enthusiastic thousands" at Cooper Union in New York City; and that both these events prove that the factions of both parties are once more united and working harmoniously! It is also true that General Weaver and Mrs. Lean were so impolitely and rudely treated by some audiences in Georgia, that they had to abandon the canvass in behalf of the Populists; and issued an address, asking for Federal supervisors of election, in order that there may be "a free ballot and a fair count." It is true that the Democrats of Wisconsin are discouraged, because their second gerrymander bill has also been declared unconstitutional. It is true that the indictment of Labour Commissioner Peck is likely to be quashed. Finally, it is true that Cleveland has at last published his letter of acceptance, which is much briefer than was President Harrison's; and that he has laid out the Democratic campaign along the line of gradual, rather than precipitate, reductions of the excessively high protective tariff of the present until a tariff for revenue only is secured. It is a matter of the sincerest congratulation on the part of thinking men that the tariff issue is prominent and clearly and squarely defined; and also that the campaign will consist less of the glitter of torchlight processions, and more of a calm and dispassionate consideration of that important question.

Two "records" have recently been smashed,—one a bicycle, and the other in trotting. In the former case, Mr. John S. Johnson, Minneapolis, knocked off 8½ seconds, and brought the mile record below the two-minute barrier to 1:58 at Independence, Iowa. In the second case, Nancy Hanks at Terre Haute, Indiana, trotted a mile in 2:04, and won the \$5,000 prize offered by Robert Bonner to the first horse that should make 2:05 on the regulation track.

This is the day on which books of subscription will be opened for the \$4,000,000 World's Columbian Exposition debenture bonds. The subscription books will close on the 15th inst. the bonds will be dated November 1st, and will be "payable on or before January 1st, 1894."

It is now probable that the Liberal Arts Department, now assigned a limited and insufficient space in the immense Manufactures Building, will have an edifice of its own. This will contain at least 100,000 square feet of ground floor, and even more up to 300,000 square feet, if space can be made on the ground, as such a building is greatly needed for a satisfactory and complete exhibit in educational and ethnological lines.

It is likely that, in spite of Chinese antagonising influences, Korea will have at least a small exhibit. Chargé d'Affaires H. N. Allen is exerting his power and influence in that direction.

From China will come a novel exhibit of models of Chinese junks and vessels of various types, ancient and modern.

The design for the souvenir coin is the Lotto head of Columbus for obverse, and the caravel and two globes for reverse.

The weekly review of trade by R. G. Dun and Co. appeared in this morning's papers, and contained the pleasing information that business is large and healthy; money is in ample supply; crop reports are favourable; "the commercial sky is without a cloud;" and the outlook is very encouraging.

The University of Chicago began the regular work of its first session this morning. This institution, in regard to its inception, its rapid and phenomenal growth, its new educational ideas, its brilliant prospects, may reasonably be called one of the great and wonderful things of the nineteenth century in the United States. It stands to-day as the unique institution of learning in this country, and in many respects is without a peer or rival. It has opened with an endowment fund of about \$3,000,000, with total costs of about \$5,000,000. It started out with officers and faculty numbering considerably more than 100, besides more than 60 "fellows." It had on the first day of school more than 500 students and would have had a much larger number, if the entrance examination had been less severe! What other institution of learning can balance these points?

I have just returned from a visit to the University, where I hoped to obtain the exact figures concerning enrollment, etc.; but I found the offi-

cers too busy, and learned that they themselves had not yet taken a careful count or collected accurate statistics. A banner of old gold (the College colour) was flying with a U. S. flag from a turret. The grounds were *yakamashi* with workmen, and the building lively with students. I chanced to run across two Japanese, Mr. Asada and Dr. Watase; and I slipped into the chapel, where a large number of students, under the direction of the famous Christian athlete, Stagg, were trying to decide on a college yell! I left before they had come to a decision.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, September 15th.

The two great problems which European statesmen, and more particularly the German Government, have in vain attempted to solve, are repression of the ultramontane tendencies of the Roman Catholics and the socialist movement of the working classes. Heterogeneous as these are in their causes and aims, they still show a similarity in being equally based on the ignorance of half educated masses who blindly follow their leaders. Thus the two parties have been able to form a compact phalanx both in the country and in Parliament, which Government in past years has entirely failed to overcome. Subsequent to the anti-Socialist stringent laws of the Bismarck era, now repealed, and contrary to the Falk system with its famous "May" Laws, the two parties, acting each by itself, have step by step gained their ground, and have by desperate determination and severe discipline, at last been able to turn the tables on their former persecutors. The German socialists, since they have been left unmolested to their own resources, have lost somewhat in unity and assumed a form less dangerous to society at large. The ultramontane or Centre party, as they are called from their seats in Parliament, are more vigorous than ever, their demands are becoming more exigent and their position as necessary supporters of the government is becoming more and more recognized.

The growth of these parties is to a great extent, also, the direct consequence of the real or assumed martyrdom which they claim to have undergone under the former system of repression. Had the Government, at the beginning of the struggle which soon commenced after the Franco-German war, adopted the same foresight and moderation as now prevail in the Councils of the Nation, neither of the two parties would have ever risen to the importance they have now assumed. When we compare the essence of the May Laws with the situation of to-day, one can scarcely believe that in so few years so great a retrogression could have been effected by a Government. Only a few months ago, the new school law of Count Zedlitz was on the point of surrendering the schools to the mercy of clerical influences, a concession which was only prevented by the unanimous protest of all Liberals, for once united for this purpose. If we examine again the costly and painstaking care for the welfare of the workman, the provisions for his benefit in almost all the vicissitudes of life, we cannot fail to find a change amounting almost to a revolution in ideas, if compared to those of a score of years ago. But humane and politic as these efforts are to free the workman from the occult influences which play on his misery for the sake of political power, it has generally been admitted that the time has come to close these bounties and not give away to further insatiable desires which would lead to State socialism of the most dangerous kind.

The possibility of further concessions to the Centre are, however, though equally fraught with dangers, not the less admitted as more probable and less objectionable, being essentially of a spiritual and immaterial kind. Only lately the party at a meeting at Mayence showed how high its aims in regard to their influence on religion and public instruction are now raised. Not content with this under the guidance of their leaders Count Balletrom, Dr. Sieber, and Persch, they passed resolutions for the restoration of the secular Power of the Pope by the intercession of Germany, and for the return of the Jesuits who are still lingering under the ban of exclusion from the Empire.

Then a strange fact occurred: the official organ of the Chancellor, Count Caprivi, the *Nord-Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, published a leader in which the Centre Party were, for their unanimity and courage, held up as an example to the other parties; and the admission was made that on account of these virtues they had a fall claim to be recognized as an important element in the arena of German politics. This strange homage of the Government to the

Ultramontane principles raised quite a storm in the Liberal Press. On the Government side it was soon declared that the article in question had not been inspired, that it had been the work of an altogether irresponsible person, but the impression remained that Government had made up its mind to bow to the exigencies of the Centre in order to carry through its great scheme of military reform. This reform is based on the principle that the recruits in the infantry should be discharged after two years instead of three, and it therefore admits of a greater number of men being drilled and made ready for an emergency. In other words, the German army strength would by this manoeuvre be increased to a very considerable extent. So far this plan recommends itself, and equally so by making the service less onerous for the mass of the people. But unfortunately it requires a very large increase of the Budget. The sum is estimated at from 80 to 150,000,000 marks per annum—which no one knows how to raise. It will be, therefore, prove for the Government almost impossible to pass this law, as the Liberals will oppose it to the utmost and the National Liberals are doubtful. There remain the Conservatives to fall back upon, who, after a little whining and moaning, will come to terms, but they are too weak to carry the measure without the cooperation of the powerful Centre party. All depends now on the price these will ask and obtain for their support; and here is the dilemma for the Government. No government can run the risk of interfere with the Italians in their management of the Italian See; it is an entirely domestic affair, and any ill-judged attempt of Germany to exercise pressure would simply cause Italy to leave the Triple Alliance, perhaps to join France with whom a certain *approchement* was effected lately at the Genoa festivities. This is therefore out of the question. As to the return of the Jesuits, Caprivi has declared himself against it, and can scarcely now eat his own words. There remains the school law which would again raise a storm. Thus the Government can in reality give nothing but fair words in exchange for solid money votes. Will this satisfy the Centre? Again, the necessity of an increase in the armed forces of Germany may surely be doubted and disputed with some show of reason. As far as the statistical numbers of the completely drilled men that would be called out in case of war can show, the German forces are at least equal, if not superior, to the French, and the necessity of fighting on two fronts, that is, meeting the combined French and Russian armies, has been under consideration long ago. This eventuality is, besides, fully prepared for by the overpowering masses which the Triple Alliance would bring together whenever the "*cassez fédérés*" arises.

But will the Triple Alliance last to all eternity? It has been reported somewhere that Bismarck only initiated his famous treaty of alliance with Austria as a combination arising from a temporary necessity, and its continuance was at the time not contemplated. We know also that as a rule political constellations last only as long as their primary causes of coming into existence continue. May not Germany feel the necessity of protecting itself against all eventualities or emergencies of the future? This may be an additional motive without in the slightest degree doubting the good faith and intentions of our allies; for one or other of them might at a given time be unable from incidental causes, for instance, financial difficulties, be prevented from giving full expression to his friendly sentiments and conventional obligations.

These motives cannot of course be brought before the public and still less be alluded to in Parliamentary debates. But there must be some real by good causes on the part of the Government to account for their desire to provide for future safety by additional preparation. They are not easily discovered in face of the peaceable aspect prevailing all round. Russia from necessity keeps tranquil. France will be probably soon engrossed by the "close of the century" exhibition, and the Eastern question seems for the moment to be removed to spheres out of sight of the European horizon.

It will be of great interest to see how General Count Caprivi will bring forward and support this large military reform. His success will depend to a great extent on the attitude the Centre party will take, and their action will probably be decided by the appreciation of what reward the Government has in store for them. It is no enviable position for a Government to have to trust the success of a great measure to the hazards and avidity of party tactics, but unfortunately there will be no other course left open in the present highly unsatisfactory state of German parliamentary parties.

THE INTERPORT CRICKET MATCH.

YOKOHAMA V. KOBE.

Rain, rain, rain, either in passing showers or a persistent down-pour, has been the tale of the last few weeks. Friday broke out warm and fine, but on Saturday the drizzle set in again, "to be continued" on Sunday with occasional heavy showers. During the early hours of Monday morning much rain fell, but as the day wore on the heavens showed signs of clearing, and acting on the slight hope held out, the executive of the Yokohama Cricket Club determined upon commencing play in the interport match—the most stirring event in our local cricket world's year—at one o'clock. Every precaution had been taken to secure a good wicket—the ground for some days before was covered with mats ten deep, and every available means of draining the pitch adopted. The result was highly creditable to the committee. It was only to be expected that the play would be heavy going and in the bowler's favour, but that was not man's fault. The light from a grey, overcast sky over which rain-clouds occasionally scudded, was not of a first class description, but then batsmen's and fielders were spared the glare which accompanies bright sunshine. The sun certainly put in an appearance for five minutes, but as the hour was late—four fifteen—he retired very quickly. Yokohama went in first and fared disastrously on the wet wicket, White and Crawford being both caught out before scoring a point. W. D. S. Edwards was also bowled by Pakenham when his total stood at a modest 4. Duff made the first stand, knocking up 11 by careful play; but the champion of the team was Burn who assisted by Watson, 18, stemmed the tide and carried out his bat for 41. The fielding of the visitors was very creditable, not a chance being missed, while Pakenham was a tower of strength both with the ball and in the field, sending four good men back to the Pavilion. Kobe went in on a drying pitch, but they could make little stand against Edwards, W. D. S., and Burn, although playing warily. Towards the end of the game the ground grew very slippery, but they gave few unnecessary chances to the fielders. At the call of time E. B. S. Edwards was still in with a score of 29, but his companions had been content, or rather had to be content, with much smaller results, none getting into double figures. Kobe left the field with three more men to play, Edwards and Braess (not out) and Gibbens to bat.

It was half-past one o'clock before all the preliminaries were settled and then the home team went on to the ground, as the result of the toss, sending out White and Crawford (captain) to defend the wicket against the bowling of Stephens and Pakenham. Stephens was the first to trundle the leather and bowled it to White. The latter skied it and, as a result, was neatly caught by Pakenham—the first ball in the match—one for 0. Tate took the willow and snicked the second ball of the over to leg for 2. At the change of over Pakenham took up the trundling. His third ball glanced off Crawford's glove and was caught by Gibbens—two for 2. The greasy state of the ball, perhaps, had something to do with this; at any rate the residents consoled themselves at the second disappointment by sagely remarking so. W. D. S. Edwards was Yokohama's next man, and great things were naturally expected of him, but as it will be shown later, the glorious uncertainties of the field were heavily against him. Tate having scored a single and the over expiring, Edwards first chance came along. He took it at once, driving Stephens to the boundary for 4; a square leg hit. Tate followed with a hit to long-field for 2, and then, Pakenham managed to depose Edwards, his last ball of the over breaking right across the wicket—three for 10. Matters were assuming a very black aspect for Yokohama when Duff joined Tate. He opened with a boundary hit to the off, 4, and immediately afterwards drove the leather to the long-field on for 3. Tate then managed to secure a long-on for 4 and Duff a 4 by a hit to the Pavilion. A maiden intervened, and in the last ball of the next over Duff was caught by Braess, at long-stop—four for 26. E. R. Morris took the vacant place and broke his duck; a few balls were sent down to him but he merely snicked them to point without scoring. At the change of ends Tate followed suit, but at last sent one down into slips where it was caught by Pakenham—five for 27. Mair joined Morris, and for a few overs nothing was added to the score, both men playing steadily. Mair then cut Braess to point and a single was placed to his credit. Some quiet blocking ensued till Mair, finding a chance, cut Pakenham to the off for 3. Three runs had been made in three

overs, and two more maidens followed ere Mair was just missed in the slips. More maidens followed this brief excitement,—seven in all since the last effective hit. Then Mair drove Pakenham to the slips, but his partner's career—Morris—was stopped by Edwards, E. B. S., who scattered his balls by a splendid throw in—the cleanest piece of fielding so far—six for 31. Watson took the waiting bat, but lost Mair by the first ball of the following over, the leather breaking in across the wicket, as in the elder Edwards' case—seven for 31. Layard came next and knocked up two, both singles, before being caught by Lias off Pakenham—eight for 35. Everything now pointed to an easy victory for Kobe as the wicket played dead and only two more men had to be disposed of to put the home eleven out. Burn, however, joined Watson at this point of the game and soon a very different aspect was given to the telegraph board. For the first few overs both played carefully, feeling their way along, as it were, and getting familiar with the bowlers' tactics. A boundary wide from Stephens added 3 to the score, and then Burn managed to secure 1, sending the ball into slips. Watson next hit a 2 to leg and Burn followed suit, a bye followed and Watson hit up a single—43. A change of bowlers took place here Braess relieving Stephens, but his first ball to Burn resulted in 2. At the change of over Watson cut a 2 to cover-point, and Burn again followed suit with a 2 off Braess. Several singles and pairs intervened before Burn drove Pakenham to the long-on for 4 in the last ball of the over. The ground by this time was getting very slippery around the wickets, but Burn managed to get another 2, thus raising the score to 60, amid cheers. A leg-bye was the only result of the next five balls, but the over following saw Burn drive Braess to the boundary for 4 twice. The feat was loudly applauded. Just before Lias took the ball from Pakenham Burn sent Braess to the long for 3, while his first ball off Lias secured a single. Edwards soon after took over the bowling from Braess, but his first over was a maiden. For a few minutes twos and singles were placed to Burn's credit, and then he broke away again with a boundary hit—4. Watson endangered his position by a skyer soon afterwards, but Yokohama cheered again at a 4 from Burn. Gradually the two batsmen carried the score upwards, till finally Watson with a 3 raised it to the century. He followed this with a 4, but soon afterwards was caught out by Kenyon from a ball off Pakenham—nine for 105. He deserved the cheers that greeted him, for his play all through had been remarkably steady. Dickinson was the last man in, and he managed to send Kobe hunting for leather at the off boundary—4—before being caught by Melhuish off Edwards—ten for 112. The clock marked 3.25 p.m. as he retired. Burn received a richly deserved ovation as he carried his bat in.

Kobe went in at the half hour, and scored their first ball by a leg-bye. Marshall and Mackintosh were at the wickets, with Edwards, W. D. S., and Burn bowling, Duff being at his old place keeping wicket. Marshall was soon given out l.b.w. off Edwards—one for 2. Stephens took his place and scored his first off Edwards. He then cut Burn to off for 2 but was finished by the same bowler's next ball. Edwards, E. B. S., followed on and quickly made a boundary cut, 3. This he repeated, and then hit one to the Pavilion for 4, and another to leg for 2. Mackintosh was the next to score off Burn, but was soon given out l.b.w. off Edwards, W. D. S.,—three for 19. Melhuish, the next man was bowled by Edwards' second ball—four for 19. Pakenham took his place and drove Edwards to the long-off for 2 with the last ball of the over. It was now 4.15 o'clock, and for a brief five minutes the sun graced the proceedings and had the opportunity of witnessing Edwards drive Burn to the long off for 3. White, who tried to stop the ball, fell, but nothing further was attempted. A boundary by Edwards, off his brother, was the only excitement of the next over. His next venture was a skyer off Burn, which Morris tried hard to catch. Pakenham, who had scored two at the outset of his innings, was smartly caught by Watson off Burn, when he attempted to repeat the performance—five for 30. Kenyon, was next man in and almost directly afterwards Edwards secured a Pavilion hit, only to lose his partner next over,—caught Crawford, bowled Burn—six for 39. At half past four Lias joined Edwards, and Tate relieved Burn at bowling. Lias at the change of bowlers was smartly caught and bowled by Edwards—seven for 41. Daylight was fast waning when Head went in and his career was short, being caught and bowled by Edwards before scoring a point—eight for 41. Braess was ninth man in, but after one over time was called and stumps drawn for the day. Scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. F. E. White, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens	10
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Gibbons, b. Pakenham	4
Mr. E. W. Tate, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens	10
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Pakenham	4
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Braess, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. E. R. Morris, thrown out, b. E. B. S. Edwards	4
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. G. W. B. Watson, c. Kenyon, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. R. de H. Layard, c. Lias, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. H. S. Burn, not out	41
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Melhuish, b. Edwards	4
b. 23, l.b. 4	7

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KOBE.

Mr. J. Marshall, l.b.w., b. W. D. S. Edwards	0
Mr. D. H. Mackintosh, l.b.w. b. Burn	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, not out	29
Mr. C. E. Stephens, b. Burn	3
Mr. C. J. Melhuish, c. Edwards	0
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, c. Watson, b. Burn	3
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, c. Crawford, b. Burn	2
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. and b. Edwards	0
Mr. R. T. Head, c. and b. Edwards	0
Mr. G. Braess, not out	0
Mr. C. Gibbons, not out	3
l.b. 3	3

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YOKOHAMA V. KOBE.—SECOND DAY.

Yokohama has gained a rather hollow victory over its sister treaty-port upon the cricket field, but it may take some credit to itself notwithstanding. Tuesday was a delightful change to the opening day in the matter of weather, brilliant sunshine prevailing throughout the whole period of play, albeit a cold wind blew during the morning, while in the afternoon the temperature was crisp and autumnal. Many ladies graced the proceedings during the afternoon, and the tedium of a slow match was relieved by the strains of the Town Band, which had also been in attendance on the preceding day. The pavilion was festooned with flags kindly lent from H.M.'s stores and the Club colours floated over the ladies' tent.

Play commenced at 10.15, Kobe following on from Monday evening's score. They had made 41 on the previous day, and had three wickets to play. The ground was considerably dryer, but it was soon evident that the wicket would be slow. Edwards and Braess went in but were quickly separated, Edwards going first. Gibbons had been in a minute when Braess was given out, and the innings closed for 43, only two having been added to the score. With yesterday's experience to urge them on, Yokohama started steadily in the follow on, Crawford remaining in till nearly tiffin time. He compiled 72—the best score of the match—before being caught by Head. Another good total was Duff's 33, a carefully played innings throughout. White and Edwards knocked up 17 apiece, but by the time the seventh man was reached—six wickets down—Yokohama decided to declare their innings closed, the score standing at 170, and thus give Kobe a chance of completing the match. Kobe had to make 239 to tie, 240 to win, and, as the sequel showed, the task was beyond them. Stephens was their best man, 33, but the others, with the exception of Kenyon who made a bold stand, were again nowhere, and the match closed at 4.35, ten wickets down, 162 runs behind the victors' total. The bowling and fielding on both days was above the average of recent years, and a glance at the analysis will show that only 3 wide balls were bowled. Several smart bits of fielding must be put down to Braess and Watson, while Duff well maintained his reputation behind the wicket. The light on Tuesday was steady, although at times a little unpleasant at the lower end; the pitch wore well, but was inclined to kick at intervals. On the whole the play may be considered very creditable on both sides, and we wish with the conquerors that Kobe may be enabled to put a stronger team into the field next year. One swallow does not make a summer, neither do one or two good bats and a like number of bowlers form a strong, all-round cricketing team, though they go a long way towards it.

It was fifteen minutes past the advertised time when Edwards and Braess went in to continue their over-night's play. Edwards was 29 runs to the good, but Braess had yet to break his duck. The first ball of the day from Edwards registered a bye, but the third one of the over found his brother's stumps—nine for 42. Gibbons joined Braess and hit one to leg. Then Braess had the misfortune to put himself out, the ball glancing off his bat on to the stumps—ten for 43. Five minutes play had thus closed the visitors' first innings. Their score stood ten for 43.

Tate and Crawford went out first in Yokohama's second innings, to face the bowling of Stephens and Pakenham. After two wides had been bowled Tate hit Stephens to long on for 3, and then to on again for 2. His next big hit was to the on boundary for 4. After this the left-handed batsman scored another 2 and then steadied down to blocking, following the tactics of Crawford who was scoring quietly. Seeing his opportunity, the captain cut Pakenham to the boundary for 4 in the last ball of the over. After a couple of maidens

Gibbons missed Tate at point—a difficult ball, however—and then Crawford notched 2 by a long-on cut off Stephens. Tate, whose score stood, 3, 2, 4, 2, made another attempt at a big stroke, but Stephens scattered his balls by a cleanly delivered ball—one for 26. The clock marked 11.10 as White went in. White scored one by his first ball, after which one or two maidens ensued, then Crawford drove Stephens to the boundary, 4. A quiet snicking and cutting to leg was the play for the next few minutes, and ones and twos were registered. White skied a ball from Stephens but was let off, and when the cheering ceased it was found that Crawford had sent the ball to the Pavilion for 4. E. D. S. Edwards relieved Pakenham at the 12th over in order, it was afterwards seen, to allow the latter to take the lower end, and Crawford immediately sent a ball from Stephens to the boundary, 4, and Edwards retired, Pakenham taking the leather in hand again. White cut him to the off for 3, and after a few overs another change in bowling ensued, Edwards and Lias going on, the latter at the lower end. Crawford managed to cut the first ball to the on boundary, 3, and White pulled the next round to leg. The first ball in the ensuing over from Lias, however, found his wickets—two for 67, to which the retiring batsmen had contributed a well played 17. W. D. S. Edwards went in at the Pavilion wicket and secured a single from Lias to open with. His next hit sent the fielders' to the boundary in search of the flying leather, 4; Crawford scored next with a prettily cut ball to point, 3, and then Edwards drove Lias to the lower boundary for 4. Some steady play followed, but the last-named batsman was once missed by long-stop. He was finally caught by his brother, bowled Braess, when he had reached 17—three for 97. Duff succeeded him, and was missed by Marshall at long-stop after compiling a few runs. Crawford had thus far made 61 runs and had not given a single chance. Mackintosh at this point took Edwards' place at bowling and at the next over Marshall relieved Braess. Duff's first big hit was to the on boundary, driving Mackintosh for 4. Soon afterwards he lost the help of Crawford who was caught by Head off Mackintosh. The telegraph board notified that 72 had been placed to Crawford's credit, and he was greeted with prolonged cheering on his return. The tiffin bell rang soon afterward and the game stood adjourned—four for 147. Upon resuming at 2.10 p.m., Duff was joined by Morris, with Marshall and Mackintosh as bowlers. Duff started with a single to slips, but the next ball from Mackintosh bowled Morris clean—five for 149. Mair took the bat then, and nothing worthy of detailed notice occurred until Duff was caught by Braess at long-on—a pretty catch. Duff had played very good cricket, and his 33 was the result of patience and judgment—six for 166. Watson went in and Pakenham took Marshall's place. Mair in the last ball of the over drove Pakenham to long-on but the ball was splendidly fielded by Braess. Ten runs having been added to the total, Yokohama declared their innings closed at 2.40 p.m.—six for 170, with two men in and three to bat.

Kobe was 239 runs to the bad when Marshall and Mackintosh took the field against Edwards and Burn, and their first score was a leg bye off Edwards. The first big break was by Mackintosh, who drove Burn to the Pavilion for 4; Marshall was caught in the slips by White almost directly afterward—one for 10; Edwards, E. B. S., took his place, and after making 4 was thrown out by Tate in the first ball of an over—two for 10. Pakenham then joined Mackintosh and immediately drove Burn to the longfield on for 2. Play was very slow for a little while until Mackintosh was caught by Burn off Edwards, at the fourth ball of an over—three for 15. Stephens went in next, but Pakenham's stumps were demolished by a Yorker from Burn, the last ball of that over—four for 15. Melhuish opened his score with a 2, touching Edwards just over his wicket; he repeated the performance with the next ball, but the third he sent to long-on. At the change of over, however, Burn disturbed his wickets—five for 21. There was every appearance of a short innings when Kenyon entered the list, but this player by dogged resistance interspersed by some spirited striking kept up the hopes of Kobe for some time—of course they did not expect a win, but a drawn game was quite on the cards for a long while. It was merely a tale of careful play now to the end, Kobe's batsmen giving no chances and being content with a run now and again. Slowly they worked their way up to the half century, though changes of bowlers took place. Stephens made one or two 3's and a capital 4 to the ladies' tent. Ten minutes afterwards he drove another ball to the on boundary, and then another. He followed these with two threes, and Kenyon's substitute—Kenyon was lame—had a narrow squeak to get home for one of them. Stephens was finally caught by Dickinson in long slip—six for 69—and received an ovation as he returned. Lias, the next man, was caught by Crawford off the first ball—seven for 69—and Braess was caught and bowled at the fourth ball of his first over—eight for 69. Twenty minutes of play still remained when Head took his place. Kenyon was very soon afterwards caught by Morris in the slips—nine for 69, and Kobe began to get ready for receiving a crushing defeat. Gibbons was their last man. Head opened with a 4 to the off boundary and repeated with 4 to the on; then Gibbons was bowled by Edwards and all was over; except the cheering, which was lustily given by both teams, Yokohama leading off. Stumps were drawn at 4.35 p.m. Scores and analysis:—

YOKOHAMA.
1ST INNINGS.
Mr. F. E. White, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens 10
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Gibbons, b. Pakenham 4
Mr. E. W. Tate, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens 10
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Pakenham 4
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Braess, b. Pakenham 1
Mr. E. R. Morris, thrown out, b. E. B. S. Edwards 4
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Pakenham 1
Mr. G. W. B. Watson, c. Kenyon, b. Pakenham 1
Mr. R. de H. Layard, c. Lias, b. Pakenham 1
Mr. H. S. Burn, not out 41
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Melhuish, b. Edwards 4
b. 23, l.b. 4 7

YOKOHAMA.

1ST INNINGS.

Mr. F. E. White, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens	10
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Gibbons, b. Pakenham	4
Mr. E. W. Tate, c. Pakenham, b. Stephens	10
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Pakenham	4
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Braess, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. E. R. Morris, thrown out, b. E. B. S. Edwards	4
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. G. W. B. Watson, c. Kenyon, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. R. de H. Layard, c. Lias, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. H. S. Burn, not out	41
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Melhuish, b. Edwards	4
b. 23, l.b. 4	7

KOBE.

1ST INNINGS.

Mr. J. Marshall, l.b.w., b. W. D. S. Edwards	0
Mr. W. H. Mackintosh, l.b.w. b. Burn	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, bowled Edwards	29
Mr. C. E. Stephens, b. Burn	3
Mr. C. J. Melhuish, c. Edwards	0
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, c. Watson, b. Burn	3
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, c. Crawford, b. Burn	2
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. and b. Edwards	0
Mr. R. T. Head, c. and b. Edwards	0
Mr. G. Braess, bowled Edwards	0
Mr. C. Gibbons, not out	1
l.b. 4	4

21

43

2ND INNINGS.

2ND INNINGS.

Mr. E. W. Tate, b. Stephens	10
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Head, b. Mackintosh	7
Mr. F. E. White, b. Lias	7
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Braess	17
Mr. C. M. Duff, c. Braess, b. Stephens	33
Mr. E. R. Morris, b. Mackintosh	3
Mr. H. R. Mair, not out	6
Mr. G. W. B. Watson, not out	0
Mr. H. S. Burn, not out	0
Mr. R. de Layard, not out	0
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, bat	14
b. 7, l.b. 4, w. 3	14

2ND INNINGS.

2ND INNINGS.

Mr. J. Marshall, c. White, b. W. D. S. Edwards	0
Mr. W. H. Mackintosh, c. Burn, b. Edwards	6
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, thrown out	4
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, b. Burn	3
Mr. C. E. Stephens, c. Dickinson, b. Tate	33
Mr. G. J. Melhuish, b. Burn	6
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, c. Morris, b. Tate	15
Mr. F. J. Lias, c. Crawford, b. Tate	0
Mr. R. T. Head, not out	0
Mr. C. Gibbons, b. Edwards	8
Mr. G. Braess, c. and b. Tate	0
b. 1, l.b. 2	3

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

YOKOHAMA 1ST INNINGS.

Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
Mr. Stephens	70	22	5	—
Mr. Pakenham	100	14	12	—
Mr. Braess	26	18	1	—
Mr. Lias	15	8	—	—
Mr. Edwards, E.B.S.	19	11	7	—

KOBE 1ST INNINGS.

Mr. Edwards, W.D.S.	36	28	4	7
Mr. H. S. Burn	55	0	8	3
Mr. E. W. Tate	5	2	—	—

YOKOHAMA, 2ND INNINGS.

Mr. Stephens	85	38	3	5
Mr. Pakenham	75	19	7	—
Mr. Edwards, E.B.S.	65	0	3	—
Mr. Lias	35	23	—	—
Mr. Braess	40	21	—	—
Mr. Mackintosh	60	34	3	—
Mr. Marshall	49	16	1	—

KOBE, 2ND INNINGS.

Mr. Edwards	07	20	0	3
Mr. Burn	80	29	0	—
Mr. Tate	35	0	1	—
Mr. Watson	25	12	1	—

COLUMBUS COMMEMORATION.

By a happy coincidence in dates the Yokohama Literary Society were enabled to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the landing of Columbus in America, and hold their first evening of the present session, at one and the same time. Van Schaick Hall has seldom seen a larger assembly of the Society than that which gathered on Friday evening, and the zest which characterized the whole proceedings should be a happy augury of a bright and successful winter. The popular president, Mr. J. Griffin, was the informal chairman, and in his able hands everything was kept going with pleasing rapidity. The opening overture was a piano duet, Figaro's "Hochzeit" by Mr. and Miss Griffin. Dr. Thwing, the orator of the evening, who followed, received an ovation at the close of the president's introduction, and his address was evidently anticipated with great interest. After a few prefatory sentences:—

Professor Thwing said:—The progress of human civilization is marked by a steady convergence of historic forces. Its advance is dependent upon a confluence of diverse elements mingling into a common life. On the divine side, of course, there is but one, distinct, undivided energy, but on the human, these formative influences are varied and multitudinous. It would be easy to demonstrate this by a review of the race from the

start, but we need not go beyond the period of modern history. The dim allusions of Roman and Hellenic scholars to some unknown continent, the exploration of Icelanders and Norsemen in the 11th century and of discoveries early in the 15th, all illustrate the steady evolution of germinal forces, the gradual approach and unification of ideas that had received their primitive impulse from ages before. For instance, Columbus was an Italian although afterward naturalized in Portugal and later still the agent of the Castilian court. Toscanelli, also, was an Italian, the learned Florentine cosmographer who fanned the flame in the adventurous breast of Columbus as they talked over together the mystery of the Western seas. Here we stand at a point above the confluence of the Latin and Germanic races. We see, do we not? in Columbus and other Italians of his day something of the old bold, spirit of Roman thought and culture, such as not only dominated the earth in the days of her imperial sway when mistress of the earth, but which shone with lustre in Italian universities like Padua and Bologna two centuries and more before Columbus lived. Was he not an inheritor, were not Toscanelli and others of that race inheritors of some part of the fecundity, breadth and power that were embodied in the art, philosophy and jurisprudence of Italy in her palmy days? Before Oxford and Cambridge were founded 10,000 students gathered at the University of Bologna where wise men and gifted women taught as professors in mathematics, astronomy, theology, the highest departments of thought. Her artists and sculptors wrought, not only with grace, but with holy enthusiasm and vigorous purpose. Angelo has been called the Columbus of architecture. His fearless originality and independence inspired men. He dared to change in art, what Columbus did in commerce, and blot out the first word of the old legend "*ne plus ultra*." There was more beyond and he meant to find it. It was not the traditional history of medieval navigators, alone, that gave Columbus his confidence, nor the theories of other men, but his own conviction of the fact of a physical equilibrium. The rejection of his application to the Genoese Senate and that of the conference of astronomers at Salamanca did not overthrow his faith and courage. Migratory birds, it is said, keep high in air, and require a wind that blows against them, to make progress. It both raises and sustains them. So with obstacles to a soaring soul. *Quantum sumus agimus*. Columbus was an inheritor, and to some extent a representative, of those ethnological elements which inhere in the Latin races. But God did not intend that the civilisation of America should be shaped by them alone. Trivial circumstances turn a stream when it has gathered momentum. The flight of parrots, we are told, convinced Alonzo Pizarro that a southwest course was the wiser one for the little fleet to take, in that autumnal voyage of 1492. He finally persuaded Columbus to follow his idea, instead of a course that would have brought them to a point midway on the Atlantic coast. The settlement of the Latin race at this point would probably have given the American continent to the permanent domination of the Papal Church. But the historic forces represented in the Germanic races were soon to make themselves felt. In the onward march of empire, in the populating of a continent which was to double the people of the globe, other germinal influences were to be marshalled. It is needless to review at this time, the characteristics, natural and acquired, of that people—"the sifted wheat of three kingdoms,"—whose noble life gave colour and direction to American colonisation and has to this day made the land we call our own what it is. Lord Macaulay once remarked that the men of the 17th century had little cause to deride the Puritans they encountered, either in the hall of debate, or on the field of battle. They were, he said, "Wise, honest useful, brave; the most remarkable body of men the world ever produced." The influence of the Anglo Saxon race is now the dominant factor in the world's history. The most instructive, the most amazing fact in that history, Mr. Stead has well observed, is "the Englishing of the world" to-day. Whether you turn to philology or finance, law or commerce, to secular or religious activities, this ethnographical fact must stand unchallenged. If you wish to see its possible bearings on the civilisation of the Orient for the 20th century, my last work, *Ex Oriente* may prove a suggestive aid to your study. A recent work by Professor Ono of Doshisha University on the "Industrial Transition of Japan" is also valuable, not only for what it says but for what it hints, as to the results of the sudden impact of Western thought on Oriental stagnation and traditional routine. The Columbus of these shores was Commodore Perry. When he sailed into these waters, a generation ago, Japan sailed into modern history. This nation has been born

again, as it were, in a day. It has before it, I believe, an illustrious future. With a civilisation, distinctively Japanese, as well as Oriental, it will avail itself of what is excellent in Western nations. It has passed from the period of feudalism to that of democracy, and it must see, for example, the absolute interdependence of agriculture and manufacture, and the ennobling of both in popular esteem, now that the domination of privileged classes has ceased. To maintain the enlarged functions of modern government, with its increasing pecuniary demands, it must introduce progressive reforms in tariff, taxation, rural economy and in the legal relationship of tenant and land owner. As new relationships of capital and labour are growing up there will be industrial classes and there must be a revision of the code of industrial ethics. Japan is dropping off her insular life and will, without divesting herself of her national individuality, keep step with the other political powers of the world. All this is but saying that modern civilization reveals a confluence of historic forces and therefore a tendency to a harmonious social organism the world over. As the opening of the New World and its colonisation revealed this ethnographic fact, so the re-opening of the East, the Renaissance of the Orient, will repeat the same. We are one. The old phrase "as far as the East is from the West" has lost its physical significance in this age of steam and of telegraphy, when Yokohama and New York are brought within fifteen days of each other. It will soon lose its moral meaning as expressive of irreconcilable and antagonistic national differences. In the parliament of nations represented at the Columbian Exposition, these coming months, the friendly intercourse of peoples of all latitudes and longitudes and languages, of every colour, creed and clan—as never before, on such a scale—is a vivid picture of the unity of the race in its essential and ineradicable features. The prospect I present may appear utopian to many. So did that before the vision of Columbus. For twenty years he tried to convince an unbelieving world of the reality of what seemed to it to be visionary. But wisdom is justified of her children. *Exitus acta probat*. This prophetic aphorism, worthy of a sybil, Washington took as the motto of his heraldic insignia, a raven with stars and stripes, probably the origin of our national emblems, the eagle and the flag. The results, both in the case of Washington and Columbus triumphantly vindicated their wisdom. So will the movements of history in coming years reveal the gradual unification of the race through the regenerative influences already in active development. One more fact is noticeable, these historic forces we have considered often embody themselves in individual lives. Institutions themselves are but the shadows of individual men, as Emerson says. The world waited for Columbus whose life was a pivotal period. As Mahomet gave the world Mahometanism, so Luther founded Lutheranism and Calvin, Calvinism. So with a score of others who are representative of great ideas, centres of confluent streams, flowing down the centuries of time. The practical lesson, then, in closing, is the exaltation of our ideal of true manhood and citizenship. The world has passed out of the patriarchal period where the family was the unit, out of the days of feudalism when the will of some haughty baron or mighty daimyo was law to the people; it is not friendly to the notion of a paternal government, the head of which says "I alone am the State, my will is law," nor will it accept as an ideal condition that of Oriental communism, where the individual man counts for naught. As Oriental thought centres in self abasement, Occidental life exalts man and teaches self respect, intensifies personal obligation to one's own conscience, to his country and to his Creator; where the son of a wool comber may aspire to the most commanding position among the thinkers of his age. Dr. Thwing admitted the peril of a too intense individualism. But he said, while there is a delusive optimism that ignores the evil, there may be a petulant pessimism which ignores that God is at the helm of State. He who guided the little fleet across the sea 400 years ago, and that other fleet to Plymouth and Jamestown, will guard our country.

"Till the waves of the bay where the Mayflower lay,
Shall foam and frettle no more."

—Meanwhile, let us consecrate ourselves anew to the noblest interests of a country which has had a history of such romantic interest and has a future of such inspiring promise.

The speaker resumed his seat amid loud applause. The best thanks of the Society were heartily accorded him, on the motion of the president, and he suitably replied. The third number was a song, with violin obligato, "Eldorado, Mrs. Borthwick; violin, Miss Moss; piano, Miss Moulton. It was sweetly given and warmly applauded. The Rev.

E. S. Booth gave a short poetical reading and Miss Moulton closed the first part of the programme with a pianoforte solo, "Promenade à Châtelard" (Franz Bendal). The interval was spent in social intercourse. Dr. Russell (organ) and Mr. Griffin (piano) led off the second part with an intermezzo from "la Cavallera Rusticana," a piece, we think, quite new to Yokohama audiences. It proved a splendid success; we hope to hear it again soon, and, if possible, with violin obligato, without which half its exquisite beauty is lost. The reading by Mrs. Rice was in that accomplished elocutionist's best style; scarcely less taking was an aria from "La Favourite" (Donizetti). At the request of the president, Mr. W. D. Tillotson, U.S. Consul-General, then addressed a few words to the gathering. He had come totally unprepared with a speech, he said, [but his brief address was a model of what such things should be. He explained why he had not taken a prominent or any leading part in organizing a Columbus celebration. Columbus's discovery of America was an event in which the whole world, and not the United States alone, participated. The benefits which accrued by the opening up of the New World were shared by nearly every nationality in Europe and Asia, therefore the whole of the foreign community of Yokohama should have celebrated the four hundredth anniversary of the old sea captain's famous exploit. He then went on to describe the reinvigorating influence which the New World had had upon the Old and the mighty future which lay before it. Mr. Tillotson's remarks were received with acclamation, especially by the Canadians present. The President well voiced the feeling of the society when, in thanking the U.S. Consul-General, he said he hoped that it would not be long before that gentleman again appeared among them and gave another address. Dr. Meacham in introducing his reading, a paper of Mr. Balch's upon the proper day on which the anniversary should be celebrated, put an original conundrum before his hearers: Who had been the Irishman's best friend? The inference was obvious, and the roar of appreciative laughter which followed, drowned the voice of the gentleman who, looking at the question politically, called out the name of a prominent statesman of England; at which the Canadians broke out afresh, in order perhaps, to drive home the proper answer, Tennyson's, "Break, break, break," which has a peculiarly mournful significance just now, was sung by Dr. Russell in the style which he has made peculiarly his own—its deep pathos receiving delicate expression. The closing chorus was "Hail Columbia," taken by the whole audience, a party of American ladies leading the solo parts.

NOTES ON THE POETS OF THE VICTORIAN ERA,

WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO ALFRED TENNYSON.

BY MAURICE EDEN PAUL.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ENGLISH LITERARY ASSOCIATION OF THE SECOND HIGHER MIDDLE SCHOOL, SENDAI.

GENTLEMEN,—I must begin by thanking you for the honour you have conferred on me by asking me to deliver this address to your society, and by explaining to you on what grounds I have selected the above subject. Last Sunday we received the news of the death of Alfred Tennyson, one of the great poets of the Victorian era. It seemed to me that the meeting so soon to be held would be a fitting occasion on which to offer you a few reflections on the life and works of this poet, and to make some passing references to the work of his chief contemporaries. The hope that among my audience in this country, so far removed both in space and customs from the land of Tennyson, there may yet be many who read and appreciate his work, encourages me to make this humble tribute to the memory of a man whose poems I greatly admire. I will first give you a few particulars of his life; shortly, for it is with his work that we are chiefly concerned. Alfred Tennyson was born in 1809, and studied at the University of Cambridge. Since his first publication of importance was in 1830, the correctness of speaking of him as a poet of the Victorian era might be called in question; but it was not until several years after the accession of our present Queen that his work became at all widely known, and his tenure of the laureateship for forty-two years during her reign fully justifies us in speaking of him as a Victorian poet. Tennyson's predecessor in the office of poet laureate was Wordsworth, and the fame of these two great poets has raised the public valuation of the office which they held, so that it is with regret that, on looking for a possible successor to Tennyson among our poets, we see no one likely to sustain the now high traditions of the office. Here a digression may be pardoned, to explain the

meaning of the term "laureate." *Laureatus* is a Latin word, signifying "crowned with laurel." The laurel crown was given by the Romans as a mark of great distinction. In the early days of the republic it was given only to conquerors or other great heroes, but in later times it came to be given as a reward of literary excellence, so that, it is said, the poets Virgil and Horace were crowned with laurel wreaths in the Roman Capitol. The dignity of poet laureate was granted in the fourteenth century to the Italian poet Petrarch, and subsequently the custom arose in England, in the fifteenth century, of distinguishing with the laurel crown a poet who was retained as an officer of the King's household, and wrote poems on the king's birthday and other suitable occasions. Now, of course, the distinction of poet laureate is supposed to be conferred on the greatest living English poet; but the gift remains in the hands of Royalty.

During the long time for which Tennyson was poet laureate he published many poems commemorating public events of importance, such as are expected of those who hold this office; but beautiful as some of these poems are, they have an ineffaceable stamp of being "written to order." It is less for the work he has done as poet laureate that Tennyson will be remembered, than for the spontaneous productions of his music which, in melody, in purity of diction, and in tenderness of thought are hardly to be surpassed. There is an invidious desire among imperfectly educated persons to classify artists in order of precedence. One maintains that Browning is the greatest poet of the century, another insists on the claims of Wordsworth, another on those of Tennyson. Now accurate classification, which is the foundation of exact thought, is sometimes out of place when it intrudes itself into the realm of art. Why should we arrange our poets in order of merit, as we do school-boys in a class? In one poet we find intensely dramatic representations of human aspiration and human suffering, in another melody and tenderness are predominant; the poems of another are wild yet entrancing expressions of the revolutionary spirit of the age. But if in all alike we find that power which lifts us out of the weary commonplace which makes up so much of our daily life into higher regions of thought and feeling—it is enough, we are moving in a sphere in which we have lost standards of measurement, and we cannot tell, should not even enquire, who has lifted us highest. We know all that we need, that the man who has so lifted us is a great poet, and that our race owes him the reverence and affection which are his greatest reward. There is, however, none of this invidiousness in just literary criticism, in an endeavour to discover as far as may be the secret of any particular man's poetical power. Thoroughly to understand his secret is, indeed, beyond the range of our analysis; the very poet himself perhaps knows as little the secret of his higher work as do the lesser men who read it. When we ask what men of those who in the Victorian Era have published verses are entitled to be called poets, our test of a poet being the above described power of producing a peculiar spiritual elevation in his readers, we find that our list need not be a long one. Excluding those whose claim rests only on one or two poems far in advance of the rest of their work, the names that rise to our minds are those of Tennyson, Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Clough, Swinburne, William Morris, Matthew Arnold, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Of these William Morris and Swinburne are alone left to us; both are revolutionary poets. Swinburne sings the glories of the mental revolt by which man has been freed from the dominion of traditional ideas. In one of his most magnificent bursts of enthusiasm he writes: "Glorious Man in the highest, for Man is the master of things." William Morris, who began by describing himself as—

Dreamer of dreams, born out of my due time,
Why should I strive to set the crooked straight?
The idle singer of an empty day

has now found his vocation in the van of those whose faith is in a new social synthesis, to bring relief to suffering man. Either of these two men would, as far as poetic power is concerned, worthily succeed to the laureateship; but theirs is not the part to run in golden chains, and it is hardly conceivable that either would accept the office, in the highly improbable event of its being offered. Clough and Matthew Arnold are both poets in whom we cannot but recognise the fruits of the old system of classical education, with its inbred reverence for the models of antiquity. Their work is sober and sweet. In the poems of Rossetti, the poet-painter, we find work modelled, not upon the classic authors, but upon the Italian poets of the Renaissance; work full of beauty to us who may almost call ourselves his contemporaries, but not, I fear, likely to live in future ages. Much of the work of Elizabeth Barrett Browning is marred by

its permeation with the ideas of a narrow, though sincere and tender, religious creed. Her best work is, however, free from this fault, and in particular her great poem "Aurora Leigh," of which we shall say a few words later. There remain for mention those poets whose fame has been widest, and whose memory is most likely to endure; the two men who wrote almost continuously through long lives, and died within a year or two of each other, Tennyson and Browning. The latter was in my mind when I spoke of "intensely dramatic representation of human aspiration and human suffering." Time will not allow me to dwell on the characteristics of his work, but I shall have occasion to allude to it here and there, to illustrate the peculiar differences between it and that of Tennyson, which we will now proceed to discuss. Let us first briefly examine, and as briefly dismiss, Tennyson's claims to reputation as a dramatist. He has published several plays, and we must therefore suppose that he wished to excel in this branch of literature. I have indeed heard it was said that the laureate regarded his plays as his finest works. If this were really so, it is I think a striking instance of how deficient in critical power as regards their own compositions great artists often are. Had Tennyson's publications been limited to these plays, he would have remained entirely unknown. As it was, however, his fame led to some of them being put on the stage, where they were almost universally condemned as failures; a condemnation only to be echoed by those who read them in their own libraries. In his dramatic incapacity Tennyson stands in striking contrast to Browning, whose plays are among the finest of his works. Browning indeed, like Tennyson, is not a successful dramatist in the sense that his works make good acting plays; but suitability for reproduction cannot be accepted as the sole test of dramatic merit; many plays which, on the stage, seem long-drawn-out and wanting in that active movement which fixes the interest of the audience, thrill with the truest dramatic force during intramental reproduction by a careful and sympathetic reader, or when read aloud to a sufficiently small audience. Judged by these standards we find that "The Blot on the Scutcheon" and "Pippa Passes" by Browning are among the great plays of all ages, whilst "The Cup" and "The Promise of May" by Tennyson are not worth the paper on which they are written. Let us now turn to examine the works on which the fame of Tennyson really rests, the "Poetical Works." He published several volumes of shorter poems at intervals during sixty years, and longer poems at the following dates: "The Princess" in 1847; "In Memoriam" (issued anonymously) in 1850; "Maud" in 1855; "The Idylls of the King" in 1858; "Enoch Arden" in 1869. Some will base their admiration of Tennyson on the shorter poems, some of the longer. I cannot agree that any such distinction need be made, for I think that his peculiar beauties are shown in poems of both these classes, whilst, on the other hand some both of his long and of his short poems are tedious and trivial. In "The Princess," the first of his longer poems, Tennyson describes the result of an attempt on the part of a king's daughter and her attendant maidens to bring into existence the Kingdom of Women. The attempt failed, as must, alas, all attempts, however grandly conceived, which follow man's method of revolution, not nature's of evolution. And yet such ignoble failures are often of more worth in the world than ignoble successes, for, as has been well written by one of the foremost of living psychologists, "The utopian ideas of one age become often the commonplace ideas of a succeeding age." Scattered through "The Princess" you will find some of the most exquisite of Tennyson's short poems, songs which have been set to music, and are sung all over the English-speaking world. Here I may fittingly say a few words about Elizabeth Barrett Browning's great poem "Aurora Leigh." Whereas Tennyson's "Princess" describes the revolt of a high-spirited woman against the laws of nature, "Aurora Leigh" is the picture of the life of a woman who revolts against the cramping conditions which, in the form of laws and social habits, confine the activities and hinder the development of her sex. Few men are able to understand the clear distinction between these two types of revolt. Most men, and for that matter most women too, regard all women who strive, in whatever fashion, after a fuller and nobler life, as "unsexed," as in revolt against the laws of nature, whereas they are in fact merely in conflict with the customs of man. In "Aurora Leigh" is recognized the great truth, that in the relations between men and women as they obtain at present, is infringed the first principle of social justice, that every human being is to be treated as an end in himself, never as a mere means to the ends of others. It was the recognition of this principle which led to the aboli-

tion of slavery, where the infringement of the principle was clear and unmistakable. Adhesion to the same principle is at the root of the earnest attempts now being made by many for the abolition of the individualistic system of capitalistic industry, which has created a proletariat class whose lot is in some respects worse than was that of the slave class, and whose members are too often regarded as mere means of producing wealth for others. The further application of this principle in social life will be one of the main factors in producing an entire change in the relations between men and women. When that change comes, or rather is completed, for it has already begun; when one half of the human race, which through the ages of human evolution has had the trammels of human contrivance added to the disabilities of sex imposed by nature, is allowed opportunities for complete moral, intellectual, and physical development; then there will probably come a greater change over the human race than the mind of man can as yet conceive. "In Memoriam" contains a series of elegies of Tennyson's grief at the death of his college friend, Arthur Hallam. These sweet, sad echoes of human sorrow and human hope have been to many a "help in time of trouble." Many, even who think "Tennyson's living faith in—

One far off divine event,
To which the whole creation moves
vain and unsubstantial, gladly share with him the sympathy of perfect sorrow in time of bereavement so beautifully expressed in this poem. Perhaps we best realise Tennyson's poetic power when we read "Maud; A Monodrama." A monodrama is a dramatic poem in which the story is told by the report of the thoughts and actions of the hero in his own words. "Maud" describes, in successive bursts of pure and liquid verse, the hero's rapid transition from indifference, through interest, to the most full and exulting love for Maud, when suddenly his hopes are shattered because, in duel which has been forced on him, he kills the brother of the woman he loves. Maud comes on the scene of the duel as her brother lies dying, killed by her lover. In his misery he becomes insane, but after a time recovers, and the closing stanzas describe his return to that eager activity in pursuit of high aims which is the best balm for sorrow. Time will not permit me to dwell on the story of Enoch Arden, who returns to his native village after an absence of many years, to find that his wife, believing him to be dead, had married his old friend and her old lover Philip Ray; and I pass to the consideration of Tennyson's longest work, the series of poems called "The Idylls of the King." Herein Tennyson retells the often told stories of the Court of King Arthur, the legendary king of the Celts during the time of the invasion of Britain by the Saxons, with whom Arthur is said to have fought twelve battles. The origin of the literature of this subject, which is as abundant as the underlying fact is scanty, was in the traditions of the Welsh and the Bretons, who sedulously preserved these memories of the period during which their forefathers were being driven out, exterminated, and absorbed by the Saxon invaders. These traditions have the same historic value, and share the rugged beauty, of the Homeric legends concerning the siege of Troy. The "Idylls" describe the various adventures of Arthur and the knights of his Round Table, who were banded together to right all wrongs. Arthur's ideal knight was one—

Who revered his conscience as his king;
Whose glory was redressing human wrong;
Who spoke no slander, no nor listened to it;

and Arthur himself, the blameless king, fulfilled in his life his own ideal, but naturally failed to find many followers in this high path. We are told of the great wizard, Merlin, whose power could be overcome by a spell known to himself alone. Vivien, a light woman of the Court, by ceaseless importunities, persuades him to tell her the charm, and at once uses it for the destruction of the great Merlin, who sleeps for ever in a hollow oak-tree. Those of you that are familiar with Hebrew mythology will not fail to recognize the resemblance of this story to that of Samson and Delilah. Here we have a good instance of the similar workings of the minds of nations in their infancy. You must read for yourselves the gradual failure of Arthur's plans for the regeneration of Britain; of the moral decay at his Court, and its chief cause, the love of his queen, Guinevere, for his friend and best knight, Lancelot, whom Guinevere had met and loved before she ever knew Arthur; of the flight of Guinevere to a convent, at which Arthur finds her, and makes her a farewell speech from which she learns to recognise, too late, that Arthur, whose

Pure severity of perfect light
had hitherto always seemed to chill and repel her, is Original when compared with Lancelot,
The highest and most human too.

The last of the "Idylls tells us of "The Passing of Arthur." In a battle against some of his own traitorous knights Arthur is sorely wounded, and is carried away from the sea-shore in a mysterious dusky barge to "The Island Valley of Avilion." According to tradition he is not dead, but will one day come back again "full twice as fair," to rule his people. This belief that certain great heroes will one day return from the shades is another of those fancies common in their infancy. I have left myself but little time speak of Tennyson's shorter poems. Those of his earlier years are full of the vigorous enthusiasm of youth, whilst the later ones often breathe the disillusionment of age; and to those who do not share his creed, seem often marred by his increasing intensity of religious conviction. But in considering this change of tone, we must remember that at the time when Tennyson's earlier poems were written there was an enthusiasm for progress pervading many minds; and in the work of many authors between 1830 and 1850 we find the half-expressed, or even the out-spoken, belief that the millennium is at hand. As the century has grown old, we have grown cold, and we no longer regard the future with such unmixed enthusiasm. This does not of course imply an abandonment of faith in progress. He is a blind man indeed who fails to recognize the general growth of the sentiment of brotherhood and the genuine desire felt by many to ameliorate the average human lot. And he is the true infidel, the man faithless to his followers, who fails to see that his supreme duty in life is strenuously to strive to leave the world better than he found it. I may fittingly close this paper by reading to you two poems, one by Browning, the other by Tennyson. Both are on the same subject, on the death which both these old poets felt must be near at hand. They admirably illustrate the different temperaments of the two men, both of whom had a profound faith in a future life. Notice the vigorous spirit, that of a warrior, in which Browning thinks of meeting death:—

EPILOGUE.

At the midnight in the silence of the sleep-time,

When you set your fancies free,
Will they pass to where by death, fools think, imprisoned
Low he lies who once so loved you, whom you loved so,
Pity me?

Oh to love so, be so loved, yet so mistake!

What had I on earth to do
With the slothful, with the mawkish, the unmanly?
Like the aimless, helpless, hopeless, did I drive
Being who?

One who never turned his back but marched breast forward,
Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong would
triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake.

No, at noonday in the bustle of man's work-time
Greet the unseen with a cheer!
Bid him forward, breast and back as either should be,
"Strive and thrive!" cry "Speed, right on, far ever
There as here!"

On the other hand, in the following poem, Tennyson, thinking of his approaching end with great calm, prays for a quiet crossing of the bar:—

CROSSING THE BAR.

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.
Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;
For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

CHESS.

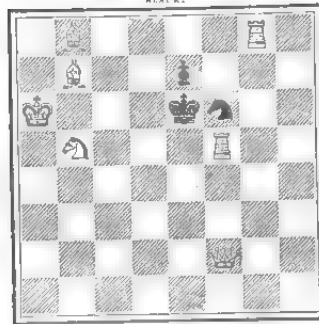
(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 40.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to Q R 4 1—R x Kt
2—B to B 3 2—R x R
3—Q to R sq. (mate)
if 2—Any other move of R
3—Q mates at R 2 (or Kt 3)
1—R to Kt 8, K B 8,
K 8, Q 8, or Q B 8
2—B to Kt 7, B 6, K 5,
Q 4, or B 3 (accordingly),
and
3—Q mates as before.

Correct solutions received from Scacchi, Omicron, J.D., Omega, and W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 42.
BY AURELIO ABELA.

White to play and mate in two moves.

It was suggested a short time ago that an effort might be made to form a Chess Club in Tokyo, but we fear the distances which separate the residences of foreigners there would prove an insurmountable obstacle to the formation, or, at any rate, the success of such an institution. In the late seventies a Chess Circle held meetings in what afterwards became the well-known restaurant, Bandai-kan, near Meganebashi, but beyond a few German players who assembled for other social purposes as well, the place was little patronised. There are, we believe, numerous players in the capital, who are not members of the Tokyo Club, and who might gladly join a Chess Club under favourable conditions. All experience, however, goes to show that it is hopeless to expect that a single object like chess can be sufficient to bring men together in that city of "magnificent distances." The effort is likely to be "made, however, for unless Tokyo has some organization to represent it, there is no possibility of its issuing and accepting interport challenges without disagreeable friction and misunderstanding.

A large number of members assembled to inaugurate the opening of the new Club Rooms on Monday, the 24th instant. Mr. James Marshall of Kobe was the guest of the evening, and, in a few encounters, fully maintained the high reputation he achieved in the West of Scotland. It is just possible Kobe might recover at chess the laurels she has lost at cricket!

The following fine game was played by correspondence between M. Norlin and Herr Berger. Both players are eminent problemists, and this probably accounts for White seeing through and evading Black's brilliant conception, given in note "a." We are indebted to the *Standard* for the notes.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. BLACK.
1 M. Norlin. Herr Berger.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5 3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles. 4—Kt x P
5—P to Q 4 5—P to Q R 3 (a)
6—B to Q 3 (b) 6—P to Q 4
7—P to B 4 (c) 7—B to Kt 5
8—B P x P 8—Q x P
9—R to K 9—P to B 4
10—B x Kt 10—P x B
11—Kt to B 3 11—Q to Q 2
12—R x P 12—Castles.
13—B to Kt 5 13—B x Kt
14—Q x B (d) 14—Kt x P
15—Q to K 3 15—R to K
16—R x P 16—B to Q 3
17—R x R ch (e) 17—R x R
18—Kt to K 4 (f) 18—K to Kt
19—R to K 19—K to R (g)
20—Q to Q 3 20—Kt to B 4
21—P to K Kt 3 (h) 21—Q to B 2
22—K to Kt 2 22—Q to Kt 3
23—P to B 3 23—R to K B
24—R to Q 24—P to K R 3
25—Kt x B 25—P x Kt
26—B to B 4 26—Q to B 3
27—B to B 27—P to K Kt 4
28—P to Q Kt 4 (i) 28—Q to K 3
29—P to Q R 3 29—Q to K
30—Q to K 4 30—Q to B
31—B to Q 31—Q to Q 2
32—Q to Q 5 32—Q to R 5
33—R to Q B (j) 33—Q x R P
34—R to B 7 34—Q x Kt P (k)
35—K to R 3 35—Q to Kt 8
36—K to Kt 4 36—Q to Kt 3
37—R to Q 7 37—Q to Q 5 ch

38—Q to K 4 38—Q to Kt 7
39—Q to Q 5 39—Q to Q 5 ch
40—Q to K 4 40—Q to R 4
41—B to R 5 (l) 41—P to Q 4!
42—Q to Kt 42—Q to Kt 4
43—Q to Kt 6 43—P to Q 5
44—R to R 3 44—Kt to K 6!
45—Q to B 5 (m) 45—R to B 4!
46—Q to K 7 (n) 46—R to K 4
47—Q to B 6 47—Q to Q 4
48—Q x R 48—Q x R ch
49—P to Kt 4 49—Q to Q 4
50—Q x Q 50—Kt x Q
51—K to Kt 3 51—P to Kt 4
52—K to B 2 52—P to Kt 5
53—K to K 2 53—Kt to Kt 2
54—K to Q 2 54—Kt to B 3
55—Resigns (o)

(a) Kt to Q 3 would be followed by 6—P x P, Kt x B; 7—P to Q R 4, P to Q 3; 8—P x Kt, Kt x P; 9—Kt x Kt, P x Kt; 10—Q to K 3, with a slight advantage for White.
(b) 6—B x Kt, Q P x B; 7—Q to K 2, B to K B 4, gives an even game.
(c) If 7—P x P, Black replies equally B to K Kt 6; 8—B x Kt, P x B; 9—Q x Q ch, R x Q; 10—Kt to Kt 6, Kt to Kt 5, in favour of Black.
(d) 14—P x B would be answered by B to Kt 6, leaving White with an inferior game.
(e) 17—R to K 4 seems preferable. Obviously Black could not reply Kt to B 7, because 18—Q to R 7, &c.
(f) It is quite obvious why White cannot capture the Knight.
(g) Had Black played Kt to B 7, the continuation would have been 20—Kt to B 5, Kt x Q; 21—Kt x Q ch, R to B; 22—Kt to Kt 6 ch, &c., emerging ultimately with the better game.
(h) Weakening. 21—B to B 4 should have been played.
(i) 28—P to Kt 4 seems more defensive. The Bishop might then have an outlet at Q 3.
(j) Too dangerous. The alternative would have been 33—B to B, Q to B 7 ch; 34—K to Kt (not Q) to Q 2, because of Kt to K 6 ch, R to Kt 3; 35—Q to Q 2, &c.
(k) The winning move, Black having now two passed pawns.
(l) White could have forced exchange of Rooks with 41—R to K B 7, R x R; 42—Q to K B ch, Q to Kt 4; 43—Q x R, which offered more chances.
(m) If 45—Q x P, Black would pin the Rook with Q to B, and so paralyse White's forces altogether. Evidently he could not move his B to Kt 6, because of K x P, mate.
(n) White does not fall into the deeply-hidden trap laid by Herr Berger in giving up the Queen's pawn. The combination is as pretty as a picture, &c. 46—K to R 4 (h) Kt to Kt 7 ch! 47—Q x P 48—Q to Q B! 49—K x P 50—K x P, R to Kt 4 mate.
(o) If 55—K to Q 3, then K to Kt 4; 56—B to Q 2, and then two Pawns win. White's Bishop is quite powerless.
Herr Berger played this difficult game with consummate skill.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL,"]

London, October 23.

The cholera has disappeared from Hamburg.
A Chinese Commission is expected at St. Petersburg to enter into negotiations for a treaty of commerce.

The Lambeth poisoner has been sentenced to death.

London, October 24th.

Parliament will meet on January 30th.

The cholera has appeared in Calais.

London, October 26th.

In consequence of pending differences between employers and mill-hands, in regard to wages, it is expected that 13,000,000 spindles will shortly cease to operate in Lancashire.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL,"]

Nagasaki, October 25th.

The Norwegian steamship *Normand*, from this port to Singapore with coals, was wrecked on the Pescadores in the recent typhoon. So far as is at present known, only two of her crew were saved.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMMERCIO")

Madrid, October 7th.

The Cholera is disappearing from Europe; in the Peninsula there is none.

In celebration of the fourth centenary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, a remission has been granted of one fourth of all the criminal sentences in the Spanish colonies.

The Royal party will sail to-night for Cadiz, where the foreign squadrons are waiting to escort them to Huelva.

October 12th.

The Centenary celebration commenced to-day, amid great enthusiasm.

Her Majesty the Queen (Regent) has conceded a general pardon to all prisoners in honour of the event.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 4th
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 31st.†
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Oct. 31st.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 28th.‡
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed. day, Nov. 2nd.
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 6th.
From Hongkong. per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 10th.

† Peru left San Francisco on October 15th. ‡ Empress of India left Vancouver on October 15th. † Ours (with French mail) left Shanghai on October 15th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Leaving*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 30th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 31st.
For Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Monday, Oct. 31st.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Nov. 4th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 6th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 10th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Nov. 11th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 19th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Fuyo, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 21st October, —Mojji, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 21st October, —Yokkaichi 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 21st October, —London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Rennie, 22nd October, —Kobe, 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 22nd October, —Shanghai and ports 13th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 23rd October, —Otaru via ports 19th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 23rd October, —Kobe 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 23rd October, —Kobe 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 23rd October, —Yokkaichi 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, G. W. F. Browne, 25th October, —London via ports 23rd October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.
Narwhal, British steam-chooner, 142, Flanders, 24th October, —North Pacific 5th October, Bone of 2 Whales.—Eastern Whaling Co., Limited.
Triumphante (12), French cruiser, Captain De la Noe, 24th October, —Nagasaki.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 24th October, —Yokkaichi 23rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 25th October, —Yokkaichi 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 25th October, —San Francisco 6th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 26th October, —Kobe 24th October, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.
Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Tsuge, 26th October, —Yokkaichi 25th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 26th October, —Otaru via ports 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 26th October, —Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.
Takago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 26th October, —Kobe 25th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 27th October, —Yokkaichi 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Phya Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 27th October, —Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 27th October, —Kobe 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 28th October, —Hongkong 22nd October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 28th October, —Kobe 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 28th October, —Mojji, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 28th October, —Yokkaichi 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 28th October, —Hakodate via ports 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 28th October, —Shanghai and ports 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 29th October, —Hakodate 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 21st October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Brown, 22nd October, —Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 22nd October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 22nd October, —San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Colonist, British steamer, 1,467, Marrs, 23rd October, —Sydney via Mojji, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Calidonten, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 23rd October, —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Alexandrine (18), German cruiser, Captain Von Frantz, 23rd October, —Hongkong via ports.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 23rd October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd October, —Mojji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 24th October, —Niigata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 23rd October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 24th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 25th October, —Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 25th October, —Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 25th October, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 25th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Ehlers, 25th October, —Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 26th October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 26th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 26th October, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 26th October, —Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Takago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 27th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, R. Pender, 28th October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 28th October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 28th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 29th October, —London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, Harrison, 29th October, —Guam, Ballast.—Captain.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, G. W. F. Browne, 29th October, —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. S. Sakaki and child, Mrs. Graham and child, Mrs. J. M. Jensen, Mr. J. L. Jensen, and Mr. H. Shimamura in cabin; Mr. C. B. Clausen in second class, and 25 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, from Hongkong, via ports:—Miss Lamb, Mr. C. H. Leaf, Surg. Major-General Thomson, Mrs. Thomson, Mr. O. Meyer, Mr. E. Littleton and servant, Miss A. J. Riley, Miss S. A. Brook, Mr. J. R. Crisp, Mr. L. D. Hilles, Mr. B. German, Mrs. de Beer, Mr. F. Rinkel, Mr. Frienstien, 4 Sisters and 2 nurses, Mr. and Mrs. A. Woolley, child and amah, Mr. F. J. Lias, and Mrs. Akai in cabin; and 1 Chinese passenger in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. J. E. Beale, Mr. Yokoyama Hikohe, and Mr. Azuma Yoichi, in cabin; 2 in second class, and 58 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Consul J. J. Enslie, R. T. Heas, F. Marshall, E. O. Ringon, T. Unazawa, C. H. Melhuish, W. Drummond, and K. Shikara, in cabin; 32 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—5 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from San Francisco:—Mrs. Crozier, Miss Crozier, Miss Brown, Miss Dushill and 2 children, Miss Palmer, Rev. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. H. E. Simon, and Mr. Crosse in cabin. For Hongkong: Rev. and Mrs. McClintock in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Uchida, Miss Jun, and Mr. Watanabe, in second class, 5 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—13 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Belshaw, Mr. E. Holloway, Mr. Lauterbach, Miss Lauterbach, and Mr. P. C. Poits in cabin. For San Francisco: Miss K. N. Fleeson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Hakodate via ports:—Mr. Y. Seki in second class and 23 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. Graham's 3 children, Captain Deliron, Mr. J. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, Miss Lincoln, Miss Carr, Dr. Moore Graham, Mr. T. L. Marshall, Dr. James Harris, Captain W. H. Forbes, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. F. G. Sale, General Nozaki, Mr. Kobatake, General Nozo, Mr. S. Kishi, Rev. W. W. Curtis, Mr. M. Kuwamoto, and Mr. T. J. Cowie in cabin; Mrs. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Quen Yunn and child, Messrs. Harriss, S. Chop Ching, P. W. Murray, Wm. Castellote, M. Yoshimura, and R. Jimjima in second class, and 97 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Captain Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. Atterbury and infant, Mr. P. Blumer, Professor Chartier, Mr. T. G. Denby, Mrs. Denby, Mrs. Douglas, Miss Emma Fife, Mr. Geo. Flood, Captain Furber, Mr. C. L. Goham, Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Hepburn, Mr. H. H. Hirsch, Captain and Mrs. R. D. Hitchcock, Miss Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. Alcaeus Hooper and three children, Messrs. H. M. Johnson, Conrad Jolas, John Logan, C. W. Mathews, J. Mendelson and son, John K. Mitchell, C. S. Nash, G. H. Ramsay, E. Reeps, Marquis Rudini, Mr. A. L. Rostow, Rev. I. A. Smith, and Mrs. Swain in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calidonten*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. C. F. Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. Piorkowski, Mr. T. E. Nesbitt, Lord Li and 5 servants, Mrs. H. G. Colby, Mr. and Miss Munster and servant, Mr. H. H. Sultzberger, Mr. Johnson, Miss E. Uyemura, Ms. and Mrs. Weinberger, Mr. Brugnot, Miss Ishii Matsu, Captain Gaynor, Mr. and Mrs. Simon, Mr. E. Shibuya, Miss Hamoto, Mr. Yonai, Mr. T. Shibuya, Mr. K. Saushimura, Mrs. Ch. Heltzel, Mr. Inoko Yoshito, Mr. M. Akiyama, Mr. S. Hijikata, and Mr. T. Hatano, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. W. Thompson, Miss Jamieson, Miss Cozad, Mrs. Botelho and 2 children, Dr. and Mrs. Mills and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Sale and 2 children, Mr. K. Ishiura, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Ball, Mr. Saville, Mr. C. E. Wigmore, Rev. F. R. Graves, Mr. Drew, Mr. R. Hope, Lieut. M. Takeida, Mr. Akahashi, and Mr. L. Calaca, in cabin; Mrs. Matsumura, Mr. and Mrs. T. Ishiura, Mrs. Y. Ishiura, and Mr. Botelho, in second class, and 60 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for Hongkong:—

Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Thwing, Miss M. C. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Fagg, Mr. W. J. Davison, Mr. Geo. Wolde, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. John Creaney, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. S. Burn, Mr. John J. Wallis, Mr. J. L. Stoddard, Mr. C. H. Hammett, Miss Viney and maid, Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, Mr. C. Gibbens, Mr. and Mrs. Ure, Mrs. Woodd, Miss Giffen, Miss L. Giffen, Mr. L. Prosperi, Mr. G. Hirscher, Mr. G. Melhuish, and Mr. M. Levy in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$200,000.00.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

T.B.A.			
SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	902	403	1,305
Hyogo	—	667	667
Yokohama	2,052	603	3,753
Hongkong	124	655	892
Total	3,078	1,661	6,617

S.I.K.			
SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	BARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	18	80	90
Hongkong	—	380	380
Yokohama	—	1,044	1,250
Total	10	1,504	206

Per French steamer *Calcedonien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 631 bales; for Switzerland 13 bales. Waste Silk for France, 364 bales. Treasure for London, \$12,200.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 242 bales; Waste Silk, 162 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 13th October at 3.40 p.m.; detained at Bar 3 days (no water). Left Woosung the 16th at 10 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 18th at 1 p.m. Left the same day at 8.30 p.m. arriving at Shimoda the 19th at 10 a.m. Left the same day at 3.40 p.m. arriving at Kobe the 20th at 1.30. Left again the 21st at 5 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 22nd October at 10.30 a.m. Experienced fresh N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Capt. Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 19th at 1 p.m.; dull and cloudy with heavy rain throughout the night. Arrived at Hakodate the 20th at 11 a.m. and left Hakodate the 21st at noon; light airs and dull cloudy weather to Oginohama. Arrived Oginohama the 22nd at 10.15 a.m. and left Oginohama the same day at 3 p.m.; similar weather to Yokohama. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Capt. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd at 1 p.m.; with moderate winds and overcast sky. After passing Oshima Light moderate N.E. winds and overcast; remaining so till arrival at Yokohama the 23rd at 7 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Capt. Tiple, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd at 4 a.m. and arrived at Shiotsu at 7.8 a.m.; left again 10 a.m.; passed Oshima the same day at 4.26 p.m.; Rock Island was passed the 23rd at 9.20 a.m. Arrived Yokohama the same day at 3.45 p.m.; had moderate northerly to N.E. wind, with fine and moderately clear weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Belgia*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 6th October and arrived at Yokohama the 25th October at 4.33 p.m. Passage, 18 days, 7 hours, and 17 minutes. Had moderate wind and sea throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Capt. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd October at 1 p.m.; with gentle breeze increasing to moderate and strong breezes towards midnight with squally weather; the 23rd at 12.45 a.m. passed Okushiri Light, thence to port gentle westerly breezes and fine weather. Arriving Hakodate at 9.45 a.m. and left the 24th at noon for Oginohama with gentle S.E. winds and fine weather at 4 p.m.; passed Shiriya-saki, thence to port gentle to moderate westerly winds and fine clear weather. Arriving the 25th at 11.25 a.m.; and left same day at 5 p.m., for Yokohama, with light variable airs increasing to moderate breeze from N.W. with fine clear weather; the 26th at 7.40 a.m. passed Inuboye similar weather at 2 p.m.; passed Nojima Light-house with fresh breeze from N.N.E. at 4.35 p.m.; passed Kanon-saki gentle breeze from N.E. and cloudy weather, arriving at Yokohama the 26th October at 6 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Capt. Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th Oct. at noon; passing Oshima at 9 p.m. and Rock Island the 26th at 1.35 p.m.; experienced fine clear weather with N. and N. westerly strong breeze with heavy sea to Omai-saki; thence to port moderate N.E. gale. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th October at 8.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tiple, reports:—Left Kobe the 26th October at 10 a.m. and arrived at Shiotsu at 1.25 p.m. Left again at 3.18 p.m. and passed Oshima at 9.35 p.m. the same day; Rock Island was passed at 2.25 p.m. on the 27th. Arrived at Yokohama at 8.45 p.m. the same day. Had moderate N.W. winds with clear weather to Oshima; thence to port fresh N.E. winds with high N.E. sea; weather continued fine and clear.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Left Hongkong the 22nd October; had light N.E. monsoon and fine clear weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Captain M. Matsumoto, reports:—Left Hakodate the 26th October at noon; had gentle westerly breeze, and fine weather with sea; and arrived at Oginohama the 27th at 11 a.m. Left again the same day at 2.10 p.m.; had moderate to gentle north-westerly breeze and fine weather; after passing Nushima Lighthouse at 11.31 a.m. on the 28th, moderate northerly breeze and overcast weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th October at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 22nd October at noon. Arrived at Nagasaki the 24th at 5 a.m. and left the same day. Arriving at Moji the following day at 6 a.m. leaving again for Kobe at 11 a.m. Arriving there on the 26th at 7 a.m. and left Kobe the 27th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th October at 4 p.m. Experienced moderate to strong northerly winds and fine, cloudy weather to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe had fresh N.E. winds and fine, clear weather, fresh head winds were met along the coast with fine, cloudy weather to Yokohama.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Demand for Yarns has fallen off to some extent and present quotations might be shaded. In Shirtings, 8½lb. have shown some improvement in prices, and, with gln., are held firm. More inquiry for Turkey Reds, Velvet, and T.-Cloths. Woollens are slow of sale at the moment, but a better feeling is looked for soon.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.55 to 2.22
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.65
I. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.62½ to 0.77½
Taffetae, 12 yards, 42 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.37½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.32½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
	1.92½ to 2.07½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.27½ to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 26
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Courron	0.17½ to 23
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—President, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.57½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 11 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 36/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.00 to 34.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
	PER POUND.
No. 20s, Bombay	60.00 to 75.00
No. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 10/16, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Some business noted in Bars and Wire Nails at full rates; in other sorts very little done.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$1.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

No arrivals to note; prices maintained, but sales small.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devon	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.85 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Quotations for Brown and White Java and Penang sugars are reduced to-day 15 to 35 cents, the demand having subsided for the moment. The unsold stock of Brown on hand is reported at only 6,500 piculs and should stock be slow in arriving prices may again improve.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Daitong	\$4.00 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4.60 to 4.65
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	5.65 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 21st instant. Since that date settlements by foreigners amount to 1,031 piculs divided thus:—Hanks 15, *Filatures* 561, *Re-reels* 401, *Kakeda* 38, *Oshu* 16. Additional there have been fairly large direct shipments making the total business of the week about 1,250 piculs.

Holders have continued fairly current for such silks as are on offer, but the prime summer reeling both in *Filatures* and *Re-reels* appear to have been all sold, and present arrivals from the interior show a great falling off in both colour and quality. Producers this year have had no need to accumulate stock, buyers have been only too eager to take everything as soon as reeler could put it on the market.

Exchange is gradually declining once more, and holders of silk are feeling in better spirits accordingly. They would feel still more joyous if buyers were more lively, but we look for more or less quiet market until the Presidential election of 4th proximo is well over.

Prices keep strong for good quality, while the common and inferior kinds of which we have a plethora can be bought at lower figures.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote:—The American mail steamer *Gaelic* (23rd inst.) had 1,250 bales for the New York trade, and the French mail steamer *Calcedonien*, which left port on the same day, carried 644 bales for Europe. These departures bring the present total export figures to 22,677 piculs against 18,063 piculs last year and 5,874 piculs to same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Small business to note, the only sale of any moment being one parcel *Foshu* (*Agatsuma*) at \$610.

Filatures.—Here a large amount of buying, about 600 piculs passing the scales: in fact a general clearing out of the prime summer-reeled silks full size suitable for the States. Good prices have been paid, *Taiyosha* \$890, *Kaimeisha* \$875, and other well known chops at like figures. In European sorts *Utsunomiya* \$870 is noted, while parcels second and third grade from southern provinces have brought prices in the neighbourhood of \$790.

Re-reels.—These have received much attention, good silk being sold at long figures, while common sorts are easy in price. As in *Filatures*, so here, prime summer-reeled silks are exhausted and would be worth more than quotations did they exist.

Kakeda.—Quiet market with small transactions' the only remarkable sale being a parcel *Fony* at \$660.

Oshu.—Nothing done beyond a few bales *Sendai* at \$645.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Foshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 2½ (Foshu)	630 to 640

Original from

Hanks—No. 24 to 3	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 34	550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	885 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	870 to 875
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	860 to 865
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 810
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	780 to 800
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	680 to 700
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 14	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 2	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 24	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 3	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 34	640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 4	620 to 630
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	630 to 640
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 28th Oct., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Europe	8,736	5,867	1,914
America	13,586	11,708	3,793
Total	22,322	17,575	5,707
Settlements and Direct	24,900	19,550	6,300
Export from 1st July	9,800	15,350	16,200
Stock, 28th October	34,700	34,900	22,500

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch reach 1,500 piculs divided thus:—Noshi 600 piculs, Kibiso 900 piculs. No direct export to be chronicled this week.

Buying has become more general, and shippers appear to recognise the necessity of operating unless they wish to be left behind in the race, and may parcels good Noshi have been taken up at full rates for Swiss demand. Consumers continue to grumble at the prices they have to pay, but they apparently have to come in whether they like it or no.

The French mail steamer *Caledonia* takes both Waste and Cocoons for Europe. There has been no other chance (the *Argyll* still remaining in port) and the present export figures are 8,179 piculs against 6,170 last year and 6,243 at same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—No fresh business to record. Best grades are scarce and holders ask long figures.

Noshi.—Some large parcels of good fibre have found buyers. Fine *Bushu* \$130 to \$145; *Shinshu* \$105 to \$110; *Foshu* good \$92½.

Kibiso.—Best Filatures \$115, seconds \$105. Some big lots of *Hira* sorts have passed the scales on the basis of the following prices: \$37½ to \$47½ for mixed *Bushu* and *Foshu*.

Mawata and Neri.—No business at all.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 145
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Iachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Iachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 28th Oct., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1890-91.
Waste Silk	6,891	6,077	5,602
Pierced Cocoons	1,288	93	641
Total	8,179	6,170	6,243
Settlements and Direct	14,700	10,300	10,700
Export from 1st July	17,800	15,700	11,500
Stock, 28th October	32,500	26,000	22,300

Exchange has declined to the following quotations:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$71½; 4m/s. U.S. \$72½; PARIS, 6m/s. U.S. fcs. 3-75.

Estimated Silk Stock, 28th Oct., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	430	Cocoons	1,250
Filatures	4,130	Noshi-ito	8,500
Re-reels	3,730	Kibiso	7,880
Kakedas	1,140	Mawata	100
Oshu	380	Sudries	180
Taysam Kinds	—	—	—
Total piculs	9,800	Total piculs	17,800

TEA.

We withdraw quotations, on the Choicest and Choice grades, stock appearing to be exhausted. Arrivals are small and stock very poor. Transactions noted have been at full rates.

	PER PICUL.
Finest	\$25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	11 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated and declined, and is not steady at quotations.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/11
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/11
On Paris—Bank sight	3/63
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3/75
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2½/6 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	3½/6 dis.
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	751
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71½
Silver	39½

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February 18th, 1892.

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17.

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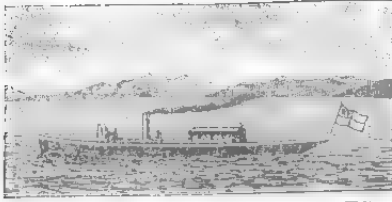
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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
可定會信週日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 5TH, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

At Yokohama, October 31st, 1892, before Hon. W. D. Tillotson, U.S. Consul-General and afterwards by the Rev. G. M. Meacham, D.D., E. H. TUSKA, of Yokohama, to MAUD A. CROZIER of San Francisco.—No Cards.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL paid his respects to the Emperor on the 28th inst.

VISCOUNT TOMINOKOJI, a Chamberlain to H.I.M. the Emperor, died in the capital on the 28th ult.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS SATO TADASHI, Nakaoka, Sukeyasu, and Kono Michiyuki, of Infantry, and Ota Eokusaburo, of Artillery, have been promoted to be Colonels.

VISCOUNT NIIRE, Minister of State for the Navy inspected on the 28th inst. the *Matushima Kan*, the new Japanese war-vessel, which lately arrived at Shinagawa from France.

THE total revenue and expenditure of the Yokohama Godowns Company during the past year were yen 3,162.85 and yen 2,292.52 respectively, leaving a net profit of yen 769.82.

INTELLIGENCE from Fukuoka has been received stating that the section between Naokata and Ogishi on the Chiku Railway line was opened for traffic on the 28th inst.

THE Ministers of State visited the American Legation at Akasaka on the 29th ult. to express their condolence to the American Representative on the death of Mrs. Harrison.

THE Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police has issued a notification prohibiting the passage of oxen through a certain portion of Shiba, owing to an epidemic having broken out there.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Fusan, Korea, received by the Authorities, reports that a destruc-

tive fire occurred on the 28th ult. at 8 a.m. in a house at Fusan, and about one hundred buildings were burnt.

On learning of the death of Mrs. Harrison H.I.M. the Emperor despatched a telegraphic message of condolence to the United States Government. Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, also sent a telegram of sympathy.

On the 27th inst. at 10 p.m. a fire occurred at Takaido-mura, Higashitama-gun, Tokyo. The flames were confined to the building where the fire broke out, but a man was burnt to death. Nine houses were burnt and two partly damaged at Senju on Friday afternoon.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Cabinet was held on Tuesday last, at which there present Counts Ito, Kuroda, Oyama, Goto, Inouye, and Yamagata, Viscount Niire, and Messrs. Kono, Mutsu, and Watanabe, by whom matters in connection with the Budget were discussed.

THE election of officers of the Japan Railway Company has resulted in the return of the former officials. The list is as follows:—President, Mr. Ono Yoshizane; Vice-President, Mr. Mori Jusuke; and Auditors, Messrs. Hayashi Katanori, Ota Korenobu, and Nihoshi Motonaga.

INTELLIGENCE from Nagoya reports that the 28th ult. being the anniversary of the occurrence of the great earthquake of last October, religious services were held in commemoration of the terrible calamity. During the past year 1,110 shocks have been recorded in Nagoya, while 2,626 earthquakes were experienced in Gifu.

THEIR Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress will give a garden party to members of the Imperial Family, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, officials of *chokunin* and *sonin* rank in various Departments, peers and their wives at the Akasaka Detached Palace about the 10th inst., when the chrysanthemums in the gardens will be in full bloom.

DURING a strong blow on the forenoon of the 20th ult. Saito Iwakichi and ten other fishermen belonging to Chiba Prefecture, who were at work in a boat off the shore of Umigami-gori, were caught in the gale, and are reported missing. On the 22nd inst. eleven men of Miyado-mura in the Idzumi District of the Prefecture met with a similar fate off Naniwa village, and all, with the exception of two, were drowned.

MR. KONDO MASAKI, *Chargé d'Affaires*, who had been suffering for some time from a dangerous illness, expired in the capital on the 1st inst. A day prior to his death the deceased was decorated by the Emperor with the Third Class Order of the Mirror, being raised from fifth class second to fifth class first grade. The interment will take place on the afternoon of the 4th inst. at the Tanaka Cemetery, Uyeno.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa Taruhito and Komatsu Akihito, General Oyama, Minister of State for War; Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household; Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain; Lieutenant-General Miyoshi, Chief Army Inspector; and Commandants Yamaji, Kurokawa, Nodzu, Sakuma, Katsura, and Nozaki, of various Army Divisions, had the honour of dining with the Emperor on the 1st inst.

THE Usui Government Railroad which is expected to be completed before the end of the year, will meet the want at present supplied by the Usui Tramway, and the latter will natu-

ally be rendered useless. The Tramway Company have, therefore, determined to dissolve, and arrangements have been made to sell the rails to some residents of Takasaki for yen 16,400. The Takasaki people propose to construct with the material a line connecting Shibukawa with their town.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Japan Railway Company was held in the capital on the 29th ult. The receipts during the past-half year were yen 1,319,809.243, to which yen 400,901.883, Government subsidy, and yen 4,700.160, the sum brought over from last account, were added, making a total of yen 1,725,411.243. Of the above, yen 630,473.312 was deducted for business expenses, yen 21,325.678 for expenses at the Head Office, yen 2,163,939 to defray expenses for floating the Company, yen 13,173.939 as remuneration to officers, yen 50,733.527 as a reserve, yen 35,000.000 as payment for debts incurred by the Company, yen 24,075.000 as payment of the interest on the debts, and yen 990,802.800 as a dividend for the half-year to be declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, yen 9,549.318 being carried forward to the new account.

THE following is a statement of the number and value of money orders issued in September last as compared with the previous month, together with September, 1891:—Number of ordinary and small postal money orders, September (1892), 234,871; August (1892), 246,541; and September (1891), 196,186; telegraphic money orders: September (1892), 5,137; August (1892), 5,601; and September (1891), 3,055. The amount of small and ordinary money orders:—September (1892), yen 2,002,768; August (1892), yen 2,002,598; September (1891), yen 1,562,931; amount of telegraphic money orders, September (1892), yen 74,677; August (1892), yen 85,543; September (1891), 45,029. The returns of Postal Saving Banks for September last as compared with the previous month were as follow:—Number of deposits, 204,998 and 196,313 for the two months respectively; number of withdrawals, 34,851 and 37,021; amounts deposited, yen 1,080,601 and yen 1,003,510; amounts withdrawn, yen 854,890 and 942,551.

THE Import trade has not changed except that the moderate amount of business recently done may have been affected somewhat by the holidays of the week, which have been almost continuous on one score and another—races, regattas and the Emperor's birthday. Stocks of Manchester goods are known to have become depleted in the interior, and it is consequently expected that a sharp turn may shortly be taken by buyers in the direction of supplying immediate wants. There is only a small business at present in Metals, but holders are daily expecting some move to be made. The same may be said of Kerosene, though the owners of Oil are unbending in their attitude about values, notwithstanding there are now more than half a million cases of all brands in the Government godowns. Holders of Sugar also maintain a firm hold of the stock on hand and prophecy a rise in prices before any parcels of magnitude are handled. The Silk market continues brisk, and, including direct shipments, the record for the week is over 2,000 piculs. How much longer shipments can last on the scale of the past two months is a problem, for already available supplies—that is shipments and stock here—amount to 36,000 piculs. There is not a shadow of a sign of easier prices, and holders continue to obtain all they ask for anything decent in quality. There has been less doing generally in Waste, though some rather heavy parcels have been taken. Nothing to report in The Exchange has been fairly steady.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

AFTER a stubborn combat had been waged in the neighbourhood of the Kinu river, the Emperor summoned the Generals of both sides, and pronounced judgment in the following words:—"The attack of the Northern Army (invaders) was remarkably well delivered; but the sudden flank attack of the Southern Army (Imperial) was not properly managed." Thus the laurels rested with the invading force in the first day's fighting. After the combat had been renewed, the Imperial Army again suffered defeat, and was driven from Utsunomiya, the invaders taking possession of that town. The Southern forces, however, did not retreat far, but re-inrenched themselves in masked positions at Susumenomiya, Hikida, and other villages. Their programme was to surprise the invading army on the march, but as the latter did not continue its advance beyond Utsunomiya, the defenders remained fruitlessly in the field throughout the night of the 24th ultimo. Meanwhile, being re-enforced by a fresh division, on the following morning they assumed the offensive and marched towards Utsunomiya, coming into collision with the enemy at Takinohara. Here a fierce battle was waged for over two hours, the Imperial Army now proving the more powerful and compelling the invaders to beat a retreat. Being hotly pursued by the victors, the Northern Army was finally driven out of Utsunomiya, and at 8.10 a.m. the town was re-occupied by the Imperial forces. This ended the fighting. His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, Field Marshal, criticised the operations at Takinohara, in the presence of all the generals, the Emperor having previously made a speech.

The following is a translation of the short speech made by the Emperor to the General Officers who were present at the manœuvres:—

"We have commanded Taruhito to judge the issue of the manœuvres just terminated. It has pleased us to observe that, on the whole, great progress has been made. But our Army must not be content with its present condition: it must strive to attain a still higher degree of excellence. Upon you, therefore, devolves the duty of serving zealously, leaving no point, however trivial, unconsidered, and sparing no effort to carry your military studies to completion."

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa's Judgment was delivered as follows:—

In obedience to the Imperial command, I, Taruhito, proceed to pronounce judgment on the issue of the Manœuvres:—The strategy adopted in the battle fought on the 23rd of October was good on both sides, viewed as a whole. I consider that the Southern Army acted rightly in occupying the old and new Rikuu routes and posting a strong force on the old road. It was also skilful strategy on the part of the Northern Army to divide its force into three divisions, so as to enable each division to take a different route by which they might advance without delay through mountainous districts. Since, however, these divisions were intended to combine at Ujiya, it was essential that their routes should be subsequently changed. But although the plan of action had been previously determined, no order was given in the above sense until the troops had actually reached Ujiya, the inevitable consequence being loss of time and opportunity. All necessary instructions as to routes should have been issued previously, the more so that no encounter had yet taken place with the forces of the enemy. Again, from the point of view of strict obedience to orders, it was right for the First Division of the Northern Army to remain at Kanasu Hill, after they taken possession of it. But when they heard the sound of continuous firing in the direction of the Second and Third Divisions, they ought to have advanced to the assistance of those Divisions without waiting for a change of instructions. Their failure to do so must be considered a loss of opportunity owing to over-strict adherence to orders. On the other hand, the position, to the north of Ujiya, taken by the artillery of the Southern Army, can hardly be considered well chosen, as the left wing of the enemy was then in the act of delivering a flank attack, so that no possibility of holding the position could be anticipated. As for the right wing

of the Southern Army, they did well to change direction to the left on hearing the sound of firing in that quarter, despite the fact that their orders were to advance towards the Kitsure River. At the same time, it was merely by chance, and not by premeditation, that a part of this wing found itself in a position to deliver an attack on the rear of the Third division of the Northern Army, and the defeat of the latter was caused by want of proper precautions on the part of its left.

The measures adopted by the Northern Army in the first battle fought on the 24th cannot be considered correct. Their prime object being to advance, they ought to have attacked the repulsed troops in their front at once, before the latter could be reinforced. Even though the enemy has destroyed the bridges over the Kinu River on the previous day, measures should have been concerted for renewing the battle on the following day. From this point of view it is much to be regretted that the commander of the Northern Army failed to appreciate the original plan, and did not take steps to carry it out. Though, however, this want of appreciation involved a loss of opportunity, the plan of attack, so far as concerns the distribution of forces, and the method of onset, was well considered. Further, the choice of Hirade-hara by the Southern Army as a place to make a stand, was very appropriate, and I endorse all the other measures adopted by them, such as the disposal of forces and so forth. I observed that, previously to the commencement of the action, the Southern Army often changed the position of its reserves in obedience to false reports. To obtain sure intelligence is the only way of directing an army's movements properly: this branch of service cannot be too carefully conducted. Again, when retreating, the Southern Army showed much carelessness, though the enemy were pressing forward with their full force. Doubtless this mistake may be attributed to a tendency to regard the Manœuvres in a different light from actual war, but it is not necessary for me to declare that such a distinction ought never to be made. The battle fought on the 25th was altogether well conducted by both parties, but the attack made by the Fourth Division of the Northern Army along the Rikuu Road cannot be considered in accordance with proper strategy. I approve everything else that happened on that day. Such is my judgment on the various incidents of the three days. Viewing the manœuvres as a whole, though I was pleased to see so much progress, there were many points with regard to which I cannot express entire approval. Some of the principal of these are, first, that owing to the failure of commanding officers to attach sufficient importance to the duty of preserving communications, the forces did not co-operate effectively. In point of fact, the larger the body of forces in the field, the more important is the question of communications, for unless the greatest care be exercised in this matter, each division has to fight on its own account, and the end is disaster for the whole. I urge the expediency of greater attention hereafter to this vital detail. Secondly, I was disappointed to observe a marked failure to appreciate the true value of both artillery and infantry fire in delivering an attack. It is scarcely necessary to say that the utility of fire-arms depends greatly on time and circumstances in each case; but arms of offence are daily undergoing such improvements that victory must rest with those who understand how best to utilize them. I trust that general officers will pay profound attention to this point.

THE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE.

LORD LI, Representative of China in Japan, has taken his departure from this country without any public demonstrations of the exceptionally high esteem in which he was held. Being in mourning for the very recent death of his mother by adoption, the wife of the celebrated Viceroy, it was impossible for him to accept any invitations, and both Japanese and foreigners were thus compelled to see him depart without any of the marks of respect and friendship that would otherwise have distinguished the exit of an official who leaves behind him a record without precedent. Of the men hitherto sent by China to represent her at the Court of Japan, it must be admitted that they stood on a distinctly high plane of ability and culture. But Lord Li, in addition to intellectual qualities which none could fail to recognise, possessed graces of manner and kindness of heart that won friends everywhere. We do not go too far when we say that his diplomatic and social methods alike produced a lasting impression on the people of Tokyo, and that the days when he presided at the Legation in Nagasaki will be always remembered with

pleasure and admiration. He spoke both Japanese and English fluently, and he mixed with the foreign and Japanese residents of the capital on terms of more than common intimacy and friendship. From a man of views so liberal, tact so excellent, and ability so rare, his country ought to be entitled to expect great things. Let us hope that he possesses his father, the Viceroy's gift of biding his time, and that, like too many other liberal and brilliant Chinese, he may not wreck his career by premature collision with the rock of Celestial Conservatism.

LECTURE AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL.

THE lecture announced to be given by Mr. A. B. de Guerville at the Imperial Hotel in the interests of certain Tokyo charities, came off Friday week, and was numerously attended. Indeed the chief salon of the Hotel was filled to overflowing, and as the room is supposed to accommodate six hundred people, an idea of the size of the audience may be at once formed. The Minister President of State and Countess Ito, the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Hayashi, the entire Foreign Corps Diplomatique, many distinguished Japanese and almost the whole of the foreign community of Tokyo were present. The Rev. C. S. Eby kindly presided at the lantern, which was placed at the entrance of the salon, the stereopticon views being projected on a large screen at the other end. At the outset things did not work quite smoothly, but the apparatus was soon under complete control, and a very beautiful and remarkable series of views was displayed. Some of the grand natural scenery of the States delighted the audience not less than the classical and often noble edifices of the chief cities. Interest centered, of course, on the buildings of the World's Fair. These were shown as they will appear when completed, and since the lecturer added details of size and cost, an admirable conception could be formed of the immensity of the undertaking. The one defective feature of the whole affair was the interpreting. Only a very small fraction of Mr. de Guerville's explanations and statistics was translated for the benefit of the Japanese present, although they constituted the great majority of the audience. The lecture will be repeated at the Public Hall this evening.

M. DE LANNESSAN ON INDO-CHINA.

M. DE LANNESSAN, says the *London and China Express*, seems to be keeping the French Press well supplied with his views on the state of affairs in Indo-China, Tonkin especially. We have already noted one or two of the effusions. The last example is a letter to the Deputy, M. Francisco Deloncle, which is obviously intended for publication. He points out in this that the revenue is increasing, a fact which is sure to tell in his favour, and if there are still pirates he deplores the frequency with which they make attacks. He thinks his critics are too impatient and too ill-informed, and they forget that many years will be needed before the land is pacified. He is for the establishment of numerous outposts, knit together by well-opened well-guarded ways. His ideas were clearly derived from the study of English methods. Money is, however, needed to carry on the great public works that he suggests, and M. Jamais, the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, would rather do almost anything than go to the Chamber to ask for an appropriation. But the conclusion of the whole matter is thus expressed by the *Liberté*, "We must either make up our minds not to haggle about money or we must abandon the country."

THE HONG KONG HOTEL.

A PETITION came before the Chief Justice on the 17th ult., in the Hongkong Supreme Court, at the instance of Th. de Benigny, for the compulsory winding-up of this company. After a short discussion between the Court and the Counsel engaged in the case, his Lordship made an order in the following terms:—"That the voluntary winding up be continued subject to the supervision of the Court; the liquidators not to commence legal proceedings without the sanction of the Court; the costs of the petitioner,

the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and of the Company be paid out of the assets of the Company." This order was made subject to a formal affidavit being put in to the effect that there was no other company in Kobe with a similar title, owing to a mistake (which Mr. Leach pointed out) having occurred in the local advertisement wherein the notice of voluntary winding up was headed "Hiogo Hotel Company, Limited" instead of "Hiogo Hotel, Limited." His Lordship said, however, that on this affidavit being filed it would be unnecessary to re-advertise the winding up.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION SCANDAL.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that the Authorities have already determined to declare the last barristers' examination invalid, and to order that another examination be conducted *de novo*. From the same source we learn that though certain people contend that the examiners must be dismissed, and new ones appointed, the opinion of the officials concerned is somewhat different. They point out that as yet the culprit has not been discovered, and that as the examiners are all upright and able men, they cannot have committed such a disgraceful act as to divulge the papers. On the other hand, were they dismissed without any sufficient evidence, their honour would be unjustly, or at least precipitately, impugned, and neither they nor the public would accept such a situation quietly. Assuredly, therefore, the Authorities will never entertain the notion of dismissing the examiners unless they are clearly proved to be guilty.

MILNER'S SAFES.

In several recent fires at home, Milner's safes are reported to have passed through the ordeal to which they were subject with great credit to the makers, the contents being recovered in a state of perfect preservation. Thus we read:—"At a fire in Mitchell-street, Glasgow, besides being subject to intense heat, the safe fell from a height of four stories, and on being dug out after a lapse of 12 days the books and papers were found to be all preserved." In another case, at 23, Jewin-crescent, London, "the safe was in a part of the building that was subject to the full force of the fire, and bore unmistakable evidences of having undergone a most severe trial in fact it was clear that it had been red-hot for some time. Notwithstanding this, the whole of the contents were in a perfect state."

SERVICES AT UNION CHURCH.

A DISCOURSE suggested by the anniversary of the earthquake of Oct. 28, 1891, was preached by Professor Thwing on Sunday, at Union Church. Dr. Meacham in introducing the preacher remarked that this was the sixth Sunday he had had the pleasure of introducing his American friend to this pulpit, Dr. Thwing had just been visiting the district devastated and had participated in the memorial service at Nagoya on Friday last, and was to leave on the *Peru* for Hongkong, sailing probably to-morrow. He remarked that there are supreme moments in life when thought and emotion seem to focus themselves on one conspicuous idea. The object before us wears a distinctness and brilliancy rising above the ordinary level of consciousness, just as I have seen a tongue of fire leap from Vesuvius at midnight and with ghastly splendour paint its outline on the inky sky. The theme of the hour deserves a better handling than I can give it, with so brief preparation. But if God himself is heard, the speaker can afford to be himself forgotten. Taking as a text Heb. 12: 26-29, "Whose voice then shook the earth." Dr. Thwing first defined fear as a physical instinct and fear as a moral principle, each a valuable factor; the former vitalizing the law of self preservation, and the latter inhering in every well balanced character. The danger of our age is not from superstitious credulity, but from materialistic capathy. Hence the need of the catastrophic element in the education of mankind. As this planet passed through convulsions before becoming the abode of the race, so individuals and nations have had a tragic discipline and will need the same in the future. Having illustrated his argument from his-

tory and experience, Professor Thwing urged the cultivation of sobriety of thought, the recognition of the immense superiority of the unseen over the visible and temporal, and a responsiveness to the imperative call of God who speaks from heaven in these startling providences. Suitable reference was made to the tragedy of the *Bokhara* and to the death of Mrs. Harrison, the service closing with the hymn "God moves in a mysterious way."

THE BOKHARA'S DEAD.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* gives the following record of the men who lost their lives in the *Bokhara*:—

Major J. T. Turner, Army Pay Department.
Captain Dawson, Hongkong Regiment.
Captain J. Dunn, Commanding Army Service Corps.
Lieut. F. A. Burnett, Shropshire Light Infantry.
Lieut. G. G. Boyle, Royal Artillery.
Quartermaster-Sergeant F. G. Jeffkins, Royal Engineers.
Sergeant Mumford, Shropshire Light Infantry.
Sergeant Donegan, Shropshire Light Infantry.
Mr. G. E. Taverner, Audit Office.
Mr. G. S. Purvis, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.
Mr. Charles Wallace, Clerk, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Major Turner received his first commission on April 13th, 1858, was made paymaster on April 10th, 1881 and received the rank of hon. major in the Black Watch on April 10th, 1886. He was one of the best of men in his private life, the most popular of officers, and his loss has occasioned the most poignant grief, which is increased by the knowledge that he leaves a widow and nine children. He was about 55 years of age and has seen a large amount of service.

Capt. J. Dunn, Commanding the Transport Division of the Army Service Corps here, received his first commission on May 10th, 1882, and attained his present rank on April 2nd, 1889. He was at one time connected with the Liverpool Regiment, and was unmarried. As a cricketer he was perhaps the best that ever seen in Hongkong; he was indeed called the W. G. Grace of the East and his genial, generous disposition made him very popular.

Capt. R. H. Dawson was one of the officers of the new Hongkong Regiment, being in command of the left wing. He was previously in the Worcester Regiment and subsequently served in India as wing officer of the Meywar Bheel Corps. He had seen 12 years service. Although comparatively a stranger here, during his brief residence he had made a host of friends and his loss will be deeply regretted, especially in the ranks of the Regiment of which he was an able and popular officer.

Lieut. Geo. G. Boyle, R.A., has been claimed by death at the early age of 23. He only joined the service in 1889, but was a very promising young officer.

Lieut. F. A. Burnett, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, was 24 years of age. He joined the Regiment at Malta on March 19th, 1890, and was a favourite among the men.

Quartermaster Sergeant Jeffkins was one of the ablest draughtsmen in the Royal Engineers, and one of the best all round cricketers in the colony. He has not been in the colony very long, but he had done good service for the Hongkong Cricket Club and ingratiated himself with all with whom he came in contact. He leaves a widow but no family.

Sergeant Mumford, of the band of the Shropshire Light Infantry, was 30 years of age and had seen considerable service, having been with the regiment through the Sudan and Egyptian campaigns. He was unmarried.

Sergeant Donegan was also in the band of the Shropshire Regiment. He was only 23 years of age. Mr. G. S. Purvis was a clerk in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, exceedingly popular among his fellows and a good all-round athlete.

Mr. C. Wallace was a clerk in the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. His mother and sister reside here, and his brother is in Swatow.

Mr. G. E. Taverner was in the Audit Office. He was a son of the late Acting Colonial Chaplain, and was well known as a promising young cricketer, whose personal qualities made him popular among those who were acquainted with him.

A NICK BUTTON-HOLE.

In Mindinao, the farthest south-eastern island in the Philippine group, upon one of its mountains, the volcanic Apo, a party of botanical and ethnographical explorers found recently at a

height of 2,500 feet above the sea level a colossal flower. The discoverer, Dr. Alexander Schadenberg, could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw amid the low-growing bushes the immense buds of this flower growing like gigantic cabbage-heads. But he was still more astonished when he found a specimen in full bloom, a five-petaled flower nearly a yard in diameter, as large as a carriage wheel, in fact. The enormous blossom was borne on a sort of vine creeping on the ground. The native who accompanied Dr. Schadenberg called it "bolo." The party had no scale by which the weight of the flower could be ascertained, but they improvised a swinging scale, using their boxes and specimens as weights. Weighing these when opportunity served, it was found that a single flower weighed over twenty-one pounds. It was impossible to transport the fresh flower, so the travellers photographed it and dried a number of its leaves by the heat of a fire.

KUMAMOTO DOINGS.

THE election of members of the Kumamoto Prefectural Assembly continues to be distinguished by acts of violence. According to the accounts published in the Radical organ of the locality, the Conservatives have been conducting themselves in a most disorderly manner. The *soshi* of Yamaga District, having found themselves in a company of *Yahan-tai*, which may be taken as the Japanese equivalent of "Moonlighters," broke into the house of Shimada Kiichi, a Radical, smashed the doors, hacked the posts, and vented their political excitement in other forcible fashions. Another band of the same partizans seized three Radicals, bound them hand and foot sent them off by boat. They were subsequently rescued by their comrades. Nobody, however, seems to have met with any serious hurt except a man called Nakajima Yasutaro, who received a disabling wound and was left for dead by the way-side. Probably these stories require to be discounted, but under any circumstances Kumamoto's political fever evidently runs very high.

THE LASCARS OF THE "BOKHARA."

A MOST unhappy incident connected with the survivors of the *Bokhara* disaster is the charge brought against the Lascars by Dr. Lowson. What Dr. Lowson really said about these men it is difficult to make out. Here are two versions, the first taken from the *Hongkong Daily Press*, the other from the *Hongkong Telegraph*:—

In further conversation Dr. Lowson expressed his high admiration for the conduct of the captain and officers of the *Bokhara*, who acted like heroes all through. The Lascars also worked splendidly under their leadership, but after the wreck Dr. Lowson could not admire their apathetic indifference to orders and beliefs and had nothing but contempt for their behaviour on Sand Island.

As for the Lascar members of the crew they behaved in a fiendish manner after getting on shore, and I trust that should I ever be placed in a similar situation with their countrymen, that I shall have my six shooter in my hip-pocket and a stout stick in my hand. From the moment they reached the shore they behaved more like rabid hogs than human beings. They attempted to monopolise the little fresh water found in a shallow well, and gorged all the food they could lay hands. They never attempted to assist us, but did rather the reverse. They are a disgusting, unmanly, cowardly, brutal gang of contemptible ruffians. The fiendish yells and overbearing attitude of those black brutes (I can call them nothing else) would be inconceivable had I not witnessed it. They took no heed of their officers' commands, and more than once I had to make some of them feel my knuckles in sheer self-defence and to bring them to reason. I don't think it would be possible to use language too harsh in describing the conduct of those coloured men, and I regret I am not well enough to describe it to you more in detail, for it ought to be thoroughly exposed.

After due allowance is made for the exaggerated language habitually employed in the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, we are nevertheless compelled to conclude that Dr. Lowson did actually condemn, in terms more or less strong, the conduct of the Lascars on Sand Island. The

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filteen Lascars have accordingly written the following letter to the *Daily Press*:—

SIR,—We, the undersigned surviving crew of the steamer *Bokhara* having heard of a report about our alleged misconduct made by one of the surviving passengers, Dr. Lowson, in the *Hongkong Telegraph* of the 18th instant, beg hereby to make the following statement, and trust, in justice to us, you will kindly publish it, as without such a vindication of our conduct as can be made by our statement, we poor people, who worked on board the ill-fated steamer regardless of all danger, will not only be deprived of our certificates, of our donations, and of our services by the P. & O., but also of the prestige of our sea-faring nation as one of the best type of crew under any emergencies that one can ever come across. We need hardly say here anything about our conduct as crew on board the steamer during the exceptionally disastrous period of our voyage. Dr. Lowson has himself spoken about it, but above all, when due investigations are made in proper quarters, it will, we feel confident, come out satisfactorily that the Gogo crew which the P. and O. employ, and of which we form a part, behaved themselves in the case of the *Bokhara* in such a manner as to leave nothing further to desire, and that in such a terrific sea and gale that were raging during our last voyage we hesitated not the least to implicitly obey and carry out as far as practicable the orders and behests of our officers, however perilous the situations in which we were ordered to work. After our getting on land what we did for the surviving European passengers and for our officers we narrate below, and we trust the latter when called upon will fully confirm the truth of our statement. That for more than 24 hours during the disastrous period, owing to the exigencies of the terrific occasion we had had hardly any food on board, we scarcely need refer to here; we do think we should refer to the terrible strain and stress that we had had to undergo as crew. Our officers themselves have experienced the same, and let them speak for us. What we did after we were ashore was this:

Early at daybreak after the night we were washed ashore, the Chief Officer and Quartermaster took six out of us remaining fifteen round about the island we were thrown on, as well in search of food as in that of any stray persons who may have been washed ashore like us. We picked up from the floating débris three tins of biscuits, and fell in with a fireman who was lying with his leg broken and crying. The three tins of biscuits were handed over to the Chief Officer, and we lifted and helped up the lame fireman to the spot where the survivors had congregated. During the absence of us six, the remainder of us picked up bundles of Shanghai straw which were floating about, and spread up as mattresses for the European passengers and officers. Some of us were then sent in search of blankets, and on our finding two we dried them up and gave them to Dr. Lowson. We also picked up four mattresses which had floated up from the vessel and handed them to the Europeans; we also dried up their clothes as they were given to us to dry in turns. We did not appropriate any of the things we picked up for our own use. Almost naked we kept ourselves shivering. We were only supplied with handfuls of biscuits saturated with salt water by the Chief Officer. Under cold and pain we waited outside the fishermen's hut where the Europeans stayed, and during the night of the next day by turns of two kept watch there. We also supplied them with fuel, and made fires for them. We never monopolized the little fresh water that was found in a well as Dr. Lowson alleges. On the contrary, we picked up a bucket and gave it full of water from the well every time that they wanted it during day as well as during night. For ourselves we had a half top-broken bottle and we in turn drank thereby. We never gorged any food. There was nothing beyond the biscuits which were in charge of the officers, and we only ate what they gave us of them. What else could we gorge we leave the doctor to say. On the morning of the second day we saw a goat sitting upon an elevated spot on the hillside; we caught it of our own accord and handed it to the Europeans for their use for food. We were all more or less hurt, we were lame, hungry, and half dead, but, nevertheless, we helped up Dr. Lowson, who seemed to have a sore leg, to walk over to Makung, a distance of five miles which took nearly half a day. As regards the supply of fresh water in the well possibly the Doctor might have imagined that might be exhausted if we had had to stay long at the island, but the flow in the well was evidently continuous, and the supply was quite abundant even when we left the island. We were asked to pick up cans of oil, which as found we brought them. If for all these services rendered in cold and rain and in every

other respect under the most trying circumstances, rendered when we ourselves, as we said, were lame, hungry, and half-dead, we get such a certificate as Dr. Lowson has given us, we simply say our reward will come from God, and that as between man and man let the righteous judge us.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,

AMUNJEE HASSUN.
HASSUN AMUN.
MOOSABA MUNJEEBA.
YE SOOF ISMAIL.
AMUN ESSACK.
ADDO CASSUM.
HOOSIN HASSUN.
ALLY ISMAIL.
MAHOMED SHAHBUDDIN.
ANTONIO MANUEL VAZ.
YINA SELDON.
SEBASTIAN DE SOUZA.
SYED MAHOMED.
FUTTEH CLIN.
CASSUM HYDER.

Hongkong, 20th October, 1892.

There is something at once dramatic and pathetic about this narrative. The trivial details described by the Lascars—their search for food to supply the wants of the Europeans; their picking up of straw and mattresses; their drinking of water from a half broken bottle; their finding of fuel and kindling fire, always for the Europeans; their own food, handfuls of biscuits saturated with salt water; their cold and exhausted vigil outside the hut in which the Europeans were sheltered; the hardships they had endured previously to this time of privation; their injuries and lameness, and finally their helping of Dr. Lowson to walk to Makung—all these things make up a picture singularly incongruous with the wild words attributed to Dr. Lowson by the *Telegraph*, and even with the much more moderate accusation ascribed to him by the *Daily Press*. We cannot but think that if the Lascars really did show "apathetic indifference to orders" while on Sand Island, their mood is fully accounted for by the terrible and protracted hardships that had preceded their last struggle for life in a boiling sea, and that it is amply compensated by the fortitude and endurance which all observers concur in attributing to them during the long battle on board the *Bokhara*.

THE "AJIYA" ON CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Ajiya* (Asia) occupies the pleasant position of a free lance among the periodical publications of Tokyo. It elevates itself on a lofty pinnacle of independent criticism, and looking down upon the low levels of current politics, finds everything unsatisfactory. Discontented with the Government no less than with the various political parties, it is equally disgusted with almost everything beneath it. As to the Government, its strictures are short and vague. It declares itself confirmed in its original opinion that the present Cabinet is after all a collection of wooden idols. As to the Diet, the *Ajiya* considers it is as unworthy as the Government. These brief denunciations are exchanged for more expansive methods when the various political parties pass under the caustic periodical's review. The *Yiyu-to* (Radical Party) is described as "a big tree of which the trunk is already dead." The Radicals may justly boast of unwieldy dimensions, but they must acknowledge that their energies are now entirely devoted to the preservation of their failing vitality. Required, on the one hand, to defend themselves against the National Unionists, they must on the other, be on their guard against the encroachments of their allies the Progressionists. Even the most incapable among them already regard themselves as embryo Ministers of State, and in putting on lofty airs and keeping up appearances they have the credit, or discredit, of surpassing even the representatives of officialdom.

The *Kaishin-to* (Progressionist party) is stated to have regained something of its former power. But its members are accused of merely acting parts in their new career of desperate conflict. They may deceive themselves, but they can not deceive others. Their leader, Count Okuma, is recognized as a statesman of great resource, fit to preside over the party.

But his remarkable natural gifts are, in the *Ajiya's* opinion, prostituted to serve the dark passion of revenge. He is angry with the Government, and he deceives the Radical party with insinuating words.

The *Rokumin Kyokai* (National Union) is characterized as being profoundly foolish. Excepting its two leaders, Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa, its members are declared to be nothing less than greedy political adventurers. They extort money from the simple and honest inhabitants of the North-east for the sake of replenishing the empty pockets of the professional politicians of the South-west. The life of such a party must be extremely precarious, and such of its members as have any self-respect are recommended to shape their conduct according to the real prospects of their association.

The *Toyo Yiyu-to* (Oriental Radical party) hardly deserves the name of a party. It is a pity, says the *Ajiya*, that the interests of the poor labouring classes have been taken under the wing of such politicians. Association unworthy will have the result of forcing sober men to turn their attention from the important question of ameliorating the condition of the poor. Mr. Oi Kentaro is rebuked for his audacity in appropriating such an important question to form a plank in his political platform.

The Independent Popular Party, of which leading members like Messrs. Masataka, Kawashima Jun, and Nakamura Yaro, are very active, is still an insignificant factor in politics. It is of course extravagant to build any big hopes on a young sprout just emerging from the ground.

Even the *Ajiya* recognizes the absurdity of condemning everything, and observes that it is not perhaps just to withhold all praise from existing parties. They have done some good things. To them belongs the credit of having hastened the grant of the Constitution and the opening of the Diet. What is most astonishing is the fact that the Tokyo periodical accuses independent and self sufficient critics, like itself, of being a standing menace to the healthy growth of politics in Japan.

BEGGARS WANTED.

LATELY advertisements were placarded on telegraph posts in Yokohama to the effect that all the beggars in the town were requested to call at the branch office of the Seiri Club, 43, Hasakicho, Sancho, Yokohama. At first sight such an announcement looks somewhat strange, but further inquiry shows that an excellent project is on foot. Messrs. Nagaoka Keizaburo, Yebihara Boku, and Yamaguchi Yukimitsu have established a club at Hachioji for the purpose of collecting all the indigent persons in the empire, and providing for them some appropriate occupations. The promoters intend to separate the applicants into three lots. The first, over 60 years of age; the second, under 15 years of age; and the third, deformed. The young persons belonging to the second category are to be sent to Hokkaido, where they will settle, while houses will be provided for the others, and occupations found at which they may be able to work. A branch office has been established in Yokohama, and already a sum of over a thousand yen is available. It is stated that there are over 500 beggars in Yokohama alone.

After the posting of advertisements as described above, the police authorities of Yokohama took steps to investigate the matter, and finding that the details of the scheme were not satisfactory, the projectors were ordered to suspend further proceedings until their system could be placed on a sounder footing. They are said to be very indignant about this interference. Their object being to succour the unfortunate, and to put an end, as far as possible, to the public scandal of begging, they do not see why any official obstacles should be placed in their path, and they have accordingly sent a deputa-

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tion to wait upon the Governor of Kanagawa and submit to him a statement of their grievance. Doubtless their purpose is excellent, but when private associations undertake to assume charge of the lives of their fellow-nationals, it is the unquestionable duty of the Authorities to see that satisfactory and trustworthy measures are adopted.

JAPANESE SETTLEMENT AT JENSAN.

SOME days ago the Foreign Department received a communication from the Japanese Consul at Jensan in Korea to the effect that the negotiation relating to the reclamation of land for a Japanese settlement had been at last concluded. The *Nichi Nichi* has now received further particulars of the matter. It appears that the negotiation was commenced by Mr. Kondo when he represented Japan at the Korean Court. In the 1st Article of the Convention relating to a Japanese settlement at that port, it was expressly provided that the Korean Government should grant the Japanese Government an area of over 3,900 *tsubo* of land then under the sea, to be reclaimed for the purposes of a Japanese settlement. In view of such a provision there should apparently have been no difficulty in obtaining the practical fulfilment of the engagement, but in Korea things are not so easily managed. The negotiation commenced in 1890, but under various pretexts the grant was deferred till quite recently. At last, however, an understanding was arrived at, and the Korean Government nominated officials to superintend the work of reclamation, the Japanese Consul, on his side, appointing Mr. Takao Kenzo to compile an estimate for purposes of comparison, while Messrs. Otani Masanobu, President, and Nishiwaki Chotaro, Vice-President, of the Settlement Assembly, and Mr. Sato Ikkei, representative of the settlers, were chosen to form a Committee of Management. As soon as the estimate prepared by the Korean officials is submitted, the Committee will hold a conference. It is stated that the works will probably be contracted for by Japanese, but the *Nichi Nichi* dwells on the importance of choosing an honest contractor, since otherwise all sorts of troubles will assuredly crop up in the course of the undertaking. As the cold weather will set in soon, the works cannot be commenced before next spring.

THE FOES OF THE CABINET.

Who are the real foes of the present Cabinet? The *Fuyu*, which is the Radical organ, propounds this question and undertakes to answer it. Most persons who have watched the course of events during the past two years will be disposed to think that the answer presents no difficulty: the *Kaishin-to* at all times, they will say, and the *Fuyu-to* generally. But our Radical contemporary entertains a very different view, and the fact is significant. It avers that although the Radicals are certainly not among the friends of the Cabinet, and although they are prepared to take over the reins of Administration whenever the present Ministers forfeit the confidence of the nation, they are by no means like a cat watching a mouse, ready to spring on it at the first opportunity. On the contrary, so far as the *Fuyu-to* are concerned, the Cabinet may remain in peace so long as it does not misgovern the country. The foes against whom careful watch must be really kept are the Military Party (*Budan-ha*), who for a moment swayed the Matsukata Administration and are now in retirement. Looking back to the events of the past few months, the *Fuyu* finds that the leaders of this dangerous association are Viscounts Takashima, Shinagawa, and Kabayama, and Mr. Shirane. Viscount Takashima is credited by the *Fuyu* with some measure of ability, and with having exercised far more influence in the Matsukata Cabinet than the Premier himself. Since he went out of office he has maintained sullen silence, apparently inactive, but in reality watching with eagle eyes for an opportunity to re-establish military sway, and holding constant communication with Count Matsukata. Viscount Kabayama, though not in complete agreement with these leaders, is practically on their side, and from his suburban retreat in the capital,

he observes and communicates to his colleagues in the provinces the course of events. Among the police officials, too, there are many followers of the *Budan-ha*, who, when occasion presents itself, will not be wanting in zeal. The Military Politicians recognise that the present Cabinet consists of statesmen of the first ability, but they rely on the chances of dissension among its members, and they stand by waiting while the assaults of the Popular Party gradually sap its strength. Meanwhile, the Government assumes an attitude of defence towards the Popular Party alone, failing to discern the true source of grave danger. Such are the Radical organ's views. We regard them as a remarkable declaration. When the Radicals openly recognise that they are not the Cabinet's chief enemies, and that the enemies of the Cabinet are also enemies of the Popular Party, it becomes really a matter of uncertainty how far the *Fuyu-to* may be reckoned as active foes of the Government in the next session of the Diet.

"YOKOHAMA BALLADS."

Two of our local artists, taking a new departure, one with pencil and the other with pen, have published a volume entitled "Yokohama Ballads." Judging from the frontispiece, the book is intended to be a "pot-boiler," for the singer of the verses stands thrumming his lyre under the shadow of Fujiyama "by the sad sea waves," while his better half cooks an *al-fresco* soup, both figures being lightly clad and presenting an altogether impoverished appearance. The poetical repertoire opens with the lay of the "Over educated," the hero being a Japanese "rickshaw-man" who, failing to obtain "six times his legal fare" from an English salt, called the latter a "ruddy-tinted fool." This appropriation of our own particular swear-words causes much distress and anxiety to Fiasco da Yama, a naturalized Britisher, who after describing the incident in forcible rhymes, comes to the following conclusion:—

"We've teacht them folks various kinds o' stuff;
"We've given 'em trains an' telegraphs an' rice,
"An' dynamite an' warships quantum suff;
"Eot-hata an' lamps an' other sich-like trifles.
"But let us keep our sweet words,—they are our very own
"Of our civilized nation they're the very flower an' crown;
"Should the 'eathen get to play wid' em, Hold Hingland
all go down
"Like dirt into the dust-bin of a mornin'!"

The second lay is the "Ballad of a Company"—the Printing and Publishing Company of course:—

"Half a hundred gentlemen sobered down and sane.
"Half a hundred gentlemen in sore financial pain;
"Half a hundred gentlemen all ruling sore the day
"They tinkered up the old *Gassie* to pipe their bloomin' lay!"

There is much that is racy and pointed in this ballad, as may be divined from the opening lay, but we discover nothing unkind. The lady that consented to fill a vacant editorial chair, and has filled it for so many months with such courage, industry, and ability, is spoken of thus:—

"Plucky little woman that, got a level head;
"Fought a mighty plucky fight for her daily bread,
"Writing on with aching wrist and with a fagged-out brain
"Whirling like a racing screw, thudding like a train."

"Them Companies," "Ebenezer Emmanuel Broadbottom, from the State of Ohio, on the Matter of Tariff," "The Japan Ead," and "Lemon Geranium, Forsooth!" constitute the remaining items in the book of ballads. We have quoted enough to give our readers a rudimentary idea which they had better develop by procuring the volume from either Mr. A. Culy in Yokohama, or Messrs. Z. P. Maruya & Co. in Tokyo. Verses and pictures alike will furnish food for a hearty laugh.

A CHINESE "PUNCH AND JUDY" SHOW.

"O." writes to *The Times*.—A few years ago I witnessed at a garden party given by the General then commanding the troops in Hongkong, the exhibition of a Chinese "Punch and Judy," which had been brought down from Canton. The general arrangements were precisely the same as those of an English "Punch and Judy." The costumes were Chinese, and the piece varied in some respects from that which we see in England, but all the characteristic features were the same. May I venture to ask Professor Max Müller and the Congress of Orientalists whether they can give any explanation of the curious resemblance between the two perform-

ances? Did the European Punch originate in Tartary or did the Chinese Punch migrate from Europe, or do they both descend from a common ancestor in the cradle land of the Aryan races? In reply to this, Professor Douglas writes:—"If your correspondent 'O.' will consult a work entitled "Notes and Queries on China and Japan" he will find that puppet shows in China are, like everything else that is Chinese, of great antiquity. It is there stated by Professor Schlegel that in the reign of King Mul (1001-947 B.C.) a certain man named Yen made puppets which certainly danced and which appeared to sing. The modern representatives of these puppets are of two kinds—viz., wooden puppets which are moved by silken threads, and leather puppets, the real prototypes of our "Punch and Judy" shows, whose movements are directed by the hands of the showman. The performances of these last figures are called "Linen-bag Plays," from the fact that the showman covers, or is supposed to cover, his head with a linen bag to conceal himself from the spectators.—*London and China Express.*

FOREIGN TOURISTS.

THE question of foreign tourists is becoming yearly more interesting and more important for Japan. Millions of dollars are left in the country by these visitors, and as there is every appearance of their number increasing, so there is every reason for Japan to consider more carefully the treatment she accords to them. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* notes that a disposition is growing to cheat these good people unmercifully. Very likely it is true, though we fail to appreciate the illustration furnished by our contemporary, namely, that when tourists want to rent houses outside the Settlements, they have to pay a hundred *yen* where fifty would suffice under ordinary circumstances. Do tourists want to rent houses outside the Settlements? There may be cases of such a desire, but surely they are too rare to serve the purposes of the *Yomiuri's* argument. Much more important is the attitude of the bric-à-brac dealers, some of whom devote themselves wholly to devising schemes to cheat the tourist. We could name men in Tokyo and Kyoto whose proceedings must ultimately have the effect of disgusting buyers, and altogether deterring the visitor from spending his money on objects of art. The strange part of the thing, too, is that these particular men are such clever rascals and spread their toils with so much skill that tourist after tourist falls a prey to them. For a period the ill-effects of their chicanery will not be felt, but in the end tourists will learn not to expose themselves to being expensively duped, and since the most effective plan of safety is to eschew buying, the whole of the art artisan class of Japan will suffer.

There exists now in Tokyo an association of bric-à-brac dealers founded on excellent principles, namely, to sell nothing that is not what the dealer represents it to be—within reasonable limits of error—and never to ask a second price. There is no reason whatever why a Japanese merchant should invariably be expected to reduce the price asked by him. The whole business is utterly senseless, for since the dealer knows that his foreign customers have contracted the habit of beating him down, he takes care to name at the outset a figure which leaves him plenty of room to satisfy the buyer's idiosyncrasy without detriment to himself. Indeed, it may be confidently asserted that no one who cuts prices ever obtains an object of art in Japan for the lowest figure that would have contented the seller. Then, too, there is the uncertainty of the whole thing. The buyer has no guide. He does not know what to offer, and when he has made his bargain, the unpleasant feeling remains that perhaps he might have done still better. On the other hand, the tourist is obviously precluded from taking the initiative in effecting a reform. If he adopts the heroic course of paying what he is asked without any question, he simply loses his money and fattens the dealer's purse. An old resident who has learned the true value of things, may

adopt and adhere to the rule of never cutting a price, either taking or leaving a specimen at its seller's figure. Such a man will be the most successful and the happiest buyer of all. But the occasional visitor is fairly caught in the toils of the old vicious system and cannot possibly break through them. The only hope lies in a reform on the part of the dealers themselves, and to accomplish such a reform an association embracing all the respectable dealers is essential. Some of the good men of Tokyo and Kyoto, appreciating this, formed the combination spoken of above, but their whole scheme is marred by the fact that they have admitted the black sheep into their ranks. They know it themselves perfectly well: they have been remonstrated with very strongly. But they declare themselves bound by that mystic sentiment *giri*, the gospel of every Japanese in transactions with his fellow. It would be a case of *giri ga tattanai* if they declined to inaugurate the in new departure in the company of men who will no more stick to the principles of the Association than attempt to walk upon the sea. Many of the most laudable programmes in Japan are wrecked by this invertebrate habit of sacrificing everything to altruistic conventionalities. The knaves have joined the Association with solemn faces and brave promises; but their knavery will not be a whit embarrassed by any dread of discrediting their honest comrades.

Among the foreign tourists now in Japan two have attracted the special attention of the vernacular press. They are Messrs. Vanderbilt and Parsons. The former, as the son of the great millionaire, would be sufficiently remarked under any circumstances, but he becomes in Japanese eyes quite a picturesque figure when it is observed that he knows the value of a *sen* and even of a *rin* as well as the poorest toiler in the land; and that no one drives a keener bargain. Riches have not at all marred his sense of proportion. Mr. Parsons is equally interesting on account of his generosity and liberality. He has rented the celebrated Satake-yashi near Mukojima, a place which, twenty years ago, could boast one of the finest gardens in Tokyo, though since then use as a public pleasure ground has greatly impaired its beauties. Mr. Parsons, intending to see Japan as the Japanese see it, has restored this charming place to serve as his residence for a few months, and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* relates that on the day of moving thither he caused a *yen* to be given to every *jinrikisha* that crossed Azuma Bridge, which pretty fancy cost something over three hundred *yen*.

THE Gifu EARTHQUAKE.

WE have received the following letter from the President of the *Shimpo* Club:—

SIR,—Last autumn our Prefecture of Gifu was visited by an unparalleled calamity of earthquake. Countless thousands of our fellows were thrown into direst distress and the most indescribable alarm. With deaths on every side, hardly one escaped alive, and we were without resource save to cry aloud to heaven and to earth. At such a time you gentlemen of the press, out of your great benevolence, spared no pains to rouse public sympathy in our behalf, and succeeded in collecting large sums of money which you transmitted to succour us, so that by your kindly aid our misfortunes were relieved, and our lives preserved. Your charity will remain always engraved on our hearts. Never shall it be forgotten. It was our desire to express our gratitude immediately, but the pressing need of food, of shelter and of clothes held us from everything but the toil of living, and thus, to our infinite regret and shame, to-day finds our thanks still unspoken. Our Association some time ago held a meeting, and despatched members to the various localities to consult about our wish to insert a notice of thanks in the newspaper press. Everywhere we found the people bowing their heads in gratitude as grass bends before the wind, but in truth their condition is still very far from what it once was, and with difficulty could they subscribe a sum of 36 *yen* to carry out our purpose. Such an amount divided among the 120 journals of the empire, gives only thirty *sen* each; a sum, we grieve to say, altogether too small to carry out our project of advertising. Nevertheless, our failure does not lessen but rather enhances the earnest wish of our townspeople and ourselves to express our deep gratitude to the editors of newspapers and to all

charitable persons who have succoured distress. It pains us to think that we must wait until the days when our ability to show our thankfulness may be in some measure equal to our wish. In the meanwhile, may we venture so far to trespass on your kindness as to ask you to insert in several issues of your journal the accompanying statement of our heartfelt gratitude to yourself and to the many charitable persons who through you sent us aid, and may we further beg of you to complete the kindness by sending us a copy of the issue containing the notice.

(Signed)

OKUDA SEIHACHI,
President of the *Shimpo* Club.

Asakamachi, Mino, Gifu Prefecture.

The expression of thanks referred to in the above will be found in our advertising columns. The desire of our correspondents was to have the notice appear on the anniversary of the great earthquake, namely, October 28th, but the document did not reach us in time to comply with that part of the request.

THE BARRISTERS OF TOKYO.

THE Tokyo New Barristers' Association held its autumnal meeting on the 28th ultimo in the Bankers' Assembly Hall, about 40 members attending, and Mr. Takahashi Sutezo being in the chair. The nominal roll of the Association showed that it comprises at present 237 members; 22 resignations and 12 admissions having occurred since last April. After the routine business was concluded, the meeting organized itself for purposes of debate under the presidency of Mr. Moriya Konosuke. Three propositions were presented:—

1. That a Barristers Law be submitted to the Diet next session, and that 15 members be elected to compile a draft for the consideration of the Association.
2. That in lieu of the *Official Gazette*, which has hitherto been placed in the Barristers Waiting Room, at least three different newspapers be obtained.
3. That the Association shall elect a number of Barristers to serve as counsel when required by Government.

The first proposition led to considerable discussion. It was contended that the Association should not act collectively in such a matter, but that the preparation and presentation of a Bill should be left to the initiative of individual members, if they pleased to take the matter up. Another view was that the better plan would be to present a petition; and yet another that the Bill should be presented, not by the Barristers themselves, but by their friends in the Diet. Finally, however, the proposition was carried, and the following were elected to form a drafting committee:—

Messrs. Miyagi Kozo, Nakajima Matagoro, Takahashi Suteroku, Okamura Teruhiko, Maruyama Namasa, Hatoyama Kazuo, Hiramatsu Fukusaburo, Suzuki Jiubi, Okayama Kanekichi, Oya Sori, Asakura Tomotetsu, Tsunoda Shimpei, Takanashi Tetsushiro, Ooka Ikuzo and Isobe Shiro.

All the above not being present, it was uncertain whether they would consent to serve. By way of substitutes, therefore, in the event of any refusals, the following were chosen:—

Messrs. Shiraiishi Go, Moriya Konosuke, Saito Koji, Yamaguchi Ken, Ogasawa Hisakichi, Watanabe Yoshio and Seki Naohiko.

The other two propositions were rejected and the meeting closed at 9 p.m.

THE TERRIBLE FOREIGNER!

ANOTHER item, headed with the familiar *Gatjin no Burai*, is furnished by the Tokyo News Agency. At about 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 23rd ultimo, says the tale, three Americans, accompanied by a Secretary of the Yokohama Local Court, were returning from Kamakura, and purposed taking the train at Zushi station. It suited their convenience to cross the line somewhere in the vicinity of the station, and they proceeded to do so without the least regard for the fact that they were violating the Railway Regulations. The station master, unwilling to permit such irregularity, sent the Ticket Clerk to stop them. The latter spoke to them several times in Japanese, but as they paid no attention, he ran to the place where they were about to emerge from the road, and stretched out his arms to bar their passage. Thereupon they lost their temper, knocked him down, and began to beat him. The Clerk, growing irate in turn, was about to attack them

with his ticket-cutter, when the station master hastened to the place and succeeded in restoring order. This is the News Agency's account. It probably needs modifying, though as to the central fact of an attempt to cross the line in despite of the Regulations, we must assume accuracy. There ought to have been established by this time a pretty general understanding that the days are past when a system of one law for the stranger and another for the native was tolerable. The Japanese are not disposed to endure such discrimination any longer, and it is a senseless proceeding to put them to the test. Peaceful and orderly foreigners who constitute 99 out of every hundred, are ultimately the chief sufferers by the roughness and arbitrariness of the minority.

RESULTS OF PROVINCIAL CAMPAIGNS.

THE Japanese, having from the outset shown much imitative ability in falling into line with Western political methods, have now advanced a step beyond their originals. For not only do they organize and conduct provincial campaigns during the Diet's recess, but they also compile and publish statistics of the results attained by the campaigners. Mr. Kono Hironaka, leader of the Radical Party in the House of Representatives, having just returned from a sixty-two days tour in the Tokai, Kinkai, Sanyo, and Sanin districts, where he visited 18 provinces in all, now reports that he attended 47 political lectures during that period, and addressed audiences aggregating approximately 46,458 persons, as well as 50 friendly *reunions* (*Konshin-kai*), at which about 9,325 persons were present. These gratifying figures are supplemented by the solid statement that one member of the Diet and 343 members of Prefectural Assemblies, editors, bankers, large landed proprietors, and Divisional Headmen enrolled themselves as Radicals, while persons of lesser importance entered their names at the average rate of 20 per diem.

There is a story told of a stage coach driver in California who, being asked the age of a giant tree, replied confidently, "three thousand and six years." "Why do you add the six?" inquired his questioner. "Well Sir," said the other, "a scientific gem came along here six years ago and put her age at three thousand, so I guess she'll be three thousand and six now." Japanese estimates sometimes remind us of this narrative. We find the term "*gaisan*" (approximate) prefixed to a statement of the number of an audience, whereas the number itself, judged by mere figures, claims absolute accuracy. "Meetings aggregating approximately 46,458 persons, and *reunions* attended by about 9,325." It would seem that the compiler of these figures must have obtained, in the first place, an approximate statement of the seating capacity of each place of meeting or *reunion*, and then, counting the exact number of persons who stood outside or were apparently *de trop* inside, arrived at hard and fast totals. That is a quaint method of compiling statistics. It corresponds with the propensity of a Japanese contractor to carry his tender down to fractions of a *sen*, and with the mood of the Japanese engineer who stated the thickness of aqueduct pipes to three places of decimals of an inch.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

EACH year seems to add beauty and variety to the Christmas Cards offered by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh to the public of the Far East. It was an admirable idea to enlist the services of Japanese painters for this purpose, and they have once more asserted the adaptability of their talent by conceiving designs which leave little to be desired. Yamamichi who appears to do a great part of the work, shows remarkable delicacy of motive, and softness combined with directness of touch. His landscapes are tender and charming, though occasionally marred by trifling lapses from the strict rules of perspective. Some of these artists, notably Mine—if that be his name, for there is no little difficulty in discovering the real appellations from the signatures—have learned and are now applying a lesson still unappreciated by their

Original from

more ambitious *confères* of the capital, namely, that Nature never draws outlines, but deals only in masses. Two attractive features appear to be novel in this year's collection of cards, namely, the use of strong monochromatic grounds, and recourse to the *Kakeji*, or scroll, style. The latter departure is very happy. Miniature scrolls, daintily mounted and enclosed in neat boxes, are just the things to give one's friends at home a good idea of Japanese pictorial art, without exposing them to the embarrassment of finding a suitable place for pictures which were never intended for European or American surroundings.

COUNT ITO AND AN INTERVIEWER.

THE *Kokkai* alleges that a certain person interviewed Count Ito recently, and made inquiries as to the policy to be followed towards the Diet next session. The Count replied that the present Cabinet desires to promote the welfare of the people in accordance with the Imperial commands; and he believed that the Popular Party had been organized for the same purpose. Under such circumstances there need not be much conflict between them. The public often criticized the present Cabinet, and alleged that it was adopting a negative policy, so as to tide over the next session peacefully. But the statesmen now in power adopted as their motto the reply made by Tokugawa Iyemitsu to a question put to him by Iyeyasu, namely, "Never rest when the State is at peace. On the contrary, consider a season of tranquillity as fraught with troublesome contingencies for the nation." Negligence at such a time is sure to bring about complications. The interviewer then asked the Count's opinion about the appointment of the Codes Committee. The reply was that although the public had attacked the measure adopted by the Government, the simple fact was that the Cabinet had appointed a committee consisting of officials, experts, and others who held various and divergent opinions on the question, the object being to obtain a collective statement of these experts' views for purposes of reference. Hence the Count failed to perceive that there is any ground existing for hostile criticism.

TROUBLES IN HAWAII.

REVOLUTION appears to still be seething in Hawaii, and the New York *Herald* publishes a dispatch from Washington which says:—"According to late advices received at the State Department from Minister Stevens, affairs on the Hawaiian Islands are growing from bad to worse. Serious political troubles, which may develop into a revolution, are feared. That the State Department views the situation with some concern is shown by a request from Secretary Foster that the orders for the cruiser *Boston* to leave Honolulu for Acapulco, where she was to join Rear Admiral Gherardi's special fleet, be countermanded, and that the *Alliance* be kept at Honolulu until after things become more tranquil. The Navy Department promptly acquiesced, and telegraphic instructions to this effect were sent to San Francisco and are in the mail which left by steamer for Honolulu. The orders for the *Boston* to sail were sent by the *Alliance*, which left San Francisco early last week, and it may happen that the *Boston* will get off before the mail steamer arrives with the countermanding orders. In that event another vessel will be sent from San Francisco to join the *Alliance* in looking after American interests in the Hawaiian Islands. The chief concern felt by the State and naval officers at the situation in Honolulu grows out of the possibility of something happening to destroy our chances of securing control of Pearl Harbour as a coaling station."

THE TRIAL OF CARSTENS.

THE man Jacob Carstens, who, on the 7th of July last, killed a person called Beatty, and subsequently wounded three constables as well as himself, was brought up for public trial before the Yokohama Local Court on the 2nd instant. Judge Maruyama Seizo presided, and Mr. Ozaki Chujo appeared as Public Prosecutor, the barristers engaged being Mr. Matsuoaka Tsunekichi and Minagawa Hiroaki. Carstens

raised an objection on the score of jurisdiction, claiming to be a Dutch subject, and offering proofs of the statement. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, reporting the case, says that the trial was suspended in order that steps might be taken to communicate with the Dutch Representative, and to obtain evidence as to Carsten's allegation. But we shall be surprised if it turns out that this is an accurate account of the Court's procedure. Carstens has been in the hands of the Japanese police for nearly four months. The question of his nationality was discussed at the outset, and his Minister declined to acknowledge him. When he had sufficiently recovered from his self-inflicted wound, he was brought before the Magistrates for preliminary examination, and ample evidence of his guilt being forthcoming, he was remanded for trial. Thus the Yokohama Local Court must have presumed itself competent to take jurisdiction, and instead of staying proceedings and referring to the Dutch Representative before going on with the trial, it seems to us that the proper course for the Court would have been to require Carstens to produce proof of his Dutch nationality, and then to determine whether such proofs be admitted. However, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* account is too meagre to furnish ground for decisive comment.

COUNT ITO AND COUNT OKUMA.

A GREAT sensation seems to have been produced among politicians by accounts of interviews which a writer on the staff of the *Nippon* is said to have had with Count Ito and Count Okuma. We are not told when and under what circumstances these interviews took place; but on the whole there is apparent reason to think that the statements published by the *Nippon* are substantially correct. By way of preface, our contemporary observes that only a great man can understand a great man, but that two great men have ever been found incapable of working harmoniously together. Reference is then made to the life-long struggles between Soso and Ryubi Uyesugi Kenshin and Takeda Shingen. The two greatest statesmen of the present day, continues the *Nippon*, are Count Ito and Count Okuma, and they are no exceptions to the historical rule of mutual antipathy. The contest between them has on several occasions been the cause of stirring events; and if their animosity has sometimes produced evils, it has as often inured to the interests of the country.

Count Ito begins by remarking, in his usual frank and open manner, that he is generally regarded as having no policy to pursue. He confesses himself to be without any subtle machinations or crafty tactics, and alleges that in this respect those who criticise his want of policy may not perhaps be very wide of the mark. Referring to Count Okuma, the Premier tells his visitor that he had the pleasure of holding office in the same Cabinets with the present leader of the *Kaishin-to* (Progressionist Party) for more than ten years. He acknowledges that his political opinions are very often at variance with those of Count Okuma; but considers that such a circumstance ought not to occasion any surprise. For do not even intimate school-mates very often find themselves unable to agree when they come to discuss political topics? As to the allegation that the Premier possesses a political organ or organs, he emphatically denies the truth of the charge. Should he desire to employ a newspaper for political purposes, he would adopt the manly course of putting his name to it; he would never commit the folly of depending upon others for the ventilation of his opinions. He refers to the case of Lord Salisbury who once wrote for the press himself, and states that he would follow the example of the ex-Premier of England, should he ever think it advisable to start a newspaper. In speaking of the press, the Minister President reminds the interviewer of the importance of utilizing foreign journals, as is constantly done by European statesmen. Turning then to the subject of political parties, the Count gives it as his firm be-

lief that their number will considerably increase. Existing parties, he says, owe their origin to artificial causes, and have already outgrown the aims for which they were originally created. With the progress of civilization, society becomes more and more complex; and the number of interests demanding public representation increase correspondingly. This circumstance, together with the peculiar character of the nation, leads the Count to believe that it is impossible to look for the division of the political world of this empire into two great camps as is the case in England. In this respect Japan rather resembles France, Germany, and other countries of the European continent. With regard to the attitude of the Cabinet towards the Diet, Count Ito observes that since, as already stated, he is not given to machination, his Ministry is not provided with any "tactics against the Diet" (蜀議會策 *tai-Gikwai saku*). There is indeed no necessity for anything of the kind, seeing that both the Government and the Diet are working for the same objects. "Both are agreed on the desirability of increasing the military and naval forces of the country; both are agreed on the necessity of expanding the carrying facilities and extending the general foreign trade of the country. In short, no difference of opinion is observable between the Government and the people, so far as concerns the importance of raising the prestige of the country *vis-à-vis* foreign Powers. If there be any divergence of views between them, it is only in regard to minor questions of domestic economy." Under such circumstance, the Ministry is under no necessity to resort to "tactics" against the Diet. Lastly, with reference to the questions of railways, the opening of Hokkaido, the improvement of river courses and other subjects of a similar nature, the Minister President dwells upon the importance of making thorough and extensive investigations before deciding upon any plan of action. Consequently he will never, he declares, be guilty of inaugurating any work without fully considering the matter from all possible points of view. In conclusion he is made to say that he has no other idea than that of shaping his administrative policy in conformity with the wishes and the national character of the people.

Count Okuma commences by telling his visitor that whereas statesmen in power ought not to regard the Diet with hostile sentiments, Count Ito is as much afraid of it as though it were a tiger. Nevertheless it is true that Count Ito and Count Inouye are the only statesmen in power who know what they are about. Count Ito understands very well that it will not do to thwart the wishes of the people. He also understands very well that it is unwise to rely upon the support of such a party as the *Kokumin Kyokai*. Thoroughly perceiving these things, he is still unable to carry out his ideas according to his own wish, and consequently he is afraid of the Diet. But Count Okuma acknowledges that Count Ito is a constitutional statesman, and that his method of administration is nearly perfect. What at present prevents him from putting his opinions into practice is the pressure of various personal influences around him. In Count Okuma's opinion, however, these personal influences are no longer formidable. It is generally believed that Count Yamagata and his followers represent the influences restraining the constitutional movements of Count Ito and Count Inouye. That, says the leader of the Progressionist party, may be so; but Count Yamagata is no longer the Yamagata of former years, as is amply proved by his compliance with the sweeping reductions of the Estimates in the first session of the Diet, notwithstanding his original declaration that he would never consent to retreat a step. So the *Kaishin-to* leader believes that Count Ito has little to fear so far as Count Yamagata is concerned. Whatever semblance of restraint the Minister of Justice still exercises over his chief, is, in Count Okuma's opinion, owing to the fact that Count Yamagata is as yet unable to sever, as he desires, his connection with his followers. Count Okuma evidently included among the Minister of Justice's follow-

ers the statesmen generally regarded as being in favour of a strong and militant policy towards the Diet. Passing to the subject of Party Cabinets, Count Okuma observes that government by party is one of his ardent desires; but he distinctly states that the country has not yet reached the stage of political progress in which alone it is possible to introduce such a system with safety. All that can be done at the present juncture is "to turn our feet in the direction of constitutional Government in so far as the existing conditions of the country admit." The first step to be taken is to boldly sweep away the personal influences which now impede the progress of the Government in the right direction. And inasmuch as the Government is hesitating to adopt that bold course, there is necessity to force its hand. Hence the importance of demanding economy of public expenditure, removal of superfluous officials, reduction of the land tax, punishment and dismissal of local functionaries, and so forth. These reforms must be carried out, not in a half-hearted, but in a thorough and decisive manner. It was, says the Count, on condition that these or corresponding reforms should be achieved, that he joined the Government a few years ago. Among measures of importance, he dwells specially upon the question of local functionaries, and remarks that Count Ito can never elude the responsibility of punishing the Governors who interfered in the last general elections and dismissing those who are incapable of discharging their duties. Until these questions are properly solved by the Government, the Popular party will not slacken its zeal in attacking those in power. "It is not, however," says the Count in conclusion, "matter for congratulation that the Government and the Popular party should for any long period of time continue to fight over questions like those just mentioned. I am sincerely desirous of shortening, as far as possible, this period of fighting between the Government and the Popular party."

It is needless to say that the general public is some what surprised to hear from Count Okuma that the country is still unfit for party Government, and that he is so desirous of shortening the fruitless contest between the Government and the Popular party. Well informed persons have been aware that he admits the impossibility of introducing government by party at this stage of the country's progress, but apparently the leader of the Progressionist Party has been misunderstood by the majority of his countrymen in this as well as in other respects. The difference of opinion between him and his former colleagues, as Count Ito and Count Inouye, has never been so great as men are prone to suppose. It is not, therefore, at all unlikely that the time will come when he may again see his way to co-operating with the men now in power. Meanwhile, the enunciation of these moderate views by the *Kaishin-to* leader is evoking more or less unfavourable criticism from the Opposition press, not even excepting the organs of his own Party.

THE BUDDHIST PRIESTS AND GRAVEYARDS.

ANOTHER severe blow has been struck at Buddhism by a recent decision of the Tokyo City Council (*Shisanjikai*). Hitherto the cemeteries of the capital have been under the control of the various temples, but the City Council has ruled that they shall hereafter be controlled by Urban District Officials, and the Governor of Tokyo is about to give effect to this ruling within the course of the next few weeks. It will easily be understood that the change means much to the Priests. They will no longer be in a position to sell ground for graves, and a great part, if not the whole, of the fees which now come to them regularly from the friends and relatives of the dead, will either be diverted to other channels or cease to be paid at all. Probably the citizens of Tokyo will benefit correspondingly, for under official management the disbursement on account of the graveyards cannot fail to be considerably less than it is under the present system. The priests, however, are determined not to submit tamely to this injurious reform. They are advised, so report says, that

the decision of the City Council is illegal, and they have resolved to test the matter by a lawsuit against the Governor. The costs of the action are calculated at about seven thousand yen, and this money the priests are now engaged in collecting. We cannot wonder that the Council's action has caused great uneasiness in Buddhist circles. The Government's resumption of all the lands attached to the temples at the time of the Restoration was a step of the gravest moment to Japanese Buddhism. It amounted virtually to disestablishment. Next to it in importance is this measure about the Cemeteries. True, the reform is thus far confined to Tokyo, but that other places will follow the example of the capital, should the latter's action be endorsed by the law courts, there can be very little doubt.

THE BIRTHDAY BALL.

THE Ball given by His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Mutsu in honour of the Emperor's birthday was one of the largest that has ever taken place in the capital. In view of the great number of invitations issued, it was decided that the ball should be at the Imperial Hotel, the principal salon of which is supposed to be capable of accommodating six hundred persons. In order, however, not to interfere with the convenience of the numerous guests at present staying in the hotel, the main entrance was not utilized for the purposes of the ball, a side entrance being arranged with great taste, and in such a manner as to debouch directly upon cloak rooms for ladies and gentlemen. Passing through these rooms, the central corridor of the building was reached, at the easterly end of which the host and hostess supported by the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Hayashi, stood to receive their guests. The whole front of the hotel and the space with its enclosure were brilliantly illuminated. This was a novel feature of the arrangements, for instead of the usual festoons of coloured paper lanterns, which, though very picturesque, are hopeless on a wet or windy night, an immense number of red and white glass globes had been made for the occasion, and these, fitted with a device which secured a bright light for eight hours, were studded in rows and bunches over the entire building and along the approaches, producing a brilliant and beautiful effect. The principal salon was completely draped in bunting and evergreens, relieved by richly and tastefully disposed wreaths and borders of chrysanthemum blossoms. One disadvantage inevitable under the circumstances was that no recess or inner chamber could be arranged for the reception of the Imperial Princes and Princesses, so that they were obliged to sit at the head of the room almost in contact with the dancers. Along the whole of one side of the salon at a distance of about ten feet from the wall, seats were ranged for non-dancing ladies, and in the space between these seats and the wall, the gentlemen who had come merely to talk or look on, very soon congregated. Some relief was thus afforded from the pressure in the body of the salon, but it nevertheless seemed at one time that dancing would be out of the question so great was the crowd. At a little before 10 o'clock T.I.H. Prince and Princess Arisugawa arrived, and passing up the centre of the salon, escorted by the Ministers of State for War, Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Agriculture and Commerce, took their seats at the head of the room, the first quadrille being formed immediately afterwards. Dancing was thenceforth kept up with considerable spirit until a little before two o'clock. The Japanese, ladies, however—many of whom, we are happy to say, wore their national costume—took no part in the round dances, and indeed did not seem particularly keen about the square ones either. It would appear that this particular foreign custom is not likely to establish itself firmly in the national taste, though the mood of two or three generations hence is hard to foretell. Supper was served at midnight, and an hour later the Yokohama guests, of whom there were a good many, took their departure

by special train. On the whole the ball was certainly one of the most brilliant ever seen in the capital.

Yokohama was gaily dressed with bunting during Thursday, and the whole town held holiday. At noon an Imperial Salute was fired by the naval ships in harbour. In the evening a dinner was given by Governor Utsumi to various members of the foreign community and leading Japanese merchants.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION SCANDAL.

THE preliminary examination of the persons suspected of complicity in the recent Barristers' Examination scandal has been concluded in the Tokyo Local Court, but certain offenders who are supposed to have obtained money by false pretences have still to be arraigned. It is stated, for example, that Yuruka Sanenobu, clerk of the Tokyo Local Court, was guilty of this crime by selling false examination papers for candidates. He was arrested on the 31st ultimo, and brought before Judge Yamaguchi. Some five others, who are said to be connected with the affair, were summoned on Tuesday last.

The Yokohama Local Court has been engaged examining Yamakoshi Sukesaburo, who obtained possession of examination-papers. The following judgment was delivered on the conclusion of the Preliminary Examination:—

DECISION AFTER PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

Yamakoshi Sukesaburo, accused.

The facts of the case against the above named person have been investigated in the Court of First Instance with the following result:—While Sukesaburo, the accused, was employed in the Yokohama Local Court, performing night-duty, he received a despatch addressed to Kuzaka Komataro, Chief Public Procurator of the Yokohama Local Court, from the Department of Justice, on the night of the 27th September, 1892, the despatch being sent through the post as a registered letter. Suspecting that the letter contained examination-papers, he opened the seal of the envelope by wetting it, and having extracted the papers, secretly copied them. The above facts are proved by his own confession, and by the existence of the copy. As the act of the accused is considered to be a violation of Art. 234 of the Postal Regulations, the case is sent forward for trial by the Criminal Division of the Yokohama Local Court, according to Art. 167 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

(Dated) October 31st, 1892.

(Signed) ISHII TSUNEKIDE,
Judge of the Preliminary Court.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE DIET.

THERE are many questions, says the *Jiji Shimpō*, to be presented to the Diet next session, but the principal will probably be:—(1) The Question of the Codes Committee; (2) the question of the Game Law; (3) the question of official interference; (4) the question of the punishment of officials implicated in Interference; (5) the question of works of restoration in the earthquake districts; and (6) the question of the Budget. Though every one seems to disapprove of the appointment of the Codes Committee, yet if the Government resolves to postpone the operation of the Codes as desired by the Diet, and to present a Bill for enforcing portions of them immediately, there will not be much discussion. The second subject will be the most difficult to deal with. The constitutional aspect of the case will be debated in the Diet, but as the members of the Wakayama Club, who are known to be among the Government's supporters, have decided, according to rumour, to vote against the Cabinet in this matter, there is little chance of the Administration's escaping a defeat. The third and the fourth questions will probably not create much sensation, but the fifth will give rise to noisy debates, as all sorts of abuses have been discovered since the last session. With regard, finally, to the Budget, since it constitutes the real battle-field between the Extremists and the Moderates there is no predicting how it will end. But since the Radicals have declared their willingness to vote for the appropriation on account of the construction of men-of-war so soon as the organization of the Naval Depart-

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ment is improved, and since Mr. Sugita presented an Address to the Throne on the subject, there is no reason to doubt that if the Government Delegates' explanation be satisfactory, the expenditure will be sanctioned. In short, nearly sixty per cent. of the whole House are in favour of the Government's Budget. But if the Popular Party intends to rally its supporters to defeat other Bills, and then to insist upon agreement with regard to the Budget, the issue of the contest must be left for the future to determine.

THE "TIMES" ON JAPANESE AFFAIRS.

A CORRESPONDENT of *The Times* has been betraying the great journal into a very harsh blunder against which the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* enters a just protest. After writing in a complimentary strain about the new Cabinet, and falling into curious confusion between Mr. Mutsu and Count Goto, the correspondent refers to the recent reduction of the Japan Mail Steamship Company's foreign staff. He attributes that sweeping measure entirely to the influence of Count Goto, whom he describes as an inveterate hater of foreigners. Evidently he thinks that the Count, in his capacity of Minister of State for Communications—which post he held at the time—brought pressure to bear upon the Directors of the Steamship Company, and induced them to get rid of a large fraction of their foreign staff. It is difficult to conceive the original source of such an extraordinary misconception. Count Goto has had many things said of him, some complimentary, others the reverse, since the day when he earned a lasting title to foreign gratitude by saving the life of Sir Harry Parkes in the streets of Kyoto. But now for the first time do we hear him called a hater of foreigners. The accusation is so grossly unjust as to be comical. Count Goto could afford to laugh at it were the readers of *The Times* in a position to discriminate between truth and falsehood where the personal character of a Japanese statesman is concerned.

NEW CHIEF OF THE POLICE BUREAU.

A SOMEWHAT remarkable promotion has been made in the Department of Home Affairs. Mr. Tanaka Chikaaki has been named Chief of the Police Bureau in that Department. The position of Chief of the Police Bureau has always been considered of much importance, and the habit has hitherto been to give the post to one of the prominent Governors of Prefectures. It was last held by Mr. Komatsubara, who had been Governor of Saitama Prefecture. Mr. Komatsubara served under Viscount Shinagawa, and whether the new Cabinet was dissatisfied with the conduct of the police as controlled by him during the elections, or whether some other reason operated, he was transferred to the Governorship of Shizuoka after the change of Ministry. His successor's appointment is emphatically a new departure in respect of the official standing of the nominee. For Mr. Takasaki has never held a Governorship. Up to the present he has been serving in the capacity of Manager of the Police Bureau, his previous post having been the Secretaryship of the Osaka Government. The action of the Minister of State for Home Affairs in this instance will doubtless be invested with considerable significance by the public.

HONGKONG POST OFFICE.

HONGKONG newspapers frequently complain about the conduct of the business of the post-office of the Colony, but we very much question if they have more real cause than we have in Japan. Take the latest instance. The French mail per *Oxus*, instead of being sent on by the *City of Peking*, coming direct, was carried round by Shanghai. The *Peking* arrived here on Friday morning, and the French mail matter on Saturday morning, notwithstanding that it had travelled from Kobe by rail. But a more extraordinary freak of the Hongkong Post Office in this instance is that our Hongkong exchanges came partly by the *Oxus* and partly by the *Peking*—that is, the latter vessel brought the papers of the beginning and end of the week, and the former those of the

middle of the week. This of course broke the continuity of our information from the Crown Colony. The papers in each case were franked separately, so that there can be no excuse for their being despatched in twos and threes.

THE "NO" DANCE.

At the *No* Theatre in Shiba Park a *No* dance was performed on Sunday last. The programme consisted of six pieces, and among the dancers were Umewaka, Kanze, Hojo, Matsumoto and other well-known experts. But probably owing to a bad selection of subjects, the audience was rather scanty. The performance commenced at 8 a.m. and continued till past 9 p.m., a tolerably protracted affair. Among the six pieces promised, the first, entitled "Kuni-Su," was very badly received, as Umewaka did not dance according to engagement, and his substitute was of greatly inferior skill. The best and the most difficult piece in the programme was the scene in which the Soga Brothers enter the residence of Kudo, the murderer of their father, to kill him. The parts of the two Soga were taken by the Kwanze brothers, Goro being acted to perfection, but Juro being a decided failure. A piece called "Bamboos in Snow" followed. It was decidedly impressive and weird, but the singing was even worse than usual, the performers being all masked. The "Black Tomb" also was well done by Matsumoto, but the *Kyogen* (comic dances) in the intervals were all extremely poor and pointless. On the whole the affair cannot be called a success, but we are promised a grand programme next month.

MILITARY REVIEW IN THE AOYAMA PARADE GROUND.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR and Her Majesty the Empress left the Imperial Palace on Monday last at 9 a.m., and drove to the Aoyama Parade Ground, arriving there at 9.40 a.m., and taking their places in a Throne-room specially prepared. His Majesty subsequently mounted his favourite charger Kinkwazan, and with Her Majesty the Empress who drove in a carriage, inspected the troops in garrison. Various manoeuvres were performed, from 10 a.m. till 12.30 p.m., when the Imperial Party drove back to the Palace. The object of the parade was to afford His Majesty an opportunity of inspecting men whose term of service had expired, and who were about to return to their homes. The Emperor issued a general order expressing satisfaction with the zeal and proficiency shown by the troops. There were altogether about 1,300 of these time-expired soldiers, and to each of them a sum of yen 2.50 was presented to buy food and wine.

GARDEN PARTY AT MR. SHIBUSAWA'S COUNTRY RESIDENCE.

On the afternoon of the 2nd instant, Mr. Shibusawa, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and the leading members of that institution, entertained Mr. Charles S. Smith, President of the New York Chamber of Commerce, at Mr. Shibusawa's suburban residence. Many foreigners have been privileged to visit this beautiful villa, the extensive grounds of which lie just within the brow of the Asukayama slope, and overlook the grand sweep of the Oji valley with the Tsuba mountains in the distance. The autumnal tints for which Oji is famous are not yet in season, but such a park as that which surrounds Mr. Shibusawa's residence is independent of everything save sunshine, and that was vouchsafed in abundance on Wednesday. The Foreign guests consisted of the party of distinguished Americans now sojourning in Tokyo, among them being Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. F. S. Winston, Mr. F. Bartlett, and Mr. A. A. de Guerville. The Japanese guests included H.E. Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; H.E. Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Kuki, Director of the Imperial Museum; Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Sonoda, President of the Specie Bank; Mr. Yano, President of the Commercial School; Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Director of the Board of Industries in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr.

Katsu Inouye, of the Foreign Office; Mr. Iwasaki, and many other well known residents of Tokyo. The party having assembled in the central pavilion of the garden at a little after 3 o'clock, Mr. Smith, who had been invited to speak, made the following address:—

I am sure, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, that my countrymen will agree with me in saying that when we leave Japan we shall all leave here a large part of our hearts. We shall carry away with us most charming recollections, not only of your beautiful country, but also of the kind consideration and graceful hospitality of your people.

It is one of the chief diplomatic glories of the United States that our country was instrumental in opening Japan, that pearl of the Orient, to the world's commerce. The peaceful transformation, in such an incredibly short space of time, of your system of Government from the feudal régime to a free constitutional monarchy, in fact government by the people, is one of the miracles of History.

I have not the vanity to imagine that this exceedingly kind reception has anything of a personal character. It is because I represent the oldest commercial institution in the United States, older than the Republic itself. When the Chamber of Commerce of New York was founded, New York, now a city of about 2 millions, had but 20,000 inhabitants. I bring to you, Mr. President, the congratulations and best wishes of 1,000 of our members who represent all that is best in the commercial and industrial institute of the great city and State of New York.

I am charged by my friends to say that it is their desire to enlarge as rapidly as possible all our relations with Japan both personal and commercial.

May I ask permission, Mr. President, to propose the health of the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Tokyo and prosperity to all the members.

This speech, which was received with much applause, having been admirably rendered into Japanese by Mr. Sato, of the Commercial College, Mr. Shibusawa replied as follows:—

Distinguished Guests—We, members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, have invited to this friendly reunion Mr. Charles S. Smith, Chairman of the New York Chamber of Commerce, with the hope of making this a beginning of more intimate relations between the people here and we respectively represent. I happen now to have the honour of representing the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and it is my pleasant duty to address a few words to Mr. Smith, whom we delight to honour on his first visit to this country, and to whom all my countrymen assembled here extend a cordial welcome. Our intercourse with the United States began 40 years ago, when Commodore Perry first came to these shores. The honour of having guided us to our present state of civilization is due to that nation. What the people of the United States of America have been to us since then requires no comment of mine, for the constant growth of friendly and intimate relations between America and Japan more than proves the excellent feeling of brotherhood existing between the two countries. We Japanese always hold the people of the United States in grateful remembrance. The honour of having brought about such friendly relations between the two nations is of course due in the first place to the good offices of diplomats. But diplomacy cannot dispense with the assistance of commerce, an auxiliary which stands second to none in influence and efficacy. The full development of commercial exchanges will mark the attainment of perfect concord and complete intercourse among the nations of the earth. It is satisfactory to be able to say that trade between the United States and Japan is growing year by year. According to the returns of 1891, our business with the United States ranks first in both the exports and the imports of the year. If there is anything to be regretted it is the comparatively small proportion of goods imported to us from that country. To discover the explanation of this circumstance, there can be no better opportunity than the present visit of our distinguished guest. Let us avail ourselves of the occasion and make our thoughts and feelings known to the members of the New York Chamber of Commerce through our honoured guest. Let us strive to make his visit fully productive of mutual benefit from a commercial point of view. That accomplished, we shall undoubtedly see stronger friendship and a better understanding developed between the two nations represented at this social gathering. I have no doubt that Mr. Smith will cooperate with us, and render valuable services for the purpose in view. Have I not therefore warrant for hoping that this visit of our honoured guest will be the beginning of still closer relations between the United States and Japan? The great Colombian Exposition to take place next year has already attracted keen attention from both our Government and our people. We are busily preparing our exhibits for the occasion, and we do not doubt that the great enterprise will materially advance the commercial interchanges of the two nations. We are glad that among our guests here there are gentlemen specially entrusted with business relating to the great Exposition. To them also we venture to prefer the request that they will lend their aid to forward the cause of national traffic between two countries which occupy towards each other a position of genuine

friendship. In conclusion, let me, on behalf of my countrymen and myself, wish to Mr. Smith and our other honoured guests, long life and every success.

Mr. Sato's efficient services were again enlisted to translate this speech into English. The party then walked about the garden for a while, and at a little after four o'clock a cold collation was served in the eastern pavilion. This was followed by dancing and music in the pretty theatre attached to the main building, the best artists of the capital having been engaged for the visitors' delectation. At half-past six a most delightful afternoon was brought to a conclusion.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION SCANDAL.

THE preliminary trial of the above case has been concluded. The accused persons are found guilty of tampering with the examination papers, but owing to the absence of any provision of law dealing with such an offence, the case is dismissed, and the culprits have been released. The following is a translation of the judgment:—

JUDGMENT.

Nagashima Shikashichi, Probationer of the Judicial Department.

Yonekawa Keishi, Law-student.

Yuki Michio, Law-student.

Maruyama Yoshio, Law-student.

Takei Kumakichi, Law-student.

Nakagawa Ryochi, Law-student.

Nagaya Seizo, Law-student.

Yoshiike Shigenosuke, Law-student.

With regard to the charge of theft preferred against Nagashima Shikashichi, and the charge of receiving stolen goods preferred against Yonekawa Keishi and six others, as examined in the Preliminary Court, the following are the facts elicited:—Nagashima Shikashichi, a Probationer of the Judicial Department, while serving under the Committee of Examination for Barristers, discharged the duty of transcribing the examination questions fixed by the Examiners on the 23rd of September 1892, and was ordered to despatch printed copies to all the Law Courts. Having read the questions several times, Nagashima was able to remember them. Yonekawa Keishi, a candidate for the Barristers' Examination, is a relative of the said Nagashima Shikashichi, and being desirous of obtaining the questions from the latter secretly, he called on the said Nagashima several times subsequently to the 23rd September, 1892, and implored him to divulge the questions. At first Nagashima refused to comply with this request, but finally yielding to the importunity of his friend and relative Yonekawa, he was persuaded to betray the secret. On the 27th of the same month, the said Nagashima, having extracted from the said Yonekawa a pledge not to divulge the secret to any one, informed him of the gist of all the questions, except the first, which he had forgotten. Previous to this Yuki Michio, Maruyama Toshio, Takei Kumakichi, Nakagawa Ryochi, Nagaya Seizo, Yoshiike Shigenosuke, Nagata Tokusuke, Hotta Tomiji, Hirose Takisaburo, Nakahara Kiyoshi, Iriye Tamemori, and other candidates for the Examination, had either co-operatively or severally been engaged in attempts to obtain the examination questions. Among them Maruyama Toshio, knowing that the said Yonekawa had a great number of friends, and inferring from a declaration of his as to his certainty of passing the examination that he must have obtained the papers, called, on or about the 28th of September, on the said Yonekawa at the Meiji Law College several times, and urged him to reveal some means of obtaining the papers. Yonekawa thereupon forgot his pledge to Nagashima, and promised to sell all the questions to Maruyama for 300 yen. On or about the 3rd of October Yonekawa received a sum of 150 yen from the said Maruyama; but as it was only half of the price agreed upon, he did not give the papers to him. Ultimately Yonekawa divulged to Yuki Michio all the questions on or about the 6th of the same month, and Yuki told them in turn to Takei Kumakichi and Iriye Tamemori. Takei gave the information to Nakagawa Ryochi and Maruyama Toshio; then Nakagawa gave it to Nagaya Seizo; Maruyama to Nagata Tokusuke, Nakahara Kiyoshi, and Hayashi Kurataro; Nagaya to Hotta Tomiji, Yoshiike Shigenosuke, and Hirose Takisaburo; and Nakahara Kiyoshi to Nisamatsu Isuyo. For the above transaction Maruyama obtained a sum of 75 yen from Nagata; the said Takei 200 yen from Nakagawa; Nakagawa 65 yen from Nagaya; and Nagaya 91 yen from Yoshiike and Hirose. Further, Yuki borrowed a sum of 100 yen from Iriye and handed it to Takei, but as Yuki subsequently obtained the questions from Yonekawa before the completion of the transaction on account of which the 100 yen had been paid he (Yuki) demanded the return of the money, and gave it back to Iriye, its original lender. The above facts are proved by the confession of the defendants and by the evidence of others connected with the case. Nagashima divulged matters which he ought to have kept secret in accordance with his official duty, but there is no evidence of theft against him. Consequently, Yonekawa Keishi and the six others cannot be charged with receiving stolen goods. The Court does not consider that the act of the defendants constitutes a crime in the eye of the law, and therefore, in accordance with Art. 165 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the case is dismissed.

Nagashima, Yonekawa, Takei, and Maruyama who are now under arrest, shall be released.

The above judgment was delivered in the Tokyo Local Court on the 2nd November, 1892.
(Signed) YAMAGUCHI JUN,
Judge for Preliminary Trial.

Thus the culprits escape all punishment by law. Nagashima, however, has been summarily dismissed from the service, and it may be assumed that the rest will never again be permitted to go

up for a public examination: their careers are practically ruined. As for the newspapers which clamoured so loudly against the supposed dishonesty or laxity of the examiners, and even went so far as to charge the Chief Judge of the land with dishonourable procedure, we should like to know how they feel at present.

ISE.

THE letter which we publish elsewhere from a Japanese correspondent in the town of Tsu, Miye Prefecture, illustrates the extremely difficult character of the problems with which the Minister of State for Home Affairs is now required to deal. Mr. Tanaka, who served in the capacity of Chief of Police in Saga Prefecture during the general elections last spring, was subsequently transferred to Ise. Saga acquired a most unenviable reputation at the time of the elections. Loud complaints were preferred against the local officials and the police, who were charged with interfering in the most flagrant manner and with abusing their authority to promote the cause of pro-government candidates. How much of these accusations was true, how much false, the public seems to be still uncertain. But the Government, in deference, doubtless, to local sentiment, transferred the Chief of Police to Ise. The reception accorded to him in the latter Prefecture forms the subject of our correspondent's letter. The politicians of the Prefecture are determined not to have him. They do not deny that he is an officer of ability and capacity, but they appear to think that an Inspector discredited on account of his actions in another locality is being pawed off upon them, and they decline to be treated as an asylum for failures. On the other hand, the Central Government must have made the transfer on the strength of a well assured conviction that Mr. Tanaka, while serving in Saga, did not exceed his instructions or otherwise merit censure. They are bound, therefore, to support their nominee, since his removal in deference to agitation based on purely vicarious pretexts would amount to a surrender of all authority. There are ways, doubtless, of settling these troubles, but it must be admitted that Count Inouye, as Minister of State for Home Affairs, finds himself confronted by many problems of great delicacy and perplexity.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

THERE was rather a small attendance last night at the Van Schaick Hall. The paper of the evening was read by Mrs. Dearing—"A sketch of the Poet Whittier." Readings from the works of this poet were afterwards given by Mr. F. Sale and others. The following in the Programme:—

1ST PART.

Solo.....La Sonnambula.....Miss Moulton.
Reading.....Original sketch of the Poet.....Mrs. Dearing.
Whittier.....Miss Deyo.
Song.....Cherry Ripe.....Miss G. Vincent.
Reading.....Yankee Gypsies.....Mr. F. C. Sale.
Song.....The Moonlight Serenade.....Mr. J. Crane.

2ND PART.

Piano Solo.....Study from Carl Mayer.....Miss Griffin.
Reading.....Among the hills.....Miss Deyo.
Recitation.....The Slaves of Martinique.....Mr. C. Griffin.
Song.....Barbara Freitchie.....Mr. Webb.
Reading.....In Shadowland.....Mr. E. A. Sargent.
Song..........Mr. Pollard.

FEES FOR SHOOTING LICENSES.

WITH regard to the method of paying fees for Shooting Licenses and Permits to Preserve game, the following Ordinance has been issued:—

Fees for Licenses to pursue or preserve game shall be paid to the Local Officials concerned in the form of Internal Revenue Stamps.

The stamps here referred to are not ordinary Bill Stamps (*Shoken-inshi*) but Registration Stamps (*Toki-inshi*.)

A NEW VOLCANO.

A LETTER to the U.S. Navy Department from Oonalaska, on September 24, from Commander Evans of the United States steamer *Yorktown*, states that a new and very violent volcano is in eruption on the Alaskan peninsula, about latitude 56 deg. north, longitude 156 deg. 20 min. west. The noise of the eruption, which took place during the last week of August, was heard ninety miles. The clouds of ashes and cinders

was so dense that at a distance of 150 miles sea the steamer *St. Paul* was compelled to light lights at 10 o'clock in the morning. The decks were covered with ashes to such an extent that many bucketfuls were swept up and thrown overboard. There was no loss to life or property from the explosion heard of at the date of Evans' letter.

CHINESE WILLS.

MR. THOMAS WATTERS, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul-General at Canton, writes in the *Perak Government Gazette*, as quoted by the *Hong-kong Daily Press*, the following interesting statement about the use of wills in China:—

The Chinese Statue Book does not take any notice of wills. There is no law as to the formalities of making a will or the extent to which a man may deal with his property by a will.

Nevertheless, the owners of property among the Chinese constantly resort to this mode of distributing their property. The Courts also take notice of all testamentary dispositions in cases of disputed succession or division of property.

A will may be either oral or written. For the former a man has only to state in the presence of a witness how his property is to be dealt with after his death. A written will may have witnesses, but their presence is not necessary. As a matter of fact, the testator generally writes out his will privately, and then entrusts it to his wife, or hides it away in some safe place. As a rule, the contents of a will are not known to more than one or two until after the testator's death.

In theory, a man in China may dispose of his property as he pleases, but this theory is based on the assumption that he will not do anything contrary to the dictates of reason and natural affection. Thus a man may will away his property from his sons, but the Court may set the will aside, unless sufficient reason is shown. The most common reason given is unfilial conduct. But as to this the unsupported statement of the father, or even of both parents, is not proof. If, however, a brother of the mother testifies to the unfilial conduct of a son or sons, the testator's action in disinheriting them is sanctioned.

A man may also name in his will the male relative who is to represent him at the ancestral worship and other great family affairs. This is a very important power, as the representative generally gets a double share of the inheritance, and has very great influence in family matters. If a man has no sons, he must appoint as his representative a son of a brother, and if there are no nephews, then some more remote descendant of the ancestor. If there is no one of the family, he may elect a stranger, one with a different surname. If this person is properly adopted into the family, he shares the property with the others, and he must dispose of it according to the father's or testator's expressed commands.

Chinese wills, so far as we know, do not know anything of executors or administrators. If there are several sons, each with certain funds, or shares, or lands assigned to him, a copy of the will is made for each if desired. But the original, which is retained by the legal representative, is often sufficient. He with the assistance of senior relatives and the elders of the district, carries out the provisions of the will. In the interpretation of a will and in the carrying out of the arrangements, when there is any doubt or difficulty it is the uniform custom, I understand, to consult with the elders of the place. The final appeal, however, is to the Hsien or other local authority. The Mandarin, as a rule, gives force to the desires of the testator, and orders the will to be obeyed, unless there is something in its provisions contrary to law or good morals.

THE ORIENTAL ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held a meeting on Sunday last. Professor Inouye Tetsujiro delivered a speech on "The Position of Japanese judged from the points of Race, Language, and Religion." Hespoke for nearly two hours and a half. The gist of his long and interesting address was that the Japanese are a mixed race of Southern Islanders, Koreans, and Chinese, but that the first named predominate. Their language, he declared, is much more developed than Chinese, but has not yet reached to the highest standard; and as for Japanese script, the letters are so much disliked by Europeans that they call them the invention of some demon. Language being one of the most important factors in intellectual development, it is a pity to use such a clumsy script. The profound doctrine of Buddha seems far superior to Christianity, but as the

former inculcates pessimistic views, and is therefore an enemy of progress, it is perhaps, said Mr. Inouye, better to adopt the latter. The question, however, must be well considered. He then dwelt upon the art, music, and literature of the country, and in conclusion declared that though there is much to be proud of *vis-à-vis* Europeans, Japan's position is still far below the general European standard. To compete successfully with the nations of the West, development in every branch is essential.

DEATH OF MR. C. H. HALIBURTON.

Information was received in Singapore yesterday, says the *Press* of the 14th ult., of the death of Mr. C. H. Haliburton, the Manager of the Sourabaya Branch of the Chartered Bank of India, China, and Australia at Sourabaya. Deceased, who was well known in Singapore, was at one time accountant to the Bank here, being transferred some eight or nine years ago to Yokohama, and afterwards to Sourabaya, where he has since remained. Deceased appears, so far as can be learnt, to have been enjoying his usual health until a few days before his death the cause of which is not yet known here, although cholera is now said to be raging amongst the natives in Sourabaya. Deceased, who about 40 years of age, leaves a widow, but no family, to mourn his loss.

MR. ARTHUR BARNARD.

One of the oldest residents of Yokohama, Mr. Arthur Barnard, died suddenly of heart disease on the 29th ult. It is some time, we believe, since the contingency of his demise from such a cause was first anticipated, but his death nevertheless comes as a painful shock to his many friends. His time in Japan dates from twenty-nine years back, for he arrived here in 1863 at the age of nineteen. During quite a long period he occupied the post of agent for Messrs. Sassoon and Company, and enjoyed the reputation of being a sound and careful man of business. The death of one so well known and so generally liked cannot fail to appeal to many hearts among the foreign communities in Japan.

YOKOHAMA SILK MERCHANTS' GUILD.

We have already described how the Yokohama silk merchants broke up into two factions and could not find a *modus vivendi* until, by the exertions of Messrs. Hara and Otani, they were induced to co-operate harmoniously. They then began to revise the Organization of the Guild, and after much discussion the amendments were completed, and having been presented to the Kanagawa Kencho for approval, were duly sanctioned on the 1st instant. As Mr. Hara Zenzaburo is absent from town the election of officers of the Guild cannot take place, but he is expected in a day or two, and as soon as he arrives a meeting will be held, and the President and Vice-President of the Guild will be elected. Thus the protracted disagreement has at last been settled.

THE CABINET AND ITS SECRECY.

The *Fiji* complains of the secret policy adopted by the Cabinet, and says that since the new Cabinet was formed every thing is kept from the public. This criticism applies to meetings of the Cabinet, of Local Governors, of the Codes Committee, of the Mining Investigation Council, of the Chief Public Prosecutors of the Harbour Regulations Committee, and so on. They have all been held with closed doors. The *Fiji* fails to understand what necessity there is for keeping every thing secret. Such a practice is permissible under an absolute monarchy, but not under a constitutional government. Can the *Fiji* indicate any country where the proceedings of Cabinet meetings, for example, are published?

FIRE.

At about half-past two o'clock Saturday morning a fire broke out under the kitchen floor of No. 44, Tsukiji, Tokyo, in the house of Rev. F. W. Fischer and Mr. G. E. Dieust, and threatened to burn the entire building. The occupants, being awakened by the servants, at once set to

work to extinguish the flames, and with the timely assistance of the police and the kindness of the neighbours, the flames were put out before much damage was done. The cause is, without question, incendiarism.

CAPTAIN INGLES, R.N.

H.I.M. the Emperor has been graciously pleased to confer the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Second Class, on Captain J. Ingles, R.N., Naval Adviser to the Japanese Government. Doubtless there will be no difficulty in obtaining Her Majesty's permission for Captain Ingles to wear the Order. The Government evidently appreciates the services which this distinguished officer has rendered to Japan, for the honor now bestowed on him is a very exceptional mark of the Sovereign's favour.

PICKED UP AT SEA.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has received the following telegram from Saigon:—"The *Sakata Maru* arrived on the 20th ult., with the Captain and part of the crew of the *Greina*, bound to Hongkong from Cardiff, which was wrecked on Rifleman Shoal on the 25th October."

THE "ROUMANIA."

We regret to have to record another shipping disaster which includes great loss of life. The steamer *Roumania*, referred to in our telegram this morning, was an iron screw three-masted vessel of 3,387 tons gross, 364.6 feet in length, 28 ft. in breadth, and 28.6 ft. in depth, with engines of 480 horse-power, built and engined by Messrs. D. and W. Henderson, of Glasgow, in 1880. The *Roumania* was commanded by W.S. Young, and owned by Henderson Brothers.

DUELING IN HAIPHONG.

Two duels were fought at Haiphong on the morning of the 7th ult., one between M. Mezières and M. Spicq and the other between M. Mason and M. de Cuers. The first resulted in M. Mezières being wounded in the lower part of the arm, and the second in M. de Cuers being slightly wounded in the right arm.

THE LATEST TRUST.

A company has been incorporated under the laws of New Jersey to be called the American Type Foundry Company. Its object is to control all the type foundries in the country. The capital will be \$9,000,000. Nearly all the foundries in the country are in the company.

THE HONMOKU MURDER.

We learn from the *Pomouri* that the preliminary examination of the woman Pettei, who has been under arrest on suspicion of being an accomplice to or instigator of the Honmoku murder, has concluded, and the woman was acquitted on the 2nd inst.

SNOW.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Hokkaido, says:—"Raus-yama and the adjacent peaks were covered with their first snow this season on Sunday, October 16th. Raus-yama is about 100 miles north of Nemuro, and is 5,400 feet high."

EARTHQUAKE.

A CORRESPONDENT at Fukui, in Echizen, says:—"A shock of earthquake lasting several seconds, and strong enough to set the windows and shoji rattling, was experienced here this morning (October 31st) about nine o'clock."

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The air is full of strange rumours. One of these is that an understanding is being, or has been, arranged between the Military and the Radical Party (the *Fiji-to*). It has, indeed, been apparent from the beginning that the Radicals are more or less well disposed to the Ito Cabinet, but with the exception of the section of the public which depends upon rumour for information, probably very few believe that any definite understanding has yet been effected between the Cabinet and the Radicals. A note-worthy circumstance, nevertheless, is that even an independent journal of the *Fiji*

Shimpo's standing is disposed to credit the story now circulating. The *Fiji* has been for the past few years assiduously advising both the Government and the Opposition to be reconciled to each other. It believes that the Cabinet, keenly feeling the untrustworthiness of the National Unionists, has in contemplation a plan of coalition with the Radicals. Should an approach be made by the Cabinet, the Radicals, in our contemporary's opinion, would be glad to give the Ministry their hearty support. We observe that while, on the one hand, the general public seems inclined to accept the rumour, the Radical organ, on the other, has apparently taken no step to seriously controvert it. Rather does the *Fiji's* diligence in exposing an alleged conspiracy on the part of the Military Party, furnish an indirect confirmation of the truth of the allegation that the Cabinet and the Radicals are drawing together. As to the *Fiji's* exposé, we do not venture to say how much reliance may be placed on it. But there may be interest in reproducing the principal points of our contemporary's story. It will be remembered that the so-called Military Party had a short period of ascendancy in the Government during the last days of the Matsukata Cabinet. The *Fiji* now states that the leaders of the party, Viscount Takashima and Viscount Shinagawa, are secretly devising a plot for overthrowing the Ito Cabinet. They are said to be discontented with "the liberal and constitutional policy" of the present Ministry, their own object being the maintenance of Clan Government even at the point of the bayonet. Their plan of operation, according to the *Fiji*, is to instigate the Popular party to attack the Cabinet, uniting their own forces with those of the Radicals and the Progressionists until the Government is forced to resign, whereupon they will turn upon their allies and take steps to form a Military Cabinet, with either Count Yamagata or Count Saigo at its head. This is assuredly a strange allegation, seeing that Count Yamagata is a member of the Ito Cabinet. But the Radical organ tells its readers that between the Minister President and the Minister of Justice there exists a difference which is daily becoming more serious. Such, in brief, the *Fiji* has taken much pains to impress upon its readers. Many people see in all this a transparent design to persuade Count Ito to sever all connection with Count Yamagata and his followers and to form a coalition with the Radicals.

Another rumour is to the effect that the so-called extreme section of the Peers, led by Viscounts Tani and Miura, will support the Ministry. It is stated, on apparently good authority, that Viscounts Tani and Miura have recently held several conferences with Count Ito. It is also stated that Viscount Tani, always friendly to Count Ito, is now loud in his praise of the Minister President as a constitutional statesman. Be that as it may, some significance certainly attaches to the fact that the tone of the *Nippon*, Viscount Tani's supposed organ, has considerably changed with regard to Count Ito. That journal has published during the present week several references to Count Ito, describing him as an enlightened and constitutional statesman.

While the *Fiji-to's* friendly attitude to the Ministry is a general topic of conversation, rumours are beginning to be circulated about a possible reconciliation between Count Okuma and Count Ito. This notion owes its origin to accounts of remarkable interviews with the two statesmen, published by the *Nippon*. Some people think that the *Kaishin-to* leader, alarmed by rumours of a contemplated union between the Government and the Radicals, is trying to steal the latter's thunder. At all events, Count Okuma's avowal of belief that the country is still unfit for party cabinets seems to have been a surprise even to his own followers; and indications may be seen that the desperate politicians of the *Kaishin-to* are discontented with their leader's moderate views. The organs of that party have not said a word about the *Nippon's* accounts of interviews, but continue to be as bitterly hostile to

the Cabinet as before. They also speak contemptuously of those who "have deserted their original standard and are beginning to support the Clan Government." If there be any foundation in the report that the Progressionist leader is disposed to be reconciled with his former colleagues, it must be inferred that in this respect he acts on his own responsibility without consulting his followers, with the exception, perhaps, of a few.

The *Yiji Shimpō* is indefatigable in urging upon the Ministers of State the importance of putting an end to the conflict between the Government and the Opposition. This conflict dates, in our contemporary's opinion, from the year 1881, when the Government changed its policy. Upon the Ministers of State devolves the responsibility of saving the country from this distracting contest between officialdom and the so-called "Popular Party," since they are to blame for the maladministration which has brought about such a state of affairs. In order to restore harmony, it will not do—continues the *Yiji*—to resort to any time-serving and petty reforms. The Ministers of State must return to the simple and unostentatious method of administration which characterized the early years of the *Meiji* Government.

The labour problem occupies considerable space in the metropolitan press. As already stated, this question has been taken up by Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers to form one of the principal planks in their new platform as the Oriental Radicals. Their example was recently followed by the members of the Western section of the Radical Party, who held a general meeting at Osaka and passed a resolution that a bill concerning the protection of the labouring class be introduced in the approaching session of the Diet. This action is evidently approved by the rest of the Radical Party; for the latter's organ, the *Yiyu*, endorses the views expressed at the Osaka meeting. The *Yiyu* believes, with most of its contemporaries, that as yet there are few grievances to be redressed in the field of labour; but nevertheless thinks it important to take steps in order to avert, as far as possible, difficulties such as are now disturbing the relations between the capitalist and the labourer in the Occident. The time, we read, is not far distant when similar troubles will present themselves in Japan. To mention some of the measures recommended by the Radical organ, it is proposed that free schools should be established for the education of the poor; that the scale of income tax should be so modified as to increase the public contributions of the rich; that the burden borne by the poor should be lightened by revising indirect taxation; that the tenant regulations should be framed in a spirit favourable to tenants; that the interest of labourers should be protected by enacting Factory Regulations, and so forth. The *Yiyu* observes that, so far as the political sphere is concerned, freedom has been carried to a considerable extent; but regrets to notice that from social points of view custom is still strong enough to thwart the principles of liberty and equality. Consequently the Radical organ thinks it time for its party to pay attention to the solution of social questions.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* thinks that it is necessary above all other things to instruct working men how to help themselves. The custom of despising money, which originated among the *Samurai*, has extended even to the labouring classes, so much so that genuine sons of Tokyo still regard it almost as a point of honour never to let money remain in their hands over night. They work like slaves, but they spend like princes; so says the *Kokumin*. Our contemporary thinks that it will be useless to talk of bettering the condition of the working class unless this common spirit of unthrift be reformed.

The *Choya Shimbun* is afraid that, in the hands of demagogues, the labour question may

be productive of more harm than good. Generally speaking, the working class is composed of ignorant men little accustomed to think for themselves. It is a very dangerous experiment to infuse the spirit of discontent among men of this description. Our contemporary can point to an example of the injurious result of inflaming labourers with enmity against the wealthy class. Just before the general elections of February last, a certain Radical politician harangued at Sakata, in the Province of Uzen, on the oppression of the poor by the rich, and the audience were so pleased with this new doctrine that some of these burnt down the house of Mr. Homma, the wealthiest man in the locality, during disturbances connected with the elections. Before advising labourers to revolt against capitalists, they must be taught to become more frugal in their habits and more regular in their mode of work. In short, our contemporary insists that education should precede extension of rights.

The report that the Authorities have decided to select Kyoto as the site for the Domestic Exhibition of 1895, has evoked unfavourable criticism from the press of Tokyo and Osaka. The Osaka people had been enthusiastically advocating the selection of their city for the site, and the preference shown to Kyoto has naturally disappointed them very much. But they are not without consolation, for it is stated that the Authorities have decided to hold the Domestic Exhibitions, alternately in the three cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka. Thus the next Exhibition after that of 1895 will be in the last mentioned place. The people of Tokyo are very indignant that Kyoto and Osaka should be allowed to participate in profits which they have hitherto regarded as a sort of monopoly. The selection of Kyoto for 1895 is based on the circumstance that that year happens to be the 1100th anniversary of the first choice of Kyoto as the capital of the Empire. But Tokyo folks contend that the selection of site for a national exhibition should be guided, not by historical, but by economical and commercial considerations. Tokyo is the centre of the country and the focus of trade facilities, as well as the largest city in the empire. On these grounds the Tokyo press condemns the selection of any other place for such a purpose as a national exhibition. The *Mainichi Shimbun* even threatens that the Diet will not give its consent to appropriations for the exhibition unless adequate reasons are set forth for the selection of Kyoto for its site.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* alone thinks otherwise. It recommends the Tokyo people to show their proverbial spirit of chivalry and allow Kyoto and Osaka to share in turn the profits derived from national exhibitions.

The *Choya Shimbun* advocates the opening of a special national exhibition in Tokyo next year. The idea is to attract hither European visitors to the Columbian Exposition of Chicago. Our contemporary calculates from past experience that a national exhibition does not require more than 450,000 yen in all, and that more than 80,000 yen would be realized by the sale of tickets and of the temporary buildings, so that the net outlay would not exceed 370,000 yen.

The *Kokkai* discusses the question of the degeneration of Buddhist priests. It does not hesitate to denounce the whole order of priesthood as being sunk in the depths of immoralities. There have not been wanting pretended reformers of Buddhism in recent years. Kitabatake Dōryū, for instance, caused a certain amount of excitement in religious circles by preaching new doctrines which he had brought home from a tour in Europe. But he soon sank out of notice. His example was followed by a priest called Mizutani Jinkai, who declared himself a *Bosatsu* (Bodhisattava) and drove about in a peculiar carriage. After him appeared Tonaka Chikaku, who attempted to revive a belief in the miracles

wrought by Nichiren. At present a young scholar named Inouye Enryō is doing some useful work by rousing interest in the study of Buddhism as a system of philosophy. But his efforts have not the slightest influence in reviving the vitality of the religion. Is there not, asks our contemporary, a single true follower of Buddha among the 200,000 priests in Japan?

A movement is on foot for the abolition of the legal prohibition of gambling. The agitation is confined to professional gamblers and to a certain section of the *soshi* class. It is now rumoured that the *Kokumin Kyokai* has consented to bring the matter up for discussion in the coming session of the Diet. For our own part we do not believe in the accuracy of this rumour; but the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is evidently disposed to think otherwise. At all events, it seriously discusses the undesirability of a responsible party taking up such a question. The abolition of the legal prohibition might, we are told, be a wise thing in the abstract, but it would be decidedly unwise to countenance an agitation started by professional gamblers, for such an act would inevitably be construed by the vulgar as an open sanction of gambling itself.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It is perhaps difficult for a foreigner to realize the impression created upon the thoughtful Japanese by the uncertainty of moral standards that now prevails in this nation. It is not that the condition of the country in respect to transgressions or culpabilities is any worse (or shall we say, less satisfactory?) than it ever was. On the contrary, the self-accusation so noticeable now-a-days (and especially in the last month) in the religious journals is rather an evidence of increased strength of purpose and renewed aspiration. The condition of which such men are so sensible is a lack of standards to appeal to, an inability to find accepted axioms which command every one's assent. Their condition is like that of a man walking in a second storey who has dropped his candle and stands still in the darkness, paralyzed with fear of plunging headlong down the stairway, though in fact he is at a perfectly safe distance. Next to this in importance, and perhaps akin in its nethermost causes, is the condition of Buddhism. The outcries and lamentations of warning and of despair that appear in print from time to time must certainly portend something radical. A man may be afflicted with nervous prostration, may imagine himself, though really sound in body, to be a nest of diseases; but, unless Buddhism is merely passing through some such nervous affection, its condition must be serious. No one is so short-sighted as to suppose that the vast Buddhist organization will break up or pass away; but there may at least occur a thorough regeneration.

On the Christian side there has lately been more or less talk about the methods of propaganda. There seems to be a measure of dissatisfaction with present methods, and suggestions are made in abundance. But no one seems quite ready as yet to take the lead in demanding changes. Perhaps something definite will be done at the General Conference of next year. As to the Conference, it may be noted that Mr. Kanamori has been made one of the Committee of five to prepare for it—the others being Messrs. Yokoi, Ibuka, Miyagawa, and Hiraiwa. This is certainly a weighty body; but we confess that we do not understand Mr. Kanamori's re-appearance on that scene. Our last recollection of him in religious circles is his formal leave-taking of his associates at Osaka last spring, his conscience not permitting him to remain longer under their banner. A more questionable matter seems to be the appointment of Mr. Kato Satori (or Samuel) as one of the Secretaries of the Committee. Is it possible that one who has proved himself doubly an apostate, whose conduct known to all has received the disapproval of a general conference

of his church, is to be quietly given a post of honour and responsibility without question?

The Kumamoto Bible-reading affair has of course found its way into the columns of the Christian press. Much less has been said than might have been; and as a rule the temperateness of the Christian press on such occasions is a model of propriety and good sense, and compares favourably with the violent denunciation sometimes uttered by Buddhists—men, for instance, like Professor Naito, of whom better things might be expected. But at all times, it must be remembered, the temper of the besiegers is one thing, of the besieged another; and it is recorded in history that, after the Germans had entered upon French soil, the French prisoners in Germany fared better at the hands of their captors than the German prisoners in France.

Mr. Yokoi this month transfers his favours to the *Kirisutokyo Shimbu* (Congregationalist).—two articles, pithy and timely as usual. The first deals with "Japanese Christians and Pagan Customs." Joshua, in his zeal for the one God, destroyed the other nations who were worshippers of other gods, and only saved them for slavery on their renunciation of their deities. Men now doubt whether such deeds were just in the eyes of God. Joshua acted according to his light; but we of to-day know that such cannot be the true methods of Christianity. When we see about us forms and ceremonies hallowed by tradition, let us not denounce them narrowly and indiscriminately as the worship of false gods. Let us be tolerant; let us be liberal. Mr. Yokoi's second theme is "What is Religion?" It is couched in more vehement style than he is accustomed to employ, and is a warning against making formalities the essence of religion and exalting trifles into indispensable. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for insisting on the double daily fast, and denounced them as "hypocrites" and "generation of vipers;" so also would he denounce many to-day, should he re-visit earth. Love for God and our neighbour,—this is the be-all and end-all of religion. The same attitude is taken by this journal editorially in writing of "Christian Union." It is singular that people acknowledging the same Lord, the same God, and the same Bible should not be able to agree among themselves. The *Ichi-kyokuwai* and the *Kumiai-kyokuwai* have tried to form a basis of union, but in vain. Universalists and Unitarians, much though they resemble each other, prefer to keep apart. The difficulty lies in placing too much importance on small things. One set insists on Baptism; another on certain things about the Holy Spirit; and so it goes. The Conference of next year will encourage efforts to bring about union, and should be utilized for that purpose.

The symposium offered by the *Kirisutokyo Shimbu* on the subject of "The Decline of Christian Schools," has come to an end. The subject is indeed a serious one, and the depth of the causes for the decline is indicated by the fact that scarcely any two of the writers agree on the same diagnosis. Here are some of the reasons last offered:—1. Graduates of these schools are not given the Government license to teach in Government schools; 2. The Christian principles there taught are too lofty for the general run of men; 3. Able leaders are lacking; 4. The methods are theoretical, not practical; it is all head and no body; 5. The spirit of the times has changed and is no longer favourable to them; 6. They are mismanaged. Here are some equally comprehensive, equally various, and, we may add, equally strong suggestions for reform: 1. More sincerity of purpose; greater harmony between authorities and students; 2. The establishment of a Christian University; 3. The concentration of strength on the theological departments; 4. A resort to the Government system for a model on certain (unmentioned) points; 5. Less use of money from abroad for secular education; more attention to morality.

In the *Rikugo Zasshi* (Congregationalist) we find an increasing proportion of secular topics,

as witness the table of contents: 1. The Achievements of Columbus; 2. The Commercial Relations between Japan and the United States; 3. Women and Economy; 4. Schleiermacher; 5. Yokoi Shonan; 6. Some Reasons for the Revision of the Japanese Translation of the Bible; 7. Some additional Remarks on the Romanization of Chinese Characters. This would do very well for a monthly review of culture and civilization—if that is what the *Rikugo* desires to be considered. One thing is noticeable, however, that every article without exception is by a Japanese writer,—a showing that scarcely any other monthly Christian journal can make. The article on Bible Revision is by Mr. Asada, and reasons given for revision are four. 1. The verse-division is antiquated and improper. 2. There is no distinction in the Japanese translation between the prose and the poetical portions. 3. The Japanese translation is too removed from the original, having passed through the English and the Chinese, and hence there is naturally more or less inaccuracy. 4. The translation is too free; errors have resulted from the work having been in the hands of several independent translators. Reckoning minute errors, the translation may be said to have the following percentage of correctness: Old Testament, one-third, New Testament, one-fifth.

The *Shinko-no-Tomo* (Episcopalian) believes in more private and less public work as the best means of propagandism. The usual plan in starting a church is to hold a meeting, start a society, begin to preach, and finally undertake to work upon individuals. The process should be reversed. Let the preacher begin with individuals, make fast his converts, and then start his church. The *Fukuin Shimpo* (Presbyterian) thinks that the work of the church just now is too much of a merely negative character. The preacher is not much more than a moral policeman. What we want is not merely preventing evil but establishing good. There should be more of the positive element in the work of the church. In another article dealing with methods, the same journal complains that the new churches are being manned by preachers who are not at all able men. The authorities take the first man that can be got, regardless of quality. The root of the trouble lies with the Christian schools, which do not turn out the proper men. The *Seikyo Shimpo* (Greek), commenting on the query "Why does not the *Seikyo kwai* progress satisfactorily?" notes as one reason the fact that the preachers are all Japanese, and there are no foreigners, whereas the people are pleased to hear the words of foreigners, and like to have them as preachers. Another reason is that educational efforts are spent entirely on theological schools, and ought in part at least to be given to the establishment of academic institutions. A third is that there are no certain dogmas to preach; the doctrine differs according to the place and man. It may be noted that the first two of these reasons are diametrically opposite to some advanced by Protestant Christians, and that the third flatly contradicts the ideas usually entertained as to the doctrines of the Greek Church.

In the *Jiyu Kiristokyo Zasshi* (Universalist) a certain Sekitesusei writes on "Religion and Morality." There is to-day, he thinks, a lack of moral standards. Buddhism and Shintoism do not agree. Their moral code is negative, not positive. The fear of hell is their only sanction. The manners of the times may seem outwardly praiseworthy but within there is only degeneration. Under the title "Liberal Christianity and the Japanese People," Mr. Amagura advances two propositions. First, Christians themselves check the progress of Christianity. (1) Religions are always more or less disunited, and so are Christians. (2) As the Japanese saying has it, "See, the physician is sick," so Christians injure their own cause by looking down on non-Christians and shunning association with them. (3) They have no sure faith; they merely accept on trust what the preacher says. (5) They are too strict and censorious in such

matters as smoking and drinking. The second proposition is after all capable of furnishing the true religion for the Japanese people. (1) It is not a religion of superstition or of empty ceremonies. (2) It is the religion of sincerity and disinterestedness. (3) It is tolerant religion, and will allow the people of this country to preserve their own customs and habits. In the *Shukyo* (Unitarian) Mr. Akashi writes on "Revivals." This term is usually applied to occasions of moaning and weeping which are in no sense real revivals. The true revival is a regeneration and a new growth; it cannot come suddenly; it is going on all the time. An essay on the thesis "Ceremonies indicate the stage of a Society" treats interestingly the significance of forms and ceremonies from Confucius till now.

The *Bukkyo* (Tendai) offers a strong number, the names at least of Inouye Tetsujiro, Otani, and Sugiura Jugo being enough to attract multitudes. Mr. Inouye's article, on "The Philosophy of To-day," is an outline of modern philosophy from Kant down. Mr. Otani takes for his subject "Ethics." He defines it as the science of human conduct, and paves the way for future articles by positing good of the individual as the basis of ethical duty. Mr. Sugiura's article is on "Mystery," and is well named. He asserts that the mysteries of the world are innumerable, and we think that his article ought to be placed among them. For pointless and ineffective scribbling Mr. Sugiura excels. An article on "Contemplation at Rest" expounds the doctrine of the Ten (Contemplative) Sect, that to control our passions is the attainment of life's one object. Heaven and hell, as material things, are imaginary only. The 17 Heavens are merely stages of spiritual progress. Everyone who by contemplation schools himself may become Buddha and needs no external help. The Universe is the Soul, and the Soul is Buddha. Other articles in this journal deal with "Sao-Tse," the Chinese philosopher, and "A New View of Buddhist History."

It is a singular commentary on the similarity of problems in all religions that no less than three of the important topics already noted in the Christian press are paralleled in Buddhist magazines. We find, of course, an article on the decay of Japanese morality, this time in the *Dento* (Shingon). The writer admits that the decline of Buddhism has led to a decline of morality in the people, and claims now for Buddhism the right as well as the power to reform this degeneration. Next is an article in *Hana no Sono* advising a change in the methods of preaching to suit the changes of the times. Finally, an interesting article on "Religion" prophesies in hopeful terms a general union of religions. Disunion and internal division have always marked the councils of religious bodies. But there are signs of a nearer approach among the sects of Christianity. Buddhism, Shintoism, and Confucianism in Japan have shown how three systems may ultimately come to be more or less fused in the life of a people. The history of religion passes through three stages—first, mere worship without form; second, religion developed into fixed forms and ceremonies; and last, religion divested of its accidents and outward symbols and sought in and for itself alone. Towards this last goal of general harmony and co-operation we seem to be approaching. The same advocacy of unity is found in the *Dento*, which strongly urges the members of the Shingon sect to drop all differences and party affiliations and work together for the union of all Buddhists.

There is for Buddhists a *Fujin Zasshi* (Lady's Magazine) in which we find an article on "Buddhist Schools for Girls." The writer asserts the importance of woman's influence in society, and, in advocating the encouragement of girls' schools, he points to the successful results reached in America, where, he declares, Christian principles prevail, every woman has an education, and the Christian principle pervades everything. We suspect that this enthusiastic writer has never been to America.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE LAND TAX IN JAPAN.

MR. DROPPERS is not satisfied with the conclusions reached by us in reply to his recent communication on the subject of the Land Tax. He renews the controversy and re-asserts his original proposition, namely, that the tax on rice lands is at least 25 per cent. of the net produce. Considering this assertion, we showed, in a previous article, that Mr. DROPPERS' hypothesis would make the tax paid by rice land alone some forty-eight million *yen*; a sum exceeding by ten million *yen* the total Land Tax actually levied. Mr. DROPPERS now takes exception to data by which we reached this result. He affirms that we exceeded the mark when we assumed 38 million *koku* as the annual crop of rice, and 6 *yen* per *koku* as the market value. We are quite willing to accept the amendments of Mr. DROPPERS for the purposes of this particular argument. But we may be permitted to explain that we chose the figure of 38 million *koku* because Mr. DROPPERS himself, in his original letter, took 39,999,000 *koku* as a basis of calculation, and declared that there was "nothing abnormal about such a crop." In point of fact the average annual yield of rice is difficult to estimate with any certainty. Mr. DROPPERS, taking the ten years from 1880 to 1889, inclusive, obtains an average of 33.2 *koku*. Had he taken the ten years from 1881 to 1890, he would have found an average of 34.37 *koku*. But, as we have said, it is immaterial for the purposes of our argument whether we take the figure originally taken by Mr. DROPPERS himself or that selected by him now. As to price, again, he chooses the six years from 1884 to 1889, and obtains an average of 5.2 *yen* per *koku*. With this also we shall not quarrel, though had the three years ending 1892 been included, a very different price would have resulted. Thus then, accepting the figures of Mr. DROPPERS himself, we have this result:—

Gross Yield of Rice	32 million <i>koku</i> .
Net Yield	27.2 million <i>koku</i> .
Twenty-five per cent. of Net	
Yield	6.8 million <i>koku</i> .
Value of 6.8 million <i>koku</i> at 5.2	
<i>yen</i> per <i>koku</i>	35,360,000 <i>yen</i> .
Actual Land Tax levied on Rice	
Fields	27,894,500 <i>yen</i> .
Error of Mr. Droppers' calculation	7,465,500 <i>yen</i> .

Hence, even taking the figures chosen by Mr. DROPPERS himself, it results that he over-estimates the tax on rice fields by no less an amount than fully one-fourth. The total sum actually paid to the State by rice-planters, even though calculated on the extreme bases assumed by Mr. DROPPERS, is only 20 per cent. of the net crop, whereas he declares that it is at least 25 per cent. It is scarcely necessary, we presume, to pursue this part of the subject any farther. Arithmetic cannot be disputed. Perhaps, however, we ought to explain that we have apparently been labouring under a false impression. Our belief was that Mr. DROPPERS sought to give to the

public a fair idea of the state of the agricultural classes in Japan at present. It seems that such is not his notion. He has been confining himself to the problem of the rice-growers' fiscal situation. We believe such a partial method of treatment to be not only unsatisfactory, but also, in Japan's case, extremely misleading, since it leaves out of account many factors that have an important bearing on the general problem. However, if it be the purpose of Mr. DROPPERS to show that the incidence of taxation is unfair, as regards rice lands, and that uplands and urban lands should be more heavily taxed, we agree with him. He repudiates the notion that his previous writings have been devoted too exclusively to the question of rice fields, but he is nevertheless of the opinion that this branch of agriculture obscures all others, and he writes:—"As a matter of fact, rice land has paid on the average 30,000,000 *yen* out of the total annual revenue of 40,000,000 *yen* received from the Land Tax." Now we cannot but note that Mr. DROPPERS is very particular as to the figures employed by his opponents. He restricts us to decimals of a *yen* in assessing the market price of rice per *koku*, and he draws very sharp limits as to the exact average of the yearly yield. What, then, does he mean by speaking of "an annual revenue of 40 million *yen* received from the Land Tax," when the actual revenue is less than 39 millions; and what does he mean by saying that rice fields pay 30 million *yen*, when they actually pay less than 28 millions? We presume that the object in such a discussion as this is to arrive at the truth, not to win a controversial victory by enforcing the use of minima on an opponent and exercising on one's own side latitude considerably in excess of the reality. Further, what Mr. DROPPERS intends to convey when he speaks of rice land having paid "on the average" thirty million *yen*, we cannot pretend to understand. To strike an average some *data* must be taken, but Mr. DROPPERS omits these essentials. He might as well speak of the yield of rice being a function, without telling us anything of the variables to which the function is to be referred. However, we desire to avoid drifting into controversial methods. Let it suffice to say that we cannot reconcile the figures given by Mr. DROPPERS himself with his own conclusions, and still less can we regard the latter as a true representation of the Japanese-farmers' fiscal burdens.

With regard to the nature of the impost levied on agricultural lands, we are prepared to admit very frankly that the arguments advanced by Mr. DROPPERS possess much force. In point of fact, we have never intended to insist that the Japanese land tax should be literally described as "rent," in the Occidental sense of the term. Our contention has simply been that when considering the

burden of agricultural taxation in this country, attention must be paid to the fact that the only liability imposed on land-owners in return for the possession of their land is the so-called land tax. Under the Japanese feudal system, as under all feudal systems for the matter of that, the possession of land involved the discharge of certain obligations to the State, usually in the shape of military service. The lords of fiefs obtained means to discharge these services by levying certain annual sums from the cultivators of the land, the land itself being, in the last resort, the property of the State. It is quite true that in Japan the cultivators were scarcely ever disturbed, and that, out of long continued and benevolent usage, a virtual privilege of ownership grew up. But if anyone imagines that a land-holder before the Restoration possessed an absolute right of property in his holding, let him think how it would have fared with an attempt to sell the land to a vassal of another fief. Such a contingency was out of the question. The *Daimyos* remained, in effect, owners of the territory granted to them originally by the EMPEROR, or more directly by the *Shogun*, while the latter was entitled to resume possession of the land under certain contingencies. If the term "rent" was not applied to the holder's annual payments to the treasury of the fief, it is at all events pretty certain that failure to make those payments would have involved eviction and transfer of the land to other hands. At the Restoration the *Daimyo* restored their fiefs to the EMPEROR, and thereupon the latter gave title-deeds to land-holders throughout the empire, thus for the first time in Japanese history vesting the fee-simple of the land in the hands of the people. Every man who happened to be then holding land, not as a mere *Kosaku-nin*, or cultivator, but as a recognised occupier, became absolute owner of the estate without any immediate disbursement, and without any liability over and above an annual payment representing 3 per cent. of the assessed value of the land. Whether we agree to call that payment a "tax," or whatever term we adopt, it is plain that the above facts must be taken into account in any statement of the fiscal conditions of land tenure in Japan. For the rest, that the Government stood in the position of legal owner of the land, seems to us to be clearly demonstrated by the fact that the title-deeds, by which alone the right of property was acquired, were issued by the Government. Finally, with regard to the Government's right of revising the land tax every five years, we fail to grasp Mr. DROPPERS' argument. Quoting the provision of the Regulations—"Even if the market price of the land increases or diminishes after the completion of the revision, yet the appraised value shall remain unchanged for at least five years after the Reform,"—he says: "From this article it

is easy to see that the Government reserved no right of revising the value of the land every five years. Such revision was contemplated only if the landowner complained of over-valuation." On what conceivable principle does Mr. DROP-PERS adopt such a one-sided reading? Does he seriously mean to assert that the presence or absence of the word "increases" has no effect on the significance of the Article, and that it was drafted solely with reference to possible future "decreases" of market value? We cannot follow such arguments. For us the article can mean only what it plainly says, namely, that the Government guarantees fixity of rate of tax for a period of five years, and that while, on the one hand, no increase shall be made during that period on account of appreciation of the land, neither shall any decrease be made on account of depreciation. If Mr. DROP-PERS reconsiders the article, he will see that no other construction is possible, except by deliberately ignoring a part of its text.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* is good enough to renew its attack upon us with reference to the question of domestic politics. There have been two points at issue between the *Kokumin* and ourselves; one is the vital problem of party cabinets; the other, a vehement crusade undertaken by the *Kokumin* against Mr. NAKASHIMA NOBUYUKI, formerly President of the House of Representatives, who is virtually denounced as a traitor by the *Kokumin* because, having hitherto been a distinguished member of the Radical Party, he has ventured to accept the post of Japanese Representative in Rome. Our courteous contemporary appears to think that these matters occupy the same niche in our mind, and that we chose the latter as a new basis of attack for the purpose of re-establishing our position towards the former. Moreover, the *Kokumin* makes much capital out of the circumstance that we left the NAKASHIMA episode unnoticed for several days. But with regard to celerity or deliberation of comment, it is only necessary to observe that experience has taught us the wisdom of allowing a mature period to intervene before referring seriously to the utterances of certain Japanese journals where personal questions are concerned. Complete or partial retraction, not to speak of other consequences calculated to greatly influence criticism, must be looked for so often in the sequel of such utterances, that judgment has generally to be suspended, if only for the sake of avoiding waste of time and brain tissue. For the rest, we do not clearly discern what Mr. NAKASHIMA's appointment has to do with party cabinets. The administrative custom of countries generally called civilized is to draw a hard and fast line between domestic politics and diplo-

macy. The British Foreign Secretary, for example, asks no questions about, and pays no heed to, the political colour of the men nominated by him to represent the QUEEN. On the other hand, the diplomatic agents of the country serve their Sovereign and the interests of the empire with absolutely unaltered zeal and devotion whatever political party may for the moment hold the Royal mandate to administer the nation's affairs. That wholesome practice has grown out of recognised exigencies and practically demonstrated expediency. We should like to see it adopted in Japan. When, therefore, the *Kokumin Shimbun* calls Mr. NAKASHIMA NOBUYUKI a great many ugly names because, being a Radical, he accepts the post of Japanese Minister Plenipotentiary in a European State, we cannot fail to perceive that a most dangerous postulate is introduced in to the science of statesmanship. Mr. NAKASHIMA, the *Kokumin* notwithstanding, goes to Rome to serve his country, not to serve the ITO Cabinet, or any other coterie of Ministers. If our polite contemporary intends to assert the dogma that no Japanese subject can accept a diplomatic position from his opponents in domestic politics without being called a renegade, then we can only say, heaven save Japan from the administrative control of the *Kokumin's* fellow thinkers. If it does not intend to lay down such a mad proposition, then why has it made Mr. NAKASHIMA'S mission to Rome the occasion for an attack upon that gentleman which in scurrility rivals JUNIUS and in ferocity BOMBASTES himself? Passing from this topic to the other ground of discussion, party cabinets, there are just two points concerning which we should like to elicit a frank expression of views from the *Kokumin Shimbun* or any other Radical Japanese organ. The first is whether our contemporary is prepared frankly and unequivocally to agitate for the system of party cabinets. We do not mean to suggest that intelligent people can be in any doubt as to the inevitable bourne of Radical agitation in Japan to-day. Concerning that it is easy to speak confidently. But never yet, in journalistic columns or platform utterances, have we found a plain, straightforward statement that the object of the Opposition is to render the Ministers of the Crown subservient to the will of the Diet: in other words, that the principle of party cabinets constitutes an unambiguous plank of the Radical platform. Why has no one the courage to declare clearly that to that end, and to that end only, the *Kaishin-to* and the *Jiyu-to* seek to push the nation? We say nothing as to whether it is a desirable end or an undesirable end. The simple query is whether the *Kokumin Shimbun*, as a Radical organ, is prepared frankly to admit that it desires to make the Cabinet's tenure of office depend on the will of the Diet. Secondly, we wish to ask our contemporary

whether it can find in the Constitution any warrant for depriving the EMPEROR of the absolute power of appointing and dismissing his own Ministers. The SOVEREIGN being the original source of all rights in Japan, it follows necessarily that every right of which he has not explicitly divested himself by the terms of the Constitution remains vested in him. Can it be shown that any clause of the Constitution directly or indirectly warrants the substitution of the Diet's voice for the Imperial will in the appointment or removal of the heads of the Administration? "The EMPEROR appoints and dismisses all civil and military officers," and "the respective Ministers of State shall give their advice to the EMPEROR, and be responsible for it;"—these are the only two provisions bearing on the subject, and it behoves the Opposition to demonstrate that the terms of one or other of these provisions can be reconciled with the principle of holding the Ministers of State responsible to the Diet, and making their dismissal and appointment practically dependent on the latter's will. Unless this can be demonstrated, we return to the proposition originally advanced by us, namely, that the platform of the Opposition is in direct contravention of the penultimate paragraph of the Constitution's preamble:—"When in future it may become necessary to amend any of the provisions of the present Constitution, WE or OUR successors shall assume the initiative, and submit a project for the same to the Imperial Diet. The Imperial Diet shall pass its vote upon it, according to the conditions imposed by the present Constitution, and in no otherwise shall OUR descendants or OUR subjects be permitted to attempt any alteration thereof."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LAND TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your editorial of October 7th on Land Taxation in Japan you have an evident advantage is not replying specifically to the evidence I submit. You take a few statistics, which are fair enough in a way, and from these you make some very telling conclusions. If it were so easy a matter to determine the burden of the land tax as you seem to make it, I do not think I or anyone else could ever have made a mistake about it.

It was a remark of an old statistician, I believe, that there are three degrees of comparison in lies: ordinary lies, outrageous lies, and statistics. If there is any truth in these words—I think the author tried to demonstrate it by statistics—it shows that we are to be careful in basing too sweeping conclusions upon simple figures.

For instance, you make the assumption that the rice crop of Japan is on an average 38,000,000 *koku*. It is particularly stated in the Imperial Decree of July 1873 that the basis of the land tax shall be the average crop and consequently the tax shall not be less in bad years or more in good ones. Now the rice crop returns for the ten years ending 1889 are as follows:—

KOKU.		KOKU.	
1880	31,359,000	1885	34,158,000
1881	29,971,000	1886	37,191,000
1882	30,692,000	1887	39,999,000
1883	30,671,000	1888	38,645,000
1884	26,346,000	1889	33,007,000

This average, out of which taxes had to be paid is 33.2 million *koku*, or nearly 5 millions less than you assume. From this average, however, ought to be subtracted a certain amount, as for instance, the rice grown on newly cultivated land, on which

taxes for a term of years, are little or nothing. If we assume 32 million *koku* as a fair average for the regularly appraised land, it is not likely to be too low an estimate; 85 per cent. of this would leave us 27.2 million *koku*, as net produce, on which taxes must be calculated.

Again, you assume 6 *yen* per *koku* as an average price. The actual average in all the Rice Exchanges of the Empire from 1884 to 1889 (I omit the earlier years on account of the depreciated paper currency) was as follows (per *koku*):—

1884 = <i>yen</i> 4.71	1887 = <i>yen</i> 4.71
1885 = <i>yen</i> 5.86	1888 = <i>yen</i> 4.37
1886 = <i>yen</i> 5.14	1889 = <i>yen</i> 5.56 or an

average price of 5.2 *yen* per *koku*. This is the average price of rice delivered in the 16 places where rice exchanges are established. What price the farmers got is hard to state, but it is certainly less than this, as deduction must be made for freight charges. All these modifications must be made before your calculations can be used as premises for reasonable conclusions. It takes no great insight to see that if these deductions be made the tax on rice land is easily 25 per cent. of the net crop.

You say, "the authorities he quotes speak as though the rice crop alone was to be considered in comparing the amount of the land tax with the produce of the land." My authorities are no doubt able to defend themselves, but in my own article rice land alone was mentioned. I said "it (the land tax) requires at least 25 per cent. of his (the farmer's) net crop of rice." As a matter of fact, rice land has paid on the average 30,000,000 *yen* out of the total annual revenue of 40,000,000 *yen* received from the land tax. Rice is by all odds the most important agricultural product of Japan, and as the land on which it is cultivated pays on the average three-fourths of the national land taxes—tea, barley, wheat, building land, etc., only contributing one-fourth, one is justified in considering rice land by itself. I am aware that the dry land pays relatively a much smaller proportion of taxes. The cultivation of the mulberry has yielded very good profits to the farmer during the last ten years, and those farmers who cultivate rice on new land likewise have very low taxes to pay. What I stated in my article applied particularly to the rice land brought under the reform of 1877. I may add that my article was not specially on land taxation, but on general taxation in Japan; it was merely a descriptive account of the taxes, and the statement about rice land was but a sentence or two incidentally thrown in.

That the land tax of Japan is rent, I still believe to be loose writing. You say no landholder in Japan even possessed a title-deed until such documents were granted by the Meiji Government. "A title deed is merely a modern legal evidence of ownership, but real ownership of land has in past time existed in nearly every country of the world without a title-deed. In old Japan ownership of land as much else was determined largely by custom. In the Tokugawa period there were restrictions placed on the sale or transfer of land, but these were made for a political purpose mainly, viz., to carry out the great Tokugawa policy, the balance of power among the different classes. By a law passed in the 20th year of Kwanel (1643) it was enacted that land must be held under a mortgage ten years before ownership could be transferred. Various other restrictions were introduced, all tending to prevent the farmer from changing his occupation or alienating his land, not, however, on the theory that he was not owner, but that agriculture must be stable.

That as lord of the province the Bakufu government theoretically claimed a sort of ownership of all the land is probably true. But in this respect Japan was not alone; on the contrary, the theory was known in Europe at late as the 18th century. De Tocqueville in his *France before the Revolution* (p. 163) says:—"Louis XIV. publicly broached in his edicts the theory that all the land throughout the kingdom had originally been granted conditionally by the State, which was thus declared to be the only true landowner, and that all others were possessors whose rights were imperfect. This doctrine had arisen out of the feudal system of legislation; but it was not proclaimed in France until feudalism was dying out, and was never adopted by the Courts of Justice." A similarly vague theory may have been, and probably was, held in Japan, but neither in Japan nor in France were the contributions of the landowner to the State ever known as rent, but as taxes, but in both countries rents were dues paid to the landowner by the tenant.

All this, however, is not pertinent to the inquiry. The real question is whether, when the Bakufu Government was overthrown and the reformed land-tax introduced, the Government granted title-

deeds to the possessors of land and claimed a tax from them on the ground that these were substituted for the old rents paid to the State. This is the claim made in your editorial of October 6th, or otherwise the whole issue is irrelevant. There could be no greater misconception.

In 1873 the Government abolished all restrictions on the conveyance or transfer of land, but mentions not a word about State ownership; on the contrary, it states that a legal deed of sale should be evidence of ownership. In the general Imperial Proclamation of July 28, 1873, the following words are used:—"Taxation is one of the most important affairs of State upon which the welfare and happiness of the people depend. The old system of taxation lacked unity, as it bore too heavily upon one and too lightly upon another. The reformed system is established and is hereby promulgated." In this proclamation not a word is said of the old system of rent, but throughout it refers only to the old system of taxation. In the decree that follows, mention is made of the difficulties in the way of a fair system of taxation and the 6th Article runs thus:—"According to the old land tax the dues upon commodities and upon buildings were confused. But according to the reformed law there is a clear line of demarcation between the two, and the land tax is really to be one per cent. of the value of the land. But as the tax on commodities is not yet introduced, the land tax is temporarily imposed at the rate of 3 per cent. on the value of the land." In this Decree of the Prime Minister Sanjo the old land impost is frequently called a tax, but never rent, and it is compared, as may be noticed above, with other taxes on buildings, etc., but we hear not a word of theory of State ownership or rent.

Again, in 1879 when tile deeds were granted to the landowners, it was specifically stated on the back of the document that the people of Japan who were owners of soil should have this deed in evidence of ownership. Now, is it not clear that if ownership in land was not recognized until after the Restoration some mention should be made of it in these important decrees that imposed heavy taxes on the land owners? If such a theory had been acknowledged even tacitly by the land-holders it would have been an immense source of power to the new government. In this decree the government admits the rate of 3 per cent. to be high, inasmuch as it promises, as soon as possible, to lower the rate from 3 per cent. to 1 per cent., but this would have unnecessary had the government possessed the fee-simple of the land. Not once in any official document after the Restoration have I ever met with a hint of the theory that the State was owner of the land and the actual occupiers merely tenants; on the contrary, in those documents the occupiers are always described as owners.

At the close of your editorial you remark, "the condition under which the land came into the possession of its occupiers was that the annual sum payable by them should by subject to re-assessment every five years." Now if this were true that the Government had strictly reserved such a right in its own interest the theory that the Government holds the fee-simple of the land might have a leg—though a lame one—to stand on. But even this right was not reserved to the Government in the sense in which you understand it. The Imperial Decree of July 28, 1873, to which I have referred, followed the complete abolition of all previous restrictions on the land and established the rate of taxation at 3 per cent. on the value of the land. This Decree, consisting of seven articles was found to be defective in one important point: it left the door open to complaints from the farmers that their land had been appraised too highly, or if correctly appraised at the time of the revision, the market price of the land had since declined. The Government in order to provide for this class of complaints laid down a definite rule in an eighth article, promulgated May 12, 1874 or more than eight months after the original Decree. It was as follows:—"Even if the market price of the land increases or diminishes after the completion of the revision, yet the appraised value shall remain unchanged for at least five years after the Reform. If the landowner, however, should sell his land in the meantime at a lower price than the appraised value the proper official must write this price on the back of the title deed in red ink." From this article it is easy to see that the Government reserved no right of revising the value of the land every five years. Such revision was contemplated only if the landowner complained of over-valuation. Had the Government granted titles only, on condition of a five years' revision, surely the condition would have been clearly stated in the original Decree of July 28th, 1873.

Turning now to Mr. Zumoto's letter of October 12th, I find that he for the most part corroborates my view of the burden of the land tax. In the year 1885 he expressly declares that "land tax in

that year represented 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the net produce of the field." So far then I have not exaggerated the weight of the land tax resting on the farmers. But Mr. Zumoto considers that I am labouring under a delusion in thinking that this burden still rests upon the farmers. Clearly Mr. Zumoto is "no witch at a riddle." I particularly stated in my letter to the Mail that the Japanese land tax was a fixed amount and did not vary with the price or size of the crop and was comparatively light in periods of high prices and good harvests, —two conditions which have on the whole prevailed in the last two or possibly three years. I wrote my article for the *Quarterly Journal* over a year and a half ago, early in the year 1891. It was not published until June, 1892, because the Editor mislaid the manuscript. Of the distinguished German scholars whom Mr. Zumoto mentions, two published their works in the year 1890 and Dr. Ruthgen in the year 1891. The latter work was not even in print when I finished writing my article. So much for the great interval of time which Mr. Zumoto thinks must have elapsed between my study and that of the German scholars.

I fear that Mr. Zumoto is unfamiliar with economic investigations. In describing the Japanese land tax it would have been grossly unfair to select one or two years for comparing the burden of the tax with the net crop. The only method of giving a correct idea of such a peculiar tax is to take an average of many years. When I wrote my article my last statistics extended to the beginning of the year 1890. I am well aware that at present when the price of rice is high and crops are good the farmer's burden is not very heavy. But the average burden has been very heavy, as Mr. Zumoto himself confesses compared with land taxes in other countries. What has happened in the past may readily happen again. It does not now seem likely that low prices will again prevail in Japan especially with the rapid growth of an urban and manufacturing population. But if for instance the bimetallic league should be established and the silver *yen* rise, say to par with the gold *yen* it is not improbable that the price of rice will again fall and the tax would be much heavier than at present.

Mr. Zumoto tells you much if you know nothing. I mentioned Gumma *Ken* and Nagano *Ken* as examples of districts where the land-tax required a large proportion of the crop. This I know to be a fact from my own observation and from unquestionable Japanese authorities. Mr. Zumoto implies that these districts have profited most by the extension of sericulture. One must be very ignorant not to know so much. These two *Ken* are among the most progressive districts in Japan, especially because of the energy of the inhabitants in cultivating silk for foreign markets. Nevertheless, at the time of the Land Reform the land of these *Ken* was appraised relatively higher than the average of other districts in Japan, or at least, this is the opinion of competent Japanese who live there.

Mr. Zumoto evidently scents politics in my article, and he cannot let the occasion go by without expressing his dissent from certain politicians. His official zeal is, however, unnecessary. I had no political bias when I wrote my article, and expressed no opinion as to whether the Japanese land tax was a good or bad impost. It is natural for the land holders to urge a diminution of the rate of taxation, since this was vaguely promised as early as 1873, and besides the tax is high compared with the land taxes of western nations. But a land tax, especially in countries where land is rising in value, is not a bad form of taxation, and in some points it might be well perhaps for foreign countries to imitate Japan. It is true, however, that many Japanese farmers have been and are in a wretched economic condition and work year in year out to pay first, taxes, and second, interest on mortgages. These peasants seldom eat the rice which they spend their lives in producing, but they sell it to discharge the various national and local burdens resting on the land, and sympathy with their lot is not confined to any one party but is widespread among all who have actually seen their struggle for existence.

Yours respectfully,

GARRETT DROPPERS.

October 24th, 1892.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—I am glad to know that Professor Dropers is aware of the steady improvement of the farmer's condition in recent years. But he does not seem to have any faith in the stability of the improving state of affairs, and suggests that "what has happened in the past may readily happen again." Nobody is foolish enough to think that famine will never again visit the land or that under certain abnormal circumstances the price of rice will not fall again. But under normal circumstances, the yield of rice as well as of every other

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variety of agricultural product, will continue to increase for many years to come; for, as I stated in my previous letter, the farmers are beginning to use chemical manures and are making improvements in the method of cultivation and in the selection of seeds. As to the price of rice, everything points to the strong probability that it will not, under normal conditions, fall again much below 7 yen per koku. Its rise in recent years is attributable principally to two causes; first, the comparatively rapid development of the non-agricultural portion of the population; and secondly, the increased exportation of the cereal to foreign countries. These two causes being likely to continue to operate with increasing force, no candid observer will deny that rice will in ordinary circumstances at least maintain the present price. Professor Droppers refers to the possibility of the establishment of a bi-metallic league, but as yet it seems rather early to take that contingency into consideration in discussing the practical question of taxation. Moreover, even supposing that a bimetallic league be established, say, five years hence, it is a very complicated problem to ascertain to what degree the event would affect the weight of the Japanese farmer's burden. If it lowered the price of rice, it would also enable the farmer to procure his necessities at correspondingly low figures. At all events, the depreciation in the price of rice that would follow the establishment of the bimetallic league, could not be large enough to consume the wide margin reserved by the extremely moderate basis which I adopted in my calculations.

Professor Droppers charges me with limiting my calculations only to a space of a few years. He says:—"In describing the Japanese land tax it would have been grossly unfair to select one or two years for comparing the burden of the tax with the net crop." I would only ask Professor Droppers to read my previous letter once more and find out for himself if he is justified in preferring such a sweeping charge against me. I endeavoured to show in my former letter that the original observations of the Professor only applied to an abnormal state of affairs which prevailed in the years 1884-1889. As he, however, seems to insist in maintaining that his estimate of the farmer's burden represents the average for the past many years, I invite him to study the following statistics relating to the average price of rice for the 17 years 1875-1891 and the average yield of rice per tan for the 14 years 1878-1891:—

Years.	Average price of rice per koku.	Average yield of rice per tan.
1875.....	4.95	—
1876.....	4.26	—
1877.....	4.22	—
1878.....	5.17	1.02
1879.....	7.00	1.28
1880.....	9.28	1.22
1881.....	9.09	1.17
1882.....	7.64	1.19
1883.....	5.49	1.19
1884.....	4.71	1.01
1885.....	5.86	1.31
1886.....	5.08	1.42
1887.....	4.71	1.52
1888.....	4.37	1.44
1889.....	5.56	1.21
1890.....	8.15	1.57
1891.....	6.86	1.38
General Average.	6.02	1.28

Seeing that this table covers more years than have been employed by Professor Droppers in any of his calculations, he will not refuse to agree that it gives more reliable results than his own statistics. We have then 6 yen 2 sen for the average price of rice for 17 years ending 1891, and 1.28 koku for the average yield of rice for 14 years ending 1891. We will adopt the moderate figure of 5 yen for the basis of calculation. Thus the gross receipt of the farmer from a tan of his rice field will be found to be 6 yen 40 sen, and his net receipt 5 yen 44 sen. I stated in my previous letter that the average amount of the land tax per tan of rice field is 1 yen and some odd rin. So it will be easy to see that the farmer paid, on the basis of the above calculation, about 18 per cent. of his net rice crop in the form of land tax. Now it must be borne in mind that the average of 1.28 koku adopted in the above calculation is very much below the actual average. For, first, as I stated in my previous letter, the returns of farm products reported to the Government always err on the side of underestimation; and secondly, the above mentioned average yield includes the variety of rice known as *okabo* (陸稻), which is cultivated on upland farm *hata* (畑), and the yield of which is less than one half that of the ordinary varieties of rice planted in the *ta* (田). As we are considering the rice field, properly so called, we ought to exclude the *okabo* variety of rice, and then the average yield will be found to

rise a little higher. Taking these circumstances into consideration, we may safely conclude that the farmer's burden has been on the average very much less than 18 per cent. of his net rice crop.

It is an interesting circumstance that, in calculating an average for the price of rice, Professor Droppers refers only to the six years from 1884 to 1889. By referring to the table I have shown above, it will be found that Professor Droppers has been very sagacious in shutting his eyes to the years immediately before and after the particular period of time selected by him. Perhaps such a method is proper for those who are not "unfamiliar with economic investigation."

Professor Droppers places himself in an unfortunate situation in regard to his observations about the Prefectures of Nagano and Gumma. He stated in his first letter to you "that in Gumma Ken Nagano Ken, and Tokyo Fu, the tax is, as a rule, higher than in the southern part of Japan." It is obvious that he simply means that the tax presses more heavily upon the farmers of these localities than upon those of southern parts. When I show him that the farmers of these localities are paying their tax very easily, he takes refuge in the assertion that "at the time of the Land Reform the land of these Ken was appraised relatively higher than the average of other districts in Japan." Now this was not the position originally assumed by him, for the assessed value of land and the actual weight of taxation as bearing upon the farmer are two different things. But even in this new position Professor Droppers is not quite secure. The average assessed value of rice fields for the whole country in 1880 was 46 yen 58 sen per tan. The average for Nagano was 40 yen 34 sen, and that for Gumma 57 yen 62 sen. These figures apply, with little modifications, to the time of the Land Reform. We thus see that Professor Droppers is anything but accurate in his method of "economic investigations."

I have no political purpose in view in the discussion of the present subject. I sincerely sympathize with the hard lot of many of the smaller farmers, who are groaning under the yoke, not of heavy taxation, but of debts at high interest. The rate of interest has in recent years somewhat decreased, but it is still high in most localities, the farmer paying not infrequently as much as 25 per cent. per annum. What the farmer wants most is cheap money; his salvation lies in some credit system enabling him to convert his debts on favourable terms.

I remain, yours respectfully,

M. ZUMOTO.

Tokyo, November 1st, 1891.

AFFAIRS IN ISE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—When Count Itagaki came here this spring on the occasion of the general election, to canvass for his favourite Secretary, Mr. Kiriwara, Governor Narukawa sent him a dozen bottles of wine, saying, that as his official position did not permit him to hold free intercourse with the Liberal leader he must confine himself to presenting a humble token of esteem. That was the only prominent event which furnished material for public gossip at a time when other parts of the Empire were plunged in a fierce struggle of electioneering rivalry. But now the tables are turned; it is this Ken which is quiet while the rest of the empire is, on the whole, enjoying peace, and the recollection of the general election is gradually fading away. The cause of the trouble is the transfer of the Chief of Police of Saga, a place specially notorious for the vehemence of the election campaign last spring, to this Prefecture.

The people of Miye, as is well known, are not less lukewarm in matters of politics than tractable in disposition. This estimate of their character must have been the chief ground, it is imagined, for appointing Mr. Tanaka, the ex-police chief of Saga, to this province. The Miye folks, or rather some dozen politicians said to represent them, thinking that to submit tamely to such an arrangement would be an act of pusillanimity, took steps before the arrival of Mr. Tanaka to have him removed elsewhere. They did not succeed, however, and so soon as it was announced that he had arrived here some of the malcontents called on him to have an interview. Being admitted, they at once began to pour forth streams of eloquence, advising him as friends to resign his position and avowing that the people of Miye could not consent to have a Chief of Police who had conducted himself in such a manner in Saga. Needless to say, the so called "friendly advice" was at once positively declined, or to add that a representation in the same sense to the Governor and lastly to the Home Minister met the same result. In every instance the answer was that to

judge an official unfit for a new post because he had acted in such and such a manner elsewhere, in accordance with instructions from his superiors, was not less precipitate than illogical. What were they then to do? They were not agitators of the *Soshi* type. On the contrary, they were all men holding the most influential positions in the locality, each of them being a member of the Provincial Assembly if not of the Diet. They found themselves placed in a very painful dilemma. To retreat from the position assumed by them would have been to cover themselves with disgrace in the eyes of the public; while to maintain it was to become involved in dangerous difficulties. It is much to be lamented that they were ultimately driven by stress of circumstances to choose the latter alternative. Within a week after the arrival of Mr. Tanaka, political meetings were held on two successive nights to harangue against him. And here be it said in justice to Mr. Tanaka, as also, to some extent, of the agitators themselves, that he is a man of high ability and great energy, and that the fact was openly acknowledged in the speeches and letters of the agitators.

The representatives of the sixteen District Assemblies of the Prefecture again held a special meeting a few days ago, and the resolutions they passed indicate that they have pushed the matter to extremities which do not redound to their credit. The resolutions are certainly many-sided, to say nothing of the absurdity of some of them; as witness the following:—

Resolved,—To stop voting the local secret service fund; to hold a political meeting twice a month to philippize against Mr. Tanaka; to cut down the expenditure for the local police to the lowest limit; to establish a special office to deal with matters relating to Mr. Tanaka; to prevent the re-election of any members of the Local Assembly who does not co-operate in the present campaign, should the Assembly be dissolved; to take measures to prevent Mr. Tanaka from having a residence; to station a watch in a house opposite to that of Mr. Tanaka in order to observe his movements.

In view of all these strange doings, the Local Assembly which meets next month promises to be of a stormy character, quite unusual in this comparatively pacific land of Ise. It is a disquieting state of affairs. The prominent agitators being mostly men of means and leisure, may indulge their proclivities as they please without much inconvenience to the public, but when their action becomes likely to disturb good order, as these present proceedings undoubtedly are, their fellow-provincials have a right to look for greater caution on their part. Already there are indications that the village politicians are only too eager to imitate, if not to outdo, the central movement. The Yokkaichi folks, for instance, have decided to hold no friendly meeting with a local official until they get their complaint heard. Thus, when Mr. Tanaka arrived in Yokkaichi in the course of his official tour, he was refused quarters in a well-known hotel, and had to put up for the night in an obscure inn. Such childish action is fortunately restricted, thus far, to the sea-port town of Yokkaichi. Our town of Tsu happily appears to lack sympathetic enthusiasm for the cause of the agitators. October is a month of Shinto fêtes. They follow one after another in quick succession, there being altogether seven or eight *matsuri* in this little community of about 25,000 souls. The most popular and gay is that of Hachiman, the ceremony in honour of the Emperor Ojin. This has just been held in as spirited a manner as has ever been witnessed. Were I not fearful of occupying too much of your valuable space, I should willingly enter into details about the ornamented cars drawn from street to street, the bands of music and dancing by girls and young men all in bright costumes; the mountains of red lanterns carried about in the evening, and so forth. Suffice it is to say that the celebration of Hachiman-gu may be said to be the only red-letter day throughout the whole year to most of the citizens of Tsu, and that we sincerely hope that the political clouds described above will not invade our peaceful horizon.

Yours, &c.

Y. T.

Tsu, Ise, October 28th, 1892.

LORD TENNYSON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The interesting article upon the late Post Laureate you have recently extracted from the *San Francisco Call* contains two errors. The writer says that Lord Tennyson's "wealth of raven locks" had of late become "plentifully besprinkled with grey." This statement, made by Mr. William Watson (I think) a few months ago in a poem in which he spoke of the Laureate's

"wintry hair," was denied by Tennyson himself in a letter to Watson, in which he said that he had not a single grey hair on his head. The writer in the *Call* further speaks of Lionel Tennyson as being still alive. Lionel Tennyson died abroad on Easter Sunday, 1886. I happened to spend the first anniversary of his death at Farringford House, in company with a Japanese friend.

Yours faithfully,
October 27th, 1892.

TEIKOKU DAIGAKU SPORTS.

These sports which had been postponed a day on account of wet weather, came off on Sunday afternoon under most pleasant auspices. There was a large gathering of members of the university and their friends, while the Koto Chugakko showed up well in point of numbers. H.I.H. Prince Haru, Heir-Apparent, visited the grounds during part of the proceedings and was received most heartily. In several instances last year's records were not reached but in the Pole Jump Izawa raised it to 9 feet 8 in, five inches above the previous mark. Imamura also beat last year's record in throwing the cricket ball by eight feet. The obstacle race was the most amusing event, and at its conclusion Prince Haru retired, amid many signs of loyal good-will. The Guards' Band was in attendance. Details:—

100 YARDS RACE, (FINAL).

Emura	1
K. Ikeda	2
Tomida	3

A good race; nine ran. Time, 11 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Shishido	1
Imamura	2
T. Ikeda	3

The winner threw the ball 77 yards 1 ft. 11 in., but his handicap reduced his total to 76 yds. 6 ft. 7 in. Imamura's throw was 72 yds. 2 ft. 6 in. Eight entries. Last year Emura threw 83 yards 2 ft. with a handicap of 6 yds.

LONG JUMP.

Ikeda	1
Esachi	2
Emura	3
Noguchi	3

Ikeda jumped 15 ft. 9, Esachi 14 ft. 10 in., Emura 15 ft. 3 in., and Noguchi 14 ft. 8 in.; Emura's handicap reduced his jump to 14 ft. 8 in. and he thus tied with Noguchi who sprang from scratch. The jumping was very creditable. Twelve entries. Last year's record was 15 feet, 6 inches.

FLAG RACE.

T. Ikeda	1
Tomita	2
K. Ikeda	3

A close finish, the leading men getting home almost together. Twelve entries.

THROWING THE HAMMER.

Imamura	1
Kubota	2
Osawa	3

Imamura threw 96 feet 2 in.; Kubota, 90 feet 2 in.; Osawa 90 feet 11 in., but was handicapped 5 feet, reducing his throw to 85 feet 1 in. Twelve entries. Last year's record was 88 feet.

220 YARDS RACE, (FINAL).

K. Tomita	1
Edakuni	2
T. Tomita	3

Won by a yard; second and third separated by a foot; the rest in a bunch; two gave up. Ten ran.

HIGH JUMP.

Seki	1
Tanaka	2
Esaki	3

Seki noticed 4 ft. 10; Tanaka 4 ft. 9 in.; Esaki 4 ft. 8 in. Ten competitors.

TUG OF WAR.

A very stubborn contest, and after two trials the judge gave it as a drawn battle; the oranges were consequently scrambled between both sides.

KOTO CHUGAKKO RACE.

The little boys ran very spiritedly in both heats and finished very close to one another.

ONE LEGGED RACE (50 YARDS).

Makita	1
Mizushima	2
Ikeda	3

Makita won easily. Mizushima started from scratch.

scratch, Ikeda being conceded 4 yards. Time 11 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs. Ten started.

440 YARDS RACE.

Takata	1
Hoga	2
Yoshino	3

A good start, but the race soon developed into a procession. Takata won easily, three yards ahead of second and third, who were separated by only a foot or so. Time 51 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

440 YARDS RACE (FINAL HEAT).

Tanaka	1
Tomita	2
Kawada	3

The first three started with 16 yards in hand, Edakuni the scratch man finished fourth. Time 1m. 4 secs. Twelve started.

POLE JUMP.

Izawa	1
T. Ikeda	2
Mizumo	3

Izawa cleared 9 feet 8 inches, but allowed 8 inches to the others; T. Ikeda 8 ft. 9 in. Mizumo 8 ft. 9 in., with a handicap of 9 points. Last year Izawa and Mizumo tied at 9 ft. 3 in.

OBSTACLE RACE.

T. Ikeda	1
K. Ikeda	2
Tomita	3

Nine started and all but three came in. T. Ikeda, who started from scratch, was well to the front when the last obstacle, a 85lb. bale of iron, was reached. He was only a few feet ahead of second man at the finish. Time 1m. 27 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

THREE LEGGED RACE.

Nagano and Mizumo	1
Okamasu and Emura	2
Oshima and Kato	3

Eight couples started. Time 9 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

GAKUSHI RACE (440 YARDS).

Yamada	1
Mizushima	2
Kato	3

Four started. Yamada quickly secured a lead and led the procession home. Time 5 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

SPECIAL MEMBERS RACE.

Professor Sakurai	1
Professor Tamba	2
Professor Nakayama	3

Five started. Professor Sakurai came in alone, second and third man falling a few feet before reaching the post. Others gave up. Time, 58 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

880 YARDS RACE (FINAL HEAT).

Suda	1
Kono	2
Edakuni	3

Won easily. Time 2m. 31 $\frac{3}{10}$ secs.

CONSOLATION RACE (440 YARDS).

Yamashita	1
Shimosuka	2
Kuroda	3

Six started. A close finish, Yamashita coming just at the end. Time 57 secs.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, September 20th.

One of the biggest Bank runs on record took place last week, when the Birkbeck Bank was besieged from early in the morning until late at night by its panic-stricken depositors. After the suspensions of the London and General Bank, the Liberator Building Society, and the House and Land Investment Trust, it was expected that a run would be made on the Birkbeck, and consequently arrangements were made to meet with a bold front the first signs of panic exhibited by the Bank's patrons. No obstacles were thrown in the way of withdrawal, and demand forms were freely distributed among the eager customers, who increased in number so rapidly that the police had to be summoned and regulations made to admit of the clients going into the Bank in appropriate batches. At one time the crowd of waiting depositors, guarded by a strong cordon of police, could only be counted by hundreds and the street in which the Birkbeck is situated was crowded from end to end. A more striking example of people losing their heads was perhaps never witnessed, for, as was shown by the last balance-sheet, which was freely circulated among the excited depositors, the Bank was never in a more satisfactory condition. After the usual Banking hours had been

for two days considerably extended to meet the convenience of the withdrawers, and it was known that the Union Bank had announced its intention of standing by the Birkbeck in the crisis, as well as that the Bank of England had advanced half a million on securities, the panic began to subside, and on the fourth day from the commencement of the run, the few straggling depositors who awaited with withdrawal forms were hooted and jeered by the crowd of onlookers gathered round. And thus the panic died a natural death. It has been a splendid advertisement for the Birkbeck and probably in future greater confidence than ever will be reposed in this enterprising Banking institution.

This month's *Strand Magazine* includes an article on the Queen's Dolls written by Miss Low, with foot-notes by Her Majesty. The Queen it seems in her juvenile days had an exceptional partiality for dolls, which she used to dress after characters in current dramatic productions. The collection has been stored away since Her Majesty attained more mature years, and had it not have been for the present description the Queen Empress's subjects might have remained in blissful ignorance of her penchant for puppets.

An exhibition of Postage Stamps is to be opened in Paris on the 6th of next month, at which, from an amateur's stand-point, the North American collection will perhaps be of the most interest. It will comprise the Secession stamps with the 13 stars, the stamps struck previous to the Civil War and since, and those issued in 1869 and 1875 in which there are the heads of Washington, Franklin and Lincoln finely executed, a spread eagle, a Kentucky horse, a steamer, the landing of Columbus, the reading by the Fathers of the Republic of the Declaration of Independence, and the whole series of 24 stamps of from one to ten cents. The native states of India will be well represented and the inter-tropical States in Africa and South America that have a preference for landscapes as well as the States of Central America which affect volcanoes on their adhesives. Japan is represented by the chrysanthemum, Persia by the lion, and the centenary stamp of New South Wales has the head of Captain Cook. Altogether it is expected there will be over six thousand varieties at the coming exhibition.

About twelve years since Volapuk, a new tongue, was promulgated to the world with the avowed object of uniting all nations and peoples in the bond of a common universal language. From a conference of the Volapukists which has recently been held in Belgium, we learn that much enthusiasm is still being displayed for Pastor Schleyer and his system, and that since its inception the movement has made considerable progress. It was stated that already by the means of Volapuk three millions of people—English, French, German, Russian, Italian, and Belgium—are able to converse with each other on common ground. We are moreover told that thirty newspapers are published in Volapuk in different parts of the world, that courses of lectures on the new language are held at the Universities of Munich and Turin, and that in order to qualify themselves for their functions the Russian Press censors are bound to be acquainted with it.

A tale of illicit love having a tragic denouement came to light yesterday. For some weeks a lady and gentleman lived in apartments in West Brompton, as a married couple. The gentleman was Dr. Alexander Woodburn-Heron, an army surgeon, who had lately returned to England from the West Coast of Africa on a six months' leave of absence. The name of the lady who lived with him as his wife was Miriam Sharpe, who is said to have been young and beautiful, but of an impetuous disposition. Impatience of the humdrum of ordinary existence had led her to quit her home and go on the stage where she appeared as Miss Ruby Russell. It was at this period of her career that Dr. Woodburn-Heron was first attracted to her and he eventually took her off the stage. On Tuesday of this week the two were alone in their apartments, no one else being in the house, when suddenly Dr. Heron appeared at the front door and raised cries for help. When the police arrived, and subsequently a doctor, the lady was found in a state of semi-nudity quite unconscious and breathing with difficulty. The practitioner being puzzled as to the symptoms, further medical assistance was called in, and the work of artificial respiration was kept up from 10 o'clock at night until 5 the next morning, but without success, for at the latter hour the unhappy woman breathed her last. Until after a post-mortem is made it is not possible to state the cause of death, but the opinion that seems to find most favour is that death resulted from nasal hemorrhage.

Several cycling records were broken last Saturday at Herne Hill grounds. The most notable of these was that of J. Wass and C. Leslie Newland, who, on a tandem safety, succeeded in

well beating the record of 22 miles 1,070 yards for an hour's ride, made by them a short time previously, covering no less a distance than 23 miles 1,725 yards, thus beating all cycling records of every description. They also made world's records from 22 to 25 miles, their time for the last mentioned distance being 62 min. 29.15 sec. The one mile safety record was also beaten by A. W. Harris by 3 2.5 sec., his time being 2 min. 12 3.5 sec. A new record was likewise made in the flying quarter of a mile for tricycles, L. Strond doing the distance in 33 sec., and the same rider beat previous records for tricycling the half-mile, which he accomplished in 1 min. 15 3.5 sec. The successes concluded with the two miles professional safety record being beaten by E. Oxborrow, who covered the distance in 4 min. 56 3.5 sec. as against 5 min. 11 sec. which had been recorded in America.

An attempt was made in Paris last Sunday (18th September) to lower the one-mile bicycle record; with poor success, however, the time being 2 min. 15 seconds.

A lady riding astride a safety bicycle is now no uncommon sight in the streets of London, but the news that our present records have been beaten by members of the fair sex has yet to come. However, a very good performance has just been accomplished by Miss Dudley, a well-known rider, who rode from Hitchin to Lincoln, a distance of 100 miles, in little more than seven hours, or at an average speed of nearly 14 miles an hour.

With the close of the Cricket Season have been published the batting and bowling averages of the leading players. Shrewsbury, as last year, heads the batting list, while Mr. W. P. Patterson, who, however, only played in fourteen matches, comes second. To Mr. Stanley Scott belongs the honour of having made the highest individual score of the season, namely 224. Mr. H. T. Hewett and Mr. W. W. Read come next on the list, the latter making the highest score of the season (106) in a not-out innings. Below are given the first twelve batting averages:—

	No. of Times Inns. not out.	Total Runs.	Moist in Innings.	Aver. Age.
Shrewsbury	34	1060	312	31.00
Mr. W. H. Patterson	14	511	114	36.30
Mr. S. W. Scott	31	505	214	30.01
Mr. H. T. Hewett	14	407	201	35.71
Mr. W. W. Read	27	388	169	34.00
Mr. L. C. H. Palairet	46	343	146	37.01
Mr. A. E. Stoddart	47	340	130	37.47
Dr. W. G. Grace	31	335	90	31.02
Gunn	35	320	103	30.27
Mr. W. L. Murdoch	27	313	95	29.53
Henderson	45	294	71	28.91
Mr. P. H. Latham	10	254	69	28.21

The * indicates a not-out innings:—

In regard to the bowling averages, which follow, it will be noticed that, unlike the batting list, which contains nine amateurs out of the first dozen, the chief bowlers are, without any exception, professional players:—

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Aver. Age.
Lockwood	890.4	302	305	151	13.63
Mold	766.4	253	265	180	13.81
Briggs	704.5	438	2706	324	13.75
Abel	370.3	40	429	31	13.83
Attewell	743.3	700	2027	244	14.00
Watson	596.3	293	801	61	14.27
Pouther	466.3	124	396	26	15.23
Tyler	658.1	107	1548	202	15.33
Lohmann	1213.4	451	3376	154	15.33
J. T. Hearne	1360.5	527	2510	163	15.39
Flowers	585.4	227	1098	71	15.45
Captain Hedley	391.2	52	769	45	15.75
Nichols	466.3	124	396	26	15.95
Wainwright	822.4	289	1695	104	16.29
Peel	1302.3	552	3034	122	20.80
Mr. S. M. J. Woods	3055.4	379	5726	153	16.81
J. Hild	2939.1	72	500	30	16.86

In this list it will be seen two amateurs only appear, of whom Mr. Woods is undoubtedly the better. In comparing his performance with Lockwood's the contrast shows the difference between the best professional and the best amateur bowling. Mr. Woods has secured two more wickets than the professional, but at an average cost of 3½ more runs per wicket.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

THE LOSS OF THE "NAUTILUS."

A Marine Court of Inquiry was held in the British Court on Wednesday to investigate the circumstances attending the loss of the steam schooner *Nautilus*, late belonging to the fleet of the Eastern Whaling Company, Limited, Yokohama. The Court was constituted as follows:—

James Troup Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul and Assistant-Judge, President.

Lieut. Sadler, R.N. (*Leander*).

Archibald Murchie, Esq., master of the British ship *Middlesex*.

Mr. Davies, R.N., Clerk of the Court.

Mr. Alfred Auger, R.N., Master-at-arms.

The Clerk read the summons calling the Court, and the letters relating thereto.

Ernest Schenkel, master of the *Nautilus*, sworn

said—The signature in the official log-book is mine. I made the last entry myself.

The President read the entry.

Witness resuming—I made this entry after I arrived at Yokohama. The date, 29th September, is the date of the occurrence. The latitude would be between 53° and 54°, but I could tell exactly by referring to the chart—the chart of the Sea of Okhotsk.

To Lieut. Sadler—At six o'clock that morning (the 29th September) we were on the West side of Shantar Bay, close in shore. At first the wind was not strong, but it afterwards increased and we had to carry small closed-reefed sails. We did not leave the Bay, but remained there all the time. When we dropped anchor I considered we were so close to shore that I could have thrown a stone on the rocks. I could not say what the exact distance was, but it might have been a hundred or sixty yards away. We were right between two rocks—in the middle of the bight. The length of the schooner was 95 feet. I could not say how much swinging room it gave her, but there was room enough to swing in any way. There was room enough to swing clear of the rocks. I had had 100 fathoms of chain out. After it came on to blow I did not put a lead line over the side to see whether she dragged. I dropped the first anchor while it was perfectly calm, and afterwards dropped a second for safety—in case she dragged. We kept watch at sea from 7 to 11, 11 to 3, 3 to 7—four hour watches. But when on the whaling-ground we kept six hour watches. On Sept. 29th we were keeping six hour watches in the day time—two watches in the day, and four 3 hour watches at night. The second mate relieved the third mate at half-past five o'clock in the evening. He was supposed to stop on deck till ten—his watch being from 6 to 10. Just before daylight we commenced to try to get the ship off. I was in my bunk when I heard it blowing hard, and I went upon deck directly and found no one about. I called out three times and the foremast hand came aft.

Lieut. Sadler—But how did you know the ship was on shore?

Witness—The second mate came and told me that the ship was close on shore. This was between eight or nine. I asked the foremast man who's watch it was, and he said the second mate's; the foremast man, Kikugoro Jiro, said it was also his watch. I then went below and saw the second mate's boat-steerer getting up. He is not here, having shipped by the American whaler. When the ship is at anchor the second mate is responsible for anything that goes wrong in his watch; he may divide the watch with his boat-steerer. I asked the boat-steerer whether it was his watch or the second mate's? He said it was the second mate's. Then I went into the second mate's room; he was sitting on his chest, and seemed as if suddenly awakened. I told him to go forward and drop the second anchor. The second mate put his clothes and went on deck; I went to my room to put on my oil skins, as it was raining heavily. I heard no noise of the anchor, so I went on deck again. I told the second mate that the chain was overboard and that he should drop the anchor as quickly as he could; then he started to let go. As soon as I heard it go I went below and saw the mate. He asked me what was going wrong. The mate had all day on and all night off. I told him that I had dropped the second anchor because it was blowing.

The second mate came down after a while for a lamp in order to find out the length of chain paid out. He brought the lamp back and I asked if the anchors were holding, he answered, yes. By this time I was ready to go on deck. The second mate then came down again and said that the ship was close in shore. I went on deck myself at once. I saw forward, that the anchors were holding. I ordered the men to come aft. There was then 3 fathoms of water. The tide was running out, the water getting less gradually. The ship was too close in shore to get her under weigh, even if we had slipped both anchors. The barometer was rising, and I thought it best to wait till daylight. It was raining. About that time all boats were in. The schooner touched the bottom at one o'clock,—her stern-post kicked the rock at midnight. The water was troubled, the sea being rough. I spoke to the chief mate about several ways of getting the schooner out, but we discovered that none were practicable. The mate spoke continually about lowering the boats and thus made the men desperate. I negatived this proposition. Up to this time the schooner was right up to the wind, but now she paid off and the wind came on her port bow. When she touched the bottom the first time I ordered the engineer to blow the boiler off. I had got up steam ever since 9 o'clock the previous evening, my intention then was to get out and fetch the Bay again. I had a man at the

wheel to steer her clear but she would not steer. At two o'clock the wind came on her port bow, and the ship paid off broadside on the rocks. I ordered the second mate's boat to be lowered, and allowed the men to put some provisions and clothes in her, in case anything should happen. This was the starboard boat. I told the second mate to go astern and stop close to the ship. Instead of doing that he went half a mile up the bight, away from the port beam of the ship. I fired four or five rockets as he did not return, and lowered the third mate's boat. Still the second mate's boat did not return. The third mate had provisions in his boat. I told the third to go to the second mate and order him back. About four o'clock the boats returned. I ordered the men to come on board. Then I rove the port anchor, fastening the cat on. The starboard anchor was a long scoop out from the port anchor. The starboard anchor was making to windward. I hoisted the jib and foresail and ordered them to get up steam again. I hove up the starboard anchor and the ship paid off. A heavy squall came up; the ship was right before the wind and the other port anchor was dragging. (Matters still requiring further elucidation, witness went back a little in his examination.) The port anchor I ought to have said had been put out to windward. It was a long way further to windward than the starboard anchor, and I hauled the ship up to them. This was before she paid off. I hauled at both anchors until we had hove the starboard anchor up. (Witness then returned again to the time when he hoisted sail.) After the squall the ship came to again and the wind came on the starboard bow. Steam was now up. The time was between five and six o'clock. I hove away on the anchor, the sails were hauled down and the engines were put astern—the engines went ahead first, but as she would not go up to the wind I had them reversed. She couldn't keep the wind on her port bow. I walked forward and told the chief mate to get the starboard anchor-buoy up. I had told him to do this twice before, but he paid no attention to my order. I then went aft, and asked why the engines were stopped. The fireman told me that the engines were stopped. I had the starboard boat lowered then; I hoisted the jib and foresail, as we couldn't clear the propeller. The ship did not pay off quick enough to get clear, and we got right between the rocks. I brought a port anchor out and hove the anchor home, but there was no strain on it. I then brought it on to the port quarter. I lowered the second mate's boat and brought the port anchor to the starboard quarter. At this time the ship was pounding on the rocks very heavily. The tide was running out. This was about eight o'clock in the morning. After this the ship was running heavily with her broadside on to the rocks. I ordered the fireman to blow the boiler off—to open everything and come on deck. I saw the water rise in the engine-room. I ordered everybody to go to his place in the mate's boat. We all put off for the shore. I stopped on the beach for two or three hours and then returned to the ship. The American whaling ship *Hidalgo* came in for shelter at this time, and the captain offered me assistance, and said that if I could not get my ship off, he would wreck her for me. I went ashore to see the second and third mates, who were camped on the beach, and told them to come back to the ship at ten o'clock, so that we could get the ship off. I told them that if in any case we could not get the ship down to Yokohama we should sail her up the Bight as far as we could get her. I asked the second and third mates first to go back. They refused to go back to the ship. After that I asked the men and they refused also. They looked at the officers as if it was made up between them. Then I asked the captain of the *Hidalgo* to go out and let the other ship of the company know that we were wrecked. The schooner *Narwhal* came in on October 2nd, and I told the captain that my crew were mutinous. They (the *Narwhal*) took the things out of the ship.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming, Captain Schenkel drew a rough sketch of the bay of Shantar and his position at the time of the wreck, with the direction of the wind, etc.

The President (to the 2nd and 3rd mates)—Dick Richards, you have been charged with disobedience to lawful commands and with combining with others to disobey lawful commands, and with neglecting your duty, which charges are set out in the official log, what have you to say in answer—are you guilty or not guilty?

Richards—Not guilty.

The President—What have you to say to the charges, Harris—guilty or not guilty?

Harris—Not guilty.

The President—Have you any questions to put to the Court, either of you?

Richards and Harris having no questions to ask the captain's examination closed.

Jacob Lui, a boat steerer, was the first witness called by the captain. Being sworn he said—I heard the captain ask Antoine, the boat steerer, whose watch it was. Antoine said that it was Richard's (the second mate) watch on deck. Richard's was in his room at the time.

To Richards—It was not my watch on deck.

Peter Groves, 1st mate on board the *Nautilus*, sworn, said—I recollect the night of the 29th September—the night before we were wrecked. It was the second mate's watch on deck that night between 6 and 10 o'clock. I only know that it was the second mate's and the boat steerer's watch, and they divided time together. I could not hear the conversation that passed between the captain and the two mates on the shore, as I remained in the boat. I knew what the captain's object was in going ashore.

Kuge Shigetaro, having made affirmation deposited—I am an A.B. I was too far away to hear what the captain said to the second and third mates on shore. I heard the captain call to them, but I could not understand what he said.

James Garcia, boat steerer, sworn, said—It was the second mate's watch at 9 o'clock on the evening of the 29th September.

Matsuo Kanichi, engineer, deposed—I did not hear the captain tell the second and third mate to go back to the ship.

Cesar Barros, alias Antonio, ship-keeper, sworn, said—I heard the captain call for the second mate on the night that the ship went down. I stopped in the captain's boat, but I did not hear him tell the mates to go back on board.

Richards said that it was his watch below at 9 o'clock on the evening of the 29th September. He went on board the ship again the next day.

Harris said that Richard's watch was between half-past five and eleven. In answer to all questions why he refused to go back on board ship, witness steadily evaded making a relevant answer. This closed the case for the charges.

Groves, recalled, deposed—I considered that at four o'clock on the afternoon of Sept. 29th the ship was safely anchored. She was I think about 300 yards from the shore. There was about 3 fathoms of water beneath us; and about 17 fathoms of chain out, to laying in the water. It was a very dark night, raining, and no mark could be taken from the shore. The Captain called me about 9 o'clock; it was then beginning to blow. No further length of cable had been paid out since we anchored. The officer on deck, the second mate, should have reported that the ship was dragging. I do not exactly consider that everything was done to get the ship off.

To Lieut. Sadler—The Captain was justified in waiting till daylight.

To Captain Murchie—When she first went ashore everything was done that could have been done, and she ought to have been saved.

To Lieut. Sadler—When she set her sails she could have got off had the port anchor been slipped. The Captain took no notice of my advice, as he said he wanted to save his anchor. We were holding on head to windward—holding on to his anchor made the vessel sheer in shore again, and this caused the loss of the vessel.

To Captain Murchie—We were holding on to the kedge which was on the starboard side.

To Lieut. Sadler—The strongest rope on board was about a $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inch.

Barros, recalled, said—I think it was the right thing to do to wait until daylight before attempting to get the ship off. There was one chance in the morning for the ship to get away; if we had hoisted the jib and fore sails and the towline or the kedge had held—I mean on the starboard side. This opportunity occurred before she was hauled off to the port anchors.

Schenkel, recalled, said—There was an opportunity to get away, but the propeller had got foul of a buoy rope and the engines stopped. Had the sails been set back quickly I might have got clear, but we were too close to the shore and I had not sufficient control over the men as I should have had she been further off shore. Then the chief mate lowered the boat and began talking; he made the men disperse—as himself. I ordered the mate to hoist the sails, but the work was not done quick enough. There were too many officers on board the ship; if I had had fewer I should have had more control over the men. It was the chief mate's fault that we fouled. I had told him twice to haul the buoy line off. I wanted the wind to come on the starboard quarter; I wanted her to come to the southward when we hoisted the sails. We could not steam through the wind—when I sang out no one answered. I had been

there before in a storm and found it a good holding ground. The wind that night, at the commencement, was from the northeastward.

Groves, re-examined—I could not get up the starboard anchor buoy when the captain told me to. I tried with a hook, but the current prevented. This was about eight o'clock in the morning. I was only told to get it up once. I did not report to the captain that I had failed to get the buoy up.

To Lieut. Sadler—There was twenty fathoms of rope on the buoy. The captain is responsible for the length of the rope. I did know that the buoy rope was foul of the propeller until the vessel was ashore.

To the President—The current had carried the rope beneath the ship.

To Lieut. Sadler—I was on the fo'c'se when the starboard anchor was weighed. I did not try to get the buoy in before the captain spoke to me. I was too busy. The ship was still at the time, the kedge anchor holding her on the starboard bow; there was a steady heave on the port anchor. I did not try to clear the buoy rope by cutting it.

The President—The decision of the Court will be given on Friday at three o'clock.

The Court then rose.

Friday, 4th November, 1892.

FINDING.

On the Court re-assembling yesterday, the President, addressing Capt. Schinckel, said that before reading the decision of the Court, he had one question to ask.

The President—You have no British Master's certificate have you?—No, your Honour.

No British certificate of any kind?—No, your Honour.

And none of your mates?—No, your Honour.

The President then read the following:—

Finding and Order of a Naval Court held at Yokohama on the second and fourth days of November, 1892, to investigate the circumstances attending the loss of the British steamship *Nautilus*, of the port of Shanghai, official number 72,788.

The *Nautilus* was an auxiliary screw steam whaling vessel, schooner rigged, of 95.16 tons registered tonnage, official number 72,788, built at Tokyo in 1881-82 and belonging to the port of Shanghai. Being on a whaling cruise in the Sea of Okhotsk, the vessel on the 29th September last, was lying in Shantar Bay. Being on a lee shore the Master made for Long's harbour (Little Shantar) where he anchored at 4 p.m. in a safe billet in 3 fathoms of water with 15 fathoms of chain. Toward 9 p.m., finding that the wind was increasing, the Master roused the second mate up and told him to drop a second anchor. Shortly afterwards the second mate reported the ship was close in shore. The Master decided to wait for daylight. About 1 a.m. on the 30th September, she touched bottom, the stern post bumping against the rocks. Steam which had been up since 9 p.m. was now blown off. The ship paying off with her starboard broadside to the rocks, the starboard boat was lowered in case of accident. Towards daylight the port anchor was weighed and laid out to windward with a hawser, and the ship hove off to both anchors, until the starboard anchor was weighed. The Master then set sail and ordered steam. In a heavy squall the port anchor dragged, the ship being before the wind. After the squall, the ship came up the wind, the sails were hauled down, and the engine ordered ahead. On the Master finding the vessel would not steer, the engines were ordered astern, when they were discovered to be stopped, the starboard buoy rope being foul of the propeller. An effort to clear the propeller being found ineffectual, although sail was made, the ship dragged in between the rocks. At about 8 o'clock the ship was abandoned. In view of the above circumstances, the Court finds that the Master, Ernest Schinckel (no British certificate) did not on anchoring, allow sufficient cable or take sufficient precautions to ascertain if the ship dragged. The second mate Dick Richards (no certificate) whose watch it was failed to report to the Master the fact that the ship was dragging; but in view of the fact that the mates were allowed to divide their watches with their boat steerers, it is possible that the original fault on this point was that of the boat steerer. In all probability the ship would have been saved after daylight, had the buoy rope not caught foul of the propeller; and the Court finds that the chief mate Groves (no certificate) was in fault in not having the buoy rope hauled in when the starboard anchor was weighed. The Master has failed to substantiate specifically the charges made by him in the entry made in the official log against second and third mates, but the discipline of the ship generally appears to have been very lax. The expenses of this Court, fixed at £80s. 5d. = \$55.80 local currency, are approved.

Dated at Yokohama, this 4th day of November, 1892.

JAMES TROUP,
H.M.'s Consul at Yokohama,
President of Naval Court.

A. HAYES-SADLER,
Lieutenant H.M.S. *Leander*.

ARCHD. MURCHIE,
Master British ship *Peterborough*,
of Greenock.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE"

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

By W. LAIRD CLOWES.

GOLD MEDALLIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE,
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

VIII.—THE CHASE TO MALTA.

Before proceeding with the account of the *Mary Rose's* cruise, it may be well to insert here two newspaper extracts. One is from the *Gibraltar Guardian* of Wednesday, May 14th; the other is from the *Paris Moniteur de la Guerre* of two or three days later.

Said the *Gibraltar* paper: "Something mysterious occurred last night to disturb the enemy. At dusk he renewed the bombardment as usual, and with, if possible, more than his usual fury, and the batteries replied as they have replied every night since the 3rd inst. Soon after midnight it was reported from the top of the rock that rockets had been observed at the mouth of the Strait to the westward. A little later the entire French Fleet ceased firing, formed in two columns of line abreast, and steamed away in the direction in which the signals had been seen. Heavy firing followed, but though the flashes were distinctly visible, it was impossible to make out what was going on. The warships, which for some days have been lying in the Bay with banked fires, were ordered to get up steam for full speed, it being believed that our fleet had come down in force to raise the siege, and that the co-operation of the naval flotilla here might be desirable. In about an hour the French came back pell-mell, and apparently in no sort of order, firing furiously. They went away to the eastward, as if in flight or pursuit, but that they were not in flight became evident early this morning, when most of them were discovered in their ordinary position under the African shore. Speculation is rife as to exactly what occurred, but it is certain that the was enemy surprised and seriously disturbed. One opinion is that heavy reinforcements have run through in order to strengthen the squadron at Malta. No news bearing on the subject has come in from the Spanish side, and, all the cables being cut, it is only from that side that we can hope to get any definite explanation."

The *Moniteur de la Guerre* was more precise, but less accurate. It headed its dispatch, "One more Victory in the Mediterranean," and described the affair as follows:—"Early on the morning of the 14th, the cruiser *Tage*, which had been dispatched to the westward by the Admiral in command off Gibraltar to observe the mouth of the Strait, signalled the approach of the enemy in force, coming from the direction of the Atlantic. The enemy was soon afterwards observed by the cruisers *Cosmos* and *Collogon*, which had been lying under Cape Spartel. The three vessels, undismayed by the superior strength of the enemy, advanced to the attack, and taking position on the flanks of the English squadron, discharged a succession of terrible broadsides, which must have been very murderous, but the effect of which could not in the darkness be accurately measured. Certain vessels were, it is declared, sunk by our fire; but the enemy was too powerful to be destroyed by only three ships. It was therefore with a sense of relief that the brave captain of the *Tage* remarked that his signals had been observed, and that, in reply, the whole of our magnificent fleet, abandoning for the moment the bombardment of Gibraltar—which, we are assured, is already a heap of *débris*—was coming to complete the destruction which he had so nobly begun. It approached in two lines. In vain did the unfortunate English manoeuvre to evade it. The shock was tremendous. It is recounted that our splendid ironclads rammed several of the enemy, which sank without leaving a trace. The struggle was desperate. One could not suspect that our brave fleet could sustain so determined an attack without grievous loss. Alas! The beautiful cruiser *Davout*, struck by a torpedo near the bows, when she had already suffered severely from the gun-fire of at least three ships, sank in less than an hour. The ironclad *Terrible* was also struck by a torpedo, but, though cruelly injured, is capable of being repaired. As for the brave *Tage*, she has received

Original from

at least fifty balls, and has suffered horribly; but she remains with the Fleet. It is believed that but one vessel of the enemy escaped the disaster. She is an ironclad of the largest size and of immense speed; but, pursued by some of our fastest ships, she should be by this time captured. Thus gallantly has our immortal Fleet confounded the efforts of the enemy to put once more his squadrons into the Mediterranean. That sea, cleared for ever from the presence of the usurper by the glorious battle of Toulon, remains, and will remain, French. We offer the homage of our warm and enthusiastic congratulations to the brave admiral and the brave officers who have added this triumphant page to the brilliant history of our great country."

The *Moniteur de la Guerre* was not, it should be explained, an official print; but as the Parisians preferred its accounts to the official dispatches—which were by many degrees more modest—the paper deserves to be quoted as a representative of French views. Even the French admirals were not able to give the true story of the night's work:—but that was not their fault. Of nothing is it more difficult to obtain a correct impression than an unexpected night action at sea.

It was true that some of the fastest ships of the French fleet were engaged in, the pursuit of the *Mary Rose*. When the sun was well up Maintruck had little difficulty in making out that astern of him, at distances varying from two to six miles, were the *Cécille*, *Alger*, *Troude*, and *Cosmas*. The first, a new protected cruiser, of 5,766 tons displacement, headed the enemy; then came the *Alger*, of 4,122 tons, and, in order the remaining pair, craft of 1,877 tons. The two smaller vessels were nominally the fastest of the flotilla, having done at their trials about 19.5 knots, or half a knot more than the other two; but they were not big enough to do that speed in broken water, and, indeed, both chased and chasers were not actually doing much more than 17.5 knots, for all experienced some little difficulty in getting the coal out of the bunkers. Maintruck was assured, however, by Mr. Macpherson that, if things came to a pinch, the privateer had nearly a knot of speed in hand, but the trimmers and stokers, who had been working like niggers all night, were naturally very much exhausted, and the chief engineer deemed it wise to spare them as much as possible.

There was much to be done that morning. The ship was in an awful condition, blood, splinters, and wreckage being everywhere; but a liberal use of the hose, and the exertions of the carpenter's mate, Mr. Prism Brown, and Mr. Tiller soon reduced things to something like order, and cleared away the most repulsive traces of the fight. The dead men were reverently committed to the deep, Maintruck reading over them the appointed simple service; and the wounded were attended to more fully than had been possible during the heat of the action. The enthusiasm of all hands was now extraordinary. Even men who had been badly hurt, and who, of course, had not closed their eyes for more than twenty-four hours, men who had worked hard at coaling ship off Wadi Gloug, and who had worked harder at the guns all night, declined to return themselves as injured, stuck to their posts, and expressed themselves as quite ready for another brush with the enemy. And Bowling himself set the example. He could not walk, but he caused a splintered arm-chair to be taken from his cabin and set on the quarter deck, and then had himself carried up and placed in it in the warm sunshine, whence, as the good ship pitched slightly, he could see the foe in hot chase, with the spray flying white from their bows and the smoke rolling black from their funnels.

"Glad to see you on deck, sir," said Maintruck, "though I suspect that you would be better in your bunk."

"Nonsense," said Bowling. "This air does one good. Besides, it doesn't do to knock under. It shows a bad example to the men. It will be time enough to turn in when I get to Malta. But I'll have you, Mr. Binnacle and Mr. Tompion turn in at once. It won't do for you to break down. Mr. Echo and one of the midshipmen shall keep watch, and you shall be called if necessary. How are Mr. Day and Mr. Salthorse?"

"They are both on deck, sir, and won't go below."

"Then send for them, if you please, Mr. Maintruck."

The two officers quickly appeared, Day with his left arm in a sling and a bloody bandage, and Salthorse with his coat cut open, and his blood-stained shirt showing through the aperture. Both were pale but cheerful.

"Why don't you go below, Mr. Day?" asked the captain. "I'm sorry to see that you are badly hurt."

Day took his glasses from his nose and said: "Oh, it's not much, sir. If I stay on deck I can

carry on well enough, but if I turn in, you know, I may get stiff, and not be able to be up when they come on again."

"And what have you to say, Mr. Salthorse?" demanded Bowling.

"Say, sir?" returned Salthorse. "Well, you know how long I've been at sea, and you know that, until this cruise, the only fighting I have ever seen has been with niggers, Egyptians, Arabs, and that sort of village. Never had a chance, sir. Now there is a chance, sir, and with your permission I don't intend to lose it. I'll go below, but if I go, sir, you must put me under arrest." He said this almost angrily, as if he suspected Bowling of aiming in an unjustifiable manner at the liberty of the subject.

"I shan't order you below, then, at present," replied Bowling, with a painful smile. "But do take care of yourselves, please, gentlemen. There may be plenty for us to do yet. Get chairs on deck or on the bridge, and then, if you really think that we can keep watch among us, I'll order all the unwounded officers and as many of the men as can be spared, to turn in. That is, perhaps, the best economy. We are not good for much more fighting just now, but we can keep some sort of look-out."

And thus it happened that soon after breakfast, few beside the wounded remained on deck. Those who had only been bruised or scratched, or who had escaped unhurt, were all asleep or, at least, lying down. None took of their clothes, and hardly any enjoyed much more than broken snatches of slumber; but a sailor does not need sleep in large quantities at a time, and for him a rug on the bare deck or a ward-room sofa makes as pleasant a resting-place as any other in war time.

The *Cécille* occasionally fired her bow guns, and the machine guns in her tops; but the range was long, the motion was still considerable, and Salthorse, who had placed a chair for himself behind the wreck of the conning tower, was able to keep a good look-out without much exposing himself. Nevertheless before dinner-time one man had been killed and a second had received a further wound. The enemy's vessels gained little if anything on the *Mary Rose*; but by noon they were more together, and the *Alger* was nearly abreast of the *Cécille*, and had also begun to fire. Bowling had the chart brought down to him, and having caused an observation to be taken, and having looked at the log, made out that at eight bells the ship was still 600 miles from Malta, and that if all went at the best, she could not get into Valetta Harbour before five or six o'clock on Saturday, May 16th. She had still therefore, or might have, to run for about fifty-four hours before the enemy. He shook his head doubtfully, and having got a blue-jacket to bring him his pipe, considered the matter silently; until at half-past three Maintruck—who had had a bath and some tea—came on deck again, declaring that he felt quite refreshed and fit for anything.

"Look here, Mr. Maintruck," and Bowling, "we have before us a fifty hours' run to Malta. After what we have been doing, our boilers can't be as good as they were. A hundred slight accidents may occur to temporarily disable us. Tubes may burst or leak, the bearings may heat, a chance shot may damage our helm as the ship lifts; or we may sinash a shaft. Even if we have no accidents, how can we expect the engine-room staff to carry on for another fifty hours on end? Flesh and blood can't stand it. I wonder that I haven't had reports already of men knocking up. They are sticking to it like Britoos down there, but we mustn't forget that they are human beings. Now, what do you think?"

"Perhaps, sir, if the night is dark," said the first lieutenant, "and if for a few hours we can pile on that extra knot which Mr. Macpherson tells us he has in reserve, we might manage to give the enemy the slip, especially if we steam without lights."

"That's the point," soliloquised Bowling aloud. "First, can we give them the slip? I think not. If we pile on that extra knot, we shall have such a flame dancing from the tops of our funnels that we shall be visible all over the Mediterranean. Secondly, do we want to give them the slip? Again I think not. There are four ships there, it is true, but not one of them is armoured, while we, after our last night's work especially, may almost be classed as a battleship. The question then, is: shall we run, or shall we turn; shall we flee, or shall we fight?"

"I see what you mean, sir," said Maintruck. "Of course we are now very short-handed, and the men, particularly the stokers, are tired."

"They will be more tired if we carry on like this for long. No, Maintruck; I think that we will fight. That's what the people at home would like us to do. Here is what I intend to attempt. Just before it grows dusk I shall crack on that

extra knot of Mr. Macpherson's. This will induce the enemy, who now seem to think that if they can't catch us they can at least hold on, to crack on steam also. The result will be that in a few hours we shall spread them out in a long tail as they were the first thing this morning: We will carry no lights. Suddenly we will shut off steam, and let the enemy come down right on top of us. They will think that some accident has happened to us. One or two of them will perhaps be venture-some; and then, starting our engines again, we will let them have it. The swell is very much less than it was. We shall make far better shooting than we did last night. What do you think?"

Mr. Maintruck was not the officer to shrink from any action that promised the remotest chance of success; and this project, though a daring one, seemed, upon the whole, to be less risky than the alternative of keeping everybody and everything at the highest possible tension for another fifty hours. "If that is your plan, sir," he answered, "all I have to say is that I am sure your officers and men will try to carry it through."

"Then, if you please, send all hands aft that I may explain things to everyone."

No one who was able to move and who was not detained by duty failed to appear in answer to the call. It was a motley assemblage. Half the men were powder-stained and unkempt; but all were ready for anything; and there was not one who preferred fleeing to fighting when Bowling, from his arm-chair, told them how matters lay. Their general demeanour removed from the Captain's mind any traces of hesitation that may have lingered there. "My men," he said warmly, when he saw how they received his ideas, "I am proud to command you; and if you do your duty as I believe you will, you will be hereafter as proud as I shall to have sailed in the *Mary Rose*."

The events of the previous night had given everyone great confidence in the Captain, and after Bowling's brief address the men clustered together as if debating something which caused them considerable uneasiness. Suddenly a tough old quartermaster stepped forward. "We means no offence, sir, to any of the officers," said he bluntly; "and weel' do our best no matter who commands us, but we begs respectful to arst whether you feels yourself well enough, sir, for this 'ere bit of work, seein' as if you don't, and if you think as 'ow you might feel more inclined like to-morrow night, why, sir, we ain't got no objections to waiting for you. Only we do 'ope, sir, as you'll command the ship, sir, if so be as it's convenient."

Bowling laughed, and managed to rise. It hurt him to laugh, and it cost him a most painful effort to stand up, but it did him good to have this awkward but honest token of the confidence of the lower deck. "My men," he said, "I'm not much use, as you may see, but no bones are broken, and while I can stay on deck, I shall be the Captain of the *Mary Rose*. You needn't fear about that."

The chase continued without much incident all the afternoon, except that the *Cosmas*, having apparently broken down, abandoned the pursuit, and that shots were exchanged at intervals. The swell almost disappeared, and the shooting consequently became less wild. Indeed, some very fair practice was made with the *Mary Rose's* after guns, both the *Alger* and the *Cécille* being struck more than once. On the other hand, a shell from the *Alger* burst in the Captain's cabin of the *Mary Rose*, and would, had Bowling been present, have infallibly made an end of him.

The gun on the starboard sponson was, as has been noticed, disabled. Bowling determined, therefore, to fight his port side as much, and his starboard side as little as possible. Just before dusk, as he had intended, he increased speed to the utmost limit, and, as he had expected, this induced the *Cécille* to forge a little ahead of her consorts. The truth, no doubt, was that all day she had been adapting her speed to theirs, so as to avoid leaving them or being herself unsupported, and that now, with darkness coming on and the *Mary Rose* drawing away, she was afraid of losing sight of the privateer in the night. Mr. Binnacle, who gave the subject his very careful attention, was of opinion that when the *Mary Rose* quickened to 18.5 knots the *Cécille* did the same, and that thus she left her consorts each hour about a knot further behind her in her wake, for they appeared to be incapable of materially increasing speed.

Speed was raised at seven o'clock, and was admirably maintained by Mr. Macpherson and his people. The result was that at eleven o'clock, when about two miles still intervened between the *Mary Rose* and the *Cécille*, there was a gap of at least six miles between the *Cécille* and the *Alger*, and a further gap of over one mile between the *Alger* and the *Troude*.

Bowling, with a rug thrown over him, had since about eight o'clock been dozing in his arm-chair. On being left alone, he was leaving word that he was to be

roused at one bell. He was not, however, able to secure as much sorely needed rest as he had bargained for. At about ten minutes past eleven the enemy played a wholly unexpected card, which, but for the *Mary Rose's* admirable look-out and the coolness and discipline of the men at the guns, would have inevitably and very summarily decided the game.

The chasing squadron must either have been accompanied by, or have fallen in with and picked up, a division of torpedo boats. It is possible that the boats followed the chase all the way from Gibraltar, and that the "tailing off" of the French cruisers may, after all, have been deliberately devised in order to enable the torpedo boats to remain well out of sight in the rear without losing touch of the privateer. On the other hand, the boats may have been scouting independently, and have been accidentally sighted by the French senior officer and then taken under his orders. The point is immaterial, and in all probability it will now never be cleared up. All that is certain and material is that, at a few minutes past eleven, the look-out in the *Mary Rose's* mizen-top reported that three suspicious-looking objects were creeping up ahead of the *Cécille*, one being nearly under her bows, and the two others betraying a tendency to work round on the *Mary Rose's* quarters. Bowling was at once apprised of the discovery, and he caused himself and his chair to be carried up on to the after end of the superstructure at the foot of the mizen, whence he could not only see the enemy, but could direct the fire of all the after guns, i.e., of the 9.2 in. breech-loading and the four 4.7 in. guns on the poop, of two 6-pounder quick-firing and two Nordenfelts on the upper deck, of the Maxim R.C. machine gun in the mizen-top, and of two 6-pounder quick-firing guns mounted in his own cabin on the main deck. It was by no means very dark, and, bearing in mind the experience gained in the action off Toulon, Bowling, who speedily saw that a torpedo attack was pending, gave orders that though the search-lights were to be kept in readiness they were on no account to be used without special and definite instructions. He also ordered cordite ammunition to be got up for all the quick-firing and machine guns, and no other to be employed. On previous occasions he had used ordinary powder, except for rifle fire; but he realised that in the coming crisis smoke would seriously inconvenience him, and be of no possible counterbalancing advantage.

The boats, as has been said, were first noticed at 10° 10'. The *Mary Rose* was then doing about 18.3 knots, and the *Cécille*, though holding her own, was not coming up. After a few minutes of careful observation Binnacle came to the conclusion that the boats were doing about 20.3, or two knots more than the privateer. There was apparently a distance of about four cables between the centre boat and each of the two flank ones. The centre one kept a course immediately ahead of that of the *Cécille*. The outer ones were disposed on each of her bows about four points before her beam, and it was tolerably obvious that the tactics of the foe contemplated holding the centre boat in reserve under the dark bows of the *Cécille*, and utilising her to attack during the confusion which, it was anticipated, would be caused by the simultaneous onslaught of the two other boats, one on each quarter of the *Mary Rose*.

These tactics, though ingenious, were demonstrably faulty, for it is a cardinal rule that no torpedo attack upon an armed vessel under steam should—especially when the attacking force is weak—be attempted from astern, and the reason for this is simple and obvious.

For the sake of argument, let the armed vessel be steaming at a rate of 10 knots, or 17 ft. a second; and let the attacking boats be steaming at rate of 18 knots, or 30 ft. a second; and let the "dangerous zone" of fire from the armed vessel be taken to be 2,000 yards, and the effective range of the boats' torpedoes discharged at night at a moving mark at 150 yards. The great object of the attacking boats is of course to traverse the "helpless zone"—the zone, that is, in which, although they may be fired at, they cannot effectively discharge their torpedoes, in as brief a period as possible. This zone is 1,850 yards broad. If the boats enter it from directly ahead of the armed ship, they traverse it in 1' 58"; but if they enter it from directly astern, it takes them 7' 7" to cross it. Therefore, other things being equal, a boat attacking from ahead has much more than three times as good a chance of escaping unhurt as a boat attacking from astern has. But in addition to this, in the particular case in question, if the boats had passed unseen ahead of the *Mary Rose*, and had attacked her from ahead they would probably—even if they had not seriously damaged her—have forced her to turn, and would so have allowed their consorts the cruisers to come up with her. To pass from a position two miles astern of her

to one, say, two miles ahead of her without undergoing risk of being sighted by her would, it is true, have taken the torpedo boats in this instance a period of three or four hours at least; but, then, the result might easily have been success, instead of failure and disaster.

The non-employment of the search-lights by the *Mary Rose* left the French ignorant as to whether or not the progress of the attack was observed. Bowling, on the other hand, was able to keep his men perfectly cool and unfurried. He ordered that fire from everything, the 9.2 in. gun only excepted, that would bear, should be opened upon the enemy when he was at a distance of 400 yards, and not before. The port quarter guns were devoted to the boat on the port quarter; the starboard quarter guns to that on the starboard quarter. The Maxim gun was hidden to divide its attentions, and the riflemen were also divided; and, just upon the stroke of midnight, without having previously given forth the least warning of what was intended, the privateer opened fire. It was short, quick, terrible work. Harried by very little smoke, the men fired as fast as was consistent with the most careful aiming, and the boats, though most gallantly handled, really had no chance. A landsman might have experienced difficulty in seeing the low, dark, ill-defined masses upon the water; but to the trained eyes of men who had followed the sea, the scene was almost as clear as was to be desired; and even when the boats themselves occasionally showed doubtfully, their white bow-waves sufficiently betrayed them and guided the gunners. All was over in five minutes. Torpedoes may have been discharged; but if so, they did not reach the privateer, or run anywhere near her; and as for the boats, they sank under the awful storm of projectiles that rained upon them. The third one, coming up astern under a great head of steam in the thick of the fight, blew up. Whether her boilers had exploded, or she had been struck by a projectile, can never be known. No one in the *Mary Rose* received so much as a scratch.

At half-past twelve, determined, if the enemy should still give him a chance of doing so, to carry out his original plan, Bowling ordered Mr. Tompion to see that the poop and fore-castle heavy guns, and all the guns that would train over on to the port side, were loaded and once more ready for action. Then he caused himself to be moved to a partially sheltered position near the wreck of the conning tower, whence he could shout down his commands through one of the deck scuttles already mentioned. "When we stop the engines, Mr. Tompion," he said, "or rather, when we go dead slow—for perhaps it is not wise to have no way on the ship—I shall bring her very gently round to port, so that if the enemy keeps on his course we shall lie right across his bows. If he doesn't keep on his course, I shall still endeavour to put myself in that position, and to maintain it as long as I safely can. It will at least entice him to attempt to use his ram, though of course, I don't intend to let him go as far as that. Now I want you to have every gun, great and small, concentrated for five hundred yards, and fire at that distance only. You give the word. I know you won't estimate the distance very wrongly. I will confine myself to handling the ship, but I must have the first lieutenant close at hand, so that he may take command in an instant, should anything happen to me. Please, therefore, asked Mr. Maintruck to come here, and ask Mr. Tripper to stand by with the underwater torpedoes in case we want them."

Mr. Maintruck, who had been making the round of the ship, reported everything ready. The men, including many of the wounded, were at their quarters; Day and Salthorse had taken command of their own guns, almost as if they had never been hurt; and there was everywhere an orderly quietness that seemed marvellous in a vessel that had been fitted out and commissioned in so great a hurry. But by this time confidence reigned throughout, and there is nothing so conducive to discipline as well-placed confidence in a ship and in her officers. Both had been tried: neither had been found wanting.

The *Cécille*, two miles astern, was just visible—a blacker spot than the rest of the darkness. She showed no lights ahead, though doubtless, for the benefit of her consorts, she showed some astern. They were, of course, out of sight.

"Reduce speed to sixty revolution," cried Bowling, and added at intervals of a few seconds:—"Reduce to forty!" "Reduce to twenty!"

In a minute or so the growing blackness and distinctness of the *Cécille* indicated that she was rapidly coming up. To assist her, Bowling reversed his engines gently for a short time, and then went ahead again at twenty revolutions and put his helm over. The Frenchman was approaching at the rate of a mile in three minutes. There was

not, therefore, much delay. Yet to the men at the guns, and especially to the captains, who had their eyes along the luminous sights, the period seemed an eternity. Suddenly a rocket shot up from the *Cécille*, followed by another and another and another.

"That must be her signal that we have broken down, sir," said Maintruck. "She will slow up now, I suspect."

"Let her think what she likes," said Bowling, "so long as she doesn't think that we have surrendered," and he looked aloft, where three enormous blue ensigns were fluttering, one from each truck, and one from the forestay, these being in addition to be able to say that she thought that we had given up the game. Gad! she is coming straight down on us."

"But now she is swerving, sir. She is going to range up on our port hand."

"Hang it!" cried Bowling, staggering to his feet; "I can't sit here and fight the ship from an arm chair. Yes, by Jove! she is going round to port, but she is slowing! Pass the word, there, to go ahead at forty revolutions. I can still bring the ship nearly across her bows."

But the *Cécille* turned only slightly. Her captain seemed, on second thoughts, to conclude that he could not take up a more advantageous position than circumstances had prepared for him; and, firing a single shot, which whistled harmlessly between the *Mary Rose's* funnels, he held on as before, keeping his head straight for the privateer, but slowing considerably. When he was but eight hundred yards distant he fired again. This time the projectile struck the deck forward, scooped out a great hole, drove up a torrent of splinters, and ricocheted away to the eastward. The enemy was clearly beginning to think that he did not quite know what to make of the situation. Once more he swerved to port, but as he did so Bowling put the *Mary Rose's* helm over to starboard, and so kept his ship still more or less across the cruiser's bows. A minute later, Tompion, in a voice like the bellow of a bull, gave the word to fire; and three 9.4 in. and four 4.7 in. besides smaller guns, were discharged almost simultaneously, making the ship tremble from stem to stern.

What breeze there was from the west. The rush of smoke, therefore, floated gently across the privateer's deck, and for an instant, blinded everyone. But already Bowling had ordered full speed ahead, and put his helm still further over to starboard, so that the *Mary Rose* began to round the cruiser's bows, and to pass alongside of her, though in the contrary direction.

"It is ticklish work, Maintruck," said the Captain, "and I know it, but I must do it because we can only fight the port guns."

"We shall clear her easily," cried the first lieutenant as the smoke drifted off. "By heavens! What's the matter, Sir? They're hanging out lights."

The two vessels were still about five hundred yards distant one from the other, and no one in the *Mary Rose* could make out very clearly what was going forward in the *Cécille*, but there was great shouting on board, and lanterns were being waved, and the ship was not firing.

"Mr. Tompion wishes me to say, sir, that he believes the enemy has struck," said Echo, suddenly appearing and saluting Bowling.

The captain, with a great effort, dragged himself on to the bridge, and gazed for a moment, but not at the *Cécille*.

"Struck or not struck," he said to Maintruck, as he staggered down again, "I don't care. The others are coming up. We have not finished this business." And regaining his chair, into which he sank from sheer weakness, he cried through the scuttle, "That will do! Helm amidships! Full speed!"

The *Mary Rose*, now heading nearly west, passed the *Cécille*, on board of which the shouting and waving of lights continued, and quickly sighted the *Alger* approaching on the port bow, but at a considerable distance. This distance, however, rapidly decreased. "Concentrate your fire again, Mr. Tompion," shouted Bowling, "and let this one have it, like the other, at five hundred yards." And he held on, still keeping the enemy about four points on his port bow. The Frenchman evidently intended to do his best to ram, for he came up gallantly, not even firing until he was well within a thousand yards. In this position only two of the *Mary Rose's* 9.4 in. and two of her 4.7 in. guns would bear, but at the right distance they were fired, and at the next instant Bowling ported his helm, and so brought his after port guns to bear. They, too, were fired, but they did not stop the *Alger*, which pluckily began to follow the privateer's motions and to circle in pursuit of her, firing furiously at the same time. The work was getting warm. Men flung up their arms, and fell forward on their faces. Splinters

flew. Two shells, in rapid succession, burst below. Maintruck staggered sideways, and collapsed under the break of the poop.

"Stand by to fire the stern torpedo," should Bowling hoarsely. "Full speed astern starboard engine!"

This order and "Port helm!" brought the ship round so rapidly that the *Alger*, turning less quickly, passed under the privateer's stern. The distance was barely two cables, when Bowling, seeing the enemy's broadside fully exposed, gave the word. Fifteen seconds later the Whitehead struck its mark, and as Bowling heard the explosion he sank senseless on deck.

THE YOKOHAMA REGATTA.

FIRST DAY.

The "Coming of Age" Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, which opened on Thursday, was scarcely treated by our old enemy the North-east wind with the respectful courtesy due to such an auspicious occasion. The sun was shining brightly enough and there was a large attendance of "fair women and brave men" in and around the verandah and precincts of the boat-house, but the air had a chilly sharpness and the rollers outside the breakwater were really more than an oarsman bargained for in a regatta race. The boat-house was decorated in a most ornate style with bunting and feathery bamboo, and in honour of the Emperor's Birthday the national flag of Japan floated proudly at the head of the club flagstaff. The fleet of the Sailing Club dressed ship, the *Daimyo* flew all her winning flags, a number which was beyond the range of computation—and the ships in Harbour being decked out in a similar fashion, (in their case in honour of the Emperor) the port wore a gay and festive appearance by the time the first race was about to start. The committee, who discharged their duties admirably, particularly the honorary secretary, the judge, starter, and time-keeper, were:—J. Rickett, Captain; C. K. Marshall Martin, Hon. Secretary; E. T. Nicholas, Hon. Treasurer; Henry C. Litchfield, Judge; James Dodds, Umpire; T. Brewer, Starter; J. F. Pinn, Time-keeper; W. W. Campbell, Duncan McNeill, Lieut. H. F. David, R.N.R., M. F. Bengen, W. W. Till, H. V. Henson, E. W. Tilden, Geo. Philip, W. J. Kenny, R. de B. Layard, V. Blad, Dr. Wheeler, Ensign A. Bainbridge Hoff, U.S.N.

The man-of-war boats' race was postponed, so the junior sculls led off, proving an easy win for Hood and Smith—a procession in fact. The interport fours, of course, centred the greatest interest of the day. Three crews had entered, Kobe, the winners last year, Hongkong, and Yokohama, Kobe were slightly the favourites from their first practice in Yokohama waters, but Hongkong ran them close right up to the time of starting. Both crews rowed well together, though each possessed weak points which it would be invidious to dwell upon now that the race has been lost and won. Kobe were decidedly the heavier crew, a fact which told greatly in their favour in the rough water, while Hongkong undoubtedly suffered from the too constant changing of men and places during their practices up here. In justice to Yokohama, who rowed a plucky race, it must be said that their crew was far too light for the heavy seas that had to be encountered—they deserved praise for venturing down in such vile water. The race itself was a procession from start to finish, Kobe obtaining the lead to begin with and sticking to it—but the best crew won undoubtedly. The time 9m. 20½ was creditable considering the weather. The junior fours was a spirited encounter, and here again the "best men"—the men who rowed in best style—won. In this race Blanchard took the place of Kingdon at very short notice. The interport double sculls was a triumph to the "Father of the Kobe oarsmen," Sims, who was stroking in Hongkong in the 60's. He pulled his boat through in splendid form, and his enthusiastic club chaired him from his boat to the dressing rooms amid frantic applause from all. The veteran stayed better, in fact, than the youngsters. The club pair oars, for the Japan Brewery Cup, was scratched owing to the increasing violence of the wind. The race set down before this, the single sculls, witnessed the only accident of the day. Hood and Shepherd started along side the breakwater owing to the choppy seas, but halfway down the straight a sampan cut Shepherd down and the oarsman found himself struggling in the water almost before any warning had been given. He fortunately disengaged his feet as he went under, and so was enabled to swim about till picked up by a passing launch. His boat was severely damaged. This race was for the Ladies' Purse, and Hood, on his return, was called up to the boat-house to receive the prize from the hands of Miss Rickett. The

last race of the day, Bluff v. Settlement, was rowed under the moonlight. The boats originally tried to start from the Pacific Mail wharf but were swamped before reaching the post. The course was accordingly altered to one straight down the harbour alongside the breakwater. One of the prettiest pieces of spurling of the day took place in this encounter, Nicholas, who certainly carries away the palm for neatness and grace of stroke of any oarsman in Japan, doing his best to land his crew home, but without success.

The Yokohama Town Band was in attendance and rendered pleasing aid in whiling away the tedium of some parts of the proceedings, the Ladies at such times taking advantage to start an impromptu dance.

Details:—

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS, ½ MILE.

Geo. Hood, 135lb.	1
A. Brooke Smith, 145lb.	1
A. J. Watt, 121lb.	2
R. Abbey, 129lb.	2

Smith and Hood secured the best of the start and romped home easily, finishing ten lengths in front. Time, 7m. 45 sec.

INTERPORT-PORT FOURS, 1 NAUTICAL MILE.

KOBE. (MIDDLE STATION.)

W. Kerr, bow, 150lb.	1
G. W. Brockenhurst, 2, 174lb.	
G. W. Noel, 3, 180lb.	
E. B. Shepherd, stroke, 145lb.	
J. R. Gibson, cox., 125lb.	

HONGKONG. (INSIDE STATION.)

J. M. Manuk, bow, 150lb.	2
G. Meynell, 2, 162lb.	
H. W. Slade, 3, 150lb.	
J. A. Sampson, stroke, 160lb.	
A. B. Brown, cox., 119lb.	

YOKOHAMA. (OUTSIDE STATION.)

F. E. Freeze, bow, 155lb.	3
P. S. Bent, 2, 153lb.	
Duncan McNeill, 3, 158lb.	
E. T. Nicholas, stroke, 130lb.	
J. Rickett, cox., 130lb.	

The water was very rough at the starting buoys, and all the crews shipped seas in turning. A good start was effected, the boats lying dead level with each other. Kobe started at 32, a stroke which she maintained all through, Hongkong getting off at 30, and Yokohama 31 to the minute. Hongkong shipped three broadsides at starting, enabling Kobe to get ahead,—Yokohama meeting with an almost similar fate. The crews soon settled down to steady work, although the broadside rollers prevented any display of good oarsmanship. At the Pacific Mail Wharf Hongkong quickened to 32 and reduced Kobe's lead somewhat, but again fell off. By this time Yokohama was some lengths astern. Hongkong spurred again at the breakwater, and for a few seconds it looked as if Kobe would be caught, but the spurt died away, and Kobe who had had matters its own way the whole course, passed the post a length and a half to the good. Yokohama, who had rowed steadily throughout, finished a bad third. Time, 9 m. 20½ secs.

JUNIOR FOURS.—(Silk and Tea prizes) ¾ Mile.

RED BOAT.

H. R. Mair, bow, 130lb.	1
A. G. Watt, 2, 121lb.	
H. P. Blanchard, 3, 139lb.	
Geo. Hood, stroke, 135lb.	
J. Rickett, cox., 130lb.	

BLUE BOAT.

A. Rogers, bow, 120lb.	2
F. H. Abbey, 2, 129lb.	
G. A. Crouch, 3, 135lb.	
J. B. Gibbs, jun., stroke, 137lb.	
E. Mendelson, cox., 127lb.	

GREEN BOAT.

F. Favre Brandt, bow	131lb.
C. V. Schmidt, 2,	119lb.
C. Abenheim, 3,	120lb.
A. B. Smith, stroke	145lb.
W. W. Campbell, cox.	147lb.

BLACK BOAT.

L. Eytan, bow	140lb.
J. A. Gilgour, 2,	125lb.
E. J. Marshall, 3,	145lb.
J. Eytan, jun., stroke	152lb.
J. Carst, jun., cox	137lb.

Green caught the water first, but Red soon forged ahead and kept the lead to the finish. Green spurred at the breakwater, but Blue responded, and, Green's spurt dying away, took second place failing to catch Red, who got home 2 lengths ahead. Time 7m. 26½ secs.

INTERPORT DOUBLE SCULLS.—(First Heat) 1 Mile.

KOBE.

G. W. Brockenhurst.	174lb. } 1
A. C. Sim.	180lb. }

YOKOHAMA.

P. S. Bent,	130lb. } 2
E. T. Nicholas,	143lb. }

Kobe won an easy race, their weight telling in the rough water. Sim's, the grand old veteran, was "chaired" on his return amid enthusiastic plaudits. Time, 10 min. 59 secs.

SINGLE SCULLS.—(Ladies' Purse) ½ Mile.

Geo. Hood, 135lb.	1
F. H. Shepherd, 153lb.	upset.

Hood really had a walk over for this, the most coveted prize of the regatta, Shepherd having the misfortune to be run down by a sampan before half the race was finished. He fortunately managed to get clear of his straps and swam about in the icy rollers till picked up by a launch. The "sculler" was badly smashed in the bows. The course for this race was altered to inside the breakwater but both boats had to bale out ere starting for home. No time taken.

BLUFF V. SETTLEMENT. (Steamship Companies Prize) ¾ Mile.

BLUFF.

F. E. Freeze, bow, 150lb.	1
G. W. Barton, 2, 160lb.	
Duncan McNeill, 3, 158lb.	
Marshall Martin, stroke, 162lb.	
D. MacLaren, cox., 130lb.	

SETTLEMENT.

W. W. Campbell, bow, 147lb.	2
P. S. Bent, 2, 153lb.	
M. F. Bengen, 3, 185lb.	
E. T. Nicholas, stroke, 130lb.	
J. Rickett, cox., 130lb.	

Bluff led away at 40 to the minute, and established a substantial lead. Half way down the breakwater Nicholas spurred prettily. His crew responded with a will, but it was too late and their lightness also was against them. At the gun fire, Bluff was five lengths ahead. Time, 7m. 10s.

SECOND DAY.

Another brilliant sunny day was experienced on Friday, the concluding day of the "Coming of Age" Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, but the wind was still in the north-east and the water outside the breakwater lumpy. Towards the latter part of the day the course improved somewhat, but there still remained too much sea to make rowing at all comfortable for the competitors. The ladies turned up in great force again and several little dances were indulged in between whiles to the strains of the Town Band.

The ball was set rolling with the Interport Double Sculls, Kobe the winner of the previous day, having to meet Hongkong who had drawn a bye. But it was a walk over for the Southern Settlement, Hongkong's stroke smashing his slide at the very commencement of the race. The man-of-war's boats made the usual desperate struggle round the harbour, and the U.S.N. came in first, although the Britishers made a game fight for their colours at the commencement. The Club Four Oars for the seniors—Bankers' Prize—was a well rowed out race, and witnessed an exciting finish for second place, Snow spurling almost on the post. The Interport Pairs was somewhat of a surprise to even Yokohama's best friends. The home crew jumped off at the beginning and led the procession home, Kobe and Hongkong having at no time any chance of catching them. The time was 10m. 39s. The Club Pair Oars, which had to be postponed on the first day on account of the rough water preceded these two latter races and provoked a spirited contest. Nicholas and Bent were, however, too light for the water that had to be encountered, nevertheless they came up at the finish with a characteristic spurt, thus reducing somewhat their rivals' lead. The Junior Pair Oars fell to Smith and Marshall, but the want of practice on their opponents' part prevented any serious opposition. In the Senior Double Sculls Nicholas' perseverance was at length rewarded, he and his partner, Bent, disposing of McNeill and Freeze somewhat easily. The Interport Sculls was taken by Kobe, the Hongkong man making a poor show of it, while the Yokohama representative was outpaced. The Scratch Fours as usual proved to be the most stubbornly contested race of the day, the finish being most exciting. The Oji-sans' race was rowed "neath the silvery rays of the mystic moon," and a very pretty picture was presented to on-lookers as the boats shot across the glimmering track of rippling wavelets. But although the oldsters made a plucky bid for it, their salad days were too far in the background

Original from

to even give them a ghost of a chance against the coming men.

Kobe is to be congratulated upon again carrying away the principal events in the interport matches, only one race going against them, and for a similar reason sympathy should be extended to Hongkong in its persistent run of ill-luck. Undoubtedly the best crews won on each occasion, still the ends of poetic justice seem rather evaded when a crew after coming 1,500 miles to row returns again home empty-handed and leaves its flags behind. We must wish them "better luck next time" they visit Japan, and we hope that the experience of the last few days will in no wise act as a deterrent.

Mrs. Till gracefully presented the prizes at the close. Details:—

INTERPORT DOUBLE SCULLS.—(FINAL)—ONE MILE.

KOBE. (OUTSIDE STATION.)

G. W. Brockhurst, 175lb. } 1
A. C. Sim, 180lb. }

HONGKONG. (INSIDE STATION.)

G. L. Duncan, 146lb. } 0
J. A. Sampson, 160lb. }

A virtual walk over for Kobe, Hongkong retiring early in the race having broken a slide.

MEN-OF-WAR BOATS.—TWO MILES.

Alert's six oared gig 1
Leander's five oared whaler 2
Alert's four oared dinghy 3

Alert's six-oared gig gave the dinghy 1 minute and the Leander's whaler 30 secs. The Leander's whaler allowed the dinghy 30 secs. A good start. The Leander's boat led round the breakwater with the Alert's gig next. As the boats passed the green lightship the Alert's gig was gradually closing up with the Leander's men; coming down the straight they passed and finally won by 17 secs.

CLUB PAIR OARS.—(CHAMPION).—Japan Brewery Cup. 1 MILE.

OUTSIDE STATION.

F. E. Freeze, 155lb. } 1
Duncan McNeill, 158lb. }

INSIDE STATION.

P. S. Bent, 153lb. } 2
E. T. Nicholas, 130lb. }

The water was very lumpy at the starting buoys, and several seas had to be partially taken aboard before passing on their way shoreward. A good start, but the heavier crew established a lead before a quarter of the course had been covered. At the breakwater Nicholas spurred, but the distance between the boats was not materially reduced when McNeill passed the post a length and a half to the good. Time, 8m. 33s.

CLUB FOURS.—(SENIOR)—Bankers' Prize: 1 MILE.

BLACK.

G. Hood, bow, 135lb. } 1
C. V. Schmidt, 2, 121lb. }
F. G. Hall, 3, 163lb. }
G. W. Barton, stroke, 160lb. }

GREEN.

A. B. Smith, bow, 145lb. } 2
W. Y. Showler, 2, 153lb. }
J. Eyton, jun., 3, 152lb. }
W. W. Campbell, stroke, 147lb. }

RED.

R. Lane, bow, 140lb. } 3
P. B. Blanchard, 2, 139lb. }
F. H. Shepherd, 3, 153lb. }
H. J. Snow, stroke, 184lb. }

BLUE.

A. J. Watt, bow, 121lb. } 0
J. Thompson, 2, 173lb. }
M. F. Bengen, 3, 185lb. }
J. B. Gibbs, jun., stroke, 137lb. }

Green took the lead and held it for a good quarter of a mile; bow's oar then slipped his rowlock and this occurring twice again put them back behind Black, who were pulling steadily. Black was a length ahead at the breakwater, and was never caught, passing the post 3 lengths ahead. A close race between Red and Green ensued for second place, but Snow spurred too late and Green got in by a bare half length. Time, 9m. 24s.

INTERPORT PAIR OARS.—1 MILE.

YOKOHAMA. (MIDDLE STATION.)

P. S. Bent, 153lb. } 1
Duncan McNeill, 158lb. }

A. L. Robinson, cox., 132lb. }

KOBE. (OUTSIDE STATION.)

W. Kerr, 150lb. } 2
J. W. Noel, 180lb. }
J. R. Gibson, cox., 125lb. }

HONGKONG. (INSIDE STATION.)

H. W. Slade, 150lb. } 3
J. A. Sampson, 160lb. }
A. B. Brown, cox., 119lb. }

The boats started level, but Yokohama soon broke away. Kobe followed suit next, and no alteration took place till the finish, when ten lengths separated each boat. Time, 10m. 39s.

JUNIOR PAIR OARS.—(FINAL)—Broker's Prize.

1 MILE.

E. J. Marshall, 145lb. } 1
A. Brooke Smith, 145lb. }
W. W. Campbell, cox., 147lb. }

The winners led from the beginning, getting in three lengths ahead. Time, 8m. 33s.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—(Lawyers' Prize)

1 MILE.

P. S. Bent, 133lb. } 1
E. T. Nicholas, 130lb. }
F. E. Freeze, } 2
Duncan McNeill, }

Nicholas deserved his victory. He collared the lead at the beginning and gradually increased it. McNeill slowed down before reaching the post. Time, 11m. 23s.

(INTERPORT SINGLE SCULLS).—1 MILE.

KOBE.

E. B. Shepherd, 145lb. 1

YOKOHAMA.

Geo. Hood, 155lb. 2

HONGKONG.

J. M. Manuk, 150lb. 3

Shepherd soon took the lead and headed the procession home, getting in four lengths to the good, Manuk paddled in 11m. 34s.

SCRATCH FOURS.

WHITE.

Abbey, bow } 1
Manuk, 2 }
Showler, 3 }
Shepherd, stroke, }

BLACK.

Schmidt, bow } 2
Gibbs, 2 }
Brockhurst, 3 }
J. Eyton, stroke, }

WHITE.

R. Kirby, bow } 3
L. Eyton, 2 }
Slade, 3 }
Kerr, stroke, }

BLACK.

Kilgour, bow } 0
Rogers, 2 }
Nicholas, 3 }
Meynell, stroke, }

BLUE.

C. Abenheim, bow } 0
Duncan, 2 }
Noel, 3 }
Pearson, stroke, }

RED.

A. L. Robinson, cox. }

This was the most exciting race of the whole regatta. It was getting very dark when the boats started down the course. The starter got them off in a bunch and for a while they rowed together. Then Shepherd drew ahead, Black following hard after him. The two White boats spurred and again the boats drew together. Shepherd came again, however, and got in by a length, half a length between second and third, with fourth close behind. Time, 2m. 13s.

OVER 50 v. UNDER 22.

UNDER 22.

J. Eyton, bow, } 1
J. R. Gibbs, 2 }
F. A. Abbey, 3 }
R. Abenheim, stroke, }

OVER 50.

H. J. Snow, bow, } 0
J. Dodds, 2 }
H. C. Litchfield, 3 }
A. C. Sim, stroke, }

J. Rickett, cox. }

Sim set the Ojisans an excellent stroke, but half

way down the course the waist bands of his crew began to prove a serious inconvenience, and the youngsters romped home a length and a half to the good. Time, 2m. 20 secs.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

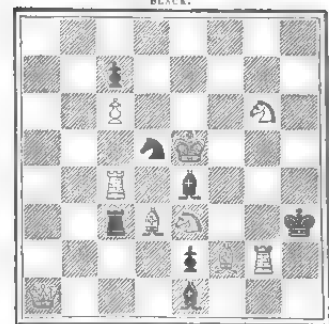
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 41.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to K Kt sq. 1—B x R
2—Kt to K sq. mate if 1—K x R
2—Q to K 3 mate if 1—K to Q B 2 or Kt moves
2—Q to K 4 mate if 1—Either P moves
2—R to K 3 mate

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.D., Omega, Omicron, J.W.E., O. Balk, and Digamma. J.W.E. also credited with correct solution of No. 34.

PROBLEM No. 43.

By A. SORENSON.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The following game, which has been called almost peerless for brilliancy and depth, was played in London in 1851, when Anderssen defeated Kieseritzki, Staunton, Szoen, and the other giants of those days, besides winning the first prize in the London Tournament of that year. Anderssen had then just completed his thirty-third year. Twenty years later, he gained the first prize at the Baden meeting, and although he was defeated by Steinitz in 1866, it was not until the great match at Vienna in 1871, that he succumbed hopelessly to the same champion, who tied with Blackburne on the occasion for first place. The notes are by Mr. Potter in the now defunct *Westminster Papers*:—

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. BLACK.
Anderssen. Kieseritzki.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4 2—P x P
3—B to B 4 3—Q to R 5 ch
4—K to B sq 4—P to Q Kt 4 (a)
5—B x Kt P 5—Kt to K B 3
6—Kt to K B 3 6—Q to R 3
7—P to Q 3 7—Kt to R 4
8—Kt to R 4 8—Q to Kt 4
9—Kt to B 5 9—P to Q B 3
10—P to K Kt 4 10—Kt to B 3
11—R to Kt sq (b) 11—P x B
12—P to K R 4 12—Kt to Kt 3
13—P to R 5 13—Q to Kt 4
14—Q to B 3 14—Kt to Kt sq.
15—B x P 15—Q to B 3
16—Kt to B 3 16—B to B 4
17—Kt to Q 5 (c) 17—Q x Kt P
18—B to Q 6 (d) 18—Q x R ch
19—K to K 2 19—B x R (e)
20—P to K 5 20—Kt to Q R 3 (f)

White gives checkmate in three moves.

(a) This when made on the third move constitutes Kieseritzki's Counter Gambit.

(b) Brilliancy No. 1. He expects an equivalent from the confined position of the adversary's Queen.

(c) Submitting to both his Rooks being placed en prise.

(d) And now giving them both up after which he will be the two majors and a minor piece behind.

(e) Q to Kt 2 is apparently better. Anderssen's reply would have been Q to K 2, threatening to win the Queen by R to Q Kt sq.

(f) Preventing the mate in two, but overlooking the very fine win in three moves, that lay hidden in the position. The only Ray of prolonging the game so far as I can see was by 20 B to K 3, the response to which would be 21 Kt to B 7 ch, and 22 mt x B leaving White with a clear win, for Black will lose much more than he has gained, or else be mated.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 30th.
A letter published by the Marquis of Salisbury states that the late Government always contemplated retaining Uganda.

London, October 31st.
The steamship *Roumania*, from Liverpool bound to Bombay, has been totally wrecked some distance to the north of Lisbon. Nine persons have been saved, but 122 were drowned.

London, November 1st.
A great fire has occurred in Milwaukee, and the damage done is estimated at ten million dollars.

Mr. Gladstone, acting on medical advice, was compelled to absent himself from the Guildhall Banquet.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, October 17th.
In consequence of the recent insubordination, the First Life Guards have been removed to Shorncliffe. The saddle and harness cutting mentioned in previous telegrams appears to have occurred among the Army Service Corps, and the men have been confined to barracks.

London, October 20th.
The Government have withdrawn the order forbidding public meetings being held in Trafalgar Square.

There has been continuous fighting for three days, between the French and the King of Dahomey's troops, the latter being defeated with heavy loss. The casualties on the French side were considerable.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Anping, Formosa, October 24th, 5 p.m.
The steamer *Formosa* brings second Engineer Nistad and Seaman Herness, sole survivors of the steamer *Normand*, which is a total loss off Pescadores.

No more survivors of the *Bokhara*.
The Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. received the following telegram from the Amoy Agents yesterday morning:—

"Amoy, October 25th, 10.24 a.m.
"No more survivors *Bokhara*. The two men reported are sole survivors steamer *Normand*, lost Pescadores 9th."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 11th.
From America... per O. & O. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 13th.*
From Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 6th.†
From Hongkong... per P. M. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 6th.†
From Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Nov. 10th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 13th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 27th.

* Oceanic left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 25th.
† Ancona left Hongkong on October 28th. ‡ China left Hongkong on November and.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 6th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 8th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 10th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Nov. 11th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Nov. 12th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 15th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 10th.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Nov. 28th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hing Suey, British steamer, 1,988, J. C. Jaques, 20th October.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 30th October.—Vancouver, B.C., 17th October, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.
Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 30th October.—Marseilles via ports 18th September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 30th October.—Yokosuka 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ethiopia, British steamer, 1,950, Pinkham, 31st October.—Nagasaki, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Amaki Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 31st October.—Yokosuka 31st October.

Mikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 31st October.—Kobe 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 1st November.—Otaru via ports 28th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 1st November.—Kobe 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 1st November.—Kobe 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 642, Murray, 2nd November.—Shanghai, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Glenesh, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 2nd November.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,771, J. J. Jones, 2nd November.—Iloilo via ports 21st October, Sugar.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 3rd November.—San Francisco 15th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Schneder, 3rd November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Villars (15), French cruiser, Captain Thounens, 3rd November.—Nagasaki.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, Walter, 4th November.—Kobe 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,350, Ward, 4th November.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 4th November.—Otaru via ports 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 4th November.—Shanghai and ports 29th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 1,507, Bailey, 4th November.—Glasgow via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 5th November.—Moji 2nd November, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 5th November.—Hongkong 29th October, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 20th October.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 20th October.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, Matsumoto, 20th October.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 30th October.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Williamson, 30th October.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th October.—Moji, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Phra Nang, British steamer, 1,021, Watton, 31st October.—Hongkong via ports, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 31st October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Frazier & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 31st October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thomasina McLellan, British ship, 1,788, Mann, 2nd November.—San Francisco via Hakodate, Ballast.—W. J. S. Shand.

Mikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 2nd November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 2nd November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 877, J. J. Jones, 3rd November.—Manila via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hing Suey, British steamer, 1,988, J. C. Jaques, 3rd November.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 3rd November.—Hiroshima, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 642, Murray, 3rd November.—Shimonoseki, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 3rd November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 3rd November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 5th November.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. S. M. Gregory, Lieut. Coffin, Mr. P. W. Galstaun, Mrs. Marie, Mr. Monge, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Douglas, Mr. Thurmman, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Cadby and child, Mr. W. A. Oram, Mr. P. D. Winchomp, Mr. W. Concherons' Amah, Mr. Mei Kle, Miss Sivain, Mr. Thompson and 2 infants, Mr. E. Kellmann, Mr. C. K. Marshall Martin, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Pearce, Messrs. J. R. Gibson, E. C. Fox, C. W. May, A. C. Sim, E. W. Noel, G. W. Brockhurst, E. B. Shepherd, W. Kerr, and Bondon in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. and Miss Ames, Mr. Awaya, Rev. and Mrs. T. E. Aiken, Lord and Lady Bray, Colonel and Mrs. E. A. Ball, Mr. J. S. Broomhead, Mrs. Bassett and children, Miss Bassett, Rev. R. Baldwin, Mrs. S. N. Brown, Mr. L. Boissevain, Mr. and Mrs. H. Carmichael, Mr. and Mrs. Charles, Mr. B. H. Chamberlain, Mr. Cobelder and child, Miss Cobelder, Mr. and Mrs. Cosard, Mr. J. T. Cassels, Hon. Verney Cave, Mr. Conor Doscot, Mrs. Doscot, Mr. L. Dent, Mr. J. A. Douglas, Mr. C. Edwards, Mrs. S. E. C. Freaque, Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Fletcher, Miss Furniss, Hon. E. Fielding, Mrs. B. B. Ganvey, Mrs. Goodrich, Miss Harding, Mr. A. Hachmack, Sir Ed. Hill, K.C.B., Lady and Miss Hill, Mr. J. C. Hansen, Miss M. M. Hawes, Miss Hess, Mr. A. H. Harris, Mr. W. Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. Jarga, Mr. and Mrs. Loag, Mr. and Mrs. R. Locke, Mrs. D. R. Locke, Mr. Tamack, Mrs. Morris, Mr. J. C. Mollison, Mr. and Mrs. McNabb, the Misses McNabb (2), Mr. McNabb, Mr. T. McNabb, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. B. F. Norris, Dr. Nobb, Mr. Rankin, Mr. E. Royden, Mr. J. M. Ringer, Mrs. Silvester, Mr. E. J. Simpson, Mr. J. N. P. Stoker, Mr. J. G. Stoker, Mr. C. J. Strome, Mr. M. J. Taylor, Mr. W. Taylor, Mr. Tratrom, Mr. T. Tayada, Mr. C. Rullock, Mrs. and Miss True, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Weir and child, Miss Weir, Mrs. Waldron and child, Miss Waldron, and Mrs. Wooley in cabin; Mr. A. Balharry, Lieut. Burrows, Dr. Cousload, Mr. J. R. Gerenom, Mr. Hollander, Mr. T. Harada, Miss Harrington, Mrs. Carles' maid, Dr. Morrison, Dr. P. McHerm, Miss Ferris, Mr. J. B. Omeiyuka, Mr. and Mrs. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Lam Luuf, and Rev. Mr. Urrip in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. Tsushima in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 64 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—6 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Iloilo, Philippine Island via ports:—1 passenger in second class and 3 passengers in steerage. For Kobe: 1 passenger in second class.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Mr. J. Hartmann, Mr. E. Kann, Miss C. Everett, Mr. F. B. Hayes and valet, Mr. D. Thorpe, Mr. James Conley, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Commander G. R. Durand, Mrs. Blanchard, Rev. H. R. Harris, Miss Emma Lyons, Miss M. Riotti, Miss L. Oldham, and Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Stevens in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Miss Hall, Miss K. Hall, Messrs. K. Ono, R. Miyahara, and C. Ishikawa in cabin; 41 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Botenheum, Miss Eden Cole, Miss Lucy Dunlop, and Master J. Jesselsen in cabin; 36 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Lancaster and 2 infants in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—Captain and Mrs. Gelken in cabin for Kobe; 30 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. G. Boldemann, Mr. G. Devay, Paymaster J. T. Cowie, U.S.N., Miss K. N. Fleson, Captain B. de Livron, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Price, Messrs. J. A. Holdemaker, H. Larine, P. W. Murray, Wm. Costelloe, and F. J. Hill in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. F. S. Miller, Mrs. Omeiyuka, Miss B. Brown, Miss M. Palmer,

Mrs. Harrison and 2 children, Miss Proctor, Mrs. S. Tsuruhara, Lieut. M. Nagamine, Captain J. Martin, Rev. J. S. B. Scheer, Dr. Graham, Mr. J. J. Quin, and Mr. S. Sato in cabin; Mrs. K. Saito, Mrs. Nagamine, Messrs. S. D. Lester, M. Fujii, S. Chop Sing, Napalkoff, and Harriss in second class, and 49 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *Ferry*, for Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. Thwing and Mr. G. F. Miller in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 242 bales; Waste Silk, 162 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

	TRA.	NEW	CHICAGO,	OTHER	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO,	YORK,	CITY,	CITY,	
Shanghai	1,073	2,674	1,135	1,878	6,760
Hongkong	—	—	—	552	552
Yokohama	934	269	318	—	1,521
Hongkong	76	—	—	—	76
Amoy	39	1,128	1,233	—	2,299
Total	2,122	4,071	2,576	2,430	11,199

	NEW	HARTFORD,	TOTAL.
	YORK,		
Shanghai	—	262	262
Hongkong	—	440	440
Yokohama	—	1,057	1,057
Total	—	1,759	1,759

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 31st October at noon; had light southerly airs and calms to Hino-misaki; thence to Oshima gentle to moderate S.W. winds and fine, clear weather; at 9.20 p.m. passed Oshima Light, wind hauling to N.N.W. with moderate to fresh and strong breezes and very clear weather during the night; on the 1st November at 0.55 p.m., passed Rock Island; N.W. breeze and fine, clear weather to Observation Point, which was passed at 3.15 p.m., wind hauling to the N.E. with gentle to light breezes and fine weather; at 6.25 p.m. passed Kanon-saki; thence to port gentle north-easterly winds and very clear weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 1st November at 7.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Captain J. J. Jones, reports:—Left Iloilo the 21st October; had light wind, cloudy, and fine weather; the 23rd met heavy southerly and S.W. swell; the 24th fresh to strong winds, cloudy weather, and heavy N.E. swell; the 25th similar weather at 8.30 p.m. observed Naushah (Formosa); the 26th moderate to fresh winds and heavy confused sea; the 27th same weather and sea with heavy rain at times; the 28th moderate wind and sea, cloudy, fine weather and passing rain; the 29th similar wind and weather with heavy N.E. swell; the 30th same wind and weather; at 8.25 a.m. passed Minato-saki, and arrived at Kobe at 7.38 p.m.; the 31st at 8.07 p.m. left Kobe with fresh N.W. winds; the 1st November fresh to strong winds which increased to a heavy sea and fresh gale from N.W.; off Owari Bay; weather cleared and continued so to Iro-saki, which was passed at 1.19 a.m. on the 2nd; the 2nd at 1.46 passed Rock Island with light to moderate N.E. winds to port, which was reached at 10 a.m.

The American steamer *Ferry*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 15th October; a succession of strong north-west gales, heavy north-west swell, variable strong winds, rainy, and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd November.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 29th October at 2 p.m.; had fine, clear weather and N.N.E. winds to arrival in Nagasaki the 31st at 6 a.m. Left the same day at 8 p.m.; had light N.E. winds and fine, clear weather to Kobe, arriving the 2nd November at noon. Left Kobe the 3rd at 6 a.m.; experienced fresh breeze and fine, clear weather throughout the passage. Arriving at Yokohama the 4th November at 4 p.m.

The German steamer *Huernerberg*, Captain B. Blauke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th October at 9.30 a.m.; had throughout the voyage fine weather with strong north-easterly monsoon; rough sea the first part. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th November at 2.16 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Most of the period under review has been broken by holidays (cricket, regatta, the Emperor's Birthday, etc.) with the result that very little business has been done. Importers look for some revival

of trade from now on to the end of the year, as interior merchants must begin soon to stock up for the end of December demand from buyers.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds, 38½ yds, 39 inches	\$1.65 to 2.22
Grey Shirtings—9½ yds, 38½ yds, 39 inches	1.85 to 2.65
1. Cloth—7½ yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Salteans Black, 32 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.62½ to 0.77½
Paffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.34½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.92½ to 2.07½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.27½ to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 0.26½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17½ to 0.23
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.57½
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb.	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.70 to 29.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 32, Two-fold	33.00 to 34.00
No. 42, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
No. 20s, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/12, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Small business doing at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 3 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 3 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.80 to 5.10
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Not much doing, but holders are firm. Stock in Nakamura Godowus on the 31st October was reported to be 514,337 cases, as follows:—

Chester	61,280 cases
Comet	375,553 cases
Devos	18,190 cases
Russian	59,314 cases

514,337 cases

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devos	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Holders are firm at quotations, and hope for another advance as soon as buying becomes general again.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4.60 to 4.65
Brown Canton	6.10 to 6.20
White Java and Penang	5.65 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated 28th ultimo. Since then settlements on this market amount to 1,985 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 6 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,796 piculs; *Re-reels*, 160 piculs; *Kakeda*, 114 piculs. From these must be deducted rejections of *Oshu* 91 piculs. Japanese shipments have been 207 bales, so that the total export trade for the week amounts to 2,200 piculs.

This has been a week of holidays—races, regattas, and other festivities occupying the whole week, and yet we have seen a very respectable amount of business, as the above figures will show. The buying has been principally for America, and

has been chiefly in the hands of two hongs who have been competing with each other, more especially for full-sized *Filatures* suitable for the New York trade. Prices paid have been slightly higher and the quality of present reelings does not make the purchases look very cheap. Buying for Europe has not been large and the Lyons trade seems for the moment to be thrown into the shade by the large purchases for American use. Some dealers think that when the present elections in the States are over, we shall see a still more animated market for such silks as they require.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Ravenna* on the 29th October taking 242 bales for Europe. She was followed the next day by the *City of Peking*, which carried 1,057 bales for the United States. These departures bring the present export figures to 23,996 piculs, against 18,519 piculs last year and 7,271 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Nothing doing; stock small and well held. The only transaction noted is a small parcel Shimonita at \$670.

Filatures.—A large business—about 1,800 piculs, \$860 and \$870 being freely paid for *Shinshu* kinds of well-known marks. *Tokosha* and similar silks have brought \$850, with so-called Extras at \$880. *Koshu* have also been freely bought at prices ranging from \$800 to \$850, according to quality. Very little done for Europe, some few parcels *Ueno* and *Saku* bringing \$850.

Re-reels.—Nothing very much done. Prices unchanged, best *Foshu* marks being strongly held at late rates. Common grades, which constitute the bulk of our stock, could probably be bought on easier terms, but these are very mixed in colour and of poor quality.

Kakeda.—Some little revival, best No. 1 being done at \$790 for several well-known chops. In common grades, one parcel of *O'kame* noted at \$670.

Oshu.—Nothing done except rejections, the purchases noted in our last having all been cancelled.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	\$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	660 to 670
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	640 to 650
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	630 to 640
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	860 to 865
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 855
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	780 to 800
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	680 to 700
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 11	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 24	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 3	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 3½	640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 4	620 to 630
Oshu—Sendai—No. 1, 2	630 to 640
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 4th Nov., 1892:—

	1890-91	1891-92	1892-93
Europe	8,978	6,321	2,100
America	14,643	11,708	4,987
Total	23,621	18,029	7,087
Settlements and Direct	27,100	20,750	7,050
Export from 1st July	8,900	15,450	16,600
Available supplies to date	36,000	36,200	23,650

WASTE SILK.

These has been less doing in this branch, settlements reaching 862 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 375 piculs; *Noshi*, 479 piculs; *Kibiso*, 308 piculs. Direct shipments have been 20 bales, making the total business for the week 922 piculs.

Prices are practically unchanged, but are certainly no higher, and it looks as though the heavy stock were pressing on sellers to some extent.

The English mail steamer *Ravenna* carried 162 bales Waste for Europe and the Canal steamer *Argyll* had several parcels of Pierced *Cocoons* on board for New York. These departures make the present export figures 8,886 piculs, against 7,068 piculs last year and 7,239 piculs in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—Some further purchases for

the United States at prices ranging from \$82½ to \$97½, according to quality and yield. There are still about 1,000 piculs left on the market, but the cream has been skimmed off and what remains are not of the best quality.

Noshi.—Not a large business this week. Some good *Filatures* have been done at \$150 and \$140; *Hachoji*, \$137; *Shinshu*, \$107½. Nothing to note in *Foshu* beyond one small purchase at \$70.

Kibiso.—About 300 piculs have passed the scales; *Filatures*, \$110 and \$97½. In *Hira* sorts several have been taken; *Sendai*, \$90; *Foshu*, \$50 and \$55; *Oshu*, \$50; *Gunnai*, \$45 and \$50.

Mawata and Neri.—Nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito— <i>Oshin</i> , Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium	90 to 100
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best	130 to 145
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds	—
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Good	45 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachoji</i> , Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 4th Nov., 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	7,346	6,975	6,550
Pierced Cocoons.....	1,540	93	689
	8,886	7,068	7,239
Settlements and Direct } PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.	
Export from 1st July }	15,600	12,300	11,500
Stock, 4th November ..	18,200	15,200	11,600
Available supplies to date	33,800	27,500	23,100

Exchange has been fairly steady with small fluctuations closing about the same as a week ago:—**LONDON**, 4m/s. Credits, 2/11½; Documents, 2/11½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/11½; **NEW YORK**, 30d/s. U.S. \$7½; 4m/s. U.S. \$7½; **PARIS**, 0/LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.75.

Estimated Silk Stock, 4th Nov., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	455	Cocoons	920
Filatures	3,020	Noshi-ito	8,970
Re-reels	3,945	Kibiso	7,980
Kakeda	905	Mawata	110
Oshu	485	Sundries.....	220
Taysam Kinds ..	30		
Total piculs	8,900	Total piculs	18,200

TEA.

No change to note in prices or tone of the market.

	PER PICUL.
Finest	\$25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not fluctuated much, and is fairly steady at the close.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/10½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/10½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/11½
On Paris—Bank sight	3.60
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.73
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 7/8 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2 7/8 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	69½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	71
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	72
Silver	39½

BOARDING HOUSE
FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

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THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL :
SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: YOKOHAMA:

No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji. Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out 1 quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undecidable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says:—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to look up the small remaining 'stock.'"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World. May 1st, 1890.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE

Fragrant and delicate, its sweetness is ever delightful. Use none but Atkinson's, the original and only true Essence.

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TREVOIL

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"Richmond Smoking Mixture."
Superfine Bird's Eye.
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CONDENSED MILK
Largest Sale in the World.
The Original and the Best.
Contains the Most Cream.

May 14th, 1892.

Original from

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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Fitted with KINGDON'S PATENT MACHINERY (of which we are sole makers) are far superior to any others. The chief advantages are:—

1. Wonderful Economy of Fuel.
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3. Moderate Prices.
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5. Quickness in raising steam.
6. High rates of speed guaranteed.
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We build Steam Launches of every description, from the smallest size suitable for carrying on yachts of 40 tons and upwards. We also build small light Draft Paddle Boats, Tugs, Stern Wheel Paddle Steamers, and Boats in Frames, &c., &c. We supply sets of Machinery separately. We are also sole makers of the

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17.

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SANTAL-MIDY entirely different from the santal oil of the Indian Bazaar, is superior to Copaiba, Cubeb, or injections, and free from all bad smell or other inconveniences.

SANTAL-MIDY cures all derangements of the urinary organs in either sex in 48 hours.

SANTAL-MIDY is contained in small round Capsules, each of which bears the name..... in black letters, without which none are genuine.

SANTAL-MIDY Beware of imitations, all other Capsules or mixtures contain impurities, resins, oils &c. and are worse than useless.

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PADDLE STEAMERS WITH DRAFT RANGING DOWN TO 6 INCHES OF WATER

Stern Wheel Steamers with very shallow draft especially suitable for river navigation.

MACHINERY CONSTRUCTED FOR BOATS BUILT ABROAD.

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Builders of the Stern Wheel Steamers used by the British Government for the Nile Expedition.

"THE REAL CUP O' KINDNESS."

Perfect blendings of the Choicest Brands of the Highest Classes of Fine Old Whiskies in their Native Purity, as produced in Scotland, absolutely unadulterated with

MATURED IN SHERRY CASKS.

A LUXURY IN PURE SCOTCH WHISKIES.

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BOS

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** Blue "

* Green "

Exquisite blendings, possessing a flavour so rare, a character so novel and so entirely their own, that they may fairly claim the very first place among high-class stimulants. Clever judges pronounce them *unique* and *unrivalled*.

BOS Whiskies are remarkable for their "delicious individuality of flavour," mellowness and softness on the palate.—"A very Nectar," in marked contrast to ordinary blended Whiskies, which are more or less dominated by one or other of the Whiskies used in blending.

BOS is sold in square white bottles, labelled and capped, the quality being notified by a small label on each bottle. The Proprietors are skilled blenders of Scotch Whiskies, but in all the experience of their Firm, extending nearly over the present century, they have never been able to accomplish anything so fully complying with the most exacting tests, as is now presented in these special blends of BOS.

Correspondence invited from Firms who desire to handle our Whiskies.

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And see that each Jar bears Baron Liebig's Signature in Blue Ink across the Label.

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MEAT-FLAVOURING
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Invaluable for India as
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The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.



Sold Throughout the World.

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The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel; the safest and most gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sickness of Pregnancy.

Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELACOTT BEALE, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1892.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 20.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 12TH, 1892.

月三十五年十二陰明
可寄書信通日十三

[VOL. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 12TH, 1892.

DEATH.

On November 8th, at his residence No. 18, Suzukicho, Surugadai, Tokyo, GOTTFRIED WAGNER, Dr. Phil., in his sixty second year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS visited the Aoyama Palace on the 4th inst. at 2 p.m.

LIEUTENANT KAWAJI TOSHIYUKI, (Infantry), has been made Superintendent of Police in Migagi Prefecture.

THE Authorities have decided to hold the Barristers' Examination, on the 24th inst., at the Kinkikan, Kanda.

MR. SOYEJIMA TOSHITADA, father of Count Soyejima, died in the capital on the morning of the 4th inst., at the ripe age of 86.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE visited the Fine Art Exhibition at Ueno and also the Zoological Garden in Ueno Park on the 6th instant.

AN earthquake was felt in Tokyo on the 5th inst. at 1h. 48m. 53s. a.m. The tremor lasted for 40 seconds and was from east to west.

THE cost of the damage by soldiers to crops during the recent manœuvres, which was defrayed by the Government, amounted to yen 837.57.

DURING the night of the 29th ult., a fire occurred at Hinakuchō, Ihokugun, Kumamoto Prefecture, destroying 13 houses, and partly damaging 6.

THE number of passengers who left Shimbashi Railway Station during the month of October last was 95,301; the amount of their fares being yen 40,520.88.

THE total number of luggage trains which started from Ueno for the north-eastern provinces during the month of October last was

1,286, by which goods to the amount of 1,082 tons were carried, the freightage amounting to yen 791.39.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Okayama Prefecture received by the Authorities on the 5th inst. states that eleven oxen have been attacked by the cattle epidemic.

MR. KANEKO KENTARO, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, who was despatched to Europe to represent Japan at the International Law Convention, returned to Tokyo on Sunday last.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO left Hakodate on the 3rd inst. in the *Chitose Maru* for Awamori, and Count Yamada, who had been staying in Yamaguchi for some time, started for the capital on the 5th inst.

THE special meeting of the Privy Council held on Friday last was attended by Counts Oki, Higashi-kuze, Katsu and Kawamura, Viscounts Kabayama, Kaiyeda, Tanaka, Fukuoka, and Messrs. Ozaki and Inouye.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS honoured the members of the Tokyo Fujin Jizen-kai by visiting on the 11th inst. the bazaar to be opened under the auspices of the Society at the Rokumei-Kan during the 11th, 12th, and 13th inst.

EARLY on Sunday morning an outbreak of fire took place in a public bath-house in Nichome, Yurakucho, Kanda, Tokyo, and before the firemen could successfully grapple with it, 10 houses were burnt, and 15 were partly damaged.

A FIRE broke out on the 2nd inst. at 5 p.m. in a cottage in the kerosene well districts of Sugayama-mura, Tsuguhara-gun, Shizuoka Prefecture, and five workmen were severely injured, two of whom now lie in a dangerous condition.

A DESPATCH from Fukuoka says that during September last some seven or eight oxen were brought to Hakata from Korea. About that time cattle disease commenced to prevail among native cattle, and from four to eight animals are being attacked by the epidemic daily.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Osaka reports that eleven cows were attacked by cattle disease in a dairy at Kitano-mura in Nishinari District on the 5th instant, of which eight succumbed. Two cases have been reported at Nakatsu-mura, Nishinari-gun, and Toyokawa-mura, Shimashimo-mura, respectively.

THE following is the number of animals captured by the crews of the *Daichi* and the *Daini Chishima Maru* of the Japan Marine Products Company, who have been engaged in hunting along the shore of Chishima from April up to October last:—41 seals, 208 sea-leopards, 3 otters, 1,550 sea-horses, and 2 whales.

THE Minister of State for War and Countess Oyama gave a dinner on the 7th inst. at the Korakuyen, Koishikawa, Tokyo, to Mr. and Mrs. Winston, Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Mr. A. B. de Guerville, the Minister of State for Communications and Countess Kuroda, Count and Countess Saigo, Mr. Matsukata Kojiro, Miss Kagawa, Mrs. Yamakawa, and a few German employés of the War Department.

THE hearing of an appeal raised by the Public Procurator against a decision of the Tokyo Local Court, by which Mr. Tajima Haruo, an engineer of the Peru Mining Company, who has been under arrest for some time on a charge of having defrauded the company of yen 20,000, was acquitted on the ground that there existed no provisions of law applicable to his crime, con-

cluded in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on the 5th inst., and the judgment of the former Court was reversed, the prisoner being sentenced to major confinement for 3 years, a fine of 30 yen, and police supervision for 6 months.

MISS M. A. WEST, of the W. C. T. U., spoke at the assembly of the members of the Japan Red Cross Society, held on the 4th inst. in the buildings of the hospital attached to the Society. Amongst those present were Their Imperial Highnesses Princesses Komatsu Yoriko, Kitashirakawa Tomiko, Arisugawa Yasuko, and Kanin Chiyeiko, Marchioness Nabeshima, Viscountesses Kabayama, Niirei, and Sakurai. President Sano, of the Red Cross Society. President Hashimoto, of the Red Cross Hospital, Viscount Matsudaira, Baron Takasaki, and Marquis Nabeshima were also present.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER, attended by Madame Madenokoji, Viscount Sugi, Grand Master, and Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty; Dr. Iwase and Dr. Takenouchi, Imperial Court Physicians, and several Ladies in Waiting, left the capital on the 7th inst. for Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture, starting from Shimbashi by the 1.45 a.m. special train. H.I.M. the Empress and Their Imperial Highnesses Princess Tsune and Kane accompanied Her Majesty to the Railway Station. Among those who assembled at the Station to bid farewell were H.I.H. Arisugawa Taruhito, Princess of the Imperial Blood, members of the Privy Council, attendants in the *Yakunomi* and *Kinkinomi*, officials of *chokunin* and *sonin* rank in the Imperial Household Department, and several high officers of the Imperial Body Guards.

THE Import market is steady, but the anticipated briskness in business has not yet commenced. This is doubtless partly due to the decline in exchange, which makes holders firmer in their demands. There has not been much done in Metals, as importers do not care about entering upon transactions merely for the sake of doing business, and the offers made since the close of the hot weather are not up to expectations in regard to prices. The Kerosene market is fairly well attended, and buyers have had to pay increased rates as stock diminishes, while higher values in the near future are more than probable. The expected rise in the price of Sugar did not come off, the demand that was imminent on depleted stocks having hung fire, and, fresh arrivals having come in, the hoped for increment of values has been turned into an actual decline, and there has been but small enquiry for any sorts, Browns now being carried into godown in large quantities. In the Silk trade, though over 1,000 piculs have been taken, business may be called quiet when compared with the transactions of many weeks for the past two months. It is in the natural order of things that—nearly all the fine Silk having been already exported, in so far as it has been placed on this market—buyers are now turning their attention to fibre of the second grade, which is receiving more attention, and the skimming process will proceed until there is nothing left worth exporting, which condition of affairs will probably be arrived at at an earlier period this season than for many years past. Less doing in Waste, though there have been small daily transactions at prices which show an easy tendency. For Tea of any quality high figures are demanded, but there are only a few piculs of fine leaf on offer, and requirements at the moment are neither pressing or extensive. Exchange has responded fully to the lower price of silver, and shows no sign of resuscitation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE CHINESE AGAINST THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

SOME time ago the Chinese in Vladivostok passed a resolution agreeing that in future no cargo should be shipped in any of the steamers belonging to the Japan Mail Steamship Company, and despatched communications to that effect to their friends, in Nagasaki, Shanghai, and Chefoo. The Japan Mail Steamship Company took steps to investigate the cause of such a suddenly hostile movement, and discovered that so long as the branch office of the Company had been represented by Mr. A. Dattan, of Messrs. Kunst and Albers, everything had gone very smoothly, but that when he left Vladivostok in May last and Mr. E. Cornells of the same firm was deputed to act during his absence, things assumed a different complexion. The majority of Chinese in the town are small merchants, who come from Shantung, and their usual occupation is the manufacture of shoes and sundry other goods of daily use, the materials for which are obtained from Chefoo. Sometimes, owing to careless packing, the goods are damaged on the voyage, but the Company naturally declines to admit any responsibility for the laches of shippers themselves. While Mr. Dattan was Manager, knowing the character of the Chinese well, he succeeded in keeping everything very smooth, but the Acting Manager who succeeded him, having had little experience in dealing with Chinese, the latter soon began to grumble against the Company. It happened that during September last the *Yokohama Maru* was advertised to sail for Vladivostok from Shanghai *via* Nagasaki, but as some difficulty was experienced in obtaining her cargo in Shanghai, and moreover on account of the exceptionally low tides which prevailed, the ship would have had to remain outside Woosung for two days in order to load, and the passengers for Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama would have been correspondingly detained. Accordingly she left Shanghai without any cargo. When she reached Nagasaki, her passengers for Vladivostok were transhipped to the *Tokyo Maru*, which was bound for the latter port, but on the arrival of the *Tokyo Maru* in Vladivostok without any of the expected goods, the Chinese at once concluded that the Company had refused to ship any cargo for Chinese, and in their excitement they concluded a contract with Messrs. Sheveleff & Co. to send their goods by the latter's ships for three years. The agreement was signed by the Chairman of the Chinese Settlers' Assembly as well as by 89 principal merchants. The signatories pledged themselves that if any one shipped goods in vessels other than those belonging to Messrs. Sheveleff & Co., such shipper should pay a fine of \$12 per ton, and on the other hand the Company agreed to pay \$1,000 for any delay in the transmission of goods. The Company thereupon chartered a steamer, the *Phaton* for two months at \$4,000 per month. These facts are reported by the *Fiji Shimpō*, on the authority of Mr. Sakaki, who was commissioned by the Japan Mail Steamship Company to inquire into the case and who, having proceeded to Vladivostok for the purpose, returned to Tokyo a few days ago. It is stated that there can be only three more trips this year, the trouble cannot be settled soon. But the Company hopes to discover a peaceful solution next spring.

The *Kokkai* writes on the same subject. It says that the Company has been engaged considering the policy to be pursued with regard to the Chinese in Vladivostok, who have bound themselves to stop sending goods by the company's ships. As the conference is secret, no outsider can ascertain the exact facts, but a certain amount of information has leaked out. There are some 25 thousand Chinese settlers in Vladivostok. They are more numerous than the settlers of any other nationality, and since the Company established a line of steamers to that place, about 80 per cent. of the freight earned by the ships is derived from the Chinese. Hence, when its best customer leaves the Com-

pany the latter can no longer maintain its establishment in Vladivostok. Moreover, the Chinese settlers have already concluded a contract with Messrs. Sheveleff & Co.; in which it is expressly provided that if the firm fail to despatch steamers, a fine of \$1,000 shall be paid by it; and, on the other hand, if any Chinaman sends his goods by a steamer other than those of the Company, a fine of \$12 per ton shall be imposed on him. With this contract in their pocket, although communication is usually suspended from the end of November to April of the following year owing to the freezing up of the port, Messrs. Sheveleff & Co. will use machines to break the ice, so as to continue despatching ships. It is therefore essential to devise some plan for breaking up this combination as soon as possible. Messrs. Sheveleff & Co. possess only inferior vessels, and consequently if active competition were started, the Chinese would probably annul their agreement and give their custom once more to the Japanese Company. It is stated that though the agreement was signed only a few weeks ago, there are already signs of dissension among the parties to it. The Japan Mail Steamship Company is now anxiously awaiting the return of Shih Ching-tsai, a Chinaman in the employ of its branch office in Nagasaki, who was sent to Vladivostok to appease his indignant nationals there. He has been directed to come to Tokyo as soon as he can get back, and when he arrives a conference of Directors will be again held, the idea being to commence competition at once with Messrs. Sheveleff and Co. through the winter by using ice-crushers.

KYOTO ANNIVERSARY ASSOCIATION.

THE people of Kyoto intend to celebrate, in 1895, the eleven-hundredth year of the choice of that city as capital of the empire by the Emperor Kammu. The idea has been approved by Princes Konoye, Nijo, and Iwakura; Marquises Tokudaiji, and Saionji; Counts Madenokoji, Higashikuse, Hirohashi, and Ohara; Viscounts Fujinami, Sano, and Itsutsuji; as well as Mr. Uyemura, Chief Judge of the Administrative Court, Mr. Kuki, President of the Imperial Museum, Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy, Messrs. Itami, Ozaki, and Komuro, members of the House of Peers, and many others distinguished persons. These supporters lately held several conferences, finally meeting in the Charyo on Sanno Hill, when they formed an association, with the following statement of motives:—

The 28th year of *Meiji* (1895) the 2,555th year from the establishment of the empire by the Emperor Jimmu, will be the 1,000th year of the elevation of Kyoto into the country's capital by the Emperor Kammu. The unbroken lineal succession of the Imperial Family has continued for two thousand five hundred years, up to the time of our present August and Enlightened Emperor, whose virtue and power are everywhere felt. Kyoto was the capital of all these Emperors. Not only the politics and religion, but also the civilization of the nation have grown from that capital. We who were born in it, and those who have any interest in the place, should do something to celebrate the eleven hundredth anniversary of its existence as the capital. The people of Kyoto have decided to commemorate the year, and thus express their gratitude for the great benefits bestowed on them by the Emperor Kammu, while at the same time offering their congratulations to the reigning Sovereign. We cannot choose but support such a worthy undertaking, and therefore we have organized an association. Every subject of the Empire must reverence the memory of the Emperor Kammu who accomplished great national works. The proposed celebration is principally for the purpose of renewing the nation's memory of that most illustrious Sovereign. The scenery of Kyoto is magnificent, and moreover that city is the repository of our arts and industries. It is in short a most perfect capital. We trust, therefore, that the public will support our undertaking and join our Association.

THE TRIAL OF CARSTENS.

THE Yokohama Local Court has been engaged for two days considering whether Jacob Carstens, who stands charged with murder, is a German subject—not a Dutch subject, as we erroneously stated in a previous issue. Carstens himself raises no question. He seems at least indifferent whether a Japanese or a German tribunal tries him. But the Public Procurator

has taken exception to the Court's jurisdiction on the point of nationality, and the Court is examining the matter. It seems to us somewhat anomalous that such a question should come up for judicial decision at all, belonging, as it does, essentially to the sphere of diplomacy. If Carstens himself offered any tangible proofs of his nationality, the Court might, perhaps, pronounce judgment upon them. But in the great majority of these cases, and apparently in this particular case, the only ground for action is a despatch from the prisoner's Consular or Diplomatic Representative, asserting the man's nationality, and it is difficult to see how a Court of Law can pronounce a decision with respect to the validity of such a document. Whatever shape the decision may take, the mere fact of delivering it implies competence to adjudicate in the opposite sense. That is to say, if the Yokohama Local Court undertakes to deliver a ruling in the sense claimed by the Consul's or Minister's despatch, it practically asserts its right to deliver a ruling in the opposite sense, and to exercise jurisdiction in the teeth of a Consular or Diplomatic protest. That can scarcely be a defensible position. If the German Representative claims Carstens as a German subject, then, according to the Treaty, the man's trial must be conducted before a German Court. There is no alternative, neither does the question fall within the scope of a judicial decision. So soon as Carstens comes before the Yokohama Local Court, having been duly remanded for trial by a magisterial tribunal, the Court becomes seized of jurisdiction, and though it may listen to any proofs advanced by the prisoner himself, it cannot logically or properly take notice of a Consular or Diplomatic despatch simply claiming the man as of this or that nationality. A judgment pronounced by the Court on such a point immediately establishes a right of appeal, and thus we might see, Court after Court asked to determine whether the German Consul's or Representative's claim to exercise jurisdiction in the case of an alleged German subject—assuming such a claim to have been advanced—is valid. The whole business appears out of order. If Carstens was to be taken under German protection, it might have been done with much greater propriety before he came publicly into a Japanese Law Court to stand his trial.

SNIPE SHOOTING IN INDIA.

HEMMED in by treaty limits, the sportsman in Japan has but little opportunity now-a-days to make a bag of snipe, and his chances are yearly growing smaller. The editor of the *Empress*, who is said to be one of the best snipe shots in Calcutta, in writing of the "Tal Bereilah" in Mozufferpore, says:—It is the favourite snipe ground of the district and has some "warm corners." Some of these corners hold the snipe by dozens, and bags of fifty and sixty couple to one gun have several times been made. There is no record "bag," as it appears the men of the district as so sceptical that when a man makes an extra big bag (one out of the common) he keeps it quiet! Calcutta men are not so diffident, and it is now the fashion to always beat the previous year's record! Up to the last three or four years it was the aim of the best men to make the coveted 50 couple, now, nothing less than 80 couple is any good, and we expect to hear of 100 couple this season, although up to the present, 52½ couple for two guns is, we believe, the best.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO.

LITTLE has been heard lately of the remarkably eloquent politician Mr. Inoue Kakugoro. We now read, however, in the *Fiji* that he has been collecting materials to load a big gun which he intends to fire at the heads of the Ministry next session. Foreign relations constitute the subject of his attack, and having got his facts together, he announced his intention of delivering a speech in the Koseikan, on the 6th instant. We judge that much interest must have been excited by the heads of the oration as announced; for example, the facts of the country's foreign relations; the objects that ought to guide

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the Government's action towards Foreign States; the foreign policy of Counts Ito and Inouye; the past and the future foreign relations of the empire, and the results actually produced by the former. If Mr. Inouye puts his heart into this subject, he will probably succeed in bringing it very vividly into the field of public attention.

THE CATTLE DISEASE.

CORRESPONDENCE from Korea, published in these columns from time to time, has given some idea of the heavy losses sustained in that country by the cattle pest of last winter. Unhappily the disease seems to have made its way to Japan, and the only hope of avoiding a catastrophe comparable with that which overtook Korea, lies in the promptitude and competence of the Japanese Authorities to deal with such emergencies. The *Fiji Shimpō* says that the number of oxen in Tokyo is 23,648. These, of course, are not cattle intended for slaughtering. The vast majority of them are draught oxen, and their decimation, apart from mere pecuniary loss, would entail immense inconvenience on the people. It is stated that the police are organizing a system which ought to result in stamping out the epidemic.

Rigorous measures, says the Tokyo News Agency, have been adopted by the authorities of the capital in view of the disease now prevailing among cattle in the capital. Additional inspectors have been appointed, and it is arranged that every beast slaughtered shall be examined beforehand by at least two competent experts. Moreover, to secure thorough efficiency of inspection, slaughtering is restricted to Sengokumura in the Asakusa suburb. About 150 oxen are killed there daily for supplying the various meat shops. Under the circumstances it might be expected that the price of beef would appreciate considerably, but such is not the case, for the possibility of being supplied with diseased flesh has produced a deterrent effect on numbers of consumers, and if sound cattle are becoming difficult to procure, the situation is saved by a sensible diminution in the number of beef-eaters.

A telegram from Kobe, dated at 1 p.m. on the 5th instant, reports that, in consequence of the prevalence of cattle disease, the Governor has interdicted all export or import of slaughtered beef. On the same day the chief of Police in Tokyo issued an order forbidding the import of beef or cattle from Kobe, and inasmuch as the chief part of the capital's supplies have hitherto been drawn from Hyogo, there can be no doubt that the effects of this order will soon be felt very seriously.

YOKOHAMA ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The fourth annual general meeting of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society, was held in the Chamber of Commerce, Yokohama, on Monday evening. There were present Messrs. J. A. Fraser (Chairman), J. Troup, J. Dodds, D. Fraser, W. G. Cameron, C. W. Ure (Honorary Sec.), R. W. Borthwick, D. McNeill, G. Philip, W. Steele, Buchanan Dunlop, J. Mackenzie, A. Patterson, and J. Johnstone. The Committee, in submitting their Annual Report for 1891-1892, drew the attention of members to the Statement of Accounts. Though the balance at the credit of the Society is \$278.32, nearly the whole of this sum, amounting to \$276.32, was on deposit in Current Account with the New O. B. C., Limited, when that institution closed its doors in June last, and the Committee regret that the loss to the Society will be heavy, as the liquidation is not likely to yield more than about one-half of the deposits. The balance of the funds, viz., \$2.00, is in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer, and there are the subscriptions for next year to be collected. The accounts having been passed, the following office holders were elected: President, J. D. Hutchison; Vice-President, Buchanan Dunlop; Committee, R. W. Borthwick, H. Steele, J. Troup, D. McNeill, and J. Johnstone; Hon. Treas., G. Philip; Hon. Sec., C. W.

Ure. It was decided to take the opinion of the members by circular as to the proper mode in which to celebrate the festival of Scotia's patron saint, the preponderating feeling at the meeting being that it should take the form of a ball. The following new members were elected: Messrs. R. M. Holme-Cook, A. S. Bremner, N. Gordon Munro, M.B., A. Barron, and J. P. McIntyre. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

NATIONAL EDUCATION UNION.

The promoters of the above association held a meeting in the Kounji, in Koishikawa, on the 29th ultimo. Mr. Izawa Shuji took the chair. The rules of the association, were discussed, the following draft being finally passed:—

RULES OF THE UNION.

Art. 1.—The term National Education means to furnish for the people all necessary education at public cost.

Art. 2.—The first measure adopted by the Union shall be to present a petition to the Diet praying for the enactment of a law granting an appropriation from the Treasury by way of subsidy for Elementary Schools throughout the Empire.

Art. 3.—Any person who approves the policy of the Union, and desires to become a member, may do so if introduced by a member.

Each member shall pay 10 sen per annum as his subscription. If any branch office be established in a local district, the expenditure must be defrayed by the local members.

Art. 4.—The Union shall appoint a President, and members of committee. The members of Committee shall be selected from the various localities throughout the empire, and the President shall be elected from among them.

Art. 5.—The by-laws of the Union and the draft of any petitions to be presented in its name shall be determined by the President with the advice of the Committee.

Art. 6.—The Union shall be established when its members reach the number of 100, and shall be dissolved so soon as its object is attained.

Provided that those who notified their intention of becoming members prior to the 29th of October, 1892, shall be considered Promoters of the Union.

It is stated that some 350 persons have already joined the union, and that Mr. Izawa will probably be elected President.

In a country like Japan where rapid progress was made within a very short period, the common people could not be expected to understand at once the necessity of elementary education for their children, and consequently the Government was compelled to interfere by establishing elementary schools and by recourse to others measures. But it seems to be thought that the nation has now appreciated the situation, and that official interference in matters of education is beginning to be resented on the ground that instruction in branches of learning which exceed the general want, tends merely to unfit youths for the duty of bread-winning. Hence the efforts of public-spirited men to develop independence in educational affairs. We cannot exactly comprehend the objects of the above Union, but it apparently aims at taking the place of officialdom.

ALTERATION OF THE PASSENGER FARES OF THE NIPPON RAILWAY.

The Nippon Railway Company has announced that on and after the 1st of November, the fares on its different lines, which have hitherto been on the uniform rate of 1 sen per mile for the third class, 2 sen per mile for the second, and 3 sen per mile for the first, will be changed, and that the following scale of passenger fares will come into effect. The third class fares for any distance (approximately):—

Up to 100 miles.....	1.2 sen per mile.
Between 100 and 221 miles.....	1. sen per mile.
Over 221 miles .....	.8 sen per mile.

The first class fares are to be two and a half times the third class, and the second class to be 50 per cent. above the third class. With the exception of the Government railways, the Nippon Railway Company now controls the most important system of railways in Japan, for besides the great northern line from Tokyo to Aomori, it possesses the Akabane, Takasaki-Mayebashi, Nikko, and the recently acquired Mito railways, or the whole of the system north of the capital

with the single exception of the Ryomo Railway from Oyama to Mayebashi. In the matter of length these lines exceed the aggregate mileage of the Government railways by some forty or fifty miles. The above alterations of fares are said to have been made with the idea of offering special inducements to travellers for long distances and increasing the hitherto very limited first and second class passengers. However, the Company does not look to become losers by the change, the increase of 20 per cent. on the third class fare for distances up to 100 miles being expected to augment its earnings to an extent which will more than compensate the reductions in other directions, for the passenger traffic on this as on all railways in Japan is almost entirely local, the percentage of through passenger traffic being exceedingly small, a fact clearly indicated by the average passenger mileage on the longer railways being from 20 to 30 miles. The alteration has not therefore escaped adverse criticism from a section of the press, it being argued that the measure will tend to benefit the few at the expense of the many. Be this as it may, there can be no mistake as to the new scale of fares being a boon so far as foreign travellers on the line are concerned, for they mostly patronize the first or the second class, the fares of which have been considerably reduced. Even within the shortest limit of 100 miles the reductions will amount to 10 per cent. on the second class charges, while beyond the longest limit of 221 miles the difference will be 40 per cent. for the second class and 33 per cent. for the first class fares. The changes and reductions in the fares may be noted and compared from the appended table:—

	OLD FARES.		NEW FARES.	
	Uniform rate Per mile.	Up to 100 miles Per mile.	From 100 to 221 miles Per mile.	Over 221 miles Per mile.
Third Class...	1	1.2	1	.8
Second Class...	2	1.8	1.5	1.2
First Class...	3	3.0	2.5	2.0

We learn that a very marked increase of second class passengers has taken place between Tokyo and Sendai since the 1st inst. Passengers availing themselves of the reduced fares have been so numerous that the Company is about to increase the second class accommodation on the trains of the northern line.

DR. LOWSON AND THE LASCARS.

The singular charges preferred by Dr. Lowson against the Lascars who escaped from the *Bokhara* to Sand Island have not passed unnoticed in Hongkong. They have elicited several letters to the local press, and with the exception of Dr. Lowson himself. Dr. Lowson, we are happy to see, finds no defender. The unfortunate Lascars had been toiling without rest for thirty hours continuously before the final catastrophe. They must have been already quite worn out when called upon suddenly to make a struggle for life under circumstances not less terrible or trying for them than for Dr. Lowson. If their brains were somewhat numbed and their muscles weary when the fierce sea threw them up on Sand Island, can any one justly blame them? It does not appear, indeed, that their conduct afforded any reason for fault finding, and the officers of the ship tell a very different story from that of Dr. Lowson. But even though they had showed some apathy and want of active zeal, who could affirm that ample excuse did not exist for such a mood? Reading the whole record as well as the correspondence evoked by this particular incident, we are forced to conclude that Dr. Lowson's utterances were indiscreet, to use no stronger term.

THE "KOKKAI" AND THE TOKYO LOCAL COURT. A very strange charge is brought against the Tokyo Local Court by the *Kokkai*. Our contemporary says that on the 4th inst. Mr. Kobayashi Tamaki, a member of its staff, was summoned to the Public Procurators' Office in the Tokyo Local Court, and was examined by Mr. Yamamoto, Public Procurator, with reference to a paragraph which the paper had published about the Barristers' examination scandal, the

language of the paragraph being considered as insulting to officials. After some examination, the Public Procurator sent Mr. Kobayashi to the Court of First Instance, where he was again examined by Mr. Aki, Judge of that Court. Now, according to the Newspaper Regulations, the only persons legally responsible for the matter contained in a newspaper are the editor, the publisher, and the printer. The same regulations further expressly provide that after a law suit has been instituted, if the prosecutor discovers that there is a true editor in addition to the nominal editor, the former shall be held responsible equally with the latter. In other words, no member of the staff can be summoned and examined unless a law suit has been instituted against the editor. The editor of the *Kokkai* is Mr. Ota Hisataro. But before any proceedings had been instituted against him, Mr. Kobayashi Tamaki was summoned and examined. It is true, that Mr. Ota was summoned on the 27th ultimo, but he only underwent an examination at the hands of Mr. Koga, Public Procurator; no lawsuit was actually instituted. Such being the case, the *Kokkai* holds that the conduct of the Tokyo Local Court was a direct violation of the laws of the country. Again, Art. 23 of the Constitution expressly provides that "no Japanese subject shall be arrested, detained, tried or punished, unless according to law." But Mr. Kobayashi was tried by Mr. Aki, Judge of the Preliminary Court, before any suit had been instituted against the responsible person. Thus the act of the Tokyo Local Court is a violation of the laws of the country as well as of the Constitution; and since the question has an important bearing upon journalistic rights, the facts of the case are published by the *Kokkai* for the purpose of appealing to the opinion of jurists.

THE INDEMNITY DEMANDED FROM KOREA BY JAPAN.

MR. HARA KAI, Director of the Bureau of Commerce in the Foreign Department, who was sent to Korea some time ago in connection with the indemnity demanded by Japan on account of the Korean Authorities' illegal prohibition of the export of beans, having returned to Tokyo with unexpected celerity, various rumours began to be circulated. Some averred that his mission had failed and that his return had consequently been inevitable. Others said that he had not been sent as a plenipotentiary to negotiate, but only as an official to collect certain information, and that having obtained the desired information, he naturally came home. The News Agency reports that the true explanation is different from either of these surmises. Mr. Hara went as plenipotentiary, with instructions to demand an indemnity of a hundred and forty thousand dollars. On opening negotiations, he found that the Korean Government acknowledged its responsibility to pay immediately sixty thousand dollars, but desired that further negotiations might be suspended until certain local officials could be summoned from Gensan and elsewhere and examined. There was no choice but to comply with this request. On the other hand, it is well understood that when the Korean Government asks for time to conduct investigations, it contemplates a delay not of days but of months. Mr. Hara appreciated the uselessness of dangling his heels for an indefinite time in the peninsula, so he came home.

THE MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD. For some years back, says the *Yomiuri Shim-bun*, rumours have constantly recurred of a change of the Minister of the Imperial Household. But the thing has never gone beyond rumour. The same idea is now once more revived; this time with some foundation. The successor pointed to is Viscount Tani Tateki, and the recommender is Count Ito. The public will at once declare that Count Ito has begun to buy up his enemies in the Diet. But according to report, such is not the case. Count Ito has always considered that Viscount Tani, who is upright and earnest, is better suited to be Minister of the Imperial Household than a poli-

tician. Owing to various circumstances, however, the Count has not hitherto found himself in a position to speak his mind. The time having now at last arrived, he has communicated the project to Viscount Tani. Count Inouye also approves, and has seen the Viscount, and urged him to accept the offer. The Viscount finds it impossible to decline, but as he cannot abruptly abandon his political friends in the House of Peers, he has deferred giving a definite answer until he shall have reflected and consulted. On the other hand, Viscount Hijikata, the present Minister of the Imperial Household, having been in office for over five years, entertains the intention of resigning soon, and when he learned the Count's desire to appoint Viscount Tani, he was more than pleased with the suggestion, so that when Count Inouye met Viscount Tani, Viscount Hijikata was also present, and recommended the acceptance of the post. Such being the case, the change is likely to be made as soon as Viscount Tani can be induced to accept. This is a very interesting story, but its value is considerably impaired by an announcement now made by the Tokyo News Agency, namely, that the tale is a baseless canard, and that no intention whatsoever has been entertained of removing Viscount Hijikata from office.

METALS.

In their report dated September 24th, Messrs. S. W. Roys & Co. say:—In our August report we were able to mention a fairly satisfactory state of things in the pig iron trade, and reasonably good prospects for the future. This promise has, however, by no means been fulfilled, and this month has been a bad one, not only in the pig iron branch, but in the general metal trade, prices having fallen steadily almost without exception. Pig-iron, both Scotch and Middlesbrough, is now about 1/- per ton cheaper than at the beginning of the month, and prospects appear to be unfavourable. Buyers cannot be brought forward, as there is a feeling that lower prices must rule before long; business at present is only of limited dimensions, and production is increasing. Shipments from Middlesbrough are poor, being returned as 32,425 tons up to the 16th instant, as against 57,215 tons for the corresponding period of last year. The manufactured iron trade is very dull, but latest advices from the Midlands report a slight improvement. Copper has fallen steadily, but slowly, notwithstanding arrangements for a restricted production about which a great deal was heard a short time ago. Tin has come down steadily, and is about 30/- per ton lower than at the beginning of the month. Spelter has had a collapse, but is now showing some signs of recovery.

ASCENTS OF FUJIYAMA IN SNOW.

We are surprised to observe that no one has yet cared to contradict in print the claim advanced more than two months ago by the *Pail Mail Budget* on behalf of the Rev. W. Weston and Mr. Montague Fordham, that their ascent of Fujiyama last May was "the first ascent of the far-famed sacred mountain before the melting of the winter snow." Time obliterates records but does not change the difficulties of getting up Fujiyama while his slopes are still clad in white. The credit of their achievement as a physical effort belongs unreservedly to Messrs. Weston and Fordham, but whatever spice of picturesqueness is added to it by the hypothesis that they were pioneers must be laid aside. For to our own personal knowledge the mountain was attacked and conquered by a party of Englishmen in April, 1870. These climbers were not actuated by any thought of making a record, or of handing down to posterity the reputation of having been the first to fare through the snows of the Peerless Mountain. They simply wanted to go up Fujiyama. Had it been possible for them to consult their own convenience, they would have waited quietly until the season indicated by Nature for such efforts, and then, falling into line with the customary stream of savoury pilgrims, would have watched the summer sun rise from the fair mountain's summit. But it happened that two officers of artillery had obtained spring leave for a brief

visit to Japan, and as these men could never hope, in the ordinary course of events, to see the Land of the Rising Sun again, they desired ardently to devote a week of their short respite from parades and barrack routine to breasting the slopes of Fujiyama. Little thought was taken of possible obstacles. Alpine ascents are made perpetually in the midst of snow and ice, and why should Fujiyama be insuperable under similar circumstances? Of course there was no valid reason to be deterred, as events proved. The party of five reached the summit by way of Suyama without any special difficulty, though in returning two faces were more or less abraded by falls on frozen snow slopes. It will be seen therefore that the "first ascent" of Messrs. Weston and Fordham was just twenty-two years and one month after the real first ascent—that is to say, the real first ascent by foreigners, for we have very little doubt that the feat had previously been performed time and again by Japanese. Moreover, unless we are greatly mistaken, another ascent during snow time was made between 1870 and 1892, so that, in truth, the climb of Messrs. Weston and Fordham was at least the third of its kind.

SHANGHAI RACES.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* thus anticipated the recent Shanghai race meeting:—"Although the Course is very hard, it looks as if we are going to have one of the best autumn race meetings on record. The weather is perfect, there is sufficient uncertainty about the new ponies, the Grand Stand is renewed, the training has not been interfered with by rain, and Shanghai has got a little over its depression, so that all promises well for those who go up to the Course." The morning journal's anticipation as to the "uncertainty about the new ponies" turned out to be correct, for several made their mark, the fortunate backers in one instance "received each over \$430 for their \$5 invested," and the two big stables of Mr. John Peel and Mr. Sassoon had but a small share—compared with that of many former years—of winners, the first-named taking only two races and the latter three. Indeed, had it not been for Hero, Mr. Sassoon would have come out with only one win to his credit, as the skewbald landed for his owner both the Shanghai Stakes and the Champions, the latter race having now been won at four meetings by Hero. Shanghai would appear to have "got a little over its depression," if the money that changed hands at the Pari-mutuel can be taken as any guide. The total amount invested on the three days reached the very considerable sum of \$36,200, —\$9,790 on the first day, \$13,040 on the second, and \$13,370 on third. The largest sum invested on any one race was \$3,235 in the Champion Sweepstakes. Hero alone carrying \$2,225 out of the total. The most successful jockeys were Messrs. Crawford, Sampson, and Read, who tied with four wins each.

CHINESE ITEMS.

THE progress made by China in maritime affairs is evidenced by the fact that the whole of her fleet, one vessel excepted, were recently docked at Port Arthur entirely without foreign assistance. Indeed, all her acceptance of Western civilization seems to be limited to the field of warlike preparations. H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of Hukuang, though he has spent eight hundred thousand taels on a cotton mill which has not yet turned out a yard of cloth, devotes his energies chiefly to building and equipping arsenals. His great iron-works at Hanyang were supposed to be intended for the manufacture of railway material, but it now seems that he has collected there some three thousand machines for making rifles and cannon. If this great plant were in working order, it would be capable of turning out four hundred thousand rifles a day, but inasmuch as the machines still remain in the cases that carried them from Berlin, there is as yet nothing practical to show for an enormous outlay. At the Nanking and Kiangnan Arsenals, however, work has been going on for years, and guns as well as small arms of all the most modern and most approved

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types are being turned out with feverish rapidity. The Kiangnan experts have succeeded in producing steel of the finest quality, and powerful hydraulic presses are being imported for compressing it. Mr. H. Bryos has contributed to the columns of the *North China Daily News* a most interesting essay on the subject of China's military preparations. "Everywhere," he writes, as translated by our contemporary, "arms and munitions of war are being made with a devouring activity. This is the preoccupation of those who preside over the destinies of the empire. They are working with all their might with a view to war, and the moment will come when China will be provided with armaments equivalent in quality and in number to the armaments of the greatest European nations. . . . One must be blind not to recognise the movement that has been going on in China for some years in the direction of military industry. The coasts, the mouths of the rivers and their banks are being fortified with important works. In all the arsenals, the making of cannon and of rifles is going on, not to speak of the continual large purchases abroad of arms and gunpowder. Instructors are brought from Europe to teach the Chinese the art of war. Their navy of junks and inferior steamers has given way to a new fleet of modern ships, armed also with modern guns."

On the 18th of October Consul-General Hannen presented to Captain John Roberts the vellum certificate of the Royal Humane Society for conspicuous gallantry in saving life. The incident which secured for the stout seaman this much envied distinction was thus described by Mr. Hannen:—

On the 21st June, at Leuconna Island, there was a wreck of the *Holme Eden*. At about seven o'clock in the evening a swell got up and swamped a boat which was leaving the wreck. It contained 23 men. Out of these 17 were able to swim, and they swam through the gully and saved themselves. There were six other men who could not swim; two of them sank, and the four others were clinging to the rocks, with the sea washing over them. There was nothing to be done. There was no boat which could be launched, and even if it could have, the rock and sea would have prevented it reaching them. There was absolutely nothing to be done but for some one to jump into the sea, swim to these people, and help them back in some way. This John Roberts at once did. He was assisted in it by a Chinese of the name of Yung Sun. They swam through the gully and got to the people who were clinging on the rocks. After a considerable amount of patience they persuaded these men to launch themselves into the sea, and they assisted them back through the gully, through the breakers and rocks to the mainland, and after considerable time these four men were rescued, and restored to life.

At the same time another Royal Humane Society's certificate was handed to the brother of the Chinaman Yung Sun, for transmission to the latter, the Society recognising no distinctions of nationality in the rewards it bestows on useful courage. Captain Roberts received also a gold medal which Chinese divers engaged upon the wreck of the *Holme Eden* had caused to be struck in his honour, and which was handed to him by the Consul-General. The medal is said to have been very beautifully made. The obverse bore an inscription in Chinese to the effect:—"Chinese divers respectfully present this in gratitude for the saving of life, to the Englishman, Mr. Roberts; great worthiness." The reverse had the inscription: "Presented to Captain J. Roberts by Chinese divers employed at the *Holme Eden*, lost on Leuconna Island, for his conspicuous bravery in saving 21 of their lives on the night of June 21st, 1891."

A revolt of some magnitude is reported on the borders of Kiangsi and Hunan. At a place about 150 miles from Kiukiang a large body of Kolao Hui adherents have risen in arms against the Government, and at Pingsiang Hsien, in Yuenchow Prefecture, a force of several thousands of rebels, having their head-quarters in the mountains, are said to have made a descent upon the city, captured and carried off the magistrate, and defeated the soldiers sent against them. The insurgents apparently confine themselves to attacks upon officials, leaving the people unmolested. Later tidings announce, however, that

on the approach of a large force sent against them, the rebels dispersed and are no longer a menace to the country.

There has been a somewhat serious fire at Sze-yü, destroying nearly 200 houses, and another at Wuhu which consumed over 100. The latter was rendered remarkable by the fact that it destroyed the temple of the God of Fire who is supposed to guarantee his devotees, and a *fortiori* himself, against such calamities.

The settlement, or rather non-settlement, of the claims preferred in connection with the Ichang riots of September 2nd, 1891, appears to be provoking very severe criticism among foreigners in China. No one of the rioters was ever brought to justice, and concerning this conspicuous failure the *North China Daily News* says:—"We venture to assert that all the voluminous histories of the *Fus* and *Hsiens* in China may be searched in vain for a sample of similar hard winking on the part of the higher authorities, in riot cases of similar dimensions, where only natives were concerned." It is not the escape of the rioters, however, so much as the treatment extended to their victims' claims for compensation that provokes hostile criticism. The claims having been duly sent in, were leisurely examined by the Chinese, who ultimately, in May last, offered to pay in some cases one half, in others two-thirds, and in a few three-fourths of the sums demanded. This proposal having been refused, the matter was referred to Peking, and on the eve of Sir John Walsham's departure for home, he agreed that a commission should be appointed at Ichang to examine and decide the claims. Notice has therefore been issued to the claimants requiring them to be in readiness to appear before the Commission for the purpose of furnishing any proofs they may possess of the value of their claims. Against this it is naturally objected that where everything has been destroyed, proofs cannot well be furnished, and at the same time, the idea of a Chinese Commissioner being associated with H.B.M.'s Consul in such a matter seems to excite umbrage. The position is certainly difficult. People who have had any experience in the East know well what is meant by foreign claims against an Oriental Government, and the Chinese cannot be blamed if they closely and suspiciously scrutinize the demands made upon them on account of goods and chattels which may or may not have had tangible existence. But, after all, the case must go against the Chinese by default. It is owing to their failure to discharge administrative obligations that the sufferers by the Ichang riots present themselves, empty-handed, to demand compensation. The production of proofs has, in many instances, if not in all, been rendered impossible by the *laches* of China herself, and except in cases of palpable exaggeration, she has no manner of right to query the claims advanced by the victims of her own culpability.

Yellow-glazed bricks, euphemistically termed "gold bricks," are among the luxuries employed by Palace architects in Peking. The Board of Works recently indented on the Governor of Kiangsu, in which province the famous potteries lie, for six thousand of these bricks four thousand to be 2 ft. 2 in. bricks, costing a little over one tael each; one thousand to be 2 ft. bricks at .58 tael each, and the remainder to be 1 ft. 7 in. at .482 tael. These are a tolerably costly kind of building material, and not easy to make either, for the earth has to be prepared in spring and left drying until the summer, before subjection to the final processes. The Board of Works must wait for the needed supply. Yellow, as our readers doubtless know, is the Imperial colour of the present dynasty. A roof covered with yellow tiles is supposed to be a special mark of Imperialism. *Appropos* this a good story is told of a well known Roman Catholic Cathedral in Peking: To roof it with yellow tiles *ab initio* would have been to provoke official indignation and remonstrance. But the good fathers, who cheerfully endure all

kinds of personal misery and hardship for the sake of their creed, wanted to have yellow tiles as a mark of respect to the great cause represented by their cathedral. So they roofed it with yellow tiles whitewashed, and when "the rain descended," it gradually washed away the obscuring lime so that the golden ground-colour shone out in all its glitter. Thus heaven itself seemed to have interfered to roof the Cathedral in a fitting manner, *Si non e vero*. At all events, the yellow tiles are there *en evidence* today. Speaking of "golden bricks," how easy it is to conceive some commentator of future generations writing of the Palace in Peking that it was partly built of the king of metals. The requisition of the Board of Works says simply "golden bricks," and far less equivocal expressions have betrayed scholars like Julien into the most singular misconceptions.

Fighting has been going on in Shensi. On the quelling of an insurrection in northern Szechuan, a number of the insurgents escaped into Shensi, where, however, the Authorities appear to have been on the look out for them. They were defeated in three engagements, and being finally driven back over the border of the province, were cut to pieces by the Szechuan troops. Some of the same rebels had fled from their original place of revolt into Tingyuan, but they were there attacked by the local forces and either killed or captured. China is a huge empire with plenty of room for disaffection and fighting, but of late she seems to be more than usually disturbed.

A curious example of the importance attached by Chinese laws to the motive of a crime is furnished by a case which occurred at Nanking and is reported in the *Peking Gazette*. A certain Major purchased a concubine who, after some years' residence in his house, fell in love with his servant and attempted to escape with the man. She was found waiting for her paramour and would-be husband in a boat, and being carried back to her owner received a severe beating from him. By and by the servant was persuaded to come and offer his apologies, whereupon the Major consented to take him back into his service. But only with the intention of inflicting terrible vengeance on him. For, that very evening, he ordered the man to escort him in the capacity of lantern-bearer. *En route* they were joined by a friend, and at a lonely spot the two fell on the servant and killed him. The official report remarks, with charming *naïveté*, "the circumstances of the homicide and the relationship between the parties make the task of passing sentence unusually difficult, as the case is not exactly provided for in the laws." The sentence passed was three years' penal servitude and a hundred blows, which, in the case of an official, means service on the post roads in Mongolia. The concubine received almost as severe a sentence in name, and probably a very much severer one in reality. No one has ever explained exactly what is involved in service on the post roads of Mongolia, but we suspect that it is not a very terrible fate.

The latest performance of the Yellow River is to effect breaches in its banks one of which is officially reported to be a thousand feet wide. The waters pouring out of this huge gap made their way to the Tubai river and thence to the sea, while the waters on the Changchün side poured into the Hsiao-ch'ing river. It is something wonderful to contemplate China's helplessness in the face of this perpetual scourge.

Concerning the methods of some Chinese physicians, the following translation from the *Hupao*, which appears in the *North China Daily News*, is instructive:—

A good lesson was taught a physician, belonging to that class who pretend to be always busy and purposely delay calling upon their patients, in order to enhance the value of their services. It is the habit of these physicians never to call on their patients, no matter how dangerous the case may be, until repeated summons has been made to them, and until they feel satisfied that the family of the sick person has fully realised their value and importance. Frequently they put off their visit until the last hour, and in many cases when their services are no longer required.

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With regard to fees they always charge an extortionate sum, when they think their service indispensable. When they are requested to attend especially dangerous cases, they blackmail the unfortunate family whose member is lying in bed between life and death. The physician in question was a short time ago asked to attend a patient stricken with cholera, which is raging in Formosa. The people of the patient's family sent for the doctor early in the morning, requesting to him to come with expedition. The latter promised to go, but he took his time. During the day four messengers were sent to him to hasten his advent, but he still lingered. In the meantime, however, the patient died, when and the physician did come in the evening, he was given a warm reception. Incensed beyond measure, the aggrieved household set upon him with great fury, and tore his garments to shreds. Had he remained, instead of heaving a hasty retreat to a neighbouring drug shop, he would certainly have gone home more dead than alive. There are very many physicians of this kind all over the country who trifle with life, and it is to be hoped that the people will not fail to teach them a similar lesson when occasion arises.

Turkestan has been visited by sundry calamities in the nature of untimely frosts, hail, floods, and drought. In some districts we read of vines destroyed; in others of hundreds of houses swept away by inundations; in others of crops beaten down by tempests of hail, and in others of corn withered by unchanging sunshine. Altogether the province seems to have been hardly treated by Nature this summer. Yunnan, also, has suffered terribly from constant rain. In many villages the houses have been washed away; inside some of the city walls the water is several feet deep; the crops are destroyed beyond all hope throughout a large area, and in one place over a hundred lives were lost. In Hupeh, too, there has been a serious inundation owing to an overflow of the Yangtze river; and in northern Honan, at Weihui Fu, and Hsinhsiang Hsien, wide-spread ruin has been caused by the rivers Wei, Little Tan, and Ao.

A case of torture applied under a false impression is reported by the Viceroy Li. A lunatic threw himself into a well and was drowned. The doorkeeper of the magistrate who investigated the case persuaded—from what motives we do not learn—an expert to pretend that he had discovered marks of violence on the corpse. The Magistrate thereupon tortured some innocent people with burning joss-sticks to make them confess that they had beaten the man to death. The case coming to the notice of higher authorities, the truth was elicited and the Magistrate has been cashiered. But the unfortunate victims of the burning joss-sticks still carry their scars.

HOKKAIDO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

THE Hokkaido Takushoku Shinko-kai was organized some time ago. The object of the association is to cultivate the waste land of the northern island. It has been ascertained that among various projects of the association contemplate commencing with the extension of railways and the construction of new harbours. The railways of the island are lengthened by 874 miles, for which purpose a sum of 33,580,000 yen is required; and 23 harbours are to be constructed at a cost of 13,990,000 yen. Moreover, about 30 ships will have to be purchased at an average price of 200,000 yen. Thus the aggregate expenditure on account of these undertakings alone is over 49,170,000 yen. The idea is to raise this great sum of capital by means of a national loan. But as a financial scheme of such magnitude would be likely to embarrass the money market, the projectors talk of floating the railway loan first, and spreading it over a period of 30 years. Meanwhile the lottery system is to be sanctioned—so says rumour—in Hokkaido alone, and a large Lottery Company will be established in the island. In carrying out this last project, it is proposed that the company shall deposit 250,000 yen with the Government by way of security, and that the drawing of the lottery shall be strictly superintended by officials, so as to inspire public confidence. The total sum involved in each drawing will be 1,000,000 yen, out of which 400,000 yen is to be distributed in the form of prizes; 200,000 yen to be set aside as commission and to meet sundry expenditures; and 400,000 yen to be devoted to the improvement of the island. The drawings

will take place twice a year, so that the aggregate annual amount subscribed would be 2,000,000 yen, 800,000 going to the winning numbers, 400,000 to commission and sundry outlays, and 800,000 yen to capital for improvements. If the process were continued for 30 years, the total sum collected would amount to 60,000,000 yen; out of which 24,000,000 yen would have been returned as prizes; 12,000,000 yen absorbed by commission, &c., and 24,000,000 yen devoted to improvements. The programme is to spend 14,000,000 yen of this last sum on the construction of harbour-works; 2,000,000 yen on the purchase of ships; and to apply the remaining sum of 8,000,000 yen to the repayment of the railway bonds and to subsidies for railway enterprise. As for the Railway loan of 33½ million yen, the idea is to re-pay it out of the revenue derived from the products of Hokkaido, without asking for any disbursement from the Treasury, the proceeds of the lottery also assisting as described above. For the first five years the loan would be left unpaid, but from the 6th year to the 31st year the commission derived from the lottery would be used for its repayment, and after that year the necessary funds would be obtained from the revenue derived from the railways and various products of the island. In starting this great undertaking, it is deemed essential that the same uniform policy should be pursued throughout, and with that idea the Hokkaido Administrative Board would be reorganized—that is to say, the present Board would be abolished and a new Government Office established under the directorship of an Imperial Prince, the Sub-Director being appointed from among the ablest and most respected statesmen of the empire. The Sub-director would rank as high as a Cabinet Minister, and would control all the affairs of Hokkaido by means of first, a military Bureau; secondly, a Colonial Bureau; and fourthly, a Financial Bureau. The office should not be liable to change in consequence of changes of Cabinet: the same statesman should hold it, and the same policy should be followed through a long period. When the enterprise is completed, about 1,700,000 cho (4½ million acres) of land will have been brought under cultivation, the revenue derived being fifty or sixty million yen per annum. Moreover, large profits would accrue from aquatic products. The estimate is that the total revenue would amount to considerably over 100,000,000 yen. Add to this that if communications are fully established, the military equipment completed, and the defences of the island perfected, Hokkaido will be one of the richest treasure houses of the Empire. The promoters intend to introduce a Bill in the above sense in the next session of the Diet. We find these facts set forth in the *Kokkai* and other vernacular journals, from which unanimity we infer that some big project of the nature indicated is actually on the tapis.

THE RADICALS AND THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE Radicals are adding a new plank to their platform in connection with the Bank of Japan. Their project is to make the Bank pay a certain proportion of its earnings to the Treasury, by which means they estimate that an addition of about eight hundred thousand yen may be annually made to the revenue of the State. At present the Bank pays nothing for the privilege of issuing notes, whereas the Radicals find that in all Western countries such a privilege is never granted without some substantial *quid pro quo*. The *Kokkai* says that these reformers have been investigating European systems, and that they find that of Austria-Hungary most suitable for their purpose. In Austria-Hungary the State Bank has privileges similar to those enjoyed by the Bank of Japan: it is protected by the Government; it has charge of the Treasury's funds, and its issues convertible notes. In return, it is obliged to give to the Government a moiety of the portion of its net earnings remaining after a dividend of 4 per cent. has been paid. Japan's circumstances being somewhat different, the Radicals propose to modify this law a little. Their plan would be to rule that after five per cent. has been paid as dividend out of the profits, after due rewards have been given to the officers of the Bank, and after a sum, not

exceeding ten per cent. of the net profits, has been set aside for the Reserve, a moiety of the remainder shall be given to the Government. In this way they count, as we have said, on increasing the State's revenue by from seven to eight hundred thousand yen annually. This project has not yet obtained the definite endorsement of the Radical members of the Diet in couclave, but there appears to be very little doubt that they will approve it.

RUMOUR OF DISRUPTION OF THE "JIYU-TO."

So long as Mr. Oi Kentaro remained in the *Jiyu-to*, people used to speak of the Radicals as being divided into the two camps of Hoshi and Oi—*Hoshi-ha* and *Oi-ha*—meaning thereby that the great bulk of the Party were enrolled under the banner of Mr. Hoshi Toru, and the recalcitrant section under that of Mr. Oi Kentaro. But since Mr. Oi openly severed his connection with the Party and drew his disciples with him, it has been supposed that complete harmony reigned in the Radical ranks, and that the whole of the remaining members gave full allegiance to Mr. Hoshi, President of the House of Representatives. According to the News Agency, however, no such concord really exists. On the contrary, a second Mr. Oi Kentaro has been developed in the person of Mr. Kono Hironaka, Radical leader in the House of Representatives. Mr. Kono, it is said, has been quietly fostering and increasing his influence, so that already in the To-hoku and Fukushima districts his followers are openly spoken of as the *Kono-ha* in hostile distinction to the *Hoshi-ha*, and in Kiushu the prominent Radicals Messrs. Matsuda Masahisa and Takekomi Tokitoshi are agitating to effect a union with the *Kono-ha* of the To-hoku region. We trust that this information may prove incorrect. The nation's chief hope of seeing something like a solid and responsible political party formed centres on the *Jiyu-to*, and even those who would have the country move at a more leisurely pace than Count Itagaki and his followers advocate, recognise and admire the earnestness and, on the whole, the integrity of purpose hitherto shown by the *Jiyu-to*. A serious split in the ranks of the party would revive the old apprehension that for many a year to come the arena of Japanese politics must be occupied by a motley group of little coteries acknowledging the attractions of persons only, and little influenced by principles.

THE SANYO RAILWAY COMPANY.

At the last general meeting of the above company it was determined to raise a sum of two million yen at 6 per cent. for the purpose of extending the line from Onomichi to Hiroshima, a distance of 50 miles. Whether the Company have decided not to sell their lines to the Government, or whether they think that Diet will not consent to the Railway Purchase Bill, it is difficult to say, but certainly there is ground for curious surmise in the fact that whereas the Railway Council is to meet immediately and vote resolutions which will be submitted to the Diet, the Company have set about raising a loan so suddenly for the construction of new lines. On the other hand, there is no manner of doubt that for strategical purposes the Government will require lines to connect Aomori with Kiushu, and that consequently, either a subsidy must be granted to the Sanyo and Kiushu Railways Companies, or their lines must be purchased by the State. In the latter case, the loan now projected by the Sanyo Company would be changed into Government Five per Cent. Bonds. But as the public will have subscribed the money at 6 per cent., Five per Cent. Bonds will not readily be accepted in exchange for the original scrip, and the Government may thus be confronted by the necessity of having to take over a loss of 20,000 yen annually as compared with the price at which money is obtainable by the Treasury in the open market. It has been asserted that the shareholders of the Company are not willing to sell their scrip at any figure under its face value, but the rumour is incredible, for the majority of the principal shareholders purchased their stock so cheaply

that they may be confidently expected to accept terms far below its face value. Probably their idea in raising a loan at present is simply to get it subscribed at a high rate, and thus put some money into their pockets. Such, at all events, is the view of the *Kokkai*, from which we take these facts.

FIRE IN TOKYO.

On Wednesday evening the residence of Lieut. T. H. James, R.N. (retired), Superintendent of Navigation in the Japan Mail Steamship Company, in Aoicho, Azabu, Tokyo, was destroyed by fire. The flames had their origin in a bathroom, and the first alarm was given at 7 p.m. Very soon the engines of the district were at work. There was an abundant supply of water, but its source being at the foot of Reinan-zaka, more than a hundred yards of hose were required, and this, of course, diminished the volume poured on the conflagration. It being apparent from the outset that no hope of saving the building—which was of wood and comparatively old—could be entertained, the firemen directed their efforts to confining the flames to the compound, and in this they were successful, though the United States Legation, which stands almost exactly on the opposite side of the street, was at one time in imminent danger. Lieut. James was absent at the commencement of the conflagration, and inasmuch as an hour sufficed to reduce the house to ashes, he did not return until the incident was virtually closed. Happily, no one was injured, and the family were soon safely housed in neighbours' residences. The building was the property of Mr. Okura Kihachiro, and we have not learned whether it was insured, but the furniture and effects were covered to an amount that will recoup a considerable part of the loss.

THE OPERATION OF THE CODES.

LESS than a fortnight remains before the opening of the next session of the Diet, yet the Government has not openly expressed any opinion about the Civil and Commercial Codes. It is, however, reported, says the *Nippon*, that the Codes Committee has decided that the Civil Code cannot be divided, but that the Law of Companies and that of Bankruptcy can be separated from the body of the Commercial Code. The Government, according to the same authority, have now decided to enforce those two sections from the 1st January 1892; and to postpone the operation of the rest. But whether the Sovereign's sanction will ultimately be sought for the Bill passed by the Diet last session, and another Bill be presented next session to obtain the Diet's consent to the enforcement of the separable and much needed portions of the Code; or whether the Diet's Bill will fail altogether to obtain the Emperor's sanction, is still an open question. The *Nippon* thinks it advisable that the former course be adopted. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a word to say on the subject, namely, that, according to rumour, the Cabinet have decided to urge the Emperor to give his sanction to the Bill passed by the Diet for postponing the operation of the Codes.

RELEASE OF THE WOMAN SUPPOSED TO BE IMPLICATED IN THE HONMOKU MURDER.

It will be remembered that when Schonenberger, an alleged Dutch subject, was arrested on suspicion of having murdered the Japanese coolie who was done to death at Honmoku on the 5th of last September, a story went abroad that the crime had been instigated by a woman who entertained some grudge against the unfortunate coolie. The police obtained sufficient evidence to warrant them in taking the woman into custody, but apparently the subsequent investigation involved much trouble and delay. It was carried on by Public Prosecutor Hattori, and on the 31st ultimo he finally came to the conclusion that no satisfactory proof of guilt could be obtained. The woman was accordingly released, and is said to have left for Hongkong.

MR. A. PATERNOSTRO.

We find that the vernacular press was right in stating that Mr. A. Paternostro, Legal Adviser

to the Cabinet and to the Department of State for Justice, has been elected a Deputy to the Italian Chamber. The district named, however, is erroneous, Mr. Paternostro having been returned, not for Palermo, but for Corleone, province of Palermo, Sicily. The general elections in Italy took place on the 6th instant. Evidently Mr. Paternostro's reputation must stand very high, or he would not have been chosen Deputy in his absence. The circumstances greatly enhance the honour. For Japan's sake, however, the event is to be regretted, since it will entail Mr. Paternostro's departure from Tokyo at an early date—December 2nd, we believe—and this country will thus lose the services of an expert who has shown himself a thoroughly competent jurist and a publicist of deep insight.

AMERICA AND HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

ALBERT SHAW, writing in the *Contemporary Review*, gives a very succinct and well constructed definition of the feeling entertained by the average American towards the question of Home Rule for Ireland:—

The reason Americans favour Home Rule is simply this: They have realized in their own political system the strength of that happy adjustment of centrifugal and centripetal forces that we call the "federal balance." Ask any American what he means by Home Rule, and he will reply, that measure of local sovereignty and autonomy left by the American Constitution to each of the constituent States of the Union. It is the sense of reasonableness and fair play, guided by the practical knowledge of government in the United States, that has always made Americans so perfectly sure that they favoured Home Rule for Ireland. They know that Ireland, whether or not she would manage her domestic matters in an ideal fashion, would manage them far better than they could possibly be managed by any outside authority, just as they know that California, or Massachusetts, or any other of the forty-four sister States, can attend to ordinary home matters far more satisfactorily than any legislative or executive authority at Washington.

This would be very convincing were it not so very partial. The writer appears to forget, in the first place, that at the root of the demand for Home Rule is an agrarian programme which sets at naught the rights of property and contemplates spoliation on a colossal scale. He appears to forget, also, that were there question merely of such a measure of local autonomy as is enjoyed by an American State, England would not hesitate for a moment to accede to Ireland's wish. But even as America fought to the death, waged such a war as has no parallel in the history of the world, to prevent the secession of certain of the States, so England is sternly determined not to sanction anything which seems to embody the embryo of secession, and in that light she regards the demand for Irish Home Rule. "Perfect home rule in all matters of local concern" is, as Mr. Shaw says, an excellent administrative recipe. But not less excellent, and equally essential, as he himself admits, is "perfect and indissoluble union in affairs of general or imperial concern." Have the Irish agitators given any evidence that they desire such union?

THE LADIES' BAZAAR.

It has hitherto been the custom with the Committee of the Ladies' Charity Bazaar to send a number of tickets for sale among the foreigners of Yokohama and Tokyo. But this year, for the first time, the habit has been abandoned, nor has any step been taken to advertise the Bazaar in the foreign local press. We are unable to say what considerations influenced the Committee to make this marked departure from the usual programme, but we cannot refrain from expressing our regret that the change should have been thought advisable. It is true that the assistance rendered by the foreign community in the matter of purchasing tickets was always inconsiderable. The maximum number sold in advance never exceeded four hundred in Yokohama, and at most as many more among the foreign residents of Tokyo outside the Legations. Evidently a sum of about two hundred yen stands in an insignificant ratio to the total proceeds of a Bazaar from which something like eight or nine thousand yen is always realized. But if foreigners did not contribute more liberally to this special charity, it was certainly not because they lacked a spirit of generosity. They gave as much as they were asked to

give, for their unvarying habit has been to meet every appeal of the kind with large-handed liberality. On the other hand, if their contribution was comparatively trifling from a material point of view, it was morally valuable for the sake of the bonds of common sympathy in which it linked the Japanese people and the foreign residents. Nothing brings the foreigner so close to the inhabitants of the country as unity of benevolent aim, and appreciating this we regret that any opportunity should be abandoned which contributes to such a happy result. Doubtless the Committee of the Bazaar had good reasons for its change of procedure, but it is difficult to view with equanimity any such symptom of an apparently diminishing desire to seek foreign co-operation.

RESIGNATION OF COUNT OKI.

It is rumoured that Count Oki, President of the Privy Council has presented his resignation. The *Nichi Nichi*, which publishes this item of news, does not deny it, but vaguely promises to make inquiries. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, is more explicit. It alleges that the Count divulged an official secret with reference to text-books. The story is constructed thus:—Some time ago Mr. Sawayanagi, Director of the Bureau of Documents in the Educational Department, resigned, owing to a suspicion that he had improperly given information to publishers about the text-books which had been officially selected. But now rumour has it that Count Oki, while holding the portfolio of Education, was desirous of having good text-books compiled, and made all necessary preparations to that end. Being, however, soon removed from office, he could not complete his project. Recently, some officials having been commissioned to select text-books, the Count sent for Mr. Sawayanagi, and asked of him the names of the authors whose books had been chosen. At first Mr. Sawayanagi declined to answer the question, on the ground that such information was strictly reserved from general ken. But the Count was urgent, and pointed out that he could not be regarded as one of the general public. Mr. Sawayanagi, reflecting that as the Count had been Minister of State for Education, and was now holding a high position in the Government, no wrong could be done in giving him the desired information, returned to his office, and having copied out the names of the books, despatched the list to the Count. The latter doubtless kept the document under lock and key, but the mystery of the secret having got abroad is now explained by the theory that one Tsuruhashi, a book-seller, who was in the habit of frequently visiting the Count privately found means to peruse the list. It is interesting to conjecture, says the *Kokumin*, on what business Tsuruhashi visited Count Oki so often, and how he could find means to see such an important document while the Count was absent from his home.

We have very little doubt that this will prove to be in the main one of the canards which certain Japanese journals so readily ventilate and so unconcernedly retract afterwards. The other day these particular newspapers were entirely convinced that the examiners had divulged the questions for the Barristers' examination, and some of them even went so far as to charge the Chief Judge of the land with having deliberately sold the papers. Ultimately it was proved that the offender had been a petty probationer, who, having been entrusted with the duty of copying out the questions, had remembered them and divulged them to a relative. Now we have the case of Count Oki and the text books, which, in all probability, will be found equally baseless. These journals are establishing for themselves a reputation which, in the end, must effectually guarantee the intended victims of their slanders against any serious inconvenience.

YOKOHAMA CHINESE MISSION.

The Committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the members and congregation of the Union Church, Yokohama, to take steps to

secure for the Chinese community at this port, a Chinese Christian missionary, have, after much correspondence and negotiation, succeeded in obtaining the services of Mr. Lau Sing from Canton, who has been for a number of years teaching and preaching in connection with the Methodist Mission of that city. A large room has been engaged in China-town for the purpose of holding meetings, classes, &c. Some thirty-five yen per month will be needed to support the mission (this includes the missionary's salary and the rent of the rooms), and in addition a small sum will have to be disbursed for benches, seats, &c., to suitably fit up the place. At present not much pecuniary help can be expected from the Chinese themselves, and therefore for some time to come the maintenance will, it is expected, have to be borne by Foreign Christians and charitable friends. To this end donations or monthly subscriptions are earnestly invited.

THE JUDICIAL CIRCLE.

OWING to the existence of a French school, a German school, and an English school of jurisprudence in Japan, petty quarrels are frequent among the judges. Even the resolute proceedings of Count Yamagata have not sufficed to terminate the friction. Only a brief interval has elapsed since the Count accepted the portfolio of Justice, yet he has already succeeded in sweeping away several of the old abuses. He made the judges connected with the gambling scandal resign, and he has contrived that some of the old and infirm incumbents of the Bench should be removed under the provisions of Article 74 of the Organization of the Law Courts. But what does he intend to do, asks the *Nippon*, with Mr. Nambu, President of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, and Mr. Kodama, Judge of the Supreme Court, who were also implicated in the scandal? Without answering that question, our contemporary goes on to report that at the meeting of all the Presidents of the Appeal Courts, held during last month, the following resolutions were passed at the request of the Minister for Justice:—

- 1.—Any judge whose conduct is censured by the public, shall be placed on the Retired List, in accordance with Art. 74 of the Law of the Organization of Law Courts, whether he be enfeebled or not.
- 2.—Any President of an Appeal Court shall resign his office should he receive a communication from the Minister for Justice advising such a course.

The above resolutions, we read, were presented to Count Yamagata, and he expressed his thanks that they had been adopted. Soon afterwards the Presidents requested an interview with the Minister, and asked him to remove Mr. Nambu, President of the Tokyo Court of Appeal. They declared that Mr. Nambu's connection with the gambling scandal was too well known to the public, and that, consequently, he must be advised to resign. The Count thereupon declared that he could only act in strict accordance with the laws of the country, and that it was not within his administrative competence to advise a Judge's resignation. The Presidents then asked whether they might personally counsel Mr. Nambu. To this the Count replied that it was not his business to say yes or no to such a query. Since this dialogue between the Minister for Justice and the Presidents of the Courts of Appeal, the Presidents of the Courts of Appeal of Osaka, Nagoya, and Nagasaki, and some others have been busily engaged trying to bring about the resignation of Mr. Nambu. How the affair will end is a question that remains to be answered.

It is very difficult to imagine that the Presidents of Appeal Courts passed any such resolutions as the *Nippon* attributes to them, and still more difficult to think that they did so at the instance of the Minister of State for Education. The Constitution would soon become a dead letter if methods of this kind were adopted to drive a coach and four through its provisions. At all events, whether the resolutions were passed or not, the Minister of Justice evidently appreciates the spirit of the Constitution and is resolved to abide by it. The permanency of judicial office guaranteed by the 58th Article, would be a dead

letter were the Minister of Justice invested with competence to order or advise the retirement of a Judge whenever he thought such a step advisable. The Judges themselves set too high a value on the privileges secured to them by the Constitution to make it conceivable that they would deliberately vote for their practical repeal.

MILITARY INDUSTRY IN CHINA.

We translate the following from an essay published by M. Henri Broyols in the *North China Daily News*:—

In the course of my various peregrinations in China, one fact has singularly struck me—it is the wonderful activity displayed by the high authorities of the land in the way of improved military organization. This fact is new in the history of the Middle Kingdom and deserves, from the fact itself, to be brought into conspicuousness. I will add that it is of importance, momentous enough for thought to be directed towards it in the official bureaux of Europe and of America.

Thus, for instance, in two places in the Yangtze, in Hanyang, and in Nankin, I have been able to verify *de visu*, coached by competent persons, that industry in war material had considerably developed, something most unexpected by me. We are in the China of 1892, very far from the times of matchlocks or of stone projectiles and of muzzle loading guns. At Hanyang the shops for the manufacture of arms are not yet finished; but already there are stored under temporary sheds, higgledy-piggledy, nearly three thousand machines of very varied sizes, that Chinese coolies content themselves with greasing and cleaning, prior to their being put into operation—a matter than will not be delayed long. I have examined with a curiosity that can be easily understood, all this stock of implements. However, my incompetence in such matters does not allow me to go farther in technical details that are too special, and besides are of little interest for my readers. But what I can affirm without fear of contradiction is, that the arms-factory at Hanyang will be able to furnish an average of nearly 400,000 rifles a year, provided, however, that European workmen are entrusted with their manufacture. The Chinese machinists, fitters and locksmiths, as yet unskilled, could not probably reach the half of that figure. The plant mentioned above, comes from the house of Lœw, in Berlin. Others are still expected.

It is evident that it would be more economical for the Viceroy residing at Wanchang, to buy arms in Europe ready made. I even think that with the money already expended for the establishment of the rifle factory at Hanyang, excellent modern rifles might have been supplied to the greater part of the Hunan and Hupeh troops. But the profound conception of the Viceroy, Chang Chih-tung, must be fathomed, his idea, the one that is in the depth of his brain, namely, to dispense the soonest possible with the coöperation of foreigners. Indeed, all administrative effort, the paramount and patriotic sentiment that agitates this absolute master of two provinces, more powerful than an European Sovereign, tends towards making a China solely Chinese, rid of inconvenient, indiscreet guests, that demand open ports and locate themselves in them, that interfere in the affairs of a country that is not theirs, that come there to seek fortunes or competencies, and whose encroachments, growing from day to day, become a real menace for the integrity of the land.

Hence, it is easily understood why the Chinese are erecting all over their vast territory, arsenals and rifle factories, and are desirous of finding within their own confines what they might not perhaps be able to find elsewhere at a given moment; for it may happen that supplies of improved rifles, with which at the present time German houses provide them, may fail them. Now, the machinery for the manufacture of arms is on the ground, in the sheds at Hanyang, to be used as a model, that later on Chinese machinists and locksmiths, become real artificers, will avail themselves of.

But that is not all. The Viceroy, a circumspect and prudent man, has thought that his work of military industry would be incomplete, were it necessary to look for raw material elsewhere than at home—material with which the soil of his own country is so abundantly provided. And for that purpose and by his order, the soil is being dismembered, ore is being extracted, blast furnaces are being erected, and steel works are being established, gigantic works of which I have been a very much wonder-struck witness.

The manufacturing education of the Chinese in Hanyang once finished, there is no doubt that the Viceroy will bar politeness to the initiators of military industry and deffing his coral buttoned head dress he will, with bow upon bow, say to them: "Gentlemen, it is time for you to depart, we no longer have any need of your services."

In fact, I do not have to go far to find a precedent. The arsenal at Nankin furnishes me the proof of what I state. Sir Halliday Macartney is the founder of it, and I am unaware that a European successor to the general direction of the present works, has been appointed after him. At Nankin there is no foreigner. The Chinese alone are masters in the place. The lofty chimneys smoke there, steam roars and puts into motion thousands of machines in an apparent entanglement of belts. There again I find the most modern

tools, enormous steam-hammers, the most varied hydraulic apparatus, machines for cutting or for sawing wood or metals. In numerous newly erected buildings, there is a wise division of labour according to the best rules of political economy, and in the end there come out of the workshops at Nankin, cannon and rifles with which Li Hung-chang's army is abundantly supplied.

Thus the northern arsenals are not sufficient for the work and do not respond to needs. Taku is supplied from Nankin, which regularly sends material of war to Tientsin. I have been able to examine these arms close by, having had as cicerone an amiable and the politest of mandarins, a former student in the arsenal at Foochow. The guns made at Nankin are a kind of duck gun, very heavy, each one served by two men and the handling of which seemed to me to be rather inconvenient. But their range is very long. I have in my possession a specimen of the cartridges used for this gun; they have a metallic shell.

So, too, I have been able to see with what rapidity small pieces of copper take the shape of tubes; how others still smaller are converted into caps. Not far off are powder-mills. You see, the arsenal at Nankin supplies everything. I pursue my visit through the workshops. Here are lying moulds of different sizes for shells of various shapes. Finally, I enter a vast hall where guns for the Navy are made, Hotchkiss, Maxim and Nordenfeldt. I examine one of the models that serve for numerous reproductions and I read on it: Hotchkiss, Paris, 1886. There is no more difficulty about it than that.

It is useless to enter into further details and to multiply examples. What I saw in the centre of China exists in the North and in the South. Everywhere arms are being manufactured with ravenous activity. Such is the absorbing idea of those that preside over the destinies of the Empire. Preparations for war are being vigorously carried on, and the time will arrive when China will be furnished with military equipments equal in quality and in quantity to those of the greatest nations of Europe.

However, one question presents itself. Has China men, in the virile meaning of the word? Or, to make myself better understood, has she soldiers? For if it is important to be provided with arms, it is more important still to have an army. This is what, with the greatest appositeness, the author of an interesting article that appeared in these same columns last week, pointed out.

It is evident, on the other hand, that China lacks, always from a military point of view, strategic railways, without which no important concentration of troops at a given point can take place. However, it is known that at the present moment, Li Hung-Chang's thoughts are directed towards the construction of a line the real point of departure of which would be Shun-hai-kuan and its terminus Kirin. Has he not already made use of the bit of line, actually in existence, to transport troops and horses, at the time of the rebellion in December last? This information I discovered in the extracts from the "*Peking Gazette*," that were likewise reproduced in the Chinese newspaper the "*Hepao*." It seems as though this were an insignificant statement among "miscellaneous items" stuck in between the official report of a mandarin and the announcement of an invasion of grasshoppers. What an error!

Nevertheless, is it not evident that we are witnessing a first effort at mobilization after the European fashion, that similar efforts will be renewed, will be developed, and in the end be perfected? Is it not apparent that while the Viceroy of the North devotes all his pains and the vigour of his seventy years of age to the trans-Manchurian strategical line, there is another Viceroy, the one of the centre of China, who has no other idea than to connect Peking with Hankow and the latter city with Canton, by a very long, very direct railway, the construction of which if it cannot be rapid, is at least possible and probable. To the incredulous, to those that wag their heads, it is easy to answer that the bulk of the work has been accomplished, since the idea of executing such work has arisen.

Indeed, it is more difficult to eradicate a rooted prejudice from the brains of a people than it is to construct a railway. And the prejudice has been reduced to nullity, and the Chinese no longer repulse with horror the vision of a locomotive trampling the ground in which their ancestors are reposing. No doubt the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung will not see the realization of the project he has conceived; but his idea will germinate, will grow in the minds of his successors, who grasping a rough scheme will carry a creation into operation.

One would have to be blind to controvert the movement which has been in process of completion in China for the last few years in the direction of a martial industry. The coasts, the entrances of rivers and their shores are being fortified with important works. In all the arsenals cannon are being made and rifles manufactured—I omit the considerable purchases of arms that are being made abroad—European instructors come to teach the Chinese the art of war. Their Navy composed of junks and of miserable cockleshells has given place to the very recent fleet of modern vessels, likewise provided with modern artillery.

All these facts are symptomatic and indicate a new order of things, as well as the predetermination of the Chinese to impose the progressive and insensible

irruption of foreigners upon their territory. They mean that the Chinese, in the anticipation of future wars, desire to be no longer taken unprepared and that to improved arms they will oppose arms of the same kind, leaving to the god of victory the chances of battle.

But if the Chinese should have arms, will they have men? It is permissible that I should doubt it.

HENRI BRYOIS.

* I know besides, that Krupp's agents have received from the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, a large order for powder. I got this information from the agent himself.

PROJECT OF THE MILITARY PARTY.

THE *Yiyu*. Radical organ, undertakes to expound the attitude of the Military Party towards the Cabinet. The story runs as follows:—"At the time of the last general election a certain politician called on a statesman, and their conversation soon turned on the current topic. The statesman sighed and said that though the Government were interfering with the elections for the purpose of securing the return of their supporters, he feared that the real enemies to attack the Cabinet and attempt to take over the reins of the Administration hereafter would be the so-called "Pro-Government Party." For these, having no policy of their own, support the Government entirely in view of some personal interests. Therefore if they are victorious they become exacting, and if they have a chance they will attempt to take over the reins of Administration. It is, he continued, a case of the old proverb, "Getting bitten by one's own dog!" The *Yiyu* admired the foresight of this statesman at the time, and now his words prove to be true. Notwithstanding all its efforts the last Cabinet was defeated after a session, and consequently its supporters not only received no reward but were disgraced. Their selfish intrigues, however, were not terminated. When Viscount Shinagawa, the originator of official interference, joined them suddenly, their spirit was roused and they once more turned eager eyes towards the sweets of power. Moreover, the Matsukata Cabinet having been quickly defeated, the Ito Cabinet came into office. But since the latter does not meddle with political parties, the so-called Pro-Government men have entirely lost the means of satisfying their desires by giving support to the Cabinet. Thus once more they have begun to entertain the project of getting hold of the Administrative reins. They consider that there is no hope of utilizing the present Cabinet, and that the only course left for them is to upset it as quickly as they can, and organize a Cabinet out of their own supporters. The first scheme attributed to them in the next session is, on the one hand, to remain opportunists, and thus make the Government fear them; while on the other, they will instigate the Popular Party to attack the Government. Then when they find that the Cabinet is on the verge of destruction, they will join the Popular Party, and attain their object, which is to bring the Military Party once more into power. So soon as that is effected they will turn their backs upon the Popular Party. Such is the programme already mapped out by them, and it is stated that Viscount Takashima and Viscount Shinagawa will lead them. These two men have much influence among the Military Party, but they are neither learned nor experienced, so they require some able councillors. Messrs. Inouye Ki, Shirane Senichi, and Kiyoura Keigo, will hold that position. Though Mr. Shirane occupied a nominal post as Court Councillor till quite recently, he has been removed to the Directorship of the Imperial Treasury, and thus he will regain his former influence. Mr. Inouye Ki is well-known to be one of the wisest and most learned men in the Government, and Mr. Kiyoura Keigo, whose influence as Vice-Minister for Justice under Count Yamagata is well understood, also constitutes a tower of strength. Beside the above named councillors, there are Mr. Yamada, Governor of Osaka, Mr. Matsudaira, Governor of Kumamoto, Mr. Yasuba, ex-Governor of Fukuoka, and a few other men of the party who assist in pushing the scheme. One question, however, they have not yet settled. It is no other than the appointment of their own leader when their projected scheme shall have been accomplished.

Be that as it may, their desire is to rule the empire by pure military force once more. Hence, concludes the *Yiyu*, "the so-called Pro-Government Party is not only the enemy of the Popular Party but also the foe of constitutional government!"

EXHIBITION OF ORNAMENTALLY ARRANGED FLOWERS AT UYENO.

THE attractions of the National Museum at Ueno have been considerably increased during the week by an exhibition in the main hall of a large collection of specimens of ornamentally arranged flowers by the followers of the Ikenobō school of this art. The collection consists of the productions of all the professional artists (of this school) in Tokyo, who number about a half a dozen, and those of over a hundred amateurs; the exhibits, numbering in all about a hundred and fifty, occupy the whole of the spacious hall. The works of the professionals are accorded places of honour in the shape of recesses formed by paper screens to serve temporarily the purposes of the *Tokonoma*, whilst those of the amateurs are placed in rows along the walls. Most of the exhibits naturally lose much of their grace and beauty by the surroundings. Vases of flowers, each one arranged to decorate a single *Tokonoma*, when placed side by side in long rows, very much in the fashion of the displays on the plant stalls in the neighbourhood of temples of a festival evening, cannot but have their effects seriously marred, a fact easily recognizable by the great contrast (apart from the differences of design and skill in execution) perceptible between the effect of flowers within the temporary recesses and those in the outer row, which leads one to contemplate how they would all improve were each placed in its legitimate place—the *Tokonoma* with *kakemono* and other accessories. However, the show is both pleasing and interesting, and affords a rare opportunity of seeing the varied productions, from the stately *rikkyū*, used on occasions of ceremony, to the simple *tomari-bune*, representing a junk at anchor, of the masters of the highest repute and the best amateurs of this quaint art of the Japanese, which has been so much talked of since the Western world were enlightened on the subject by the publication last year of Mr. Conder's work on the "Flowers of Japan." The Exhibition opened on Tuesday and is to be closed next Sunday afternoon.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE RESIGNATION OF COUNT OKI.

THE rumoured resignation of Count Oki has naturally excited public interest. The vernacular press comments on it in various tones. We reproduce the gist of some of the remarks:—"The *Kokumin Shimbun* states that the Count's resignation is still in the hands of Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household. The reason openly assigned is illness; but the real cause that induced him to take such an unexpected step is understood to be the fact that he was instrumental in divulging the secret of the text-books. It is stated that Viscount Hijikata has advised him to remain in office, as the Emperor will not easily agree to his retirement in view of his long and faithful service. The *Kokumin* congratulates the Count. It says that for the last 25 years he never once presented his resignation, his principle being to remain always in office. Whatever circumstances occurred, he steadfastly stood his official ground. But now, having at last discovered the error of such a course, he has presented his resignation. On such a discovery he deserves to be congratulated, while at the same time the recognition which official morality receives from the incident is also a subject of congratulation.

The *Fiji Shimpō* says that Count Oki has acted very cleverly in avoiding the shock of political waves during the last 25 years, but that he has at last been compelled to present his resignation, seeing that a scandal has been created by the conduct of his own household, and he cannot remain in his post any longer. But when his resignation is presented to the Throne,

the Emperor will probably refuse to grant it, as the nature of the scandal is not sufficiently grave to involve his withdrawal from the chair of President of the Privy Council. It may be anticipated that the trouble will die out in a day or so.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that there are two reasons for the Count's presenting his resignation. He has for years suffered from a painful ailment which has grown much worse since last spring, so that he announced his intention of resigning to some of his friends. The second reason is the scandal about the text books. The *Mainichi* repeats the story which we reproduced in a previous issue from the *Kokumin Shimbun*; and concludes that though it may be claimed that Count Oki never intended to make an improper use of the secret entrusted to him, the public will probably decline to acquit him.

The *Kokkai* also announces the news in its usual minute manner, adding that Viscount Hijikata called on the Count and advised him to abandon the idea of resignation, but the Count's resolution proving immovable, his visitor went away expressing a hope that the Count would reconsider his decision. It is already rumoured that though some influential statesmen recommend Count Higashi-kuze as the retiring official's successor, the majority are in favour of Count Soyejima, so probably the latter will take the chair as soon as the resignation of Count Oki is granted.

The *Nippon*, in addition to the intelligence of the Count's resignation, reports that Mr. Kono, Minister for Education, has advised Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister for Education, to resign at once. The *Nippon* alleges that there have been many rumours concerning Mr. Tsuji for years past, and that he is now charged with being implicated with the text-book scandal, but the public do not attack him, knowing that he is totally indifferent to newspaper assaults. The same journal reports that Mr. Aoki, newly appointed Director of the Documentary Section in the Department of Education, and successor of Mr. Sawayanagi, is not pleased with the situation, and intends to resign in a day or two. The *Nippon*, more so, attacks Count Oki in a leading article, declaring that though he resigns his position, he cannot thereby escape his moral responsibility. It also announces that there are many persons besides Count Oki implicated in the scandal, and that they should be degraded and punished without delay, but truly experience has shown the *Nippon's* allegations to be so greatly in need of wholesale discounting that we almost hesitate to allude to them.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which originally published the rumour of Count Oki's resignation, now states that though he tendered his resignation on Tuesday last, Count Ito, for some reason not yet divulged, commissioned Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Education, to advise the Count to abandon the idea of resigning. Mr. Kono went to Count Oki's on Wednesday and conversed with him for some hours. The result was that the Count promised to abandon his intention. Count Goto also called on the President of the Privy Council, but on what business the *Nichi Nichi* does not say.

The most trustworthy source of information about such matters is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. We infer from its assertions that one of the oldest and staunchest members of the Government will not resign at present. But as the political weather changes so suddenly and unexpectedly in these shifting times, circumstances may possibly compel the Count to insist, after all, on retiring from office. Certainly, if journals like the *Kokumin* and the *Nippon* represented or guided public opinion, every trivial incident that occurred would be puffed into a political tempest, and nothing like smooth or stable administration would be possible. No one in possession of his five senses can suppose for a moment that Count Oki deliberately

abused a trust officially reposed in him, and abused it through greed of paltry gain. But that a statesman should have grown old in the service of his country, and preserved throughout his career an unsullied reputation, does not seem to press with the weight of a feather on the consciousness of some Japanese journalists. The better the record offering for attack, the more vehemently and gleefully do they tear it to pieces. Some of these days public opinion will awake to the discovery that the fourth estate, for all its boasted virtues and loudly claimed privileges, can be transformed into the shape of a graceless mischief-maker.

DR. WAGENER'S FUNERAL.

THE funeral of Dr. Wagener yesterday was very largely attended. The great majority of the deceased's numerous friends from Tokyo and Yokohama, including a multitude of Englishmen, were there. A more significant feature, however, was the great number of Japanese. Among them were Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister of State for Education, Viscount Shinagawa, Mr. Kato, President of the Imperial University, Dr. Hamano, Mr. Watanabe Koki, Mr. Wada Tsunashiro, and a number of others. Mr. Von Waldhausen, German Chargé d'Affaires, and all the members of the German Legation, as well as the whole German community of Tokyo, were present. Before the bier, which was escorted by a company of infantry, marched a large band of white-robed flower-bearers, carrying handsome sprays and wreaths sent from numerous friends. The soldiers were followed by the students of the *Shokko Gakko*, and after them came crowds of public mourners, stretching a long distance. After a short prayer read by the Rev. M. Brinckmann in the house of the deceased, the procession moved to Aoyama Cemetery where a military band assisted in the ceremonial. At the grave the Rev. Brinckmann, in touching and sympathetic terms, paid a well deserved tribute to the excellent life, work, and character of the deceased, and thus was consigned to Japanese soil a man who had devoted the best years of his existence and the fullest stores of his ripe knowledge to the service of a country which he loved, and where he was himself widely beloved and respected.

DANGEROUS ILLNESS OF COUNT YAMADA.

COUNT YAMADA, former Minister of Justice, appears to be in a very dangerous condition. Last year, it will be remembered, his health caused some anxiety to his friends and the public, but he was believed to have recovered, and his recent movements seemed to indicate at least convalescence. Yesterday, however, several telegrams of an alarming character were received in Tokyo. The first, despatched in the forenoon from Ikuno, said that the Count had proceeded as far as Omori to visit the mines in that neighbourhood, when he was suddenly taken ill. The second announced his condition as dangerous (*kitoku*), and other messages sent in reply to inquiries from his friends, declared that his present condition precluded any hope of recovery.

Vernacular papers received after the above was in type, announce the death of Count Yamada yesterday.

THE CINDERELLA DANCES.

WEDNESDAY evening the second of the series of Cinderella Dances was given at the British Legation in Tokyo. The magic hour indicated by the legend of the glass slipper is supposed to be punctually observed by the guests at these charming entertainments, but the hospitalities of the Legation are so admirably dispensed and the general enjoyment of the dances is so thorough, that the fairy godmother's injunction has hitherto been honoured in the breach rather than in the observance, and the small hours of the morning have found the Cinderellas, of whom the capital can boast so many, dancing as merrily as ever.

ABOLITION OF THE GAMBLING LAW.

THE advocates of abolishing the law which prohibits gambling seem to be more numerous and earnest than we had at first imagined. They

are for the most part members of the Oriental Friendly Society (*Toyo Gyu-kai*)—for example, Messrs. Miyaji Mohei, Tsuda Kanjiro, Ando Yagoro, Ito Matsugoro, Masuda Tozaburo, and about twelve or thirteen others. They have mapped out the greater part of the empire into districts, and divided themselves into parties each of which will stump one or more of these districts for the purpose of winning converts to their cause. We have not as yet seen any statement of the reasons that actuate this singular movement, but by those familiar with the Japanese people's tendency to gamble, the notion of abolishing all interdicts against the habit, can scarcely be regarded with complaisance.

THE LECTURE AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL.

THE lecture recently delivered by Mr. A. B. de Guerville at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, for charitable purposes, produced a net sum of 472 yen, which has been distributed as follows:—

Leper Hospital Gotemba	157 yen
Charity Hospital	105 yen
Princess Mori's Industrial School	105 yen
Azabu Cottage Home for Destitute Girls	105 yen

The Committee request us to publish their grateful thanks to Mr. de Guerville, who gave the lecture, to Dr. C. S. Eby, who presided at the Stereopticon lantern, to the Imperial Hotel for lending the room, to the press for advertising the affair, and to the public for so generously supporting it.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO FINED.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO's remarkable speech, delivered a few days ago at the Koseikan to an enthusiastic audience, has brought him into collision with the law, which is no respecter of persons. It appears that his lecture was considered by the Police Authorities to have belonged to the category of *Seidan*, or political speeches, concerning the delivery of which the Regulations require that a certain procedure shall be followed. Mr. Inoue ought to know by this time the difference between a scientific or literary lecture and a political address, but apparently he made a mistake, for he failed to comply with the measures prescribed by the provisions of the Regulations.

ACCIDENT TO THE "SUMIDAGAWA MARU."

A TELEGRAM from Osaka, dated on the afternoon of the 5th instant, reports that the *Sumidagawa Maru*, a steamer of 742 tons, belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, having left the port of Sakai at 2 p.m. on the 3rd instant, struck a sunken rock before she had proceeded far on her voyage, and sustained considerable injury, over five thousand packages of her cargo—containing rice, vegetables, and dried, fish—being damaged by sea water. Fortunately the safety of the ship was not seriously endangered and no one was hurt.

POSTAL CONVENTION WITH CANADA.

THE rumour that the Canadian Government had signified its desire to postpone the operation of the Postal Convention with Japan would appear to be correct, for the News Agency reports that a despatch in that sense has been received from Canada, and that the date indicated as convenient for enforcing the Convention is May of next year. This means a delay of six months, to which Japan is not likely to demur. An Imperial Ordinance will doubtless deal with the matter in a few days.

THE KOREAN FISHING QUESTION.

SOME idea of the great importance to Japan of the privilege of fishing on the Korean coast may be gathered from a statement published on the authority of the Tokyo News Agency. The number of Japanese boats, we read, engaged in the fishery is no less than upwards of four thousand four hundred, of which about eighteen hundred have licenses. Their annual take averages from a million and a half of yen to two millions in value, and it is estimated that with more diligence and improved methods they might easily bring this figure to three or four millions. We cannot wonder that under such circumstances there is much reluctance on Japan's part

to agree to any arrangement tending to restrict the valuable privilege of fishing on the Korean coasts.

A SMART PIECE OF WORK.

ANOTHER very creditable detective performance has to be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of the Yokohama police. On the 1st of November, about eight o'clock in the evening, a person named George Sweeney was relieved of a gold watch of the value of 130 yen, while walking through Minato-cho. Information was given to the police as to the loss, and on the afternoon of the 4th inst., the watch was traced to a pawn-shop. It was recovered and returned to the owner next morning.

TWO SOLDIER PRINCES.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that H.I.H. Prince Kotohito, better known as Prince Kanin, has been promoted to be a Captain in the Cavalry; and that H.I.H. the Prince Imperial is promoted to be a Lieutenant of Infantry. Prince Kanin is in his 28th year, and the Prince Imperial was twelve years old on the 31st of last August.

THE THIRD OF NOVEMBER IN SHANGHAI.

IN addition to the very pretty decorations and illuminations at the Japanese Consulate-General, says the *N. C. Daily News*, in honour of the Mikado's birthday, there was a performance of Japanese jugglers in the evening. During the day a number of Consuls, Chinese officials, and others called to tender their felicitations.

GOVERNOR OF KAGOSHIMA.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that Mr. Yamanoichi Teiun, Governor of Kagoshima, has been permitted to resign his appointment, and that he is replaced by Viscount Oseko Sadakyo, formerly a Senator and subsequently placed on the Retired List. Viscount Oseko is a native of Kagoshima.

THE MILWAUKEE FIRE.

A GENTLEMAN at present in Japan, whose home is in Milwaukee, telegraphed for information as to the locality of the great fire in that city, which were recently reported by telegraph, through Reuter, and got for answer that the conflagration occurred in the "third ward from Buffalo street south."

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE.

THE first in the field with a reminder of the close of the year is the Standard Life Assurance Company, the local agents of which have sent us a neat and handy almanack and diary for 1893.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The fourth session of the Diet being now near at hand, Tokyo papers devote much space to discussing the position of the various political parties towards each other and towards the Cabinet. Nobody seems to be at all certain as to the turn which affairs will take on the assembling of the Diet. There are journals which incline to think that the coming session will be comparatively peaceful; while a few seem to expect that it will be exceptionally stormy. Some believe that the National Unionists (*Kokumin Kyokai*), who supported the preceding Ministry, will also support the present one; but the majority of writers seem to suppose that these politicians will be very cool toward the Ito Cabinet and may even join the Popular party in a vehement attack upon the former. Speaking generally, most of the Metropolitan papers seem inclined to believe that the approaching session will not severely tax the resources of the Ministry.

It is now generally assumed that the Government will pursue a negative policy for the present; that is to say, that it will not attempt to inaugurate any new undertakings. This evidently is very galling to the Progressionist politicians, for various reasons. In the first place, under such a régime they will be unable to gra-

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tify their passion for attacking the Government. In the next, they are very well aware that a period of comparative quiet at this juncture would help to bring about a better feeling and a better understanding between the Government and the Radicals. This latter circumstance must cause no small anxiety and embarrassment to the politicians of the Progressionist party. Having placed themselves in a position from which they cannot—or, at least, they think that they cannot—honourably beat a retreat, they are resolved to fight the battle to the bitter end. Their courage is to be admired; but it is a pity that they cannot understand why their former allies refuse to follow them in such a desperate and suicidal course. The *Kaishin-to* organs, assisted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* as usual, are, therefore, on the one hand, trying to persuade the Government to adopt an active policy; while, on the other, they ridicule the Radicals for their adoption of a more or less favourable attitude toward the Government. The Ministers of State are told that, although they are popularly called the *Genkun Naikaku* (a Cabinet composed of men distinguished for meritorious services at the time of the Restoration), they were not the authors of the Restoration, and that they have yet to prove their title to the honours which they already enjoy. It is no time for them to sit idle and undecided. There are, say these papers, many things that must be undertaken by the Government, and it is to be regretted that Count Ito and his colleagues should be so indifferent to the true interests of the country as to pursue a policy of inaction.

As to the relations between the Progressionists and the Radicals, their attitude toward each other, owing to the circumstances mentioned in the preceding paragraph, seems to be becoming more and more reserved. Notwithstanding the well understood prevalence of a rumour of estrangement between the two parties the Radical organ, the *Fiji*, does not take any means to deny it. The Progressionist organs, on the other hand, no longer make any secret of their displeasure with the conduct of the Radicals. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, remarks that "now is not the time for the different sections of the Popular Party to be instigated by the insinuating writings of their opponents and to regard each other with suspicion and even antipathy." Having thus urged the importance of united action on the part of the various associations composing the so-called Popular Party, our contemporary concludes by "lamenting that, on the eve of the fourth session of the Diet, the Popular Party, instead of consolidating its union, shows signs of dissension and disruption. The *Kokumin Shimbun* writes in a similar strain. It regrets to observe that "the iron chains, which have united the Radicals and the Progressionists since the opening of the Diet, are about to be cut asunder by arrows shot from the enemy's camp. Nor does it hesitate to state that "men now advocating an active policy, nevertheless avow their readiness to support such Government Bills as may appear to deserve endorsement, thus confessing their ignominious surrender to their enemy." In another article, the same journal deplores a growing tendency among certain politicians of the Popular Party to be satisfied with partial and incomplete reforms. Some politicians, we read, finding the difficulties of carrying out thorough reforms in the political sphere, and feeling the effects of advancing years, have of late become very conservative in their opinions. It is not difficult to guess to whom our contemporary alludes in these lines.

The *Fiji Shimpō* is anxious to effect the transfer of political power from the old to the new generation smoothly and naturally. It recommends the elder statesmen now in power to apply their attention to correcting evils which have sprung up within the Government during the past ten years; and urges the young politicians of the Popular Party to wait patiently until the elder statesmen shall have completed their part, which will be within the next ten

years, at latest. The present Ministers of State are all men of tried capacity, but the weakness of the Cabinet is said to be want of cohesion. Various rumours are circulated about a probable change of front on the part of some sections of the Popular Party, but the Government is warned not to put confidence in such stories, and is advised to be prepared for a strong and general attack by the Opposition. The individual ability of the different members of the Cabinet will be of little avail against such an assault, unless they are united under the direction of their chief. They are consequently told to own implicit obedience to the orders of the Minister President and to sacrifice their personal opinions on the altar of their common good. They are also reminded of the importance of taking into consideration the existence of a numerous and very powerful class of independent observers who do not belong to any of the existing political parties. Men of this class are not so much *in evidence* as professional politicians, but they nevertheless constitute the most influential body in the country. It is their support that the different political parties struggle to obtain in every crisis. The Government must take care not to estrange the hearts of these men.

As to the politicians of the Popular party, the *Fiji* admits it to be an undoubted fact that they have forfeited the confidence of the nation by their unreasonable opposition to the Cabinet. It even goes so far as to say that the Opposition themselves acknowledge this, and that they, or at least some of them, are now inclined to repent the course hitherto followed. Some among them seem to have entirely lost hope of realising their programme of political reformation. Such persons are exhorted not to be disappointed. Their future is bright. What they require is only a little patience. The elder statesmen now in power will not be long in expending their force. A time must soon come when it will be necessary to call in the aid of the young politicians of the Opposition. Until then the latter cannot do better than devote their attention to some means of regaining the confidence of the nation at large.

An interesting discussion is going on between the *Hochi Shimbun*, on the one hand, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Choya Shimbun* on the other. The *Hochi*, in a series of articles, discussed the importance and possibility of introducing large reductions in the ordinary expenditures of the Government, and advocated in particular the necessity of cutting down the salaries of officials. The Progressionist organ referred to foreign statistics to illustrate its assertion that official salaries are comparatively higher in Japan than in Western countries. Its object is to cut down salaries and retrench other items of expenditure to such a degree as to bring the amount of the Ordinary Expenditure to the figures of about fifteen years ago. The *Nichi Nichi* and the *Choya* have exposed the fallacies contained in the arguments of the *Kaishin-to* organ. In the first place, that journal's comparison between the salaries received by Japanese officials and those of their confrères in foreign countries is entirely vitiated by the *Hochi's* apparent ignorance of the difference of value between gold and silver money. It makes no allowance on this account, and thus the Japanese official salaries of course appear relatively higher than those in the West. Moreover, the figures employed by the *Hochi* are all very old, and in some instances are of doubtful origin. It also ignores the steady increase of the wealth of Japan, and the growing necessity for expanding the administrative machinery in proportion to the general progress of the country. As to the reduction of the land tax and several other topics discussed by the *Kaishin-to* organ, it is not necessary to speak in detail, seeing that the arguments adduced in reply are merely a repetition of what has already been urged over and over again.

Apropos the reduction of the land tax, some

papers have pointed out the singular circumstance that this subject is conspicuous by its absence in the new programme adopted at the Osaka meeting of the Radicals of the western localities. It is not known whether or not the programme will be approved by the Radical Party at its coming meeting in Tokyo. But the circumstance is certainly noteworthy that men who have hitherto joined the Progressionists in persistently demanding the reduction of the land tax should have thought it desirable to drop the subject altogether from their new platform.

The obloquy recently heaped upon the chief members of the Judiciary, is now being transferred to the Education Department. The complication had its origin in the divulging of official secrets connected with the selection of text-books on morals for primary schools. The story is this: a secretary of the Department handed to Count Oki, now President of the Privy Council but formerly Minister of Education, a paper relating to the method which the authorities concerned had secretly decided to pursue in selecting the above mentioned text books. Count Oki in turn showed this to a bookseller in Tokyo. The Secretary in question has been dismissed; and Count Oki has tendered his resignation. It being rumoured, however, that the resignation has been withdrawn by the Count in ready compliance with the advice of the Minister President of State, the whole press of the capital, from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* downwards, calls in strong language upon Count Oki to go out of office. The *Nichi Nichi* turns round upon Count Ito and reproves him for advising Count Oki to withdraw his resignation. If the facts mentioned by the vernacular papers be true, it will be very difficult for the President of the Privy Council to retain his position.

The Game Regulations still continue to occupy journalistic attention. There is no doubt that they will cause much trouble in the coming session of the Diet. The Progressionist organs propose that there should be introduced a project of law defining the limits of the term "tax" as applied to Revenue. The object is to include in the turn "tax" fees charged for game licences and thereby to place on record or declaration that the recent Regulations are unconstitutional. A writer in the *Fiji*, the Radical organ, recommends that a new Game Law, be introduced next session, and that the Government be compelled to advise His Majesty to sanction it. It is not known whether or not this project represents the opinion of the majority of the Radical party, but unquestionably there is in the ranks of that Party a strong feeling of opposition to the new Regulations.

The subject of Hokkaido is now on the tapis. As we have noticed, there is a big project on foot for the speedy colonization of the island. Whether it will receive the approval of the Government and the Diet, is more than doubtful. But it is an undoubted fact that the northern island now receives an amount of attention never bestowed on it before. The Opposition journals demand the establishment of a local Assembly in Hokkaido, for they think that such an institution would have the effect of correcting many evils still existing there as relics of mal-administration in former years. The injurious ascendancy, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which a certain class of persons have obtained in Hokkaido, is prejudicial to the healthy growth of commerce and industry there. This ascendancy must, above all things, be crushed by the creation of a local popular assembly.

The *Fiji*, writing on the subject of Exhibitions, urges the postponement of the Fourth Domestic Exhibition, about the site of which so much noise is now made, and the holding of an International Exhibition. It advises the citizens of the three cities, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, to stop their struggle, and take the initiative in the opening of an international Exhibition within the next few years.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

(COMMUNICATED.)

THE Grand Manœuvres of the Army which were terminated on Wednesday, the 26th ult., by His Majesty the EMPEROR reviewing 35,000 troops on a magnificent plain to the N.E. of Utsunomiya, were by far the largest which had ever taken place in Japan. As far as the strategy of the Manœuvres goes, they were not more important than the Grand Manœuvres at Nagoya three years ago. The central idea of the latter was to defend the country from an army disembarking at Oshima, Shimoda, an invasion by Awaji, and Wakayama, and marching on Tokyo from the West; while this year's Manœuvres illustrated the manner in which an Army of Invasion landing in the Northern part of Japan, say at Sendai, would be met. The troops employed in the Nagoya Manœuvres were naturally the garrisons of Hiroshima and Nagoya, with reinforcements from Tokyo sent forward by the Tokaido Railway. This year, on the other hand, the forces were the Sendai and other Northern garrisons, reinforced as before from Tokyo, and their transport tested the capabilities of the Northern Railways. The great number of troops employed, however, made this year's manœuvres exceptionally interesting, and subjected to a very severe proof the arrangements for moving, feeding, and housing such a large body of men, as well as the tactical handling of considerable masses on the field of battle. The largest European Manœuvres which have been fully described were probably those of the French in 1891, when 110,000 men were engaged. Even judging by that gigantic standard, we see that the Japanese have not been idle in providing for the defence of their country. The general strategical idea of the Manœuvres may be described somewhat as follows: A Northern Army, which is much stronger than the Sendai garrison and other troops in the neighbourhood, has possessed itself of Sendai and the country round about; while the two divisions of the Southern Army have retired before it, and taken up a position on a line extending from Utsunomiya to Mito, and are making preparations to check the North Army at all hazards somewhere about this line, pending the arrival of reinforcements from Tokyo. The 1st division of the Southern Army is at Utsunomiya, while the 2nd division is at Mito, this 2nd division being only a hypothetical force, which has drawn a part of the Northern Army after it (also an imaginary force), and then, suddenly marching to the West, reinforces the 1st division on the flank at Utsunomiya.

From this it will be seen that the centre of the Southern Army's position for defence was Utsunomiya. The time occupied by the critical part of the manœuvres was three days, viz., the 23rd, 24th, and 25th October, on each of which days battles

were fought; but the troops as they advanced respectively from the North and South had been exercised in small tactical manœuvres among themselves since the 10th October, so as to thoroughly utilize the time during which they were in the field, and improve their facility in company and battalion movements. Parts of the long distances covered were performed by rail, other parts by marching; the troops being probably detained at places where the country was suitable for minor tactical manœuvres. Thus by the 23rd the men had been subjected to a great deal of hard work, testing their powers of marching and general endurance. It is reported that they did not get much more than three hours sleep each night during this period. No tents were carried except for officers, the men being billeted in the various villages, and occasionally having to lie out under their blankets. Nevertheless, on Sunday the 23rd, which, as has been said, was the first day of the meeting of the two hostile armies, the men, although of course they were not in barrack-square trim, looked exceedingly fit and serviceable.

On Saturday night the 22nd the position of the two armies may be described as follows:—The Northern Army rested on Yaita and Saikayawa, with advance posts covering its whole front, and pushed as far to the South as Kamikawato.

The Southern Army rested on Utsunomiya, with advanced posts pushed out to the North as far as Kamikiraide, the advanced posts covering a frontage of probably about eight miles; and the distance between the advanced posts of the two Armies being 10 miles. We are now in a position to describe the operations of Sunday the 23rd.

The Northern Army started at 7 o'clock and advanced to the South in three columns, the 1st column marching by the Western Rikuu Main Road, the 3rd column by the Eastern Rikuu Main Road, and the 2nd column by a smaller road which lies between the other two. These roads all converge on the large village of Ujiie, which lies about half way between the position occupied by the two Armies at 7 a.m. The Southern Army, finding that reinforcements from Tokyo were on the way to join them, and having seen the enemy's cavalry patrols as far South as Ujiie, determined to advance at once and check the enemy before he reached this point. Two things would probably influence the General in making this decision: first, that the heads of the columns should be attacked before they attained the point where their three lines of advance converged; and secondly that Ujiie lies to the North of the river Kinugawa. So that by making a stand at this point, and then retiring and destroying the bridges, the enemy's advance would be delayed, until the reinforcements arrived.

HIS MAJESTY and Staff left Utsunomiya at 7.30 by rail for Nagakubo, and from thence

proceeded on horseback to the western Rikuu road about two miles to the north of Ujiie. The heads of the columns of the Southern Army appeared a little after 10 o'clock, and proceeded to deploy on receiving information from their cavalry patrols that they were nearly in the presence of the enemy. The country to the front was pretty open, with plenty of scrub, but further back it was very close, with patches of rice fields, clumps of trees, and bushes. It was also very flat so that there were no vantage points for placing Artillery to check the advance of the enemy at long ranges. The enemy was first seen about 11 o'clock, advancing in skirmishing order through the scrub, and the firing soon became general, the Southern Army falling back on their supports, while the enemy's lines appeared thicker and thicker and always pressing on. As far as could be seen it was a company officers' battle, the country being so close that it was difficult for any one to know what was going on except in his immediate vicinity; but the connection between the various units, seemed well preserved. The rice fields were hard, and the general aspect of the fighting was holding the causeways between the rice fields, and then rushing back across the fields to take up a position behind the next causeway from which protection could be obtained. There seemed to be no cavalry surprises on this day, the country probably being too close for the employment of this arm. But artillery was brought into action, probably only the mountain guns, and on two or three occasions these were very smartly posted among clumps of trees by the Northern troops, from which they unexpectedly opened fire at a close range, probably with great effect. Nothing could exceed the zeal of the company officers, and the men seemed to work with great intelligence. The rushes looked straggly, but they were made at very good speed, and the way in which the men regained their order when they halted to resume firing was very remarkable.

There was one very well meant flanking attack made by the extreme right of the Southern troops which was reported to have taken the Northerners by surprise, but this apparent success was not allowed by the Umpires; and the fortunes of the day rested with the Northern Army, which had pushed the Southern Army back all along the line, almost into Ujiie.

The Northern troops engaged on this day were the advanced guards of the two Western columns: the Eastern column, having marched by a more circuitous route, does not seem to have come into action, and this shows good judgment on the part of the Southern general in choosing his position. The Southern troops engaged seem to have been those already mentioned as resting on Utsunomiya the night before; the reinforcements from Tokyo not yet having arrived.

In real War this Battle on the North

side of Ujiie would probably have ended in a desperate attempt to defend the town, prolonged until the evening, the weaker Southern Army then retiring before the stronger Northern one, after having inflicted severe losses from their position of vantage. But in Manœuvres it is evident that battles must cease outside towns. So, at 12 o'clock, the bugles sounded the "cease firing." Gradually the tremendous din was subdued, and the troops could be seen on all sides standing up perfectly motionless. So far as could be detected, there was no disorganization, nor were any men straggling about to find their Companies. HIS MAJESTY and Staff then entered the town where a house had been prepared for their reception, and soon afterwards every one's thoughts were turned in the direction of tiffin. The streets thus became crowded with the Southern Army, most of whom seemed to be provided for in the town, while their Northern friends, enemies no longer for the moment, had not such good fortune, the place being incapable of accommodating such a large body of men.

This ended the first day's fighting, and the retreat of the Southern Army on their reinforcements now arriving in Utsunomiya, occupied the remainder of the day, HIS MAJESTY and Staff going back to Utsunomiya from the Nagakubo Station at 4 o'clock.

We may at once pass on to describe the position of the Armies on the morning of the 24th.

The Southern Army, when retiring on the previous day, had destroyed the great bridges which span the Kinugawa at Akitsu and Hosekiji, and had taken up a strong position two or three miles on the N.E., of Utsunomiya. The regiments of the Imperial Guard arriving from Tokyo were now being detrained in great numbers, and were being pushed to the front to reinforce the Southern Army. The advance of the Northern Army on Utsunomiya had been momentarily checked by the destruction of the bridges over the Kinugawa; but these bridges having been repaired during the night, after a few hours' work, the troops of all arms were now marching on Utsunomiya. A misfortune had, however, happened to the Southern Army. It will be remembered that a part of the Northern Army had been pursuing a part of the Southern Army in the direction of Mito, both being only supposed forces. It appears that the Southerners had been obliged to retire as far as Tsutsuiura, thus leaving their enemy free to march westward on Utsunomiya, and that the latter had very daringly detached some cavalry patrols and destroyed the Main Railway between Koga and Oyama. The consequence was that, on the morning of the 24th, the commander of the Southern Army found that the greater part of his reinforcements from Tokyo had been detrained at Koga and could not possibly be up for this day's battle.

We find then that, on the morning of the 24th, the Southern Army were still weaker than their enemy: and although they held a strong position, they were also liable to be taken on the right flank by the Northern division coming from Mito.

The morning of the 24th was dull, but though rain had fallen during the night and made everything pretty wet under foot, the day luckily held up. The field of battle was almost an ideal one. On leaving Utsunomiya by the Main Rikuu road which runs to the N.E., the ground gradually rises until one is at a distance of about two miles out; here the road passes through dense woods, and when the summit of the rise is reached, the country opens out, and a magnificent plain about two miles long is seen, not perfectly flat, but depressed in the middle and rising to about the same height at the farther or Northern end. There were no rice fields, but the country was the sort of market-garden expanse with which travellers to Nikko and Karuizawa are so familiar: patches of trees were here and there, and a good many lots of mulberry trees. In addition to the dense forests in the rear, the flanks of the position were also heavily wooded.

The main body of the Southern Army is drawn up in the woods on the reverse side of the slope, and could be seen on each side of the road which seemed to be about the centre of the position. They were perfectly concealed from the enemy, and protected from his infantry fire. It is difficult to say what was the length of front, but probably it measured two miles. The advanced part of the line was pushed down the slope of the plain clear of the trees, and was apparently composed of alternate groups of Infantry and Artillery all along the line. Some of these were protected from the enemy's fire by being among the mulberry trees. In other places where the ground was clear, shelter trenches were thrown up and the men squatted down in them. Some of the batteries were well to the front, but where this was the case it was generally near a clump of trees in which the Infantry, giving protection to the guns, could be sheltered. The Cavalry, of which there seemed to be very few, were either scattered in the front patrolling, or else beyond the woods on the flanks of the position.

One cannot tell even in Manœuvres the exact time when the enemy will choose to appear. The Southern Army was in position about 9.30 a.m., guns unlimbered and shelter trenches made; but it was 12 o'clock before the white caps of the Northerners were seen at the farther end of the plain. The infantry fire commenced at over a mile range, and the Southern skirmishers were thrown out in advance of the position, gradually pressed back by the continual advances of the enemy, the guns opening fire as the dense masses were seen advancing. It was difficult to

make out the exact form of the latter Army's attack. The first line was in extended order, supported by the companies in close order two deep, with considerable gaps between the companies. Whether the first line was a true skirmishing line which falls back on supports when pressed, or whether it was a "firing line" continually fed from support Reserves, it was difficult to make out. The company seemed well held in hand by its Captain; closing in or extending with great intelligence as the nature of the country rendered necessary. The successive rushes to the front were made with plenty of spirit, and the art of getting sharply down under cover seems to have been carefully taught. The pauses in the advance often seemed too long, the men blazing away at each other from indifferent cover without advancing or retreating. The terrible fire of modern rifles will effectually prevent troops from standing still under it, when once they have entered an effective zone of fire; and if they cannot be persuaded to advance, they must of necessity retire. As the battle swept on, the fire of both guns and rifles was tremendous, with of course the inevitable smoke, so that not much could be seen. While the fire was at its hottest a vigorous cheering was heard on the left of the Northern Army, and on getting over to that flank it was found that the Northerners had made a flanking attack out of the woods without being seen until close up to the enemy. They came on in thick masses with tremendous cheering; but they failed to see the equally large masses of Southerners standing concealed in the mulberry trees, and although the attack penetrated close to the Southern guns in position, the Southern Infantry were quickly on the spot to protect the batteries. The cease firing was sounded when the combatants got too close, and the result was, it is believed, that the flanking attack failed.

There were rumours of a cavalry charge by the right of the Northerners coming from the woods and surprising the left of the Southern position, and a point was claimed for this by the Northerners, which was probably allowed. The battle ended about 1 o'clock, by which time the Southern Army was supposed to be in retreat towards Utsunomiya. As a matter of fact the men had a well earned rest and ate what food they had brought with them, while HIS MAJESTY, having dismounted and entered a small house on the road side, summoned the two Generals and other principal officers, and proceeded to decide upon the different claims made by the rival Armies, assisted by his Commander-in-Chief of the Army, Prince ARISUGAWA. The results of the battle of the 24th were the entry of the Northern Army into Utsunomiya and the retreat of the Southern Army to the villages which skirt the south and west of the town, where, being reinforced by the whole of the Guards from Tokyo, they would endeavour to force the

enemy to evacuate Utsunomiya and retire to the Northward.

The morning of the 25th will not be easily forgotten; the sun came out brilliantly after the dull weather which had been the rule on the two preceding days. It was a typical Japanese Autumn day, and those whose only idea of Utsunomiya is associated with the intense heat of summer, and the too monotonous green of the surroundings, would have been charmed with the beautiful colours of the woods, the delightful Autumn odours of the fresh earth, the sparkling dews on the leaves of the crops, and the towering forms of the Nikko Mountains in the distance.

The Northern Army's position was a circular arc extending from the West to the South of Utsunomiya, while the Southern army was divided into two parts, one being to the South, and the other to the West, or rather to the South-west of the town. HIS MAJESTY and Staff appeared on the left of the Northern position about 8.30 a.m. The front of this position looked towards the South. The principal part of the Artillery seemed to be massed here in the vegetable gardens which fringe the town at this point, and the guns were already in action firing over the heads or through the intervals of small bodies of infantry which had been pushed as far to the front as the embankments of the Nikko railway, and occupied shelter trenches dug in the sand mounds which border this part of the embankment. These advanced posts had, however, speedily to retire before masses of the Southerners now approaching from the South, who occupied the trenches, and poured in a fire on the retreating enemy. The feature of the day's battle seemed to be the opening by the regularly authorised Artillery of duels at long ranges. The left of the Northerners was strongest in this arm, while the heaviest gun fire from the Southerners came from their left or Western flanks. The ranges at which the artillery fired seemed rather too long, as there was plenty of cover for the troops among the mulberries, and the firing must have been a good deal guesswork. Moreover it looked at times as if there was danger of the Northern Artillery firing into their own infantry, especially on the right of the position where large masses of men were being deployed for attack. Soon after the advanced posts on the left of the Northern Army had been driven in, attention was called to something very serious happening on the right, or Western part of the position. The Southern Army's Artillery fire had been very heavy at this point, indicating that the way was being prepared for a grand attack, and the Infantry of the Northern Army had been deployed under cover of the mulberry trees in large numbers, and were now advancing for a final attack on the left of the Southerners' position. They seemed to have got almost up to the enemy's guns, when they were met by overpowering numbers of In-

fantry who advanced from the thick woods behind the guns, showing that the greater part of the Southern Army were at this part of the battlefield, while the attack on the South part of the town had only been a feint for the purpose of deceiving the enemy, and obliging him to separate his forces. The Northern Army were therefore outnumbered at the critical moment, and further resistance seemed hopeless. At about 10.30 the bugles once more sounded the cease firing, which proclaimed that the last and greatest of the battles was over. A very impressive ceremony now took place. HIS MAJESTY, having dismounted, retired to a small house near the scene of the final attack, and received the reports of the umpires on the different phases of the battle. During this time the officers of both Armies were collected together in a great square facing inwards, the generals being in the front. HIS MAJESTY, attended by His Imperial Highness Prince ARISUGAWA, and others of the Staff, then entered the square and received the reports of His Imperial Highness Prince KOMATSU, commanding the Imperial Guards, and Generals YAMANASHI and SAKUMA, commanding the Southern and Northern Armies. Prince ARISUGAWA then delivered his judgment on the different points of the three days' fighting, and finally HIS MAJESTY delivered his supreme verdict on the results of the battle. The general results have been pretty clearly indicated in the above descriptions. The Northern Army having landed in greater force than the garrisons of the adjacent districts of Japan could muster to oppose them, were able to press steadily to the South. A battle was fought near Ujiie which stayed the progress of the invader, but did not stop him. Another battle followed near Utsunomiya: but owing to the reinforcements from Tokyo being delayed by the destruction of the railway, this battle also failed in its object, and the Northern Army occupied Utsunomiya. Finally, on the third day, the Southern Army, being reinforced by the Tokyo troops, drove the enemy out of Utsunomiya, and it might be presumed that, if his communications from over the sea were now cut, he would not again be able to take the offensive.

Criticisms on Grand Manœuvres are difficult. The ground covered in this case was so extensive that only Umpires on the different points of the line of advance could tell whether the connecting links between the various units were well preserved, whether the cavalry scouting to the front and flanks was efficiently performed, and a hundred other things. But there can be no doubt that the Japanese Army as it appeared in these manœuvres is a thoroughly well-drilled, well-equipped, and mobile force, and that the men are well disciplined and capable of bearing great fatigue. Shooting and marching are very important points to observe upon, but of course nothing can

be known of the former from a sham fight. Of the marching power of the troops it will be interesting to take one example. On Sunday the 23rd the Southern Army marched from Utsunomiya to beyond Ujiie about 12 or 13 miles. They then fought a battle finishing at noon. In the afternoon or evening they marched back again to Utsunomiya, arriving about 11 p.m., and by the time they had found their quarters, prepared their own food, &c., and could get to bed, it was 1.30 a.m. The next morning they were in position to receive the enemy 2 or 3 miles outside Utsunomiya. Very few men were reported as having fallen out from fatigue or sore feet.

The Review on the 25th was a very brilliant spectacle, the weather, too, being magnificent. There was nothing, in respect of detail, to distinguish the affair from most other reviews. First HIS MAJESTY and Staff rode out and inspected the army, after while the usual march past took place. The locality was a huge rolling plain near the scene of the second day's battle, and the Army was drawn up apparently in columns of double companies on two sides of an oblong, covering a frontage of about a mile and a half. The men looked remarkably well and handled their arms with great precision. The march past occupied exactly one hour, which gives a good idea of the number of troops on the field. They came past in the same double company columns at a very quick pace, and the men marched admirably, considering the hard work they had lately been through. The Mountain Guns followed the infantry, and the Field Batteries and Cavalry came past at the gallop. HIS MAJESTY then left the field and, having dismounted at a house where the Imperial Carriage was waiting, returned to Utsunomiya to be present at a great Civil and Military fête held in the afternoon.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION.

THE Barristers' Examination affair has had an ending which, with reference to one of the culprits, is at once ineffective and regrettable and yet not surprising. We have all along wondered what legal offence would be attributed to the person who revealed the contents of the papers, and now we learn that by the judgment of the lower Court no legal offence at all has been committed. A probationer whose duty it was to copy the draft of the questions disclosed their tenor to an intimate friend and relative, at the urgent solicitation of the latter, and this disclosure it seems, cannot be brought under any section of the Criminal Code. That a flagrant breach of honour has occurred no one doubts; that the offender escapes easily with a punishment of summary dismissal is equally plain; but it is after all no easy thing to imagine just what sort of crime we shall label the conduct of this faithless

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official. We cannot at present think of any category of our own law which will cover it. The only statutory offences of the sort customarily mentioned in Codes are the betrayal of testimony by a grand jury man and, in very recent times and in a few jurisdictions, the disclosure of the contents of telegrams by operators. The offence that might perhaps be charged is that of receiving a bribe; but it does not appear here that any money passed, and, even if it did, the possibility of a conviction would depend on whether the wording of the law could be stretched to cover this case—a not very promising possibility. It appears to be one of those unfortunate instances in which the prevision of legislators has been unable to show itself omniscient. Because this has occurred in Japan, there are doubtless persons who will raise an outcry against the imperfections thus (presumably) demonstrated to exist in the Criminal Code. For ourselves, however, we confess that this incident appears as no more than a part of the ordinary experience of every civilized nation. New crimes and new methods of evading the law are constantly appearing, and everywhere these present themselves in the law as new gaps which call for new precautions and new prohibitions. That embezzlement should be punished seems now elementary to us; but there was a time in England when it could not be punished at common law; and not until after experience had taught Courts that the meshes of the common law allowed offenders of this sort to slip through, did the legislator step in with a statute for the purpose. Every one knows of the famous case in which the English thief was charged with attempting to commit larceny by picking a pocket, but was acquitted because the pocket was empty, and an attempt to commit an impossible crime was in law no attempt at all. This ludicrous, but at that time logical result, was afterwards, we believe, remedied by statute; and so of course will the deficiency in the Japanese Criminal Code be cured as soon as possible.

The notable thing about this incident, and the one which to our mind is more significant of good than the failure to convict could possibly be of harm, is the stand taken by the Court, the *non possumus* decision. If there is any one characteristic which has distinguished the British judiciary as a body (and its younger branch in America), it is the strictness with which the law is construed. Let justice fail and crime go unpunished rather than the judge usurp authority and venture beyond the strict provisions of the law;—this is the spirit of the Anglo-American judicial attitude. That this spirit has shown itself strong and predominant in Japan under the greatest temptations—nobably the Otsu affair and now the Examination misconduct—should be one of the best proofs to the West that the Japanese judiciary are

working on exemplary principles. Japan has a right to claim comparison with other countries on the point, and each year is multiplying the proofs she can afford.

That this whole incident should become a text for the severest censure of the Japanese by a few implacable critics was perhaps to be expected. The method of procedure is usually to assume for the West certain standards that do not exist, then assume certain facts about Japan, and finally produce a comparison to the egregious disadvantage of this country. We cannot refrain from noticing one or two of these airy bubbles of criticism which collapse when pricked with the wand of investigation. It has been said, for instance, in hearty agreement with the wild statement of a vernacular journal, that "the fact of judicial officers like judges and public prosecutors being allowed to give instruction in private schools is as ridiculous as it is injurious," that "it must inevitably give rise to abuses and to neglect of duties, if nothing else." We do not pretend to believe that it is the best system. Legal education is an art engrossing enough to demand the instructor's whole attention. But this is the attitude of only the advanced few in the legal profession. The incontestable fact remains that what Japan is doing is being done in the same field by almost every leading nation, with the possible exception of Great Britain. In England there was until two decades ago no systematic legal instruction outside of a few lectures on jurisprudence at Oxford and Cambridge, and thus for a very good reason the Judges were not concerned in it. But since London has seen organized law lectures at the Inns and elsewhere, we believe that the old rule has been broken through. How common the practice is in France and Germany we do not know, but instances certainly occur. It is the United States, however, and not Japan, whose reputation is most thoroughly blasted by the prevalence of this "ridiculous" and "injurious" system. Some of the most eminent judges in that country in the past have been at the same time instructors in Law Schools,—Justice BATTLE, of the North Carolina Supreme Court, in the University of that State; Justice DUTTON, of the Connecticut Supreme Court, in Yale College; Justice SHARSWOOD, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in the University of that State; and Chief Justice COOLEY, of Michigan, in the State University. As for to-day's record, we can affirm that there are now at least 40 Judges in that country, members of the U.S. Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts, and of the State, Supreme, and Superior Courts, who are delivering lectures at institutions for legal instruction. This is doubtless a "ridiculous" record; but Japan may comfort herself with the thought that she sins in reputable company.

Take again, the assertion, that it is

preprehensible for the Committee to "despatch these papers to the provinces by post." This is to be sure, unpardonable. We have ourselves aided, it seems, to further equally unwarrantable methods, for we have given publicity in these columns to the announcement that examinations for admission to Harvard University would be held in Tokyo, and the printed papers for these examinations have invariably, we believe, been despatched to Japan by registered mail, and are, moreover, so dispatched to London, Berlin, and a dozen of places throughout the United States. If we are to judge Japanese methods by Western standards, we must here acquit the former of any greater guilt. We learn furthermore, that "such a thing as the purchase of information at home would be impossible," because in Japan, "the nation has not yet been educated up to that nice unwritten code of what constitutes honour which most European nations at home obey." This may be so; but educators at home appear to entertain a singularly different view of the nicety of this Western code of honour, and the persuasiveness of its sway. In a university we happen to be acquainted with, the experience on the point of honour at examinations has been such that nowadays the papers are printed in a stone basement fitted up as a printing-room, with iron-barred windows and a single heavy door, where the work is done exclusively by an employé of 20 years' standing whose fidelity has been well tested; and during the examinations watchers are appointed, one for every 20 or 30 candidates, to patrol the rooms and prevent all cheating. As for instance of papers fraudulently obtained, it would be idle to attempt to enumerate such occurrences in the West. They are innumerable. A fair comparison, fairly made, is a legitimate mode of argument in any discussion. But we are tired of having to take up the cudgels to demand that comparisons, where Japan is criticised, shall be in fact fair. To demonstrate that the world is very much the same, whatever the longitude, becomes an ungracious task when it involves calling attention, as it sometimes does, to instances where improvement is desirable in one's own nation. But there seems no escape from it, until we shall have an end of misleading comparisons and the reign of facts and fair play shall be inaugurated.

CARSTENS AND EXTERRITORIALITY.

(COMMUNICATED.)

THERE occurred in the Yokohama Local Court on Wednesday last an incident so significant that it deserves to be chronicled as one of the remarkable events in the international history of Japan. It was the demand made by the Counsel of CARSTENS, the foreigner accused of murder, that the defendant should receive his trial in the Japanese tribunal and not in the German

Consular Court. If there is anything for which the doctrine of Exterritoriality stands in history and in theory, it is the notion that (to speak plainly) Japanese laws and Japanese Courts cannot be trusted. It is this notion which is incarnated in the provisions of nearly every one of the Western treaties with Japan. It is to this end that diplomatic negotiation and popular agitation have been consecrated. But at last the sanctity of this cardinal dogma has been violated. The first defection from the ranks of the faithful has occurred. A man has been found so wanting in consideration for the welfare of his nationals and so absorbed by selfish considerations of personal interest, as to declare openly that he prefers a Japanese tribunal to his own. One who was asked what he considered the most significant event in the history of parliamentary institutions in Japan, replied that it was the Tuesday when the gates of the Parliament grounds were opened for the first time, and the first Member of Parliament was whirled up to the vestibule and alighted to attend the first meeting of the House. We think that the demand of CARSTENS for a trial in a Japanese Court is the first knell of the dissolution of Exterritoriality. We do not wish to exaggerate the significance of the occurrence. We realize that it would have been one thing for Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co. to have made such a demand; and that is another for the sailor CARSTENS to make it. But the telling fact is that the demand has been made, and that it rests on a proposition which undermines the whole doctrine of Exterritoriality, the doctrine that Japanese laws and Japanese Courts are not to be trusted. The specific reason mentioned by the defendant's Counsel was that the accused is not entitled under the German Code to a diminution of penalty on the ground of extenuating circumstances, and that this might be allowed under the Japanese Code. This particular reason is really immaterial, in the presence of the astounding fact; but if the reason is to be noticed at all, it is because it teaches the irony of fate. Twenty years ago the Government of a leading Western State wrote to its representative here, respecting the extritorial provision in its treaty: "All that has been sought by the Christian Powers is to withdraw their subjects from the operation of such laws as conflict with our ideas of civilization and humanity." In 1892 we are presented with the spectacle of a subject of another leading Western Power endeavouring to "withdraw" himself "from the operation of a law" of his own State because the corresponding law of Japan is less in "conflict" with his "ideas of humanity." The whole occurrence is an effective satire on the factitious and unnatural assumptions forced upon us by the continued maintenance of a principle which has outlived its usefulness.

But, after all, can CARSTENS succeed in

his demand? This question brings up a point of extritorial practice which seems to be as novel as the incident that has given rise to it. That issue is whether CARSTENS can repudiate the Court of his own Consul and elect to be tried in a Japanese Court. It is true that the accused rests his demand on the fact that he is no longer a German subject. As his counsel puts it, the fact that the subject of a country has remained abroad for over 10 years without notifying his Government of continuing allegiance, disqualifies him as a subject of that country. What warrant there is for this proposition in German law we do not know; but, put in this form, it can hardly be maintainable as a principle of international law. Questions of domicile, expatriation, and the like depend chiefly on the intention of the person concerned, not on fixed and formal rules. Naturalization, to be sure, requires the satisfaction of certain formalities; but there can be no doubt that expatriation (assuming that it is recognized as allowable at the will of the subject) rests, in international law, on the expressed intent of the person. In some cases 10 years absence would be more than is required, in others less. The fact that CARSTENS is by occupation a sailor, points to the latter conclusion. But that is a question of fact for the judge (speaking internationally), and we express no opinion upon it.

Behind this claim of expatriation, however, is the question above referred to, which the defendant's counsel did not choose: Can CARSTENS elect to be tried in the Japanese Court, assuming that he cannot prove himself to be any longer a German subject? This is a fundamental inquiry, which has apparently never been made before, but is no less applicable to any other individual among the four thousand subjects of treaty nations in Japan. The peculiar fact which here intervenes to cause complication is that the German Authorities have signified their desire to try the accused and have requested that he be handed over to them. The situation, then, is that the Treaty nation demands to exercise its privilege of trying its own subject (as we assume him to be), while the subject himself repudiates this claim and declares his election to be tried in the Court of Japan. At first sight one might have some hesitation in reaching a conclusion. The language of the treaties, it may be urged, is on this point imperative,—"shall be tried and punished in" the Consular Courts. But this is the language of every contract; otherwise there would be no obligation. The imperative form of the language does not affect the right of waiver, if such a right of waiver is otherwise found to exist. When one considers the purpose of these clauses of extritoriality, the solution of the question becomes apparent. The provisions reserving the right of trying treaty nationals in the Consular Courts were in-

tended solely for the benefit of those nationals themselves. This has always been the expressed understanding. In the declaration above quoted, "all that has been sought is to withdraw their subjects from the operation of" certain laws of supposed harshness. Another declaration has referred to the Consular Courts as furnishing "such safeguards as our own Government may interpose for the protection of citizens who come within its sway." If these subjects or citizens see fit to relinquish or waive these supposed safeguards, is it possible that their Governments can hold them back? The interest of the Government in the matter is only the interest of its nationals; and these declare that they voluntarily abandon their privileges. It is hard to see what doctrine would justify such a Treaty Power in forcibly compelling its nationals to submit in Japan to trial by a Court which has received from the Japanese nation a peculiar and abnormal jurisdiction only—a jurisdiction which in the present case has lost its only *raison d'être*, viz., the desire of certain nationals for protection from Japanese laws. We trust that the question will be settled in such a way as to recognize clearly the right of any treaty national to elect Japanese jurisdiction; for if Treaty Revision is to come, as seems likely, by slow degrees, one of the most important privileges for foreigners will perhaps be that of electing to put themselves under Japanese jurisdiction.

DEATH OF DR. G. VON WAGENER.

WITH keen regret we find ourselves called on to announce the death of Dr. GOTTFRIED VON WAGENER, which took place at his residence in Surugadai, Tokyo, at 4.30 p.m. on the 8th instant, the cause being heart disease. Dr. WAGENER had not enjoyed robust health for some time. A recent trip to his native country was in part dictated by evidence of feebleness developing with a degree of rapidity that his years did not warrant, and he probably understood very well that his life must be unduly shortened. His last illness was long, entailing a full measure of the suffering that attends certain forms of heart trouble, but borne by the patient with all the serene fortitude for which his character was ever remarkable. Under happier constitutional conditions a long term of usefulness should have remained to this eminently useful man, for he had only just entered his sixty-second year, having been born in Germany on July 5th, 1831. He came to Japan in 1870, in the service of the Feudal Baron of Hizen—the family now represented by Marquis NABESHIMA—his function being to introduce improved methods of porcelain manufacture at the great potteries of Arita. It is a curious historical fact that fully 250 years previously, a permanent influence had been exercised on the very same porcelain by another M.

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WAGENAAR, who in the third decade of the seventeenth century presided over the Dutch Factory in Deshima. "*Le Sieur Wagenaar*," as he is called in *Les Ambassades Mémorables*, did not go beyond suggesting a more profuse style of decoration, but the modern Dr. WAGENER, who was a man of remarkable knowledge and resource, indicated improvements which produced most happy results, and which, had there been means to carry them out in their integrity, would have revolutionized the ceramic industry of Hizen. Having conceived and inaugurated such changes as the resources of the province permitted, he was invited to Tokyo, where, after being nominated a Professor in the University, he was appointed, in 1872, to the chair of Chemistry and Physics in the College of Medicine. In the same year he received an additional appointment as Adviser to the Bureau for the Promotion of Industries in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, where he became entrusted with a large share in the work of preparing art exhibits for the Japanese section of the Vienna Exposition. He subsequently proceeded to Vienna as one of the Japanese Commissioners to the Exhibition, and after his return the Department of Education engaged his services for the establishment of an Artisans' School (*Shokko Gakko*), in Tokyo, conferring on him at the same time an additional appointment at the Uyeno Museum. The Philadelphia Exhibition next occupied his attention, and to it also he was despatched as a Commissioner for Japan. It was in 1877, that he commenced a series of experiments destined to lead to permanently remarkable results. Up to that time the Cloisonné Enamels of Japan had been sombre, uninteresting objects, asserting no claim to the consideration of either decorators or art amateurs. But Dr. WAGENER's skilled investigations enabled him to indicate such excellent methods of preparing colours that the Japanese artisans, supplementing his scientific acumen by their own wonderful manual dexterity, have now carried the manufacture of Cloisonné Enamels to a point never dreamed of by their predecessors in any country. In 1878 we find Dr. WAGENER serving as Professor of Chemistry in the Kyoto College of Medicine until 1881, when he was again transferred to the University in Tokyo. Three years later, having received the additional appointment of Adviser and Teacher at the Artisans' School, he introduced and supervised the manufacture of a ware invented by himself, namely, the *Asahi-yaki* (Morning Sun Faience). The chief characteristic of this ware is that colours are employed freely under the glaze, an entirely new departure, for although porcelain had been thus treated by earlier experts, it had never previously been found possible to decorate faience in such a manner. Dr. WAGENER continued in the service of

Japan up to the day of his death. In 1874, the EMPEROR of Austria-Hungary conferred on him the decoration of the Francis-Joseph Order, which carries with it the personal rank of nobility, and in the following year he received the Fourth Class of the Prussian Order of the Crown, these honours being supplemented in 1878 by the Fourth Class of the Japanese Order of the Rising Sun. During the present year he was distinguished by having *chokunin* treatment extended to him, and on the day of his death the EMPEROR of Japan conferred on him the Third Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. Dr. WAGENER was one of those rare men who to deep knowledge and absorbing love of science, added an absolutely self-effacing disposition. No thought of himself seems to have ever occurred to him in connection with his innumerable researches and many valuable discoveries. He worked simply and unaffectedly for the sake of the general good that work might bring, and he passed quietly and unostentatiously through life, loving and beloved by his fellows, a philosopher of humility, a gentleman of unswerving integrity. Japan, in the course of her modern progress, has incurred, and doubtless recognises, a large debt of gratitude to Germany. But among the many benefits bestowed on her by the great European Empire, few can possibly exceed the long services of this noble man, whose private character was as beautiful as his scientific attainments were profound.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

A TELEGRAM received yesterday in Tokyo announces that Mr. CLEVELAND has been elected PRESIDENT of the United States. This result was not foreseen, but in truth there appears to have been very exceptional uncertainty about the issue of the election on every side. Probably no Presidential contest ever found the Great Republic so calm, if not apathetic, and none certainly was ever fought more honestly on political issues. Personalities obtained no place at all in the campaign. Newspapers with injurious paragraphs scattered permanently throughout their leading columns, scandal-mongers with scraps of ancient history about deserted paramours—this kind of foul material was entirely discarded, and the struggle went on fairly and squarely between two men of irreproachable lives, representatives of well understood and clearly defined political creeds. The interesting question now is, what are those creeds, or rather, what is the avowed creed of the man who for a second time has been chosen to preside at the White House. There exists among many Englishmen an idea that Democratic sway in the United States is synonymous with the prevalence of Free trade doctrines, and that a Democratic Administration

would not terminate its tenure of power without inaugurating radical tariff reforms. We believe this to be true in part and false in part. It is undoubtedly true that GROVER CLEVELAND is a free-trader. He may have played a little with the vital issue on the occasion of his first candidature, for despite the courageous honesty that distinguishes him, he knew that the time was not ripe for a heroic platform, and that precipitancy would only have wrecked a great cause. But in his letter—published at the close of September—accepting the Democratic nomination, he spoke in an absolutely unequivocal tone:—

Tariff legislation presents a familiar form of federal taxation. Such legislation results assuredly in a tax upon the daily life of our people as the tribute paid directly into the hand of the tax gatherer. We feel the burden of these tariff taxes too palpably to be persuaded by any sophistry that they do not exist or are paid by foreigners.

Such taxes, representing a diminution of the property rights of the people, are only justifiable when laid and collected for the purpose of maintaining our Government, and furnishing the means for the accomplishment of its legitimate purpose and functions. This is taxation under the operation of a tariff for revenue. It accords with the professions of American free institutions, and its justice and honesty answer the test supplied by a correct appreciation of the principles upon which these institutions rest.

This theory of tariff legislation manifestly enjoins strict economy in public expenditures and their limitation to legitimate public uses, inasmuch as it exhibits as absolute extortion any exaction, by way of taxation, from the substance of the people, beyond the necessities of a careful and proper administration of Government.

Opposed to this theory the dogma is now boldly presented that tariff taxation is justifiable for the express purpose and intent of thereby promoting special interests and enterprises. Such a proposition is so clearly contrary to the spirit of our Constitution and so directly encourages the disturbance by selfishness and greed of patriotic sentiment, that its statement would rudely shock our people, if they had not already been insidiously allured from the safe landmarks of principle. Never have honest desire for national growth, patriotic devotion to country, and sincere regard for those who toil, been so betrayed to the support of a pernicious doctrine. In its behalf, the plea that our infant industries should be fostered, did service until discredited by our stalwart growth; then followed the exigencies of a terrible war which made our people heedless of the opportunities for ulterior schemes afforded by their willing and patriotic payment of unprecedented tribute; and now, after a long period of peace, when our overburdened countrymen ask for relief and a restoration to a fuller enjoyment of their incomes and earnings, they are met by the claim that tariff taxation for the sake of protection is an American system, the continuance of which is necessary in order that high wages may be paid to our working men and a home market be provided for our farm products.

These pretences should no longer deceive. The truth is that such a system is directly antagonized by every sentiment of justice and fairness of which Americans are preëminently proud. It is also true that while our working men and farmers can, the least of all our people, defend themselves against the harder home life which such tariff taxation decrees, the working man suffering from the importation and employment of pauper labour instigated by his professed friends, and seeking security for his interests in organized coöperation, still waits for a division of the advantages secured to his employer under cover of a generous solicitude for his wages, while the farmer is learning that the prices of his products are fixed in foreign markets, where he suffers from a competition invited and built up by the system he is asked to support.

The struggle for unearned advantage at the doors of the Government tramples on the rights of those who patiently rely upon assurances of American equality. Every governmental concession to clamorous favourites invites corruption in political affairs by encouraging the expenditure of money to debauch suffrage in support of a policy directly favourable to private and selfish gain. This in the end must strangle patriotism and weaken popular confidence in the rectitude of republican institutions.

These utterances proclaim Mr. CLEVELAND a free trader pure and simple. But how far will it be possible or expedient for him and his Party to give practical expression to their sound theories? Not to any very large extent, we imagine, for the present at all events. There have sprung up, under the conditions which the new PRESIDENT so graphically describes, enormous interests and vast commercial ventures towards which the utmost circumspection and deliberation must be exercised. It is one of the curses of Protection that it fastens itself, with all the tenacity of Sinbad's Old Man, on any nation which has once bent its shoulders to the burden. To get rid of it entails an effort scarcely less painful than the ills that it has begotten. Mr. CLEVELAND and his Party do not intend to subject the United States to any dislocating wrench. They mean to go slowly, though they will try to go soundly. "Tariff reform," said the Democratic nominee, "is still our purpose. Though we oppose the theory that tariff laws may be passed having for their object the granting of discriminating and unfair governmental aid to private ventures, we wage no exterminating war against any American interests. We believe a readjustment can be accomplished in accordance with the principles we profess, without disaster or demolition. We believe that the advantages of freer raw material should be accorded to our manufacturers, and we contemplate a fair and careful distribution of necessary tariff burdens, rather than the precipitation of free trade."

From Mr. CLEVELAND's faith, therefore, to its full embodiment in tariff legislation, there is still a far road to travel. Those of us who have passed middle age may not live to see the goal attained, but that America has entered the route leading to Free Trade, there can be very little doubt.

The second great question connected with the Presidential election is the Silver problem. It is a question of world-wide interest. All countries between which commercial changes take place, suffered disastrous loss and were thrown into a state of embarrassing confusion by the extraordinary and almost fanatical currency legislation of the Republican Government now going out of power. Ignorant or thoughtless persons have attempted to deduce from the history of that singular vertigo an argument against the soundness of the bimetallic theory. But neither BLAND nor any of his imitators were bimetallics in the sense of the CERNUSCHI and LAVELEYE School. No reasoning bimetallic ever imagined that an evil which has really nothing to do with the ultimate gold value of silver, but is due primarily to the refusal of certain nations to recognise the white metal as reputable currency, could be mended by the solitary effort of one State, especially when that effort took the form of dumping a moiety, approximately, of all the silver

taken from the natural mines of the world into an artificial mine in Washington. Senator JONES and his friends dealt with the silver problem as though it were simply and solely a question of over-production, whereas that is precisely what the bimetallics have always denied and the monometallics as persistently affirmed. The experiment of 1890, so far from discrediting bimetallicism, dealt a conclusive blow to the contention of the monometallics that the gold price of silver has fallen, not because of demonetization but because of over production. Such a doctrine becomes almost comical in the presence of the fact that the colossal operations of a purchaser who annually absorbs nearly one half of the aggregate silver produced in the world, have signally failed to check the depreciation of the metal. Mr. CLEVELAND and the Democrats will probably abandon the always ill-judged and now fatally discredited procedure inaugurated in 1878 and carried to its acme in 1890. Here is the new President's latest utterance on the subject:—

The people are entitled to sound and honest money, abundantly sufficient in volume to supply their business needs. But whatever may be the form of the people's currency, national or State—whether gold, silver, or paper—it should be so regulated and guarded by governmental action, or by wise and careful laws, that no one can be deluded as to the certainty and stability of its value. Every dollar put into the hands of the people should be of the same intrinsic value or purchasing power. With this condition absolutely guaranteed, both gold and silver can be safely utilized upon equal terms in the adjustment of our currency.

In dealing with this subject no selfish scheme should be allowed to intervene and no doubtful experiment should be attempted. The wants of our people, arising from the deficiency or imperfect distribution of money circulation, ought to be fully and honestly recognized and efficiently remedied, it should, however, be constantly remembered that the inconvenience or loss that might arise from such a situation can be much easier borne than the universal distress which must follow a discredited currency.

There is here just enough hedging to show that caution will be the order of the day. The selfish projects of the silver men will receive no support from the PRESIDENT, neither will any risky ventures be essayed. In a word, from the two vital points of view of tariff and exchanges, the regimen of the new Administration promises to be sound and enlightened.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

TREATMENT OF THE LEADERS OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—General Weaver, presidential nominee of the People's party in the United States, meets with some rather barbarous receptions in "stumping" the cause he represents among the people of the South. The political harmony that should prevail among a people so closely related in other matters as are the people of America, is seriously wanting in some of the most progressive communities. The citizens of the South have long been noted for their hospitality in entertaining strangers, but when their political principles—rather political opinions—are attacked, they evince an animosity similar to that of days gone by. Here is what one, who is personally interested, says of the

work done, and the cordiality shown them in the political struggles in the South:—

Mrs. Lease spoke strongly about the Macon meeting. "No, I did not speak at Macon, she said, 'although I went there with the intention of so doing.' After supper at the Garnier House Gen. Weaver went upon the front porch, Mrs. Weaver and myself following him. In front of us was a howling mob of several thousand people. Mrs. Weaver stepped behind a table upon which were three lamps burning brightly. Hardly had she seated herself before she was struck violently upon the head with a rotten egg."

"At this juncture a gentleman rushed up to me, and, catching me by the shoulders, begged me to come inside in order to escape any danger. 'No,' I said to him, 'if this cause needs martyrs, I will be the first.' All during this the General was cool and collected, although the crowd continued to throw eggs, striking persons who were not with our party. Gen. Weaver attempted to speak three times, but each time was silenced."

"It was not the boys of Macon and hoodlums who attempted to break up the speaking, but some of that town's most prominent citizens were on hand. The people of Macon will receive retribution for egging Mrs. Weaver, who is a pure, Christian woman and president of the State W. C. T. U. of Iowa. Already eighty cotton planters have announced that they will withdraw their patronage at once."

"At Albany," she continued, and Mrs. Lease's eyes flashed fire, "we were met by a howling, drunken mob. The lower regions seemed to have been turned loose. We were informed that we might use the opera house free, but I suspected a blind in their generosity."

"They had formed a conspiracy. Even the policemen of the town were in it. Their intention was to corner us at the opera house, and after Gen. Weaver spoke there was a hireling negro who was to speak in answer to him, but they failed, although the black brute afterward spoke from the veranda of the hotel."

Gen. Weaver has sent a letter to M. D. Irwin, chairman of the state committee of the People's party, explaining his abrupt abandonment of the Georgia campaign.

The struggles for political supremacy in the States at this time are very severe. There is no measure touched in any party that will not enhance its own interests, and cripple those of its opponents.

We are in semi-suspense until the returns of the present election are made public.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
November 7th, 1892.

G.

LORD TENNYSON'S DEATH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—Thousands of people will no doubt turn up their "Shakspeare to try and discover the passage in Cymbeline" which enchaind the attention of the dying Laureate. It appears to me that there can be no doubt which it was; I mean the Song in Act 4, beginning—

Fear no more the heat o' the sun,
Nor the furious winter's rages;
Thy worldly task hast done,
Home art gone and 'a'en thy wages;
Golden boys and girls all must
Like chimney-sweepers turn to dust.

"There is only one thing," said Tennyson to me on one occasion, "of which I feel absolutely sure; and that is a future life."—"And you can't prove even that," I replied.—"No," rejoined the poet, "unless spiritualism is true."

Yours faithfully,
November 4th, 1892.

Q.

THE CRATER OF ASAMA-YAMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It has occurred to me that there are many people who have heard various conjectures and statements with regard to the crater of Asama-yama, but have never heard what it really looks like, and that therefore it might not be uninteresting to some, at least, to know what was seen by the writer together with several others this summer.

I had been up Asama five times without seeing anything of the crater, or at least the inside of the crater, and was getting rather tired of climbing the same mountain so many times without finding anything worthy of note; but, inasmuch as many others had arranged to go up in the night, I decided to go with them, especially as the air was unusually clear, and had been so for several nights.

We started from Karuizawa at about 7 p.m. one night about the middle of August, with a good moon to light our way. We reached Ko-Asama at about 10.30 and there rested a short time and prepared ourselves for the ascent, inwardly by edibles and outwardly by *waraji* and sticks.

When we were ready we proceeded at a steady pace, taking rests on the way up. We noticed that there was apparently very little smoke proceeding from the crater, and were in hopes that we might be able to see something of the fire when we reached the summit. Whether there was smoke or not, there was certainly a great deal of bad gas coming down the side of the mountain, for we felt it in our throats more than we appreciated, and were made uncommonly thirsty. At last, at about 3 a.m., we succeeded in gaining the summit.

Original from

I will now describe the crater as I saw it myself. As soon as I got near enough to the crater to see a little way down, I saw that there was very little smoke, and that the opposite side could be plainly seen. The smoke that I saw, however, had a reddish glow, as if from fire below; and this induced me to make a closer inspection, so I went nearer to the edge (on the north side), and thought I could distinguish a small yellow flame of fire proceeding from the rocks on the opposite side. As yet I was unable to see the bottom of the crater. I then went round to the west side, and, at the highest point, carefully leaned over, and there I saw the whole of the bottom of the crater.

This position was not very safe, however, so I went a little further round until I came to a small crevice, and there, supporting myself by leaning my hands on the rock each side, I leaned over, and could see almost as much as in my first position, and quite enough to satisfy me. The crater appeared to be not more than from 150 to 200 ft. deep, and at the bottom was a mass of red hot rock, black only at the top where it appeared to be comparatively cool. In the centre was a large hole, the size of which I could not estimate well, but which might have been from 10 to 25 feet in diameter. The sides of this hole were red hot to the top, and began to approach a white heat deeper down. From this hole there were many others branching out like the spokes of a wheel towards the side of the crater, and there was also a circle of holes round these, close to the sides. All these holes were red hot, and all were of different sizes, none being as large as the centre hole. Out of a few of the holes flames were emitted. It is difficult to suggest the real cause of these flames, but they appeared to me to be only caused by the force of the hot air, which was being emitted with terrific power. There was a continual noise like the bellows of an immense furnace, and occasionally, also, a slight noise like the crushing of stones.

We had our breakfast on the summit and then walked round to the east side to watch the sunrise. On our right, far down, was a sea of clouds over the Karuizawa plain, but on our left everything was clear, except some heavy clouds in the distance. Straight in front were long rows of small clouds which were gradually becoming red by the approaching sun. We waited until the sun was fairly high above the mountains before we began our descent. The sunrise was the most beautiful I ever saw, and I hardly expect to be so fortunate as to get such a sight again.

We all enjoyed the trip and returned to Karuizawa well satisfied with what we had seen.

Yours very faithfully,

EDWARD GAUNTLETT.

Chiba, November 8th, 1892.

THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with great interest your account of the recent Manœuvres of the Japanese Army, and would feel much obliged if you would kindly explain (if possible), why the Umpires disallowed the claim of a successful "flank attack" made by the extreme right of the Southern troops. There must have been a reason for this important decision of the Umpires. To be taken "in flank," according to the law of Tactics, is, one might say, "an unpardonable error," but as it was, in this instance the claim of the Southern Army was disallowed; notwithstanding that, the "reason" of the claim would be interesting to know.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

LATE MILITIA FORCES.

November 7th, 1892.

[We believe that the attack was held to have failed. It was delivered in ignorance of the force which the other side was able to array against it.—Ed. J.M.]

The *Gazette* announces that the Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. Robert G. Shewan as Chilean Consul at Hongkong.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Lieutenant—H. H. Stileman, to the *Hyacinth*. Surgeons—J. M. C. Martin, to the *Daphne*, and E. C. Ward, to the *Hyacinth*, undated; Captain H. J. May, C.B., to the *Hyacinth*, dated Sept. 22.—*L. & C. Express*.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The regular monthly meeting of the above mentioned Society was held on Friday, November 4th, at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigakukio Kai) Nishikonyacho, Kyobashi, Tokyo. Work done by Messrs. C. D. West and W. K. Burton during the Summer vacation was on exhibition.

The regular meeting began at 5 p.m., Mr. G. Gilbert in the Chair. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society. Messrs. A. B. Brown, J. B. M. Barrett, P. C. E. Choisoné and J. Kiyokawa, Drs. E. Scriber and Augustine Wood.

Mr. J. Tanaka showed some results of experiments in collotype. They were not quite perfect, but were remarkable as the results of first attempts in this difficult branch of photo-mechanical work, the more especially as Mr. Tanaka had worked entirely from written instructions. After trying various more or less complicated formula, he had settled on the following:—

Bichromate of Ammonium	1 gram
Pure Gelatine	6 grams
Water.....	10 c.c.

He had found an admixture of isinglass, even in small quantities, the reverse of an advantage.

Messrs. W. K. Burton and K. Arito showed the results of experiments in orthochromatic work. They had set themselves the task of getting photographs showing a brilliant pure scarlet, a bright but darkish blue, and a pure chrome yellow, in their true value. If these could be shown truly all other colours could. They had succeeded best with a mixture of eosine and cyanine. Eosine was a strong sensitizer for the yellow and the green, cyanine for the red and the orange. The following formula was used:—

Cyanine solution 1 part in 1000 ..	1 part.
Eosine solution 1 part in 1000	1 part.
Ammonia 10 per cent. solution	4 parts.
Water (distilled)	14 parts.

The plates were bathed for 2 minutes and dried. Of course such plates need the extremest care in working.

A yellow screen was used with plate glass sides, inclosing $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thickness of the following solution:

Picric Acid	1 part.
Water	500 parts.

The intense but very light yellow colour of a picric acid solution seemed particularly well tinted to orthochromatization. With a denser solution than that mentioned it was possible to drench the orthochromatization. The exposure needed was to times that with the same plate untreated, but without any yellow screen.

Mr. J. Favre-Brandt sent a most interesting paper on "pin hole photography" (photography without a lens), along with samples of the work done, and of the pin-holes used. It was agreed that these samples were remarkably good. In fact, in some respects they were better than photographs taken with a lens, showing a pleasing softness. The exposures had been from 1 to about 5 minutes. The unusual excellence of these results was probably due to the great care with which the pin-holes were prepared. They were in thin plates of nickel, were perfectly circular, in each case of the exact diameter that would give the finest definition with the focal length used, and the edges were delicately bevelled.

Mr. Kajima Sebi showed a hand camera in the form of an opera-glass. The arrangement on the whole was ingenious, but samples of work done by the camera were much under-exposed. The lens working at about $\frac{1}{8}$ was far too slow for this kind of work, especially as the shutter was one that gave a bad co-efficient of light. Further, there was no means of adjusting the focus.

Mr. T. Kiyokawa presented the Society with a bottle of "retouching solution." This was to be applied to the plates whilst still wet, after fixing and washing. It was evidently an aqueous solution. Mr. T. Tanaka was asked to take the bottle with him, to try the solutions, and to report to the next meeting.

The following is a translation of the paper on Pin-hole Photography read by Mr. J. Favre-Brandt at the meeting of the above mentioned Society on Friday, 4th inst.

PIN-HOLE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Attention has been called many times to the quality of photographs that can be obtained in a darkened chamber, or camera, without special optical apparatus, simply by means of a small hole in a very thin plate.

Amateur Photographers can make pictures,

pretty large in size, of landscapes and even of monuments, without being obliged to buy lenses costing from \$10 to \$300.

No doubt to reproduce plans and engravings it is necessary to use the famous lenses of Ross, Dallmeyer, Beck, Hermagis, Francals, Nadar, and others. But we wish to perceive, when we examine a photograph, the particular effect which is produced on a more or less near-sighted eye by its entire surroundings, when it looks at nature from a little distance. It seems to us that suppressing the lens and replacing it by a pin-hole gives more artistic results as far as regards monuments, or landscapes without moving figures.

"Nevertheless, far from us," says the *Amateur Photographer* (journal), "is the idea of crying down the photographic lens which has in the last year attained so great perfection; for in the greater number of cases these instruments are, and will remain, indispensable," but leaving out the instantaneous photograph which has such charm for the amateur; and the portrait, the specialty of the professional, let us confine our ambition to obtaining in an artistic a manner as possible either landscapes or copies of monuments; and of these latter there are certainly no lack in Japan.

M. Meheux says that the most suitable hole is round, and drilled in a plate of copper or sheet brass of $\frac{1}{8}$ millimetre in thickness; it is necessary that the borders show no burr and are bevelled, forming a cone.

Captain Colson has remarked that, although the depth of focus is unlimited, the greatest sharpness of definition for each size of hole is found at a determined distance, and he has succeeded in finding the proper focal distances for different diameters of holes; he has thus found that:—

The best definition for a hole $\frac{1}{8}$ millimetre is at 11 centimetre.
The best definition for a hole $\frac{1}{16}$ millimetre is at 20 centimetre.
The best definition for a hole $\frac{1}{32}$ millimetre is at 30 centimetre.
The best definition for a hole $\frac{1}{64}$ millimetre is at 44 centimetre.

It may be mentioned that the size of the object to be reproduced is proportional to the distance from the apparatus, and to the distance from the hole to the sensitive surface.

It follows from this rule, that after having taken, for example, one view of an entire Cathedral with a focal length of 20 centimetres, say with the $\frac{1}{16}$ millimetre diameter of hole, if we wish to have the details of the gate-way without moving from our place, it is sufficient to lengthen the focus to 44 centimetres and to use the $\frac{1}{32}$ millimetre hole.

We may further remark that the *Stenope*—the name given to the above mentioned plates—easily includes an angle of 100 degrees, or even more, without at all deforming architectural lines, and without destroying the perspective, which is far from being the case with even the most perfect wide-angle lens.

The length of exposure presents much less difficulty than with lenses, except we expose enormously beyond the proper time, it is nearly impossible to over expose; we can always obtain a good negative by developing intelligently.

Nevertheless, if one must have a general approximate rule, we may say as a general proposition that the time of exposure is at least twenty-five times longer with the $\frac{1}{32}$ mm. hole than with a lens focussed upon the same view and provided with a medium diaphragm. Fifty times longer with the $\frac{1}{64}$ mm. hole; one hundred times longer with the $\frac{1}{128}$ mm. hole, and two hundred times longer with the $\frac{1}{256}$ mm. hole; it being well understood that we use the focal lengths corresponding to these holes.

But we can modify these times of exposure without over exposing the plate; on the whole this depends very much on the plates, the developer, and the actinic power of the light. Experience will be the best guide for every class of picture. Just the same as in Nature, the sun has here great influence on the clearness of the view, more than it has when using lenses.

To sum up the advantages of using the *Stenope*:

- (1) More artistic definition than with a lens.
- (2) Unlimited depths of focus.
- (3) Perfect perspective for lines in architecture.
- (4) Mathematical exactness in the scale of plans.
- (5) The angle of view can include as much as 170 degrees.

All the proofs, under the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, represent the same subject, and are taken with the same apparatus from one and the same distance, say 20 metres from the corner of a house marked A. The number representing the house and garden was taken with the $\frac{1}{32}$ mm. hole, distance from hole to sensitive plate 11 centimetres, time of exposure 1 min. 25 sec.

No. 2 view from same plate with the $\frac{1}{64}$ mm. hole 20 centimetres from the plate.

No. 3 is taken with the $\frac{1}{128}$ mm. hole, 30 centimetres from the plate, and finally No. 4 is taken with $\frac{1}{256}$ mm. hole 44 centimetres from the plate; distance between the apparatus and the house 18 to 20 metres. Time of exposure varies in the different numbers from 1 min. 25 sec. to 2 min. 30 sec.

CENSUS FOR 1891.

The Official Gazette publishes the following census of the population ascertained by the Department of Home Affairs on the 31st December, 1891:—

Total number of houses	7,806,369
Total population	40,718,677
(Males)	20,563,416
(Females)	20,155,261
Peers	3,844
Shioks	4,009,396
Heimins	38,705,437
Foundlings	4,631
Unregistered prisoners	1,037

The above figures show an increase of 317 houses and 265,216 in population. The return for each prefecture in the country is as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	No. of houses.
Tokyo Fu	570,000	570,000	1,140,000	947,000
Kyoto Fu	440,000	440,000	880,000	733,000
Osaka Fu	600,000	600,000	1,200,000	1,000,000
Kanagawa Ken	450,000	450,000	900,000	750,000
Hyogo Ken	780,000	780,000	1,560,000	1,266,667
Nagasaki Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Niigata Ken	870,000	870,000	1,740,000	1,450,000
Saitama Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Chiba Ken	600,000	600,000	1,200,000	1,000,000
Ibaragi Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Gumma Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Tochigi Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Nara Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Osaka Ken	600,000	600,000	1,200,000	1,000,000
Shizuoka Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Yamanashi Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Shiga Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Gifu Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Nagano Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Miyagi Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Fukushima Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Iwate Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Awamori Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Yamaguchi Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Akita Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Fukui Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Ishikawa Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Tottori Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Shimane Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Okayama Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Hiroshima Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Yamaguchi Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Wakayama Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Tokushima Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Kagawa Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Ehime Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Kochi Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Fukuoka Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Oita Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Kumamoto Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Miyazaki Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Kagoshima Ken	540,000	540,000	1,080,000	900,000
Okinawa Ken	370,000	370,000	740,000	616,667
Hokkaido	200,000	200,000	400,000	333,333
Total	20,563,416	20,155,261	40,718,677	33,913,333

In addition to above figures, the population at various ages is also given, as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1 year	460,378	480,546	940,924
2 years	497,837	483,018	980,855
3 years	513,981	501,470	1,015,451
4 years	491,108	477,702	968,810
5 years	446,004	435,562	881,566
6 years	456,525	451,040	907,565
7 years	439,905	431,850	871,755
8 years	438,166	431,497	869,663
9 years	455,783	450,603	906,386
10 years	448,143	438,803	886,946
11 years	453,901	449,273	903,174
12 years	440,539	431,392	871,931
13 years	443,645	434,829	878,474
14 years	440,546	429,043	869,589
15 years	426,558	413,727	840,285
16 years	444,393	434,420	878,812
17 years	410,110	399,661	809,771
18 years	399,392	390,215	789,607
19 years	394,389	385,047	779,436
20 years	398,950	388,647	787,597
21 years	323,081	312,710	635,791
22 years	312,381	300,575	612,956
23 years	312,527	304,426	616,953
24 years	359,604	346,527	706,131
25 years	323,404	315,380	638,784
26 years	318,859	305,701	624,560
27 years	346,022	331,993	678,015
28 years	320,809	317,406	638,215
29 years	278,274	269,201	547,475
30 years	259,432	250,935	510,367
31 years	241,655	233,719	475,374
32 years	275,797	262,502	538,299
33 years	274,117	266,986	541,103
34 years	299,104	282,072	581,176
35 years	297,108	282,927	580,035
36 years	286,722	273,405	560,127
37 years	284,328	268,026	552,354
38 years	291,602	272,569	564,171
39 years	283,139	265,994	549,133
40 years	289,467	266,241	555,708
41 years	244,936	231,119	476,055
42 years	258,973	241,333	490,306
43 years	278,107	261,119	539,226
44 years	263,478	242,967	506,445
45 years	249,624	239,509	489,133

46 years	231,361	191,959	423,320
47 years	240,137	232,562	472,699
48 years	225,140	210,885	436,025
49 years	228,714	214,132	442,846
50 years	197,418	186,196	383,614
51 years	202,708	190,339	393,047
52 years	190,901	181,670	372,571
53 years	174,807	165,911	340,718
54 years	160,347	154,220	314,567
55 years	130,201	130,281	260,482
56 years	150,600	153,353	303,953
57 years	155,934	155,808	311,742
58 years	142,948	141,985	284,933
59 years	141,009	140,361	281,370
60 years	152,090	150,560	302,650
61 years	136,384	140,333	276,717
62 years	147,492	147,840	295,332
63 years	124,042	130,580	254,622
64 years	123,959	132,674	256,633
65 years	118,720	126,277	244,997
66 years	104,934	113,279	218,213
67 years	105,597	110,104	215,701
68 years	96,800	100,980	207,780
69 years	860,288	97,420	183,708
70 years	86,486	96,303	182,789
71 years	68,757	81,537	150,294
72 years	65,992	78,359	144,351
73 years	62,970	75,527	138,497
74 years	53,170	63,432	116,602
75 years	43,373	55,432	98,805
76 years	41,533	53,459	94,992
77 years	34,180	45,654	79,834
78 years	29,714	40,117	69,831
79 years	27,348	38,104	65,452
80 years	21,871	31,444	53,315
81 years	19,938	28,627	48,565
82 years	14,177	22,281	36,458
83 years	11,524	18,563	30,087
84 years	10,276	16,433	26,709
85 years	8,245	13,561	21,806
86 years	6,315	10,718	17,033
87 years	5,257	9,123	14,380
88 years	4,011	6,870	10,881
89 years	1,822	3,458	5,280
90 years	1,102	2,287	3,389
91 years	868	1,876	2,744
92 years	606	1,222	1,828
93 years	340	775	1,115
94 years	223	567	790
95 years	140	356	496
96 years	90	242	332
97 years	55	164	219
98 years	44	89	133
99 years	32	62	94
100 years	12	40	52
101 years	9	37	46
102 years	12	22	34
103 years	3	12	15
104 years	0	6	6
105 years	0	3	3
107 years	1	3	4
108 years	0	3	3
Ages unknown	1,590	1,086	2,676

Grand Total	20,563,416	20,155,261	40,718,677
Number of married	14,924,788		
Number of unmarried	25,793,889		
(Males)	13,101,022		
(Females)	12,692,867		
Births reported	1,086,775		
(Males)	554,932		
(Females)	531,843		
Deaths reported	853,139		
(Males)	438,811		
(Females)	414,328		
Stillborn children	91,389		
(Males)	46,966		
(Females)	44,423		
Marriages	325,651		
Divorces	112,411		
Went abroad	27,866		

Colonel Ardagh, C.B., Royal Engineers, private secretary to the Marquis of Lansdowne, who has been England for several months, leaves directly for Calcutta, travelling by way of San Francisco and Japan. Colonel Ardagh will resume his duties as private secretary to the Viceroy about December 1st.

The Missions to Seamen Society have heard from Hongkong that the Sunday Cargo working Ordinance of that colony, which came into operation there on August 1st, 1891, has given great satisfaction to the seafaring community, and has not evoked any active opposition from either natives or Europeans. Whilst about 700 ships annually worked their cargoes on Sundays in Hongkong before the Ordinance came into force, only sixteen vessels are reported as availing themselves in the course of the first year of the "permits" to work cargoes on Sundays by payment of fees as arranged for in the Ordinance.—*L. and C. Express.*

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, October 10th.

At the close of my last letter I referred briefly to the opening of the University of Chicago, to its remarkable history, development, and prospects. I ought, perhaps, to add, that work began Saturday morning, October 1st, without any preliminaries or ceremonies. Even the first chapel exercises were not marked by any conventionalities or formalities or oratorical flourishes, but were conducted by Dr. Harper in the usual manner. Not display, but work, is the purpose of the institution.

The total number of students in attendance is 520, of whom 243 are undergraduates, 151 are in the divinity school, and 126 are in the other graduate courses. Besides this, there are about 125 at the Morgan Park Academy, which, though only a fitting-school, is an organic part of the University. It is expected that there will be considerable increase after the first turn of six weeks.

The students, after long discussion and experimenting, finally decided upon a "yell" which is truly appropriate, as follows:—

Chi-ca-go! Chi-ca-go! Chi-ca-go-go!
Go it Chi-ca, go it Chi-ca,
Go it Chi-ca-go!

The *Inter Ocean* of this city, in an editorial on "higher education in Chicago," calls attention to the fact, that "the same month of the same year in the city" will witness the dedication of the temporary Columbian Exposition and permanent University of Chicago,—each in its way an educational institution. It also suggests that October, which saw this city reduced to ashes in 1871, is now properly Chicago's month, which marks the beginning, in 1892, of a new phase in her development; for she will be known hereafter, not merely as a place of marvellous growth and material development, but as an intellectual and educational centre. It may be more than boasting, it may be the actual drift, that will bring the "hub" from Boston to Chicago.

World's Fair matters are moving along rapidly. A large number of Japanese women arrived the other day, and have begun their labours on the building for Japan. Chan Pak Kwai, a wealthy Chinese importer of this city, has been appointed by a local Chinese syndicate to proceed to China and purchase materials for an exhibit to represent every phase of native life. On Midway Plaisance will be erected a Joss house, a tea-house, a Chinese theatre, and several Chinese Stores. It is now quite probable, that ex-President and Mrs. Cleveland will be present at the dedicatory ceremonies, but it is likely, and very unfortunate, that President Harrison, on account of his wife's precarious condition, will be unable to leave Washington.

The executive committee has found the necessity for a separate building for educational exhibits too great to be slighted, and has decided to provide a building with a ground floor capacity of 150,000 square feet. This will relieve the Manufacturers Building.

This has been a week of conventions. The National Real Estate Congress held a session of three days at Buffalo, N.Y., and discussed their methods of doing business. The Torrens system of the registration of land came in for strong commendation.

The Methodists of the Rock River Conference, including this city, met at Sterling, Ill., and had the pleasure of listening to encouraging reports. Among the missionaries present was Dr. Hobart, of China.

Last Friday evening about 5,000 people were assembled at the Auditorium, under the auspices of the American Sabbath Union, to rejoice over the closing of the World's Fair on Sunday. Addresses were delivered by Col. Elliot T. Shepherd, Rev. Joseph Cook, and others.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. L. D. Wishard spoke at the Y.M.C.A. rooms on the work of that organization in Japan, China, and India.

The New York Presbytery will meet November 9th to try Dr. Briggs. The public will be admitted, if they keep silence.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions held its 82nd annual session in this city last week. It has assets of \$1,000,000; occupies 97 stations and 1,136 out-stations; 183 ordained missionaries (of whom 11 are also physicians), 12 physicians and others not ordained, and 337 female assistant missionaries,—a total of 539. The native workers number 2,648, of whom 757 are pastors and preachers. The native churches are 410 in number, with 38,226 members, of whom 10,100 are credited to Japan. The mission school work is very successful.

Among the missionaries present at the meeting of the Board were Revs. Henry P. Perkins and

Mark Williams, of China; and a prominent personage was a lineal descendant of John Bunyan, Rev. Dr. Brown, of London. This gentleman, and Dr. Storrs, Dr. Geo. F. Pentecost, and others, delivered eloquent addresses. The question of a closer and better connection of the churches with the corporate membership of the Board was discussed, and referred back to the committee. It will thus come up again next year at Worcester, Mass. The various women's missionary societies also had a meeting, at which Mrs. Atkinson, of Japan, was one of the speakers. Dr. R. S. Storrs was unanimously re-elected President of the Board; and Drs. Nathaniel G. Clark, Edward K. Alden, and Judson Smith were chosen Corresponding Secretaries. The vexing question concerning the creed qualifications of missionaries was brought up, and once more settled on the old basis.

The newspapers lately have had scarcely anything about cholera; and the scare has just about subsided. In that connection the following clipping is of some interest:—

"Theosophy has been brought into prominence in connection with the cholera scare," said S. L. Dement, of New York, at the Auditorium yesterday "by a speech recently delivered in New York by William Q. Judge, the leader of the American Society. The subject was 'Epidemics from the Theosophical Standpoint.' Cholera came in for its share of treatment, and it was sought to be shown that there are mental and physical epidemics, and that all can be traced to the evil thoughts of men. According to theosophy, thoughts are stored up as pictures in the ether recognized by scientists and exert a hypnotic influence on the minds of men. There is also a theory that the vast accumulation of evil thoughts have so polluted the ether that when conditions are favourable they become the cause of plagues of various kinds. It is believed that a five thousand year cycle will end in a few years, when a great deal of this stored up psychic force will be precipitated, causing wars, epidemics and catastrophes."

Tabor College, Iowa, has among its students a young Japanese woman sent from Kyoto by Miss Nellie Wainwright, a former pupil of that school.

R. G. Dun and Co. give out the information, that there is increased activity in trade; that "business is distinctly better in the South on account of the improvement in the price of cotton, move active at the West with improved crop prospects, and only slightly retarded in the East."

Political affairs are growing a little hotter. The Democrats had a big day (Oct. 4) in New York, when Cleveland and others spoke at the national convention of the Democrat League of Clubs; and the Republicans the same date filled both Music and Faneuil Halls in Boston to hear Reid and McKinley. The Democrats rejoice in the announcement that Wayne MacVeagh, Garfield's Attorney-General, has come out for Cleveland; and the Republicans exult over the accession of George Ticknor Curtis, the well known constitutional lawyer, to their ranks; the People's Party is happy, because Penneyer, elected Governor of Oregon by the Democrats, has come out for Weaver; and the Prohibitionists are encouraged by steady gains among the rank and file. North Dakota and Idaho are now added to the list of states in which the Democrats are supporting the Populist's electoral tickets in the hope of defeating the Republicans. It is rather early in a decidedly "mixed up" state of affairs to venture on a prediction concerning the result of the election; but, as this is my last chance, I may say, that it really looks as if the People's Party will carry enough states to throw the election into the House of Representatives.

The arguments in the case of Labour Commissioner Peck have all been made before the Court of Sessions at Albany; and the decision will be announced October 18th.

Judges Walter Q. Gresham, of Illinois, and Thomas M. Cooley, of Michigan, are reported as accessions from Republican to Democratic ranks.

Mrs. Harrison's condition is practically unchanged; it is fitful, with days of improvement and then days of decline. There is now little hope of recovery.

America mourns with England the death of Tennyson. The newspapers, for the past few days, have teemed with Tennysonian and appreciative sketches of his life and writings; and yesterday the pulpits echoed with his praises.

New York City has begun its series of Columbian celebrations, which will be reported in the next letter.

The new Chicago is just "of age" to-day. It is twenty-one years since the great fire, which began the night of October 8th, and raged fiercely all the next day, was finally stopped October 10th. That fire destroyed over \$200,000,000 worth of property; rendered 100,000 people homeless; reduced 18,000 buildings to ruin; and seemingly put a check to the growth of this city. But Chicago, phoenix-like, sprang into new life from its ashes, and has astonished the world by its phenomenal development, as shown by this paragraph:—

The greatness of Chicago and Cook County is emphasized by the following figures, published in a hand-book of domestic and foreign securities: Area of Cook County, 960 square miles. Population, 1,880,607,584; 1890, 1,701,084. Assessed valuation 1880, real, \$129,481,199; personal, \$48,622,199. Total, \$178,103,398. 1890, real, \$155,295,500; personal, \$50,000,000. Total, \$205,295,500.

railroad, \$13,699,674; total, \$240,108,959; 1891, real, \$155,859,166; personal, \$43,793,749; railroad, \$15,021,861; total, \$171,670,167. Estimated actual value for 1891, \$1,413,388,835. Cook County and Chicago being virtually one, it can be stated without exaggeration that no city in the history of the world ever showed such remarkable growth and development as the western metropolis. But the best celebration of this twenty-first year is the educational renaissance noted at the beginning of this letter.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "MARY ROSE."

A TALE OF TO-MORROW.

BY W. LAIRD CLOWES.

GOLD MEDALIST, UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.
(FROM "THE ENGINEER.")

IX.—A "GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE."

Mr. Binnacle took command of the privateer. The *Alger*, which was evidently sinking fast, was now aflame with lights, and all firing from her had ceased. The men clustered on her decks were shouting wildly for help. Some even leapt into the water, and strove to reach the *Mary Rose* by swimming. Regardless, for the moment, of everything except the saving of life, Binnacle ordered the boats to be got out, but soon learnt that he had not a single boat of any kind which would float. In the meantime the *Troude* was waging coming up, with the obvious intention of action. Binnacle's decision was soon taken. He steamed round the *Alger* so as to place her between him and his new enemy, and when he was as close to her as he dared venture, hailed her.

"I have no boats," he cried. "Signal to your consort to help you. I won't interfere unless she attacks me. God preserve you!" And then, pretty confident that his permission would be gladly taken advantage of, he steamed back to where the *Cécile* lay motionless on the water a mile or more to the eastward.

The *Cécile*, it was now plain, had struck, and as the *Mary Rose* approached her, she hailed to say so. Binnacle replied, ordering her to send a boat, and in five minutes a boat left her side.

The officer who came in her was a grey-headed captain in full dress. He climbed on deck with some little difficulty, for his left arm was bound up in a sling; but although, as his slit sleeve showed, he had put on his full uniform after he had received his wound, and although he was in considerable pain, there were about him no other traces of having been in action. His face was clean, his linen was spotless, and his hair and whiskers were carefully brushed. The side was pined for him, and, hat in hand, he stood with bowed head asking in broken English for the captain.

Binnacle moved forward, a great contrast in every way to his visitor. The latter was clean, and almost spruce. The former had his clothes burnt full of holes, and wet blood upon his cuffs, while his face was black, his hands were dirty, his head was bare, and his hair was badly singed. "Have I the honour of speaking to the captain of this ship?" asked the Frenchman in a voice which, though distinct, trembled with emotion.

"The captain is wounded, sir," rejoined Binnacle; "and I am in command."

"Perhaps, nevertheless, you will conduct me to the captain."

Bowling lay near the break of the poop, where Dr. Rhubarb was attending to him. He had not received any further injury of importance. He had merely fainted from the effects of excitement acting upon his already sorely injured frame, and he was now regaining his senses. Binnacle pointed him out to the Frenchman who approached him. Bowling looked up, and, realising the situation, struggled to his feet and took off his cap. But that Mr. Nipchese supported him he would, however, have again fallen.

"Sir," said the French captain, who had put his hat on the bits and who now tendered his sword; "my engines are disabled, half my crew are killed, and I have no choice but to surrender. It is a sad consolation for me to know that I surrender to an officer of your distinguished gallantry. Permit me to say that you have fought me splendidly and have handed your ship to perfection. I do myself the honour of constituting myself your prisoner, and of begging you to assist my poor fellows."

He had prepared this little speech, no doubt, and had steeled himself to utter it. When he had finished it he burst into tears and sobbed like a child. Bowling, still dazed, grasped the proffered sword, and attempted to reply, but was too weak to speak aloud. He could only beckon Binnacle to him and whisper: "Poor chap! Tell him to keep it, Binnacle. And do you carry on." Then once more he fainted.

It was arranged that the prize should be towed to Malta, unless, indeed, her engines could in the meantime be rendered servicable, and unless the vessels of the enemy endeavoured to interfere.

But it soon appeared that the enemy had no further stomach for fighting. The *Troude*, lying close to the *Alger*, was busily engaged in saving the ship's company of that ill-starred craft, which, before daylight, but not until all her people had been removed, gave a great roll to port, and pitching down by the bows, sank; whereupon the *Troude* steamed slowly away to the westward. In the interval Lieutenant Tripper had gone to take charge of the *Cécile*.

He found on board of her a perfectly awful state of affairs. Tompion had worked his guns only too well. The *Mary Rose*, with her concentrated broadside, had raked the great French cruiser fore and aft along nearly the whole length of the spacious deck; and by that one terrible discharge had not only killed or wounded 239 out of the 486 officers and men in the *Cécile*, but had dismounted two out of six 6.4in. and four out of ten 5.4in. guns; had carried away the foremast close to the deck, had demolished the forward funnel, and had literally filled up the open engine-room hatch with heavy debris from the foremast, the funnel, the fore-bridge, the boats and the deck structures. The debris had choked and jammed the engines, and had so caused a general dislocation of the machinery. Two out of the three 9.4in. shells had, it appeared, burst high up under the upper deck, and, besides tearing it open and covering the upper deck from end to end with splinters, had spread equal devastation on the lower deck, which was in places actually covered with the mangled and unrecognisable remains of brave men, and across which a wash of blood swept from side to side as the ship rolled. Tripper was not squeamish. He had already seen some frightful sights in his own ship. But when he first went down to the *Cécile*'s lower deck, and experienced the horrible warm odour of the slaughter-house there; when lantern in hand he saw splashed brains, the fragments of flesh, and the trickling streams of crimson; and when he heard the sounds that filled that den of horrors, he could barely force himself to remain. Here a 6.4in. gun, weighing about four tons, had been torn from its mounting and flung upon three men whom it had crushed out of all shape of human kind; there again a body cut in half lay across the gangway and oozed blood and horror. The new war methods may not be more cruel, nor even more fatal than the old, but they are a hundred times more fearful.

When matters had been put a little ship-shape on board the prize, and when some of the prisoners had been removed from her, and a small prize crew, which could hardly be spared, had been sent on board from the *Mary Rose*, a lawser was passed to the *Cécile*, and she was taken in tow.

Malta was about 750 miles steam from the scene of action, and, had the privateer been alone, she would probably have reached Valetta Harbour by six o'clock in the evening of Saturday, the 16th. With the French cruiser astern of her she did not, however, reach it until twenty-four hours later, and even then she made very good time, seeing that she covered the distance at an average speed of over 11 knots. This she could not have done had not a favourable wind sprung up, and had not the prize been able to slightly help her by hoisting a certain amount of sail.

During the passage Bowling picked up wonderfully, as did also Maintruck, Day, and Salthorse, and when, late on Sunday afternoon, the *Mary Rose* and the *Cécile* dropped anchor, by direction from the admiral, off Point Bichi, all four of the wounded officers were not only on deck, but on their legs. For a fortnight Malta had been almost cut off from the rest of the world. A few Italian small craft had run across from Syracuse and Alicanti, but they had busied themselves with the bringing of supplies rather than of news. All the cables were cut; a torpedo boat, which had been sent for orders to Messina, had not returned, and was supposed to have been captured; and a considerable French force, including the ironclads *Richelieu*, *Friedland*, *Bayard*, and *Duguesclin*, and the cruisers *Milan*, *Fean Bart*, and *Faucon*, having been observed off the island, it was not difficult to account for the non-arrival of the duplicate dispatches which, as Bowling knew, had been sent overland from London and about the time of his own departure from the Tyne.

The arrival of the two ships caused a scene of the wildest enthusiasm. Within a few minutes the harbour, as if by magic, became crowded with boats, the occupants of which seemed to be never tired of staring at the blue ensign which floated above the tricolour at the *Cécile*'s peak, or of examining the various marks of rough usage with which both vessels were liberally covered; and ever and anon some excitable person on the water started rounds of cheering for the mysterious British cruiser and for her gallant but unknown captain, officers, and complement.

The warships in harbour or in dock were the

Colossus, *Sanspareil*, *Polyphemus*, and *Surprise*, besides the half-dismantled *Orion*. Their boats came off to the strangers, and many of those who came in them were rather astonished to find on the *Mary Rose*'s quarter-deck old shipmates, or at least old friends. The admirals, also, too anxious to be able to stand strictly on their dignity, came off, the Mediterranean Commander-in-Chief in the *Sanspareil*'s galley, and the Admiral Superintendent in his steam launch. To the latter officer Bowling had the satisfaction of personally handing Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh's dispatch. Warm indeed were the congratulations which he received from all ranks when, in a few words as possible, and very modestly, he told his story.

"By Gad, Bowling," said the Admiral Superintendent, a little man, who habitually jumped about as if he were treading upon hot bricks: "to be able to say that I had done what you have done, I would willingly surrender all this gold lace. Darn me, sir, if they don't make a K.C.B. of you, I shall leave the service in disgust—when the war is over, of course."

"I'm more desirous to get a little of the gold lace, sir," laughed Bowling. "If they will give me my three stripes I shall be content, although that would involve my leaving the ship."

The two Admirals, as soon as they had satisfied a little of their natural curiosity concerning what Bowling could tell them, took possession without any ceremony of his cabin, and in privacy opened Sir Humphrey's dispatch. It was externally addressed to the Admiral Superintendent, because Sir Humphrey, when he wrote it, was of course ignorant as to the whereabouts of the Mediterranean Commander-in-Chief, but it was internally addressed to the senior officer at Malta. It directed him to spare no efforts in getting ready for service as many vessels as possible, and then, taking command, to proceed to sea with them, running as little risk as might be, yet, if necessary, at all hazards. The object to be strictly kept in view was to make a rendezvous at one o'clock a.m. on Monday, June 1st, five miles south of Europa Point; and to effect this everything was to be sacrificed. "At the place and hour mentioned," continued the despatch, "I purpose to concentrate all available forces from Malta, from Gibraltar, and from home, in order, if the French fleet be still off the Rock, to annihilate it; and if that fleet be gone elsewhere, to resume our command of the Mediterranean, and then to follow the enemy, should they have left it for the Atlantic or the Channel."

The despatch—which was a long one—need not be further quoted. It contained plain directions as to the manner in which each squadron was to approach the rendezvous; a special code of signals; and minute instructions as to the course to be pursued in almost every conceivable combination of circumstances; and it concluded with the expression of a hope that the senior officer would treat Captain Bowling, of the *Mary Rose*, letter-of-marque, with favourable consideration, and would utilise the services which Captain Bowling, Sir Humphrey felt sure, would be very eager to render to her Majesty's officers.

From that moment, Bowling, although he had no rank, held a unique and exceptional position. He was taken into the councils of the Admirals to an extent to which even the oldest post-captains were not; his advice was not merely asked, but frequently followed, and he was offered every facility which the dockyard officials, without prejudice to the naval service, could supply towards refitting his ship, and bringing her sorely reduced complement once more up to the mark. Of men there was no lack, for many large merchant ships, including several vessels of the P. and O. Company's fleet, were laid up in harbour. Indeed, it was found possible to refit and re-man the *Cécille* as well as the *Mary Rose*. The former was renamed *Rose*, and the Commander-in-Chief suggested that, unless Bowling very much desired to keep her under his orders, she should be purchased into the Navy and officered by naval officers. Bowling preferred the latter course; whereupon the admiral assumed the responsibility of the bargain, and the prize having been duly condemned, he gave Bowling bills for the very large amount at which she was officially valued.

In pursuit of the orders from home, Malta Dockyard, which had been busy enough before the *Mary Rose*'s arrival, became busier than ever. The *Sanspareil* was in No. 4 Dock, the *Colossus* in Somerset Dock, and the *Polyphemus* in No. 2—Inner Dock—so that the other vessels of large size had to make shift to repair alongside; but labour being plentiful, and the Admiral Superintendent having with foresight erected some temporary but very powerful shears, it was found possible to lighten both the *Mary Rose* and the *Rose* sufficiently to enable their underwater injuries, which were not extensive, to be repaired.

set to rights. The Commander-in-Chief decided to sail on the evening of Wednesday, the 27th; but he did not allow his determination to become known to any one except his brother Admiral and Bowling. Everyone, however, knew quite well that exciting events were in the air. Such matters seem to have mysterious tongues of their own, and to be unable to keep silence concerning themselves, even although they do not always blab of particular details.

In the battle off Toulon both the 111-ton guns of the *Sanspareil* had been put, or rather had put themselves, out of action, but as at Malta there were neither reserve guns nor appliances for, in so short a time, lifting out the old ones, they were obliged to be left in the ship. The accident was a very serious one, for it condemned the most important portion of the great vessel's armament to inactivity, and deprived the craft of the whole of her bow fire. This being so, the Admiral, though very unwilling to desert her, felt it incumbent upon him to haul down his flag in her, and to transfer it to the *Colossus*. He even went so far as to question whether he should allow the *Sanspareil* to go to sea at all, and only at the urgent solicitation of her captain did he at length consent to permit her to accompany the squadron when it should leave harbour. In the meantime, and in order to neutralise to some slight extent the ship's absence of heavy guns forward, he succeeded in getting a couple of 4.7-in. quick firing guns mounted behind shields on the spar deck abreast of the funnels, so that they were partially protected by the otherwise useless turret, and could fire over it.

The ten days that were spent by the *Mary Rose* at Malta went very quickly. Work went on by night with as little interruption as by day, and upon the morning of the 27th all the vessels with which the Admiral intended to sail had hauled out from their docks and jetties, and lay at anchor in harbour, fully coaled, and in all respects ready for sea. During these ten days very little news of a trustworthy nature dribbled in from the outer world. It became known, however, that a further attempt by the French against the ships collected at Spithead had been repulsed, without serious loss on the British side; but that, on the other hand, several open towns on the south coast had been bombarded by French cruisers, after having declined to pay ransom; that the Channel trade, so far as Great Britain was concerned, was almost at a standstill; and that in some parts of the country bloody bread riots had occurred, while in London itself there had been much disorder, owing to the supposed undue dilatoriness of the Board of War, and to the great rise in prices. Sir Humphrey Thornbeigh had been burnt in effigy in Trafalgar-square, and had immediately afterwards ridden out of the Admiralty court-yard, addressed the crowd from on horseback, and been cheered by the rabble as he returned. It became known also that, as late as the 22nd, the nightly bombardment of Gibraltar was being continued, and that the French were pretty confident of reducing the place by the end of the month, as they had improvised some floating batteries, armed with mortars of the largest calibre, throwing mellite shells, which were excessively destructive.

Bowling was almost well, and, but for the loss of his eye, was very little the worse for having been in action. Hard work, indeed, seemed to be the best restorative for both him and his officers.

The 27th of May was a magnificent day. The sky was clear and of the deepest blue, and the gentle breeze was barely sufficient to blow out the bunting of the ships in harbour and the Union Jacks of the forts on shore. At ten o'clock the admiral suddenly signalled for steam to be got up ready for 12 knots at five o'clock; at half-past four, having already unmoored, he signalled "Prepare to weigh," and at five he weighed and led his ships out. Earlier in the day he had sent torpedo boats to scout all round the island, and, as they returned reporting no signs of the enemy, he did not hesitate to put to sea before dark. It subsequently appeared that the French vessels, which for a time had formed a squadron of observation off Malta, had, two days earlier, been ordered to reinforce the fleet off the Rock, preparatory to the general and, as was hoped, the final bombardment, the French Admiralty having made up its mind that the ships in Malta were too badly damaged to venture much for some time to come, and too weak to dare to come out, even if they were patched up. Only a single cruiser had been left to watch, and she had, it turned out, gone off in chase of a vessel which she took to be British, but which was really the Italian corvette *Cristoforo Colombo*, bound for Palermo. The excellent Italian captain did not deem it to be his duty to enlighten his French "opposite number," and steamed gaily away at 13 knots without answering the signals which the cruiser made to him. He was at length

overhauled, and he then made, of course, most courteous explanations; but by that time the British squadron was at sea, and well on its way to the westward. When the cruiser returned to her station it was too dark for her to discover that the bird had flown. Next morning she did discover it, and then she pelted off to Toulon with the news; and received from the Commander-in-Chief there a sound rating for having been lured away by an Italian, who, as the admiral chose to put it, was "only an Englishman in disguise." There may have been an atom of truth in this assertion, for throughout the war the Italians certainly, although they always spoke to and of the French with the greatest politeness, spoke, as used to be said at the time, with a decidedly English accent. In other words, they scarcely disguised their sympathies, and would, upon the smallest encouragement, have openly declared them. Happily for all parties, they managed to preserve for themselves that greatest of blessings—peace.

In the days of sailing ships pre-concerted action between fleets or even between single vessels was difficult and precarious. It was not, for example, of much use for the Admiralty to base important plans upon the junction at a particular time and in a particular place of two forces. It might be absolutely impossible for one or both of the forces to reach the spot within a month of the specified hour,—impossible, not because of the occurrence of unforeseen accidents, but simply because of the normal and natural conditions under which the work had to be done. If the winds did not blow, the ship did not go. But in modern days ships are independent of winds, tides, and currents. Mail steamers run, and have run for years, between points thousands of miles distant with almost the punctuality of railway trains; and if it were desirable that at eight o'clock in the morning or every Monday in the year a vessel should leave New York, and that, at eight o'clock in the morning of the following Wednesday week she should drop anchor in the Cove of Cork, there is no doubt whatever that in fifty cases out of every fifty-two, the programme could be literally carried out. If, in short, a slight margin over and above the time actually necessary for the voyage in moderate weather be allowed, ships can, barring unforeseen and unpreventable accidents, now move about with something akin to absolute punctuality. This fact lies at the root of all modern naval strategy, and at the root, also, of much of modern naval tactics; but it had never before been so frankly recognised and so boldly utilised as it was for the combined operations which were planned at Whitehall to be carried out on the 1st of June in the Strait of Gibraltar.

The gallant admiral whose flag flew in the *Colossus* took care to keep a certain amount of time in hand from the beginning. At twelve knots, Gibraltar is, as nearly as possible, ninety-six hours' steam from Malta. The rendezvous was for one o'clock a.m. on June 1st; therefore in order to keep it, a squadron steaming the whole distance at twelve knots, a little speed in hand, was not obliged to leave Malta until one a.m. on the morning of May 28th. But the admiral prudently allowed himself an additional eight hours; and thus, towards the end of his cruise, when he might reasonably expect to fall in with the enemy, he was able to go warily.

The last day was indeed an anxious time. To approach the African shore was to risk encountering French vessels on their way to or from Gibraltar and Algiers or Biserta. To approach the Spanish shore, on the other hand, was to risk encountering French vessels on their way to or from Gibraltar and Toulon. Upon both routes men-of-war must necessarily be continually moving, Toulon being the repairing, and Algiers or Biserta in all probability the coaling depot for the hostile fleet; and although the admiral had come out to fight, he had come to fight in a particular place at a particular time, and not otherwise. In this difficulty the *Rose* was useful. Her French build and rig, and her general resemblance to other cruisers which still flew the tricolour, rendered her, the Admiral felt, invaluable as a scout; and, as a matter of fact, in the early morning of the 31st she was able, without exciting suspicion, to warn the squadron of the vicinity of a French ironclad, which, although she might have been captured, might also have fatally delayed the combined movements upon which the success of the entire scheme depended. The admiral kept for the most part a course as equidistant as possible between Spain and Africa all that day, the order being *Colossus*, *Sanspareil*, *Polyphemus*, and *Mary Rose*, in column of line ahead, with the *Rose* on the port and the *Surprise* on the starboard bow of the column at a distance of five miles. Bowling was treated almost exactly as one of the captains of the squadron, and obeyed signals, just as they did; nor, owing to the good services which he had already done, was there the

least trace of jealousy concerning him. Indeed, the squadron was proud of him.

The grand bombardment of Gibraltar began on the night between May 30th and May 31st. The French had previously collected for the purpose a fleet of twenty-five ironclads, inclusive of armoured coast-defence ships, ten floating batteries specially prepared, and numerous small unarmoured vessels, each mounting a single heavy gun. Attached to this force were two large squadrons of cruisers, one of which was disposed fan-wise at the Atlantic end, and the other at the Mediterranean end of the Straits, so as to give timely alarm in case of any threatened interference with what was going on at the Rock. In fact, almost the whole available resource of the French Navy were concentrated for the occasion, it having been determined in Paris that—at all costs—Gibraltar must be made to fall. Many of the most enlightened French critics doubted the wisdom of this policy; and among others M.E. Weyl, the distinguished naval editor of *Le Yacht*. In the course of an article, which he published within a few hours after the scheme had been decided upon he wrote:

"We shall never deal an effective blow at the Naval power of Britain by hurling ourselves against her fortresses. We have rightly made up our minds, for the present, to leave Malta alone. Why not deal in a similar manner with Gibraltar? And why not consistently pursue those principles which, in the ardour of the moment and before the theorists had time to make themselves heard, we put in force off Toulon on the glorious day of the 28th of April? Gibraltar, like Malta, stands or falls with the British Navy. On the other hand, we may possess ourselves both of Gibraltar and of Malta without materially or permanently diminishing the power of our opponents on the sea. It is our duty, rather, to keep a single eye on the Navy of the enemy. If we destroy that, we gain everything; if we do not destroy it, all our other gains will be vain and illusory. Let us, then, implore the Ministry to alter its plans while there is yet time. Let us seek for decisive action on the ocean. Already in the past, Gibraltar has been the scene of one of the most costly of naval follies. Surely we are not about to deliberately repeat the stupidity of 1782? To attack Gibraltar with this huge force is to court disaster."

But the French Ministry did not listen to the advice of M. Weyl, and of those who, with him, were students of the great principles enunciated by Captain Mahan, U.S.N. The official mind could not resist the specious reasoning:—"If you place the tricolour on Gibraltar you become the doorkeeper of the Mediterranean," and so, as has been said, the grand bombardment began. It was resumed on the night of May 31st—June 1st, and fearful indeed upon forts, town, and Rock itself was the effect of that unexampled fire. But for two nights only did it continue.

At dusk, on the evening of the 31st, the little squadron from Malta slowed down to nine knots, being then about fifty miles from the Gut of Gibraltar. Steam was, however, kept for full speed, and the Admiral signalled that, as soon as any French cruiser should be observed full speed should be put on, and that the squadron should thenceforward restrain its pace only by the best speed of the flagship. The *Surprise* and *Rose* were directed to fall back before the enemy, and to take station astern of the other vessels and avoid engaging.

The incidents leading up to the battle of Toulon and to the passage of the Straits by the *Mary Rose* had been exciting; but they were far less so than the incidents which were now leading up to an action, the nature and results of which not one man of the thousands who were about to take part in it could form even the faintest idea of. Three separate forces were moving independently upon the scene and towards the great French fleet. None knew for certain how any one of the others was composed; none had any means of making sure that any one of the others would arrive at the right moment; and none knew either the strength or the disposition of the foe. Only afterwards did the world at large learn that the fleet from Spithead consisted, so far as armoured ships were concerned, of two divisions—the first composed of the *Royal Sovereign* (flag), *Anson*, *Camperdown*, *Howe*, *Rodney*, *Aurora*, *Immortalité*, *Narcissus*, and *Galatea*, and the second of the *Hercules* (flag), *Triumph*, *Neptune*, *Audacious*, *Iron Duke*, *Superb*, *Northampton*, *Nelson*, and *Shannon*; that the *Trafalgar*, *Dreadnought*, and *Australia* issued from Gibraltar, and that from Malta came the *Colossus*, *Sanspareil*, *Polypheus*, and *Mary Rose*. The first Spithead and the Gibraltar and Malta divisions—fifteen ironclads in all—had orders to effect the junction at the rendezvous at one o'clock a.m. The second Spithead division,

to which were attached an exceptional number of fast protected cruisers, had orders to make the same rendezvous forty minutes later, and had, in fact, left British waters two days earlier than the second division.

The arrangement seems to have been upon the whole a very prudent one. The second Spithead division was the weakest and slowest. Its numerous fast scouts would bring it while on the passage early information of the approach of an enemy, and would enable it, if necessary, to fall back upon the first, and most fast, powerful division. On the other hand, the first division, in conjunction with the modern ships from Malta and Gibraltar, would, if the French were still engaged at the Rock bear the first brunt of the fight, and allow the second division in its wake to come fresh upon a partially disorganised and probably badly damaged foe. The weakness of the scheme, if weakness there was, lay in the fact that at the outset fifteen British ironclads might be opposed to twenty-five French. But it must be recollected that while nearly all these British ships were vessels of very large size and modern design, at least half the French ships were smaller and older, and several of them, as far example, the *Colbert*, *Richelieu*, *Bayard*, and *La Galissonnière*, were partially built of wood. Even the ships of the second Spithead division were most of them, vessel for vessel, nearly equal to the average of the French off Gibraltar.

It is hopeless to attempt to describe in detail the episodes of a great fleet action. The best general description of the battle of Gibraltar is contained in the official dispatch which was afterwards addressed by the Commander-in-Chief to the Chief Director of Fleets, and which is here copied:—

"*Royal Sovereign*, Gibraltar Bay, June 1st.

"SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that it has pleased God to bless her Majesty's arms with signal success, and that the combined movements which were directed to be carried out by the fleet under my command, and by the squadrons at Malta and Gibraltar respectively, have been performed, and have to day resulted in the gaining of a victory which, while it will, I trust, add a ray of glory to her Majesty's crown, will also, I pray, tend in no small degree to benefit the Empire and to bring to a speedy conclusion the present unhappy war."

"The second division of the Spithead fleet, composed of H.M. ships mentioned in the margin, sailed from Spithead on the 24th of May. The first division, with my flag in the *Royal Sovereign*, followed, in pursuance of your instructions, on the 29th. Neither division encountered on the passage any force of the enemy, and on the 31st, at noon, I communicated with and passed the second division and proceeded at 13 knots for the mouth of the Strait. Shortly before 11 p.m., at which hour we could distinctly hear that the bombardment of Gibraltar was being vigorously continued, my cruisers, the night being clear and brilliant, sighted the cruisers of the French fleet about six miles ahead, and soon afterwards exchanged shots with some of the most advanced of them. The French cruisers presently withdrew, and I increased speed to 14 knots, formed my command into quarter line, and disposed my cruisers on the quarters at the rear of the division, with orders to them to expose themselves as little as possible, to keep out of the way of the second division as it came up forty minutes later, and generally to be prepared to render assistance to the battleships. The French fleet upon receiving intelligence of our approach must have relinquished the bombardment, and in a formation of which I could not learn the nature, they steamed leisurely to the eastward. At this time we had not ourselves sighted it, but a little before one o'clock, when we were already nearly abreast of Europa Point, and when the *Trafalgar*, *Dreadnought*, and *Australia* were visible coming out of the Bay, we discovered the enemy about seven miles ahead, fiercely engaged with the squadron from Malta. This consisted only of the *Colossus*, *Sanspareil*, *Polypheus*, and *Surprise* of her Majesty's Navy, but attached to it, and obeying the orders of the vice-admiral, were the *Mary Rose*, an armoured privateer, commanded by Mr. Thomas Bowling, late a lieutenant of the Royal Navy, and the *Rose*, late *Cecille*, a prize which was captured from the French Navy by the *Mary Rose* in a very gallant manner on the 14th ult., and which had been purchased into the service and manned at Malta by the vice-admiral upon his own responsibility, a course which I venture to hope will meet with approval. The Malta squadron was handled with conspicuous ability, but ere I could come up with the enemy, was, I regret to say, very severely mauled, the *Sanspareil* being rammed by two ships, and sinking with her colours flying and guns firing, and the other vessels being much damaged and losing heavily. The squadron,

however, broke through the French fleet, which followed it, maintaining a running action until I was able to interfere. The enemy was by that time in somewhat confused formation, and my division in its original order, but reinforced, passed through it with less loss than might have been expected, and then altered course sixteen points together and returned, executing the whole movement at full speed, and with a precision which I have never seen equalled. Unhappily in this second passage, the *Howe* became unmanageable, and was torpedoed, rammed, and sunk. I am proud to be able to report that except the vessels which received damage to their machinery or steering gear, and which were thus obliged to quit the line, all my ships preserved their stations, and that, so far as the British fleet was concerned, there was nothing in the shape of a chance *mêlée*. Having twice passed through the French, and perceiving that they were falling into disorder I fed the way through once more, so as to place them between my own ships and the second division. In this passage I had the misfortune to lose the *Dreadnought*, which, after joining from Gibraltar, had taken station in the line, and which was blown up by the concentration of the depressed heavy gun fire of three French ships upon her lower deck. After the third passage the enemy ceased to manoeuvre as a fleet, but his single ships fought with great determination. As soon as I observed the approach of the second division I made the signal, 'Ships will engage the enemy independently,' and also that for close action. The latter, however, I presently annulled, it rapidly becoming clear that for a vessel to obey it was to unnecessarily expose herself to the French torpedoes. I made instead a signal ordering the ships of the first division to keep to westward of the enemy, and to engage as much as possible beyond torpedo range. It was now 1.45 a.m., and the second division had opened fire. I had ceased to have any doubts as to the general results of the action, but I was scarcely prepared for the effect which the arrival of the fresh ships had upon our opponents. The French had lost terribly and were thoroughly disorganised; and when they found themselves placed between two fires, and with retreat cut off in both directions by forces of the exact strength of which they were no doubt ignorant, they evidently lost heart. So bright was the moonlight that we could distinctly see some of them strike their flags. Upon this, using the electric semaphore, I directed the Vice-admiral in command of the second division to send his torpedo gun vessels into the French fleet. With admirable alacrity these little craft obeyed the order. The French, whose cruisers and torpedo boats were nearly all to the eastward of us, and were easily kept at a distance by the fire of our quick-firing guns, made some considerable resistance and, I am sorry to say, sank two of our gun vessels. But when three of their number had been torpedoed, the rest to my great relief surrendered, and were before three o'clock taken possession of by the ironclads of the second division. The cruisers of the combined fleet were meanwhile dispatched in general chase of the cruisers of the enemy, and, as I write, are beginning to return. So far as I can at present ascertain, they have destroyed four and captured two of the cruisers which were attached to the French fleet, but several reports have yet to come in. Concerning the losses on both sides in armoured ships I can inform you more exactly. We went into action with in all, twenty-three vessels, including the *Mary Rose*, of this class. Of these four are sunk or blown up, two have had to be run ashore to save them from sinking, and seven are so badly damaged as to be totally unfit for future service for some time to come. The enemy went into action with twenty-five armoured ships, and of this number she has not preserved one. Fourteen have been sunk or blown up; three are ashore; and eight, all more or less damaged, are now at anchor here under my orders. As to the losses in officers and men, they are, I am pained to inform you, exceedingly serious. My own flagship has over 300 killed and wounded, and many other ships, especially those of the first division and of the Malta squadron, have suffered heavily in proportion. The names of the ships lost and captured are set forth in the margin, and in an enclosure are such detailed statements as have yet reached me of the loss in officers and men.

"All ranks behaved in a manner which merits my warmest approbation, and which is worthy of the finest traditions of our country and of the service. In a future despatch I hope to render to individuals that particular meed of praise which as yet I lack the necessary materials for fairly apportioning. Of Mr. Bowling of the *Mary Rose*, whose situation both before and during the action has been an exceptional one, I cannot delay speaking. To do so would, I am convinced, be to

* Proving to be capable of steaming only at 6 knots, she returned on the second day to England.

hurt the feelings of every officer under my command. On the 14th ult. he, being at the time entrusted with duplicate despatches to the Admiral Superintendent at Malta, ran through the French fleet into the Mediterranean, sinking the cruiser *Davout*, and badly damaging the ironclad *Terrible*, and the cruiser *Tage*. In this gallant exploit he was badly wounded. On the following day pursued by the cruisers *Cécile*, *Alger*, and *Troude*, he took the first, which is now H.M.S. *Rose*, sank the second, and only permitted the third to escape because she had taken on board the survivors of the second. He was again injured. In the action of this morning he behaved with a courage and coolness to which I cannot do justice, passing four times through the French fleet, handling his ship in the most magnificent manner, and I regret to have to add, being once more severely wounded. It will be within your recollection that a month ago the name of Mr. Bowling was removed from the list of her Majesty's Navy. I venture respectfully to represent that the Royal Navy would be greatly honoured by having it restored, though in what rank I do not venture to suggest. I merely, with all the urgency which I can attach to my words, beg that the magnificent services of Mr. Bowling and of his officers—nearly all of whom are retired from the Royal Navy—may be recognised in a manner that will partially repay the country's great indebtedness to him and them. In this specially mentioning Mr. Bowling, who, on account of his wounds, goes home in the *Surprise*—his own ship being on shore badly damaged—I am acting not only in accordance with my own promptings, but also in accordance with the wishes of I believe, every officer and man in the fleet which to-day has had the happiness to gain for her Majesty a complete and conclusive victory."

H.M.S. *Surprise* left Gibraltar at noon on the day of the victory of the Glorious First of June, and, steaming at 14 knots in very favourable weather, dropped anchor in Plymouth Sound at about breakfast time on the 5th.

On the passage Bowling, who in the height of the action had received a ball from a Hotchkiss revolving gun that had shattered his left elbow, was obliged to have the arm amputated, but happily the operation was perfectly successful, and his other wounds, though numerous, were not dangerous, and soon began to mend. Upon her arrival the ship discharged into the Royal Hospital all such wounded naval officers as she had brought home; but Bowling, not being a naval officer, was retained on board as a guest of the captain, whose cabin he shared. The captain at once proceeded to London with his despatches, and Bowling, who was already a great hero at Plymouth, received plenty of attention from everyone, and not least from Sir Taffrail and Miss Stormer, who were at the Royal Hotel when the *Surprise* reached port, and who went off each day to the ship.

The rest of the story may be briefly told by quotation of the following announcements:—

"Admiralty, June 6th.—Her Majesty has been pleased to restore Mr. Thomas Bowling, late lieutenant in Her Majesty's fleet, to his former rank and seniority as a lieutenant."

"Admiralty, June 6th.—The following promotion has been made:—Lieutenant Thomas Bowling to be Commander in Her Majesty's fleet. To date May 14th."

"Admiralty, June 6th.—The following promotion has been made:—Commander Thomas Bowling to be Captain in Her Majesty's fleet. To date June 1st."—*London Gazette*, June 7th.

"Her Majesty has been pleased to confer a baronetcy upon Captain Thomas Bowling, R.N., late commander of the privateer *Mary Rose*, in recognition of his distinguished services in that vessel, previous to and during the victory of the 1st inst."—*The Times*, June 8th.

"Yesterday, at Plymouth, Captain Sir Thomas Bowling, Bart., R.N., the gallant capturer of the *Duguay*, *Trouin*, *Cécile*, &c., was married to Mary Rose, only daughter of Admiral Sir Taffrail Stormer, G.C.B. The wedding, which was celebrated in the Dockyard Church, was a naval one, and was attended by nearly every officer of the ships in port, where, in consequence of the happy conclusion of peace with France, there are now about forty vessels paying off. The bride was given away by her father, and Commander Maintruck, R.N., C.B., who, it will be remembered, was first lieutenant of the *Mary Rose*, and who, for his services in her, was promoted, was the bridegroom's best man. The presents were very numerous, and included a magnificent silver gilt centrepiece from Her Majesty, and a sword from the officers of the fleet in the Mediterranean. We are glad to say that Sir Thomas has now completely recovered from his severe wounds, and is in excellent health."—*Morning Post*, July 29th.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHIEF EDITOR.)

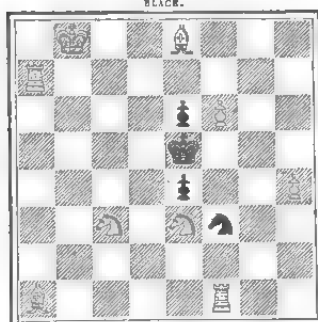
The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 42.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to R 7 1—K x R
2—Kt mates at Q 4 1—K to B 2
2—B mates at Q 5 1—K to Q 2
2—B to Q 5 (dis. ch. and mate) 1—Kt to Q 2
2—Kt mates at Q 4 1—Any other move of Kt
2—B mates at B 8 Correct solutions received from Scacchi, W.H.S., Digamma, J.W.E., J.D. Omicron, and Omega. Crumbs' solution is incorrect. K to B 2 would be Black's defence.
Additional correct solutions of No. 41 received from Digamma, and C.H.H.W.

PROBLEM No. 44.

By B. G. LAWS.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The game published last week having been much appreciated, another specimen of Professor Andersen's play is given below. The notes appended are also by the same able analyst, Mr. W. N. Potter.

EVAN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. BLACK.
Andersen. Dufresne.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4 3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4 4—B x Kt P
5—P to B 3 5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4 6—P x P
7—Castles 7—P to Q 6 (a)
8—Q to Kt 3 8—Q to B 3
9—P to K 5 9—Q to Kt 3
10—R to K sq. 10—K Kt to K 2
11—B to R 3 11—P to Kt 4
12—Q x P 12—R to Q Kt sq.
13—Q to R 4 13—B to Kt 3
14—Q Kt to Q 2 14—B to Kt 3
15—Kt to K 4 15—Q to B 4
16—B x Q P 16—Q to R 4
17—Kt to B 6 ch. 17—P x Kt
18—P x P 18—R to K Kt sq. (b)
19—Q R to Q sq. (c) 19—Q x Kt
20—R x Kt ch. 20—Kt x R

White mates in four moves.
(a) Played by Steinits with much success, but otherwise it does not appear to be a prosperous defence.
(b) The disposition of Black's forces suggests the idea that White's 15th move was not only effected but desired by Dufresne. Certainly his position now looks most menacing.
(c) This very remarkable move paralyzes what is obviously threatened, viz.—Q x Kt but completely commands the board. White in fact wins in every variation.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 4th.

The night express from Edinburgh to London ran into a goods train at Thirsk, with the result that 23 persons were killed and wounded.

The twin-screw battleship *Howe* has been on shore and is severely damaged. Repairs will be effected at Ferrol.

London, November 6th.

Sir W. Vernon Harcourt and the Hon. John Morley were absent from the Guildhall Banquet.

A strike of cotton mill operatives has occurred in Lancashire, and 60,000 have turned out, 14,000,000 spindles remaining idle.

It is feared that Her Majesty's ship *Howe* is ashore in such a position as to render her salvation hopeless.

Osman Digna is on the move again and is advancing on Suakim.

London, November 8.

Osman Digna has withdrawn from the position he had taken up on the road to Suakim.

British exports show a decrease on the ten months ending October last of £19,000,000.

London, October 9th.

At the Guildhall Banquet, the Earl of Kimberley, referring to foreign affairs, said that friendly relations existed with all the Powers; that the Uganda question would receive the attention which its importance demands; and that negotiations are proceeding with Russia in regard to the Pamirs, and a peaceful settlement was expected.

The election of Mr. Cleveland as President of the United States is well assured, as the Democratic party has shown considerable gains.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, October 24th.

It is announced that the Captain of the Russian cruiser which captured the sealing vessels off the Copper Islands is insane and has been removed from the Navy.

London, October 20th.

The Government have withdrawn the order forbidding public meetings being held in Trafalgar Square.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMMERCIO")

Madrid, October 20th.

The King is recovering from his recent illness.

Madrid, October 21st.

As soon as the King is sufficiently recovered, their Majesties will return to Madrid.

Severe gales have been experienced on the Spanish coast and the loss of several fishing boats at Valencia and San Sebastian is reported.

The festivals in Barcelona in honour of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America terminated in disturbances, and several persons were wounded.

Madrid, October 23rd.

The King is so much improved that he was to-day able to leave his bed.

Madrid, October 24th.

The resignation of the Minister of Marine, Sr. Beranger, is announced.

The celebrated bull-fighter Espartero has sustained injuries in a bull-ring in Seville. His condition is considered serious.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, etc.	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 18th.
From America, Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 13th.*
From America, Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 12th.†
From America, Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 21st.‡
From Hongkong, etc.	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 17th.
From Hongkong, etc.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 20th.
From Canada, etc.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 27th.
From Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Nov. 30th.

* Oceanic left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 25th.
† Kaiser left Shanghai on November 7th. ‡ City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on November 5th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Niaba*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria and Tacoma, etc.	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 15th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, etc.	per N. Y. K.	Wed'day, Nov. 16th.
For America, Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 19th.
For America, Europe via Hongkong, etc.	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 20th.
For Hongkong, etc.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 28th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, etc.	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 2nd.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 5th November.—Yokkaichi 4th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 6th November.—Hongkong 28th October, Nagasaki 2nd November, and Kobe 5th, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 6th November.—Yokkaichi 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 6th November.—Otaru 3rd November, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Yoshizawa, 6th November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loo Sok, British steamer, 1,020, Perkes, 6th November.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 16th October, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 6th November.—Kobe 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 7th November.—Hongkong 2nd November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 8th November.—Kobe 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 8th November.—Kobe 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 8th November.—Yokkaichi 7th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miki Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 8th November.—Hakodate via ports 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 9th November.—Yokkaichi 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 10th November.—Shanghai and ports 4th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 10th November.—Hongkong via ports 2nd November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 10th November.—Yokkaichi 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, Matsumoto, 10th November.—Hakodate via ports 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 10th November.—Kobe 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 11th November.—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 11th November.—Yokkaichi 10th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 12th November.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 11th November.—Moj, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Havima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Tsuga, 11th November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Eze, British steamer, 1,308, Watson, 12th November.—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 5th November.—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 9th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lannax, British steamer, 1,350, Ward, 5th November.—Hongkong via Moji, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 6th November.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 6th November.—Moj, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 6th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokushu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 6th November.—Otaru, Light.—S. Oka.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 6th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga,

6th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 7th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Yoshizawa, 7th November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaki Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 7th November.—Yokosuka.

Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 8th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ethiops, British steamer, 1,950, Pinkham, 8th November.—New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Schneider, 8th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Loo Sok, British steamer, 1,020, Perkes, 8th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

Middlesex, British ship, 1,742, H. W. Clark, 8th November.—Port Townsend, U.S., Ballast.—China & Japan Trading Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 8th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 8th November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 8th November.—Vladivostok via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenash, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 9th November.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 9th November.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Miki Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Brown, 9th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 9th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 1,567, Bailey, 10th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Iwanaga, 10th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 10th November.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 11th November.—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 11th November.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Shimadzu, 11th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th November.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Ancona**, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. W. Martin, Mourato, Kaneko, Lewis C. Shaw, Wing Sang, and Mrs. and Miss Wing Sang in cabin; 2 Europeans in steerage.

Per British steamer **Loo Sok**, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Messrs. W. Bridgeman, Geo. Medhurst, E. Libeand, and J. H. Miller in cabin; 40 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Sandai Maru**, from Kobe:—6 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer **China**, from Hongkong:—Mr. C. S. Weir and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Weicher in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Omi Maru**, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. K. Iwai in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 25 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Takasago Maru**, from Yokkaichi:—12 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Miki Maru**, from Hakodate via ports:—Mr. Ukon in cabin; 68 passengers in steerage. For Kobe: 38 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss May Lee, Mr. and Mrs. A. Graudier and infant, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Bishop J. S. Key, Rev. Wm. Imbrie, Rev. G. W. Knox, Mr. C. W. Crosse, Mr. N. O. Gutierrez, Mr. A. F. Remedies in cabin; Mr. Shimoda and Mr. E. Ricci in second class, and 13 Japanese and 4 foreigners in steerage.

Per British steamer **Empress of China**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Jose Baston, Mr. H.

B. Haskill, Mr. T. B. Glover and native servant, Captain Martin, and Mr. P. S. Cabeldu in cabin; Mr. Chung Seng in second class; Mr. Krause in European steerage, and 118 Chinese in Asiatic steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.: Messrs. C. E. Higginbotham, A. Richardson, L. Millward, C. Nouchen, P. K. Thomson, Geo. Turner, J. Moffatt, W. W. Rockhill, A. M. A. Evans, and A. J. de Saiza in cabin; Mrs. Bond and two children in European steerage. For Victoria, B.C.: Mrs. Mee Wah in European steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Tsuruga Maru**, from Yokkaichi:—10 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Hiogo Maru**, from Hakodate via ports:—Mr. K. Chiba in cabin; Mr. I. Inouye in second class, and 23 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Nagato Maru**, from Kobe:—Mr. M. Tamura in cabin; 12 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer **Takasago Maru**, from Yokkaichi:—17 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer **Oxus**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. A. L. Robinson, de Guerville, Green, Chandler, Miss Claukinton, Miss Graves and boy, Messrs. H. W. Lee, J. R. Gibson, Tim, Noel, Brockhurst, Shepherd, G. C. Pakenham, C. W. May, F. A. Sampson, W. Adams Oram, Mr. and Mrs. King On and infant, Miss Williams, Mr. Fonseca, Mr. G. Adet, Dr. F. E. Hyde, Mr. B. E. Hyde, Mrs. F. E. Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. C. Stewart Smith, Mr. J. A. Sampson, Madame Kuhn, Mr. and Mrs. S. Smith, Mr. Churman, Mr. Milham, Mrs. Baumant, Messrs. W. Michell, E. G. Simpson, J. S. Broomhead, de Vogue, Garnier, Feller, Mrs. Laurette, Messrs. de Marguerie, Beret, Nevans Freke, D. Horton Tilder, A. Hackmack, R. B. McKinnell, R. Hata, and J. J. Adam in cabin.

Per German steamer **Nuernberg**, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain Gelfen, Mrs. Gelfen, Mr. Ingles, and Mr. Amot in cabin; 25 Chinese in second class, and 28 Chinese and 4 European in steerage. From Kobe: Major Hutchinson, Mr. S. Cummings, and Mr. H. T. Cummings in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Muir-Drew, Lieut. Okubo, Lieut. S. Obata, and Mr. F. L. Marshall in cabin; Lieut. Hiras and Mr. T. keda in second class, and 55 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer **China**, for San Francisco:—Mr. C. Barker, Mr. F. Bartlett, Mrs. Blanchard, Mr. J. T. Boag, Miss Carr, Mr. B. P. Davis, Mrs. Goodrich, Mr. A. W. Goodrich, Bishop Jos. D. Key, Viscount de Labry, Rev. and Mrs. Lancaster and two infants, Miss Lauterbach, Mr. A. Lauterbach, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, Miss Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh and son, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. McCagg, Miss Julia Miller, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Parker, Mr. J. H. Hume Rothery, Mr. and Mrs. E. Holden Smith, Miss Smith, Mr. R. T. Stirling, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Talcott, Mr. Geo. Vanderbilt, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Winston, Miss Winston, Mr. T. Savorsin, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Weicher, Mr. D. P. Weintraub, Mr. C. S. Weir, Mr. R. A. Wylie, and Mr. M. Zavarzin in cabin.

Per British steamer **Ancona**, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. L. Carson, Mr. W. G. Hay, the Misses Hay (2) and maid, Messrs. T. Yoshida, M. Hamaguchi, K. Hamaguchi, G. Iida, Rumpack Ariga, S. Hirose and Master Hirose, Messrs. W. Martin, L. C. Shaw, J. Polyblank, W. Dixon, E. Griffin, F. Gibson, J. Bowden, J. Merryfield, Tai Tuck Tong and 2 children, Mrs. Tai Tuck Tong and infant, Messrs. H. E. Ware, C. J. Prince, W. Ware, Dr. Bearblock, R.N., and Mr. and Mrs. Woolley, child, and amah in cabin; 4 Europeans and 5 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer **Saikio Maru**, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$30,000.00.

Per French steamer **Oxus**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 289 bales; Waste Silk for France, 356 bales.

Per British steamer **China**, for San Francisco:—

TEA.					
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	721	545	1,053	—	2,319
Yokohama	2,717	—	278	—	2,995
Hongkong	102	—	—	—	102
Amoy	682	—	—	—	682
Total	4,222	545	1,331	—	6,098

SILK.				
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	BARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	134	—	134
Hongkong	—	274	—	274
Yokohama	—	857	99	956
Total	—	1,265	99	1,364

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL.
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST.				
Hongkong	—	3	58	61	
Calcutta	—	—	—	68	
Rochow	575	—	—	679	1,254
Shanghai	481	—	—	—	5,051
Hyogo	2,531	—	2,570	—	5,101
Yokohama	961	—	—	285	1,246
Total	4,550	—	2,573	1,090	8,213

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	10	—	—	10
Shanghai	45	—	12	57
Yokohama	801	—	—	801
Total	856	—	12	868

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 50 bales; Waste Silk, 355 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sandai Maru*, Captain Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 5th November at 10 a.m. and arrived at Shiwotsu at 1.14 p.m. Left again at 2.42 p.m. and passed Oshima the same day at 8.34 p.m.; had moderate to fresh N.W. winds to Rock Island, which was passed the 6th at 1.20 p.m.; thence to port gentle, variable winds, with fine and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 8.15 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 2nd November; experienced fresh N.E. monsoon through Formosa Straits to Turabout; moderate variable winds and calms across the Eastern sea, and up to Oshima; strong N.W. gale to Omai-saki; thence to port strong north-easterly, fine weather throughout the passage. Passage, 5 days and 1 hour.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain F. Brown, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th November at noon; had fresh N.W. winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8.30 p.m.; passed Rock Island the 7th at 11.30 a.m.; fresh N.E. winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th November at 5.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 7th November at 4.30 p.m.; experienced fine, cloudy weather with smooth sea and moderate north-easterly breeze; passed Rock Island at 3.27 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at 9.55 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain T. S. Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th November at 5 p.m.; had light winds and fine weather to Oshima; thence to Omai-saki moderate breeze and slight sea; thence to port light winds and fair weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at 1.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Hakodate the 6th November at noon. Arrived at Oginohama the 7th at 11.30 a.m. and left at 5 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at 7 p.m. Experienced strong N.W. winds from Hakodate to Yamada Head; thence light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Sakiko Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai Wharf the 4th November; at 10 a.m. crossed Woosung; barometer 11.15 a.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 6th at 2 a.m. and left again the same day at 6.30 a.m., arriving at Shimonoseki the same day at 6 p.m. and left again at 11.30 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 7th at 7 p.m. and left the 8th at midnight, arriving at Yokohama the 10th November at 5 a.m. Experienced from Shanghai to Nagasaki fresh winds from N.E. to north with rain, and on the Japan Coast light winds from north-east to north with fine, clear weather.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain G. Shimadzu, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 9th November at 5 p.m.; had light variable breeze and fine, clear weather; passed Omai-saki the 10th at 3.05 a.m., had moderate north-easterly breeze and weather cloudy; at 7.04 a.m. passed Rock Island; at 1.16 p.m. passed Kanon-saki, moderate north-easterly breeze and cloudy throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th November at 3 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain M. Matsumoto, reports:—Left Hakodate the 8th November at 12.30 p.m.; had gentle south-westerly breeze and fine weather till reaching Kuro-saki at 0.15 a.m. on the 9th; thence north-westerly breeze and fine weather; arrived at Oginohama the 9th at 11 a.m. Left at 11 p.m.; had light variable breeze and fine weather till reaching Cape Katsuo at 9.30 a.m. on the 10th; thence gentle south-south-easterly breeze and overcast rainy weather with rough sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th November at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 9th November

at noon; had light variable winds and fine, clear weather to Oshima; thence to Omai-saki fresh easterly winds with moderate sea; from Rock Island to port light S.E. winds with light rain showers. Arriving at Yokohama the 10th November at 5.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 10th November at 5.10 p.m.; experienced overcast, rainy, and thick weather with fresh south-westerly gale and heavy S.E. and S.W. cross seas; passed Rock Island the 11th at 4.20 a.m., wind shifted to northerly and blew a fresh gale at 7.30 a.m. and weather commenced to clear up from the same quarter. Arrived at Yokohama at 10.45 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Buyers do not seem to have gotten into swing yet, and the market is much as last noted. On the other hand, with the declining exchange, holders are firmer, which tends to restrict trade. Sales noted, while they have been in most every line, are of small proportion. Market closes steady.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$1.65 to 2.25
Grey Shirts—9 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.65
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Indigo Shirts—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 36 inches	PER YARD.
	0.12 to 0.36
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 32 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds, 35 1/2 inches	0.65 to 0.77 1/2
Taffetas, 12 yds, 43 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
	1.17 1/2 to 1.27 1/2
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.34 1/2 to 1.42 1/2
Turkey Reds—2.15 to 3 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	1.62 1/2 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	1.92 1/2 to 2.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.27 1/2 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	—
Medium	0.24 to 26 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	—
Common	0.17 1/2 to 23
Monsieur de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.13 1/2 to 0.17
Clothes—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Clothes—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47 1/2 to 0.57 1/2
Clothes—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$26.00 to 26.75
Nos. 16/24, Medium	27.25 to 27.75
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	27.50 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	27.50 to 28.25
Nos. 28/32, Medium	28.75 to 29.75
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	30.50 to 31.50
Nos. 36/42, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	33.00 to 34.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
No. 70s, Bomby	PER POUND.
No. 70s, Bomby	69.00 to 73.00
No. 10/14, Bomby	67.00 to 72.00
No. 10/14, Bomby	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Transactions noted are of small proportions. Holders of Metals generally do not feel inclined to give way simply to create business, however, and prices are therefore unchanged. The recent advance obtained in Wire Nails has again given way, and quotations are reduced accordingly.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Market very strong, and with decreasing stocks holders have asked a further advance, which in some cases has been paid.

	QUOTATIONS.
Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Devoe	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67 1/2

SUGAR.

The advance hoped for by holders has been "knocked out" by recent arrivals, prices on the contrary showing a further decline of 25 to 35

cents. Stock of Browns (unsold) at writing is reported to be about 30,000 piculs.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Daitong	\$3.75 to 3.80
Brown Canton	4.30 to 4.35
White Java and Penang	5.80 to 5.85
White Refined	5.65 to 5.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 4th inst. Since then settlements on this market amount to 974 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures*, 760 piculs; *Reels*, 154 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 185 bales, making the total business for the week equal to 1,100 piculs.

This has been a quiet week; at the same time, considerable business was done every day. Some little anxiety was felt about the Presidential election in the States, and the reported Democratic victory may have alarmed some people. Other buyers are apparently undaunted, and while writing considerable settlements are reported, principally in *Kakeda*, a class of silk which has been rather neglected of late. In good *Filatures* and *Reels* for the United States, some business has been done, the market for these being very firm and somewhat higher prices have been paid as exchange declined. Buying for Europe has gone on to some extent and the general opinion is that stocks of Raw material there are small and that consumers will enter the market again ere long.

Arrivals continue on a fair scale as regards quantity, but quality leaves much to be desired, and of our present stock, a large proportion is of common and inferior grades.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The French mail steamer *Oxus*, on the 6th instant, carried 280 bales for Europe and the German steamer *Nuernberg*, on the 7th, took 72 bales for the same destination. The P. M. steamer *China*, which left port last night, had 956 bales for the New York trade, and she is followed by the *Empress of China* to-day with 801 bales for the same destination. These departures bring the present export figures up to 26,174 piculs, against 20,885 piculs last year and 7,981 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—No business. The stock here is in strong hands and is not of very high grade. The quality of *Hanks* this year has not been good and all through the season we have only seen a few desirable parcels.

Filatures.—Something done every day of the week. Prices for anything approaching good quality in coarse sizes have somewhat advanced, best No. 1 *Shinshu* bringing \$880, with other grades in proportion. In European sorts, business has continued at about the same rates, the lower grades declining somewhat. Among the purchases are *Usen* at \$850, with *Hikone* and similar silk at \$840; *Mino*, \$845; *Goshu*, \$835.

Re-reels.—Not a large business in these, the quality of stock now on offer being very inferior, and some of the well-known Joshi chops show very poor quality just now. Sellers are fairly current and are inclined to unload, which they can well afford to do, having made large profits this season hitherto.

Kakeda.—No business reported in the statistics, but while writing several good parcels have been taken up both by native and foreign buyers, details of which will appear in our next. The prices paid are reported to be on the basis of \$740 for 1 Bacupi; \$690 for No. 2, and \$640 for No. 3.

Osaka.—No business at all in this class and prices are quite nominal. The demand for some time past has been on fine sizes and these coarse kinds have been neglected.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	Nom. \$670 to 680
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi)	Nom. 660 to 670
Hanks—No. 3 (Shinshu)	Nom. 650 to 660
Hanks—No. 4 (Joshi)	Nom. 630 to 640
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. 610 to 620
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3 1/2	Nom. 550 to 570
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	865 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	850 to 855
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	790 to 810
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Osaka) Best No. 1	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	790 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	650 to 660
Kakeda—Extra	Nom.
Kakeda—No. 1	790 to 800
Kakeda—No. 2	740 to 750
Kakeda—No. 3	710 to 720
Kakeda—No. 4	650 to 660

Kakadas—No. 3	630 to 640
Kakadas—No. 31	610 to 620
Kakadas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 21	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	620 to 630
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	580 to 590
Sodai—No. 21	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 11th Nov., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Europe	9,339	6,967	2,254
America	16,400	13,378	5,513
Total	{ Bales 25,739	20,345	7,769
	{ Piculs 36,174	20,885	7,981
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	28,200	22,100	7,900
Stock, 11th November	9,350	16,050	16,800
Available supplies to date	37,550	38,150	24,700

WASTE SILK.

Here there has been less doing, settlements amounting to 666 piculs, divided thus:—Cocoons, 277 piculs; Noshi, 88 piculs; Kibiso, 301 piculs.

Prices are easier, but without any quotable change. It looks as though sellers must give way in the near future, for the heavy stock begins to press rather hardly upon them and they probably will listen to reason ere long. Consumers abroad still talk downwards, and we look for a lower range of values in the near future.

The French and German mail steamers took between them nearly 800 bales of Waste and Cocoons for Europe. The *Empress of China* has one bale of Waste for New York, and the Canal steamer *Glenash* carries 74 bales Cocoons for the same destination. These sailings bring the present export figures up to 11,692 piculs, against 9,213 piculs last year and 8,772 piculs the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—Buying still continues to some extent, the last prices paid ranging from \$90 to \$102½, according to quality and yield. There is still considerable stock but not of the highest grade.

Noshi.—A small business, buyers objecting to pay the prices which holders require. The only sales noted are fine *Bushu* at \$130, *Tegara* at the same price, and a parcel *Shinshu* at \$102½. Nothing done in *Filatures* or *Oshu*.

Kibiso.—A fair amount of buying in the medium grades at prices ranging from \$45 to \$70 for *Oshu* and *Zaguri* sorts. One parcel *Curlies* was done at \$35, with a few bales *Filatures* at \$100 to \$110. **Mawata.**—Nothing done so far this season. Arrivals from the interior have been very small.

Neri.—Supplies are now coming in, but as a rule are of inferior quality, while holders are stubborn as to prices. So far, very little business, if any, has been done this season.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	\$100 to 110
Noshi-to—Filature, Best	130 to 140
Noshi-to—Filature, Good	120 to 135
Noshi-to—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-to—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 150
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-to—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-to—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 145
Noshi-to—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-to—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-to—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Midding to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 11th Nov., 1892:—

	Season 1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	9,967	8,683	7,972
Pierced Cocoons	1,785	530	800
Total	11,692	9,213	8,772
Settlements and Direct	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Export from 1st July	16,200	12,950	12,500
Stock, 11th November	18,500	15,900	11,600
Available supplies to date	34,700	28,850	24,200

Exchange has fallen considerably in sympathy with lower prices for Bar Silver at home. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/10½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$70; 4m/s. U.S. \$71; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.69.

Estimated Silk Stock, 11th Nov., 1892:—

	RAW.	WASTE.
	Piculs.	Piculs.
Hanks	450	650
Filatures	3,216	9,300
Re-reels	4,157	8,072
Kakada	1,012	110
Oshu	486	368
Tayssam Kinds	29	—
Total piculs	9,350	18,500

TEA.

As the quality falls off the prices for the best offerings are correspondingly higher and very firm. Total export to date (not including the mail steamers of 10th and 11th inst.) is 27,350,000 lb., being about 1,000,000lb. less than for the corresponding period in season 1891-92.

	PER PICUL.
Finest	\$25 to 27
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

In sympathy with the lower price of silver, exchange has again declined.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/02
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/102
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/102
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/102
On Paris—Bank sight	3/57
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3/70
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	2 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	73 1/2
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	74 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	68 1/2
On America—Private 30 days' sight	70 1/2
On America—Private 4 months' sight	71 1/2
Silver	39

BOARDING HOUSE
FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day.
Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

t.f.

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL L'POUL INTER-EXPOSITION, 1889.

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17.

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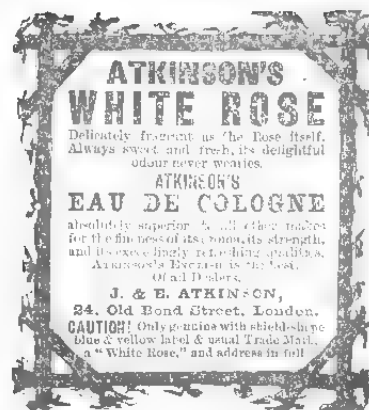
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Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 19TH, 1892.

月三十五年十二
可照會信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to name; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 19TH, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

On Monday, November 14th, 1892, before the American Consul, and at 8 p.m. at 72D. Bluff, by Rev. John L. Dearing, assisted by Rev. C. H. D. Fisher, Rev. GEORGE W. TAFT, of Tokyo, to JESSIE D. HUMPHREY, of Philadelphia, P.A., U.S.A.; Mr. and Mrs. Taft will be at home on the first and third Tuesdays of December, at 30A. Tsukiji, Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CHRYSLER MICHELE FOLLINA is gazetted Japanese Honorary Consul at Palermo, Italy.

SNOW fell at Morioka and Aomori on the 11th inst., and at Sendai the following day.

MR. OISHI MASAMI has been appointed Japanese Minister Resident to the Korean Court.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL visited the glyptic exhibition, now open in Ueno Park, on Sunday afternoon.

THE value of property consumed by the recent great fire in Asakusa, Tokyo, amounts to about 60,000 yen.

TWELVE cattle were attacked by infectious disease in Nara on the 12th inst. Two died and seven were destroyed.

AN exhibition of marine products has been opened in Ueno Park, Tokyo, and will remain open until the end of this month.

THE opening of new buildings of the Ichimura Theatre, Tokyo, took place on the 10th inst. in the presence of a large number of guests.

MR. NISHI, Japanese Representative in Russia; Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Chief Secretary of the Upper House, who lately returned from abroad; and Mr. Sujii Saburo, newly appointed Japanese Consul-General in Hawaii, were received in

audience by the Emperor and Empress on the 14th inst. at 10 a.m.

CATTLE disease is now raging in the Kumage District of Yamaguchi Prefecture. Twelve animals are reported to have been attacked on the 10th inst.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR has graciously presented yen 2,000 to Major Fukushima, now engaged in his famous ride from Berlin to Peking on horseback.

MR. MAKAMARU SEIJURO, an oil painter, has been ordered to paint a portrait of Mr. Hoshi, President of the House of Representatives. The picture, when completed, will be hung in the parlour of the House.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet was held on the afternoon of the 11th inst. at the official residence of Count Ito, at which there were present Counts Yamagata, Kuroda, Oyama, Inouye, and Goto, and Messrs. Kono, Watanabe, and Mutsu.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Gensan, Korea, received by the Authorities on the 14th inst., reports that the spread of rinderpest in Genra and Keiki has been considerably checked, but the Konkyo and Tokuzen districts are still seriously infected.

THE meetings of the Harbour Regulations Committee, which have been held in the buildings of the Communications Office for some time, concluded on the 11th inst., and the results of their deliberations were reported to the Minister of State for Communications by the Chairman.

MR. TAKAHASHI SHOJIRO, of Toriyama-mura, in the Tsukui District of Kanagawa Prefecture, and four other discoverers of a coal mine at Miyagase-mura, Aiko District, Province of Soshu, have applied to the Authorities for permission to commence trial mining.

THE funeral expenses of the late Count Yamada are estimated at yen 30,000. The Emperor contributed five thousand yen and the Empress and Empress Dowager one thousand yen each. The funeral took on the 17th inst. and was conducted with much pomp and splendour.

THE total quantity of articles sold at the recent Charity Bazaar at the Rokumeikan amounted to 4,362.58 yen in value, of which 2,264.70 yen was received on the first, 1,267.72 yen on the second, and 830.79 yen on the third day. Over 1,600.00 yen was realized from the sale of tickets.

ANOTHER batch of Japanese emigrants to the Hawaiian Islands, numbering 1,038 persons in all, left Yokohama on the 15th inst. Of the above total 464 men and 97 women were from Hiroshima Prefecture, 309 men and 69 women from Yamaguchi Prefecture, and 80 men and 19 women from Niigata Prefecture.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to amalgamate the Union Shipping Company and the Kanda Steamship Company in the port of Ise, under the name of the Kibi Union steamship Company. The capital of the united company is fixed at yen 250,000, of which yen 195,000 is to be raised by shareholders in the two companies, and the remainder is thrown open to the general public.

THE number of shares sold in the Osaka Stock Exchange, and their maximum and minimum prices during last month were as follow:—2,545 Kiushu Railway shares from yen 34.50 yen 33.00; 3,030 Sanyo Railway shares from yen 23.60 to yen 22.90; 4,050 Kansai

Railway shares from yen 38.10 to yen 36.50; 835 Osaka Railway shares from yen 60.90 to yen 57.10; 18,255 Naniwa Cotton Spinning shares from yen 51.10 to yen 45.55; and 855 Temma Cotton Spinning shares from yen 52.90 to yen 48.20.

A CERTAIN Mr. Magara Kwanyee, of Niitsu-machi, Naka-Kanbara District, Niigata Prefecture, has raised an action for damages amounting to yen 85,000 against Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. The plaintiff alleges that he has suffered great loss in consequence of an injunction, by which he is restrained from exploiting kerosene in that Prefecture.

It is stated as probable that important changes will be effected in the Naval Department at no distant date, when Vice-Admiral Hayashi, Commandant of the Sasebo Admiralty Station; Rear-Admirals Tsubo, Motoyama, and Fukushima, Captains Takino, Kodama, Sugi, and Tanaka, and several high officials will be retired. Vice-Admiral Hayashi, it is said, will be made an Imperial Nominee in the Upper House.

HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS, attended by Madame Takakura, Viscount Kagawa, Grand-Master, and Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Services; Marquis Nabeshima, Grand-Master of the Board of Ceremonies, and Messrs. Tanaka, Nagasaki, Toku Takasaki, and Honda, Masters of Ceremonies, left the Palace at 9.30 a.m. on Friday last, and proceeded to the Ladies Bazaar, which was opened in the Rokumeikan in aid of the Tokyo Charity Hospital, where she was received by several Imperial Princesses, Princess Ichijo, Marchioness Nabeshima, Countesses Ito, Matsukata, Kuroda, Toda, Inouye, and others ladies. The Empress was at once conducted to a room, where she received in audience several notables. Accompanied by members of the Imperial Family, Viscount Kagawa, and Mr. Sannomiya, Her Majesty then walked through the Bazaar, Princess Ichijo guiding the party. The Empress purchased articles to the value of over 200 yen in each section, and left for the Palace about noon.

THE Import trade remains without material alteration, and though Yarns are enquired for very little business has been done, Cotton Piece-goods and Woollens being in similar case, due mainly to a rise in Manchester, which has extended to this, and prices are consequently on the ascending scale. There is not much moving in the Metal market, and though stocks are small, holders asks more money than buyers feel inclined to pay. The Kerosene trade is not extensive, but the market is very firm. A cargo of Russian amounting to 70,000 cases arrived in the steamer *Exe*, this oil now being in good repute and fair demand at full rates. The Sugar trade is somewhat unsettled, White sorts having improved in value, while Browns—the stock of which has further increased during the week—have declined in value and are slow to move. There has been a daily business in Silk, but the total is not great, quality becoming rapidly scarcer and arrivals decreasing as the season draws on. The stock today is nearly 10,000 piculs, but is very largely composed of common and inferior grades. More has been done in Waste Silk, at prices somewhat easier, and holders appear desirous of moving off some of the large stock—18,000 piculs. There is nothing to report in Tea, the season being well on towards the close. Exchange has fluctuated again, the movements being mainly on the downward line, though the trend change is in the direction of firmness.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CHANGE IN THE GAME REGULATIONS.

An Imperial Ordinance published on the 11th instant announces that the Emperor, with the advice of the Privy Council, authorizes a change in the 29th Article of the Game Regulations. The amended article reads as follows:—

Art. XXIX.—Any person who pursues game in contravention of the provisions contained in the first clause of Art. VI. and in Art. XX., or who obtains a license of Class B in contravention of the provisions of Art. XIV., shall be liable to a fine of not less than 3 yen and not more than 30 yen. And any one who obtains a professional license in contravention of Art. VIII., shall be liable to a fine of not less than 7 yen and not more than 70 yen.

The Article for which the above is substituted reads as follows:—

Any person who pursues game without a license, or who, by false representations obtains a license or a permit for establishing a hunting preserve, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 5 yen and not more than 50 yen.

These Game Regulations have elicited in Kobe some comments which it is difficult to read without laughter. It is asserted, in the first place, by the *Hyogo News* that the issue of these Regulations indicate how near we are to Treaty Revision, which singular assertion is apparently based on the fact that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has re-enacted the provisions of Japanese Regulations and made them binding on his nationals. "How," asks the *Hyogo News*, "can such a step be construed but as a preparatory movement towards that consummation which paid advocates so ardently strive for, the submission of all foreigners to Japanese jurisdiction." "This is the first installment of Japanese law." "Her Britannic Majesty's Representative has lent himself to confirming a law which shall hedge in the foreigner at every turn, and which may be only the first of a formidable series." It will be noticed at once that the writer of these singular statements fails even to distinguish between submission to Japanese jurisdiction and obedience to Japanese laws. He appears to think that because Her Majesty's Representative, in the ordinary routine of his duties, takes once again a step which has often been taken by his predecessors, namely, employs British jurisdiction to enforce observance of a Japanese regulation, therefore British subjects have been brought so much nearer to the sway of Japanese Law Courts. Surely the time has long past for such confusion of ideas. The Railway Regulations, the Quarantine Regulations, the Shooting Regulations themselves, and so forth, have all been made binding on British subjects by precisely the same process as that now followed.

The real trouble with the writer in the Kobe journal is evidently the fact that the new Regulations restrict the exercise of a privilege hitherto enjoyed by foreigners with comparative freedom. It will no longer be lawful to walk through cropped fields or enclosed lands in pursuit of game without the consent of the owner. The *Hyogo News* finds this a great hardship. Yet precisely the same restriction is applied in England, France, Germany, and other European countries. Fancy a man throwing his gun over his shoulder and proceeding to take his way in pursuit of game through the cropped or enclosed lands of a British farmer without previously obtaining permission. If private property in game is to be recognised at all, it can be recognised only through the medium of legislation such as that now enacted by Japan. Hitherto game in this country has been at the mercy of every one, and the foreign residents themselves have repeatedly urged the unwisdom of not adopting some system of protection. Japan now adopts the same system as that practised in the West, and immediately this singular outcry is raised.

The queerest part of the affair is the nature of the perplexities which it suggests to our dis-

turbed contemporary. How is a foreigner to know a shooting notice when he sees one? asks the Hyogo journal. "How is he to discriminate between public and private property?" "Even on the hills, what can he know of ownership?" Could anything illustrate more forcibly the extraordinary notions entertained by some foreigners as to their position in Japan? "We cannot read your outlandish ideographs," they say. "Therefore, we cannot spell out the purport of a notice against shooting. Therefore, we cannot be expected to concern ourselves about such a notice. We cannot speak your language. Therefore we cannot know anything about your property. Therefore we must be permitted to trespass wherever we please. We cannot decipher your landmarks. Therefore we cannot tell who owns this hill or who owns that. Therefore we must be free to shoot over all your hills without distinction." It is a delightful doctrine. Fancy expounding it, *mutatis mutandis*, in England or France! Fancy how it would fare with a Japanese in Great Britain, who, being arraigned for trespassing in pursuit of game should coolly plead:—"Truly it is extravagant to expect me to understand your written prohibitions or to seek oral information about your property, seeing that I can neither read nor speak your language. It would be exceedingly harsh, in view of my ignorance, to require me to observe any of your laws or respect any of your rights. I know nothing about yourselves and your regulations, and it therefore follows that I am free to do exactly what I please while I am in your country."

Stated in that manner the proposition becomes comical. Yet the absurdity lies in the fact, not in the manner of presenting it. To be ignorant, according to this creed, is to be irresponsible. Only let a man neither know, nor try to know, and he possesses at once a valid justification for any form of license.

"It would be somewhat exasperating to the foreigner to know that he could wander all over Japan with a shooting license in his pocket, but that he must not set foot on an inch of ground without first obtaining consent." Anyone might be justly exasperated were such a feat proposed to him. To "wander all over Japan without setting foot on an inch of ground." An atmospheric journey would be the only way to manage it. The Hyogo journal is evidently in the clouds about the whole affair.

Perhaps the queerest complaint of all is the allegation that the object of the new Regulations is not really to preserve game at all, but to deprive foreigners of the privilege of shooting it. The grounds of this suspicion are set forth by the *Hyogo News* in a manner worthy of the whole lament:—"No foreigner who is a sportsman would raise the slightest objection to the new Ordinance if its clauses were rigidly enforced, but as we have one or twice pointed out recently, it is already a dead letter so far as the Japanese are concerned, for the supplies of game are as plentiful as ever. The proper way to prevent the killing of game in the close season is to prohibit the sale as well as the shooting, for if there are no receivers there will be few poachers. The householder desirous of furnishing his table with game can obtain snipe, woodcock, and pheasants in abundance, while the foreigner may not pull a trigger." One would imagine, reading these charges, that game was being killed and sold openly by the Japanese in the close season. But we are now in November. The open season began on October 15th; nearly a month ago. How on earth can the sale of game at present, or its plenitude in the market, prove that the close season prescribed by the Regulations is not observed by the Japanese? Such ludicrous accusations would be impossible if the situation were examined with anything like a spirit of fairness and discrimination.

It seems to have escaped writers discussing the new Regulations that although the foreigner will hereafter find himself considerably restrict-

ed in the pursuit of game, there is now for the first time offered to him a chance of enjoying good sport. Let him preserve. In other countries no one expects to have the pleasure of killing game unless he can afford either to rent some one else's preserves or to preserve on his own account. That is the *régime* now introduced in Japan. Irrespective of the new Regulations, shooting within Treaty Limits has become a farce: there is no longer any head of game. But if a district were preserved, the game on it would soon become plentiful. We see no serious difficulty in the way. A club of half a dozen foreigners, each subscribing a couple of hundred yen annually, could preserve an area large enough to afford excellent sport. If any man in England were offered a season's shooting on payment of thirty pounds he would count himself most fortunate. Sportsmen ought to welcome the new Regulations. As for those that cannot afford, or are not sufficiently enthusiastic, to pay, they must do without shooting in Japan as they would have to do without it under similar circumstances in any Western country.

THE CEMENT CASE.

The case of the Tokai Cement Company against the Governor of Kanagawa Ken was heard at the Yokohama Local Court on the 2nd instant. The plaintiffs were represented by Mr. Hirai Tsunesaburo, Barrister, and the defendant by Mr. Mitsuhashi Nobukata, Councillor of the Kencho. The Court was opened at 10.40 a.m., and counsel for plaintiffs pleaded that as the purchase of cement for harbour works ought to be concluded by general public tender, as expressly provided in the Law of Finance, it is illegal on the part of the defendant to contract as he did with the Asano Cement Company, and that the business right of the plaintiffs was thus violated. Hence they prayed the Court to annul the contract and grant whatever other remedy the circumstances might warrant. For the defendant it was argued that as the Law of Finance is an Administrative Order, any disagreement with reference to its interpretation must be presented to the Administrative Court for decision. The Judge endorsed the latter contention, and dismissed the case with costs.

The facts of this case are so simple that its reference to a Court of Law seems surprising. By the terms of the Regulations, any Government Department, in calling for tenders, is entitled to limit the number of competitors, should such a course appear to be dictated by the interests of the public service. In the case of cement for harbour works two important considerations have to be taken into account. The first is the quality of the cement; the second, the capacity of the works supplying it. Evidently no engineers could undertake to subject to conclusive tests each barrel of cement furnished for use in large works. A comparatively superficial method of examination has to suffice, more or less trust being placed in the integrity of the firm supplying the material, which, for the rest, has of course been fully tested in sample. We believe that practical experience has disqualified more than one Japanese cement manufactory from this point of view. The second consideration, as to capacity, is not less imperative where the people in charge of the works have to be sure that a certain large quantity of cement shall be monthly available for current use. Here, also, several cement companies are disqualified, and for the Tokai Cement Company, we should say that its producing capacity does not come within a long distance of the limit fixed by the Yokohama Harbour Works Bureau. Hence the right of the Bureau to limit tenders to certain firms is clearly established. It will be remembered that when the firms excluded from competition on this occasion began to air their supposed grievance, the main point emphasized by the agitators was the admission of the Onoda Cement Company to the ranks of the favoured few. Certain newspapers openly declared that exceptional favour had been shown to that Company because its chief shareholders were Choshu *shizoku*, a Choshu statesman being now at the head of the Department of Home Affairs. These

Original from

extraordinary accusations, in themselves conclusively indicative of a bad case, received striking refutation in the sequel of the competition, for though the Onoda Cement Company was allowed to tender—as indeed the extensive and admirable character of its works rendered necessary—it failed to obtain any part of the contract, a more advantageous offer being made by a rival firm. We do not suppose that the Tokai Cement Company will be foolish enough to push the case any farther, for there can be no question that the Harbour Works Bureau acted strictly within its competence, and that the Administrative Court would have no choice but to endorse its action.

THE LADIES' BAZAAR.

HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPRESS left the Palace at 9.30 a.m. on Friday last to proceed to the Ladies Charity Bazaar at the Rokumeikan. The grounds of the building were gaily decorated with flags, and the vestibule and corridors with quantities of beautiful chrysanthemums. When the Imperial carriage arrived, the Imperial Princesses together with Princess Ichijo, Machioness Nabeshima, and all the other ladies concerned in the Bazaar, assembled at the entrance to receive the Imperial Party. Princess Ichijo led Her Majesty through the Bazaar, the Empress purchasing two hundred yen worth of articles in every section. The Imperial Party left the Bazaar at 11.50.

The Bazaar has been, as usual, a distinct success. Great numbers of Japanese, though very few foreigners, attended, and by the afternoon of the second day almost the whole of the articles had been sold. We have not yet received any statement as to the pecuniary result, but it will doubtless be considerable.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE DEATH OF COUNT YAMADA.

COUNT YAMADA AKIYOSHI left Himeji for the Ikuno Silver-mine on Thursday last, and after inspecting the mines, he proceeded as far as Omori on Friday, where he suddenly fell ill, apparently from heart complaint. Medical aid was at once called in, but the Count never recovered his senses, and passed away quietly in a few hours from the time of the seizure. Telegrams announcing the sad news reached Tokyo late on Friday evening, but the vernacular press, with remarkable celerity and enterprise, managed to give portraits of the deceased statesmen simultaneously with the publication of the news on the following morning, many of them adding editorials of considerable length. It will interest our readers to hear what the principal journals of Tokyo have to say about a man who played such a prominent part in the modern history of his country.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes that Count Yamada suffered from a lung complaint last year, and that, from the Emperor and Empress downwards, all persons in the Empire were extremely anxious about him. At length, however, news of his recovery was announced, to the joy of the nation. During the long interval since that time, the Count led a retired life, very rarely taking any share in the political affairs of the State. How suddenly the sad intelligence of his death reaches us. His great merits are well known to every individual in the Empire. No comment is needed to emphasize them. But it should be particularly pointed out that the Count was both a soldier and a statesman of the foremost rank. His achievements at the Restoration in the capacity of a General are still remembered by all with applause, and in him the country recognises the master spirit that directed the compilation of the Codes. He was one of the youngest statesmen in the Government, being only 49 years of age at the time of death. The untimely demise of such a man throws the whole nation into mourning.

The *Yifu* expresses deep sorrow for the loss of one of the ablest statesmen and most competent captain of the Empire. It particularly

eulogizes the Count on account of the fact that he rose from the ranks where he served as a common soldier, and he attained almost the highest office and position within a subject's reach. The *Yifu* also records Count Yamada's achievements in the Satsuma Rebellion, and notes that he attained distinction in three capacities, as Minister of Public Works, Minister of Home Affairs, and Minister of Justice.

The *Kokkai* says that the deceased statesman was a mere youngster on the eve of the Restoration, but that with all the ardour and spirit of youth, he travelled from end to end of the Empire in the Imperial interests, and his elders already regarded him as an able official. After the Restoration he received a post in the Cabinet remaining there for over 20 years, and attaining the highest rank and position. He himself was no doubt perfectly satisfied with the honours that had fallen to him before his death. But it is none the less sad to think that a statesman of great merit is lost to the country. The *Kokkai* concludes by hoping that though the Count is no longer in this world his heroic spirit will aid in protecting the empire for ever.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* pens a eulogy of the deceased with its wonted vigour of style. It considers that his nick-name, "Little Napoleon," was not an inappropriate title. Equally as a soldier and as the father of the Codes his name will never be forgotten. On account of the latter work he might well be compared with Justinian. Despite the fact that many persons criticised his legislative efforts unfavourably, it is certain that he sacrificed nearly his whole life to them. The *Kokumin* compares him to Pitt, who is said to have died after hearing of the defeat of the Russian and Austrian army at Austerlitz. The Count was ill in bed when he heard that the operation of his Codes had been postponed, and he died just when the Bill for postponement is on the point of receiving Imperial sanction. When historians come to record the event, they will have to say that the Codes killed the Count.

The *Choya Shimbun* also gives expression to strong regret. It declares that not only will the 40 million subjects of the Empire lament the Count's death, but the Emperor also will mourn for the loss of one of the most trusted statesmen of the country. The *Choya*, too, speaks of the Count's devotion to the Codes, and the *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a leaderette on his death, in which it says that no one can help lamenting his sudden decease, especially as it has occurred when the affairs of the country are becoming more and more difficult to manage.

MR. MUTSU AND THE WAKAYAMA CLUB.

THOUGH the Wakayama Club possesses a scanty number of members of the Diet, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, its name became publicly known last session owing to its action in uniting with the Popular Party. What it will do in the next session, however, is a difficult question. Mr. Mutsu tendered his views with reference to official interference in elections to the former Cabinet, and as he failed to obtain a hearing, he resigned his seat, thus enabling the Wakayama Club to act independently, with the result that it joined the Popular Party. But now Mr. Mutsu is once more in the Cabinet, therefore the members of the Club cannot attack the Cabinet with any determination. If we may consider that Mr. Mutsu is Mr. Mutsu, and the Wakayama Club the Wakayama Club, there need be no perplexity. But unfortunately the five members returned from Wakayama owe their seats entirely to Mr. Mutsu's influence, so that they must obey his orders. On the other hand, as they co-operated with the Popular Party last session, they cannot now declare that they leave it because their benefactor is in the Cabinet. They may allege that the new Cabinet is different from the old, but they cannot say that it has entirely adopted the policy of the Popular Party. Were Mr. Mutsu not a member of the Cabinet, they

would assuredly join the ranks of the Opposition. If, however, regardless of the existence of Mr. Mutsu, they were to attack the Government, some members of the Cabinet would at once allege that as the opinion of Mr. Mutsu was not adopted by his colleagues, he had directed his followers to attack his own Cabinet. Even without such a complication, the members of the National Union, who oppose Mr. Mutsu, are ready to bring discredit on him whenever they find any opportunity. Such being the case, the position of the Wakayama Club is difficult to maintain. The *Hochi* alleges that this statement was made to it by a certain nameless politician, but the same journal declares on its own authority that the members of the Wakayama Club have resolved to act as independently as they did last session, but that lest their attitude might give some trouble to Mr. Mutsu, they propose to publish a statement of policy, to which they will strictly adhere, and in the event of any objectionable proposal being brought forward, they will oppose it resolutely from whatever quarter it emanates.

The whole of this story reads like the essay of a child playing at politics. We do not imagine that the *Hochi Shimbun* intends to hold itself seriously responsible for the statements of its hypothetical informant, but if it does, its political creed cannot be greatly admired. For it is plain that the *Hochi's* one idea in politics, the one note to which it tunes all its chant, is men not measures. Mr. Mutsu, we are told, left the former Cabinet because, unable to approve of the action taken in electioneering matters, he failed to get his censure endorsed by the majority of his colleagues. Thenceforth the Wakayama Club voted against the Cabinet. But now Mr. Mutsu holds a portfolio in an entirely different Cabinet, yet the Wakayama Club having voted against the Government once, is bound by some inexplicable principle of honour and consistency to maintain its position of opposition, though the Cabinet is changed and though the President of the Club holds an important portfolio in it. Was ever such singular reasoning heard before? If we may accept as accurate the portrait which the *Hochi Shimbun* here draws vicariously of its Party's policy, the *Kaishin-to* must be compared to the Irishmen who, landing in New York and being asked about his political faith, replied:—"Have yez a güvinnin? Av so, I'm agin it." Once against the men in power, always against them, seems to be the Progressionist organ's motto. How plainly the practice of the *Kaishin-to* politicians themselves contradicted this principle three years ago. For when their leader Count Okuma, after more than seven years' retirement, re-entered the Cabinet, and served with the very men who had composed the Administration during his term of abstinence, his Party and the organs of his Party became staunch and stalwart supporters of the Ministry. Then, when Count Okuma went out of office, his Party and its organs resumed their old attitude of bitter implacability, though the bulk of the statesmen in power remained unchanged. Records are sometimes inconvenient. Would it be so very culpable on the part of the Wakayama Club to do in 1892 exactly what the *Kaishin-to* did in 1889?

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that Mr. Oishi Masami is appointed a Minister Resident. Concerning this appointment the *Nippon* writes as follows:—"Mr. Oishi Masami visited Europe at his own expense and spent some time in London, where he studied the question of national debts and foreign intercourse. Returning to the Orient, he went to Korea and thence to Peking, collecting in both places information whereon to base views with regard to the future of the Eastern Problem. He has now been appointed a Minister Resident. Mr. Oishi entertains Radical views. He was associated with Count Goto in the organization of the *Daido Danketsu*, and was twice imprisoned in connection with those proceedings. It is a great honour that a member of the Radical Party should be directly appointed to be a Minister

Resident. Scarcely any precedent is to be found for such an appointment in the procedure of the *Meiji* Government during the past twenty years.

Mr. Mizukami, hitherto Secretary of the House of Representatives and Councillor of the Department of Finance, has been appointed Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Home Affairs and Councillor of the same Department.

OSAKA.

THE cattle plague, writes a Correspondent, which has recently appeared in Japan is very severe in this city and vicinity, and scores of cows in dairies as well as draught bullocks in various parts of Osaka are reported to have died of the disease. As a sample of the severity of the visitation, I may mention the case of Mr. Yoshida, whose dairy herd has been thinned to the extent of seventeen in one week dead, while a number of others were sick and under treatment.

The General Synod of the United Presbyterian Church has just closed a protracted session here, at which prominent divines, both Japanese and foreign, were in attendance from all parts of Japan. The Rev. Dr. Knox, of Tokyo, preached in the Concession on the 6th inst.

The Rev. Mr. Scherer passed through this city a few days ago on a tour of exploration in Kiushu, where he expects to establish a strong mission for the Evangelical Church of America.

Bishop Key, who has made extensive tours in Japan and the interior of China, has left for San Francisco, and hopes to return within a year with a large force of Methodist missionaries. Our small settlement in this city has almost been completely changed in regard to its residents, so many having recently left and so numerous have been the new arrivals.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA'S RIDE.

THE *Yiji Shimpō* publishes further intelligence regarding Major Fukushima's long ride, of which we have heard very little of late. The major left Katham on the 13th of June, and after a rough journey—sleeping in the day time and travelling by night to avoid the heat—of a fortnight, in the course of which he covered 618 kilometres, arrived at Perm on the 28th. The military officers in garrison there accompanied by a band, went out to welcome him three miles from Perm, and escorted the major to the town amid the strains of the Japanese National Anthem. He left Perm for Ekaterinburg on the 2nd of July, after a sojourn at the former place of three days. He then passed the night of the second day of his departure at a town called Kinggo, where he was also warmly received, and invited to a splendid dinner promoted by the principal residents of the place. The distance between Perm and Ekaterinburg is 389 kilometres, and although the route lies among the Ural ranges the path is not very elevated, not exceeding more than six thousand feet above sea level. Moreover, as the road is well graded there is little or no inconvenience in travelling. A stone monument marks the dividing line between the European and Asian continents. Major Fukushima and his horse were much exhausted by the intense heat and the vitiated atmosphere prevailing at this period of his ride, in addition to which they were subjected to the constant attacks of thousands of bees (?), which swarmed in the neighbourhood. The stinging of this insect greatly affected the physical condition of man and beast and consequently the journey to Ekaterinburg was delayed. He reached the latter place in eight days—covering 48 kilometres daily—during which time the major only had a comparatively quiet sleep twice, being almost invariably prevented from rest by the attentions of obnoxious insects. At one time he was compelled to hire a special mattress; this he placed on a pile of grass upon the floor, but in spite of these precautions, he soon found himself worried by overwhelming numbers of insects, who seemed to be reinforced by other hordes coming from all directions. The major was therefore obliged to act upon the defensive until day-break. His meals were very irregular, food often consisting of nothing but eggs and coarse

bread. He obtained chicken soup only twice during the course of eight days, as more substantial nourishment was not obtainable in those districts. Moreover, as usual in mountainous regions, showers of rain were almost constant, and the major was often wet to the skin. Fortunately, he is a man of extraordinarily robust constitution and strength, nothing seeming to impair his health, while apparently he is pursuing his journey with ever-increasing energy. He entertains fears that unless he traverses the desert of Gobi before October, it will be almost impossible to pass it in consequence of the snow. With this apprehension in mind, he is endeavouring to arrive of Uiga in October, but as there remained only seventy-five days for over 5,000 kilometres, he will have to ride 70 or 80 kilometres daily, thus precluding the idea of any days of rest. He further considers that his present pony, Ural, will be unfit for the journey through the Mongolian regions where little food is available for animals, and he has decided to buy a couple of good horses for this purpose. It was on the 15th July that he left Ekaterinburg for Omsk, arriving at a little town called Kamshuloff on the 17th of the same month. The roads, during the latter part of the way, leading along cultivated fields and forests, for the most part are wide and smooth, but having no overshadowing trees, the heat was severe, while rough food and bad accommodation at night continued.

THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

It is beginning to be considered a more than probable contingency that the Imperial Chrysanthemum Garden Party will always be marred by rain. The weather used to be much kinder in other times, but of late years it has fared badly with the garden party of the season. For foreign residents the affair has not much direct interest. Very few indeed, outside the circle of Government employes ranking as *chokunin* and possessors of Third Class Orders, have the honour of receiving an invitation. Globetrotters are more fortunate. They regard the party as one of the great events to be compassed, and they cause their Ministers no little trouble by asking for invitations with a matter-of-course air of assurance. This year the rain held off till a little after four o'clock, by which time a great part of the guests had taken their departure, but the weather was gloomy and threatening throughout, and the chrysanthemums, for all their marvellous profusion of blossoms, did not look nearly so brilliant and striking as they do when the sun shines. The Emperor and Empress looked well, and it was remarked that his Majesty's manner of acknowledging the salutes of the foreign guests was more than usually gracious. The vernacular press says that many of the ladies were dressed so beautifully as to throw the flowers into the shade, and that three hundred umbrellas were prepared to avert a repetition of last year's calamity, when the rain suddenly poured down upon the guests and found them wholly unprepared to resist it, their umbrellas and wraps having been necessarily abandoned at the entrance.

The number of foreign *invits*, especially Americans, was exceptional. Among them were Mr. and Mr. Winston, concerning whom the vernacular press—and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, too, at that—tells a wonderful yarn, namely, that Mr. Winston paid ten thousand dollars to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company on condition that they postponed the sailing of the mail steamer for a few hours in order to enable him to be present at the party. Mr. Winston will be tickled when he learns what large ideas and liberal measures Tokyo attributes to the men of the "Windy city."

TOKYO MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE members of the above association entertained Mr. Hara Kei, Director of the Commercial Bureau, and Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, a well known journalist, at the Maple Club on the 5th inst. Both guests had just returned from a

tour in Korea and Siberia. Mr. Suyehiro delivered a long speech. He divided his subject into the following heads:—First, Railway construction at Vladivostok; second, the Military organization of Russia; third, the Influence of Russia; fourth, the Relations between Japan and Russia; and fifth, the Political and Commercial circumstances of Russia and Korea. The last theme, again, was subdivided into statistics of exports and imports; corruption of the Korean Government; Japan's commercial rights in Korea, and the future commerce of the peninsular kingdom. The speaker said that though Japanese merchants held commercial sway in Korea for a long time, they had been deprived of it since last year by the Chinese in Gensan, while in Seoul business was entirely done by Chinese. The Japanese had gradually lost their influence after the insurrection in Seoul in 1884. From that time the Japanese Government had adopted a somewhat conservative policy towards Korea, with the immediate result that the development of Japanese commerce was checked, and that the Chinese merchants gained confidence, so that now the latter had obtained the lion's share of the trade. In speaking of the future condition of Korean commerce, Mr. Suyehiro said that one of the most serious difficulties against which Japanese merchants usually have to contend is want of capital. Fortunately, however, there is over a million *yen* of Japanese money in Korea, and great profits are derivable from the fisheries. When Mr. Suyehiro had concluded his speech Mr. Hara Kei took up the theme and laid before the audience various information about Korea. He dwelt much upon the agricultural condition of the country. Afterwards, Mr. Iwaya Matsuei introduced the subject of changing the site for the next national exhibition to Tokyo, and asked the members to subscribe funds for carrying on a campaign in that sense. A sum of 121 *yen* was at once raised. The seance lasted till 9 p.m.

It is evident that a great number of Japanese are bent upon making Korea the topic of the time. In various issues we have reproduced the gist of the opinions frequently ventilated by the vernacular press on this subject, and no one can have failed to observe that, without exception, though with varying degrees of earnestness, the journalists of the day are bent upon forcing the Government to adopt a strong and uncompromising policy in the peninsular Kingdom. It is not easy to set down in a moment all the contingencies which the pursuit of such a policy might involve, nor do we propose to make the attempt. It will suffice for the moment to note the undoubted existence of this militant spirit in Japan. Messrs. Suyehiro and Hara are only two fresh advocates of national aggressiveness, and though we do not underrate the importance of such additions to the ranks of the agitators, we regard them rather as results than instigators of the general sentiment.

CHINESE NOTES.

THE bore of the Tsientang River must be an interesting and magnificent spectacle. A most attractive account of it is given in the *North China Daily News*. The Hangchow Gulf, into which the river falls, is fan-shaped, the arc being seaward. Thus when the tide rolls in from the Pacific, the volume of water entering from the mouth of the gulf is piled up with extraordinary rapidity—something like 12 feet per hour—at the narrow end, and is there precipitated over the bar at the mouth of the river in such masses that the water has not time to find its level. Forced onwards by the tidal wave behind, retarded by the sand and the opposing stream of the rapid Tsientang in front, the advancing volume acts, in the first place, like a cascade, tumbling over itself, and then finally, after a violent struggle, masters the river current, and travels onwards steadily towards the mouth of the Tsientang, twelve to thirteen miles distant. The river has two channels at its mouth, and upon these the two divisions of the bore sweep to their junction in the main stream at a point where the banks are about a mile apart. In the effort of adjusting themselves to the configuration of

the channel at their place of union, the two branches behave with wild turbulence, the rebounding waters "breaking in a succession of magnificent rollers all over the middle of the bore," the tops of the waves being here some twenty feet above the normal surface of the river in front. Then the forces of the vast volume fall into orderly coöperation, and the wall of water sweeps gradually onwards, at a rate of from 12 to 14 knots an hour, its height varying from 12 to 8 feet, its width some 1,800 yards, and its progress being accompanied by a roar like thunder. The eagle is distinguished by the features that it occurs twice a day all the year round, and that it "presents a uniform surface of cascade throughout the whole breadth of the river." The effect of the scene is often enhanced by a fleet of junks which, with all sails set and heading in all directions, come sweeping up towards Hangchow at the rate of 11 or twelve knots an hour. Our Shanghai contemporary, in concluding its interesting account, says:—

But apart from a contemplation of the eagle, the visitor to Haining will find enough to reward him for his trouble, in an inspection of the sea wall, which is one of the finest public works even of this country. The exact dates of its commencement and completion have not yet been correctly ascertained; nor has any light been thrown upon the manner in which it was built. One opinion we may confidently affirm; that the people who are capable of finding the skill to design, and the labour to execute, so well planned and costly a barricade—in the face of this impetuous flood,—are able to construct and to maintain a suitable defence against the Hoang Ho, even if the rapid deposit of loess renders it necessary to create a double channel.

So violent have been the attacks made upon Sir John Walsham by the foreign press of the settlements in China, that it is a pleasure to read the moderate and well informed remarks of the Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News*:—

The departure of the British Minister, and Lady Walsham and family, after a residence of six years among us, has caused a very regretful feeling. At no time have the honours, amenities, and socialities of the British Legation been more or better displayed than during the past period. Sir John Walsham has most worthily maintained the dignity of the British diplomatic service, and if he has not given in all cases the satisfaction which the merchants have expected, the blame ought not perhaps to attach exclusively to the Minister. His policy to a large extent is dictated from Downing Street. Our Foreign Office wants a good deal more of diplomatic pressure. A rupture with us, from pressing our rights, demanding protection, the execution of treaties, and suchlike, is quite impossible. We should be respected all the more, and the measure of our respect is the measure of the dread which our power exercises in the minds of the higher officials. Russia at the present time is all-powerful by virtue of the forthcoming Trans-Siberian Railway. Our proximity in the south-west ought to secure for us like attention. One advantage of the return of the Minister will be the placing before our Foreign Office the true aspects of Chinese diplomacy and the conduct of the government in the matter of the late disturbances. The foreign community will doubtless reap benefits in the future from the late Minister's representations at home. The merchants themselves are also largely to blame for their inactivity. The Foreign Ministers are powerless to act, to a very large extent, unless urged to and backed up by their nationals at the ports.

The recent telegraphic convention between Russia and China, by which the Great Northern Telegraphic Company is protected by a high tariff for another ten years, and which treaty is dead against the international treaties, Telegraphic Union rules, and trade in general, is a case in point: not a single protest has yet reached Peking from Shanghai. No protests have been lodged against its ratification by the Chinese Ministers, because no protests have come that those interests are in jeopardy. If all were known of the active part taken by their Minister with the Chinese authorities, less complaint would be heard from the merchants. Many of the questions have more sides than one, and although it is the duty of the foreign Minister to see only the side of his nationals and argue for it, it is very difficult with an astute people like the Chinese to act otherwise than in an upright and honourable way, and to admit that there is something to be said on the other side. It is proverbially difficult to argue on both sides of a question, and the British Minister was placed in this dilemma on the Telegraphic question by the force of circumstances. In the first place he was the mouthpiece of his government against it, and anon in favour of it when the commercial agitation forced Her Majesty's government to reverse their policy. When the history of Sir John Walsham's tenure of office is written, a fairer estimate will no doubt be formed of his policy. Much of what he wrote could not be published in

Blue Books. Throughout his career here he was always characterised as the English gentleman. At first the Chinese Ministers thought him a bit stiff; they soon came to respect him for his sterling worth, and if he had only been more strongly supported from home he would have made a most successful Minister.

A reference made elsewhere by another correspondent to Sir John and Lady Walsham's escape from the *Bokhara* disaster scarcely conveys a sufficient idea of the happy chance which saved them. All their plans had been laid to catch the *Bokhara*. Their places had been booked by that steamer, and their preparations for leaving Peking in time to catch her were fully completed. But at the very last moment some official business cropped up which compelled the Minister to remain a day longer in Peking, and the result was that the party missed the *Bokhara*, and could not leave Shanghai until October 11th, instead of sailing in the ill-fated steamer on the 8th. There can be very little doubt that but for this most fortunate, though at the moment irritating, delay in Peking, the whole Walsham family would have perished, for Sir John, even supposing that his own possibilities of rescue had been of any value, would certainly have preferred death with Lady Walsham and the children to escape without them. This happy accident finds a parallel in the case of a young resident of Hongkong who originally formed one of the cricket eleven for Shanghai. He, too, had laid all his plans to travel northward with the team, when, unexpectedly, his brother arrived in Hongkong the very day before the departure of the eleven for Shanghai, and he therefore decided to let the twelfth man take his place. Heaven certainly sent that brother at a most opportune moment.

In connection with the return journey of Sir John Walsham, a quaint incident may be noted. The *Straits Times* finds it very remarkable that British Ministers returning home from Peking always choose the French mail, and is evidently disposed to conclude that they do so because they prefer to escape contact as far as possible with their own countrymen. It would not be altogether surprising if some British Ministers, in view of the treatment extended to them by a section of the settlement's press, did feel a disposition to avoid all risk of further slights. But when we remember how it happened that Sir John Walsham choose the French mail instead of the *Bokhara*, and what the fortunate, though not optional choice entailed, it becomes very funny to read the grave observation and profound inference of the *Straits Times*. There is no need of straw to manufacture some journalistic bricks.

A peculiar incident occurred in Shanghai at the end of last month. An Englishman who contemplated sailing in the French mail steamer, was standing on the French pontoon, preparatory to stepping on board the tender, when the usher of the Supreme Court attempted to serve a writ upon him. He declined to accept service, alleging that he was on French soil and that the concurrence of the French Consul was a necessary preliminary. The usher, regarding the pretext as valid, suffered him to escape. We imagine that the usher must have had a pretty warm time ten minutes later when he reported progress to his superiors. Strange claims have occasionally been advanced as to the nature of the tenure of the so-called "French Settlement" in Shanghai, but there cannot be the slightest doubt that the place is Chinese territory, and that the British Consul's warrant is just as fully entitled to run there as it is on the French *Hatoba* in Yokohama.

The old saying that an incident owes nine-tenths of its effect to the nature of its surroundings, is well illustrated by the enthusiastic applause which the conduct of the Pescadorian Chinese towards the *Bokhara* survivors has evoked. The kindness of these people is spoken of on all sides in most glowing terms. No eulogistic expressions seem too superlative, and it is plain that this humane action will not

easily be forgotten by the foreign communities in China. Yet what the Pescadorians did, is done invariably, and has been done invariably for the past twenty-five years, by the Japanese. It is a recognised certainty that the crew of a foreign ship cast away on Japanese shores will meet with nothing but kindness and ready help, and there stands to the credit of the Kanagawa folk this extraordinary and, we imagine, unprecedented incident, that on the occasion of the loss of a P. M. Steamship Co.'s steamer, nearly the whole of her treasure—in \$20 gold pieces for the most part—was by degrees brought in by its finders and restored to the United States Consulate. What is common in Japan attracts little or no attention, however often it be repeated. What is very uncommon in China naturally assumes disproportionately large dimensions in the vista of public observation.

A correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Chinkiang, uses this suggestive language:—

Any reader of history can see as plainly as he reads this letter that the causes which led to the downfall of the Roman Empire are vigorously at work in China to-day, and one of those causes is omnipresent, grinding poverty by the side of enormous wealth. It has been said that the income of the Taotai here is nearly three times as much as that of the President of the United States. Hundreds of Chinese would be eager to accept the position of coolie at the rate of four Mexican dollars a month and keep themselves. There are many poor wretches in this badly governed Empire who are in the position of the Arctic explorers when the food became so scarce that they were obliged to subsist on the leather book covers. The true philanthropist who considers the situation, the stress of hunger and squalor to be undergone this winter by this patient suffering people, will feel his heart sink; and if he has the *sun-pa-thos*, he will open wide his purse notwithstanding the fact that his help will be but a drop in the bucket.

The possibility of foreigners' acquiring land for the purpose of building churches in the interior of China, rests on a very precarious basis, if the *Shenpao's* account of the matter be correct. According to that journal, the process prescribed by the treaties is that a Chinaman proposing to sell his property to a mission must first report to the local administrator who has to ascertain whether or not the erection of such buildings would affect the *Fungshui* of the neighbourhood. If the administrator judges that no ill consequences will ensue, then he sanctions the sale of the land, but not otherwise. The *Shenpao* alleges that an official proclamation has been issued reminding the people of this procedure, which apparently, they have of late been remiss in observing. If the erection of Christian churches really depends upon *Fungshui* being favourable, the Chinese being the augurs, these edifices ought not to be numerous in the Middle Kingdom.

Captain Lang's unpleasant experience in the Chinese Navy—an experience which is not likely to be forgotten or forgiven for many a day by the British Government—seems to have been repeated in the case of a German officer. The Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Daily News* says:—"It is now definitely announced that Mr. Von Hanneken has terminated his engagement with the Chinese Government; and it is pretty freely understood that he has done so under circumstances essentially similar to those under which Captain Lang retired,—a victim to a strong combination of envy, ignorance, and intrigue."

THE "NICHU NICHU" ON COUNT OKI'S RESIGNATION.

THE fact that Count Oki, President of the Privy Council was implicated, willingly or unwillingly, in the revelation of information which ought to have been kept secret, is now pretty generally regarded as true, and that Count Oki has presented his resignation in consequence is also certain. We have mentioned that the *Nichi Nichi* condemns Count Ito's action in endeavouring to retain Count Oki's services, and it will interest our readers to learn something of that journal's line of argument. The *Nichi Nichi*

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

says that many reasons have been assigned for the Count's resignation. Some attribute it to his long illness; and others are equally positive that the incident of the secrets of the Educational Department having been divulged is entirely unconnected with his present position. But these reasons are worthless; for according to the former hypothesis the Count ought to have left the Cabinet in June, his malady being at that time said to be very acute; while with regard to the latter, it is plain that no official in the Government is at liberty to divulge administrative secrets, especially when the act is prompted by commercial considerations. No high official can venture to expose himself to the disgrace of such suspicions. It is therefore right for the Count to present his resignation. Undoubtedly he sets much store by his honour, and shrinks from disgracing his prominent official position. On the other hand, since he wishes to resign in order to preserve his honour, none of his colleagues in the Cabinet ought to advise him to remain in office. Yet it is reported that nearly every member, from Count Ito downwards, has tendered this advice, and that Count Oki has promised to remain quietly where he is. What a farce, to be sure! When the public heard the intelligence of Sawayanagi's resignation, they attacked Mr. Kono, Minister for Education, because the consequences of the affair had not been extended to Count Oki. But that was a misconception. No single Minister can take measures to punish a colleague, since the latter is appointed by the Sovereign and is responsible to the Sovereign. The only power by which such a step can be taken is the Cabinet itself. The Cabinet recognized the fault of Sawayanagi, and dismissed him; but when there is question of extending the blame to a colleague primarily in fault, there is hesitation. If such a singular strange policy be pursued, how can the present Ministers hope to hold the reins of Administration? Count Oki, indeed, can excuse himself by saying that he presented his resignation, but what excuse can the other Ministers of State find? The *Nichi Nichi* is especially anxious to elicit a satisfactory reply from the mouth of Count Ito.

To ordinary observers it must seem that the manner of dealing with this affair should be largely influenced by details which have not yet been published. The chief point is, how did the information furnished to Count Oki become public property. If the disclosure did not occur through any act of his which can reasonably be called careless or a breach of trust, we fail to see why he should suffer. Indeed, we find it difficult to comprehend why the Director of the *Tosho* Bureau in the Department of Education should have been obliged to resign at all. If it be necessary for a Director of a Bureau to withhold official confidences from a former Minister of State and present President of the Privy Council, the margin of permissible trust must be exceedingly narrow in Japan. Supposing that Count Oki's position warranted the confidence placed in him, then Mr. Sawayanagi should not be blamed for trusting him. In other words, supposing that Count Oki's official position guaranteed his circumspection, then Mr. Sawayanagi might with propriety have made him the repository of official secrets. On the other hand, if the Count's official position did not bind him to reticence, then he, in turn, ought not to forfeit that position for speaking. That both should be driven out of office simultaneously is a perplexing result. We cannot help suspecting that this is another case of the sentimental agitation to which the Japanese sometimes—may we not say often?—lend themselves. It is not to be conceived for a moment that Count Oki deliberately betrayed an important official confidence for the sake of some paltry commercial consideration. The information he possessed must have been obtained surreptitiously and without his knowledge by the booksellers. In that case the whole matter might be cleared up by simply explaining the details. Such would be the course pursued in the West. But no. In

Japan the first thought is, an untoward thing has happened; and the second, some one must suffer for it. Mr. Sawayanagi resigns because a secret connected with his Bureau has been divulged, never mind how or by whom. Count Oki is invited to resign also because the secret passed through him *en route* to the public. Mr. Sawayanagi may have been perfectly justified in trusting the President of the Privy Council, an old statesman of nearly forty years' service. Count Oki may have taken every reasonable precaution to guard the secret. But nobody stoops to such details as these. The issue alone fills the whole vista of public vision; the secret is out; let a sacrifice be made.

Were this incident less open to query it might be recognised as a cause of congratulation. Official secrecy is not sufficiently observed in Japan. Information which ought never to be published, frequently finds its way into the press, and conferences which in other countries are strictly veiled from general ken, become known somehow or other in Japan. It is therefore a wholesome and welcome sign that the necessity for discretion is beginning to be recognised. But we wish that the recognition should take a more practical and less sentimental form.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO, M.P., ON THE KOREAN QUESTION.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO, who is acknowledged to be the most powerful debater in the House of Representatives, delivered an interesting address on the Korean question at a meeting of the Tokyo Educational Society held on Sunday last in the Kōseikan, Kobikicho, Tokyo. The exceptionally popular festival of the National Cemetery at Kudan, and the chrysanthemum blossoms at Dangozaka, kept away many of the usual attendants at public lectures. Despite these circumstances, however, the meeting was very well attended, for, when the well known orator ascended the platform, all the seats were packed with attentive listeners except one or two rows in the rear. On any subject Mr. Inoue is an entertaining speaker, but on the Korean question he has special claims to be heard, having been for several years an adviser to the Korean Foreign Office as well as editor of the *Korean Official Gazette*. He was in Sōul at the time of the celebrated *emeute* of 1884; and he is personally acquainted with many other interesting episodes in the modern history of the peninsular kingdom. These circumstances, together with the report that he is engaged in preparing interrogations to be put to the Government on the Korean question in the coming session of the Diet, had made the audience so impatient to hear him that the speaker advertized to deliver the first address was forced to terminate his speech abruptly about midway.

Mr. Inoue commenced by congratulating his countrymen on the attention paid by them to the foreign policy of the empire. He extended hearty acknowledgment to the labours rendered in this sphere by men like Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, Mr. Oishi Masami, and the members of the Tōhō Kyōkai (Oriental Association). But he regretted to observe a tendency to become engrossed by abstract principles and distant contingencies of foreign relations, leaving unnoticed practical and important questions daily arising in Japan's intercourse with foreign states. To discover such questions, it was not necessary to go farther than Korea. He invited his audience to study with him a few of the more important of the Korean problems. The first related to the working of the telegraph line between Sōul and Fusan. That the line would be of little service to Japan in case of emergency had been conspicuously proved in June last. On the 16th of that month, an attempt had been made in Sōul to blow up the Tai Won-kun's residence. A telegram reporting the occurrence had been despatched by the Japanese Legation on the morning of the 17th. The message had taken a week to reach Fusan, where it had been delivered on the 23rd. Had

anything happened to the line? Certainly not, for commercial telegrams had been transmitted all the while much as usual. Moreover, a telegram which the Foreign Office in Tokyo had wired on the 23rd of the same month, asking for detailed information, had not arrived at the Japanese Legation in Sōul until the 27th. Such mysterious delay had not been confined to telegraphic messages. A letter mailed for Tokyo by the *Fiji Shimpō's* Sōul correspondent had experienced a similar fate. Mr. Inoue then fully entered into the circumstances under which the Sōul-Fusan line was constructed, relating how Japan had obtained in 1883 the consent of Korea for the construction of the line; how China had stepped in, compelling Korea to break faith with Japan and to give to the Middle Kingdom complete control for 25 years over all lines constructed in the peninsula; how, after protracted negotiations, Korea had been induced, as a sort of compromise, to construct the Sōul-Fusan line at her own expense. Thus Japan had lost her opportunity, and the only line of communication with the Korean capital was now in the hands of men evidently interested in stopping Japanese messages. At all events the unpardonable irregularities that had occurred at the time of the attempted outrage in the Tai Won-kun's residence, ought to be enquired into by the Japanese Government, and full satisfaction obtained for the insult put upon this country. At this point, Mr. Inoue referred to the Tientsin Treaty of 1885. Count Ito was very proud of the Treaty, and indeed, so far as the convention itself was concerned, the speaker readily acknowledged the great service rendered to Japan by the present Minister President of State, seeing that Japan's rights in the peninsular kingdom had been placed on an equality with those of China. But of what avail could the Treaty be, when in practice Japan could not even count on receiving timely information of any important event in Korea?

The second question to which Mr. Inoue directed attention, was the illegal prohibition of the exportation of beans by the Korean Government in 1889. This measure had inflicted upon resident Japanese merchants an aggregate loss of 140,000 *yen* approximately, for they had not been able to obtain delivery of a staple on which they had advanced cash to the Korean farmers. The Korean Government had been at once approached on the subject of indemnifying the loss, but by various pretexts the claims of the Japanese Minister had been put off, and the question remained still unsettled. Mr. Hara, Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office, had recently gone to Sōul to see what could be done about the matter. His mission, it was said, had not been productive of any definite results.

The third and last point which the speaker wished to bring to the notice of his audience was the fisheries question. Japan had obtained, in 1883, the privilege of fishing along the coast of Korea. But subsequently, in view of peculiar circumstances connected with the fishermen, or rather fisherwomen, of the island of Saishu (濟州島), this empire had agreed to waive the privilege for a certain period of time. On the expiration of that period, Japanese fishermen had begun to ply their calling off the island of Saishu, whereupon the inhabitants of the place had given them a savage reception. The matter had at once become a subject of negotiation between the two Governments, but remained still unsettled. Meanwhile, an act of barbarity had again been committed, and on this second occasion the local Governor had gone the length of expelling the Japanese fishermen from the coast of the island. Now what did these questions teach? They taught that the Japanese Government had been guilty of excessive timidity and weakness in dealing with Korea since the year 1884. The prestige acquired and held by Japan in Korea up to the disturbance of 1884, has been suffered to wane conspicuously through the helplessness and

apathy of the statesmen in power. The position of Japan in Korea resembled that of a good-natured, but weak-willed old man quietly jostled out of the wrestling arena by a cunning child. By way of illustration, Mr. Inouye referred to the attitude of the Japanese Government towards the occupation of Port Hamilton by England. At that time he had been adviser to the Korean Government; and becoming acquainted with the fact of the occupation in the course of official routine, he had reported the event to the Japanese Minister at Seoul, who, on consultation with his superiors at home, had replied that Japan did not propose to take any notice of the matter. Would the Japanese Government have assumed such an attitude of indifference, had the thing happened prior to 1884? Mr. Inouye had submitted to the Government various interrogations relating to Korea in the first session of the Diet, when Viscount Awoki, though refraining from dealing directly with the points at issue, had promised that no further cause of complaint should be given. Had this promise been fulfilled? The speaker answered in the negative, but took care to observe or hint that the blame rested, not with those in power since then, but with the originators of the weak and passive policy, namely, Count Ito and Count Inouye, whom he designated as the original culprits. He further declared that Japan's invertebrate attitude has not been confined to the case of Korea, but as to this point he refrained from details. What was to be done in future? On the one hand, the Japanese should devote serious attention to the practical questions of foreign intercourse; while, on the other, the Government should supply the public with true and undisguised information about the country's foreign relations, within the limits of due diplomatic secrecy, and should exercise more care in the choice of diplomatic functionaries despatched abroad. Above all, he urged the importance of adopting an active and strong policy, not only towards Korea, but also towards every other foreign country, and he declared that the empire's earnestness in her new policy should be proved by some practical test. What the test should be he did not definitely indicate, but he alluded, in a significant tone, to the sudden rise of Japan's prestige in the East after the Formosan Expedition. At the same time, he disavowed any intention of suggesting an invasion of Korea, though repeating his expression of ardent desire that something should be done to recover the country's lost prestige in the peninsular kingdom.

BUDDHISM IN JAPAN.

THE regeneration of Buddhism is a very popular topic in a certain circle of Japanese scholars, but to all appearances their writings on the subject have not yet produced any noteworthy result. The difficulty seems to be that there does not exist at present any priest equal to the task of reformation. Nobody appears to question, however, that the time for reformation is nearly ripe. The *Ajiya*, a periodical very favourable to Buddhism, thinks that the day has passed irrevocably when any form of religion can hope to exercise over the hearts of men a hold comparable with that exercised by theological superstition during ages of comparative ignorance. The progress of science, says our contemporary, is daily narrowing the sphere of religion, and the Buddhist priests had better console themselves with the knowledge that not their creed only is losing influence. At the same time, the *Ajiya* is not without hope that Buddhism may yet recover something of ancient power. The present scarcity of able men in the ranks of its priesthood is not likely to be remedied within a short space of years, inasmuch as the requirements of other departments of life are absorbing virtually all the available talent, and will continue to do so for many years to come. In feudal days the priesthood was the only sphere where men of genius but insignificant lineage could hope to profitably utilize their ability. Consequently, those days were productive of great reformers and able teachers. But now the priesthood

is composed, for the most part, of the lowest dregs of society, bankrupt spendthrifts, knaves who have no other place of refuge left, and good-for-nothing fellows incapable of earning a livelihood in any sterner line of life. Moreover, the number of priests is unduly great. The first step towards the regeneration of Japanese Buddhism should be to purge the priesthood of all its undesirable elements. This measure is of urgent importance, even from an economical point of view alone; for many temples are quite unable to maintain their present staff of priests. We read that one of the causes of the increase of worthless priests is the repeal of the law of celibacy which used to be rigidly enforced in all the sects, except the *Shinshu*. The liberty of modern times has been followed, in many cases, by the introduction of a hereditary system in the appointment of priests.

THE MASON AFFAIR.

A SPECIAL correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing from Peking, says that the Mason Affair has once more come before the public. Our readers remember that Mason was charged with secretly procuring gunpowder and arms for the Ko-lao-hui (a secret society in China). Arraigned on this charge, he was convicted and imprisoned. But since he left Shanghai, being deported to England, no news has reached China. It is rumoured that he has since then been living at Foochow disguised as a tea-broker. In the middle of July it was reported that he came to Nanking, and urged the members of the Ko-lao-hui to renew their treasonable doings. The Chinese Government discovered the fact, and at once requested the British Authorities to adopt rigorous measures. The first application in this sense was despatched some two months ago, but the British Government took no notice of it. After the request had been repeated several times, however, the British Government at last sent an inferior official to confer with the Taotai of Shanghai. But the latter refused to approach the question under such circumstances, for in view of the importance of the affair, the Taotai considered it a slight to China that an official of such junior position should be entrusted with its conduct. The British commissioner thereupon left Shanghai in high dudgeon, and as soon as he arrived at Hongkong he despatched a telegram to his Government giving information of the fact. On the receipt of this telegram the British Government were so indignant that they at once directed the British Minister in Peking to open formal negotiations with the Chinese Authorities. Of late, adds the correspondent, the relations between Great Britain and China have been very harmonious, but the present question has involved some friction. How it will end there is as yet no certainty, but the correspondent promises to lose no time in communicating the result to the *Nichi Nichi*.

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We think that without waiting until our Tokyo contemporary's correspondent learns the end of the above interesting incident, we can submit a few facts which will facilitate knowledge. On October 29th, 1891, Mason was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. His term of punishment consequently expired on July 29th, 1892. In addition to the sentence of imprisonment, he was ordered to find two securities, in \$2,500 each, for his good behaviour, and if he failed to find them, he was to be deported to England at his own expense. On July 26th, he was brought up in H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, Shanghai, before Chief Justice Hannen, and being asked whether he had found, or was prepared to find, such securities, he replied in the negative. Thereupon the Chief Justice ordered him to be deported at the termination of his sentence, and deported he was at the end of July. It will be seen, therefore, that the story of his arrival at Nanking in the middle of July is a palpable falsehood: he was then safely lodged in the Shanghai Consular Prison. Further, the procedure attributed to the British Government is manifestly absurd. Had Mason escaped en route for England, and resumed his treasonable practices in China, the Tsung-li

Yamên would have approached H.B.M.'s Representative in Peking, not the Foreign Secretary in Downing Street, and the idea of the latter's sending an inferior official from London to confer with the Taotai of Shanghai is one of the most comical results of ignorance ever published. We venture to denounce the whole history as a baseless *canard*, and to advise the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* not to mar its well earned reputation for accuracy by admitting to its columns the lucubrations of a correspondent who is without not only essential information of the notable events he discusses, but also the most rudimentary knowledge of official procedure.

CONFERENCE OF THREE COMPANIES.

To facilitate the transmission of parcels, the Department of Communications ordered the Japan Railway Company, the Tanko Railway Company, and the Japan Mail Steamship Company to make some arrangement for connected service. The three companies held a number of conferences but could not come to any agreement, as the programme presents many pros and cons. For instance, the Japan Railway Company desires to open direct communication with the Tanko Railway Company, by utilizing the railway from Tokyo to Aomori; and by establishing a regular steamship service between Aomori and Mororan, leaving Hakodate out in the cold. This scheme would greatly increase the business of the railway companies. But, on the other hand, the Japan Mail Steamship Company oppose the proposition as it would deprive them of a large amount of business. At present the service between Aomori and Hakodate costs the Company some twenty to thirty thousand *yen* per annum owing to the scanty quantity of cargo procurable. Therefore, were the route changed to Mororan, which has a still smaller population than Hakodate, the loss to the Company would be prohibitive. Moreover, the proposed route is known to be one of the most dangerous in the empire, so that the Company would have to engage the services of specially expert captains and officers. Further, the change to this route would mean that the Company must lose the passengers and cargo now shipped from Yokohama to Hakodate. Under such circumstances, the Steamship Company absolutely refuse to endorse the above programme. The Directors point out that since they were ordered by their charter to transmit postal matter to Hokkaido, they have never been guilty of any mismanagement; therefore, if the Government desires to extend the route or alter the original arrangement, some appropriate subsidy must be granted: otherwise the Company cannot possibly agree to a ruinous proposition. How the matter will end is a problem awaiting solution. But it is rumoured that the Directors of the two Railway Companies intend to adopt a measure similar to that practised now by the Sanyo Railway Company namely, to charter steamers, and open the new route on their own account. These facts are published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

THE DIET AND THE ANNUAL SURPLUS.

THE method of disposing of the annual surplus of 6,500,000 *yen* resulting from the reductions effected in the first session of the Diet, has yet to be determined. Writing on this subject, the *Keisai Zasshi* (the Economist) observes that the present Cabinet will not introduce any Bill for the transfer of the prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury or for the establishment of a steel foundry, though both of these measures were submitted to the Diet last spring by the Matsukata Ministry. The only project which the Cabinet intends to advance for employing the surplus is said to be a Bill for the construction of war vessels. But that will absorb only a small part of the amount. Hence it would seem, says the *Keisai*, that the Government's object is to leave the Diet to find some suitable means of utilizing the surplus. What then will be the Diet's plan? The Progressivists are very plain on this subject. They aim at augmenting the surplus to about 12 million *yen* by further reductions in public expenses, and devoting the amount thus realized to the reduc-

tion of the land tax, the reassessment of the taxable value of land, and the abolition of the duties on exports. The Radicals, on the contrary, are anything but decided in their views. Straightforward and disinterested men they certainly may be accounted, but it does not appear that they are at home in financial questions, nor does the public credit them with possessing any definite plan about the surplus. They hold very erroneous views as to the necessity of giving pecuniary protection to the silk industry, and as to the extension of the maritime carrying trade. With regard to the questions of the reduction of the land tax and the reassessment of the taxable value of land, they are evidently at a loss, and though recognising the importance of abolishing export duties, their unwillingness to accede to any further reductions of the public expenditure, prevents them from putting their hand resolutely to this branch of the tariff. The *Keisai* laments this incomprehensible hesitation on the part of politicians of the *Fiyu-to's* standing and influence. As to the National Unionists, they advocate the use of the surplus for the transfer of prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury, and many of them are in favour of reassessing the taxable value of land, as well as of abolishing export duties. But few of their party will support a project for the reduction of the land tax. Such being the attitudes of the three great parties towards the problem of the surplus, the *Keisai* apprehends that the coming session may possibly close without any measure for its disposal being adopted. To demonstrate the impossibility of satisfying the wishes of all the parties at the same time, our contemporary gives the following table, showing the amounts of money required for the various schemes which the different political bodies advocate:—

Transfer of the prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury	YEN. 3,200,000
Reassessment of the taxable value of land	5,000,000
Reduction of the land tax	7,000,000
Abolition of export duties	1,500,000
Revision of tax on confectionery	500,000
Revision of other taxes	2,000,000
Total	19,200,000

It is evident that the wishes of all can not be satisfied simultaneously. They must be prepared to approach the solution of this question in a perfectly fair and impartial spirit, if they really mean to promote the benefit of the people. The surplus has lain idle in the Treasury for three years, and it is high time that something should be done to replace it in circulation. The *Keisai's* proposal is to apply it for transferring the prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury, for abolishing export duties, and for revising various minor taxes.

SHOOTING LICENSES.

According to the vernacular press, the only foreigners who have applied for and obtained shooting licences, up to the present, under the provisions of the new Regulations, are three, namely, a Korean, a Mexican, and a Portuguese. In the case of the two former, the matter is simple enough. The Mexican and Korean treaties with Japan have no extraterritorial clauses, and all citizens of Mexico or subjects of Korea, while within Japanese territory, are under Japanese jurisdiction. Thus the prohibitions of the Game Regulations are applicable to them at once, without any diplomatic intervention, and can be enforced against them by Japanese tribunals. To observe the prohibitions is the only condition necessary for enjoying the privileges of the Regulations, and Mexicans and Koreans can therefore obtain licenses at once. As to Portugal, however, the Radical organ declares itself much perplexed. The reason assigned by its informants for the immediate extension of the privilege to Portuguese subjects, is that extraterritoriality has been abolished in their case. "If that be so," says the *Fiyu*, "are we to understand that Portuguese residents receive the same treatment as Japanese subjects; and if they do, why are they not required to pay land tax, local taxes, and so forth like the Japanese?" It is surprising that the *Fiyu*, at this late period, does not yet understand the position in which

Portuguese subjects stand. The treaty with Portugal has not been denounced. It stands precisely as it always stood, with the one exception that Portuguese subjects have become judiciable by Japanese Law Courts, and are therefore directly amenable to Japanese laws. But they do not receive in other respects the treatment of Japanese subjects: they cannot trade in the interior or visit it without a passport; they cannot own land outside the settlements; they cannot enter into partnerships with Japanese, and so forth. So far, however, as concerns the Game Regulations, or any other Japanese laws, their prohibitions are binding upon Portuguese subjects in Japan, and can be enforced against them by Japanese tribunals. Consequently, no diplomatic action is required to extend the Regulations to Portuguese residents, and the latter therefore obtain shooting licenses at once. We do not perceive anything perplexing about this state of affairs.

THE EASTERN RADICAL PARTY.

THE above political association held a meeting, to celebrate its establishment, in the Nakamura-ro on Sunday last. The garden was decorated with flags of all nations and lanterns. Mr. Oi Kentaro, promoter and leader of the Party, took the chair. The following declaration of policy and Rules of the Association were read out:—

POLICY OF THE PARTY.

1. To maintain the prestige of the Imperial Household, and to extend popular rights, thus achieving the practical reality of Constitutional Government.
2. To adopt uncompromising measures in foreign policy and thus assert the national rights.
3. To adopt a progressive policy in internal affairs, and thus increase the national wealth.
4. To arrange the finances of the nation, and thus gradually lessen the burdens of the people as much as the requirements of the empire will allow.
- To protect poor labourers specially.

RULES OF THE PARTY.

- Art. 1.—The business office shall be established in Tokyo.
- Art. 2.—The following officers shall be appointed in the office:—Managers 3, Clerks 2.
- Art. 3.—The Managers shall discharge all the business of the Association; and the clerks shall transact miscellaneous affairs under the orders of Managers.
- Art. 4.—The managers shall hold a meeting every month, and may hold special meetings when any important business requires adjustment.
- Art. 5.—General meetings shall be held in Spring and Autumn, and the policy of the Party shall be determined at such meetings. In the event of the Managers passing a resolution that an important question calls for solution, a special general meeting may be held.
- Art. 6.—The Managers shall report the transactions and accounts of the Association at the general meeting.
- Art. 7.—Any person desiring to become a member of the Party must apply to the office with the introduction of at least two members of the Party. Any person desiring to resign must also apply to the office, but need not have any supporter.

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After the above platform and rules had been passed, Mr. Oshima Somenosuke delivered a speech on the organization of the Party, and this concluded the celebration. At dinner, afterwards, Mr. Oi Kentaro declared in favour of universal franchise. He said that the national spirit is degenerating fast, and that the cause of the trouble is the Diet as well as Clan Government. To revive that spirit, it is necessary to improve the Diet and the Government; and to the latter end universal franchise is essential.

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There is no mistake about Mr. Oi Kentaro and his followers: they are out and out Radicals. It is pleasant, at all events, to find some coterie of politicians who propose to themselves and to the public a distinct issue. Critics may say that Mr. Oi has been clever enough to detect the political hiatus of the era; that it does not greatly matter to him what complexion he assumes, but that, observing how lack of vertebrate purpose has brought about the disintegration of party after party in Japan, he sees a unique opportunity for any leader who offers to the weary public something with a little "snap" about it. That may or may not be true. We do not venture to discuss it, preferring rather to accept facts and leave the probing of motives to those who like such work. The facts in this case are that

before parliamentary institutions have been two years in existence, universal franchise has been adopted as the shibboleth of a political party. And not only universal suffrage, but also something very like socialism, and a kind of foreign policy which might soon endanger the national existence of Japan. These things are disquieting enough. Mr. Oi will find followers because he has something tangible to offer them, if for no other reason. But to outsiders it seems almost comical that at the head of a programme based on universal suffrage he should declare a purpose to maintain the prestige of the Emperor; and that side by side with professions of a progressive domestic policy, he should announce his resolve to exclude all foreigners from the interior.

THE MANNER OF EXTENDING THE PUBLICATIONS OF JAPANESE REGULATIONS TO FOREIGNERS.

WE observe that although the United States Consulate-General is usually very prompt in taking necessary administrative action with regard to its nationals in Japan, it has not published any notification about the recently issued Game Regulations. The course generally pursued by the American Consul-General in these cases has been to call the attention of his nationals, by notification, to the circumstance of such and such a Japanese law or set of Regulations having been promulgated. This has not been done in the present instance. But the omission, we learn, does not imply that the Game Regulations are ignored, or that American citizens may not take advantage of their privileges. On the contrary, the Consul-General, in refraining from any direct action, has adopted a view which seems to be perfectly logical and consistent. America's attitude with regard to Japanese laws is that they are binding, *qua* Japanese laws, on her citizens in Japan. They need not be re-enacted, nor need any special penalties be provided. The penalties already prescribed by American law are applied, whenever applicable, and when penalties directly applicable do not exist, the case is treated as a misdemeanour. In accordance with this principle, enunciated by the Government of the United States, the present Consul-General assumes the position that no necessity exists to publicly call his nationals' attention to any Japanese law. The mere fact of a law being duly promulgated is in itself sufficient to necessitate observance of its provisions. This procedure, or rather absence of procedure, completely rounds off the attitude of United States officials towards Japanese laws. The law is there and must be observed. Whatever machinery the Japanese Government employs to promulgate it, that machinery is sufficient in the eyes of the American Consul-General.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

THE vernacular press takes much interest in the political affairs of foreign countries as well as in any noteworthy event that occurs there. After the general elections in England and the formation of a new Cabinet, many of the leading papers in the capital discussed the situation and showed an intimate knowledge of the strength of the Gladstonian Government. The deaths of Lord Tennyson and Mr. Whittier were also spoken of at length. The *Kokumin Shimbun* devoted a leading article to the latter, eulogising him as a true popular poet; and the *Kokkai* and other papers published articles on the English Poet-Laureate. To these things we have already alluded. We now observe that journalistic eyes were very keenly concentrated on the Presidential Election. The day after the receipt of the news, every paper in the capital contained some account. Among their articles the most noteworthy are those of the *Fiji Shimpō*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Hochi Shimbun*, and the *Kokkai*. Everyone of these papers gave a portrait of Mr. Cleveland; the *Fiji Shimpō* published a portrait of Mr. Stevenson as well, and the *Mainichi Shimbun* contained skillfully engraved pictures of both Cleveland and Harrison, while the *Fiji*, the *Kokumin*, and the *Kokkai* devoted long

leading articles to the subject. The *Yiji* assigns various reasons for Mr. Cleveland's victory. It says that he has always been upright, and that he does not act simply for the benefit of his party. Hence, he was well regarded by independent as well as by some of the Republicans themselves. Again, in the last election, when Mr. Harrison was returned, it appears that bribery was freely practised by the successful side, some three million dollars having been spent in this manner, according to rumour, which proceedings doubtless discredited the Republicans more or less.

The *Kokumin* congratulates Mr. Cleveland on his victory, and states the hopes it founds on the administration of the newly returned President. These hopes are four in number, as follow:—After the War of the North and South the Republicans held the Presidency for over 30 years, except 4 years when the Democrats were in power. All sorts of abuses gradually came into existence during these long years, and the most suitable statesman to eradicate them is Mr. Cleveland. In the second place, the Republicans profess the creed of Protection, and one of the grossest pieces of maladministration under Mr. Harrison was the Mc'Kinley Bill. But Mr. Cleveland and the Democrats have openly declared themselves free-traders, and will gradually inaugurate a wholesome system. Thirdly, civil service reform will be carried out by Mr. Cleveland. President Harrison appointed to the position of Postmaster-General a man whose only claim was that he had contributed largely to the expenses of the political campaign. Such a scandal will not occur under the Cleveland administration, whatever personal considerations may exist. Fourthly, President Harrison spent the surplus of 130,000,000 dollars on army pensions, but Mr. Cleveland will sanction nothing of the kind.

Such, in brief, are the views of the vernacular press. We make no comment on them, but reproduce them for the edification of our American readers.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION AFFAIR.

THE Barristers' Examination scandal excited public interest some weeks ago, but people ceased to think more about it when the discovery was made that the culprit had trusted to memory for the questions to which he had had access as a copyist, and that he had divulged them to a relation of his own, who in turn had sold them to other candidates. The judgment of the Court before which these persons were arraigned has already appeared in our columns. In connection with the affair, however, it was reported that a certain Yuruka had attempted to obtain money by selling examination questions prepared by himself, which he alleged to be the genuine questions. This Yuruka, and another youth named Sekiuchi, have been tried on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences, and the following judgment has been delivered:—

JUDGMENT.

YURUKA SANEAKI, Defendant, Clerk of a Law Court.

SEKIUCHI HYOKICHI, Defendant, Employé in a Barrister's Office.

With regard to the charge of obtaining money by false pretences preferred against the defendants, as examined in the Preliminary Court, the following are the facts elicited:—While Sekiuchi Hyokichi, defendant, was in Tokyo in August, 1892, on business in connection with a law suit, Watanabe Kaoru, a relation of his, came to visit him. Watanabe said that he had failed to pass the Barristers' Examination several times, and that there was no hope of his passing unless he could obtain the examination papers beforehand. He requested Sekiuchi to procure them for him, promising him a handsome reward for his trouble. Sekiuchi was acquainted with one Kobayashi Mitsutaro, who had been a probationer of the Judicial Department when Sekiuchi served in the same Department. Hearing that Kobayashi's functions were connected with the Committee of Examination for Barristers, Sekiuchi promised Watanabe to procure the questions for him from Kobayashi. Sekiuchi therefore invited Kobayashi to the Fujimi-ro (restaurant) in Iidamachi, on or about the 24th of August, and requested him to give him the papers, but without success. Thereupon, knowing that Yuruka Saneaki, the defendant, was an intimate friend of Kobayashi, Sekiuchi thought it advisable to ask Yuruka to apply once more to Kobayashi, and accordingly called, the next evening, on Yuruka at his house. It happened that Kobayashi also was in the house, and thereupon Sekiuchi invited the two to the Shuyetei, a wine-shop in Kanda, where, after drinking some wine, Sekiuchi proposed that they should proceed to the Yoshiwara to spend the night. But Kobayashi excused himself *en route*, so the other two went to the Yoshiwara, and spent the night at a brothel. The following morning, they returned as far as Asakusa Temple, and breakfasted at the Ichoku in Asakusa Park. Sekiuchi asked Yuruka whether there were any means of obtaining the examination papers from Kobayashi. In reply, Yuruka declared that he also was a candidate at the next examination for barristers, and that, inasmuch as Kobayashi was an intimate friend of his and had promised to assist him in every way, there would be no difficulty whatever in obtaining the papers. Sekiuchi at once sent for Watanabe, and introduced him to Yuruka, whereupon the latter declared that he should do his best to assist Watanabe. Subsequently, Yuruka called on Kobayashi at the Judicial Department, and begged him to divulge the secret. Kobayashi was not willing to comply with the request, but he did not definitely refuse. Therefore, on the 4th of October, Yuruka invited the said Kobayashi to dinner at the Nishiki-tei in Kanda, and again asked him to divulge the secret. Kobayashi thereupon produced a list of his debts, and said that being unable to pay them, he was in trouble. Thus, indirectly, he asked for a consideration. He also stated that some of the questions had escaped his memory, so he should be obliged to reflect about them. While they were engaged in the negotiation, Sekiuchi came into the room, and they accordingly parted for that evening. On the following day the three assembled at the Nishiki-tei again. Kobayashi showed his figures, and asked Sekiuchi whether he was ready to pay a sum of 500 yen, but added that as he had forgotten several of the questions on the Code of Civil Procedure and the Commercial Code, he should like to see the questions compiled by Yuruka to refresh his memory. He further said that the Wakamatsu Local Court having no candidate for the examination, the papers had not been sent there, but that if any one applied to that Court, the papers would have to be despatched, and he should then have an opportunity of refreshing his memory by reading them once more. Yuruka thereupon took Kobayashi to the house of Watanabe, and they negotiated there. Kobayashi declared that he had forgotten two or three questions, and did not divulge anything that day. But judging from the conduct of Kobayashi, Yuruka thought that he could obtain the questions, so he took a collection of questions to Kobayashi on the following day for the purpose of refreshing his memory. Frequently he called on Kobayashi at the latter's house and office, until the 9th October when Kobayashi at last definitely refused to comply with the request. Previously to the above event, Watanabe had negotiated with Murozumi Daisaku, Masunaga Tamaki, Jojo Motozo, Watanabe Kumakichi and some others, and they had agreed to pay the expense jointly. While Watanabe was engaged negotiating with Yuruka and others, for the purpose of collecting funds, that is to say, during the period between the first conference with Kobayashi and the latter's final refusal, Watanabe demanded a sum of over 300 yen from the others on various pretexts—such as to pay the cost of secret-meetings with Kobayashi; to defray expenses incurred by Yuruka; to discharge Yuruka's old debts, so as not to lose his good offices, and so forth. Watanabe and Sekiuchi lodged at the Seigaian in Asakusa, and enjoyed themselves for over 10 days with the funds thus collected. To obtain the questions, however, a large sum was still required, and as Murozumi and the rest had no more money, Watanabe communicated the plot to Kumeda Shonosuke, another candidate for the examination. The latter was also anxious to obtain the papers, so he promised to pay a sum of 1,000 yen. Watanabe thereupon communicated the fact to Yuruka, and asked him to divulge the secret without any more delay. But as Yuruka had been refused by Kobayashi, he could not produce the genuine papers. He therefore resolved to prepare a set of questions in fulfilment of his promise, and for the purpose of obtaining more money for the forged document. On the 11th of October, he extracted twelve questions from his collection of questions, and took them to the Seigaian in Asakusa, where he met Sekiuchi, Watanabe, Jojo, and Kumeda, and informed them that he had obtained the questions from Kobayashi at last, and that a sum of 500 yen was demanded by way of consideration. After some bargaining, he agreed to sell the questions for 300 yen, and on these terms he dictated the false questions to Watanabe. Kumeda then handed him three 100 yen cheques of the First National Bank, and these Yuruka gave to Sekiuchi to cash. Kumeda, however, suspecting the genuineness of the questions, went to the First National Bank the following day to stop payment of the cheques, and Yuruka consequently failed to obtain the cash on that occasion. But Sekiuchi induced Kumeda to re-write one cheque for 100 yen in exchange for the former, and that sum was finally procured, the remaining two cheques being held by Yuruka. Watanabe Kaoru, believing the questions to be genuine, sold them to Masunaga, Murozumi, and Watanabe at the Mangan, a restaurant in Sambancho, on the 11th of October for 30 yen in cash and a promissory note from each. Watanabe also showed them to Kuniyoshi Takuro and Kojima

Shusaku and received 30 yen. The sums thus collected were devoted to paying various debts incurred in obtaining the questions, but the promissory notes were subsequently returned. Kuniyoshi showed the questions to Iotta Masao, who showed them to Shiro Momokichi, Taketa Hatsutaro, Kawai Shin, and Shimizu Masahiro; from whom they passed to Ito Tomokichi; thence to Hanzawa Shokichi and Kono Shusaku, and finally to Kuroda Kenfu. On the other hand, Murozumi Daisaku, after obtaining the questions from Yuruka, communicated them to Hayashi Kurajiro; by whom they were given to Maruyama Toshio; by him to Nagata Tokusuke; by him to Nagaya Seizo and Hotta Danshi; by Nagaya to Hirose Takisaburo and Yoshiike Shigenosuke; by the last to Takei Kumakichi; and by him to Yonekawa Keishi. For all these communications some received money, while others obtained promises of future payment.

The above facts are clearly proved. The Court considers that the act of Yuruka Saneaki, defendant, in obtaining cheques in exchange for spurious questions compiled by himself, is a crime as contemplated by Arts. 390 and 294 of the Criminal Code. Therefore, in accordance with Art. 167 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Yuruka Saneaki is remanded for trial by the Tokyo Criminal Court. But as the defendant Sekiuchi Hyokichi, believed that the questions handed by Yuruka to Watanabe were genuine, which also is proved by the evidence, his conduct cannot be considered criminal. Therefore, in accordance with Art. 165 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, he is acquitted.

(Dated) 12th October, 1892.

(Signed) YAMAGUCHI JUN,
Judge of Preliminary Trial.

MR. OISHI MASAMI.

CONCERNING the appointment of Mr. Oishi Masami, a Radical, to be Minister Resident in Seoul, the vernacular papers have much to say. Among them the *Mainichi Shimbun's* account is interesting. We extract the following criticism from it:—Mr. Oishi is fond of discussing great problems, and has spirit to accomplish any daring deed. In a word, he stands by far above the 'boneless-fish' now swimming in the official pond. Both Count Ito and Viscount General Tani regard him with great favour. In December last a certain Kuromaku Minister confidentially offered him the governorship of Osaka, but Mr. Oishi refused the offer. Some months afterwards he was offered the post of Minister Resident. He at once enquired what country he was to be sent to, and when he heard that there was no post immediately vacant, he refused to accept the appointment, inasmuch as he was unwilling to receive a high salary without discharging any duty. The Government once more offered him the same position with the information that he should be sent to Korea, and he then accepted. It is rumoured that some influential members of the Foreign Office were opposed to the appointment on the ground that Mr. Oishi being a Russo-phobe, his presence in Seoul might create some unpleasantness with the Russian Government. But the Cabinet did not endorse this view. The *Mainichi* thinks it a great mistake to appoint him Minister Resident in Korea, if the Government hopes to establish its Eastern Problem through him; for the centre of action is not Korea but Peking.

This criticism appears characteristic of the implacable opposition of the *Katshin-to* to every Government measure. The *Mainichi Shimbun* itself, when discussing the relations between Japan and Korea, has urged the importance of sending a clever and resolute representative to Seoul. But now that the step is taken, the *Katshin-to* organ turns round and denounces the Cabinet's procedure as futile, since Peking not Seoul is the centre of action for the Eastern Question. Apparently the *Mainichi* thinks that provided the citadel be well occupied, the outposts may be left to take care of themselves. That is not the kind of organization likely to be approved by the astute statesman who stands at the head of the Progressionist Party.

KOMINATO HARBOUR WORKS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives an interesting account of the proposed construction of a harbour at Kominato. Marquis Ikeda and other principal Directors of the Fifteenth National Bank, we read, were the original projectors of the scheme. They sent in a petition on the subject, and this petition the Governor of Aomori Prefecture submitted to the Divisional Assembly for consideration. It was approved unanimously,

and the promoters are now awaiting the permission of the Department of Home Affairs. Previously, however, to the presentation of this petition by the Fifteenth Bank, Messrs. Murata, Katsura and others had laid before the *Kencho* a memorial in a similar sense. But their available capital was not more than fifty thousand *yen* and their principal idea was to reclaim land along the coast. Under these circumstances, the Divisional Assembly preferred to vote in favour of the subsequent application. The north of Japan possesses great importance from the point of view of national defence. A railway has been constructed from Tokyo to Aomori, so that troops can be easily moved, but there is no suitable harbour in the district. Hakodate doubtless, may be called a good harbour, but being separated by a wide stretch of sea from Aomori, it cannot play a part in any scheme for developing the resources of the main island. Aomori harbour might certainly be much improved, but as there is no shelter between that port and Hakodate, a distance of 59 miles, the navigation is difficult in stormy weather. Moreover, the water outside the harbour is shallow for many miles, so that there is no possibility of making the place a really good port. On the other hand, when the Nicaragua canal and the Siberian railway are completed, which will be in a few years, a large development of maritime traffic will take place towards the northern parts of Japan. To meet the needs of that time, no better port can be found than Kominato, which is situated about 12 miles to the east of Aomori. Within the harbour deep water is found, and perfect shelter is furnished by a chain of mountains. Moreover, the place is fully ten miles nearer to Tokyo than is Aomori. The excellence of the harbour has been proved by experience, but as its extent is very limited at present, a large number of ships cannot find anchorage there simultaneously. The project of the Fifteenth National Bank is to include an area of 212,800 *tsubo* (176 acres) of land along the coast. This space will have, on its outer edge, breakwaters at a height of 4.5 feet above the sea at high water, the construction being solid and massive. A jetty, 150 *ken* (900 feet) long, and having a depth of 36 feet of water at its edge, will be built. The shore inside the breakwaters will be reserved for steamers, which can discharge their cargo at the jetty. Further, a lighthouse is to be constructed at the entrance of the harbour; and a short branch line of railway will be laid from the jetty to join the main line. The expenditure on account of the breakwater alone is estimated at 312,640 *yen*, but the whole enterprise will involve an expenditure of at least a million *yen*.

ABOLITION OF IMPORT DUTY ON COTTON.

THE members of the Cabinet, reports the *Kokkai*, have been engaged discussing the question of abolishing the import duty on cotton. Count Inouye and Mr. Mutsu are reported to be strongly in favour of the change. Mr. Watanabe, too, has always supported the proposition since he became Vice-Minister for Finance. He argues that though there have been signs of a rapid development of cotton manufacturing, the enterprise is not yet firmly established, and therefore, even though the Treasury receives less revenue, the nation will profit by removing the import duty on raw cotton. On the other hand, if this step be taken with regard to cotton, it may have to be followed by a similar step with regard to iron and other staples, in which case the Government would have to look for some compensatory source of revenue. Hence the question must not be dealt with too hastily. It is reported that no member of the Cabinet opposes the project.

THE GAME REGULATIONS.

MR. INOUE KAKUGORO has been expounding his opinion about the Game Regulations, and it finds expression in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*. He considers that the right of property in game has been created for the first time by these Regulations, and that the license fees levied under their provisions, or the fines imposed, cannot be regarded as a tax, since, in the one case, their payment is purely optional—a

reciprocal arrangement, so to speak, between the Authorities and the game owners or pursuers—and in the other, it is a sum collected for the purpose of securing this special privilege, not to the nation in general, but to particular individuals. Not considering the theory of the matter, however, there is another view which Mr. Inouye puts forward in his eminently practical way. Certain politicians, he says, declare that the Diet's legislative functions are encroached upon and its dignity impaired by this procedure on the part of the Government, but they forget that the Emperor, before promulgating the Ordinance in question, submitted it to the Privy Council, and that it was promulgated by the latter's advice, as the preamble distinctly says. If, now, the Diet attempts to question the constitutionality of the measure, and approaches the Throne on the subject, the Sovereign can only seek the opinion of the Privy Council once more, so that the Diet will place itself in the position of bringing a suit against a party which is to sit as judge in the case. Mr. Inouye thinks that if the Diet has any genuine respect for its own dignity, it will refrain from such a fiasco, and will be careful not to engage in a contest where defeat is a foregone conclusion. Mr. Inouye might have added that, after all, the present Cabinet is much less likely to make an error in interpreting the Constitution than any other body of statesmen or politicians in the Empire, and that, moreover, its interpretation is sure to obtain Imperial endorsement.

THE JIYU-TO.

THE third general meeting of the *Jiyu-to* was held on Tuesday last at their office in Shiba Park. The entrance was decorated with flags, and various preparations were made to signalise the event. At 10 a.m. 132 members had assembled in the hall. Mr. Kono Hironaka was voted to the chair, and business commenced at once. Count Itagaki Taisuke, President of the Party, rose, and delivered a speech which, as it possesses great interest at the present juncture, we translate in full:—

GENTLEMEN,—I intend to speak to you to-day of past events as well as of our future policy in the Diet. At the close of last session, I considered the problem of our future very profoundly, and came to the same conclusion as that expressed in my lecture delivered before the opening of the session; that is to say, that we must employ our full energy. I mean that we must prepare ourselves first so as to be competent to meet all opposition; in other words place ourselves in an upright and unassailable position, and then settle our policy. We must proceed by deductive methods of reasoning founded on thorough investigations. Further, it seemed essential that some of us should travel round the empire in order to make our opinions known to the public. But the central office experienced much pecuniary difficulty in defraying travelling expenses. Possibly you have thought that the central office did not exert itself enough. But I assure you that only the inevitable was bowed to. Fortunately, owing to invitations from local members, I was able to travel in the Shin-Yetsu districts, and Mr. Hoshi, in Fukushima, Yamagata, Iwate, and Miyagi Prefectures, while Messrs. Matsuda and Yamada attended the North-eastern Conference. Mr. Ishizuka proceeded to Fukushima, Miyagi, Aomori, Iwate, and Akita Prefectures; Messrs. Kono, Tatekawa, and Tatsu to the eight western Prefectures; and many of our members were present at the Northern and Western Conferences. Further, Messrs. Fukui and Amakasu went to inspect the districts which had suffered from inundations; Mr. Asanaga inspected the Kamaishi iron mine; Mr. Kato Katsuya journeyed to America; Messrs. Takechi and Yamada went to Hokkaido to examine the existing state of cultivation; and Messrs. Takechi, Kaino, Fujino, and Horie returned from the earthquake district to-day. Moreover, Messrs. Matsuda, Kurihara Makino, Eguchi, and Inouye, and other members of the party in the capital, were busily engaged investigating political affairs. But unfortunately we have not enough numbers to complete all our tasks. I think, however, we have made thorough investigations into the matters of chief importance. No doubt some of you will feel dissatisfied, but if you remember how poor we are, I think you will admit that we have done well with our slender means. I propose now to speak of the method of determining our political programme. When I was in Yechigo, the Cabinet changed, and the present Cabinet was organized. The new Cabinet consists of portions of the Military party and the Civil party. It nevertheless consists of Clan statesmen, and is still a *Yofutsu* Cabinet. In obedience to the just and loyal principle which guides us, we hoped to be able to support some of the Cabinet's measures. But it has made no improvement whatever beyond adopting the time-serving device of

removing, or changing the positions of, certain local governors who interfered in the elections. Such being the case, our Party cannot choose but fight against the Cabinet. When the battle commences, the Military Party may seek to seize the opportunity, and attempt to use us as its tools. But we are not such contemptible folks as to fall into that trap. It is impossible for us to support the present Cabinet merely because we fear that the Military Party may take the Administrative reins in its stead. Even if the present Cabinet falls, and the Military Party comes into power, we shall continue to fight on undaunted, so as at last to attain our great aim. With such a Government and such a House of Peers in our front, and a feeble and unsympathetic public venally ready to change their opinions in our rear, our Party cannot but experience much difficulty in accomplishing its task. Hitherto, nearly all the Bills passed by us have been either unsanctioned, or rejected, or withheld from final discussion. Many years have already elapsed, yet not a single thing has been accomplished; and we cannot foresee for how many more years such a state of affairs will continue.

Turning our attention outwards, now, and examining the condition of the world, we find that Japan stands on most dangerous ground. No allowances will be made for her by the nations. Therefore we, as true patriots, must consider her circumstances very profoundly. The disputes of political parties must have a distinct limit, and that limit ought to be as narrow as possible. For instance, as to the policy of maintaining a Sovereign of unbroken lineage to rule over us, and protecting the empire with its forty millions of inhabitants, His Majesty's subjects, no one ventures to differ. But in order to accomplish those ends, it is necessary to develop the resources and education of the people, to be circumspect in our foreign policy, and to complete the defences of the country. Unless these important points are attended to, however the Cabinet may change, the welfare of the country cannot be promoted, or the tranquillity of the people assured. Therefore, these questions ought to be considered in the light of social problems, and placed beyond the range of party quarrels. Our hope, accordingly, is to adopt thorough measures with regard to these problems. The policy of our Party hitherto has been to devise means of accomplishing Administrative improvements little by little, and when the Administration is perfected, then to put our hand to new enterprises. But certain individuals, whose object is to protect the Government by crafty statements, not only oppose the progress we contemplate and injure our Party, but also mislead feeble and lukewarm folks by declaring that we follow destructive principles. Under these circumstances, our best policy hereafter will be, while attacking these enemies on the one hand, to distinctly declare, on the other, the projects we entertain. First, then, since the national defence is one of the most urgent and important problems of the day, we have been making investigations into the matter for years, but after the last session of the Diet we pushed our inquiries still further, the result being that we arrived at the opinions, the gist of which is published in the columns of the *Jiyu* of this morning, and a full statement will be submitted to the Diet by Messrs. Sugita and Yebara. Last session we passed a Bill relating to the Extension of Railways, and we now have in prospect the above great undertaking. These projects require large expenditure, and consequently in carrying them out it is necessary to consider the development of the national wealth. Take, for instance, our agricultural products. The first product of the country is rice, the second cocoons. If scientifically improved methods of culture be applied to these, the crops will at once increase. At the Nishigahara Experimental Farm, the results of scientific methods gave an increase of at least 10 per cent.; and we hope to take steps towards popularizing the teaching of those experiments. Again, one of the principal staples of export is silk. If proper protection be given to the sericultural industry, the amount of the export will doubtless increase. Among imports, cotton and piece-goods occupy the principal place. But as the manufacture of cotton develops in the country, the amount required from abroad will decrease gradually, and our import will be reduced to half of what it is now. If we extend proper protection to the enterprise, we shall be enabled to dispense altogether with imports, and even to compete with Indian cotton manufactures in the Chinese market. Moreover, since the population of the empire is increasing very rapidly, we shall soon find difficulty in supplying the people with necessities. Hence an emigration scheme must be adopted, not only to Hokkaido but also to foreign countries. Emigration will have the effect not only of increasing our exports, but also of extending our commercial interests. Efforts should also be made to extend maritime facilities, so as to enable the emigrants to travel more conveniently, and to augment our commerce. As to foreign policy, it is needless to speak of the great importance of accomplishing treaty revision speedily. Education is the next question to be considered. Its object is to develop the national talent of individuals, and bring means of expert training within easy reach, so as to produce skilled men in every branch of theoretical and applied science. To accomplish that aim it is necessary to place educational institutions on an independent footing. Hitherto, education has been regarded in the same light as the manufacture of articles of daily use, and the administrative officials

have consequently interfered with it, and produced useless scholars. Education means to bring up a younger generation competent to succeed us in the empire. If education be neglected we shall no longer be able to compete with other nations. Thus the maintenance and education of the people, the foreign policy and the defences of the country, are all of vital national importance, and we have spared no pains to make our preliminary investigation of these subjects as profound as possible.

In addition to the above, we have many other important projects which we shall submit to the meeting. Among them some require more thorough investigation while others need amendment, or withdrawal from the Diet owing to the situation. But I leave them entirely to the discretion of our representatives.

This speech was received with loud cheers. The first measures, relating to the organization of handicraft schools for the poor, the establishment of a University in Kyoto, and some amendments in the Organization of Middle Schools, were then considered. Messrs. Hasegawa and Suzuki explained them, and they were passed unanimously. The next subjects were the disposal of the Surplus Revenue, and the Taxation of the Bank of Japan. M. Ishida explained the former and Messrs. Nakajima and Misaki opposed the latter, but both were passed by a large majority. Subsequently, a report of proceedings during the past three months was read out by Mr. Ishizuka, and finally Count Itagaki having proposed three cheers for the Emperor and the *Yiyu-to*, the meeting closed at 4 p.m.

The following Bills were handed to the Radical representatives for consideration, as to the propriety of introducing them next session:—

- 1.—Bill for amending the Regulations relating to Political meetings and Associations.
- 2.—Bill for amending the Newspaper Regulations.
- 3.—Bill for amending the Publication Regulations.
- 4.—Bill for amending the Law of Election.
- 5.—Bill for amending the Organization of City Local Government.
- 6.—Bill for amending the Organizations of Gun.
- 7.—Bill for amending the Organizations of Shi, Cho, and Son.
- 8.—Bill for amending the Law of the Houses.
- 9.—Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations.
- 10.—Bill for amending Law No. 84, promulgated in the 29th year of Meiji.
- 11.—Bill for abolishing the Premonition Law.
- 12.—Bill for amending the Administrative Organization of Hokkaido.
- 13.—An Address to the Throne on Treaty Revision.
- 14.—Bill for amending the Customs Tariff.
- 15.—Bill relating to the Extension of Navigation.
- 16.—The Game Regulations.
- 17.—Punishment of officials who interfered in the general election.
- 18.—Bill for amending the Registration Law.
- 19.—Reorganization of the Navy.

HOUSE OF PEERS AND THE GAME REGULATIONS.
RECENTLY the members of the *Sanya-Kai* the *Konwa-Kai*, and the *Kenkin-Kai*—sections of the House of Peers—appointed a committee to investigate the new Game Regulations, and on the advice of the Committee, resolved to present a question to the Government in the approaching session of the Diet. The question has not yet been actually drafted, but the following is reported by the *Kokkai* to be the opinion of the Committee:—

1. The 62nd Article of the Constitution provides that "Any imposition of a new tax or modification of the rates (of an existing one) shall be determined by law." Hence, since fees levied for permission to pursue game have always been publicly recorded among taxes, it seems to be a violation of the Constitution to modify such fees without obtaining the consent of the Diet.
2. The provision contained in Art. 17, sec. 2 of the Game Regulations, namely:—"If the proposed hunting preserve belongs to another person, the permission of the owner or controller must first be obtained," coerces the right of usufruct of as well as that of ownership. Such a provision ought to be enacted with the consent of the Diet. Hence, from this point of view also, it seems to be a violation of the Constitution to promulgate the Game Regulations as an Imperial Ordinance?
3. The Regulations not having been urgently required, they ought to have been submitted to the Diet for its concurrence, instead of being promulgated as an Imperial Ordinance. This procedure seems to cast a slur upon the Diet.

COLLISION AT WOOSUNG.

YESTERDAY afternoon, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 9th inst., we received the following telegram from Woosung:—Steamer *Ningchow* collided with steamer *Feima* and the latter was sunk on the Woosung Bar. No lives lost.—Later telegrams, however, were received announcing that the steamer which collided with the *Feima* was the *Hangchow*, and that

the *Feima* was out of the fairway. Subsequently we ascertained that the *Feima* sank at 2.15 p.m. on the inner Bar, off the Harbour Master's Station and that her deck from the funnel to the stern was under water. Both vessels were outward bound, the *Feima* for Tientsin and the *Hangchow* for Newchwang, the former vessel having a full cargo and among other things, kerosene, spelter, and paper. The *Hangchow* was the overtaking boat, and by some means got drawn into the *Feima*, striking her on the starboard quarter such a severe blow that she began to sink. Under these circumstances, her commander, Captain Leask, found it necessary to run her ashore out of the channel, and this was accomplished without further accident, and Mr. Hansen, the Berthing-officer at Woosung, took off in his steam launch all those who chose to leave. The *Hangchow*, having two of her bow plates above the water line stove in, returned to Shanghai yesterday afternoon for repairs and is now at the New Dock. As soon as possible, Captain Charlton, Marine Superintendent of the China Navigation Co., Ltd., the owners of the *Hangchow*, and Captain Tisdall, Marine Superintendent of the Shanghai Steamship Co., Ltd., the owner of the *Feima*, and Mr. Carlsson of the Customs, proceeded to the sunken vessel, while the agents sent sufficient boats to lighter 500 tons of cargo of the *Feima*. The following day the same paper says:—The news from the *Feima* is very discouraging, for the hopes that were formed of floating her, now seem unlikely of realisation. Up till noon yesterday it was expected that the divers who had been sent down would be able to patch up the hole in her starboard quarter, and then she could be pumped out and floated, but we now learn that she is burying herself more and more in the mud, and she has a heavy list to port. She is nearly broadside to the tide. At low water yesterday morning, her after deck was more covered than it had been at high water on Tuesday afternoon. It is therefore probable that she will become a total wreck. The latest news from the *Feima* is that she is sinking still deeper in the mud. Divers were sent down to her yesterday (10th) to see what could be done towards raising her, but as it was blowing hard, no work could be done. The *Hangchow* was seized by H.M.'s Supreme Court yesterday at the suit of the owners of the *Feima* who claim Tls. 175,000. The agents of the C. N. Co., having given the necessary security, the *Hangchow* was afterwards released.

THE TOYO GIYU-KAI.

RECENTLY a new socialistic club was organized under the above name, as reported in our columns at the time. The first subject taken up by this club was the abolition of the law relating to gambling. The members set about obtaining signatures throughout the empire to a petition which they intended to present to the Diet next session. On the 11th instant, however, Messrs. Miyagi Mohei and Tsuda Kwanjiro, promoters of the club, were summoned to the Metropolitan Police Office, and the following order was given to them:—

"The *Toyo Giyu-kai* is considered injurious to the maintenance of public peace and good order; therefore, in accordance with Art. 30 of the Regulations relating to Political Meetings and Associations, the organization of the association is hereby prohibited.

(Signed) SONODA YASUKATA,
Superintendent-General
of the Metropolitan Police."

THE EASTERN WHALING COMPANY.

THAT the idea of the man who started the Eastern Whaling Company, which has its headquarters in this Settlement, was a golden idea, there can be little doubt. The Company has not yet succeeded in paying any big dividend, but a notion of what kind of fortune may befall it at any moment is obtainable from the experiences of the whaler *Mary D. Hume*, as reported from San Francisco under date September 28th:—"The steamer *Bertha* arrived to-day from Alaska bringing news of the champion whaling catch on this coast. The whaler *Mary D. Hume*, which left here two and one-half years ago, is now on the way home

with the produce of thirty-eight whales, worth \$400,000. This beats the record even for vessels which have spent two years in the Arctic. Capt. Tilton's share will be \$30,000, and each sailor will receive \$2,000. The *Hume* spent the two long Arctic winters at the mouth of the Mackenzie River, and the Captain kept all his men in good condition. News was also received to-day from the sealing schooner *Henry Dennis*, which has 2,485 sealskins. This gives each seal hunter \$6,000 for his season's work."

THE NEW REGULATIONS AS TO OFFICIAL GRADES AND SALARIES.

THE new Regulations as to Official Salaries and Grades, which we publish elsewhere, will not convey much information to the generality of our readers. We shall, therefore, state briefly their significance and the changes they introduce. So far as salaries are concerned these Regulations do not touch them. The emoluments attached to each office remain just as they were. It would appear, therefore, that the re-fixing of salaries by Imperial Ordinance is a superfluous procedure, but such is not the case when we remember that, in many cases, salaries in Japan are influenced by the grade of the holder of the office. Consequently, a change of grades involves either a re-adjustment or a re-statement of salaries. At the same time, it cannot be doubted that a section of the public will attach special significance to the issue of an Imperial Ordinance fixing salaries within ten days of the Diet's session. With the ink hardly dry on this Ordinance, the Opposition will find some difficulty in applying any drastic measures of reduction to official emoluments.

The changes effected by the Ordinance in this matter of Grades may be summarized as follows:—

1. Officials appointed directly by the Sovereign, who were formerly classed in the first grade, now cease to have any grade. The consequence of this is that the officials belonging to the former second grade now ascend to the first.
2. High officials are divided into 9 grades instead of 10.
3. Vice-Ministers used to be of the 2nd grade only, but will henceforth be of either the 1st or the 2nd grade.
4. Directors of Bureaux will be from the 3rd to the 5th grade, instead of belonging to the 4th grade only.
5. Examiners of the Pension Bureau will be from the 4th grade instead of from the 6th grade.
6. The Chief Secretary of the Privy Council will be of the 1st or the 2nd grade, instead of the 3rd grade.
7. The Manager of the Police Bureau used to be of the 6th grade, but will now be from the 3rd to the 5th grade.
8. Managers of the Printing Bureau and of the Mint used to be of the 6th grade, but will now be from the 4th to the 6th grade.
9. The Director of the School of Navigation and the Judges of the Marine Inquiry Office used to be of the 6th grade or under, but will now be of the 4th grade or under.
10. Directors of First Rank Postal and Telegraph Bureaux, and Managers of Postal Saving Banks, used to be of the 5th grade and under, but will now be of the 3rd grade and under.
11. Judges of the Administrative Court used to be of the 3rd grade and under, but will now be of the 1st grade and under.
12. Directors of Central Police Stations used to be of the 5th grade, but are now of the 3rd grade.
13. Commercial Agents and Consuls used to be of the 6th grade, but are now of the 4th grade.
14. Chief Judges of the Supreme Court used to be of the 3rd grade, but are now of the 1st and 2nd grades.
15. Principals of Upper Middle Schools, the Upper Commercial School, Technical Schools, the Fine Art School, and the School of Music used to be of the 5th grade, but are now of the 3rd grade.
16. The Director of the Imperial Library used to be of the 7th grade, but is now of the 5th grade.
17. Local Governors used to be of the 2nd grade, but are now of the 1st or the 2nd grade.
18. Secretaries of Prefectures used to be of the 5th or the 6th grade, but are now of the 3rd grade and under.
19. Police Inspectors and Head Tax Collectors used to be of the 6th or the 7th grade, but are now of the 4th grade and under.
20. Councillors of Prefectures used to be of the 8th grade and under, but are now of the 5th grade and under.

DEER-KILLING IN HOKKAIDO.

THE first special prohibitive measure taken under the provisions of the new Game Regulations, was announced in the *Official Gazette* of the 18th instant. The Island of Yezo used formerly to possess an abundance of deer. A dozen years ago, visitors to valleys and plains of that northern region saw great herds of deer everywhere. But as immigrants began to settle in the island, the deer were slaughtered in ever increasing numbers, and it is said that at present they are as scarce as they once were plentiful.

and that unless something be done to protect them, their extermination is inevitable. The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce has accordingly issued a Notification, under the authority of the 27th Article of the new Regulations, temporarily interdicting all pursuit or capture of deer in Hokkaido. The penalty for breach of this prohibition is a fine of from two to twenty yen.

FIRE IN TOKYO.

The winter's conflagrations have now fairly commenced in Tokyo. Every night the clang of the fire-bells is heard. On the 11th instant a very serious fire occurred in the Asakusa district. It began at 11.25 p.m. in Shinfukui-cho, and was not subdued until 2.55 a.m. on the 12th, by which time it had swept along Shinfukui-cho, the second and third wards of Fukui-cho, Heiyemon-cho, Sayemon-cho, and the second and third wards of Kaya-cho, reducing 625 houses to ashes, and partially destroying 35. Among the firemen eight sustained injuries more or less severe, and three were missing on the morning of the 12th.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND AND THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Now that Mr. Cleveland has been elected to the Presidency of the United States, it is interesting, especially interesting to Japan, to recall the fact that in his letter accepting the nomination, he made use of the following language with reference to the Nicaragua Canal:—"The importance of the construction of the Nicaragua Ship Canal as a means of promoting commerce between our States and with foreign countries, and also as a contribution by Americans to the enterprises which advance the interests of the world of civilization, should commend the project to governmental approval and endorsement."

THE "EMPERESS OF CHINA."

We regret to learn that on the voyage up from Nagasaki, Dr. Meadows of the *Empress of China* was struck down with typhoid fever. On reaching Kobe he was taken ashore, and Dr. Graham, of that port, at considerable inconvenience, came in the ship to Yokohama. Here the services of Doctor Gordon Munro were requisitioned, and after some pressing he consented to accompany the ship to Vancouver, Dr. Graham being obliged to return home. Mr. Moffat of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (Shanghai Branch), is, we learn, taking a trip across, and probably home, on account of a breakdown in health.

THE LATE DR. WAGENER.

The News Agency communicates to the vernacular press a short but sympathetic reference to the late Dr. Wagener. It says that ever since the Geological Survey Office was established Dr. Wagener acted as its adviser, and superintended the operations for conducting not only the geological but also the mineralogical survey of the empire, which have now, through his exertions, been almost carried to completion. He was also the inventor of a new kind of falcence called *Asahi-yaki*, which has found much favour abroad, especially in America and Germany. His services to Japan were large, and his death is a source of keen regret.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

The *Official Gazette* announces that Major-General Baron Shigeno Kyohiko, is appointed a Lieutenant-General; that Mr. Oshima Seiji, Private Secretary of the Minister of State for Education, is appointed a Secretary and Councillor of the same Department, and that Mr. Koyama Kenzo, Secretary of the Department of Education and Instructor in the Tokyo Artisans' School, is appointed Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Education and Secretary of the Department of Education.

CONCERT AT THE SEAMEN'S MISSION.

The Concert at the Seamen's Mission on Thursday evening proved a decided success, considerably over a hundred seamen and officers from the various ships being present with their friends. Captain Castle, of the *Leander*, pre-

sided, and a good programme was gone through without a hitch. The mission building and its approaches were gaily decorated with coloured lanterns, which had a pretty effect. At the close of the programme hearty cheers were given to the ladies, and another for Captain Castle. Captain Castle expressed the thanks of all the sailor visitors to Mr. and Mrs. Austen for the pleasant evening they had spent, and said it was a great boon for those who had no homes here, expressing the hope that the entertainment would be held frequently during the winter.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A PLEASINGLY diversified programme was discussed by the Yokohama Literary Society last evening in the Van Schaick Hall. There was a rather small attendance, the unpromising climatic conditions which prevailed during the early part of the evening being no doubt the cause. Mr. Gregory received an encore for his splendid rendering of "Jessie's Dream." The following was the programme:—

Overture	Norma (Bellini)	Mr. J. T. Griffin.
Original Paper	The "Taj Mahal"	Miss Griffin.
Song	The Bengalee Baboon	Mrs. Apcer.
Song	By Normandies Blue Hills	Miss Eford.
Recitation	The Hanging Picture	Mr. C. Griffin.
Song	The King's Own	Mr. F. G. Sale.
Pianoforte	Hungarian Dance (Brahms)	Miss Alice Young.
Song	"Her bright smile haunts me still"	Miss Annie Moss.
Reading	The Charity Dinner (Litchfield Mosley)	Mr. S. E. Unite.
Song	Jessie's Dream	Mr. W. D. S. Edwards.
		Mr. Gregory.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

ACCORDING to a report compiled by Mr. Arakawa, Acting Japanese Consul in Tientsin, the railway from Ku-ya to Lan-chow has been completed, and from the 21st of October the train service commenced. The following are the mileages and fares:—

Distance from Tientsin	
Ku-ya to Lan-chow	56 1/2 (Chinese)—88 miles English.
Ku-ya to Lan-chow	60 1/2 (Chinese)—90 miles English.
Fare from Tientsin to Ku-ya	1st class 2,100 cash (\$2.12)
	2nd class 1,000 cash (\$1.06)
Fare from Ku-ya to Lan-chow	1st class 300 cash (\$0.36)
	2nd class 150 cash (\$0.18)

RESIGNATION OF COUNT OKI.

It is reported that Count Oki had adopted the advice of Count Ito and other members of the Cabinet, and promised to abandon the idea of resignation. But now the *Choya Shimbun* says that after mature consideration he has once more made up his mind to resign, and that this time his resolution is immovable. In a day or two, therefore, his resignation will be accepted.

RECOGNITION OF DR. WAGENER'S SERVICES.

We have already stated that on the day of Dr. Wagener's death His Majesty the Emperor conferred on him the Third Class Decoration of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. The News Agency now reports that in consideration of his eminent services, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce contributed a sum of eight hundred yen towards the expenses of his funeral.

THE JIZEN-KAI.

We are requested to state that the proceeds of the lecture delivered by Mr. de Guerville at the Public Hall, and subsequently at the Minatoza before a Japanese audience, amounting to \$193, have been handed over to the treasurer of the Jizen-kai, who desires to express on behalf of that institution her gratitude to Mr. de Guerville and others who assisted to bring about so excellent a result.

THE HARBOUR REGULATIONS COMMITTEE.

The members of the above committee, according to the vernacular press, assembled again last Friday, and conferred till 3 p.m. It is reported that their investigations have been at last completed, but as the nature of the discussions are kept secret, no particulars can be obtained.

TOTAL LOSS OF A SAILING SHIP.

PART of the crew of the *Gretna*, recently lost on the Rifleman Shoal, arrived in Hongkong on the 10th inst. from Saigon, which port they had reached in the ship's boats after the vessel had been abandoned. The other portion of the

crew are known to have since arrived at Saigon. The *Gretna* was a ship of 1,657 tons register, nine years old, owned by Messrs. Guthrie, McDonald, Hood and Co., of Glasgow, and commanded by Captain John Webster. She carried a crew of twenty-nine all told. She left Cardiff on July 9th with a cargo of 2,400 tons of coal consigned to the Naval Authorities at Hongkong.

THE FIRE IN AGICHO.

We are requested by Lieut. T. H. James and Mrs. James to express their heartiest acknowledgments for the large-hearted sympathy and kindly helpfulness shown towards them by a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances on the occasion of the fire at their residence last Wednesday. It is more than a consolation at such a time not only to be assured of the strength of old established ties, but also to learn that from innumerable unexpected quarters practical goodwill is waiting to manifest itself.

GROUNDING AT THE HARBOUR'S MOUTH.

The British schooner *Aurora*, Captain P. Touissant, reports bad weather and heavy head winds and rain throughout the passage from Victoria, B.C. While coming into the harbour she ran on to the breakwater between the shore and the inner tightship, it being thick at the time and the captain not having a chart of the harbour; but she was towed off by the *Leander's* launches with very little damage to her keel forward.

THE THIRTY-THIRD NATIONAL BANK.

The affairs of the Thirty-third National Bank have now been nearly wound up, and the final look-out is anything but pleasant for the creditors. We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* that the Bank's total available assets are only 120,000 yen, while its liabilities aggregate 800,000. A dividend of ten per cent. will be paid next month.

THE KOBE EMBEZZLEMENT CASE.

The prisoner Miller, in custody at Singapore, was again brought up on the 3rd inst., but on a point of procedure the case was again adjourned.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The so-called "do nothing policy" (無爲政策) of the Ministry is the subject of severe and persistent criticism in the Opposition press. It is very natural that the Opposition papers, especially those belonging to the Progressionist Party, should object to such a policy, since it deprives them of occasions to gratify their constant purpose of embarrassing those in power. Accordingly, we find the Cabinet charged with losing the confidence of the nation by its attitude of irresolution and inactivity, and summoned to humbly enter the camp of the Popular Party, and carry out the latter's programme. The arguments employed by the vernacular press on this topic having been reproduced in our columns more than once, it is not necessary to repeat them here.

The Cabinet's neutrality in matters of politics is also condemned by the Opposition press. The *Hochi Shimbun*, writing on this subject, observes that the Cabinet is very cold to the National Unionists, who were the supporters of the Matsukata Ministry in the last session of the Diet. But Count Ito and his colleagues seem to the *Hochi* unable or unwilling to secure the support of the Popular Party, and the only result of the policy of neutrality pursued by them has been to increase the number of their antagonists. The Cabinet's policy toward the House of Peers is declared by the Progressionist organ to be superior to that of its predecessor, for while the latter sought to maintain its ground in that House by introducing new and obsequious elements, the former is trying to befriend the leaders of the extreme section there. But it is open to doubt whether the House of Peers will support the Ito Ministry; and consequently our contemporary regards the Government's position as anything but cheering. The *Hochi* advises Count Ito and his colleagues to ally themselves with the Opposition Party. If, on the contrary, they

should be so unwise as to fall back upon the support of the National Unionists, they are assured that they must be prepared to meet uncompromising assaults from the Popular Party.

The *Fiyu*, the Radical organ, writes in a milder strain. It is almost sure that the present Cabinet will not commit the folly of casting in its lot with the National Unionists, whom it considers doomed to extinction. Their leaders know very well that the Party is in a critical situation, and are doing their best to avert its disruption. But their efforts will be in vain. As to the Cabinet, since there can be no question of relying upon the support of the National Unionists, the only recourse, in the *Fiyu's* opinion, is alliance with the Popular Party. The Radical organ, confident of this, proclaims the fact specially to the members of its own Party.

That the article just reproduced from the *Fiyu* was published on the eve of the general meeting of the Radical Party, is a significant circumstance. It virtually amounts to a proclamation that the *Fiyu* may now count upon the Cabinet's readiness to co-operate with them on certain conditions. The *Kaishin*-to papers, as usual, complain of the friendly attitude of the Radicals toward the Government. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* characterizes as weak and inconsistent the conduct of politicians of the Popular Party who are favourably disposed towards the Cabinet; for the primary object of the Popular Party is not to help the Cabinet to reform itself but to secure the establishment of a system of Party Government. Our contemporary hopes, however, that such a disposition is limited to a section of the Popular Party. The *Choya Shimbun*, on the other hand, advises the Radicals to manfully declare their change of attitude toward the Government. There is no longer any doubt, in our contemporary's opinion, that, unlike the incorrigible Progressionists, they are prepared to pursue in the coming session of the Diet a policy very different from that which they pursued in the past three sessions. They have hitherto been distinguished by straightforwardness, but their conduct at the present juncture is open to the charge of equivocation and dissimulation.

The general meeting of the Radical Party, which took place in Tokyo on the 15th instant, was the most important event during the week under review. The result of the meeting is to confirm the belief that the Radicals are really bent on moderating their zeal to attack the Government. The *Fiyu* has repudiated the charge that its party is favourably disposed towards the Government, saying that, although the Radicals have decided to follow a positive instead of a negative policy, they are as firm as ever in their resolve to demand the correction of abuses in the Government. The leader of the party, Count Itagaki, declared in a speech delivered at the meeting of the 15th, that the Radicals are prepared to fight with the present Cabinet. But he at the same time insisted on the importance of limiting the sphere of party politics as much as possible, and maintained that industrial, educational, diplomatic, and Military and Naval questions must be placed outside the arena of party warfare. It is regarded as a significant circumstance that he did not say a single word on the subjects of the reduction of the land tax or the reassessment of the taxable value of land. When, in the course of discussions that followed, a certain politician asked the reason why these two topics were not included in the Bills to be introduced in the next session of the Diet, it was explained that investigations relating to the questions had not yet been concluded; and those present readily agreed that the matter should be left to the discretion of Radicals having seats in the Diet. Taking these circumstances into consideration, it is impossible not to conclude that the Radicals will be comparatively pacific in the approaching session.

Such, at any rate, is the opinion of the majority of the papers not belonging to the Popular

Party, notably the *Kokkai*, the *Nippon*, and the *Choya Shimbun*. The *Kokkai* remarks that the conflict between the Government and the Radicals in the past three sessions of the Diet has had a salutary effect on both. The Government has awakened to the importance of paying more attention to the protection of individual rights, while the Radicals, on the other hand, have learned the importance of safeguarding the interests of the nation as an entity. Our contemporary thinks it quite natural that the two bodies are about to go hand in hand. The *Choya Shimbun* congratulates the Radicals on their progress; for it regards it as distinctly a sign of progress that they are about to pursue a positive policy in the coming session of the Diet. The *Nippon* is disposed to ridicule the Radicals for their sudden change of policy. They are charged with having become weak and decrepit.

Count Itagaki's memorandum on the augmentation of the Navy has attracted much attention. The Radical leader severely criticizes the vacillating policy of the Government in relation to this service. His plan is to increase the strength of the Navy to 150,000 tons by constructing large war-vessels, the work to be completed in ten years at an annual outlay of 5 million yen. Simultaneously with the increase of war vessels, he proposes to extend the operations of the Naval University so that it may turn out larger numbers of officers. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, commenting upon this memorandum, does not hesitate to declare itself entirely at one with Count Itagaki in attacking the time-serving policy hitherto pursued by the Government regarding the Navy, and likewise approves the Count's scheme so far as relates to the construction of new men-of-war and the extension of the operation of the Naval University. But as to increasing the Fleet to 150,000 tons, our contemporary fears that this would involve an effort somewhat too onerous in the present condition of the country. The *Nichi Nichi* also points out that Count Itagaki's scheme is very weak in economical features, but readily concedes that he merits unstinted applause for the salutary stimulus given to those in power by the publication of such a memorandum, and also for the accuracy of his researches into the condition of foreign States.

The *Fiji Shimpō* is also an enthusiastic advocate of Naval development, but attaches more importance to the education of officers than to an increase of the number of war-vessels. The present officers, above the rank of commander, are stated to be deficient in education. The establishment of the Naval College dates from 1869, but it was in 1873 that the existing system of Naval education was introduced under the able management of Captain Douglas, R.N. The officers educated under the new system are lieutenants, only a few of them having been promoted to the rank of commander. It will, therefore, take many years to fill all the posts in the Navy with men of the new education and training.

The controversy between the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the subject of public expenditure is still going on. The Progressionist organ insists on the importance and possibility of effecting large reductions in the expenses of the Government, and in support of its position refers to the economies accomplished by the Government in 1877 and 1886. The *Hochi* evidently feels the force of the criticism that its views are destructive and impracticable; and retorts by denouncing its opponents as cowardly and degenerate. The *Nichi Nichi* explains the reasons why an increase of public expenditure in recent years has been unavoidable, and reminds its adversary of the importance of taking a broader view of the requirements of the country. To what purpose are the Progressionists clamouring for impossible reductions in public expenditures? They do so with the sole object of benefiting the wealthier class of landowners who are already faring very well. The *Nichi Nichi* also points out

various mistakes in the statistics employed by the *Hochi Shimbun*, but we need not follow the controversy into such details. The former journal's conclusion is that the extravagant views so persistently propounded by the Progressionist organ are happily limited to a small section of party politicians.

Local Assemblies being now in annual session, their conduct receives a good deal of notice from the vernacular press. In several localities, the Assemblies have refused to vote appropriations for police expenses, on the ground of the illegal conduct of police at the time of the general elections last February. The Progressionist organs exhort these Assemblies to exercise strict supervision over the conduct of local police and other functionaries; and complain that whereas they had expected the Ito Cabinet to punish all the Governors and Police-in-Chief who interfered with the elections, no indication is apparent of such measures being taken by the new Premier. Hence they recommend the Local Assemblies to tighten their purse-strings and thus chastise the offending functionaries.

The *Kokkai* counsels moderation to the members of the Local Assemblies. The question of interference in elections, says our contemporary, has already become matter of history, and the police functionaries who were charged with obnoxious conduct have repented of their behaviour and are now attending to their official duties in a proper manner. It is very well to condemn the obnoxious conduct of the police, but the Local Assemblies must not, on their side, commit the folly of refusing consent to appropriations which are absolutely essential to the maintenance of peace and order in their localities.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* also regrets to learn that in several Prefectures members of the Standing Committee of Local Assemblies are accused of having received bribes from local officers in charge of engineering works, as well as of combining with contractors to gain illegal profits in connection with such works. Our contemporary observes a depreciation in the general standard of members of Local Assemblies since the attention of local politicians began to be turned to party discussions in the Diet. The provincials are advised to keep watch over the doings of their local representatives.

Count Yamada's sudden and premature death is regretted by the vernacular papers of all parties. He was the youngest of the elder statesmen, and was distinguished for straightforwardness of purpose and boundless loyalty to the Sovereign. Of late years he became ultra conservative in his attitude towards political and social questions, and was regarded as the leader of the priestly conservatives who support the *Kōten Kōkyūjo* (a place for investigating ancient institutions of the country). The press does ample justice to the high qualities he exhibited as soldier and statesman.

Mr. Oishi's appointment to the post of Resident Minister has attracted much notice. No paper denies his ability, but some write in a doubtful strain as to his capacity to carry into practice in a responsible position all that he has been fond of declaring with regard to the policy that ought to be pursued in Korea, whither he is reported to be accredited. However, there is complete consensus in regarding the appointment as a welcome departure from the ordinary channels of diplomatic selection.

We have already reproduced the comments of the vernacular press upon the victory of the Democrats in the presidential election in the United States. We may here add that the *Mainichi Shimbun* rejoices over the election of Mr. Cleveland, because it believes that his coming into office will lead to some salutary changes in the tariff system of the States, and that such changes will promote the extension of commerce between this country and the great Republic.

CODE TRANSLATIONS.

SOME recent doings in Tokyo in the book-making line make it worth while to say a few words about the translation of the Codes. This translation, it will be remembered, was something as to which, at the close of the Treaty Revision Conference in 1887 an assurance was given that it would be accomplished with all reasonable speed after the enactment of the Codes; while at the same time the submission beforehand of the Codes to foreign criticism was expressly refused. The Codes began to be promulgated early in 1890. Before the end of 1891 the first portion of the translation was prepared. It bore the imprint of that year, but it is only in the present year that it has been available to outsiders, and the copies are so limited in number that most of them have been secured by the officials and others immediately interested.

This volume comprises the portion of the Civil Code upon which M. BOISSONADE has worked, and is accompanied by a new edition of M. BOISSONADE'S Commentary. It is in French and bears the legend "*Production Officielle*." There are here included the books dealing with Property (Real and Personal), Acquisition of Property, Suretyship (Personal and Real), and Proof,—no numbers being affixed to any of the books. The book of Persons and Chaps. XIII. XV. of the book of Acquisition of Property (which deal with Succession) are omitted; for in these M. BOISSONADE has had no hand, and the Japanese Committee has had sole responsibility. The volume itself, we cannot refrain from saying, is (though bound in stiff paper only) a beautiful specimen of the printer's work, with thick paper, clear type, and large margins,—perhaps the best that the Kokubunsha has ever turned out. It is as fine a work in appearance as the volume containing the German Draft Code, recently issued by the German Government. The numbering of the articles consecutively (as in the original draft) would, however, have proved better than the system here adopted of beginning the numbering afresh with each book; for citation will be a much more cumbersome matter and memory will have a greater burden. The cause of the change of plan, nevertheless, is easy to see; for with the doubts about the permanent form of the first book it would have been impossible to number the articles consecutively throughout the Code.

But it is about the translation of the untranslated portions (to speak in paradox) that we wish here specially to speak. Besides the above-mentioned portions of the Civil Code dealing with Persons and Succession, there are the Codes of Crimes, Criminal Procedure, Commerce, and Civil Procedure. Of the Code of Crimes, and we believe, also the Code of Criminal Procedure, an official translation was pub-

lished some 10 years ago; though the impending revision will ultimately necessitate another. The Law of the Organization of Courts, which belongs among these larger works, was translated in full in this journal last year. This leaves the Codes of Commerce and of Civil Procedure, with the above mentioned portions of the Civil Code, alone unknown to us,—if we except the brief notice of them given by Mr. RUDORFF in his essay on "Recent Legislation in Japan." Now we have lately come across, somewhat by accident, privately published translations of the Commercial Code and of Laws Persons and Succession in the Civil Code, and they call for some comment.

The former, we may say at once, is a very worthy work—for those who will know how to use it. No work of the sort performed by private enterprise can be expected to have the same accuracy and trustworthiness that may be looked for at the hands of experts whom the Government can command. In this case there is even something of a mystery about the origin of the book; for the only indication of any sort as to its sponsors is the Japanese address of the publishing house, the Yawo, in Kanda. The cover is inscribed "Commercial Code," and the next word that meets the eyes within is "Contents." The translators remain incognito; but there is a smoothness and an idiomatic construction of the sentences which indicate the coöperation of a foreigner. If a man is desirous of learning the general tenor of the Code, and does not intend to insist upon shades of meaning and technical interpretations, he may be satisfied with what is here given him. An extract (Art. 710) from the chapter (XII.) on negotiable paper, will indicate at once how great a measure of smoothness and ease has been obtained, and yet how the translation has just fallen short of that technical perfection of legal exactness which would be expected of official experts:—

The possessor of a bill, note, or cheque, who has acquired it by lawful means and without gross negligence, cannot be required to deliver up such bill, note, or cheque, or the proceeds thereof, except in cases where the demand so to do is based on such facts as would constitute a plea to a claim on his part for delivery up of the instrument to him.

Of the other volume, the translation of the Book of Persons and the chapters on Succession, we can only say that it is at once useful and dangerous, and that we have obtained no little entertainment from it. We say "useful," because it is good to be enabled to get some general idea of a work hitherto entirely sealed to most foreigners; yet "dangerous," because the reader must guard himself against judging the Code from this translation, and because complete reliance cannot be placed on its rendering. The singular thing about it is that the volume is published by the very same house (the Yawo) as the Commercial Code translation, at the very same time and as a part of the very same undertaking. But that the handiwork of the two is differ-

ent, is as clear as the difference between sand and brown sugar. The get-up of the smaller volume (on Persons, etc.) is in a cheap, poorly-bound style, in contrast to the neat, broad-margined, paper-covered Commercial Code. As our readers may not have an opportunity of regaling themselves for some time with this volume (for our last information is that the edition is sold out), we may indicate the grounds of our criticism by quoting one or two of the articles. Here is a puzzler to begin with:

Art. 94. The possession of the status is a combination of facts which will be sufficient to prove the quality of parents and child from the time of birth between the husband and wife and one who asserts to be born of their marriage.

We should say that Japanese Lawyers under this section would find considerable difficulty in proving the required "quality." Again, in Art. 63, we learn that:—

The nullity of the marriage which has been contracted with the vicious consent obtained by coercion can only be demanded by one who has been coerced.

We should think that the Penal Code ought to provide a special section for the punishment of those abandoned persons who are guilty of a "vicious consent." Here follows an interesting proposition:—

Art. 110. Any person having the spouse cannot be adopted unless be jointly with such spouse.

Art. 31. A person who has the spouse cannot contract another marriage.

We advise the translator to put an advertisement in the papers requesting the "person having the spouse" to come forward and identify himself. As to the duty of mutual support, it is to be noted (Art. 27) that:—

As between brothers and sisters, they are only bound to give alimony to each other where they cannot live themselves by sickness or any other causes not attributable to them.

This reminds one of the farmer who put up on the gate of his field the peremptory notice, that "All persons are hereby forbidden to dump ashes in this field under the law or any other garbage." As to the "nationality of Japanese," by which we presume is meant Japanese citizenship, we learn (Art. 8) that:—

A child can elect nationality of Japanese:

* * *

4. Where born of a naturalized person and is a major.

This provision, we confess, seems to show too much partiality to the higher ranks of the military. This rule seems to include even females, as we see by Art. 106:—

Any person cannot adopt unless he or she is older than one who is to be adopted, and major.

The conscientiousness shown in mentioning both genders on every occasion is really delightful. For instance (Art. 12):—

A Japanese loses his or her nationality:

* * *

2. When he or she has * * * entered into the service of foreign army or navy, without, etc.

This almost exceeds the particularity of the choleric rural gentleman who posted an announcement, that "Any person whose ox or cow is found trespassing in my field will have his or her tail cut off as the case may be." In other cases, however, we find less care in distinguishing identities. Art. 105 tells us that:—

Any one whose quality of father and child has irrevocably been established before the time of the

marriage of his or her father and mother has the rights of a legitimate child from the day of their marriage."

No easy "quality," we should think, to establish "irrevocably." The next passage will doubtless be somewhat obscure:

Art. 285:—Any person who demands a right to fall to a person whose existence is not certain on account of absence, must prove that the latter was alive, etc.

This "right to fall to" is not, as might be expected, a new belligerent right, but simply the right of becoming heir, as the neighbouring articles show.

MR. DROPPERS AND LAND TAXATION IN JAPAN.

WE confess that we find much difficulty in adapting the discussion of land taxation in Japan to any method that will meet Mr. DROPPER's approval. In his original letter he quoted in support of his own position a calculation of Dr. RATHGEN'S. That calculation was made "by dividing the amount of taxes received from rice land by the average price of rice *per koku*." Mr. DROPPERS having accepted this manner of reckoning "to prove the truth of his own statement"—our quotations are from his letter—it was not unwarrantable on our part to employ the same method for the purpose of proving our statement in turn. We therefore multiplied the average rice crop—as fixed by Mr. DROPPERS—by the average price *per koku*—as fixed by Mr. DROPPERS—and showed that the result could not be reconciled with his estimate of the ratio between the land tax and the net yield of rice. But now Mr. DROPPERS turns round upon us, and says:—"I have very little faith in the wholesale method of multiplying crops by average prices to arrive at the burden of the land tax." Is it then right to divide the total tax by the average price *per koku* in order to obtain the number of *koku*, yet wrong to multiply the number of *koku* by the average price in order to obtain the total tax? We cannot pretend to observe such capricious rules of arithmetic. Nor does it seem to us that much can be gained by continuing the discussion on its present lines. Mr. DROPPERS enunciates an average figure, 25 per cent., as representing the portion of the net crop of rice which the Japanese farmer has to pay in the form of land tax. He is very positive as to his own correctness, and he does not hesitate to employ statistics and strike averages for the purpose of his own arguments. But when others do so he reminds them that statistics stand in the superlative degree of "lies," and that "in nearly all economic statistics two and two do not make four." He takes us now to the oral evidence of farmers themselves, and says that if they be asked which they would prefer, a tax of 25 per cent. in kind of the net crop or the present money payment, they would choose the former. We like statistics better than such testimony, but that is

a matter of opinion. It does not appear that an agreement will be reached at present, and until some fuller data are forthcoming, we shall content ourselves with congratulating Mr. DROPPERS on his pertinacity in standing to his guns whether they be loaded with ball-cartridge statistics of his own or blank-ammunition statistics of his opponents.

There is just one point, however, concerning which we must enter a protest. We said that the actual revenue derived from the land-tax is less than 39 million *yen*. That statement Mr. DROPPERS denounces as "a bad case of personal equation," and supports his denunciation by declaring that "the average annual proceeds from the national land-tax for the last ten years are certainly above 40 million *yen*." Now we should very readily accept this figure but for one fact which seems to have escaped Mr. DROPPERS' attention, namely, that in August, 1889, a considerable reduction in the amount of the land tax was made by the Government. The total taxable value of the land throughout the empire was in that year diminished, by Imperial Ordinance, to the extent of 130 million *yen* in round numbers, the consequent reduction of the annual revenue from land tax being 3½ million *yen*. In the face of such a fact, what is the use of talking of "the average annual proceeds from the national land tax for the last ten years"? How can any accurate or just idea of the present burden of the agricultural classes be formed by indiscriminately lumping together the figures for eight years prior to the above important modification with the figures for two years subsequent to it? We have never heard of such a method of calculation, and if our ignorance of it be in truth "a bad case of personal equation," the worse our case becomes, the better pleased we shall be. Writing in 1892, we take things as they are in 1892, and not as they were in the times preceding a large and permanent measure of land-tax reform now three years old. The annual revenue from land tax since that reform came into operation has been less than 39 million *yen*. Earlier figures may be historically interesting, but are out of date for present purposes.

PROFESSIONAL COURTESIES TO DR. F. N. OTIS.

ONE very pleasant feature of the intercourse of Japan with foreign countries, is the welcome given to some of the men of science who visit these shores, by their confrères among the Japanese, of whom none perhaps are more cordial and enthusiastic in the treatment of their foreign guests than the members of the medical profession. The hearty welcome given recently to three eminent foreign scientists by their medical brethren of the Capital, has added to the good feeling of those of that profession on both sides

of the world, and probably will not soon be forgotten by the immediate recipients themselves. A little while ago Dr. ERNEST HART, editor of the *British Medical Journal*, and Mrs. HART visited Japan, and were most brilliantly entertained. Last summer, Dr. HIRSCHBERG, a noted German oculist, spent a few weeks in this country, and was feted everywhere by the medical profession, especially by the German speaking portion, some of whom had been his own pupils in Berlin. More recently Japan received a visit from Dr. F. N. OTIS, for 30 years a professor in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, and a specialist of wide reputation. He was shown unusual courtesies. Entertained at the famous Maple Club, he also lectured by invitation before several most distinguished medical audiences in the Capital. At the Red Cross, Charity, and Army Hospitals he received a warm welcome and gave interesting demonstrations at the two last institutions. Among the large number present at the Maple Club to entertain the visitor, were Court Physicians, the Surgeons-General of the Army and Navy, medical members of the Diet, the Directors of the Sanitary Bureau and the Medical Department of the University, and many other prominent members of the profession. Out of compliment to Dr. OTIS and in appreciation of the value of the special instruments invented by him, the Surgeon-General of the Army has ordered a Tokyo manufacturer to supply the surgeons of the army with these instruments. Japan may be justly proud of her progress in medicine, and of her medical profession. She can boast of such men in the past as SUGITA and UDAGAWA, whose patient industry and perseverance revealed to their countrymen the mysteries of the human frame, and furnished a store of knowledge concerning it then hidden deep in difficult Western languages; while in the present, men like MATSUMOTO, TAKAKI, ISHIGURO, HASHIMOTO, SATO, INOUE, and others have made their mark abroad as well as at home. To such students as these Japan owes not a little, for they were among the first to recognise, in the practical teaching of Western science, what others recognised in religion and the arts, that their country had much to learn from abroad, and that only by the speedy appropriation of these stores of knowledge could true progress be made. In the welcome given to Dr. and Mrs. ERNEST HART, Dr. HIRSCHBERG, and Dr. OTIS, there has been something more than a mere return for civilities received by Japanese abroad, and those who know the history of Japanese medicine and the spirit of the profession, will recognise in this a graceful acknowledgment of the debt the East owes to the West and the determination of the Japanese for the sake of humanity and the honour of their nature to add, at least something, to the store of knowledge from which they have themselves received so much.

FUNERAL OF COUNT YAMADA.

THE remains of Count YAMADA, having been carried to Tokyo from the place of his untimely death, were interred on Thursday afternoon in the cemetery of *Gokoku-ji*, a well known Buddhist temple, which stands in the Otowa suburb of the capital. We have already spoken of the great concourse of statesmen and nobles that assembled at Shimbashi station to receive the body when it arrived on the 15th instant, and have also described how Viscount HIGASHIZONO, representing the EMPEROR, and Mr. SANNOMIYA, Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies, representing the EMPEROR and EMPRESS, proceeded to the residence of the deceased on that day, to offer the Imperial condolences. It remains now to note that on the 16th instant Viscount AYANOKOJI, a Chamberlain, was commissioned by the SOVEREIGN to transmit to the relatives of the Count a sum of five thousand *yen*, by way of contribution to the funeral expenses, together with a quantity of white silk. The Chamberlain was also the bearer of the following gracious document, signed by HIS MAJESTY:—

In early days the deceased bewailed the decadence of the Imperial House and brought resolute courage to the assistance of the great work of the Restoration. He showed zeal in the compilation of the laws, and displayed high merit by his loyal services. But before reaching middle life, and when we hoped to receive further assistance from him, we learn with pain not to be assuaged that he has suddenly been cut off. We despatch our messenger with a mortuary offering and to assist at his obsequies.

The obsequies were not conducted as a State Funeral, after the method observed in the cases of Princes IWAKURA and SANJO. Neither was the Count buried with the official pomp appertaining to the rank so long held by him as a Cabinet Minister. The public recognition extended to his funeral was in accordance with the office actually filled by him at the time of his death, namely, that of a Privy Councillor. Moreover, the ceremony differed from those to which we have been accustomed in the cases of high functionaries, since it was conducted, not according to Shinto, but according to Buddhist rites. This departure from the usual custom is understood to have been made in deference to the wishes of the mother of the deceased, who survives him. The aged lady is a devout Buddhist, and it was believed that deference to her desires on this last occasion would be most consistent with the filial affection for which the Count had always been conspicuous. Mr. OTANI KOSEN, Chief Abbot of the Western Hongwan Temple and the greatest Buddhist dignitary in Japan, had come from Kyoto to perform the burial service, and nothing could exceed the impressive dignity of his mien. It was out of the question to think of receiving the great concourse of friends and officials at the Count's residence. The chief body of the mourners were therefore invited to assemble at the temple, where the grounds and

buildings were allotted, so as to afford independent accommodation for the different sections of those attending. Thus the Daishi temple was reserved for Ministers of State and members of the Corps Diplomatique; Imperial mortuary chapel for persons of *Chokunin* and *Sonin* rank; the Library, for nobles, members of the Diet, and chief priests; the school for Shinto and Buddhist priests of lower grades and for the general body of mourners, while tents erected in front of the main building served for students and faculties of law schools and others. Owing to these arrangements and to the efficient manner of carrying them out there was no confusion, although the crowd seemed at first too large to admit of orderly disposal. At 1 p.m. the procession started from the house of the deceased. Doubtless owing to the very short distance that separated the residence from the temple, the cortège, instead of proceeding direct, made a considerable *détour*, finally reaching its destination by Andōzaka and Takehaya-cho. At the head marched a battalion of troops, and after them a large number of lantern-bearers, robed in white and carrying plain white lanterns fastened to the tops of poles. These were followed by an army of over two hundred flower-carriers, shouldering huge bouquets of natural and artificial flowers, each bouquet bearing on a white streamer the name of the friend by whom it had been sent. Among these names those of several foreigners were noticeable. The next element of the procession was about a dozen bird-cages of various sizes, some containing quite a multitude of birds, others only two or three. These were for the purposes of the beautiful Buddhist *hojo* rite, which prescribes the release from captivity of a number of living things beside the grave when the body is lowered into its last resting place. The Chief Abbot followed in a coach, accompanied by four priests, who, like himself, wore vestments of magnificent brocade. The carriage of the deceased came next, with it being a number of servants dressed in white, these, in turn, being followed at some interval by an ample banner with the legend:—"Coffin of the late YAMADA, member of the Privy Council, Lieutenant-General, First Rank of the Second Grade, Count." Thereafter marched a band of musicians, preceding an array of priests carrying censers, and after these came the decorations of the deceased, among them foreign Orders of high classes. The coffin which occupied the next place in the procession, was of perfectly plain, milk-white wood, on a bier of similar material, relieved only by richly chased gilt mountings. It was carried by fifty men in white, and followed by the chief mourner, and adopted son, and by a great conclave of relations and friends. At the temple the service consisted of the reading of the ritual, after which the chief Abbot de-

livered an eloquent and dignified address, setting forth the services of the deceased and the distinctions gained by him. The chief mourner and the relatives, and after them the representatives of the EMPEROR and EMPRESS, the Ministers of State, the Members of the Corps Diplomatique, and the most prominent friends, then performed the ceremony of laying a flake of *Kyara* incense on the censer before the catafalque, the rites within the temple being thus brought to an end, and the general public dispersing.

THE KUMAMOTO TROUBLES.

WE publish elsewhere a very interesting letter from our Kumamoto correspondent on the subject of the alleged anti-Christian action of the Governor of that Prefecture. Our correspondent states a clear and suggestive case. It is evident that under the circumstances of extreme political tension which exist in the prefecture, equilibrium may be disturbed by a very trivial event, and a series of such events, all capable of being perverted into materials for campaign purposes, unfortunately occurred within a brief interval and at a critical time in Kumamoto. These things are past, however, and though, as a matter of historical justice, it is interesting and important to determine the truth, what strikes us chiefly in connection with the matter is the danger that threatens the reputation of Christian propaganda in Japan if it allows itself to be associated with the designs of political intriguers. It was precisely such a misfortune that befell the creed of the West in mediæval times in this country, with the result that not only did Christianity itself become an object of fierce national hatred, but the whole question of Japan's foreign relations fell under its shadow, and for centuries the term *bateren* (padre) was employed as a synonym for an unscrupulous and aggressive alien. We find it impossible to suppose that official doings in Kumamoto were absolutely above the reproach of some bias in this instance. The present Minister of State for Home Affairs, Count INOUE, a man of exceptional insight and fearless judgment, evidently did not hold Governor MATSUDAIRA entirely blameless of indiscretion, though declining to admit that anything like open censure, still less removal, was called for by the circumstances. But it becomes a delicate problem to determine whether the prominent Japanese Christians in the capital who took up the matter so vigorously, pushing it not only by means of newspaper articles, but also by direct appeals to Cabinet Ministers, did not err on the side of over-zeal. Christian propagandists cannot move too circumspectly in Japan at the present juncture. There is not the scintilla of occasion to precipitate crises or seek the crown of martyrdom. It has often happened elsewhere that the preacher of the

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creed of love and charity finds himself in the presence of paganism so revolting to all his instincts and principles that no course offers except to take his life in his hands, and seek, by every method, however militant, to substitute the civilization of JESUS for the barbarism of demonolatry. But nothing of the kind is called for in Japan. The preacher of Christianity has here to deal with civilization of a most refined and picturesque type, and with a creed which in many respects stands on a plane only a little below his own. He must approach the nation through its intellect, not by means of object lessons that appeal to the grosser senses. There is no despotism here for which he can substitute the reign of the Nazarene's liberality; there are no idolatrous savageries beside which the mercy of the martyr Saviour may be placed in strong relief. On the other hand, the nation's moral attitude towards the Christian gospel is undoubtedly one of either keen interest, strong curiosity, or decided hostility, and the fate of his creed being among the problems about which acute feelings centre, any false step may place him in a position of embarrassment and discredit. The spread of stalwart convictions invariably involves some clashing of opinions, and may even lead, as it has done in the West, to such a blunting of the sense of proportion that the pettiest unessentials are magnified into vital principles, and the scripture which an omniscient Being is supposed to have given us, is torn into microscopic fragments so that it may be adapted to the varied patterns of warring sects. But unsightly as all this may be, the discriminating section of humanity recognises that such results indicate simply a high fever of inquiry and an extreme sensitiveness of conscience. Men may fight about their ideas of the shadows and side-lights of truth, but the aim of the contest with all alike is the vindication of truth. It becomes, however, a different matter when religion is employed as a political weapon, and when its issues are twisted into means of working injustice or serving the ends of common ambition. Such a danger attends all problems of conspicuous dimensions in Japan to-day. Christian Propagandists are bound by every dictate of discretion to avoid it. The credit of their creed is in their keeping, and it is by them that an account must ultimately be rendered. They have no business to provoke passions against the indulgence of which they themselves preach, nor have they any right to endanger their cause by suffering it to be associated with purely mundane interests. We entertain no doubt that the leaders of the Christian movement understand these things very thoroughly, and are anxious to walk with perfect circumspection. But the best intentions are not always carried out, and we greatly question whether the agitation fomented on the Christian side about this

Kumamoto affair, and the designs of parliamentary action attributed to the Christians in connection with it, may not work mischief to the cause.

NEW CODES AND OLD CUSTOMS.

IV.

WE may take now two important titles which occupy some 50 Articles in the Code and some 30 pages in Part II. of "Private Law in Old Japan,"—Ordinary Leases (*Bail*) and Perpetual Leases (*Emphytéose*). Some of the most important topics regarding the relation of landlord are treated with more or less fullness in the records of customary law, and a few comparisons are possible. In the first place, by the old (and in part still prevailing custom) the tenant was required to give a surety. This by the Code the landlord can still require; but unless he stipulates for a surety, the tenant may enter and occupy without being obliged to give one. The surety system of old days was a complicated one, uniting the whole community in strict bonds of mutual responsibility. The landlord was responsible for his tenant, the 5-men company for each member, the *chonai* (or members of each block) for every householder, the *cho* officials for the people, and so on up to the top. This was a part of the Government policy; and while it was consistently and effectively carried out, it was nevertheless a bit of feudal life which could not survive the downfall of feudalism. It is a mistake to suppose that the general requirement of a surety for a tenant in former times was motivated by the landlord's wish to secure the payment of rent; the chief object was to get some one on whom the landlord could fall back if he was brought to book for the tenant's misconduct. If the tenant by evil doings got himself into Court, the landlord too must accompany him to the threshold of justice. At one time the landlords found a sly way out of their difficulties by evicting the tenant as soon as any action was brought against him by a third person; but the Courts soon detected this, and forbade the bringing of such suits for eviction till after the previous suit was ended. We dwell on this point because it is as good an example as any of the changes that feudalism's disappearance has wrought, of the complex circumstances to be considered, and of the frequent suitability of a Western rule to the modified conditions of to-day in Japan.

The landlord, of course, can declare the tenancy at an end on default in payment of the rent by the tenant. This is the rule of the Code and of old custom equally. The Code requires the rent to be paid, if in money, monthly; if in kind, at least not before the crop is ripe. But the former rule applies only in the absence of local usage to the contrary (Art. 138), and thus the wide variety of customs on this point is very pro-

perly left untouched. Where a destruction of crops takes away the tenant's means of paying rent, the Code obliges the landlord to accept a proportionately reduced rent, provided the loss reaches one-third of the whole crop. There are in the records of customs only two or three notices of a rule of this sort; but there can be no doubt to any one familiar with Japanese institutions, that the custom was an universal one, with a greater or less degree of leniency to tenants according to the temper of the people. In some districts a minimum extent of loss was fixed on, and the new Code, in embodying the old custom, has wisely established a minimum proportion to mark the beginning of the tenant's right; for any loss less than that he must trust to the clemency of the landlord. It is again fortunate for Japan that the French law has inspired the new Code, for, as Irish tenants know to their cost, the law of England does not consider the tenant so leniently. Ever since *Taverner's Case* in 35 Henry VIII. (where a man hired land and a flock of sheep, and when the sheep were all destroyed by a natural calamity he was forced to continue paying hire for them), the rigorous rule has been that no disaster, however inevitable, excuses the tenant from paying rent. When one reflects that in agricultural leases rent is in effect merely a share of the produce, it seems a decided failure of justice to admit no reduction of rent where crops are destroyed by natural calamities. The Continental law has always taken the contrary view, and here it is in complete harmony with Japanese practice. The landlord is bound, under the new Code, to make all repairs except those of mats, paper, fixtures (*tategu*) and paint, and to keep clean wells, ditches, and aqueducts; but in all cases local usage is to prevail over these rules (Art. 128). Local usage, however, is not likely to conflict much with them. In Rikuzen *kuni*, for example, "the lessee of a house usually repairs the mats and wooden fixtures (*tategu*), and the lessor repairs the roof and the like." The usual phrase is "the landlord repairs roof, walls, and outside erections, while the tenant repairs interior fixtures and mats." There are but two records on the point of cleaning wells, etc., and they recite exactly contradictory rules; so that as far as appears no harm has been done by choosing one of the alternatives as the general rule in the absence of custom,—the alternative, too, which seems more natural and just.

Whether the tenant or the landlord shall pay the taxes depends, under the Code, on the terms of the contract; but, in the absence of a stipulation, the burden is the landlord's. In Old Japan the rule was the same, the general custom being for the landlord to pay, except where the parties agreed to the contrary or a special form of tenancy threw the burden on the tenant. In some cases (for example, where

a mortgagee leased the land back to the mortgagor, taking rent instead of interest) it was strictly forbidden that the tenant should pay the taxes, for otherwise he was subject to a double burden, and he was generally in no situation to protest. The TOKUGAWA Courts were engaged in a constant struggle to prevent oppression after this fashion by money lenders; and it is satisfactory to see that the traditional policy of the country has been perpetuated in this Code; for Art. 125 of Book IV. (*Suretyship*) provides that "the mortgagee is liable for all taxes and other annual charges."

The subject of the use to which the tenant may put the land is one of importance, especially in agricultural leases. The Code has it that "the lessee may make erections and plantations at his discretion, unless they involve changes in the existing erections or plantations." There is not much on this point among the recorded customs, but what there is corresponds substantially to this rule. In Ugo *kuni*, it is said, "if the lessee wishes to make a new door or window or roof-projection, the consent of the lessor is required." In Echū *kuni*, "in order to change the use of the land or to cut down forests, the lessee must obtain the lessor's consent." The consequence of the misuse of the land, according to the Code, is that the landlord has the privilege of terminating the lease; and this was a rule of Old Japan also. "In case of cultivated land the lessor may retake possession if the lessee injures the land or fails to keep it manured;" "the lessor may retake possession if the tenant fails to pay rent or injures the land;" this is the usual way of expressing it. The same right accrues to the lessor, under the Code, where the lessee of cultivated land paying rent in kind assigns or sub-lets to another without the lessor's consent, (the assignment or sub-letting being otherwise permissible unless the contrary is required by contract or by usage). In the records of customs it appeared that the practice varied. In some districts consent was necessary, in others not; the number being about equally divided. However, even where the transfer was allowable without consent, the original lessee seems generally to have been regarded as still liable, either primarily or as surety, for the rent; and this rule is perpetuated in the Code. The latter, however, makes clear an exception not brought out in the records of customs that the liability of the original lessee ceases, if there has been, not merely consent, but a renewal of the lease with the new lessee, who is thus accepted as a substitute.

In regard to the termination of the lease, the Code lays down (Arts. 145-151) some reasonable rules for the period of notice necessary in case no term has been agreed on, the general principle being that the term is to be taken as that on the basis of which the rent is reckoned,

and that the notice given should be equal to a third or a smaller fraction of the term. These rules probably come as near the present ideas of fairness as any rules could; but it is specially provided that they are to apply only when there is no local usage on the point. Moreover, when the lease would come to an end, either upon such a notice or through a rescission of which the lessor has reserved the privilege, while a crop is growing and before it is gathered, the tenant has the right to gather the crop. Says the record for Buzen and Iki *kuni*: "After the seed has been sown, the tenant cannot be evicted before the harvest;" and this humane rule, since it prevailed in the South-west, where the cultivator was lower in the community than elsewhere, may be taken as a fairly general one. New Code and old custom thus come in line again on this topic.

V.

WE have now examined the points of comparison in the provisions governing what is perhaps the most important of all in the field of property, the relation of landlord and tenant. We may look next at a form of occupation of less consequence but perhaps of more interest because of its peculiarity,—that variation of tenancy known in Roman Law as *Emphyteusis*, in the Low Countries as *Beklem-regt*, in Portugal as *Aforamento*, and in Japan as *yei-kosaku* or *maga-kosaku*; while in English the term is wanting because the institution is, and we may best take the literal translation of the Japanese word (much the most natural of the four) and call it a "perpetual tenancy." The incidents of this form of tenancy, peculiar to it in all countries are: fixity of rent, perpetual occupation as long as rent is paid, and the privilege of using the land more freely than an ordinary tenant, with (usually) the power of alienation without consent of the landlord. Whether or not it represents a form of holding economically beneficial to the country is a point on which economists would perhaps disagree; and each nation must decide this for itself. But at any rate as an institution it is apparently being crowded out of life by the circumstances of modern civilization. It began, alike in Rome and in Japan, in part by the letting of public lands to those who would reclaim them, the perpetuity of tenancy being necessary in order to encourage the expenditure of labour required, and in part by transactions between private persons, either where the land-owner needed to raise money and, giving up his land, received it back in perpetual tenancy, or where he wished a regular income from his land and put it out to lease in this manner. Curiously enough, in Portugal and in Japan alike, the monasteries seem to have made special use of this arrangement. But it now survives in only a few corners of Europe. Like the English copy-

hold (its nearest English analogue) it has practically died out. The new Japanese Code has taken account of the necessities of the time, and provides, *first*, that no *emphyteusis* (*yei-shaku*, perpetual lease) shall be created for a longer term than 50 years; *second*, that leases for a fixed period longer than this, in existence at the time when the Code takes effect, shall remain valid; and, *third*, that perpetual or indefinite leases already in existence shall be extinguished (presumably by purchase of the reversion by the tenant and transformation of his lease into complete ownership) in some suitable manner to be ultimately provided for. The first provision is in harmony with the times: the second is a dictate of common justice: the third is a matter of economic policy with which we need not here concern ourselves. It may be noted, however, that a custom to this effect existed in Hoki *kuni*, where the tenant could buy in the reversion at four-tenths of the price at which the land was offered to others.

The regulation of these tenancies by the Code is in the line of a much-needed uniformity and harmony of customs. A reference to the chapter of "Private Law in Old Japan" on "Letting and Hiring" will show that there are a great number of varying forms of this tenancy, and a chief difficulty will be the practical determination of the status of individual tenants. The complete form appears to have existed in parts of the following *kuni*: Settsu, Iga, Mikawa, Totomi, Kadzusa, Shimotsuke, Rikuchu, Uzen, Echizen, Echū, Echigo, Sado, Tamba, Hoki, Harima, Higo, Buzen, and Hyuga; while more or less indefinite customs in favour of a perpetuity are also found elsewhere. Certain general features may be discerned. In the first place, the tenant pays the taxes. This the Code provides for in Art. 166. Next, the landlord cannot terminate the relation so long as rent is paid and the land is not injured. This again is found in the Code, with the lenient provision that the non-payment of rent must occur three years in succession. The Code appears not to authorize the transfer of such leases by the tenant, where rent is paid in kind, without consent of the landlord,—a provision seemingly reasonable (for in the relation between the parties the personality of the tenant is important), but opposed to the preponderance of custom. In two *kuni* the consent is said to be necessary; in four, unnecessary; while in another, the consent is not required, but (neutralizing this) the original tenant is in any case liable for rent. Under the circumstances the legislators seem fairly to have been entitled to choose for themselves. The same remark applies to the term required to constitute a perpetual lease. The number of years varies in different regions, ranging from 2 to 50, the most common number being 10 or 20. The Code fixes upon 30,—an exercise of dis-

cretion which in the existing conflict of customs must be judged upon economic rather than legal grounds.

In most of the *huni* the rights of perpetual lease arose in part through the reclamation of waste land, and the regulation of this part of the subject depends upon the public land laws already in force.

A general feature of emphyteusis in Europe is fixity of rent. This is scarcely touched upon in these records of Japanese customs; it is mentioned in but a single passage. But without that feature this form of tenancy loses most of its advantages, and it is not to be doubted that it prevailed generally throughout the country. The Code of course sanctions it. The special rights of use possessed by a perpetual tenant are clearly enunciated in the Code, in general terms; but the records of customs give us little or no light on the subject. There is nothing in the provisions of the Code which is inconsistent with the general nature of the tenancy, and it is obvious that there ought to exist some statement of the mutual relations of the parties. A safeguard is established, however, by requiring (Art. 157) these rules to apply only in the absence of special agreement between the parties, and such agreement may of course be construed according to the custom of the locality.

We now pass to the next topic on which the records of custom afford us points of comparison,—that of Servitudes in Land.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE ASCENT OF FUJI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with much interest your note on "Ascents of Fujiyama in Snow" given in your issue of Nov. 9th.

Palmas qui meruit ferat, for I should be extremely sorry for any 'claim' to be made on behalf of Mr. Fordham and myself as having been the first to ascend Fuji over its winter snows if others had already done so.

We were not, however, at the time aware of any previous winter ascent being duly recorded, as we thought would naturally have been the case had one been actually made. A summer rarely passes without some orthodox ascent of Fuji being chronicled in the local press, but so far as we know none had ever been made public of a snow climb, which we concluded would have been of sufficient general interest to call for mention.

All references to climbing Fuji either imply or actually state that it can only be done in the summer time, whereas had any winter ascent been known to have taken place, some reference to it might naturally be expected.

So high an authority as "Murray" does not notice such, and the last edition of that valuable work states that "the ascent can only be made between (approximately) the 15th July and 10th September."

As you remark, when speaking of the first snow ascent which you know to have been made, there is no special difficulty about it. And neither Mr. Fordham nor myself looked upon it as a 'feat,' the climb being no more, as far as technical difficulties are concerned, than equal to an average third rate Alpine ascent. But we found it interesting on account of the pleasure and novelty it afforded.

As to there being "very little doubt that the 'feat' had time and again been performed by Japanese," I venture respectfully to differ. Guides I have taken at various times from Murayama, Gotsamba, and Subashiri have all declared both

that it never had been, and never could be done, and those we employed last May all turned back, flatly refusing to proceed a step further, when the lower edge of the snow was reached. At the inn at Murayama, kept by the descendant of the "line of hereditary Shinto priests of the mountain" (*vide* Murray, 2nd ed. p. 114), I made careful enquiries last year, and the idea of climbing the mountain over the winter snows was treated as too absurd to be entertained, and I was told it was an impossibility.

Still, though the expedition is one by no means hazardous or of particular difficulty, I am sure that all your readers would be genuinely interested to hear an account of the actual first ascent in question, of which you have personal knowledge, and of them none will be more interested than

Your obedient servant,

WALTER WESTON.

Kobe, November 12th, 1892.

[Of course we are well aware that the claim advanced on behalf of Messrs. Weston and Fordham was made in perfect good faith. For the rest, it matters very little who first climbed the mountain in snow. The excellent account—from Mr. Weston's pen, we presume—in the *Pall Mall Gazette* might almost have been written with reference to the trip of 1890.—Ed. J.M.]

THE CHARGE AT BALACLAVA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A brief account of the charge of "The Light Brigade," from the pen of "Colonel Shakespear," may be of interest to your readers:—

"The charge of 'The Light Brigade' on the 25th of October, 1854, is still a household memory with us, though thirty-five years have slipped by. Maude's Horse Artillery, with me second in command, opened fire about daylight, and held its ground until the ammunition was exhausted, when it retired a short distance down the hill, where it remained for a time screened from the Russian fire, with the hope of giving confidence to some wavering Turks. Maude was seriously wounded by a Russian shell bursting near his horse, and there were also several casualties amongst the officers, men, horses, and gun-wheels. Some of our field batteries soon arrived and continued the cannonade. In the course of an hour or so our two brigades of Cavalry and Horse Artillery formed columns under the heights of the Sebastopol Plateau, when suddenly about 5,000 Russian Cavalry in line, with the columns in support, poured down the grass slope, and got a crushing defeat by the gallant charge of our splendid 'Heavy Brigade' of Cavalry, under General Scarlett. In the pause that followed I deemed it most desirable to learn what the enemy might be doing, so I mounted a baggage pony, as the horse that had carried me since early morn had been wounded by the splinter of a shell, and rode him to near the crest of the ridge forming our side of the now famed valley, where I tethered him to a tent-peg, and crept through the long grass until my telescope cautioned: 'Beware, the brushwood hills opposite are full of guns, and down the valley troops by the thousand.' Captain Charteris, one of Lord Lucan's aides-de-camp, rode by, but as he did not see me I hailed him with that information, when he replied, 'The Light Brigade is ordered to attack down the valley,' and while we were speaking it appeared advancing and deploying at the trot and canter. It was then, of course, too late for a warning from us, so at the utmost pace of the pony I got back to the guns, and brought them up at full gallop and placed them over the ridge, where they might most effectively aid 'The Light Brigade' in its inevitable retreat. At that moment Lord Cardigan reined his horse, and told me what had happened, while he pointed to a long rent in his cherry-coloured overalls made by a Cossack lancer, who had otherwise missed his aim—others rode or ran up to us. Amongst the last was Captain Godfrey Morgan, 17th Lancers, now Lord Tredegar, who having had his horse killed and helmet gone walked, sword in hand, up to me, and speaking as coolly as on parade, remarked, 'I say, Shakespear, is not this an awful business. What shall I do?' My reply was, 'Quick, jump on a gun limber and go to the rear with us or to the front for action, when you may help to fight a gun.' We must not forget the valley from the 93rd Highlanders, that emptied many Russian saddles near the entrance to Balacava, nor the charge of the French cavalry on the enemy's artillery in the brushwood hills, as they, being mounted on white horses, were very conspicuous. Sights and impressions on a field of battle are rarely forgotten. Even now, I fancy I see Nolan and his horse lying dead on the grass, like many others. Of my friend Charteris, Lord Wemyss's brother, I have to relate a remarkable instance of evil foreboding. While out together for a quiet ride on the previous evening, we saw signs of the morrow's storm, when his gloomily persisted in

saying, "He would not live through it." "Well," I said, "we have often been under fire together and are still here. Why should not the same recur?" However, Fate ordains, and Charteris was killed by a round-shot as I parted from him on the ridge, and my gunners buried him where found. Lord Byron's words are true of battle:—

By Heaven 'tis a splendid sight to see!

The casualties in "The Six Hundred" were:—Officers 21; men, 257; horses, 335.

The above is but a very brief account of that ever memorable event, but it is short and to the point.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

IQUIQUE.

November 14th, 1892.

THE LAND TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—While perfectly willing to agree with you that the object of this discussion is "to arrive at truth and not to win a controversial victory," I cannot help feeling that there is a large element of "personal equation," or something like it, in your editorial reply to my second letter. I therefore beg a little more space to clear up finally one or two points.

I have very little faith in the wholesale method of multiplying crops by average prices to arrive at the burden of the land tax. If cautiously used such figures may be useful, but otherwise they are little better than a rough guess, and far more dangerous since they have an appearance of scientific exactness. For instance, you take my figures, viz. 27,894,500 *koku* of net crop at *yen* 5.2 per *koku*; the latter price, however, is not the average price of the farmer, but the average price in the rice exchanges of Japan. Sometimes the difference between the price in the exchanges and that at the farmers' godowns is considerable. I will not give figures, but in parts of the country I know the difference to be as great as one *yen* per *koku*. I have also higher figures, but I cannot verify them. The element of freight, etc., must be counted in, and this we know, is pretty heavy in parts of Japan. In the arithmetic of the customs, said Swift, two and two do not make four, and the same observation applies to nearly all economic statistics. Friction, in the calculation of the burden of a tax, is an important factor. The following test as to whether the land tax requires 25 per cent. of the net crop is, I believe, a good one: Put the question to a farmer whether he would prefer to give up 25 per cent. of his net crop of rice, as a tax in kind, to the collector of the national land tax, or pay his present money tax? I have often asked this question of intelligent farmers and in nearly every case the answer is that the present money tax is a heavier burden. This is no demonstration, I know, as I have asked the question of only a limited number of farmers; but these were so certain that the substitution I propose would be a lighter burden, that I remain convinced of the moderation of my figures.

I see no difficulty in my statement that rice land has paid on the average thirty million *yen* annually. I have not the figures for each year, but Rathgen makes precisely the same statement that I do, namely, that rice land on the average pays thirty millions out of a total land tax of forty millions. The precise figures for the two years 1881-1882 and 1887-88 are given as follows:—

	1881-2.	1887-8.
	<i>Yen.</i>	<i>Yen.</i>
National land tax	43,900,000	41,540,000
Tax from rice land	39,755,000	39,555,000
Tax from dry land	7,643,000	6,791,000
Tax from building land (ken)	2,618,000	2,667,000
Tax from building land (cities)	881,000	775,000
Tax from other lands	849,000	714,000

I am perfectly willing that my figures should be scrutinized if they fail to give a correct impression. I put the average proceeds from the land tax at 40,000,000 *yen*, when, you say, the actual revenue is less than 39,000,000. This is, in my opinion, a bad case of "personal equation." The average annual proceeds from the national land tax for the last ten years, including 1890-91 and 1891-92, are certainly above 40,000,000 *yen*. I have not the average for the proceeds of the tax on rice land for the last ten years, but I think there is no doubt that thirty million *yen* is correct.

There is a great difference in the purpose for which figures are used. I built no argument upon the last figures quoted, but used them simply as an illustration to indicate the enormous importance of rice land, as a factor in Japanese taxation. On the contrary, you base an elaborate argument upon your figures and consequently I have a right to scrutinize them as carefully as possible.

Yours respectfully,

GARRET DROPPERS.

P.S.—Since the above was written Mr. Zumoto

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

has again given a reply which I am bound to say is more unfair or at least fuller of misunderstandings than the former one. In his first letter, Mr. Zumoto thought my "ideas on the subject of the Japanese land tax seem to be not a little confused" because I had not taken the recent rise of price into consideration. When I explained that I was perfectly aware of this rise of price, but that I was speaking of the *average* burden of the land tax, Mr. Zumoto's charges fell to the ground, and so far as I can see he had nothing more to say. He now adds that I charge him with limiting his calculations only to the space of a few years. On the contrary, I only explained that I would have been wrong in doing so. Life is too short to answer such misconceptions.

Mr. Zumoto, in calculating the average price of rice, begins with the year 1875, instead of 1884 as I do, and he adds:—"It will be found that Professor Droppers has been very sagacious in shutting his eyes to the years immediately before and after the particular time selected by him." Mr. Zumoto is unfortunate in his choice of phrases. I carefully explained why I adopted this particular period, and if Mr. Zumoto does not like the period I chose he should attack my reasons and not lay it to my sagacity. The years before 1884 were the interval (as I explained in my first letter) in which the farmers' taxes were paid in depreciated paper,—an abnormal condition of things, and one which finally resulted in putting the farmer in a worse condition than ever. It was during these years that the farmer ran into debt so easily. While the depreciated paper lasted, however, I said explicitly in my first letter that the farmers' taxes were very light. Language can go no farther in making my meaning clear. If Mr. Zumoto considers the years of the depreciated paper money to be a normal period, all I can say in reply is that he differs from the common run of economists. During the American Civil War a similar condition of things existed, and the currency price of gold frequently averaged more than 200 per cent. premium. The price of any article was correspondingly high, sugar for instance selling at 30 cents per pound. Would it be an evidence of "sagacity" to omit these years in calculating average prices in the United States during a series of years?

Mr. Zumoto gives the average price for the year 1890 as yen 8.15 per *boku*. The high price of this year was in a great measure due to destructive floods. Now, in such an event, the taxes are not collected during the year from the owners of flooded rice-land but are spread over a number of years during which they must be paid up. I mention this, not to point out any mistake in Mr. Zumoto's calculations, but merely to show how difficult it is to get a fair average of the burden of the land tax.

At some future time I hope to give accurate figures for the burden of the tax in Gumma Ken and Nagano Ken. In both of these prefectures I know of land owned by men who are perfectly familiar with the agriculture of Japan, which has not averaged 6 per cent. profit or rent to the owners. There are no debts on the land and the men are held to be good managers. On inquiring, I found that these districts were valued somewhat higher than other parts of Japan. If Mr. Zumoto is certain that I am mistaken in supposing that they are over-valued, so much the worse for his argument.

G.D.

PATENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."
SIR,—Occasionally I see in the *Mail* statements of the number of patents granted during a certain month, the numbers ranging from 1,000 to 2,000.

The official *Tokai Nenkan* for the year 23 of *Meiji* gives as the number of patents for the preceding period of 15 years only 131. And these are all for very small things. Does the word patents in your paper mean the *Sembai Tokkyo* of the official statistics? Is it possible that Japan can rival the U.S. in the number of patents annually?

Sincerely yours,
J. H. DE FOREST.
Sendai, November 14th, 1892.

[The figures referred to are taken from the Official *Gazette* and are supposed to be supplied from the Patents Bureau.—E.S.J.M.]

THE STUFF THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."
SIR,—Few more delightful things have been written by Mr. R. L. Stevenson than that in which he acknowledges his indebtedness to the "brownies," those good-natured elves of Scottish legend, who hover round the bedside of the sleeper. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* had all the weirdness of a dream, and therefore it was not altogether a surprise to find that the brownies had actively collaborated with Mr. Stevenson in the production

of that unique masterpiece. Doubtless, dreams deserve the scant courtesy they receive at the hands of most men; but it is an interesting question whether, if cultivated in Mr. Stevenson's manner, both pleasure and profit might not be derived from them. My own experience—in a limited way—has been quite successful. Only last night my brownies achieved the wonderful feat of condensing the events of one day of my life (the day before) into a single Church service! And this is the more remarkable because I have not been (I am ashamed to confess) in a church for almost two decades. First, let me relate their handiwork, and then I will show you how logically they set about it. Well, I was in Church, the usual service was being held, and Mr. Sim of Kobe was presiding at the organ. While Mr. Irwine, in the pulpit, was looking up some reference, I happened to glance behind, and there saw a number of the congregation looking intently at something in their hands. Suddenly the midday gun was heard, when they adjusted their watches and put them in their pockets again. At this moment, taking advantage of the pause in the service, an elderly man arose near me, and began in the style of the itinerant preacher to offer up "a few words." Catching the eye of the clergyman, I winked, as much as to say this had better be stopped. The allusion was caught, he turned round to Mr. Sim, asked him to play the Doxology (I believe), and the service was soon brought to an end. So far the dream, which you will say is not particularly striking. But now to show the *modus operandi* of the brownies. I had had, in the forenoon, a long discussion with a friend on religion and the Churches in which the subject of music largely entered. Later on I had been reading an account of sports in Kobe, with especial reference to Mr. Sim, the noted athlete of that port. I may mention that I never met that gentleman, and would not know him from Adam if I did, but it was necessary for my brownies to have an organist, and what more natural than that they should select him, whom I had been reading of as a "good all-round man." They represented him as a somewhat tall, spare, dapper man, with little black, mutton-chop whiskers, which, I hope is a fair portrait of the gentleman, though it is not my *beau ideal* of an athlete. Then the pause just before the gun at noon is in the most natural order of events in our daily lives. The "bore" and the way he was disposed of, formed the counterpart of a private episode that occurred later in the day.

Psychologically, the dream is not devoid of interesting features. One is that in dreamland the ego is generally unconscious of its own physical defects. I am so short-sighted that it would be impossible for me to catch a man's eye half-a-dozen yards away, yet in all my dreams perfectly normal sight is with me. It is in Wilkie Collins' *Man and Wife* (if I remember rightly) that one of the characters loses his sight by the action of nitrate of silver upon it, but in his dreams he is never conscious of his loss. Observe, this curious fact applies only to those who have been deprived of a faculty they once possessed, and not to those who received their infirmities at birth. Another interesting feature in dreams is the absence of noise which accompanies all natural phenomena, such as the collapse of houses in an earthquake, collisions at sea, etc. It could not well be otherwise, of course, for the simple reason that external noise of any kind would awaken the dreamer. It is the mental eye, so to speak, which alone acts in the mystic land of dreams. I have no doubt that when the midday gun sounded in my dream, there was some external familiar noise—not sufficient to awake me—like the sudden clanging of a door or shutter, which assisted the brownies in the working out of their comedietta.

Yours very truly,

M.

Tokyo, November 15th, 1892.

THE ALLEGED RELIGIOUS QUESTION IN KUMAMOTO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Kumamoto, November 7th.
Your correspondent felt considerable surprise at reading the editorial comments of the *Japan Mail* on the alleged violation of the Constitution by the Governor of Kumamoto. A timely letter upon the facts in the case would, perhaps, have changed the views of the editor, or at least impelled him to delay judgment. But a timely letter it was not in your correspondent's power to send,—firstly, because at the time of the incidents over which so much needless fuss has been made in Tokyo, he was absent from the city; and secondly, because it is almost impossible to unravel in a short time the extraordinary tissue of exaggerations and falsehoods which political passions spin thickly over the smallest occurrences that can be utilized

for party purposes. In a general way, I do not hesitate to assure you that news from Kumamoto,—whatever credit it may obtain in Tokyo—should be received by the *Mail*, not simply *cum grano salis*, but *cum maximo grano salis*. And with these preliminary observations, I proceed to declare:—

(1.) No boy was expelled from any Kyushu school for reading the Bible.

(2.) No violation of the Constitution was committed in word, thought, or deed, by Governor Matsudaira.

(3.) The alleged Anti-Christianism of Governor Matsudaira is a political lie—invented by the political party opposed to him—totally indifferent to religious questions in themselves, but cunning to use them as weapons against its real or imaginary enemies.

To any one having the faintest ghost of an idea about the political situation in Kumamoto, the reported declaration of the Minister for Education, that a Governor must not even allow himself to be suspected of what Governor Matsudaira was charged with, must seem rather extreme. Indeed, if insisted upon, such a policy would place any Governor at the mercy of his enemies. When facts for suspicion are not ready to hand they are invented; and the religious question is one of the best to raise against an official, as those who raise it can generally bring it to bear with considerable foreign pressure behind it. Its success in the case of the present Governor of Kumamoto, will doubtless cause it to be resuscitated in various prefectures at regular intervals, until public common-sense recognizes it as a played out scarecrow, and relegates it to that political graveyard whose sexton is Ridicule.

Judging from the comments published in Tokyo and Yokohama, there seems to be an idea abroad that Kumamoto is a place full of Anti-Christian sentiment. The facts are that throughout a large part of Kyushu, and particularly in Kumamoto, Christianity is quite strong—much stronger than in most parts of the Main Island,—outside of its three greatest Cities. There are a large number of Christian Schools, and there are probably few large public schools in which there is not at least one Christian among the teachers. The religion of the teacher is never made a matter of comment: he is selected for his capacity, not for his religion. There are perhaps no large schools in Kyushu in which there are not a few Christian pupils. Their faith is never considered by their comrades or by their teachers: their admission to the school depends entirely upon their ability to pass the requisite examination. Neither a Christian teacher nor a Christian pupil can possibly manage to make himself an honest martyr for religion, however zealous he may be in that direction. The days of honest martyrdom are dead, and even political chicanery cannot revive them. The student may fill his house with Bibles if he likes, and the teacher may attend a Sunday-school if he can find one. Nobody cares a single *rin* what either believes. But if the student reads his Bible zealously in the school-room during the hour of geometry or algebra, or if the teacher preaches about the inspiration of Moses during the time at which he is paid to teach vulgar fractions, the former may be expelled for idling his time, and the latter for violating the laws relating to the secularization of the schools. The boy may claim to have suffered for his faith, the teacher may raise the cry of persecution; but they cannot prove themselves anything better than fools. However, there will be politicians to declare them martyrs, and to utilize their cases in the newspapers for an assault upon the Governor in the name of the Constitution.

The first yell about the religious question and Governor Matsudaira was raised last spring, when a teacher was expelled by his orders from the Eigo-Gakko, a Christian School,—under gubernatorial control, and regarded as an institution preparatory to the ordinary Middle School. The offence was the utterance (as a teacher) of sentiments opposed to national loyalty and to the tenour of the Imperial Words on Education. That as a Christian, the Japanese teacher in question might hold the views expressed, nobody questioned. But that, while acting as a teacher, he should publicly preach them, was a direct violation of educational regulations. He raised the cry of persecution, and succeeded with the aid of the political newspapers opposed to the Governor, in making his howl heard as Tokyo. And although the just action of the Governor in the matter was fully recognized, the interest excited by this move on the religious question suggested the efficacy of further assaults with the same weapons.

Two incidents at Yatsushiro afforded the next opportunities for evoking the religious question. Curiously enough it was first raised by the conservatives, the party in favour of the Governor. A school boy, throwing missiles at a sparrow,

struck a picture of the Emperor hanging in the school-house; and out of this accident (by none regretted more than the boy), local politicians evolved a nightmare. The boy was a Christian, they said, and had defaced the picture through fanaticism. The story reaching Kumamoto, was exaggerated by one of the leading papers into a happening that really inflamed anti-Christian feeling. None could have read the account without anger or disgust. It was a magnificent piece of writing; but not one word of it was true. The Governor was called upon to use energetic measures. He tried to investigate the case, and found no case existed. The boy was pardoned, and returned to the school from which the outcry had driven him away. Then the Governor was abused by the other party for want of patriotism.

The second Yatsushiro incident was the expulsion of a head-master of the Shōgakkō, not for religion at all, but for using his influence to get a certain candidate elected.—I don't know of what party. At all events, there was no religious motive for his expulsion; but the motive was invented to serve occasion.

These incidents, however, provoked less general interest on the religious question than the affair at the Shōgakkō in Yamaga (Yamaga is about seven *ri* from Kumamoto). Three Christian boys, during the absence of the teachers, entered a part of the building where they had no business to be during leisure hours, opened the organ, and performed a sort of service, singing Christian hymns. The act in itself was only a breach of discipline (for the boys were too young to see the question from a more serious point of view); but it was an unfortunate one. Politicians at once took advantage of it: a cry was raised that the educational laws were violated, that the masters allowed religious services in the school. The boys were expelled. Then the other side tried to make martyrs of them. Martyrs two of them did not want to be. They begged pardon for their fault, and were re-admitted. The third boy seems to have been too much "martyrized,"—so that his re-admission will prove, at least for the present, more difficult. Thus even children are made the victims of political hatred, and accused of sentiments and aims of which their age alone should prove them utterly incapable.

The manner in which the school-question was being used by both political parties prompted Governor Matsudaira to make a number of addresses upon the subject throughout the Ken. He spoke in a number of places, and spoke strongly, warning schoolmasters to abstain from anything which could be interpreted as evidence of religious prejudice or political bias in their teaching or their capacity as teachers. Needless to say, his opponents watched zealously for every word they could interpret to his disadvantage. Shortly, there appeared the charge, vehemently denied by the Governor, that he had spoken against Christianity as a religion. The papers which made the charge took no shorthand report of the Governor's words, and obtained their information from the hearsay of their own partisans. The word used by the Governor, I am informed, was *shukyo*, a word equally applicable to Buddhist or Christian or other dogmas; and it was used in view of the events I have referred to, and so understood by those who had no wiles to pull. Nothing could have been further from the Governor's thoughts than an anti-Christian campaign. His whole aim has been to avoid the religious question, to leave to opportunity for its utilization in politics; and his efforts in this direction have resulted only in raising the religious question against him. That it could have been raised in Kyushu as nowhere else, is simply because of the religious element. To your correspondent all this seems to indicate that the foreign religion will be hereafter utilized as much as possible in politics for purposes totally foreign to all religion. The paper which started the cry against the Governor was the *Kiushu-Fiyu-Shimbun*. The statement of none of the Kumamoto papers, however, can be relied on while politics remain as they are.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, October 7th.

After a comparatively brief illness Lord Tennyson passed away yesterday morning. For some hours before his death it was fully expected by the medical attendants that the Laureate's life was drawing to a close, and he may be said to have died a perfectly natural death from old age. Sir Andrew Clark, who was in attendance during the last hours of the Poet's life, thus describes the end:—"Lord Tennyson has had a gloriously beautiful

death. In all my experience I have never witnessed anything more glorious. There were no artificial lights in the chamber and all was in darkness save for the silvery light of the moon at its full. The soft beams of light fell upon the bed and played upon the features of the dying poet like a halo of Rembrandt."

Lord Tennyson was the third son of the Rev. C. G. Tennyson, Rector of a small village in Lincolnshire. He was born in 1809, the same year in which Mr. Gladstone and the late Mr. Darwin were born. The future Laureate commenced to write verse at a very early age, his first published work being "Poems by Two Brothers," which appeared in 1827, in which his brother Charles took part. In 1828 Alfred Tennyson was entered at Trinity College Cambridge, and while there, although he seems to have aspired to no special academic distinction, he must have made a comprehensive study of the old classic writers as evinced by such classical themes as *Ulysses*, *Tithonus*, and the *Lotos Eaters*. Before leaving his Alma Mater Tennyson was successful in winning the Chancellor's prize for English, and his composition entitled "Timbuctoo" shows promise of his future achievements. In 1830 he published a volume which even at the present time is regarded as a most interesting production—"Poems, chiefly Lyrical." In 1833 further volumes were launched, and "The Palace of Art," "Eoone," and "The Lady of Shalott" are among pieces which then saw the light. "In Memoriam" took shape about 1842, while the poet was mourning the death of his old college friend Arthur Hallam, but was not published until 1850. In this year Mr. Tennyson succeeded to the Laureateship vacant on the death of Wordsworth. He was made a peer by Mr. Gladstone in 1884, but latterly he has been regarded more as a conservative. Perhaps few men of the present day will be mourned as will the late Poet Laureate, and although thoroughly broad in all his ideas he was essentially an Englishman and an English poet.

At a meeting of Liverymen of the City of London convened at Guildhall this week to elect a Lord Mayor for the ensuing year, a somewhat exciting scene was witnessed. Alderman Knill, who stood next on the list of eligible aldermen, is a Roman Catholic, and, in reply to questions, stated that he himself would not, if elected, attend the services at the Church of England, but his deputy would. Several anti-Popery speeches were made by Liverymen and one even drew an imaginary picture of the re-kindling of the Smithfield fires and the protestant martyrs frizzling at the stakes. Eventually, however, the Aldermen elected Alderman Knill to the office, amid shouts of "No Popery" and the strains of "Rule Britannia."

As the cold weather advances the cholera epidemic on the Continent is slowly but surely dying a natural death. At Hamburg, Antwerp, Berlin, and Paris the disease may be fairly said to have done its worst, but a slight spread is reported from Budapest, where a comparatively large number of deaths has been recorded during the present week. No fresh cases have occurred in England, and we may be said to have practically escaped the ravages of the epidemic.

The Brompton Mystery, to which I referred in my last letter, has had a further tragic development by the suicide of Dr. Heron, who after unsuccessfully trying to poison himself with morphia, ended his life by cutting his throat. After attending the inquest on the body of his late mistress, Ruby Russell, the Doctor, having shaved off his moustache, took a room in a private hotel in Craven-street, Strand, where, in spite of his altered appearance, from which it would seem that he wished to disguise his identity, he entered his correct name in the visitors' book. Attention was attracted to his room by his non appearance at meals, and when the officials at length becoming alarmed summoned the police to break open the door the unfortunate man was found lying dead on the floor in a pool of blood. From marks of blood being found in front of the dressing table, together with the fact that the throat was cut in two places, it is presumed that the doctor, after taking the morphia, stood before the looking glass and drew the razor across his throat. The wound, however, was not deep enough to have the desired effect, and it was then that the deceased, who seems to have been determined to accomplish his purpose, placed some sheets and pillows on the floor, and having laid himself in position upon them, again drew the razor across his throat, this time with terrific force, and severed the carotid artery. In a letter which Dr. Heron addressed to the Coroner he stated that since there could be no doubt but that Ruby Russell's death was not due to natural causes, and owing to the unfortunate circumstances attending the death of his wife in Jamaica, suspicion would naturally attach itself to him in this case. Further on he said: "Now I am alone, it is out of the question I should go through any more horrors

for the paltry privilege of existence." The Coroner addressing the jury who brought in a verdict that the deceased doctor committed suicide while of unsound mind, stated that from the evidence that had come before him there was no suspicion that Dr. Heron poisoned the young lady with whom he was living, or his former wife. So ended a tale of love and death.

The trial of six prisoners indicted for conspiracy to defraud in connection with a number of so-called Literary and Artistic Societies, which lasted several days, was concluded last week, before the Common Serjeant at the Old Bailey. The prisoners, who included a Baronet, Sir Gilbert Edward Campbell, and an ex-Common Councillor of the city of London, James S. Tomkins, have for some years been engaged in forming bogus societies for publishing authors' manuscripts and for disposing of artists' productions. Their *modus operandi* seems to have been to engage offices in the first instance, by giving each other's names as references, and then to issue a plausible prospectus of a Society said to be founded almost on philanthropic principles for the express purpose of assisting struggling authors and artists, Sir Gilbert Campbell's name figuring prominently in the list of Directors. As the subscriptions came, in response to the bait, they seem to have been shared pretty equally by the promoters. In one society with which these enterprising gentlemen were connected, a special inducement to membership was offered by the privilege of fellows being able to wear a hood and gown by paying an additional fee of four guineas. In the evidence it was elicited that the offices of the societies were latterly besieged by disappointed authors who were unable either to get their M.S.S. back or any satisfactory replies to their repeated enquiries. Among these a clergyman would be rubbing shoulders with a baker, a barrister with a coachman, and it was said that one old lady brought her knitting and hunch and remained in close attendance at the office door for over a month. With the exception of receiving and acknowledging subscriptions, no business seems to have been transacted by these societies, and probably owing to the information supplied by disappointed "fellows," the swindle was brought to light some months ago in the columns of *Truth*. Finally, the Public Prosecutor stepped in, and after a somewhat lengthy trial, sentences ranging from eight years to 4 months were passed upon the miscreants.

A somewhat extraordinary will forgery case was heard during the present session of the Central Criminal Court. The leading rôle was played by Miss Margaret Smith, who at the death of a Mr. Park, in whose employ she had been as governess, forged a deed purporting to be the last will and testament of the deceased gentleman. This alleged will provided that Smith should receive £30,000 in the event of her marrying Mr. Park's son, or failing marriage, £20,000. Miss Smith is now entering on a term of 10 years' penal servitude.

An International Boat Race took place yesterday between Eight-oared crews of the London Rowing Club and the Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques on the Seine, and, contrary to general expectation, resulted in an easy victory for the Frenchmen. The course was an admirable one of just two miles, starting at Audéy about twenty miles from Paris. The signal being given, the Londoners shot away at forty strokes against the Frenchmen's thirty nine. In spite, however, of their slower stroke the latter soon gained ground with surprising rapidity. In five minutes there was half a length of daylight between the boats. At this point the Londoners dropped their stroke to thirty-six, and the Frenchmen were pulling thirty-four. A spurt from James, the London stroke, was promptly answered by Cusin the Frenchman, who drew his crew still farther away. From here to the finish, the Englishmen gradually worked their stroke up to thirty-nine, and although they managed to gain a little, the effort came much too late to be of any avail. The Frenchmen, who appeared to be in magnificent form, kept up a steady even pace and sailed in comfortable winners by a length and a half. Although, of course, the crew that was beaten was by no means a champion English crew, and was not up to the standard of the crew that rowed for London in 1890, yet there is no question but that it was a good average crew composed of experienced oarsmen.

Although there have been a number of cycling records created during the present season, in athletics the old times have invariably held their own. At Stamford Bridge Grounds, however, last week, the 1,000 yards record was broken by E. C. Bredin, who covered the ground in 1 min. 11 4-5 sec. On the same day, also, an even greater performance was accomplished by Sid Thomas, of Romford, who ran five miles in 24 min. 53 3-5 sec. thus breaking the record by 2-5 sec.

GRADES AND SALARIES OF HIGH OFFICIALS.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby sanction the Law relating to the Grades and Salaries of High Officials.

(Imperial Sign Manual.)
(Great Seal.)

(Dated) the 12th day of the 11th month of the 25 year of Meiji.

(Countersigned) Count ITO HIROBUMI,
Minister President of State.

ORDINANCE No. 96.

Law relating to the Grades and Salaries of High Officials.

GRADE AND APPOINTMENT.

Art. I.—Except those appointed by the Sovereign in person, the grades of high officials shall be divided into nine classes. Those appointed by the Sovereign in person, and the first and the second grades shall be of *chokunin* rank; and from the third to the ninth grade shall be of *sonin* rank.

Art. II.—The commission for an official of *chokunin* rank, appointed by the Sovereign in person, shall be signed with the Imperial sign manual, stamped with the Great Seal, and countersigned by the Minister President of State or by a Minister of State of the foremost rank.

Art. III.—With the exception of officials appointed by the Sovereign in person, the commission for any official of *chokunin* rank shall bear the Great Seal, and the Minister President of State shall issue it.

Art. IV.—The appointment of officials of *sonin* rank shall be recommended by the Minister President of State. In case such officials belong to a particular Department, the Minister of that Department shall recommend them through the Minister President of State.

Art. V.—The commission of an official of *sonin* rank shall bear the Seal of the Cabinet, and be issued by the Minister President of State.

Art. VI.—The grades of high officials shall be determined by the table of grades for the Civil and Military Services, appended to the present Ordinance.

Should any new office be hereafter established, or existing office altered or abolished, the circumstance shall be regarded as constituting an amendment of the present table of grades.

In the Organisation of the Government, if an official holds an additional position as acting for another, and such position has no fixed grade, his grade shall be determined in accordance with that attaching to his original post.

Art. VII.—In the case of an official appointed for the first time to *sonin* rank, his grade shall be below the sixth.

When an official of *sonin* rank has retired from his post and is re-appointed, his grade on re-appointment shall be below that previously held by him.

Art. VIII.—Except in cases where the process of promotion is expressly provided, no official of *sonin* rank shall be promoted before he shall have served three full years in his last post.

SALARIES.

Art. IX.—The salaries for high officials shall be determined as follow, except those for which special provision have been made:—

CABINET.

Minister President of State yen 9,600

OFFICIALS ATTACHED TO THE CABINET.

Chief Secretary of the Cabinet yen 3,500

Directors of Bureaus in the Cabinet, Salary-table No. 1.

Secretaries } Salary-table No. 2.

Private Secretaries of the Minister President of State } No. 2.

Auditors in the Pension Bureau 1st 1,400

BOARD OF DECORATIONS.

President of the Board yen 4,000

Vice-President of the Board yen 3,000

Secretaries 1st 2,400

LEGISLATIVE BUREAU.

Director of the Bureau yen 4,000

Directors of Sections yen 3,000

Councillors Salary-table No. 2.

DEPARTMENTS.

Ministers of State yen 6,000

Vice-Ministers of State yen 4,000

Directors of Bureaux Salary-table No. 1.

Councillors } Salary-table No. 2.

Private Secretaries } No. 2.

Secretaries } No. 2.

Translators in the Foreign Office... } Salary-table No. 3.

Manager of the Police Bureau yen 1,800

Accountants in the Financial Department..... } Salary-table No. 2.

Comptrollers-General in the Financial Department..... } No. 2.

School-Inspectors in the Educational Department..... } Salary-table No. 3.

Judges of the Patents Bureau yen 1,200

Examiners of the Patents Bureau..... } Salary-table for Engineers.

Inspectors of Communications yen 1,000

Fimukwan in the Department of Communication, Salary-table No. 3.

Art. X.—With the exception of those otherwise fixed, all salaries of high officials shall be determined by the present Ordinance.

Salaries of officers of the Army and Navy shall be determined elsewhere.

Art. XI.—In the case of an office the emoluments of which vary according to the grade of the holder, such emoluments shall be paid in accordance with the salary-table for high officials determined in the present Ordinance.

Art. XII.—When the Grade of Officials eligible for a certain office is subdivided into ranks, it shall be competent for the head of the Department to determine the emoluments according to the nature of the work, within the prescribed limits.

Art. XIII.—When a high official dies, whether during his tenure of office or after retirement, one-third of his annual salary shall be given to his family. The term "family" shall have the same meaning as that provided in the Law relating to Pensions for the family of Deceased Officials.

In the case of an official who holds a life office, the above gratuity shall be given only when he dies during his tenure of office.

Art. XIV.—Annual salaries shall be divided into twelve parts, and one part shall be paid every month.

Art. XV.—All salaries, whether of newly appointed officials, or of officials whose emoluments are increased or decreased, shall be calculated from the day after the promulgation of the present Ordinance.

Art. XVI.—In case of allowances granted on account of *hishoku*, *kakwan*, *taikwan*, *taishoku*, or death, the annual salary shall be calculated by the month, and the rate per month shall be taken.

Art. XVII.—When a retired or dismissed official discharges the public function of handing over the duties of the office or adjusting the remaining business, in accordance with a special order, he shall receive during that period the salary attached to the office.

Art. XVIII.—In the case of any person who does not discharge official functions for more than 90 days owing to ill-health, or for more than 30 days owing to private affairs, half of his annual salary shall be deducted. But this provision shall not apply to cases of wounds received or illness contracted in the discharge of official duties, or to cases of mourning and resting by special order of the Emperor.

Art. XIX.—Detailed regulations for the payment of salaries shall be determined by the Minister of State for Finance.

ADDITIONAL RULES.

Art. XX.—The present Ordinance shall become operative on and after the 20th day of the 11th month of the 25th year of Meiji. But the provisions of Art. XIV shall be enforced from the 1st month of the 26th year of Meiji.

Art. XXI.—The law relating to the appointment and Emoluments of High Officials, promulgated as Imperial Ordinance No. 82 in the 24th year of Meiji, and the Tables of Grades of High Officials in the Civil and Military Services, promulgated as Imperial Ordinance No. 215, shall cease to be operative on the day when the present Ordinance goes into force. All other Imperial Ordinances relating to Salaries, such as Salary-tables No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3, promulgated as Imperial Ordinance No. 82 of the 24th year of Meiji, shall be replaced by the new salary-tables appended to the present Ordinance.

Art. XXII.—In the case of an official actually in office, who does not receive any new commission on the day when the present Ordinance becomes operative, it shall be assumed that his grade, as previously determined by Imperial Ordinance No. 215, promulgated in the 24th year, has not undergone any change.

In the case of a Judge or Public Procurator who does not receive a new commission on the day when the present Ordinance becomes operative, his grade shall be considered fixed in accordance with the amount of salary he receives under the Law relating to salaries for High Officials.

YOKOHAMA AUTUMN ATHLETIC MEETING.

The autumn Athletic meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club came off on the Club grounds on Saturday afternoon. The weather was gray and chill, the "cold snap" of the early morning have reduced the temperature considerably. Under the circumstances great coats, and heavy wraps and furs for the ladies, were more than agreeable—they were in fact the most needful necessities of the hour. A large number of ladies visited the grounds during the afternoon and added considerably to the success of the function. The Committee of Management were: Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Judge; Mr. J. Dodds, Starter; Mr. J. F. Pinn, Time-keeper, as officials; and as general committee Messrs. J. P. Mollison, K. F. Crawford, G. W. Barton, E. R. Morris, A. S. Bremner, R. de B. Layard, D. McNeil, W. D. S. Edwards, J. Eylon, Jr., and F. E. White. Each and all worked with a will and the ball was kept rolling well up to time. J. Eylon, jun., again proved himself to be a thorough athlete and his victories were very popular. The Pole Jump was a long drawn out contest, but in the end Philip won at 7 feet, 11 inches. The Hurdle Race resulted in a dead heat, Eylon catching Crouch on the tape. The Walking Match witnessed a close finish, and the Quarter of a Mile a game struggle for second position. The Ladies' Purse, which fell to Eylon, was presented to him by Miss Willcox who in a pretty little speech, assured the athletes around her that the ladies of Yokohama took a keen interest in all forms of manly sport and nothing pleased them better than to be present at such a meeting. Miss Willcox was presented, amid rousing cheers, with a lovely bouquet of flowers as a slight memento of the occasion. The prizes at the close were gracefully distributed by Mrs. Brooke Hyde-Pearson, and again the cheers rang out loud and long when White called for an acknowledgment of her kindness, and for the ladies. The town Band was in attendance. Details:—

100 YARDS. (1ST HEAT).

W. W. S. Edwards, scratch 1

G. Crouch, 1 yard 2

C. V. Schmidt, 3 yards..... 3

Won easily; three ran. Time, 11 secs.

2ND HEAT.

J. Eylon, jun., scratch 1

A. G. Watt, 4 yards 2

Eylon ran clean away from Watt from the start; two ran. Time, 11 secs.

FINAL HEAT.

J. Eylon, jun., scratch 1

W. D. S. Edwards, scratch 2

The scratch men ran together till half way down, then Eylon burst away, and won easily by three yards. A close race for second place Edward getting home by a foot in front of Crouch. Time, 10½ secs.

PUTTING THE SHOT.

G. Philip, hcp., 9 inches, 30½ ft. 1

G. Fenton, hcp., 15 inches, 28½ ft. 2

Five entries. The competition was close all through.

LONG JUMP.

W. D. S. Edwards, hcp., 12 inches, 19.3.

Four entries, Eylon cleared 19 feet from scratch.

HURDLE RACE.—120 YARDS (10 FLIGHTS).

1ST HEAT.

G. Crouch, hcp., 8 yards 1

R. Abenheim, hcp., 7 yards..... 2

Four started. A close finish between the first men. Morris and Schmidt carried their timber to earth. Time, 18½ secs.

2ND HEAT.

J. Eylon, jun., scratch 1

F. H. Abbey, hcp., 10 yards 2

Four again started. Barton, the limit man, quickly gave up, leaving it to Abbey and Bent to fight for second place, Eylon having secured the premier position almost at the start. Time, 19 secs.

FINAL HEAT.

G. Crouch hcp., 8 yards 1

J. Eylon, jun., scratch 1

Crouch lead off and kept to the front the whole way down. He cleared the last hurdle first, but losing his balance slightly was caught on the tape by Eylon. Time, 18½ secs.

BOYS' RACE, UNDER 3.—(220 YARDS).

Carst hcp., 7 yards..... 1

G. Wheeler 2

Eight ran. Time, 30 secs.

HIGH JUMP.

J. Eytou, jun., 5ft. 1m. 1
Three entries. Eytou had an easy task to dispose of his competitors, both stopping at 4 feet 6 inches.

LADIES' PURSE. (1/4 Mile).

J. Eytou, jun., scratch 1
G. Crouch, hcp., 10 yards 2
L. Pollard, 15 yards 3

Eight started out of the fifteen entries. Barton led up to the corner when he gave place to Pollard. Pollard maintained his position until entering the straight where Eytou collared him; Eytou gradually increased the distance and finally won easily. Crouch beat Pollard on the post for second place. Time, 55 1/2 secs.

POLE JUMP.

G. Philip, allows 2in., 7ft. 11m. 1
Five started and all cleared the six feet mark. Abbey and Watt remained till 7 feet 9 inches had been cleared, but then they stopped.

BOYS' RACE (OVER 13), 220 YARDS.

G. Allcock 1
R. Sakamoto 2
Five started, but only three came in, the others being left at the post. Time, 25 1/2 secs.

HALF MILE RACE.

G. W. Barton, hcp., 35 yards 1
G. Hood, hcp., 15 yards 2
L. Pollard, hcp., 10 yards 3
Mendelson, the scratch man, was completely out, classed among his four other competitors. Barton kept his lead right up to the finish, the fight for second place falling to Hood and Pollard. Pollard, who conceded 5 yards to Hood, caught him up in the second round. Coming down the straight Hood spurred, catching Pollard on the tape. Time, 2.20.

SACK RACE.

E. R. Morriss 1
P. Morriss 2
Six started. E. R. Morriss ran away from the start and won easily.

WALKING RACE (1 MILE).

G. Fenton, hcp., 5 sec. 1
J. Archer, hcp., 25 sec. 2
Archer started with 25 secs. in hand, E. R. Morriss and D. McNeill being the scratch men. No alteration took place in the first round, but in the second McNeill got away from Morriss, and in the third passed A. B. Smith who had to seconds start. McNeill before the round was finished, had struggled into second place but soon gave up altogether; Morriss and Smith followed. Just before reaching the straight for home Fenton passed Archer and the struggle ended in his landing first prize a yard to the good. Time, gm. 15secs.

IMPERIAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IMPERIAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT FOR THE 24TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI, APRIL 1891 TO MARCH 1892.

In continuation of the annual report for the previous fiscal year, the following report is now made on the general condition of works undertaken during the year beginning with April, 1891, and ending at the close of March, 1892, and on the principal features in connection with financial affairs during that period. The division and order of headings in the present report are modelled after the last annual report, and are as follow:—

1. General condition of works on different lines:—
Karuzawa-Nagatsu Section.
Tokyo-Kobe Section.
2. Finance—Capital Account.
3. General Condition of Traffic.
4. Finance—Revenue Account.
5. General Condition of works on the Nippon Railway Company's lines carried out under the supervision of this Department.
6. Private Railway lines.

APPENDIX.

Table No. 1.—Detailed statement of Expenditure on Capital Account.

Table No. 2.—Detailed statement of Receipts and Expenditures on Revenue Account.

Table No. 3.—General Balance-sheet.

Table No. 4.—Detailed Statement of Capital Accounts of the Nippon Railway Company, including those of the Ryomo, Mito, and Koku Railway Companies.

Table No. 5.—Actual quantity of Rolling Stock in use at the end of the 24th fiscal year.

Table No. 6.—Statistics of Passenger Traffic.

Table No. 7.—Statistics of Goods Traffic. With total Train Mileages.

Table No. 8.—List of Deaths and Injuries

among passengers, staff, and others in the different sections during the 24th fiscal year.

Table No. 9.—List of Casualties and Accidents in connection with the running of trains on the different sections during the 24th fiscal year.

Table No. 10.—Comparative table of the earnings, expenditures, &c., of the Nippon and twelve other Railway Companies.

GENERAL CONDITION OF WORKS ON DIFFERENT LINES.

The chief works during the year under review were the construction of the new railway over the Usui Pass between Yokogawa and Karuzawa, and supplementary works prosecuted in making good the damages to the road, bridges, &c., on the line through the provinces of Owari and Mino, wrought by the great earthquake of October last. Other works consisted principally of ordinary repairing works.

A review of the main features of these undertakings will now be proceeded with:—

YOKOGAWA-KARUZAWA SECTION.

Construction of the Usui Line:—The works on this line were begun at the close of the preceding fiscal year. Although the line is but 6 miles 77 chains in length, the fact that, as stated in the report for the previous fiscal year, it is laid over a most wild district, has necessitated engineering works of no ordinary nature, rocky hills having to be cut away and ravines filled in, extremely steep gradients introduced, and as many as twenty-five different places within this short distance having had to be pierced by tunnels. Tunnelling works were begun in June with the tunnel No. 25; all the other tunnels, with the exception of No. 10, which is situated at the mid-way passing place for the up and down trains, and therefore requires special arrangements, were taken in hand during the months of July and August.

Thanks to the fact of the line being located along the public roadway and the latter having thereby afforded ample means of transportation and distribution, no dearth in the supply of material has been experienced at the places where the works were being carried on, and the progress made in all the undertakings has exceeded the anticipations formed at the beginning.

Tunnels.—These number 25, as above stated; and their aggregate length measures 14,618.72 feet. Eight-tenths of excavations and two-tenths of the lining with brick have been completed.

Bridges.—The experience gained from the practical illustrations of the effects of earthquake phenomena on bridgework, during the great earthquake of the Owari and Mino provinces, being availed of, some alteration of the designs for the brick arches and piers of the bridges on this railway was necessitated. This fact, together with the extreme coldness of the climate in the district during the winter, prevented bridge construction from making such progress as it might otherwise have done. However, at the date up to which this report extends, the works were well in hand; and 1 bridge and 7 culverts, and also six-tenths of the work of making drains, were already completed.

Of rail-laying, 1 mile 15 chains of rails have been laid on the main line and sidings. Also 1 mile 74 chains of temporary lines, consisting of a line from Karuzawa station to a brick factory at Shiozawa, and several other short lines for facilitating the transportation of material, have been laid out.

Earthworks.—Eight-tenths of the cuttings and embankments have been completed, and over six-tenths of the works for the diversion of roads and rivers and the erection of stone walls for the prevention of landslips were finished.

Buildings.—Forty-three buildings, consisting of offices of the construction department, quarters for the staff, workshops, &c., covering in aggregate an area of 885 *tsubo*, have been put up within the station grounds at Yokogawa and Karuzawa and at other places along the line. The whole of these buildings, with only one exception are temporary structures.

TOKYO-KOBE SECTION.

Works for repairing the damages caused by the great earthquake.—The line between Hamamatsu and Maibara suffered greatly from the tremendous earthquake which occurred on the 28th of October last year. The railway embankments within this district sank at 45 different places, and some of the greater depressions measured over 13 feet in depth. The ground was cracked at innumerable places, and the rails were shaken out of position to the extent of being forced, at many places, to assume a serpentine shape. Sixty-three bridges, including the large bridges over the Kiso, Nagara, and Ibi rivers, and the wing walls of 41 culverts were wrecked. The abutments of many of these bridges were split right through, and in some cases the piers were demolished and the superstructure overthrown into

the rivers. The buildings at all the intervening stations suffered to a greater or less extent; some were totally crushed, others were left in inclining positions, and none escaped scathless. Indeed, the destruction wrought by this earthquake, particularly between Atsuta and Ogaki, was so appalling as to be indescribable.

The traffic between Hamamatsu and Maibara having been brought, on this account, to a sudden standstill, no time was lost in making the necessary distribution of the staff, and the work of rendering the railway servicable by repairing the damages, both to the road and the bridges, was vigorously proceeded with. Rough buildings were put up to serve for the time being the purposes of those which were destroyed, and such portions of the line as had been sufficiently repaired to admit of the resumption of traffic were opened at short intervals as the works progressed. However, the speedy resumption of traffic over the portion of the line between the Kiso and the Ibi-gawa was not possible, for both of the important bridges spanning these wide rivers, as well as other large bridges situated in the interval, had sustained damages which precluded their expeditious restoration. Before the work of repairing or reconstruction proper could be taken in hand, the actual nature of the injuries sustained had to be ascertained by removing the enormous piles of brick forming the piers and abutments, and while this preliminary work was going on, the weighty superstructures had to be kept in position by means of temporary supports. In the case of the Nagara-gawa bridge, the cast iron piles upon which the girders rested were demolished, and their entire reconstruction was unavoidable. Brick piers over well foundations of the same material were adopted to replace the broken piles. The positions of the piers had to be shifted, which necessitated the provision of an additional span of 60 feet girders. When the erection of the new piers was completed, the 200 feet girders which had been overthrown into the river had to be restored in position on them. It has been found that in carrying out reconstruction works of this kind, the difficulties to be surmounted amount to as much again as those usually met in the undertaking of new works. However, taking the different works as a whole, nine-tenths of them may be said to have been finished by the beginning of March. The traffic on the section between the Kiso-gawa and Gifu Stations was opened on the 12th of that month, and the reconstruction of the Nagara-gawa bridge, which had been pushed forward with the utmost rapidity was completed on the 30th of the same month. As the rebuilding of the Stations at Nagoya and Kiyosu was the only work remaining unfinished at that date, it may be stated that, with these trifling exceptions, the repairs of the earthquake damages were brought to a conclusion within the space of five months. Under these circumstances the resumption of through traffic between Tokyo and Kobe may shortly be expected.

The principal works done may be summarized as follows:—Earthworks for the repairing of embankments, 15,730 *tsubo*; Masonry for repairing stone walls, over 1,000 *tsubo*; Sods laid on embankments, 2,500 *tsubo*; Temporary railway lines laid, 28 chains 30 links; Bridges of all sizes, the piers and abutments of which were reconstructed, 35; Wing-walls of bridges and culverts repaired, 207; Culverts reconstructed, 5; Buildings reconstructed or repaired, 34, with the aggregate area of 2,262 *tsubo*.

The Taketoyo and the Tsuruga lines likewise suffered from the effects of the Earthquake; embankments crumbled down, and bridges, culverts, wing-walls, and the station and other buildings were injured more or less. The traffic on the Taketoyo line was suspended. The necessary repairs were conducted with all possible speed, and the line was in a condition to be reopened by the 21st of December.

The ordinary construction works undertaken in the Tokyo-Kobe Section consisted of the completion of the flood-openings between Ogaki and Tarui, which had remained over from the previous fiscal year; making new stations at Anjo and Yasu; laying down sidings at different stations, the aggregate lengths of which amounted to 4 miles 27 chains and 70 links; erection of 5 new passenger pass-over bridges; erecting, and removing 107 buildings, the aggregate area covered by them being 3,139 *tsubo*; and repairing 18,178 *tsubo* of embankments.

The foregoing is a brief enumeration of the principal construction works done; some other works were executed, but as they consisted of the usual minor repairs attendant upon the maintenance of the lines, they may be passed over.

On the Taketoyo line, the reconstruction of the three temporary bridges which remained over from the previous fiscal year completed. With regard to the Tsuruga, Yokosuka, and Yokogawa lines no

works were attended to beyond the customary small repairs.

KARUIZAWA-NAOETSU SECTION.

A severe down-pour of rain accompanied with high winds prevailed in the province of Shinano during several days in July and caused the rivers to rise. The Susobana and Torii-gawa over flowed their banks and the buildings and fences of the Nagano Station being thereby considerably damaged. Between Toyono and Kashiwabara, lower down the same streams, in addition to the occurrence of two landslips on the line, eight-tenths of 14 embankments, the height of which ranged from 10 to 40 feet, were washed away. Very extensive damages were also sustained by stone walls for the prevention of landslips and inroads of water. Unprecedented destruction attended this flood, and the traffic was suspended. A temporary diverted line was laid down, and by otherwise hastening the necessary repairs to allow the passage of trains, resumption of traffic was effected in the course of two weeks. In making good the ravages by this inundation 14,000 *tsubo* of earthwork on embankments, and 7,672 *tsubo* of masonry on stone walls were required. Besides common minor repairs, the construction of a siding of 5 chains 14 links at the Shinonoi Station and the completing of the extension of the line for a distance of 55 chains from the Naoetsu Station to the landing place on the sea shore, begun during the previous year, were the only works carried into execution during the year under review.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

The railway fund granted by the Government from the first establishment of railways (March 1870) up to the close of the last fiscal year (end of March 1891) amounted to yen 34,971,702. The increment of the railway capital during the year under review is as follows:—

	Yen.
Amount of the Construction Expenditures of the Tokaido and Naoetsu Lines, brought over from the 23rd fiscal year and received from the Treasury during the year under review	2,548
Amount received from the Treasury during the year under review for the Construction of the Usui Mountain Railway	1,297,107
Amount expended during the year under review on Supplementary works of open lines defrayed from the Revenue, in accordance with the Regulations for Government Railway Finances	313,170

Total Yen 1,612,825

This sum added to the amount of the Capital at the close of the previous fiscal year, gives yen 36,584,527. Now, by deducting from this total yen 1,409, which represents the amount realized by the sale of certain properties and returned to the Treasury, by capital written off, and by material procured for supplementary works and subsequently transferred to the Stores Account, a balance of yen 36,583,118 is obtained, which is the aggregate Railway Capital at the close of the year under review (24th Fiscal year).

The amount of the Fixed Capital at the beginning of the year under review stood at yen 32,745,991. The sum of yen 322,193, comprising expenditures on construction works of the previous year, brought over to the year under review, expenditures on supplementary railway works, and of stores, the accounts of which have been adjusted, has since been added. The total of the above amounts—yen 33,068,184—represents the aggregate Fixed Railway Capital at the close of the year under review.

The details of the adjusted accounts of the above are as follow:—

1. TOKAIDO LINE.—Tokyo-Kobe Section, Ofuna-Yokosuka Section, Obu-Taketo Section, Maibara-Tsuruga Section: the construction expenditures for which were defrayed from the old funds for the promotion of industries (*Kogyō hi* and *Kigyō hi*) or from grants in accordance with the old and new Regulations for Railway Finances:—

	Yen.
Amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the last fiscal year	29,024,787
Amount of Fixed Capital reduced during the year under review:	
Property Sold	890
Transfers made to the Stores Account	18,037
Capital written off ...	122
Balance	29,005,738
Amount of Fixed Capital increased during the year under review:	
Issues from the Treasury	1,955

Issues from the Supplementary Works Fund

Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted	279,245	306,064
24,864		

The amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the year under review.

Total 29,311,802

2. TAKASAKI NAOETSU LINE.—Takasaki-Yokogawa Section and Kariizawa-Naoetsu Section, the construction expenditures of which were defrayed in accordance with the old and new Regulations for Railway Finances:—

Amount of Fixed Capital at close of the last fiscal year

Amount of Fixed Capital reduced during the year under review

Property sold

Capital written off ...

Balance

Amount of Fixed Capital increased during the year under review

Issues from the Treasury

Issues from the Supplementary Works Fund

Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted

Amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the year under review

Total

Aggregate Fixed Capital for all lines:—

Amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the previous fiscal year

Amount of Fixed Capital reduced during the year under review:—

Paid into the Treasury

Transfers made to the Stores account

Capital written off

Balance

Amount of Fixed Capital increased during the year under review:

Issues from the Treasury

Issues from the Supplementary Works Fund

Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted...

The aggregate amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the year under review

Besides the above amount there is a further sum of Railway Fund, the Working Fund inclusive, of yen 3,514,934 which cannot be included in the Fixed Capital account. The details of this fund are as follow:—

Amount of Usui Mountain Railway Construction Expenditures, the accounts of which have been adjusted.

Adjusted during the previous fiscal year

Adjusted during the year under review...

Amount of Construction Stores

Cash under charge of construction paymasters ...

Working Fund (this fund being included in the Revenues, its details are given in the Revenue Account)

Total

This amount added to the amount of the Fixed Capital at the close of the year under review will coincide with the aggregate amount of the Gross Railway Capital at the same period, above given, namely, yen 36,583,118.

In the following table the Railway Construction expenditures, amounting to yen 33,068,184 is analyzed under various heads, and the average amount of the expenditures per mile under each head, with the ratio they bear to the aggregate

amount at the close of the year under review are given and a comparison made with those of the previous fiscal year:—

Items.	Average Amount per mile on open lines, End of End of 23rd fiscal year.	End of End of 24th fiscal year.	Percentages of aggregate amount, End of End of 23rd fiscal year.	End of End of 24th fiscal year.
Preliminary Surveys.....	508	508	.0085	.0086
Superintending and Engineering	1,297	1,500	.0236	.0219
Right of way	2,995	2,977	.0498	.0501
Earthworks	20,347	20,178	.1781	.1788
Bridges (including culverts)	15,532	15,449	.2351	.2300
Tunnels	4,418	4,418	.0736	.0745
Permanent way (including drain-pipes, fences, boundary posts, and telegraphs)	9,918	9,581	.1658	.1661
Stations	3,141	3,043	.0523	.0512
Transportation (including construction trains) ..	1,451	1,451	.0248	.0244
Wharves	305	305	.0034	.0034
Locomotives	2,924	2,821	.0487	.0485
Other rolling stock	3,271	3,271	.054	.0538
Buildings	679	619	.0113	.0109
Shops and Machinery	2,344	1,266	.0404	.0213
Construction plant	323	314	.0050	.0050
General charges	1,005	1,005	.0168	.0169
Total	60,013	59,430	1.0000	1.0000

From the above it will be seen that the average cost per mile at the close of the year under review was yen 60,015, which, when compared with that of the previous year, shows an average increase of yen 585 per mile. The items showing the most marked increase are Earthworks, Bridges, Tunnels, Stations, Rolling Stock, and Shops.

In the following table the average cost per mile, at the close of the year of the different sections of the lines in operation is compared and given:—

Total length of open lines	Miles.	Average Cost per mile, yen.
551		60,015
Details.	Miles.	Average Cost per mile, yen.
1. Tokyo-Yokohama Section	18	162,865
(Double line, construction begun April, 1870, completed September, 1872.)		
2. Kobe-Otsu Section	58	137,693
(1 mile double; construction begun November, 1870, completed September, 1879.)		
3. Tsuruga-Ogaki Section	49	71,021
(Construction begun May, 1880, completed July, 1884.)		
4. Takasaki-Naoetsu Section	110	34,149
(Usui-toge excepted; construction begun October, 1884 completed December, 1888.)		
5. Yokohama-Ogaki Section	258	49,942
(22 miles double line; construction begun August, 1885, completed April, 1889.)		
6. Ofuna-Yokosuka Section	10	41,339
(Construction begun January, 1888, completed July, 1889.)		
7. Otsu-Nagahama Section	48	33,660
(Construction begun February, 1888, completed July, 1889.)		
Double line between Oyama and Numazu	11	15,617
(Being a portion of the Yokohama-Ogaki Section; construction begun February, 1890, completed March, 1891.)		

The foregoing railways were already in a state of completion in the previous fiscal year. The general augmentation of the expenditures on all the lines which has since taken place is attributable to the increase of, and improvements made on, various railway properties, as necessitated by the requirements of the traffic.

The amount issued by the Treasury on account of the Construction Expenditures of the Yokogawa-Kariizawa Section (Usui-toge) in previous fiscal year was yen 47,726; the issues made for the same purpose during the year under review were yen 1,297,107. The total of these sums viz. yen 1,344,833, represents the aggregate issues from the Treasury on this account up to the close of the year, and of this latter amount the accounts for yen 1,173,320 were adjusted by that date, by far the greater part of the adjustments having been made during the year under review. The details of these Expenditures are given in Table No 1 at the end of this report. The surplus from the Issues, namely yen 155,167, which remained at the close of the year under review, was carried over to the next year. This sum, added to yen 500,000, the 25th fiscal year's appropriation for these Expenditures, gives a total of yen 655,167, which represents the last installment of the funds to be issued from the Treasury for the Construction Expenditures of the Yokogawa-Kariizawa section.

While the sum of yen 313,170 has, during the year under review, been expended on supplementary works on open lines for the necessary improve-

ment and increase of the railway property, strict economy has been observed in the working expenses—expenses for the maintenance of the way, locomotive power, management of the traffic, &c.—in order to compensate as far as possible these Expenditures on supplementary works. It should, however, be borne in mind that supplementary Expenditures are incurred in order to maintain the thorough efficiency of the property by supplementing any deficiencies that might exist, and are therefore of a nature quite different from those incurred in the operation of railways; the latter become extinct, while the former not only reduce unproductive expenditures, but enhance the value of the property and develop the productive power of the capital invested.

In the following table the amount of the Gross and Fixed Railway Capital at the close of each fiscal year from the 10th is compared with the mileages of lines in operation, and the average cost per mile in respect of the aggregate and fixed capitals is given. (The construction expenditures of the Usui mountain railway are not included, because that line has not yet been opened):—

Fiscal year.	Amount of Aggregate Capital at the close of each year.	Amount of Fixed Capital at the close of each year.	Percentage of Fixed Capital to Aggregate Capital.	Miles in operation.	Per mile of open lines.	Amount of Aggregate Capital.	Amount of Fixed Capital.
Yen.	Yen.	Per cent.	Miles.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Before 10th	17,895,844	14,971,665	83.7	143	125,076	104,697	
10th	21,134,859	17,879,959	84.6	300	203,124	159,599	
11th	26,284,857	23,447,633	89.2	445	197,285	92,683	
12th	35,917,017	28,639,343	85.3	446	74,868	64,198	
13th	34,447,633	31,618,348	91.8	551	64,518	57,374	
14th	34,477,703	32,745,021	95.0	551	63,470	59,430	
15th	36,583,128	33,066,184	90.4	552	66,394	60,915	

The proportional decrease of the amount of the Fixed Capital as compared with the amount of the Gross Capital, and the increase of the amount per mile of the Gross Capital at the close of the year under review, noticeable in the above table, are due to the fact that expenditures of over yen 1,340,000 on the Usui-to-ge line construction works though included in the adjusted accounts, have been excluded from the columns of Fixed Capital, because of the line not being yet opened to traffic, and therefore earning no revenue.

The detailed statement of construction expenses at the close of the year under review will be found in Table No. 1.

GENERAL CONDITION OF TRAFFIC.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS AND THE CAUSES OF THEIR VARIATION.—The Tokyo-Kobe, Takasaki-Yokogawa and Karuizawa-Naotsu Sections being taken together, the number of Passengers during the year shows an increase of 4.6 per cent. over that of the previous fiscal year, the Passenger receipts a decrease of 5 per cent., and the average mileage per passenger, a decrease of 9 per cent. The amount of Goods traffic shows an increase of 20 per cent.; the Goods receipts also show an increase of 6 per cent., and the average mileage per ton shows a decrease of 1.5 per cent. The details of these variations and their causes, in each of the above sections, are as follow:—

THE TOKYO-KOBE SECTION.—The Passenger Traffic during the year under review, as compared with that of the previous year, showed in number an increase of 4.4 per cent.; and in receipts a decrease of 5.7 per cent. This result is attributable to the fact of passenger mileage having been longer in the previous year, and the receipts therefrom having been proportionally greater. The shortening of the passenger mileage in the year under review was owing to the traffic in the provinces of Owari and Mino being for a long while cut off by the consequences of the great earthquake. In the Goods Traffic, while an increase of 22 per cent. took place in tonnage, the increase in the receipts amounted to only 6.5 per cent. This result, likewise, is to a greater or less extent attributable to the earthquake damages. The receipts for ordinary freight were 7.7 per cent less than the earnings under that head during the previous year, but a marked increase having taken place in the Waggon-load freight and the Goods carried by special contract, a general result of 6.5 per cent. in favour of the freight earnings of the year under review was obtained.

TAKASAKI-YOKOGAWA SECTION.—The Passenger Traffic compared with the previous year showed an increase of 7 per cent. in numbers and 8.5 per cent. in receipts. These results are attributable to the fact that railway operations not having been obstructed by floods or other causes, an increase took place in the average passenger mileage and also in the number of First and the Second Class passengers, these passengers aggregating 27 per cent. above the previous year. The Goods Traffic was increased by 12 per cent. in tonnage and by 24.6 per cent. in receipts; results attributable to the gradual increase of the use of railways by the public as a means of transportation.

KARUIZAWA-NAOETSU SECTION.—The Passenger Traffic increased by 5.9 per cent. in numbers and by 2.1 per cent. in receipts. The Goods Traffic also increased 7 per cent. in tonnage and 4 per cent. in receipts. These results, having been obtained in the face of the facts that the traffic over a portion of the line was at one time suspended altogether and afterwards worked for a while by a reduced number of trains, clearly show that railway business is gradually developing in those parts of the country.

ALTERATIONS IN THE TRAIN SERVICE.—An alteration of the Train Service of the Shimbashi-Kobe Railway and its branches was made on the 1st of May, 1891. The service between Shimbashi and Hamamatsu and between Ofuna and Yokosuka was again altered on the 11th of October of last year. From the 16th of last March an extra passenger train was added to the service between Takasaki and Yokogawa for the convenience of the public.

OPENING NEW STATIONS, ETC.—New Stations for conducting both passenger and goods business were opened at Yasu between Kusatsu and Hachiman, and at Anjo between Kariya and Okazaki on the 16th of June, 1891. The line from Naotsu to the sea-coast was rendered available for traffic of goods, weighing over 1,000 *kin*, from the 10th of September 1891. Goods' business was begun at the Oyama Station on the 20th of September, 1891, at the Sano Station on the 11th December, the same year, and at the Ofuna station on the 1st of March, 1892.

PRINCIPAL CASUALTIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE RUNNING OF TRAINS.—On the Tokyo-Kobe line, owing to the effects of the great earthquake, the traffic of the Section between Nagoya and Maibara on and the whole of the Taketoyo Branch became suspended. Portions of the interrupted lines were reopened and the traffic resumed on dates as follows:—From Maibara to Tarui, 30th October; from Tarui to Ogaki, 3rd November; from Ogazaki to Nagoya, 5th November; from Nagoya to Kisogawa, 20th December; and the Taketoyo branch, 21st December. The reopening of the portion of the line between Kisogawa and Ogaki was not effected up to the close of the year under review; but, it took place very shortly afterwards—on the 16th of last April—and the through traffic was thereby resumed.

KARUIZAWA-NAOETSU SECTION.—In July, 1891, owing to a heavy fall of rain in Shinano, the rivers in the Nagano district overflowed their banks and did much damage to the embankments and the line generally, causing total suspension of the traffic between Nagano and Kashiwabara for the space of two weeks, from the 21st of July to the 3rd of August; and in the meanwhile the service between Kashiwabara and Naotsu had to be reduced to three trains per day. The entire resumption of the traffic between Karuizawa and Naotsu was effected on the 15th of August.

The snow-fall in Echigo was comparatively limited in amount during last winter, and the interruptions of the traffic from that cause were proportionally less. The reduction of the service between Nagano and Naotsu to three trains per day lasted only from the 25th of January to the 24th of February.

TAKASAKI-YOKOGAWA SECTION.—No casualties occurred requiring notice.

The statements of train-mileages, casualties connected with the running of trains, deaths, injuries, &c., will be found in Tables from No. 6 to 9 inclusive, at the end of this report.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

The mileage of railways open during the year under review was 551 miles, and was therefore the same as it stood at the close of the previous fiscal year. The great Owari and Mino earthquake of last October, however, cut off the traffic between Nagoya and Maibara and between Obu and Taketoyo in the Tokyo-Kobe system; and a portion between Kisogawa and Ogaki was kept suspended for nearly half a year. Furthermore, the heavy rainfall of last July, which inundated the country about Nagano and Kashiwabara on the Karuizawa-Naotsu line, damaged the railway to the extent of causing stoppage of the traffic over that district. The average operating mileage was from these causes reduced to 539 miles. The Revenue and working expenses alike, have been affected by the great earthquake in the most marked manner. While the former declined considerably on the one hand, the latter was greatly increased on the other; the consequence being an inordinate curtailment of the Net Profit compared with the previous year. The Revenue was diminished by yen 103,663 and the increase of the working expenses amounted to the large sum of yen 425,626. The average operating mileage, as compared with the mileage of open railways, was reduced by 12 miles.

The amounts and proportions of the Revenue, Working Expenses, and Net Profit for the year are as follow:—

	YEN.
Revenue	4,110,141
Working Expenses	2,426,900
Net Profit	1,683,241

The proportion of the Working Expenses to the Revenue is slightly above 59 per cent., and compared with that of the previous fiscal year shows an increase of slightly over 11 per cent.

In the following table the average revenue and working expenses per day and the same per mile of lines in operation of the different sections for the year are given and compared with those of the previous fiscal year:—

Sections.	Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Day.				Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Mile.			
	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Tokyo-Kobe Section	9,497	9,805	5,478	4,553				
Ofuna-Yokosuka Section	161	165	64	60				
Obu-Taketoyo Section	43	49	65	50				
Maibara-Tsuruga Section	303	338	107	154				
Takasaki-Yokogawa Section	850	883	207	170				
Karuizawa-Naotsu Section	995	969	759	494				
Total average	11,330	11,545	6,631	5,483				
Sections.	Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Mile.				Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Mile.			
	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.
Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Tokyo-Kobe Section	9,417	9,518	5,449	4,449				
Ofuna-Yokosuka Section	1,842	2,867	2,336	2,290				
Obu-Taketoyo Section	1,413	2,360	2,158	1,398				
Maibara-Tsuruga Section	2,693	3,744	1,492	1,708				
Takasaki-Yokogawa Section	5,098	4,586	1,177	1,460				
Karuizawa-Naotsu Section	4,004	3,844	3,013	1,961				
Total average	7,615	7,775	4,593	3,659				

It will be seen from the above tables that a very marked decline in the Revenue of the Tokyo-Kobe Section occurred during the year under review, and that the Revenue of the Obu-Taketoyo and Maibara-Tsuruga sections also fell off, though to a less degree. These results are attributable, either directly or indirectly to the earthquake, for the Revenues of lines in the districts which were not affected by it have been more or less augmented, although the Ofuna-Yokosuka section might be considered as an exception, for, by a strange coincidence, its earnings amounted to exactly the same as those of the previous fiscal year. The general increase of the Working Expenses is attributable to many causes; but the expenditures incurred in restoring railway property destroyed by the earthquake, which amounted to yen 324,907, contributed the greatest share, followed by yen 29,796 expended in repairing the damages by floods about Nagano. The Takasaki-Yokogawa, the only section which shows favourable results in this respect, owes the fact to its having escaped, during the year under review, damages from floods such as it sustained in the previous fiscal year.

Attention may here be drawn to the statement made in last year's report of the differences which exist between the mode of rendering accounts of the Revenues and Expenditures as prescribed by the Law relating to the Finances of Government Works and Government Railways, and the modes employed by the Railway Department, the latter being based upon a system of accounts which has been in observance by the Department for many years past.*

The amount of money remitted to the National Treasury as the Net Railway Earnings for the year under review, and forming a part of the revenues from government works and properties, was yen 1,419,611, the details of which are as follow:—

	YEN.
Railway Net Profit	1,683,241
Revenues receivable and the cost of office furniture, &c. (the sums payable on the same being deducted) which are included by the new accounts among the adjusted amounts; but excluded therefrom by the old accounts. (This item is termed below "the disparity between the new and old accounts.")	49,540
Total	1,732,781
Expenditures on supplementary works on open Railways, defrayed from the earnings, in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Finance Regulations	313,170
Amount of remittance to the National Treasury as the Railway Net Profit Balance	1,419,611

As stated in the part treating of the capital account, the working fund is amalgamated and ac-

* These different methods of accounts are called the *Uke-harai* (receiving and paying) and *Tsuyo-Kanjo* (works accounts). For the sake of convenience, they will be termed new and old accounts respectively.

counted for with the Revenues and Expenditures in the Revenue Account, the details of which are as follows:—

	YEN.	YEN.
Working fund	2,000,000	
Operating Receipts	4,110,141	
Disparity between the new and old accounts	49,540	

Total 6,159,681

DETAILS.

Material in Stock:—		
In stores	1,030,264	
At shops	118,417	
At contractors'	125	1,168,806

Sums receivable and Office		
Furniture, &c.	285,907	
Cash belonging to the Working Fund	545,287	
Operating Expenses	2,426,900	
Expenditures on supplementary works	313,170	4,740,070

Net Profit—Balance 1,419,611

CASH ACCOUNT.

	YEN.	YEN.
Amount at deposit at the close of the year under review		2,030,388
Amount belonging to the Working Fund carried over to the next fiscal year	545,287	
Amount carried over to the next fiscal year to meet sums payable ...	65,490	610,777

Balance 1,419,611

The last balance represents the sum remitted to the National Treasury as the amount of Net Railway Earnings for the year.

The foregoing are the results as worked out in accordance with the new regulations. But since the division of items and the system of accounts generally employed in previous years are here retained, in order to facilitate comparison of the progress made by the operation of railways, the sum of yen 1,683,241 is taken as the net profit in this statement.

The sum of yen 4,110,141, the gross revenue for the year, is divided under three heads of Passenger, Goods, and Miscellaneous receipts, and the ratio each bears to the total for this and the last fiscal year, is as follows:—

	Amount for the year under review.	Amount for the last fiscal year.	Percentage of the total revenue.	24th fiscal year.	23rd fiscal year.
Passengers	3,179,873	3,395,442	77.4	78.5	
Goods	824,056	767,967	20.0	18.2	
Miscellaneous	106,212	140,395	2.6	3.3	

Total.....4,110,141 4,213,804 100 100.

It will be seen from the above table that there was a decrease of over yen 120,000 in the Passenger receipts; whilst the Goods receipts increased by over yen 50,000. The causes of these variations in the earnings are treated in the portion of this report dealing with the general condition of the traffic.

The decrease of the Miscellaneous receipts may be accounted for by there not having been, during the year under review, such a large amount of extraordinary income under this head as there was in the previous fiscal year.

In the following table the aggregate Working Expenditure, during the year under review, namely yen 2,426,900, is divided under the four heads of Maintenance of permanent way, Locomotive, Traffic, and general expenses, and the ratio these bear to the Revenue and Working Expenditure is given for this and the previous year.

	Amount for the year under review.	Amount for the last fiscal year.	Ratio of the respective expenses to the revenue and working expenses.	24th Fiscal Year.	23rd Fiscal Year.
Maintenance	1,013,591	686,957	41.8	24.6	34.3
Locomotive	866,687	822,410	35.7	21.1	41.1
Traffic	377,383	353,220	15.5	9.2	17.7
General	169,439	138,986	7.0	4.1	6.9

Total...2,426,900 2,001,273 100.0 59.0 100.0 47.5

Note.—The figures on the right side in the columns of percentages give the percentage of Working Expenses; those on the left percentages of Revenue.

It will be noticed from the above table that a general increase over the figures of the previous year has taken place in all branches of expenditures. Maintenance expenditures owe their increment to the expenses incurred in repairing the damages caused by the earthquake; Lo-

comotive expenditures to increase of running mileage; Traffic expenditures to the same cause, and also to the extra outlay incurred in the discharge of business owing to the communication by the line having been cut off at different places by the earthquake, and owing also to the separate supervision which had in consequence to be established at various localities. The increase in the general expenditures is attributable to a change of accounting method rendered desirable by the relations between the organization of the department and the division of the fixed expenditures, namely, that the expenses of construction trains, the general expenses of the traffic department, and the expenses of maintaining and repairing of buildings, which were hitherto chargeable in appropriate proportion to the Maintenance, Locomotive, and Traffic expenditures respectively, are charged wholly to the General expenditures in the year under review.

The different heads of the receipts and expenditures in the revenue account of the last three years, divided by their appropriate divisors, give results as shown in the following tables:—

RECEIPTS.

Fiscal year.	Average mileage in operation.	Receipts per average mile in operation.			
		Passenger	Goods	Miscellaneous	Total.
24th fiscal year	539	5,899	1,529	197	7,625
23rd fiscal year	542	6,099	1,417	259	7,775
22nd fiscal year	528	5,746	1,282	115	6,143

Average for 3 years 5,916 1,410 191 7,517

EXPENSES.

Fiscal Year.	Maintenance Expenses.				Locomotive Expenses.	
	per mile.		per mile.		per mile.	
	Divisor.	Per Working mile in Mileage operation.	Divisor.	Per Running mile in Mileage.	Divisor.	Per Running mile in Mileage.
	Miles.	Yen.	Miles.	Yen.	Miles.	Yen.
24th fiscal year ...	551	1,840	3,547,377	.244		
23rd fiscal year ...	551	1,246	2,947,754	.279		
22nd fiscal year...	542	1,158	2,450,751	.212		

Fiscal Years.	Traffic Expenses.		General Expenses.	
	Divisor.	Per 100 Total Re- venue.	Divisor.	Per 100 Revenue and Expenditure.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
24th fiscal year...	4,110,141	9.182	6,537,041	2.589
23rd fiscal year...	4,213,804	8.382	6,215,077	2.236
22nd fiscal year...	3,771,630	8.019	5,435,047	3.917
	Maintenance Locomotive		Traffic General	
	Expenses.	Expenses.	Expenses.	Expenses.
Average for the three years.	1,416	.247	8,541	2.865

The details of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Revenue Account for the various sections will be found in Table No. 2.

The net profits of the year under review, yen 1,683,241, compared with the aggregate amount of the capital, yen 36,583,118 and the total of the finally adjusted amount of the same, or Fixed Capital, yen 34,241,504, give the following ratios for this year, those of the three previous years being also given for comparison:—

Fiscal Year.	Net profits compared with Gross Capital.	Net profits compared with Fixed Capital.
24th fiscal year	4.6	4.9
23rd fiscal year	6.3	6.8
22nd fiscal year	6.1	6.7
21st fiscal year	4	4.6

The main cause of the decrease of the percentage of the Net Profit was the great earthquake, which, as already described, tended to increase the expenditures on the one hand and to decrease the receipts on the other. However, there was another cause which contributed in no slight measure to the same result. The expenditures on the Utsu-Toge railway works, in course of construction during the year under review, amounted in all to yen 1,343,773; of this sum accounts for yen 1,173,320 having been adjusted, were transferred to Capital. But as the line was not in operation no returns were obtained for this increased amount of capital. Were this adjusted amount excluded from the capital account, the Net Profit would have been 4.8 per cent. of the Gross Capital, and 5.1 per cent. of the Fixed Capital.

In the following table the annual increase of the capital and of the gross receipts is compared, and the annual increase of the mileage in operation and the percentages are given, to show the relation between the Capital and the Revenue for this last and the three previous fiscal years:—

Fiscal Year.	Increase of miles in operation.	Increase of gross receipts.	Proportion of increase of capital.	Proportion of increase of gross receipts.
24th fiscal year ...	9	2,612,436	4.6	103,663*
23rd fiscal year ...	9	534,259	1.5	442,174
22nd fiscal year ...	103	1,056,666	1.9	7,457,819
21st fiscal year ...	101	715,675	27.0	64,936

The sum of yen 1,419,611 remitted to the National Treasury as the net earnings for the year is 3.9 per cent. of the gross capital and 4.1 per cent. of the Fixed capital.

The General Balance Sheet of the Capital and Revenue Accounts at the close of the year will be found in Table No. 3.

GENERAL CONDITION OF WORKS ON THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY'S LINES, CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

Though the condition of the construction works on the Nippon Railway Company's lines for the year has already been dealt with as usual in two semi-annual reports, the main features will here be recapitulated.

The fifth Section of this Company's main line—between Morioka and Aomori—was opened on the 1st of September, 1891, which made the length of the Company's railways—the main line and the branches—in operation 549 miles.

As with the finishing of the Fifth Section all the railways projected by the company were completed, the whole of the works and business of the Company, which had till then been under the supervision of the Railway Department, were transferred, without reserve, to it on the 31st of March, 1892.

The Company had by that date become fully equipped with rolling stock and plant sufficient for all present requirements; and the few temporary bridges that remained in the Fifth Section, which required to be replaced by permanent structures—work which could be carried out without interfering with the traffic—was not considered of importance sufficient to deter the consummation of the transfer.

The expenditure on construction account of the Nippon, Ryomo, Mito, and Koku Railway Companies, from the commencement to the end of the year, is here given:—

Aggregate expenditure on construction account from the commencement of the works to the end of last fiscal year	19,852,318
Do. during the year under review	1,074,935

Total.....20,926,353

Details:—

Adjusted amount yen 20,200,171.	
1st Section { Shinagawa-Maebashi } ...	2,902,685
2nd Section { Ueno-Akabane } ...	2,267,861
3rd Section { Omiya-Shirakawa } ...	2,513,356
4th Section { Sendai-Morioka } ...	3,844,113
5th Section { Morioka-Aomori } ...	5,432,260
Nikko Line { Utsunomiya-Nikko } ...	401,546
Ryomo Line { Oyama-Kiryu } ...	1,297,964
Mito Line { Oyama-Mito } ...	816,611
Koku Line { Shinjuku-Hachioji } ...	723,575
Unadjusted amount and floating fund ...	726,182
Amount for which construction officers are responsible	220,987
Materials in Store	505,195

The amount adjusted from the beginning of the works to the end of the last fiscal year was yen 18,444,698 and the amount adjusted during the year under review was yen 1,755,473. The total of these sums, yen 20,200,172, represents the aggregate adjusted capital at the end of the year.

The total mileage of open lines at the close of the previous year was 537 miles, constructed at the cost of yen 14,767,911; during the year under review the Morioka-Aomori Section, of 127 miles in length and costing yen 5,432,260, was opened.

Comparing now the cost of construction with the mileage in operation, we find:—

	Miles.	Cost per Mile.
Length of lines in operation	664	30,422

Details:—

	Miles.	Yen.
Nippon Railway Company.		
1st Section	81	35,836
2nd Section	97	23,380
3rd Section	110	22,849
4th Section	107	35,926
5th Section	127	42,774
Nikko Line	25	16,062
Ryomo Line	51	25,450
Mito Line	43	18,991
Koku Line	23	31,460

A detailed statement of the cost of construction of these lines will be found in table No. 4.

PRIVATE RAILWAY LINES.

The Mito Railway Company having come to an arrangement with the Nippon Railway Company, made an application for permission to sell their line to the latter Company. The permission was granted in June 1891; and, on the 1st of March 1892, the railway, with all other properties attached to it, was made over to the Nippon

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counted for with the Revenues and Expenditures in the Revenue Account, the details of which are as follow:—

	YEN.	YEN.
Working fund	2,000,000	
Operating Receipts	4,110,141	
Disparity between the new and old accounts	49,540	

Total 6,159,681

DETAILS.

Material in Stock:—

In stores	1,050,264	
At shops	118,417	
At contractors'	125	1,168,806

Sums receivable and Office

Furniture, &c.	285,907	
---------------------	---------	--

Cash belonging to the

Working Fund	545,287	
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Operating Expenses	2,426,900	
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Expenditures on supplementary works	313,170	4,740,070
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Net Profit—Balance 1,419,611

CASH ACCOUNT.

	YEN.	YEN.
--	------	------

Amount at deposit at the close of the year under review 2,030,388

Amount belonging to the Working Fund carried over to the next fiscal year..... 545,287

Amount carried over to the next fiscal year to meet sums payable ... 65,490

Balance 1,419,611

The last balance represents the sum remitted to the National Treasury as the amount of Net Railway Earnings for the year.

The foregoing are the results as worked out in accordance with the new regulations. But since the division of items and the system of accounts generally employed in previous years are here retained, in order to facilitate comparison of the progress made by the operation of railways, the sum of yen 1,683,241 is taken as the net profit in this statement.

The sum of yen 4,110,141, the gross revenue for the year, is divided under three heads of Passenger, Goods, and Miscellaneous receipts, and the ratio each bears to the total for this and the last fiscal year, is as follows:—

Amount for the year under review. Amount for the last fiscal year. Percentage of the different receipts to the total revenue.

Passengers 3,179,873 3,305,442 77.4 78.5

Goods 824,056 767,967 20.0 18.2

Miscellaneous 106,212 140,395 2.6 3.3

Total.....4,110,141 4,213,804 100 100.

It will be seen from the above table that there was a decrease of over yen 120,000 in the Passenger receipts; whilst the Goods receipts increased by over yen 50,000. The causes of these variations in the earnings are treated in the portion of this report dealing with the general condition of the traffic.

The decrease of the Miscellaneous receipts may be accounted for by there not having been, during the year under review, such a large amount of extraordinary income under this head as there was in the previous fiscal year.

In the following table the aggregate Working Expenditure, during the year under review, namely yen 2,426,900, is divided under the four heads of Maintenance of permanent way, Locomotive, Traffic, and general expenses, and the ratio these bear to the Revenue and Working Expenditure is given for this and the previous year.

Amount for the year under review. Amount for the last fiscal year. Ratio of the respective expenses to the revenue and working expenses.

Maintenance 1,013,591 686,657 41.8 24.6

Locomotive..... 866,687 822,410 35.7 21.1

Traffic 377,383 353,220 15.5 9.2

General..... 169,239 138,986 7.0 4.1

Total... 2,426,900 2,001,273 100.0 59.0

Note.—The figures on the right side in the columns of percentages give the percentage of Working Expenses; those on the left percentages of Revenue.

It will be noticed from the above table that a general increase over the figures of the previous year has taken place in all branches of expenditures. Maintenance expenditures owe their increment to the expenses incurred in repairing the damages caused by the earthquake; Lo-

comotive expenditures to increase of running mileage; Traffic expenditures to the same cause, and also to the extra outlay incurred in the discharge of business owing to the communication by the line having been cut off at different places by the earthquake, and owing also to the separate supervision which had in consequence to be established at various localities. The increase in the general expenditures is attributable to a change of accounting method rendered desirable by the relations between the organization of the department and the division of the fixed expenditures, namely, that the expenses of construction trains, the general expenses of the traffic department, and the expenses of maintaining and repairing of buildings, which were hitherto chargeable in appropriate proportion to the Maintenance, Locomotive, and Traffic expenditures respectively, are charged wholly to the General expenditures in the year under review.

The different heads of the receipts and expenditures in the revenue account of the last three years, divided by their appropriate divisors, give results as shown in the following tables:—

RECEIPTS.

Fiscal year.	Average mileage in operation.	Receipts per average mile in operation.			
		Passenger	Goods	Miscellaneous	Total.
	Miles.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
24th fiscal year	539	5,899	1,529	197	7,625
23rd fiscal year	542	6,099	1,417	259	7,775
22nd fiscal year	528	5,746	1,282	115	6,143

Average for 3 years 5,916 1,410 191 7,517

EXPENSES.

Fiscal Year.	Maintenance Expenses.		Locomotive Expenses.	
	Divisor.	Per	Divisor.	Per
	Working mile in	Mileage operation.	Running	mile run.
	Miles.	Yen.	Miles.	Yen.
24th fiscal year ...	551	1,840	3,547,377	.244
23rd fiscal year ...	551	1,246	2,947,754	.279
22nd fiscal year...	542	1,158	2,456,751	.212

Traffic Expenses. General Expenses.

Divisor. Per 100 revenue. Divisor. Per 200 expenditure.

24th fiscal year... 4,110,141 9.182 6,537,041 2.589

23rd fiscal year... 4,213,804 8.382 6,215,077 2.236

22nd fiscal year... 3,771,630 8.019 5,435,047 3.917

Average for the three years. 1,416 .247 8,541 2.865

The details of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Revenue Account for the various sections will be found in Table No. 2.

The net profits of the year under review, yen 1,683,241, compared with the aggregate amount of the capital, yen 36,583,118 and the total of the finally adjusted amount of the same, or Fixed Capital, yen 34,241,504, give the following ratios for this year, those of the three previous years being also given for comparison:—

Fiscal Years. Net profits compared with Gross Capital. Net profits compared with Fixed capital.

24th fiscal year 4.6 4.9

23rd fiscal year 6.3 6.8

22nd fiscal year 6.1 6.7

21st fiscal year 4. 4.6

The main cause of the decrease of the percentage of the Net Profit was the great earthquake, which, as already described, tended to increase the expenditures on the one hand and to decrease the receipts on the other. However, there was another cause which contributed in no slight measure to the same result. The expenditures on the Usui-Toge railway works, in course of construction during the year under review, amounted in all to yen 1,343,773; of this sum accounts for yen 1,173,320 having been adjusted, were transferred to Capital. But as the line was not in operation no returns were obtained for this increased amount of capital. Were this adjusted amount excluded from the capital account, the Net Profit would have been 4.8 per cent. of the Gross Capital, and 5.1 per cent. of the Fixed Capital.

In the following table the annual increase of the capital and of the gross receipts is compared, and the annual increase of the mileage in operation and the percentages are given, to show the relation between the Capital and the Revenue for this last and the three previous fiscal years:—

Fiscal Year. Increase of mileage in operation. Increase of gross receipts. Proportion of increase of capital.

24th fiscal year... 0 2,612,426 4.6 103,663 3.4 11.2

23rd fiscal year... 9 524,000 1.5 44,174 11.7 12.0

22nd fiscal year... 103 1,056,006 10.0 2,457,819 69.0 10.9

21st fiscal year... 201 71,061,175 27.0 64,696 26.0 6.9

Note.—Decrease.

The sum of yen 1,419,611 remitted to the National Treasury as the net earnings for the year is 3.9 per cent. of the gross capital and 4.1 per cent. of the Fixed capital.

The General Balance Sheet of the Capital and Revenue Accounts at the close of the year will be found in Table No. 3.

GENERAL CONDITION OF WORKS ON THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY'S LINES, CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

Though the condition of the construction works on the Nippon Railway Company's lines for the year has already been dealt with as usual in two semi-annual reports, the main features will here be recapitulated.

The fifth Section of this Company's main line—between Morioka and Aomori—was opened on the 1st of September, 1891, which made the length of the Company's railways—the main line and the branches—in operation 549 miles.

As with the finishing of the Fifth Section all the railways projected by the company were completed, the whole of the works and business of the Company, which had till then been under the supervision of the Railway Department, were transferred, without reserve, to it on the 31st of March, 1892.

The Company had by that date become fully equipped with rolling stock and plant sufficient for all present requirements; and the few temporary bridges that remained in the Fifth Section, which required to be replaced by permanent structures—work which could be carried out without interfering with the traffic—was not considered of importance sufficient to deter the consummation of the transfer.

The expenditure on construction account of the Nippon, Ryomo, Mito, and Koku Railway Companies, from the commencement to the end of the year, is here given:—

Aggregate expenditure on construction yen.

account from the commencement of the works to the end of last fiscal year 19,852,318

Do. during the year under review 1,074,935

Total..... 20,927,253

Details:—

Adjusted amount yen 20,200,171.

1st Section {Shingawa-Maebashi} ... 2,902,685

2nd Section {Ueno-Akane} ... 2,267,861

3rd Section {Omiya-Shirakawa} ... 2,513,356

4th Section {Shirakawa-Shiogama} ... 3,844,113

5th Section {Sendai-Morioka} ... 5,432,260

Nikko Line {Morioka-Aomori} ... 401,546

Ryomo Line {Utsunomiya-Nikko} ... 1,297,964

Mito Line {Oyama-Kiryu} ... 816,611

Koku Line {Kiryu-Maebashi} ... 723,575

Unadjusted amount and floating fund... 726,182

Amount for which construction officers are responsible 220,987

Materials in Store 505,195

The amount adjusted from the beginning of the works to the end of the last fiscal year was yen 18,444,698 and the amount adjusted during the year under review was yen 1,755,473. The total of these sums, yen 20,200,172, represents the aggregate adjusted capital at the end of the year.

The total mileage of open lines at the close of the previous year was 537 miles, constructed at the cost of yen 14,767,911; during the year under review the Morioka-Aomori Section, of 127 miles in length and costing yen 5,432,260, was opened.

Comparing now the cost of construction with the mileage in operation, we find:—

Length of lines in operation 664 Miles. Cost per Mile. Yen.

Details:—

Nippon Railway Company. Miles. Yen.

1st Section 81 35,836

2nd Section 97 23,380

3rd Section 119 22,849

4th Section 107 35,926

5th Section 127 42,774

Nikko Line 25 16,002

Ryomo Line 51 25,450

Mito Line 43 18,991

Koku Line 23 31,460

A detailed statement of the cost of construction of these lines will be found in table No. 4.

PRIVATE RAILWAY LINES.

The Mito Railway Company having come to an arrangement with the Nippon Railway Company, made an application for permission to sell their line to the latter Company. The permission was granted in June 1891; and, on the 1st of March 1892, the railway, with all other properties attached to it, was made over to the Nippon

Company, the latter assuming control of the working of the Mito line from that date.

Having duly received sanction to do so in October, 1891, the Kōbu Railway Company separated itself from the Nippon Railway Company, which had till then directed its workings, on the 1st of November of the same year, and began from that date to control the affairs of its railway independently.

The Hokuriku Railway Company, to which a Provisional Charter was granted in 1889, notified last December the abandonment of its projected line.

Private railways for which charters were made, and "railway companies" new lines which were completed and opened during the year under review, are as follows:—

Charters granted to:—

The Iyo Railway.

Office—Matsuyama, Ehime ken.
Charter—Granted 23rd July, 1891.
Capital—Yen 130,000.
Line—Mitsu to Takahama and Sotogawa to Hiraigawara.

Length—6 miles 2 chains.
Period of Construction—18 months.
Applications for charters have been made by:

The Kōbu Railway Company.

Office—Tokyo.
Provisional charter—Granted 13th July, 1889.
Line—Shinjuku to Misakicho.
Length—4 miles 20 chains.

The Nanwa Railway Company:—

Office—Goshō-machi, Nara ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 18th February, 1891.
Capital—Yen 500,000.
Line—Takata to Gojyo.
Length of line—16 miles 40 chains.

The Kawagoe Railway Company:—

Office—Tokorozawa, Saitama ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 11 April, 1891.
Capital—Yen 300,000.
Line—Kokubunji to Kawagoe.
Length of line—18 miles 20 chains.

The Ōme Railway Company:—

Office—Ōme, Kanagawa ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 16 Sep., 1891.
Capital—Yen 100,000.
Line—Ōme to Tachikawa.
Length of line 13 miles 7 chains.

The Searo Railway Company.

Office—Hyocho, Hokkaido.
Capital—Yen 200,000.
Line—Hyocho to Atosato.
Length—26 miles 50 chains.

The following railways have been opened for traffic:—

The Nippon Railway Company.
Miles Date of opening.

Moroka-Aomori 126.72.....1st Sept. 1891.
The Sanyo Railway Company.
Okayama-Kurashiki.....9.74.....25th April, 1891.
Kurashiki-Kasaoka 17.39.....14th July, 1891.
Kasaoka-Fukuyama 8.70.....11th Sept., 1891.
Fukuyama-Onomichi.....12.22.....3rd Nov., 1891.

Total.....48.45

The Kyushu Railway Company.

Moji-Kurosaki..... 14.40.....1st April, 1891.
Kurume-Takase 34.10.....1st April, 1891.
Takase-Kumamoto 17.30.....1st July, 1891.
Tosu-Saga 15.30.....20th August, 1891.

Total 81.30

The Kansai Railway Company.

Kameyama-Ishinden..... 7.42.....21st August, 1891.
Ishinden-Tsu 2.18.....4th November, 1891.

Total 9.60

The Hokkaido Railway Company.

Iwamizawa-Utashinai 30.70.....5th July, 1891.
Sunagawa-Sorachi-futo 2.69.....1st February, 1892.

Total 33.39

The Chikugo Railway Company.

Wakamatsu-Nokata 15.44.....30th August, 1891.

The Osaka Railway Company.

Kamese-Inabayama 1.64.....2nd February, 1892.

Grand Total... 316.54

For the purpose of showing the workings of private railways, the Receipts, Working Expenses, percentages of the Net Earnings, &c., for the year under review, of the Nippon and twelve other railway companies, as they appear in their respective reports, are given and compared with those of the previous year in Table No. 10, to be found at the end of this report.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF RAILWAY EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1892.

TABLE No. 1.

Items.	Tokyo-Yokohama, Double Line, 18 miles.	Kobe-Osaka, Single Line, 18 miles.	Tokyo-Osaka, Single Line, 40 miles.	Tokyo-Osaka, Single Line, 110 miles.	Naotun Line, Single Line, 110 miles.	Vokohama-Obu, Single Line, 20 miles.	Oyama-Kinokuni, Double Line, 20 miles.	Tokaido Line, 258 miles.	Total.	Yokohama Line, Single Line, 20 miles.	Biwa Lake Shore Line, 48 miles.	Total, 55 miles (fixed Capital).	Unit Line, under Construction.	Grand Total.
Preliminary Surveys	24,830.675	68,888.583	100,870.327	39,422.405	117,812.241	27,209.151	2,140.895	9,114.705	38,470.751	4,204.100	3,063.675	270,758.606	12,078.059	202,716.755
Superintending and Engineering ..	74,882.680	202,163.621	47,594.021	117,812.241	189,097.288	189,097.288	9,020.016	49,532.516	247,670.720	7,889.738	16,810.540	714,823.605	51,708.801	766,532.406
Right of Way and Station Ground ..	235,831.433	371,555.755	87,286.725	242,424.721	455,714.093	455,714.093	865.222	125,028.406	581,667.717	23,977.094	104,763.515	1,647,867.862	5,401.943	1,653,269.807
Earthworks	404,868.072	867,612.419	174,867.501	1,012,249.721	1,856,873.164	1,856,873.164	99,782.139	1,956,655.393	2,289,513.900	59,447.213	386,351.515	5,690.397	57,216.097	5,747,613.604
Bridges	652,031.569	2,081,557.184	174,867.501	405,023.610	2,536,046.233	2,536,046.233	64,984.939	2,601,031.172	3,053,234.204	21,091.183	445,789.969	7,434,495.252	29,761.366	7,464,256.618
Culverts	15,680.779	411,090.896	84,957.563	129,497.943	269,824.086	269,824.086	15,271.791	87,043.496	372,139.367	9,781.017	111,543.667	1,134,691.232	1,139.847	1,139,847.608
Drainage Pipes	23,521.169	14,032.121	9,430.020	50,828.709	47,082.454	47,082.454	826.050	12,539.410	60,447.914	946.704	175,824.919	1,763,035.189	210.270	1,763,035.189
Tunnels	53,125.438	803,443.038	620,077.382	773,371.338	1,480,389.763	1,480,389.763	133,121.250	1,613,511.013	2,041,974.798	95,866.222	327,971.707	5,184,894.100	22,398.663	5,207,292.763
Permanent Way	522,269.008	924,033.984	1,027,986.205	1,027,986.205	1,622.452	1,622.452	1,495.062	34,505.420	303,235.539	15,975.609	47,143.279	1,730,766.241	5,401.478	1,736,167.719
Stations	225,131.371	1,622.452	102,284.197	132,990	8,768.121	8,768.121	—	8,768.121	8,768.121	—	—	112,807.766	—	112,807.766
Breakwaters and Wharves	355,981.709	1,027,986.205	60,598.519	60,598.519	60,598.519	60,598.519	—	1,156,806.777	77,980.126	1,234,840.993	—	3,771,586.719	361,516.477	4,133,103.196
Rolling Stock	163,440.866	336,666.626	95,075.200	95,075.200	95,075.200	95,075.200	—	11,452.791	76,181.903	—	—	740,766.099	6,178.784	746,944.883
Buildings	44,886.512	154,212.625	27,371.050	59,411.086	60,579.184	60,579.184	—	64,729.004	75,141.084	3,058.086	10,308.900	374,389.337	15,205.778	389,595.115
Transportation Trains	225.698	829.516	2,237.154	17,531.420	17,531.420	17,531.420	—	56,189.961	409,852.162	8,905.970	37,297.412	633,387.438	145,474.648	778,862.086
Construction Plant	5,224.811	17,531.420	17,531.420	20,016.870	34,568.248	34,568.248	—	1,014.091	97,991.563	4,030.970	4,939.822	106,374.757	5,936.138	172,300.975
Fences and Boundary Posts	66,568.930	33,345.125	820.029	3,715.999	4,998.545	4,998.545	—	1,233.249	72,538.973	559.145	3,012.434	106,281.578	47,233.338	171,004.916
General Charges	51,811.568	140,340.458	112,866.464	39,131.773	110,052.478	110,052.478	51.176	67,919.091	178,022.745	2,825.402	29,006.124	554,004.534	79,400	554,004.534
Telegraphs	10.460	17,350.889	4,865.459	9,658.100	20,626.411	20,626.411	1,161.613	3,084.407	33,872.491	1,214.649	4,015.348	70,987.486	394.738	71,382.224
Total	2,931,572.609	7,986,180.433	4,809,041.381	7,565,581.809	10,154,239.812	10,154,239.812	343,571.957	10,497,811.769	12,884,916.734	13,394.437	1,615,696.227	33,068,183.651	1,173,320.339	34,241,503.991
														4,000,000.000
														341,613.947
														36,583,117.928

DETAILED STATEMENT OF RAILWAY REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1892.

Sections.	Traffic Receipts				Total.	Maintenance of Way	Expense of Locomotive Power.	Traffic Expenditures.		Totals.	Net Profit.
	Conching Receipts.	Goods Receipts.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Traffic Expenses.				General Charges.			
Tokyo-Kobe	2,733,164.284	633,124.181	102,889.479	3,469,177.944	832,009.358	713,358.863	317,905.020	141,724.292	2,005,057.533	1,464,120.411	
Osaka-Yokosuka	57,645.930	1,066.290	197.470	58,909.690	8,800.952	7,799.283	4,632.494	21,307.724	23,963.453	35,546.237	
Obu-Taketo	12,871.802	2,218.510	564.940	15,654.952	15,632.707	4,175.288	2,904.701	1,018.831	23,731.527	(Loss) 8,076.575	
Maibara-Tsuruga	74,915.046	34,857.330	622.641	110,395.017	26,537.409	18,957.210	11,235.188	4,442.590	61,172.336	49,222.681	
Takasaki-Yokogawa	66,285.835	24,346.639	1,022.766	91,655.240	14,070.589	13,983.955	3,386.477	39,182.580	53,472.060	53,472.060	
Karuzawa-Naetsu	234,990.650	128,442.680	914.582	364,347.912	115,939.316	108,412.574	33,593.833	16,539.360	274,392.083	89,955.829	
Total	3,179,873.547	824,955.630	106,211.578	4,110,140.755	1,013,599.331	866,687.173	377,382.795	169,239.213	2,426,899.512	1,683,241.243	

TABLE No. 3. GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, MARCH 31ST, 1892.

Items.	Dr.	Items.	Cr.	Material.	Tokyo-Hamamatsu and Yokohama.	Tokyo-Hamamatsu, Obu-Takekoshi, Tsuruga.	Total.	Total at the close of the fiscal year.	Increase.	Decrease.	Nippon Railway Company. Close of fiscal year.	Ryomo Railway Company. Close of fiscal year.	Kobe Railway Company. Close of fiscal year.
Construction Expenditure	34,241,593.981	Capital	34,583,117.928	Engines	38	15	124	114	10	—	63	54	3
Material in Stores	—	Working fund	2,000,000.000	State Coaches	1	—	2	2	12	—	1	—	—
Construction Department	339,801,606	Traffic Receipts	4,110,140.755	1st class Carriages	32	5	37	25	2	—	—	—	—
Traffic Department	1,168,805.572	Sums payable	—	2nd and 3rd class Composite	13	—	26	24	2	—	—	—	—
Working Expenses	2,426,899.512	Construction department	4,074,530	1st and 2nd class Composite	29	—	59	59	—	—	—	—	—
Supplementary Works	313,169.620	Traffic department	65,490.411	2nd and 3rd class Composite	—	7	7	5	7	—	—	—	—
Sums receivable	—	New Account (Uchikari)	49,539.316	2nd and 3rd class Composite	—	—	349	337	—	—	—	—	—
Construction Department	2,023,712	Kanjo	—	3rd class and Brake Composite	89	26	49	44	5	—	—	—	—
Traffic Department	234,111.298	—	—	Postal Service Vans	23	—	10	10	—	—	—	—	—
Office furniture, &c.	51,796.378	—	—	Passenger Brake Vans	10	—	73	59	14	—	—	—	—
Paymasters	3,863.159	—	—	Carriage Waggon	30	9	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
On deposit	2,030,388.102	—	—	Horse Boxes	2	—	13	13	—	—	—	—	—
				Fish Trucks	6	—	10	10	—	—	—	—	—
				Cattle Trucks	3	—	34	34	—	—	—	—	—
				Timber Trucks	6	—	13	13	—	—	—	—	—
				Ballast Waggon	3	—	10	10	—	—	—	—	—
				Covered Goods Waggon	122	—	192	102	—	—	—	—	—
				Open Goods Waggon	89	10	584	584	—	—	—	—	—
				Goods Brake Vans	72	199	662	498	164	—	—	—	—
				Stone Waggon	44	—	118	97	21	—	—	—	—
				Oil Trucks	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
				Casualty Vans	10	—	42	32	10	—	—	—	—
					1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Total	40,812,362.940	Total	40,812,362.940	Grand Total	624	281	2,426	2,170	257	1	1,146	975	45

* The Tables No. 5 and No. 4 are unavoidably transposed.

TABLE No. 4. DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE CAPITAL ACCOUNTS OF THE NIPPON, RYOMO, MIPO, AND KOBU RAILWAY COMPANIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1892.

Items.	1st Section, single line, 81 miles.	2nd Section, single line, 97 miles.	3rd Section, single line, 120 miles.	4th Section, single line, 207 miles.	5th Section, single line, 207 miles.	Nikko Line, single line, 43 miles.	Ryomo Line, single line, 54 miles.	Kobe Line, single line, 43 miles.	Grand Total.
Preliminary Surveys	7,300.724	3,847.410	5,624.002	12,936.758	13,006.277	1,561.668	4,567.963	2,236.836	56,537.522
Superintending and Engineering	61,530.660	38,185.061	41,476.292	84,414.831	96,705.338	7,015.354	31,363.510	11,332.482	387,726.258
Right of Way and Station Ground	419,910.398	38,882.063	101,606.612	140,106.396	201,332.471	40,261.354	82,889.128	115,074.263	1,878,133.379
Earthworks	185,811.187	180,582.663	578,061.223	841,386.898	1,538,990.102	64,392.285	222,681.158	120,414.272	3,861,124.491
Bridges	450,521.901	611,223.650	352,825.611	820,637.900	775,855.952	19,070.030	293,594.562	133,576.438	3,585,857.050
Culverts	72,860.368	34,523.073	81,314.360	194,295.226	115,611.595	7,403.731	61,032.612	11,136.201	594,105.521
Tunnels	12,656.708	7,549.685	24,088.900	30,600.749	26,685.300	2,277.479	1,162,020.818	9,710.546	1,170,172.836
Drainage Pipes	—	14,395.886	92,436.018	80,970.543	971,824.552	2,993.819	7,552.018	7,552.018	1,170,172.836
Permanent Way	897,285.526	680,260.895	709,184.111	888,190.345	907,600.997	172,901.985	372,861.581	186,770.751	5,111,756.407
Stations	159,038.044	88,700.605	58,846.367	84,976.565	86,195.609	14,409.513	24,268.657	16,363.023	550,670.052
Breakwaters and Wharves	1,674.952	402,171.064	4,573.336	28,440.195	4,046.537	—	17,871.279	—	11,285.515
Rolling Stock	375,308.808	18,317.231	263,376.204	289,141.915	200,174.740	32,301.148	78,770.732	52,277.651	1,762,327.029
Machine Shops	26,997.899	31,104.509	29,775.566	45,766.017	17,471.908	222,791	88,240	281,844	130,544.119
Buildings	46,206.266	31,104.509	19,775.566	29,775.566	30,711.931	3,674.318	10,074.463	5,542.235	184,537.600
Transportation	43,388.584	21,194.184	63,376.647	185,376.647	303,670.130	6,907.821	44,186.296	19,029.572	714,738.659
Construction Trains	18,040.847	20,147.002	29,772.111	46,977.272	37,858.867	3,106.163	16,300.553	10,105.082	207,869.205
Construction Plant	37,198.564	3,426.883	4,620.665	7,480.206	9,658.217	254.421	8,819.705	3,643.797	77,957.977
Fences and Boundary Posts	3,031.509	1,097.588	2,465.625	3,739.191	6,637.372	369.788	1,331.502	867.330	20,083.040
General Expenses	70,157.853	52,653.214	38,090.407	40,890.998	73,219.969	20,566.621	28,705.820	9,884.658	360,443.630
Telegraphs	13,944.417	10,507.347	20,527.200	16,755.265	14,072.470	1,830.929	4,395.182	2,083.400	89,060.820
Preliminary Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18,922.586
	2,902,685.115	2,267,866.353	2,513,556.370	3,844,112.995	5,432,260.414	401,546.138	1,297,963.627	723,575.116	20,200,171.180
Floating Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	726,182.324
Grand Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,926,353.594

Grand Total

TABLE NO. 6.

STATISTICS OF PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

Items.		Tokyo-Kobe Section.			Takasaki-Yokogawa Section.		
		24th Fiscal year.	23rd Fiscal year.	Increase or Decrease. Decreased marked +.	24th Fiscal year.	23rd Fiscal year.	Increase or Decrease. Decreased marked +.
Average operating mileage *	Miles	419.45	430.	10.35	18.	17.36	.44
Passenger train mileage	Miles	2,066,180.	1,895,774.	170,406.	1,342.	—	1,342.
Mixed train mileage	Miles	209,474.	101,834.	107,640.	52,924.	50,969.	1,955.
Total	Miles	2,170,917.	1,946,691.	224,226.	27,804.	25,485.	2,319.
Daily train mileage	Miles	5,931.	5,319.	612.	76.	70.	6.
Carriage mileage	Miles	25,125,422.	23,664,906.	1,460,426.	346,842.	360,798.	13,956.
Average mileage per day	Miles	68,649.	64,836.	3,813.	948.	988.	40.
Average number of carriages to a train	Carriages	11.57	12.16	-.59	12.47	14.16	1.69
Total number of carriages used †	Carriages	216,944.	—	—	—	—	—
Daily Average mileage per carriage	Miles	117.414	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Passengers carried:—							
First and Second class	Persons	660,081.	654,597.	5,484.	9,623.	7,569.	2,054.
Third class	Persons	9,903,633.	9,459,087.	444,546.	346,736.	325,104.	21,632.
Total	Persons	10,563,714.	10,113,684.	450,030.	356,359.	332,673.	23,686.
Daily average number of passengers	Persons	28,863.	27,709.	1,154.	974.	911.	63.
Average number of passengers per mile	Persons	590,512.	612,168.	21,556.	262,605.	251,857.	10,748.
Average number of passengers per train mile	Persons	114.14	135.22	21.08	170.01	172.45	2.44
Average number of passengers per carriage mile.	Persons	9.86	11.12	1.26	13.63	12.18	1.45
Passenger mileage:—							
First and Second class passenger mileage	Miles	20,026,212.	—	—	144,992.	—	—
Third class passenger mileage	Miles	227,772,220.	—	—	4,581,902.	—	—
Total	Miles	247,798,432.	263,232,402.	15,433,970.	4,726,894.	4,394,908.	331,986.
Average mileage per passenger	Miles	23.46	26.03	2.57	13.26	13.21	0.05
Average mileage per First and Second class passenger	Miles	30.34	—	—	15.07	—	—
Average mileage per Third class passenger	Miles	23.00	—	—	13.21	—	—
Coaching Receipts:—							
Passenger receipts	Yen	2,734,418.235	2,900,555.020	166,136.785	62,206.610	57,358.825	4,847.785
Parcels and luggage receipts	Yen	97,721.330	93,778.480	3,942.850	1,097.600	980.550	117.050
Postal service receipts	Yen	32,442.388	29,419.748	3,022.640	720.000	660.000	60.000
Total	Yen	2,864,581.953	3,023,753.248	159,171.295	64,024.210	58,999.375	5,024.835
Daily average receipts	Yen	7,826.727	8,264.253	437.526	174.930	161.642	13.288
Average receipts per operating mile	Yen	6,827.545	7,031.984	204.439	3,556.901	3,381.053	175.848
Average receipts per train mile	Yen	1.320	1.553	0.233	2.303	2.315	0.012
Average receipts per carriage mile	Yen	0.1140	0.1278	0.0138	0.1846	0.1636	0.0210
Average receipts per passenger	Yen	0.2589	0.2868	0.0279	0.1746	0.1725	0.0021
Average receipts per passenger mile	Yen	0.01103	0.01102	0.00007	0.01316	0.01305	0.00011
Average receipts per carriage	Yen	13.499	—	—	—	—	—
Total tonnage of parcels and luggage carried	Tons	4,396.	3,711.	685.	164.	145.	19.
Average number of tons per day	Tons	12.01	10.17	1.84	0.45	0.40	0.05
Average receipts per ton	Yen	22.230	25.270	3.04	6.693	6.762	0.069

Items.		Karuizawa-Naoetsu Section.			Total.		
		24th Fiscal year.	23rd Fiscal year.	Increase or Decrease. Decreased marked +.	24th Fiscal year.	23rd Fiscal year.	Increase or Decrease. Decreased marked +.
Average operating mileage *	Miles	91.23	91.35	.12	528.68	538.71	10.03
Passenger train mileage	Miles	—	—	—	2,067,522.	1,895,774.	171,748.
Mixed train mileage	Miles	259,345.	258,219.	1,126	521,743.	411,022.	110,721.
Total	Miles	129,673.	129,110.	563.	2,328,394.	2,101,286.	227,108.
Daily train mileage	Miles	355.	354.	1.	6,362.	5,743.	619.
Carriage mileage	Miles	1,249,498.	1,230,609.	18,889.	26,721,762.	25,256,463.	1,465,299.
Average mileage per day	Miles	3,414.	3,372.	42.	73,011.	69,196.	3,815.
Average number of carriages to a train	Carriages	9.64	9.54	10.	11.48	12.02	-.54
Total number of carriages used †	Carriages	12,688.	—	—	229,632.	—	—
Daily Average mileage per carriage	Miles	98.479	—	—	116.367	—	—
Number of Passengers carried:—							
First and Second class	Persons	13,633.	12,308.	1,325.	683,337.	674,474.	8,863.
Third class	Persons	854,207.	806,718.	47,489.	11,104,576.	10,590,909.	513,667.
Total	Persons	867,840.	819,026.	48,814.	11,787,913.	11,264,383.	523,530.
Daily average number of passengers	Persons	2,371.	2,244.	127.	32,208.	30,864.	1,344.
Average number of passengers per mile	Persons	192,120.	188,151.	3,969.	510,662.	528,555.	17,893.
Average number of passengers per train mile	Persons	135.24	133.26	1.98	115.99	135.55	19.56
Average number of passengers per carriage mile.	Persons	14.04	13.98	0.06	10.11	11.28	1.17
Passenger mileage:—							
First and Second class passenger mileage	Miles	325,843.	—	—	20,497,047.	—	—
Third class passenger mileage	Miles	17,212,324.	—	—	249,566,446.	—	—
Total	Miles	17,538,167.	17,204,071.	334,096.	270,063,493.	284,831,381.	14,767,888.
Average mileage	Miles	20.17	21.01	.84	22.91	25.28	2.37
Average mileage per First and Second class passenger	Miles	23.90	—	—	30.00	—	—
Average mileage per Third class passenger	Miles	20.15	—	—	22.48	—	—
Coaching Receipts:—							
Passenger receipts	Yen	230,241,190.	225,469,450	4,771,740	3,026,866,035	3,183,383,295	156,517,260
Parcels and luggage receipts	Yen	2,985,320.	3,151,930	166,610	101,804,250	97,910,960	3,893,290
Postal service receipts	Yen	1,764,140.	1,571,050	193,090	34,926,528	31,650,798	3,275,730
Total	Yen	234,990,650.	230,192,430	4,798,220	3,163,596,813	3,122,945,053	40,651,760
Daily Average receipts	Yen	642,051.	630,664.	11,387	8,643,708	9,076,561	432,853
Average receipts per operating mile	Yen	2,574,182.	2,517,484.	56,698	5,982,030	6,147,750	165,720
Average receipts per train mile	Yen	1.812	1.782	.030	1.359	1.357	0.002
Average receipts per carriage mile	Yen	0.1881	0.1870	.0011	0.1184	0.1312	0.0128
Average receipts per passenger	Yen	0.2653	0.2751	.0098	0.2568	0.2826	0.0258
Average receipts per passenger mile	Yen	0.01313	0.01309	.00004	0.01121	0.01118	0.00003
Average receipts per carriage	Yen	18.521	—	—	13.777	—	—
Total tonnage of parcels and luggage carried	Tons	130.	150.	20.	4,690	4,006.	684.
Average number of tons per day	Tons	0.36	0.41	0.05	12.82	10.98	1.84
Average receipts per ton	Yen	22.964	21.013	1.951	20.707	24.441	3.734

* Mileages of the portions of the lines on which traffic was suspended by damages multiplied by the number of days they remained unavailable and deducting the sum thus obtained from the total average operating mileage for the year gives this result.

† Number of vehicles multiplied by the number of days they were employed.

‡ Inclusive of the Yokogawa Line.

Note 1.—Total train mileage is the sum of one-half of the mixed-train mileage added to the passenger train mileage.

Note 2.—In calculating vehicles the number of carriages in use at the close of each month have been taken as the number employed during each succeeding month.

Correction:—Yokohama Line:—In the last year's Report the total passenger mileage on this line was given as 5,449,619. This has been found incorrect, 4,394,908 being the actual mileage for that year as rectified above. The necessary corrections in the Average number of passengers per mile, to Average number of passengers per carriage mile, the Average mileage per passenger, and the average receipts per passenger mile, have likewise been made.

TABLE NO. 7.

STATISTICS OF GOODS TRAFFIC.

Items.		Tokyo-Kobe Section.			Takasaki-Yokogawa Section.		
		24th Fiscal Year.	23rd Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease, Decrease Marked.*	24th Fiscal Year.	23rd Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease, Decrease Marked.*
Average operating Mileage	Miles	430.50	433.40	2.70	18.	17.36	.44
Goods train Mileage	Miles	684,760.	583,321.	101,439.	10,587.	995.	9,592.
Mixed train Mileage	Miles	209,474.	101,834.	107,640.	52,924.	50,969.	1,955.
Total	Miles	789,497.	634,238.	155,259.	37,049.	26,480.	10,569.
Daily average Mileage	Miles	2,157.	1,733.	424.	101.	72.	29.
Goods Waggon Mileage	Miles	12,404,744.	10,332,786.	2,071,958.	318,782.	151,314.	167,468.
Empty waggon Mileage (Down trains)	Miles	2,040,007.	—	—	414.	—	—
Empty waggon Mileage (Up trains)	Miles	570,383.	—	—	95,352.	—	—
Total	Miles	2,610,390.	—	—	95,766.	—	—
Ratio of Empty waggon Mileage to the Total waggon Mileage	Per cent.	21.	—	—	30.	—	—
Percentage of Empty waggon Mileage, Down Trains	Per cent.	32.9	—	—	.26	—	—
Percentage of Empty waggon Mileage, Up Trains	Per cent.	9.2	—	—	59.8	—	—
Daily average Mileage	Miles	33,893.	28,309.	5,584.	871.	415.	456.
Daily average Mileage of Freight Waggon	Miles	26,761.	—	—	609.	—	—
Daily average Mileage of Empty Waggon	Miles	7,132.	—	—	262.	—	—
Average number of waggons to a train	Waggon	1,571.	16.29	.58	8.60	5.71	2.89
Total number of waggons used †	Waggon	502,746.	—	—	—	—	—
Daily average Mileage per waggon	Miles	25.308	—	—	—	—	—
Tonnage of goods carried	Tons	685,505.	560,426.	125,079.	49,200.	43,839.	5,361.
Daily average Tonnage	Tons	1,873.	1,535.	338.	134.	120.	14.
Average Tonnage per mile	Tons	62,156.	51,444.	10,712.	44,290.	32,107.	12,183.
Average Tonnage per train-mile	Tons	33.903	35.162	1.259	21.788	21.158	0.630
Average Tonnage per waggon-mile	Tons	2.158	2.158	—	2.532	3.702	1.17
Average Tonnage per Freight waggon-mile	Tons	2.733	—	—	3.620	—	—
Total ton mileage	Miles	26,766,011.	22,301,070.	4,464,941.	807,222.	560,262.	246,960.
Average mileage per ton	Miles	38.99	39.79	.80	16.41	12.18	4.23
Goods Receipts:—							
Ordinary freight receipts	Yen	199,180,264.	215,880,816	16,700,552	13,027,677	11,453,435	1,574,242
Waggon-load freight receipts	Yen	382,421,270.	369,941,510	12,479,760	11,816,990	8,482,020	3,334,970
Goods carried by Special contract receipts	Yen	95,156,590.	49,677,380	45,479,210	—	—	—
Total	Yen	676,758,124.	635,499,706	41,258,418	24,844,667	19,935,455	4,909,212
Daily average receipts	Yen	1,849,066	1,741,095	107,971.	67,882	54,618	13,264
Average receipts per mile	Yen	1,571.572	1,405,974	105,598.	1,380,259	1,142,433	237,826
Average receipts per train-mile	Yen	.857	1.002	0.145	0.671	0.753	0.082
Average receipts per waggon-mile	Yen	0.0546	0.0615	0.0069	0.0779	0.1317	0.0538
Average receipts per filled waggon-mile	Yen	0.0691	—	—	0.1114	—	—
Average receipts per ton	Yen	0.9872	1.1340	0.1468	0.5050	0.4547	0.0503
Average receipts per ton-mile	Yen	0.0253	0.0285	0.0032	0.0308	0.0356	0.0048
Daily average receipts per waggon	Yen	1.399	—	—	—	—	—

AGGREGATE TRAIN MILEAGES.

Passenger train mileage	Miles	2,066,180	1,895,774	170,406	1,342.	—	1,342
Goods train mileage	Miles	684,760	583,321	101,439	10,587.	995	9,592
Mixed train mileage	Miles	209,474	101,834	107,640	52,924.	50,969	1,955
Total		2,960,414	2,580,929	379,485	64,853.	51,964	12,889

Items.		Karuizawa-Naotsu Section.			Total.		
		24th Fiscal Year.	23rd Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease, Decrease Marked.*	24th Fiscal Year.	23rd Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease, Decrease Marked.*
Average operating Mileage	Miles	91.23	91.35	0.12	539.73	542.31	3.63
Goods train Mileage	Miles	17,688.	29,159.	11,471.	713,035.	613,475.	99,560.
Mixed train Mileage	Miles	259,345.	258,219.	1,126.	521,743.	411,022.	110,721.
Total	Miles	147,361.	158,269.	10,908.	973,907.	818,987.	154,920.
Daily Average Mileage	Miles	403.	434.	31.	2,661.	2,239.	422.
Goods Waggon Mileage	Miles	1,235,980.	806,008.	429,972.	13,959,506.	11,290,108.	2,669,398.
Empty waggon Mileage (Down trains)	Miles	501,522.	—	—	2,541,943.	—	—
Empty waggon Mileage (Up trains)	Miles	38,436.	—	—	704,171.	—	—
Total	Miles	539,958.	—	—	3,246,114.	—	—
Ratio of Empty waggon Mileage to the Total waggon Mileage	Per cent.	43.7	—	—	2.33	—	—
Percentage of Empty waggon Mileage, Down Trains	Per cent.	81.2	—	—	36.4	—	—
Percentage of Empty waggon mileage, Up Trains	Per cent.	6.3	—	—	10.1	—	—
Daily average Mileage	Miles	3,377.	2,208.	1,169.	38,141.	30,932.	7,209.
Daily average Mileage of Freight waggons	Miles	1,902.	—	—	29,272.	—	—
Daily average mileage of Empty waggons	Miles	1,475.	—	—	8,869.	—	—
Average number of waggons to a train	Waggon	8.39	5.09	3.30	14.33	13.79	.54
Total number of waggons used †	Waggon	76,616.	—	—	579,362.	—	—
Daily average Mileage per waggon	Miles	16.132	—	—	24.095	—	—
Tonnage of goods carried	Tons	71,806.	67,095.	4,710.	806,511.	671,561.	135,150.
Daily average Tonnage	Tons	196.	184.	12.	2,203.	1,839.	364.
Average Tonnage per mile	Tons	31,589.	31,539.	57.	56,411.	47,405.	8,946.
Average Tonnage per train-mile	Tons	19.57	18.22	1.35	31.273	31.435	.162
Average Tonnage per waggon-mile	Tons	2.333	3.577	1.244	2.182	2.280	.098
Average Tonnage per Freight waggon-mile	Tons	4.143	—	—	2.843	—	—
Total ton mileage	Miles	2,883,637.	2,883,248.	389.	30,456,870.	25,744,580.	4,712,290.
Average mileage per ton	Miles	40.13	42.97	2.84	37.76	38.35	.59
Goods Receipts:—							
Ordinary freight receipts	Yen	128,442,680	123,362,570	5,080,110	340,650,621	350,606,821	10,046,200
Waggon-load freight receipts	Yen	—	—	—	394,238,260	378,423,530	15,814,730
Goods carried by Special contract receipts	Yen	—	—	—	95,156,590	49,677,380	45,479,210
Total	Yen	128,442,680	123,362,570	5,080,110	830,045,471	778,797,731	51,247,740
Daily average receipts	Yen	350,936	337,979	12,957	2,267,884	2,133,692	134,192
Average receipts per mile	Yen	1,407.013	1,349.146	57,867	1,537,370	1,435,870	101,500
Average receipts per train-mile	Yen	0.872	0.779	.093	0.852	0.951	0.099
Average receipts per waggon-mile	Yen	0.1039	0.1531	.0492	0.0595	0.0669	0.095
Average receipts per filled waggon-mile	Yen	—	—	—	0.0775	—	—
Average receipts per ton	Yen	1.7887	1.8386	0.0499	1.0292	1.1600	0.1308
Average receipts per ton-mile	Yen	0.0445	0.0428	.0017	0.0273	0.0303	0.0030
Daily average receipts per waggon	Yen	1.676	—	—	1.433	—	—

AGGREGATE TRAIN MILEAGES:—Continued from Table No. 7.

Passenger train mileage.....	Miles	—	—	—	2,007,522	1,895,774	171,748
Goods train mileage.....	Miles	17,688	29,159	* 11,471	713,035	613,475	99,560
Mixed train mileage.....	Miles	259,345	258,219	1,126	521,743	411,022	110,721
Total		277,033	287,378	* 10,345	3,302,300	2,920,271	382,029

* Mileages of the portions of lines over which traffic was suspended by damages multiplied by the number of days they remained unavailable and deducting the sum thus obtained from the total average operating mileage, gives this result.

† Number of vehicles multiplied by the number of days they were employed.

‡ Yokogawa Line inclusive.

Note 1. The total train mileage is the sum of one half of the mixed-train mileage added to the goods-train mileage.

Note 2. In calculating the vehicles the number of waggons in use at the close of each month have been taken as the number employed during each succeeding month.

TABLE NO. 8. LIST OF DEATHS AND INJURIES AMONG PASSENGERS, STAFF, AND OTHERS IN THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS DURING THE 24TH FISCAL YEAR.

Sections.	Passengers.				Railway Staff.				General Public.				Total.	
	Accidental.		Negligence.		Accidental.		Negligence.		Suicide.		Negligence.		Killed.	Wounded.
	Deaths.	Injuries.	Deaths.	Injuries.	Deaths.	Injuries.	Deaths.	Injuries.	Deaths.	Injuries.	Deaths.	Injuries.		
Tokyo-Kobe Section	1	7	—	4	—	2	14	20	64	2	29	17	108	52
Takasaki-Yokogawa Section	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Karuizawa-Naoetsu Section	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	6	1	13	1
By the Great Earthquake.....	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Total	1	7	—	4	1	7	15	21	70	2	35	18	122	59

NOTE.—Under the head of "accidental" are recorded deaths and injuries arising from unforeseen occurrences. Thus the one death recorded in the column for Passengers is a case of a sudden termination of the life of a passenger who had been suffering from *hahke*.

Under "Negligence" are those arising from personal carelessness.

Under "Suicide" are cases with clear proofs of premeditated self-destruction.

TABLE NO. 9. LIST OF CASUALTIES AND ACCIDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAFFIC IN THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS DURING THE 24TH FISCAL YEAR.

Sections.	Derailments.			Collisions.			Failures.	Obstructions to the road and trains.		Trains Delayed.	Trains Stopped.	Violators of Railway Regulations.
	Carriages.	Waggons.	Engines.	Carriages.	Waggons.	Engines.		Natural Causes.	Willful Acts.			
Tokyo-Kobe Section	7	15	9	1	8	11	142	8	37	46	44	157
Takasaki-Yokogawa Section	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	1	2	—
Karuizawa-Naoetsu Section	—	10	4	—	2	—	23	13	26	41	—	5
By the Great Earthquake	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	5	11	—
Total	7	26	13	1	10	11	167	38	67	93	57	162

NOTE.—By "Derailments" and "Collisions" are meant vehicles getting off the track or colliding with each other by negligence on the part of Pointsmen, Steam being in excess, &c.

By "Failures," vehicles becoming disabled by over-heating of the axles, parts of machinery breaking or giving away, &c., is meant.

Obstructions to the road and trains mean impediments on the lines caused by storms, &c., or by persons wilfully placing stones, wood, &c., on them.

Delays of the trains, are interruption of their working brought about by these obstructions; the stoppages result from same causes.

Violators of Railway Regulations mean passengers who over-ride their station and fail to pay their fare, and those who otherwise act contrary to the Railway Regulations.

TABLE No. 10.

Items.

Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year Miles
 Average operating mileage for the year Miles
 Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of paid-up Capital at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Debt at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Unadjusted Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year Yen

Amount of Traffic receipts for the year Yen
 Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year Yen
 Amount of Working Expenditures for the year Yen
 Amount of Net receipts for the year Yen
 Rates of Dividends paid Per cent.
 Ratio of the Net profit to the paid-up Capital Per cent.
 Average Earnings per mile Yen
 Average Working Expenditures per mile Yen
 Number of passengers carried Persons
 Passenger receipts Yen
 Amount of Goods carried Tons
 Goods receipts Yen
 Total Train Mileages Miles

Items.

Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year Miles
 Average operating mileage for the year Miles
 Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of paid-up Capital at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Debt at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year Yen

Amount of Unadjusted Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year Yen
 Amount of Traffic receipts for the year Yen
 Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year Yen
 Amount of Working Expenditures for the year Yen
 Amount of Net receipts for the year Yen
 Rates of Dividends paid Per cent.
 Ratio of the Net profit to the paid-up Capital Per cent.
 Average Earnings per mile Yen
 Average Working Expenditures per mile Yen
 Number of Passengers carried Persons
 Passenger receipts Yen
 Amount of Goods carried Tons
 Goods receipts Yen
 Total Train Mileages Miles

1.—Under "Unadjusted Expenditures" are included such items as Materials in Store, Monies abroad, Provisional Payments, &c., eventually to come under Construction Expenditures, but which could not yet be considered as such. 2.—The "Working Expenses" above given have been taken from the amounts placed under that heading in the respective reports of the different Companies. It should, however, be noted that the method of accounting in these companies is not uniform; whilst all other Companies include the Expenses of the head office in the Working Expenses, the Nippon, Mito, Kōbu and Chikugo Railway Companies do not do so; and the Osaka Railway Company includes the interest on its debts among the Working Expenses. 3.—Dividends: The dividends of the Nippon Railway Company were made up from the Net Earnings of the Company added to the subsidy guaranteeing interest on Capital received from the Government; those of the Sanyo Railway Company from its net earnings and the Construction subsidy from the Government, those of the Kyushu Railway Company from its gross receipts and a portion of the Construction subsidy; those of the Hokkaido Railway Company from the net earnings of both the Railway and the Coal Mines. 4.—The Sanyo Railway Company having omitted the train mileage in its semi-annual Report for the latter half of the 24th fiscal year, the same can only be approximately given. 5.—The rate of the dividend of the Hankan Railway not being clear is omitted. 6.—The Mito Railway Company did not complete its report for the 24th fiscal year. 7.—The two year's workings of the Hokkaido Railway are not compared because the first fiscal year was short of 12 months, whilst the second extended over 15 months. 8.—The Chikugo Railway having been opened in August, 1891, the above shows the results of the working for the space of only 8 months.

† Milesages in this line are given in miles and tenths of miles.

TABLE No. 10.																								
Items.	Nippon Railway Company.				Mitsui Railway Company.				Ryomo Railway Company.				Kobe Railway Company.				Sanyo Railway Company.				Kishio Railway Company.			
	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).
Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year	422.41	591.0	168.39	41.45	50.75	9.30	—	22.77	22.77	—	—	—	89.9	137.52	48.43	55.31	136.61	81.30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average operating mileage for the year	382.8	500.1	117.3	41.6	51.	9.4	—	23.	23.	—	—	—	55.	120.8	65.8	36	126.5	90.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year	18,000,000	18,000,000	—	1,000,000	1,500,000	500,000	—	900,000	900,000	—	—	—	13,000,000	13,000,000	—	7,500,000	7,500,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of paid-up Capital at the close of the fiscal year	16,069,558	17,694,102	1,624,544	990,000	1,500,000	500,000	—	810,000	810,000	—	—	—	5,720,207	7,009,602	1,289,455	5,935,800	5,663,480	627,680	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Debt at the close of the fiscal year	1,930,442	810,000	1,120,442	810,000	810,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,102,207	630,000	472,207	—	277,180	277,180	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	16,169,645	19,024,986	2,855,341	838,574	1,469,988	631,414	—	714,813	733,013	18,200	—	—	4,893,443	6,647,410	1,753,967	3,506,427	5,467,906	1,961,479	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Unadjusted Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Traffic receipts for the year	1,802,460	2,182,162	379,702	101,236	138,833	38,597	—	90,506	92,006	1,590	—	—	1,748,443	2,060,601	312,158	1,469,641	314,306	1,555,811	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year	871,159	657,124	214,035	7,342	11,769	4,427	—	2,372	2,372	3,556	—	—	3,333	3,333	—	1,914	1,914	1,404	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Working Expenditures for the year	587,759	1,157,956	570,197	65,423	86,344	20,921	—	40,888	37,992	3,556	—	—	31,788	31,788	—	10,208	28,552	24,469	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Net receipts for the year	972,436	1,089,928	117,492	43,956	70,257	26,301	—	52,620	50,032	2,196	—	—	156,395	156,395	—	51,621	177,620	126,008	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rates of Dividends paid	11.5	9.5	2.	4.6	4.5	0.1	—	6.	6.	7.342	—	—	6.	6.	—	2.55	6	5.126	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ratio of the Net profit to the paid-up Capital	5.73	6.05	0.32	4.78	7.05	2.27	—	6.5	7.41	0.91	—	—	1.02	2.86	0.94	2.09	4.33	2.24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Earnings per mile	4.709	4.363	3.46	2.431	2.722	3.311	—	3.035	4.004	0.969	—	—	3.333	2.776	0.57	3.566	3.156	4.10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average Working Expenditures per mile	2.318	2.315	—	1.573	1.575	1.678	—	1.747	1.652	93	—	—	1.914	1.295	0.19	1.431	1.404	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of passengers carried	4,327,255	4,814,357	487,102	392,282	1,023,138	630,856	—	359,543	363,759	4,216	—	—	971,974	1,403,311	431,337	585,788	1,426,157	840,369	—	—	—	—	—	—
Passenger receipts	1,151,124	1,304,597	153,473	67,328	104,707	37,379	—	69,643	69,727	84	—	—	153,652	280,864	127,212	104,518	377,920	223,402	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amount of Goods carried	300,721	459,570	158,849	31,164	43,036	11,872	—	26,152	33,322	7,170	—	—	75,403	86,553	11,150	35,772	80,931	45,159	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goods receipts	624,947	847,070	222,123	32,175	31,977	45,802	—	19,770	21,286	1,510	—	—	20,670	47,736	27,066	18,066	63,961	42,128	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Train Mileages	1,234,410	1,735,536	501,126	118,036	142,443	24,407	—	83,860	86,337	2,468	—	—	268,545	430,000	161,455	180,000	376,871	279,643	—	—	—	—	—	—

Items.	Kansai Railway Company.				Osaka Railway Company.				Hankai Railway Company.				Sanuki Railway Company.				Iyo Railway Company.				Tanko Hakkaido Railway Company.				Chikugo Railway Company.			
	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).	3rd Fiscal year.	4th Fiscal year.	Increase (Decrease marked %).				
Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year	49.25	59.5	31.71	32.55	6.12	6.12	—	10.15	10.15	—	—	—	4.18	4.18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Average operating mileage for the year	30.5	54.25	15.5	32.1	6.2	6.2	—	10.2	10.2	—	—	—	4.2	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Capital at the close of fiscal year	3,000,000	3,000,000	—	230,000	330,000	330,000	—	300,000	300,000	—	—	—	60,000	130,000	70,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of paid-up Capital at the close of the fiscal year	2,683,516	2,818,310	134,800	1,500,000	330,000	330,000	—	281,220	297,485	16,245	—	—	60,000	84,429	24,429	2,700,000	4,700,000	1,000,000	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Debt at the close of the fiscal year	—	310,583	310,583	380,000	—	—	—	33,810	15,000	18,810	—	—	—	—	15,590	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	2,484,460	2,724,050	239,590	1,540,694	1,720,361	188,667	—	357,876	358,033	6,287	—	—	57,179	58,269	1,090	1,428,175	3,14,336	1,601,757	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Unadjusted Construction Expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Traffic receipts for the year	153,554	20,865	132,689	238,412	157,171	81,241	—	21,533	18,529	12,670	—	—	18,529	18,529	5,859	34,253	683,872	376,795	156,777	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year	58,569	163,644	105,135	85,766	79,431	90,665	—	85,437	35,404	30,054	—	—	29,033	30,054	1,021	13,506	303,401	404,969	28,973	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Working Expenditures for the year	12,530	4,791	7,747	2,038	1,588	450	—	2,511	1,339	464	—	—	1,172	464	226	827	24,166	30,652	10,940	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Net receipts for the year	58,860	87,620	28,730	38,818	99,500	31,882	—	41,480	39,250	17,055	—	—	21,865	7,765	4,750	7,765	161,852	271,798	28,420	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Dividends paid	12.157	80,815	68,658	48,986	87,518	38,532	—	42,922	47,556	4,664	—	—	7,692	13,688	5,996	6,787	165,806	223,223	11,493	—	—	—	—	—				
Rates of the Net profit to the paid-up Capital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Ratio of the Net profit to the paid-up Capital	0.45	2.67	2.42	5.83	2.57	3.37	—	13.	14.4	4.6	—	—	2.73	2.73	1.87	8.04	6.14	4.75	1.46	—	—	—	—	—				
Average Earnings per mile	1.083	3.016	1.933	5.533	5.90	5.72	—	2.846	2.946	100	—	—	2.846	2.946	100	3.509	4.85	5.636	1.857	—	—	—	—	—				
Average Working Expenditures per mile	1.990	1.615	381	2.504	2.619	315	—	3.59	2.138	1.672	—	—	1.838	1.811	27	3.230	2.611	3.295	1.822	—	—	—	—	—				
Number of Passengers carried	274,282	524,004	249,782	932,934	1,411,76	484,834	—	660,018	447,585	468,922	—	—	461,287	446,516	14,771	271,987	492,801	121,550	121,550	—	—	—	—	—				
Passenger receipts	46,729	119,937	73,208	76,418	64,758	80,729	—	27,506	28,862	11,142	—	—	27,506	28,862	1,356	12,915	12,227	128,114	14,208	—	—	—	—	—				
Amount of Goods carried	21,154	65,924	44,770	14,176	64,758	80,729	—	11,472	9,016	21,266	—	—	299,605	197,111	102,581	229,702	384,070	44,498	44,498	—	—	—	—	—				
Goods receipts	10,995	41,908	30,943	9,348	33,739	24,382	—	1,375	1,028	437	—	—	1,821	1,339	482	220,032	330,286	14,162	14,162	—	—	—	—	—				
Total Train Mileages	123,357	194,947	71,590	151,366	177,986	26,620	—	116,025	115,600	91,737	—	—	83,446	83,446	8,291	213,552	334,739	59,000	59,000	—	—	—	—	—				

1.—Under "Unadjusted Expenditures" are included such items as Materials in Store, Monies abroad, Provisional Payments, &c., eventually to come under Construction Expenditures, but which could not yet be considered as such. 2.—The "Working Expenses" above given have been taken from the amounts placed under that heading in the respective reports of the different Companies. It should, however, be noted that the method of accounting in these companies is not uniform; whilst all other Companies include the Expenses of the head office in the Working Expenses, the Nippon, Mito, Kōbu and Chikugo Railway Companies do not do so; and the Osaka Railway Company includes the interest on its debts among the Working Expenses. 3.—Dividends: The dividends of the Nippon Railway Company were made up from the Net Earnings of the Company added to the subsidy guaranteeing interest on Capital received from the Government; those of the Sanyo Railway Company from its net earnings and the Construction subsidy from the Government, those of the Kyushu Railway Company from its gross receipts and a portion of the Construction subsidy; those of the Hokkaido Railway Company from the net earnings of both the Railway and the Coal Mines. 4.—The Sanyo Railway Company having omitted the train mileage in its semi-annual Report for the latter half of the 24th fiscal year, the same can only be approximately given. 5.—The rate of the dividend of the Hankan Railway not being clear is omitted. 6.—The Mito Railway Company did not complete its report for the 24th fiscal year. 7.—The two year's workings of the Hokkaido Railway are not compared because the first fiscal year was short of 12 months, whilst the second extended over 15 months. 8.—The Chikugo Railway having been opened in August, 1891, the above shows the results of the working for the space of only 8 months.

† Milesages in this line are given in miles and tenths of miles.

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IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL.

MOURLYAN, HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR
OF KANAGAWA-KEN—THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

Appellant—Arthur H. GROOM, Manager of MOURLYAN HEIMANN & CO., Export and Import Merchants, 35, Foreign Settlement, Yokohama.

OKAMURA TERUHIKO, Counsel for Appellants.
HARADA KEIGO, Counsel for Appellants.

Respondent—UTSUMI TADAKATSU, Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

TAKAHASHI SUTEROKU, Counsel for Respondent.

KOIDE RIUTARO, Counsel for Respondent.

On the 29th ultimo the above case was heard before Mr. Hasegawa Takashi, Chief Judge; and Messrs. Takaya Tsunetaro, Hirose Gigei, Hirada Kosaburo, and Mayeda Kokai, Assistant Judges. The Appellants were represented by Messrs. Okamura Teruhiro and Harada Keigo, and the Respondent by Messrs. Takahashi Suteroku, and Koide Riutaro. The Court opened at 1.30 p.m.

Counsel for Appellants—As the judgment delivered in the Yokohama Local Court on the 23rd May, 1892, is considered improper, the appellants pray the Court to reverse that judgment, and to order respondent to pay an indemnity of 81,455.37 yen, as well as the costs of the Court from the 19th November, 1891, to the date of the settlement of the present suit.

Counsel for Respondent—I pray the Court to dismiss the appeal, and to make the appellants responsible for the costs of the Court.

The Judge asked Counsel for appellants to state the facts of the case.

Counsel for Appellants—The appellants have been engaged in the kerosene oil trade ever since 1888, and during May, 1890, and February, 1891, they imported 203,525 cases of kerosene oil per *Anglo-American*, *Milverton*, and *Calypto*. Now, in accordance with the provisions in the Treaties with Foreign Powers, the Japanese Government promulgated Regulations for the Storage of Explosives, in 1877. By these Regulations it is forbidden that any explosive articles imported into Yokohama be stored in a private godown; they must be placed in the Nakamura Warehouse controlled by the Kanagawa Kencho. Kerosene oil is included in the list of explosives. The appellants, in obedience to the Regulations, stored 129,792 cases of kerosene oil, imported by the above three ships, in the official store-house, as soon as the oil had been landed at the Hatoba. Now, in accordance with the Regulations, when the appellants desired to obtain delivery of the oil, they had to present a delivery order to the officials appointed to control the store-house, and the latter are required to deliver only the number of cases mentioned on the delivery order. In the event of the appellants concluding a sale to a Japanese merchant, and receiving money from the latter, they had to prepare a delivery order and hand it to the purchaser for presentation to the warehouse officials. In November of last year, the appellants discovered that 43,476 cases, which should have been remaining from the total deposited by them in the warehouse, were lost. It was their custom to keep accounts of the sales effected, and these accounts showed that the above number of cases ought to be still in the warehouse. When the appellants investigated the affair, they found that the cases had been stolen by Shiu Kit-ching, a Chinese godown-keeper in their employ, and by Alai, Akew, and some other Chinamen. Shiu Kit-ching, as I have said, was a godown-keeper, and the other Chinamen were under him. Their sole business was to take care of the godown. The method adopted by them in obtaining the oil was this:—They procured forms of delivery orders from the Kencho. These they filled in and signed themselves, and then affixed to them the stamp of the firm without the knowledge of the appellants. The orders thus fabricated they carried to the officials in charge of the warehouse, and the latter, regarding the orders as *bona fide*, delivered the number of cases mentioned on them. Sometimes the appellants handed delivery orders to these Chinamen, but the latter destroyed them, and made out fresh orders in their place. On the other hand, as appellants received the money for the number of cases of oil which they supposed had been sold—such money being paid out of the proceeds of the fraud—they had no means of ascertaining what was going on. At last, however, all the oil deposited was exhausted, and discovery then became inevitable. Thereupon the appellants called in the chief culprit, and questioned him, when he made confession in the above sense. The appellants thereupon communicated the fact to the Chinese Consul, and the latter at once summoned Shiu Kit-ching, and examined him, eliciting the

same confession. Now, when the oil was deposited, the warehouse officials handed to the appellants a warrant, the method of procedure being that when it was desired to withdraw a certain number of cases, the warrant must be handed in together with a delivery order. The warrants were kept by the appellants, but the Chinese took them and returned them to the Kencho. We have had an opportunity of inspecting some of these warrants now in the possession of the Kencho. If they be examined, the portions handed to the Chinese can be ascertained. Some of the delivery orders were signed in pencil, yet, without regard to such an irregularity, the officials delivered the oil. Orders so signed have been seen by one of the clerks of the appellants' firm who went with his brother to inspect the documents in the keeping of the Kencho. The appellants therefore request that these documents be produced by the respondent. In short, the complaint of the appellants is that the respondent, by his own negligence, carelessly delivered to the Chinamen goods which, in necessary compliance with the Regulations, had been stored in the warehouse of the respondent. The Regulations require that no delivery shall be made without due presentation of a delivery order signed by the owner of the goods. It is not pretended that there was any wrong intention on the part of the warehouse officials, but since they carelessly regarded the Chinese as proper representatives of the firm, and delivered goods to them, the loss must be borne by the respondent. Therefore the present suit has been instituted.

The Judge—How about the amount of damage? By what process did you estimate the exact amount?

Counsel for Appellants—It is minutely stated in the account book presented by the appellants.

The Judge—How was the price estimated?

Counsel for Appellants—It was determined by the selling price as contracted for.

The Judge—Then do you mean that the goods were not sold as agreed?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. Moreover, if the fees required for storage be added, the total damage amounts to over eighty thousand yen. That amount we demand.

Counsel for Respondent—It is difficult to understand on what precise grounds the appellants demand an indemnity in respect of the delivery of some forty thousand cases of kerosene. The respondent, as the counsel for the appellants has stated, receives explosives into the warehouse controlled by him. Not merely explosives belonging to appellants firm but also explosives the property of a number of others. The amount deposited by the appellants was not so small as forty thousand cases. We have it on the authority of the counsel for the appellants himself that the number of cases imported by the *Anglo American* and other vessels and deposited in the Warehouse, amounted to over one hundred and thirty thousand. The respondent does not deny that a large number of cases were received by him from the appellants. But both in receiving and delivering such goods there are provisions to be observed as prescribed by the Regulations, and the respondent acted in strict conformity with those provisions. He had been in the habit of receiving the goods from the appellant's firm for some ten years. In depositing goods, the appellants have had to present to the warehouse an application, accompanied by a statement of the number of the cases to be stored. When the respondent receives such goods he issues a warrant, on the face of which the number of the cases deposited is recorded. This warrant is the proof that the goods have been received. When the whole number of cases shown on a warrant are withdrawn, the warrant has to be returned to the warehouse officials in exchange for the goods. But when a portion only of the cases is withdrawn, the warrant has to be presented, and the official records upon it the number of cases delivered. For instance, if out of 10,600 cases shown on the warrant, 2,000 are delivered, then the words "8,600 cases remain" are endorsed on the warrant. This procedure, expressly provided in the Regulations, the warehouse officials have always observed strictly. It had been the custom that applications for depositing goods were brought by an employé of the appellants' firm, and that delivery orders also were signed by an employé, stamped with the stamp of the firm, and presented with the warrant. Such being the common practice, the respondent delivered the goods whenever a delivery order was presented with the warrant. The respondent, therefore, does not know which deliveries are considered wrong, or on account of which deliveries the appellants demand an indemnity. He acknowledges that he received a great number of cases of oil from the appellants, but claims they were all delivered in strict accordance with the prescribed Regulations, and that there was no negligence on his side.

Another Counsel for Respondent—The sum of the matter is that the appellants allege that they never gave any power of attorney to the Chinese, and that therefore it was negligence on the part of the respondent to deliver the goods in exchange for delivery orders signed by Chinese. Hence they demand an indemnity. But the Kencho began to receive kerosene oil from the appellants some 10 years ago. During that long period, though applications for depositing goods ought to be signed by the firm, it was customary for them to be signed by a clerk. The appellants now argue that documents signed by a European employé were *bona fide*, whereas those signed by a Chinaman were not. But many of the original applications for deposit were signed by a Chinaman, therefore it was natural for the respondent to consider that delivery orders signed by the same Chinaman were *bona fide*.

The Judge—I notice that the appellants allege the total number of cases imported by the *Anglo-American* and other ships, and deposited in the warehouse, to have been over one hundred and twenty thousand. But the counsel for respondent states it to have been over one hundred and thirty thousand. Which is the correct number? The appellants' number is 129,792 only.

Counsel for Respondent—One hundred and thirty thousand is sufficiently correct.

The Judge—Am I to understand, then, that it is not certain whether the number was 120,000 or 130,000? On how many occasions was the oil received?

Counsel for Respondent—That I do not know. Though the number of ships was three, some cases of oil were sold at once on landing. If any change was made in the place of storing the oil the warrant must have been rewritten.

The Judge—Can you not tell how many applications were there?

Counsel for Respondent—No, not now.

The Judge—But have not you kept the documents?

Counsel for Respondent—No, some of them were destroyed.

The Judge—Then is this statement correct—"The respondent received a number of cases of kerosene oil imported by three ships on various and several occasions, but the storage applications are not preserved now?"

Counsel for Respondent—The applications are not completely preserved, therefore they cannot be produced.

The Judge—Are those documents all signed by representatives of the firm?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes, all.

The Judge—It is alleged that some of them were signed by Chinese. Can you produce any such?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes.

Counsel for Appellants—Counsel for respondent just now explained the process of depositing and delivering goods. I desire to make a statement for the Courts' consideration. Counsel for respondent said that the Kencho issues a warrant, and whenever the warrant is presented the goods are delivered. That sounds as if no importance were attached to the delivery orders. But as the delivery orders are of equal importance with the warrants, it is essential that both documents be produced. Goods have to be delivered when a delivery order is presented. The delivery order must be signed by the owner of the goods, and the same rule applies to the warrant. That is to say, delivery is made when a delivery order signed by the owner of the goods is presented, but not otherwise. It must not be supposed that when a man comes to ask for delivery, the official in charge at once hands him the required goods without even looking at the signature on the order. In a word, the delivery order is most important. It is also alleged that Chinamen have often discharged these functions. The appellants believe that on some occasions the Chinese sought and obtained delivery of oil even though no actual transaction of sale had been made. But as the Chinese paid in certain sums of money to the firm, the latter could not know whether sales had been made or not. In point of fact, rumour having been circulated that the Chinese were guilty of dishonest practices, not only the appellants' firm but all the foreign firms in Yokohama make it a rule never to entrust to Chinamen any power to sign documents. This fact I believe to be known to the Kencho also.

The Judge—Is there no further argument?

Counsel for Respondent—There are many instances in which, say, 2,000 out of 10,000 cases were drawn out originally on the signature of the Chinese, and the remaining 8,000 cases are admitted by the appellants to have been delivered on proper signatures. Surely they ought to have been able to discover that 2,000 cases had been fraudulently obtained by the Chinese at the outset?

The Judge—Is there any disagreement as to the amount of indemnity?

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Counsel for Respondent—Certainly there is. The Judge—Then we shall confine ourselves to investigating the origin at facts of the matter at present.

Counsel for Respondent—Counsel for appellants has stated that it is the common custom of Yokohama never to allow any Chinaman to sign a document. But I declare that there is no such custom.

Counsel for Respondent—May I ask what is meant by the ruling which the Bench has just made.

The Judge—It is necessary in the first place to ascertain whether any damage has been caused, and, if that be proved, then to determine what the damage amounts to. Thus the latter question must be postponed for future consideration.

Counsel for Appellants—I wish to make an application to the Court. Counsel for respondent has declared that warrants and delivery orders become invalid as soon as they are returned to the Kencho, and are therefore regarded as waste paper. But when a clerk of the appellants' firm originally went to the Kencho to inspect those documents, the official declared that they should be produced in the event of the question being brought before the Court. It would appear, however, that they consider the production of the documents disadvantageous to their case, for they have refused to produce them. Just now one of the counsel for respondent said that though the documents are in existence, it is impossible to produce them all as some are destroyed. In other words, he admitted that a certain portion is still in the Kencho. I requested the Court below to order the production of these documents, but the defendant refused to produce them on the ground that they were unnecessary, and the Court declined to grant our application. I now apply that the respondent be obliged to produce all the warrants and delivery orders relating to the kerosene oil imported by the *Anglo American* and other ships.

The Judge—You must state plainly what documents you require to be produced.

Counsel for Appellants—What I desire to have are the applications for depositing the goods imported by the *Anglo American*, *Milverton*, and another ship; together with the warrants and the delivery orders.

The Judge—For what do you require these documents?

Counsel for Appellants—If the appellants cannot refer to them, they are unable to state exactly what number of cases of kerosene oil are in question. It is true that they have copies, but the copies do not make it very clear at what dates and in what quantities the oil was delivered. We desire to ascertain these facts precisely, as they have an important bearing on our case. Counsel for respondent has said that some of the documents are preserved, but that the respondent cannot produce them.

The Judge—But have you any copies?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes, we have copies which state the dates and the number of cases.

The Judge—If the Kencho refuse to produce the documents, can you produce your copies?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. But the respondent does not recognize them.

Counsel for Respondent—As the documents become waste-paper on the completion of the transactions, some of them only may be kept, while others are destroyed. We decline to produce them, because we should thereby be acknowledging a general responsibility for such documents, whereas in other cases besides the present they have been regarded as waste-paper.

Another Counsel for Respondent—If the appellants declare that such and such deliveries were wrong, the respondent can produce the documents to prove the contrary; but if they apply for the production of all the documents for the purpose of examining them with the view of finding some error, we cannot comply with the application.

The Judge—Do you say that you are willing to produce a portion of the documents? Your statements do not appear to be consistent, and I have difficulty in understanding them. If you claim to be under no legal obligation to produce the documents, that is a plain plea. But you must declare whether or no you possess any documents over and above those you have already presented.

Counsel for Respondent—Unless the appellants indicate clearly which and which deliveries were illegal, we cannot produce any documents.

Another Counsel for Respondent—We are under no legal obligation to produce the documents. If a question be asked as to what we have done with the documents, we can reply simply that we have destroyed them.

Counsel for Appellants—The respondent has stated that there was a larger number of cases imported by the three ships than we have claimed. I beg to state that document No. 5 of those now

before the Court was copied from the original in the Kencho.

The Judge—Are there any translated numbers in the document?

Counsel for Appellants—No, the numbers were written from the first in figures. For instance, out of the number of cases imported by the *Anglo American*, and deposited in the warehouse, 69 were delivered to Akew, employee of the appellants' firm, on his own signature. We should like to see the delivery order for that number.

The Judge—Were all these copies made at the Kencho?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. We considered it necessary to produce all the warrants, applications for storage, and delivery orders.

Counsel for Respondent—I ask to be informed which deliveries are said to have been wrongfully made. The document contains some 150,000 cases, but no mention is made of the particular deliveries that are considered illegal. We acknowledged in the Lower Court that we made some deliveries on the strength of delivery orders signed by Chinese, and we therefore fail to see that any necessity exists to produce the documents now.

Counsel for Appellants—Originally the appellants intended to demand an indemnity for the whole quantity. But when they carefully calculated, they found that they had received money for some portions. Hence they demand indemnity for the actual loss only.

The Judge—Do you then mean that for a portion of the wrongfully delivered cases the money was paid, and that consequently, you do not demand indemnity for that portion.

Counsel for Appellants—Exactly so. Counsel for respondent denies that there was any legal obligation to produce the documents. But I desire to refer to Art. 346 of the Code of Civil Procedure, where it is expressly provided that when a suitor desirous of producing evidence, finds that a document which he wishes to use is in a Government office or in the hands of the officials of a Government office, he can apply the Court to require such Government office or officials to produce the document.

The Judge—But Art. 346 does not refer to the party to a suit. It has reference simply to a government office or officials.

Counsel for Appellants—Then I ask permission to base my application on Art. 350, second clause, and on Art. 339. Art. 339 says that when the Court deems that the fact to be verified by a document is essential, while the other party admits that he is in possession of such document, or makes no reply to the application for its production, then the Court may issue an order for the production of such a document, as a ruling on a point of evidence. Again, in Art. 340, it is provided that when a party to a suit is a Government office, a certificate from the chief of that office declaring that the required document is not preserved in his office, or that he is unable to say where it is kept, shall be substituted for the proposed evidence, and the Court shall fix an appropriate period for the production of such certificate. Relying on these provisions, we request the Court to order the production of such a certificate. And since the respondent has acknowledged that some of the documents relating to the oil are preserved, we trust such documents will be produced.

Counsel for Respondent—The respondent is not under a legal obligation to produce any document, according to the express provisions of the parts of the Code relating to the presentation of written evidence. Counsel for appellants has requested the Court to order the production of certain documents, under the provisions of Arts. 339 and 340, but we deny that we are under any obligation to comply with the demand. All the articles quoted must be interpreted jointly. They cannot be applied piecemeal.

The Judge—We shall consider the subject maturely. The Court will adjourn for a quarter of an hour.

The Court resumed its sitting at 2.50 p.m.

The Judge—The application of the appellants for the production of three kinds of documents in the hands of the respondent is not acceded to. The Court cannot issue an order in the sense desired by the appellants, since the latter cannot show sufficient cause.

Counsel for Appellants (presenting exhibit No. 1)—The number mentioned in this document is the total number of cases deposited by the appellants.

The Judge—I see by this that the total number is put at 32,074 cases. Do you say that this is the total number deposited?

Counsel for Appellants—The two lots together make that number. It is the total quantity imported by the appellants since 1888. But the number of cases concerned in the present suit is mentioned in the third page from the last. The

object of presenting that document is to show the total number of cases deposited.

The Judge—Exhibit No. 1 shows the total number of cases imported by the *Anglo American*. Were they all deposited in the store-house?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. The numbers shown were all deposited.

The Judge—Exhibit No. 1 A records the total number of cases, but I do not see that any statement is made as to the number actually stored.

Counsel for Appellants—It is recorded at the end of the document. All cases mentioned in that document represent the actual number deposited, no cases sold at the landing place being included.

The Judge—Was the number mentioned in this document ascertained from the books of the firm?

Counsel for Appellants—No. We went to the Kencho, and requested an official to show the records, and our request being granted, we copied out the documents.

The Judge—That is to say that the number of cases mentioned here is the total number of cases deposited by the appellants, which number is some 120,000, being the same number as that mentioned in the petition presented when carrying the case to appeal.

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What is Exhibit No. 2?

Counsel for Appellants—Exhibit No. 2 requires a somewhat lengthy explanation.

The Judge—If it relates to the question of price, will you defer it for future consideration?

Counsel for Appellants—But if the accounts are not cited the number of cases cannot be ascertained. Exhibit No. 2 contains the contracts for sale.

The Judge—Are they all contracts for sale?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What evidence do those contracts for sale furnish?

Counsel for Appellants—If the question of indemnity be deferred, the minute accounts of our firm can be ascertained therein. I will subsequently speak of the detailed account, but if you will look at it you will see from it the number of cases.

The Judge—From this Exhibit, No. 2, the accounts have been compiled, have they? Then this is the source from which the detailed accounts have been compiled, is it not?

Counsel for Appellants—The detailed account is divided into upper and lower parts. The former is compiled from this Exhibit.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Appellants—This is the monthly record; and in it are entered the number of cases sold, as well as the number of cases imported. There is a cross in pencil, and between that mark and the end, where another cross is drawn, is comprised the number mentioned in exhibit No. 3.

The Judge—Is this the same, then, as the translated daily account book?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What is it presented for?

Counsel for Appellants—If that document be compared with the contracts, it will be seen what contracts were made, and how much money was received.

The Judge—Is the money received in advance?

Counsel for Appellants—No. That is to say, some of the money is paid in advance. The money so paid in is not included in the losses for which indemnity is now sought.

The Judge—Does this account, then, show the money received?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—You have just said that the account is divided into two parts. For what purpose is such a division made?

Counsel for Appellants—The upper and lower divisions together make the total account. For instance, in the first page an aggregate of 17,000 cases is entered as the number making the total. A detailed account is appended.

The Judge—What does this mean, "Contract for sale, 4th November, 1889; Shin Kitchin, 10,000 cases," and under it the entry, "Money received?"

Counsel for Appellants—Such an entry shows that the money was received. If you will look a little further you will find, for instance, "So many cases to Isshiya on the 7th June, 1890." And under it "On the 6th November so much money was received." Such an entry shows that the number of cases contracted for was 10,977, on account of which so much money only was received.

The Judge—Do you then intend to assert that the number of cases for which no money is paid is the number stolen by the Chinese?

Counsel for Appellants—Exactly so. Exhibits No. 2 and 3 show the whole account. We contracted with Isshiya for 1,975 cases, but how many cases of that total were delivered is unknown. At all events, the money received by the firm is the amount entered in the document.

The Judge—Do you then affirm that the portions

for which you received no money were stolen by the Chinese?

Counsel for Appellants—As the total number of cases contracted for was actually delivered, the whole of the money ought to have been received. But since a portion was not forthcoming, we conclude that the oil was stolen by the Chinese.

The Judge—I find here that the numbers of cases contracted for by Isshiya are over 1,900 and 7,765; but in the other book 5,646 cases alone are entered. In that instance you claim, I presume, that 5,646 cases may have been delivered, but that the remainder were stolen by the Chinese. Is that so?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Appellants—We come now to Exhibit No. 4. It is a transcript of a confession made by Su Ketsai and Shin Kitchin, Chinese godown keepers. At first they were examined by us, but they did not tell us the truth. Therefore they were taken to the Chinese Consulate, and there they confessed that they had forged delivery orders and received the kerosene.

The Judge—Is there anything else?

Counsel for Appellants—This document is in evidence. It shows the nature of the delivery order, as copied from the originals in the Kencho by Edwards, clerk of the Appellants' firm.

The Judge—Are these all delivery orders?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. You will see that among them some do not bear the name of the firm, while some are signed in pencil, and in various kinds of pencil at that, and others have the name of the firm but no signature of a representative. We produce them to show that the respondent was extremely careless.

The Judge—Is the object of these copies to show the number of cases and the dates of their delivery?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—Are they all signed by Chinese?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. In the very end on the right hand side the translation is written. It will further be seen that some have not the stamp of the firm.

The Judge—Do you mean that some are only signed by the Chinese? I see no translation here. Are there no more?

Counsel for Appellants—No more.

The Judge—I will now hear counsel for respondent. What about Exhibit No. 1?

Counsel for Respondent—With regard to that document, the number of cases shown as imported by the *Anglo-American* is correct. But the number imported by the *Milberton* is incorrect: The Kencho received 64,312 cases. The number of cases received per *Calypto* is also different; the number was 1,254. These are flagrant discrepancies.

The Judge—How about Exhibit No. 2?

Counsel for Respondent—We do not accept it.

The Judge—How about Exhibit No. 3?

Counsel for Respondent—That again we do not accept.

The Judge—Do you mean that it is not correct?

Counsel for Respondent—Certainly.

The Judge—How about Exhibit No. 4?

Counsel for Respondent—We admit that something of the kind took place, but we do not admit the accuracy of the facts there set forth.

The Judge—How about Exhibit No. 5?

Counsel for Respondent—We do not accept it either.

The Judge—But the document was copied from records at the Kencho.

Counsel for Respondent—It is true that a person came to the Kencho, but whether he copied the records correctly or not we do not know. We do not accept his transcript.

The Judge—Do you mean that there are some mistakes in the total numbers?

Counsel for Respondent—Our records contain different numbers. The whole number of cases deposited is different, and there are mistakes as to the deliveries.

The Judge—Do you mean that the numbers differ?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes, the number of cases is wrong. Moreover, as we fail to see for what portion exactly an indemnity is demanded, we cannot accept the document.

The Judge—Is that all you have to say?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes.

The Judge—Is there no excess in the numbers?

Counsel for Respondent—We cannot tell until we compare them.

The Judge—Counsel for Appellants spoke about the signature on delivery orders. I should like to hear you on that point.

Counsel for Respondent—We cannot distinguish those particular orders either.

Junior Counsel for Respondent—We acknowledge that some of the delivery orders were signed by Chinese; but whether there are any such in

the lot now before the Court, we cannot tell till they are compared.

The Judge—What are the documents presented by the respondent?

Counsel for Respondent—The Exhibit No. 1 contains applications for deposit signed by Akew. They prove that a Chinaman often deposited goods over his own signature.

The Judge—Have they any direct concern with the present case?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. We have any number of such orders, but those in the Exhibit relate to the present suit only.

The Judge—Do you then mean to say that on occasions covered by the present suit a Chinaman named Akew signed applications for deposit?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Respondent—The second Exhibit is a warrant which indicates how many cases are deposited. Unless this warrant be produced, no goods are delivered. Therefore it is a most important document.

The Judge—Has the number of kerosene oil cases mentioned in it any direct connection with the present suit?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. You will see there the name of the last ship by which the oil was imported.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Respondent—The next two Exhibits, Nos. 3 and 4, must be examined together. They are delivery orders. They show that many different persons signed the orders.

The Judge—Are there any orders signed by Chinese?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. Speaking briefly, these exhibits show that deliveries were customarily made to employees of the firm.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Respondent—The next Exhibit, No. 5, is to show that the respondent often delivered goods to Chinese on their signature, without any signature by the appellant firm. It proves that there is no such practice as the alleged non-delivery of goods on the authority of delivery-orders signed by Chinese alone.

The Judge—By what process was the fact that the Chinese stole the money ascertained?

Counsel for Respondent—By instituting a suit in the Chinese Consulate.

The Judge—Is this document No. 6 a despatch from the Consul?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. A translation is appended.

The Judge—Does it show that the Chinese stole the money?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. According to it, some 70,000 dollars were stolen. They stole the money and have to bear the consequences.

The Judge—What is next?

Counsel for Respondent—Exhibit No. 7 is presented to-day for the first time. It shows, in the case of some warrants, that a Chinaman signed them originally, and received a portion of the goods referred to; and that then a duly authorized European signed the same warrant afterwards. In one instance a Chinese applied for delivery of 400 cases over his own signature on the 2nd March; and then, on the 2nd of June, Edwards obtained delivery of 25 cases. The first delivery had been regularly recorded on the warrant. This proves that the appellants' firm acknowledged the propriety of deliveries made on the order of a Chinese.

The Judge—How can you tell that the delivery made to the Chinese was known to the subsequent signatory?

Counsel for Respondent—On the back of the warrant the fact of 400 cases having been delivered to a Chinese is recorded; and then the fact that 25 cases more were delivered from the same lot on the 2nd of June. If the Chinaman had stolen these 400 cases, the number remaining would have been short, but since the *bond fides* of the former delivery is acknowledged, it is plain that no deficiency existed.

The Judge—Do you then mean that, since the respondent entered the number of cases delivered on the warrant and carried it away with him, he must have known if any cases were missing?

Counsel for Respondent—Exactly so.

The Judge—Is that the process followed in depositing and delivering goods?

Counsel for Respondent—No. But we raise no question on that point.

The Judge—What has the counsel for the appellants to say?

Counsel for Appellants—I have not yet received Exhibit No. 7.

The Judge—I see no translation of the documents produced by the respondent, though that is necessary in a Japanese Court.

Counsel for Respondent—I shall present translations the day after to-morrow.

Counsel for Appellants—We do not accept Exhibit No. 1 of the respondent.

The Judge—But on that Exhibit, No. 1, I find the stamp of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. How do you explain that?

Counsel for Appellants—That is an india-rubber stamp which can be used by any one.

The Judge—Can any one use it?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. Consequently it establishes nothing.

The Judge—Do you then mean to say that you do not know whether the document is genuine or not?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What about Exhibit No. 2?

Counsel for Appellants—That we accept.

The Judge—Exhibit No. 3?

Counsel for Appellants—No.

The Judge—Do the remarks made about the stamp on No. 1 apply to the stamp on this also?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

The Judge—What about Exhibit No. 4?

Counsel for Appellants—The first three pages we accept.

The Judge—Do you mean that you accept those signed by Europeans and Americans only?

Counsel for Appellants—Exactly so.

The Judge—What about the next?

Counsel for Appellants—We do not accept No. 5.

The Judge—And No. 6?

Counsel for Appellants—We do not accept it. I should like to look at it. (The Judge hands down the document.) I see there is a stamp on the front page, but no stamp at the end. Will you ask whether this is the original document?

The Judge (to Counsel for Respondent)—Is this the original reply you received from the Chinese Consul, which you have just read out?

Counsel for Respondent—The appended document is the one that came from the Consulate.

The Judge—A translation of the original was apparently sent to the Governor of Kanagawa Ken by the Consul, but what about the other document appended?

Counsel for Respondent—It is a translation.

The Judge—There is no such document.

Counsel for Respondent—Here is a translation. Will you look at it? (Presents a document.)

The Judge—I see in it that the Governor of Kanagawa Ken received this copy of the document from Su Ketsai. Is that so?

Counsel for Appellants—A copy of the document was presented by him, but whether that is the copy or not the appellants cannot say.

The Judge—Do you mean to say that although some document was undoubtedly presented, you are unable to tell whether this is the identical one or not?

Counsel for Appellants—Exactly so.

The Judge—What about Exhibit No. 7?

Counsel for Appellants—We do not accept the first page, but the second and third pages we accept.

The Judge—Is there no more evidence on either side?

Counsel for Appellants—We desire to call Messrs. Middleton, Edwards, and Cruickshank as witnesses who were examined in the Lower Court. With regard to the Regulations relating to Explosives, I presume that they are known to the Bench and that it is not necessary to hand them in.

The Judge—Do you mean that the appellants conduct their business in accordance with these Regulations?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. In accordance with Arts. 8, 9, 11, and 12. The forms used are A and C.

Counsel for Respondent—I have nothing more to say of any special importance, but I desire information on the following points. First, I understood Counsel for Appellants to state that the warrants were stolen by the Chinese. Is that so?

The Judge—Counsel for respondent says that he understands Counsel for Appellants to state that the warrants were stolen by the Chinese, who presented them to the Kencho. Is that so?

Counsel for Appellants—Certainly not. If the proceedings in the Lower Court be examined, the facts will be plain.

The Judge—But I see that you have stated they were stolen by the Chinese.

Counsel for Appellants—If there is any such statement it is an error. As I said originally, the warrants are kept in the firm's safe; but when any portion of the goods are required, the warrant is given to the Chinese to be used, and kept by him subsequently.

Counsel for Respondent—The next question is whether it is true that the appellants have never demanded any delivery of kerosene oil imported by the *Anglo-American*.

The Judge—What does Counsel for appellants answer?

Counsel for Appellants—No, that is not so. The Counsel associated with me has already explained that the Chinese brought a certain sum of money on account of that oil.

The Judge—If you admit that any parts of the oil were demanded, simply answer, "yes."

Counsel for Appellants—Yes.

Counsel for Respondent—But that is not plain. What I want to know is whether the firm gave proper delivery orders, and whether the Chinese destroyed them, and made new ones instead. Or whether the Chinese prepared delivery orders wholly without the knowledge of the firm?

The Judge—Counsel for respondent wishes to know whether or not the appellants' firm ever demanded delivery of any of the kerosene imported by the *Anglo-American*.

Counsel for Appellants—We demanded some.

The Judge—You say you demanded some deliveries. Did the appellants or their properly authorized agent sign those orders?

Counsel for Appellants—When the firm applied for any delivery, a proper delivery order was prepared.

The Judge—Did the firm prepare proper delivery orders when applying for the delivery of the kerosene imported by the *Anglo-American*?

Counsel for Appellants—There are some only, but the respondent considers them all *bond fide*.

The Judge—I understand that the firm issued proper delivery orders when seeking delivery of the kerosene imported by the *Anglo-American*. But now can you tell whether those proper delivery orders were taken to the Kencho, or were destroyed by the Chinese?

Counsel for Appellants—The whole of the oil was not delivered, and on that account the present suit is instituted.

The Judge—This is not what I want to know. My question is, whether you received any of the kerosene on proper delivery orders or not?

Counsel for Appellants—Your question refers to the delivery of the whole, but the appellants issued proper delivery orders for a portion only.

The Judge—Very well. I understand now.

Counsel for Respondent—Are those proper delivery orders included in Exhibit No. 3, or were they prepared elsewhere? Not Exhibit No. 3, I mean No. 5.

The Judge—Exhibit No. 5 is a total account. Do you ask whether the proper delivery orders are included in it or not?

Counsel for Respondent—Yes. I want to know the exact number of cases imported by the *Anglo-American*.

The Judge—Counsel for respondent asks whether the properly delivered cases are included in the number of cases not received, as shown in Exhibit No. 5?

Counsel for Appellants—We do not dispute that point. We cannot tell.

Counsel for Respondent—You may not be able to state the exact number, but can you not state approximately what number was received by the firm?

Counsel for Appellants—The appellants have recorded only the number of cases lost, in bringing the present suit.

The Judge—Then was the remainder properly delivered?

Counsel for Appellants—Yes. But we do not know whether the numbers are recorded in the Kencho.

Junior Counsel for Appellants—We might ask questions here one by one, but as the necessary questions were asked by us and replied to by the respondent in the lower court, the answers then given will suffice for present purposes.

The Judge—Then Counsel for Appellants had better plead first.

Counsel for Appellants—Before pleading we desire the Respondent to state the nature of the explosive Regulations, and what obligation the Kencho is under in respect of the Warehouse. As we have already stated, the appellants are compelled by Regulations to store their own goods in the Warehouse of the Government. The Regulations having been obeyed by us, the Government ought to be held responsible for the deposited goods. We ask you to note the provisions contained in the Regulations very carefully. The present suit concerns the wrongful delivery of goods to a third person; that is, to a person to whom no delivery ought to have been made. Delivery orders are most important affairs. How ought they to be prepared? The owner of the goods must sign his name and affix his stamp. If you will look at this application for depositing goods, you will see that the form A contains these words; "We hereby apply to deposit in the Government's Warehouse the undermentioned goods imported by us in the . . . on . . . day . . . month from . . ." and "The above . . . cases were passed through the Custom House on . . ."

day . . . month . . . year." Then, at the end, "You are requested to deliver these goods only upon an order from the undersigned . . ." Thus only by an order of the depositor should the goods be delivered. Thence it follows that the applicant for storage must sign his name to a delivery order. In short, the above processes, as expressly provided in the Regulations, must be observed in obtaining delivery. Unless these steps were regularly followed, no goods should have been delivered to the appellants. But the respondent says that he did not consider the delivery order particularly important in view of the fact that he had issued a warrant. He implies that any person who brings the warrant is entitled to obtain delivery of the goods. Such a view is assuredly not right. So long as these provisions relating to delivery orders stand in the Regulations they must be observed. It is obviously improper to assert that the Warehouse officials need not care who has signed a delivery order so long as the warrant is presented. If an unknown name be written on an order, would they still deliver the goods? Assuredly not. Hence the delivery order is a vital document. The Kencho made the Regulations themselves, and yet, according to their argument, one portion of the Regulations need not be observed, and so long as the warrant is produced the goods may be delivered to any person. The Regulations being thus held in very small account, it is not surprising that mistakes like those for which we now demand indemnity should occur.

CHESSE.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 43.

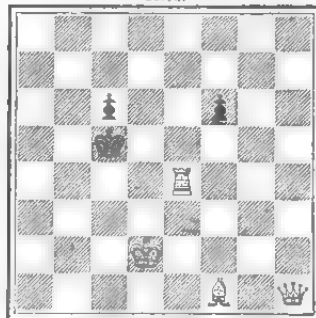
- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—K to K 6 | 1—B checks |
| 2—B x B (mate) | 1—Any other move of that B |
| 2—R mates at R 4 | 1—Kt checks, or any other move |
| 2—Kt x Kt on, or to, B 4 (mate) | 1—Any move of R |
| 2—Q mates at K R 8 | 1—Any move of B (on K 8) |
| 2—Q mates at R sq. | |

Correct solutions received from Omega, J.D., Scacchi, J.W.E., W.H.S., Omicron, & Digamma. Additional correct solution of No. 42 received from Ed. B.

PROBLEM No. 45.

By J. MENZIES.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in three moves.

The home journals contain but little interesting news, all great contests apparently being postponed till the customary winter season. We should be getting some interesting match games by incoming mails.

We take the following game and notes from the *Illustrated London News* of 1st October.

CHESSE IN THE CITY.

Game played at the City of London Chess Club between Messrs. A. CURNOCK and A. J. MAAS.

(Sicilian Defence.)

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| WHITE. (Mr. C.) | BLACK. (Mr. M.) |
| 1—P to K 4th | 1—P to Q B 4th |
| 2—Kt to K B 3rd | 2—P to K 3rd |
| 3—P to Q 4th | 3—P takes P |
| 4—Kt takes P | 4—Kt to K B 3rd |
| 5—Kt to Q B 3rd | 5—Kt to B 3rd |
| 6—K Kt to Kt 5th | 6—P to Q R 3rd |
| 7—Kt to Q 6th (ch) | 7—B takes Kt |
| 8—Q takes B | |

The opening has been somewhat tame, and White gains no advantage by this exchange.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 9—Q to Q sq | 8—Q to K 2nd |
| 10—B to Q 3rd | 9—P to Q 4th |
| 11—B takes P | 10—P takes P |
| 12—Kt takes Kt | 11—Kt takes B |
| 13—Kt to Q 2nd | 12—Q to Kt 5th (ch) |

Kt to B 3rd certainly seems a more natural move, and we cannot think the Kt is now judiciously posted.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 14—Castles | 13—Castles |
| 15—P to Q B 3rd | 14—R to Q sq |
| 16—Q to B 2nd | 15—Q to K 2nd |
| 17—Kt to K 4th | 16—Kt to K 4th |
| 18—B to B 4th | 17—B to Q 2nd |
| 19—B to Kt 3rd | 18—Kt to Kt 3rd |

B to Q 6th once, and if then Q to R 5th, B to Kt 3rd gains important time. If Black play Q to K sq, he obviously loses the exchange by B to B 5th, followed by Kt to Q 6th.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 20—B to Q 6th | 19—P to K 4th |
| 21—Kt to B 5th | 20—Q to R 5th |
| 22—Q R to Q sq | 21—B to K 3rd |

This is fatal, but he has no really good move. If B to Kt 3rd, Q to K and wins a piece, as Q takes Kt, and P to K 5th is threatened.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 23—R takes R | 22—R takes B |
| 23—B takes P | 23—B takes P |
- An excellent move, against which there is no satisfactory reply, for if he takes the B he is mated, and if he does not he loses the game.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 24—R to Q 4th | 24—Q to R 6th |
| 25—R to Q 3rd | 25—B to B 6th |
| 26—R takes B | 26—Q takes R |
| 27—Q to Q 3rd | 27—Q to B 3rd |
| 28—Q to K 3rd | 28—P to K 4th |
| 29—P to Kt 4th | 29—Kt to B 5th |
| 30—P to B 3rd | 30—Q to Kt 3rd (ch) |
| 31—K to B 2nd | 31—K to Kt 7th (ch) |
| 32—K to K sq | 32—Q takes K R P |
| 33—R to Kt sq | 33—R to Q sq |

White resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL,"]

London, November 12th.

The final report of the Committee of the Mercantile Bank has appeared, and a large proportion of the shareholders support their scheme, which is a subscription of new capital, a satisfactory enquiry having shown that reconstruction is preferable to liquidation.

London, November 14th.

There will probably be an extra Session of Congress for the purpose of dealing with the Tariff Question shortly after Mr. Cleveland's installation. It is also stated as probable that the Democrats will control both Houses.

London, November 15th.

The French Government has resolved to prosecute the Managers of the Panama Canal works for breach of trust and fraud.

The condition of affairs in London has necessitated the starting of relief works for the unemployed.

London, October 25th.

The bill for the increase to the German Army comprises biennial service for the infantry. The measure is said to be necessary in consequence of the additions now being made to the armaments of France and Russia.

London, October 26th.

The German press of all shades of opinion, except the ultra conservative, oppose the new Army Bill.

London, October 28th.

At a meeting held in Manchester in favour of international bimetalism, it was resolved to favour the proposal for the reopening of the mints of the world by the various Governments and the unchecked coinage of gold and silver bullion; also, to urge the British Government to co-operate with the International Monetary Conference. On the passing of this resolution, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, who was present at the meeting, said the contention that it was impossible to fix an international ratio between gold and silver was simply economic heresy; it would be impossible to maintain in Great Britain an ever appreciating standard and, for the Straits and India, it would be almost crushing. Great Britain, Mr. Balfour said, wants a sound instrument in exchange for the bimetallic solution which would be both possible and adequate.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. V. K.	Friday, Nov. 25th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 21st.*
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 20th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 27th.‡
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Dec. 2nd.§
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 27th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Nov. 30th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 8th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on November 9th.
 † Revenue left Hongkong on November 12th. ‡ Empress of Japan left Vancouver on November 13th. § Gaule left San Francisco on November 16th. † Saluste (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 18th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 20th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 22nd.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 26th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 28th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 2nd.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 9th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, H. Verron, 12th November.—Marseilles 2nd October, Hongkong 3rd November, Shanghai 7th, and Kobe 11th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tittle, 12th November.—Kobe 11th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 13th November.—Otaru via ports 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 13th November.—Ujina 11th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 13th November.—San Francisco via Honolulu 25th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,410, Darke, 13th November.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 14th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 14th November.—Kobe 13th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Norma, British schooner, 52, J. Curney, 14th November.—Sealing Cruise, 103 Sealskins.—Jas. Pyne.
Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Price, 14th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 14th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.
Aurora, British schooner, 41, C. Touissant, 15th November.—Victoria, B.C., Ballast.—Captain.
Ning Chou, British steamer, 1,735, Allen, 16th November.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Jackson, 16th November.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ajax, British steamer, 1,471, Rawlings, 16th November.—Shanghai, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Hiyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 16th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 16th November.—Kobe 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nioba, German steamer, 1,666, Pfaff, 16th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 720, Hayashi, 17th November.—Shinagawa, General.—Capt.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 17th November.—Hongkong 11th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Worcester, British steamer, 1,894, Morice, 18th November.—Bristol via ports, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 18th November.—Shanghai and ports 11th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Settsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 18th November.—Kobe 17th November, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tittle, 18th November.—Kobe 17th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 12th November.—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 12th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Villars (15), French cruiser, Captain Thonnens, 12th November.—Marseilles.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 13th November.—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Tsuge, 13th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tittle, 14th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 15th November.—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 15th November.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 15th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, R. Pender, 15th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 15th November.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 15th November.—Honolulu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 16th November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, S. Tsuga, 16th November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ocampo, British steamer, 1,411, Price, 16th November.—Hakodate, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,410, Darke, 17th November.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 720, Hayashi, 17th November.—Hyogo, General.—Captain.
Peterborough, British ship, 1,680, Murchie, 18th November.—Portland, Or., Ballast.—Order.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 18th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 18th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 19th November.—New York via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 19th November.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Conil, F. Varenne, Doi, H. Ishiy, Mukai, Blockhuys, Leon Savatier, J. Wood, A. S. Hay, Lepin, Verge, Le Galloch Pierre, Apere Victor, Cam, Clenn, Bomel, Cleon, Miss Bryne, Miss Gearing, Mr. Valdenaire, and Mr. Fanter in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—22 passengers in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Ujina:—17 passengers in steerage and 1,058 emigrants.
 Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. H. Hill, Mr. M. K. Kato, Lieut. Alex. McCracken, Mr. F. G. Lenx, Mr. Shigeru Matsuda, Miss J. D. Humpstone, Mr. Worth Brown, Miss A. E. Duffield, Miss A. Buzzell, Miss Hattie Benedict, Miss Lucy E. Case, Rev. Geo. Allchin, Mrs. Allchin, Mr. Florence Allchin, Miss Stanley Allchin, Miss Marion Allchin, Rev. J. L. Atkinson, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Ilse Atkinson, Miss Vesta Atkinson, Mr. James D. Atkinson, Mr. W. H. Correll, Mrs. M. K. Ballagh, Mrs. Jane E. Little, Mr. F. M. Hawley, Hon. Shen Wonn, Mr. L. M. Conwell, Mr. Wm. Knight, Mr. Wells Valentine, and Mrs. Valentine in cabin, For Hongkong: Rev. S. B. Partridge, Mrs. Partridge, Rev. Geo. Whitman, Mrs. Whitman, Mr. J. M. Kelly, Rev. C. H. Reeves, Mrs. Reeves,

Mr. Fong Won, Mr. Chow Lon, Miss Ostrom, and Mr. W. H. Wallace in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss Caroline Chittenden, Miss Lillian Cobb, and Mr. Henry Edgar in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Commander Marshall, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. W. A. Main, Dr. Riggs, Mr. Crosswaithe, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Wheen, Mr. Gibbens, Mrs. Gibbens, Miss Gibbens, Mrs. Rogers, and Mr. A. J. H. Carlill in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Milke Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Julian, Robinson, Eyler, and Kawamoto in cabin; 11 passengers in steerage. For Otaru and Hakodate: 13 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Lord Cecil Mannors and Mr. Savill in cabin; Mr. K. Muno and Mr. Go Kuso in second class, and 16 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong via Macao:—Captain J. W. Lee in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Easton, Mr. C. A. Schmuck, and Mr. A. M. Gardner in cabin; Messrs. Jno. Oston, C. H. Andros, and F. W. Shields in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Akiyama, Mrs. Mann, Miss Vincent, Mrs. J. T. Harrison and 2 children, Miss Proctor, Mr. E. Whitall, Mr. and Mrs. Akaha, Mr. G. Sasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Kawakami and child, Mr. Morioka, Mr. and Mrs. Nomura and child, Mr. Shimano, Mr. J. M. Maitland, Captain Steedman, and Mrs. Michinaga in cabin; Mrs. Iyura, Mrs. Inokuchi, Mrs. Kadooka, Mr. and Mrs. Hoashi, Messrs. Yasushima, Kawamura, Kumoto, Jimin, Hon San Gue, Fujisaki, Fukagawa, T. Fukagawa, Yamaguchi, Miyatsuka, and J. Jackson in second class, and 67 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. T. A. Hester, Mr. J. T. Arundel, Rev. A. H. Locke and child, Mrs. Hody and 1 children, and Rev. and Mrs. E. Morgan and 3 children in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Adams, Miss Brooks, Mr. Codman, Mr. Crisp, Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas, Mr. A. M. A. Evans, Frau von Fallot, son, and 2 daughters, Mr. and Mrs. D. Galbraith, Mrs. Gillman, Messrs. Orlando Harley, F. E. Hughes, Higginbotham, Leaf, L. Millard, B. K. Miller, Jun., Moffatt, Rev. and Mrs. McAlpine and 2 children, Mr. J. Newcome, Mr. Noucher, Mr. Hy. D. Pierce, Master Douglas Pierce, Mrs. D'Arcy Paul, Mrs. Randolph, Miss Riley, Mr. Richardson, Mr. W. W. Rockhill, Miss Scidmore, Messrs. Sargent, A. T. Souza, Taft, P. K. Thompson, and G. Turner in cabin; Mrs. Bond and 2 children, Messrs. C. Fukata, M. Jaspersen, Michaeloffski, and Tomita in second class.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. H. W. Slade, J. Manuk, G. L. Duncan, G. Meynell, Samuel Morris, J. E. Rhoades, P. Lee, and F. M. Hawley in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss C. Chittenden, Miss Emma Lyons, Mrs. T. Hayashi, Mr. and Mrs. Kabayama, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Atkinson, Misses and Master Atkinson, Mr. Henry Edgar, Lieut. McCracken, Messrs. Shen Wonn, W. H. Carrell, Barnes, U. Soma, Diack, Cabeldu, and Rev. and Mrs. Jeffery and child in cabin; Mrs. R. Numai, Mrs. Y. Yamada, and Mr. K. Sugamura in second class, and 203 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. T. Arundel, Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. G. W. Bramhall, Mrs. M. C. Crozier, Mr. and Mrs. Easton, Mr. W. M. Gardner, Mrs. Hadly and 2 children, Dr. J. Harris, Mr. F. A. Hester, Mr. J. Jacobson, Dr. Jaeger, Mr. H. G. Julian, Rev. A. H. Locke and child, Mr. G. E. Moore, Rev. and Mrs. E. Morgan and 3 children, Dr. and Mrs. Otis, Miss Otis, Dr. A. C. H. Russell, Mr. C. A. Schmuck, Mr. and Mrs. H. King Sturdie, Mr. A. Wasberg, Mrs. Warnecke, and Mrs. Yazawa in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC COAST.	TEA, NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ..	60	915	—	276	1,251
Foochow ..	60	—	—	500	500
Hyogo ..	9	—	595	310	914
Yokohama ..	366	334	32	955	1,687
Total	501	1,249	627	2,041	4,418

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ..	200	—	200
Yokohama ..	286	—	286
Total	486	—	486

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$200,000.00.

Per British steamer *Belgia*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.	NEW	CHICAGO	OTHER	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO	YORK			
Shanghai	220	—	—	—	220
Yokohama	1,165	342	352	359	2,218
Hongkong	177	—	—	—	177
Colombo	87	—	—	—	87
Amoy	50	516	798	—	1,364
Total	1,699	858	1,150	359	4,066

	SILK.	NEW	HARTFORD	TOTAL.
	FRANCISCO	YORK		
Shanghai	—	104	—	104
Hongkong	—	490	—	490
Yokohama	—	1,055	103	1,158
Total	—	1,588	103	1,691

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 9th November at 1 p.m.; had light variable winds to moderate and fresh N.W. and S.W. breeze with clear weather to Okushiri Light, which was passed at 11.30 p.m.; thence to Shirakami, which was passed at 5.30 a.m. on the 10th, moderate southerly breeze and fine, clear weather; thence to port light easterly breezes. Arriving at Hakodate the 11th at 8.30 a.m. and left at noon; had strong to fresh N.W. breeze with heavy snow squalls to Shiriyasaki, which was passed at 3.30 p.m.; thence to port from fresh westerly breezes to light variable. Arriving at Oginohama the 12th at 10.35 a.m. and left the same day at 6.30 p.m.; had gentle N.W. breeze and fine weather to Inuboye, which was passed at 9 a.m. on the 13th; thence to Noshima light breeze and fine weather; thence to port gentle N.E. winds and fine, clear weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 13th November at 11 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 25th October at 4.13 p.m. and Honolulu the 1st November at 8.56 p.m.; experienced moderate and fine weather the whole passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th November at 2.26 a.m. making the passage from San Francisco in 18 days, 9 hours, and 9 minutes.

The British steamer *Belgia*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong and Macao the 11th November. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th November at 11.30 a.m. Passage from Hongkong, 6 days, 3 hours, and 53 minutes. Had strong N.E. monsoon from Macao to 100 miles east of Turnabout; thence to port moderate variable winds and sea.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 11th November at 3.30 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 13th at 6.30 p.m. and left again the following day at 6 p.m. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 15th at 8 a.m. and left the same day. Arrived at Kobe the 16th at 2 p.m. and left the 17th at 1 p.m. Arriving at Yokohama the 18th November at 3.30 p.m. Experienced fresh N.E. winds and fine, cloudy weather to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe had light to moderate northerly winds and fine, clear weather, moderate easterly winds and cloudy weather to Rock Island. overcast rainy weather thence to arrival.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No transactions of note in Cotton Piece Goods or Woollens; but market remains firm at quotations. Yarns, however, have been enquired for on receipt of news of a smart rise in Manchester compelled with a fall in silver, and prices are up.

Holders are strong at the advance owing to small stocks, and early "futures" are receiving the attention of buyers, who are offering good prices for desirable descriptions.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ yds. 39 inches	\$1.65 to 2.24
Grey Shirtings—9½ yds. 45 inches	1.85 to 2.65
Γ. Cloth—7½ yds. 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 33 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Valvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	0.60 to 0.77
Victorin Lanes, 12 yards, 43 inches	—
Patheclane, 12 yards, 43 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.5½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.34½ to 1.42½
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24½ yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8½, 24½ yards, 32 inches	1.62½ to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8½, 24½ yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 1.75

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.47½ to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 30½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17½ to 23
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 54 & 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 & 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.57½
Cloths—Union, 54 & 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	\$27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	28.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	31.50 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 38/42, Two-fold	33.00 to 34.00
Nos. 42s, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
Nos. 20s, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
Nos. 16s, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
Nos. 10/14, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Small stocks—little doing—unchanged quotations are the feature of the week. Market dull, and buyers offer such prices as holders will not at present accept.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Since our last, the steamer *Exo* has arrived with 70,000 cases Russian Oil. Demand for this class has increased, and full prices are now being paid. Market closes firm with upward tendency.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Connet	1.72½ to 1.75½
Devco	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.70 to 1.72½
Russian Moon	1.67½ to 1.70

SUGAR.

Arrivals of Browns have caused a further reduction in prices, and stocks to-day show an increase over last week, standing at 38,500 piculs unsold. Market closes weak. Java and Penang Whites, however, have improved in prices, being 10 to 15 cents up on last quotation, but not a great deal of business doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	\$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Daitong	3.65 to 3.70
Brown Canton	3.80 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	5.90 to 6.00
White Refined	5.55 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 11th instant. Since then settlements on this market amount to 628 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures*, 200 piculs; *Re-reels*, 34 piculs; *Kakeda*, 394 piculs. There has been no direct export this week, so that the total business is comprised in the above figures.

The market has been quiet; at the same time some business has been done every day. Failing to find good quality in *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, buyers have turned their attention to *Kakeda*, in which class some important purchases have been made, prices hardening a little at the close. The principal purchases seem to have been made again for the American market; some few parcels of fine-size *Filatures* for Europe have been taken into godown, and while writing there is a prospect of further business in this direction.

Arrivals are now falling off both in quantity and quality, and the available supplies to-day are less than they were this day last year. Again we have to note an absence of high grades, a very large proportion of the present stock being of common and inferior quality.

Exchange has continued to decline and now stands at the lowest point ever known. This is in favour of exporters, or perhaps we should rather say of the Japanese producers.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Ancona* on the 12th instant taking only 50 bales for Europe. The Northern Pacific steamer *Victoria*, which left port on the 15th, had 286 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the present export figures up to 26,504 piculs, against

21,631 piculs last year and 8,068 piculs in the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Nothing whatever to be said; position unchanged; prices nominally a little lower, but absolutely nothing doing.

Filatures.—These are nominal for the best grades, really prime quality not existing. For second choice, there is a slight reduction in quotations, but when quality is taken into account, silks are no cheaper than they were a month ago. Several settlements have been made for Europe in *Oshu* and *Mino* sorts at prices ranging from \$840 to \$860 per picul. Lower qualities have been done at \$300 and \$780 and even at \$760. For the United States nothing has been done beyond one parcel of *Shunmeisha* at \$850. *Tokosha* brought the same price, but buyers generally complain that they cannot find silk good enough for their requirements. Many parcels have been taken in during the week but rejected on inspection.

Re-reels.—A very small business, not more than 35 piculs having passed the scales. There is the same trouble in this class—bad quality. Sellers are willing to unload such silks as they have at cheaper prices; but this does not tempt buyers, who still continue to ask for good quality.

Kakeda.—As we pointed out some two or three weeks ago, there are still some good silks remaining in this department at prices which seem relatively cheap when compared with *Filatures* and *Re-reels*. Buyers have at last operated, taking about 400 piculs, at full rates; in fact, there is an increase of \$10.00 on the week, and at closing prices are firm, \$750 having been paid for one *Bacupi*.

Oshu.—No business at all; prices quite nominal. Holders are getting a little uneasy and would like to sell, but there seems to be no demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Shiohshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom. \$620 to 630
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	Nom. 610 to 620
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	Nom. 590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3	Nom. 570 to 580
Hanks—No. 34	Nom. 550 to 560
Filatures—Extra 10½ deniers	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13½ deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10½ deniers	865 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13½, 14½ den.	850 to 855
Filatures—No. 1, 13½, 14½ den.	850 to 855
Filatures—No. 2, 10½ deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 2, 14½ deniers	790 to 810
Filatures—No. 3, 14½ deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—Extra	Nom.
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1, 13½, 14½ deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1, 13½, 14½ deniers	790 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14½ deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14½ deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 3, 14½ deniers	650 to 660
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 14	750 to 755
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 24	690 to 660
Kakedas—No. 3	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 34	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 18th Nov., 1892:—

	Season 1890-1891.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	9,389	7,294	2,336
America	16,685	13,805	5,515
Total	{Bales 26,075	21,099	7,851
	{Piculs 26,504	21,631	8,068
Settlements and Direct	28,800	23,200	8,400
Export from 1st July	9,700	16,500	17,300
Stock, 18th November	38,500	39,700	25,700

WASTE SILK.

More business in this branch, settlements amounting to 1,300 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 28 piculs; *Noshi*, 112 piculs; *Kibiso*, 1,075 piculs; *Sundries*, 85 piculs.

Prices are again easier without much quotable change. Sellers are anxious to be moving, but will not give way in price. It is probable that they must do so ere long, as the big stock of 18,000 piculs presses heavily upon them.

The English mail steamer *Ancona*, on the 12th instant, carried 355 bales Waste and Cocoons for Europe. No other departures during the week, and the present export figures are 12,741 piculs, against 9,453 piculs last year and 9,746 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—A small business at previous rates. The present stock consists of medium and inferior quality which will, no doubt, be cleared off at low prices.

Noshi.—Only moderate transactions, holders being too strong in their demands. Among the sales were *Filature* at \$130 and \$140; *Zaguri*,

\$95; Foshu, \$70, with a small parcel of Shinshu at \$97.

Kibiso.—A large business, all descriptions sharing in the demand. *Filatures* have been done heavily at prices ranging from \$110 to \$90. There have also been large purchases in *Curties*, prices ranging between \$30 and \$40, according to quality. Some parcels of *Zaguri* have been taken at \$50.

Mawata.—Nothing new in this class; no business; no arrivals; small stock.

Neri.—Supplies are now coming in freely and some business has been done, holders meeting the market to some extent. The bulk of the stock, however, is of inferior quality, full of dirt and chrysalis.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	\$100 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best.....	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good.....	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Osha, Good to Best.....	140 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best.....	130 to 145
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best.....	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good.....	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary.....	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected.....	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	90 to 95
Kibiso—Osha, Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best.....	60 to 70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds.....	50 to 55
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair.....	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common.....	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good.....	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low.....	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common.....	20 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 18th Nov., 1892:—

	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Waste Silk.....	16,833	8,683	8,863
Pierced Cocoons.....	1,908	770	883
	12,741	9,453	9,746
Settlements and Direct.....	17,500	13,600	13,700
Export from 1st July.....	18,000	15,400	11,500
Stock, 18th November.....	35,500	30,000	25,200
Available supplies to date.....	35,500	30,000	25,200

Exchange has fallen again in sympathy with the price of Bar Silver in Europe. We quote:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/10½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/10½; New York, 30d/s. U.S. \$69½; 4m/s. U.S. \$70½; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.67.

Estimated Silk Stock, 18th Nov., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	450	Cocoons.....	700
Filatures.....	3,700	Noshi-ito.....	9,399
Re-reels.....	4,450	Kibiso.....	7,343
Kakada.....	570	Mawata.....	111
Osha.....	30	Sundries.....	447
Taysam Kinds.....	30		
Total piculs.....	9,700	Total piculs.....	18,000

TEA.

Nothing new to report. Season drawing to a close and no grades above fine are now procurable.

	PER PICUL.
Finest.....	—
Fine.....	\$22 to 24
Good Medium.....	19 to 21
Medium.....	17 to 18
Good Common.....	14 to 16
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has touched bottom figures during the week, and closes with a tendency to harden.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/9½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/10
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/10½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/10½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3.54
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3.67
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1½ ½ dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	2 ½ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	73½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight.....	74
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	68
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	69½
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	70½
Silver.....	38½

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FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama, will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

FOR SALE,
THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL :
SORACHI AND PORONAL.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

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YOKOHAMA:

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Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

1Y.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
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PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribes in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out 1 quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says:—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

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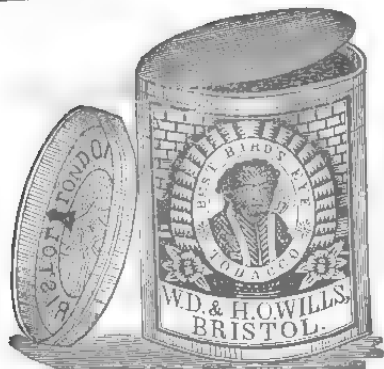
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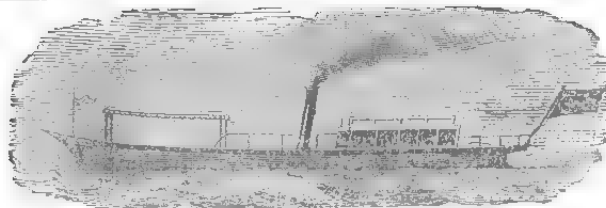
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 22.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 26TH, 1892.

月三年五十二陰明
可認寄信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 26TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Chishima Kan* left Shanghai on the 22nd inst. for Kobe.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA proceeded to Dzushi on the 21st inst.

PRINCE SHIMADZU, of Kagoshima, arrived in the capital on the 18th inst.

THE *Matushima Kan* has been attached to the Japanese Standing Squadron.

COUNT MATSUKATA, ex-Minister President, will, it is expected, visit the World's Fair.

MR. KONO, Minister of State for Education, is at present confined to his residence through illness.

MR. AKITARA, newly appointed President of the Yokohama Local Court, attended business on the 21st inst.

MR. TSUJI handed in his resignation of the post of Vice-Minister of the Educational Department to the Minister of State for Education on Saturday last.

COUNT KURODA, Minister of State for Communications, gave a banquet on the 19th inst. at his official residence to the members of the Railway Council.

THE Japanese Consul General at Fusan, Korea, reports that an epidemic of rinderpest has broken out in the port and there are signs of a further spread.

THE Rules for Japanese students sent abroad by the Educational Department were promulgated on the 22nd instant by Imperial Ordinance No. 102.

MR. NAKAJIMA NOBUYUKI, new Japanese Minister to Italy, and Mr. Alessandro Paternostro, a foreign judicial adviser of the Japanese Government, were admitted to an Imperial audience

on the 18th instant at 10 a.m. They afterwards, as well as Mrs. Nakajima and Mrs. Paternostro, were received in audience by the Empress.

A MEETING of the Cabinet was held on the 22nd inst. at the official residence of Count Ito, and was attended by Counts Kuroda, Yamagata, Oyama, Inouye, and Goto, Viscount Niire, and Mr. Watanabe. Various projected Government Bills were discussed.

PRINCE MORI gave a garden party at his residence at Takanawa, Shiba, Tokyo, on the afternoon of Saturday last, to which Counts Ito, Inouye, Yamada, and a number of other distinguished natives of Yamaguchi Prefecture were invited.

EARLY on the morning of the 14th inst. an outbreak of fire took place at Akemi-mura in the South Tsuru District of Yamanashi Prefecture. The flames were confined to the building where the fire originated, but one fireman was suffocated by the smoke.

AN earthquake was felt in the capital on the 21st instant, at 10h. 37m. 53s. p.m. The duration was 2½ secs, and the direction from S.E. to N.W., the maximum horizontal motion being 0.07 millimetre in 0.3 second, and the maximum vertical motion 0.2 millimetre in 0.2 second. The shock was sharp.

A REPORT of the Tokyo News Agency says that Mr. Kubota, Chief Commissioner of General School Affairs, will be appointed to succeed Mr. Tsuji in his position of Vice-Minister of the Educational Department, the latter being promoted Privy Councillor, and Mr. Takane, President of the Higher Normal School, will take the post at present occupied by Mr. Kubota. Professor Kato, President of the Imperial University, will be made Privy Councillor, his place being given to Mr. Hamano, Chief Commissioner of Special School Affairs, who will be succeeded by Prof. Kikuchi Dairoku, Director of the College of Science.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa Taruhito and Kanin Kotahito, as well as Viscount Niire, Minister of State for the Navy; Marquis Tokudajiri, Grand Chamberlain; Vice-Admiral Nakamura, Commandant of the Kure Admiralty Station; Vice-Admiral Akamatsu, Commandant of the Yokosuka Admiralty Station; Vice-Admiral Hayashi, Commandant of the Sasebo Admiralty Station; Mr. Shirane, Chief Commissioner of the Imperial Treasury Bureau; Vice-Admiral Arichi, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Standing Squadron; and Mr. Yamaguchi, Chief Commissioner of the Palace Superintendence Bureau, dined with the Emperor on the 19th inst. at the Palace.

THE Premier and Countess Ito gave a Ministerial dinner on the evening of the 21st inst. at their residence at Nagatacho. Among the guests were Count Kuroda, Minister for Communications, Count Oyama, Minister for War, Count Goto, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce; Viscount Niire, Minister for the Navy; Mr. Mutsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies; Marquis Hachisuka, President of the Upper House; Count Toda; Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Services to the Empress, with their ladies, Count Inouye, Minister for Home Affairs, Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household; Mr. Kono, Minister for Education; Mr. Watanabe, Minister for Finance; Mr. Hoshi, President of the Lower House; Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary of

the Minister for the Imperial Household; and Mr. Inouye, Councillor of the Foreign Department and several foreign gentlemen, including the Ministers for Mexico and the United States and their wives, the Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Hawaiian, Dutch, Belgian, Korean, French, Russian, German, British, and Austrian representatives.

THE Governor of Kanagawa issued a prohibition order on the 16th inst. relating to the rinderpest. The order is as follows:—Cows, oxen, and sheep, their flesh or hides, which have been despatched from or passed through Tokyo and Osaka Cities, and Hyogo, Oita, and Fukuoka, Prefectures are prohibited from entering Kanagawa Prefecture. Any person who imports cattle from localities not mentioned above must report the matter to the Police Authorities. Should any cattle die within the district, the owner or owners must report the fact to the Police Authorities, and present a certificate from a veterinary surgeon. The authorities alone can grant permission to inter the remains, or allow of the use of the body as material for manufactures. Every offender against the order is liable to a fine ranging from *yen 2* to *yen 5*.

A GENERAL assembly of the Igaku Kyokai (Italian Society) was held on the 17th inst. at the residence of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Taruhito, superintendent of the Society, at Kasumigaseki. After the election of two Managers, the reading of the reports on the proceedings for the past year took place, and a speech was delivered by Mr. Alessandro Paternostro. Prince Arisugawa then gave an address, to which Marquis Tokugawa, Vice-President of the society, replied. Amongst those present were Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household; Viscount Sano, a Privy Councillor; Viscount Nabeshima, Superintendent of the Board of Ceremonies; Viscount Yamao; the Italian Minister, the Italian Consul, Mr. Watanabe Koki, and Mr. Matsuoka Koku.

THERE is not much to place on record in the Import trade, higher prices and limited stocks having curtailed operations in both Yarns and Piece-goods, while Woollens are extremely quiet generally, the only noticeable activity in this department being a fair demand for fancy Flannels. In the Metal market there is very little moving, and, holders being strong, buyers only take what is absolutely needed for immediate use. Owners of Kerosene are very stiff, and make no concessions, in fact higher rates for Russian Oil have been paid, while all brands are firmly held. The Silk trade continues fairly active, and no quotable change in prices can be set down. Holders continue strong, and the general tone of the market is firm. The complaint about assortment becomes more accentuated as the year draws to a close, especially in sorts suitable for the American market. In the finer sizes there are better qualities to select from, but these are firmly held, and as supplies do not roll in in abundance holders of good silk do not push business. In Waste Silk more has been done, the trade for the week amounting to close upon 2,000 piculs, but a very heavy stock still remains. The transactions put through have been due to a certain extent to small concessions made to the ideas of value entertained by buyers, and an extension of this movement would doubtless lead to further business. There is nothing to report in Tea. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, during which it reached the lowest point ever touched, but there are indications of firmness at the close following a slight improvement in the price of silver on London.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CABINET AND CONSTITUTION.

We observe that the *Kobe Herald* also maintains the view that Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has acted indiscreetly in extending to his nationals the prohibitions of the new Game Regulations. With the Regulations themselves our Southern contemporary, as might have been anticipated from its generally moderate attitude, finds no fault whatever. On the contrary, it considers that they "deserve the loyal respect of all foreign sportsmen." Its difficulty is entirely connected with the contingency that the manner of issuing the Regulations may turn out to have been unconstitutional. We speak of this as a "contingency," but the *Kobe Herald* entertains no doubt whatever on the subject. It adopts the language of absolute conviction:—

"The new Game Laws were issued by the present Government as an Imperial Ordinance, and inasmuch as the new Regulations alter and amend those previously in force, they are unquestionably invalid and unconstitutional, and this Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires should have known. It is clearly and unmistakably laid down in the Constitution that 'no Ordinance shall in any way alter any of the existing laws' (the italics are our own). The new Game Regulations, promulgated by an Imperial Ordinance, did alter an existing law, and their unconstitutionality is therefore beyond question. In view of this, we cannot but consider it distinctly unfortunate that the British Representative in Tokyo should have been so ready to endorse the ill-advised action of the Government.

Stated in this manner the proposition looks forcible. But the whole argument is marred by one fatal blemish, namely, that our contemporary begs the very question lying at the root of the affair. It speaks of the former Game Regulations as a "law." Now if that were true, if it could be shown that the regulations recently replaced were really a "law," then there would be no manner of doubt that the issue of the recent ordinance was distinctly unconstitutional. But surely it ought to occur to the *Kobe Herald*, and to other journals writing in the above strain, that the framers of the Constitution were not likely to commit the blunder of deliberately violating one of its plainest provisions. There is not the slightest question that the Government would be committing a gross breach of the Constitution did it attempt to alter, by means of an Ordinance, the terms of an existing law. To suppose that Count Ito and the members of his Cabinet do not know this, is to form a singularly low estimate of their perspicacity. But the point is that, according to the view of the Cabinet and its legal advisers—and among the latter, be it observed, are some eminent foreign jurists—Game Regulations do not belong to the domain of "law" at all; that is to say, they are not to be included in the category of legislative measures concerning the enactment or modification of which the consent of the Diet is an essential Constitutional preliminary. To show how curiously our Kobe contemporary has missed the kernel of the whole problem, and how unfortunately rash are its charges of deliberately unconstitutional procedure against Count Ito and his colleagues, let us quote one or two extracts from this same Count Ito's "Commentaries" on the Constitution:—

Should the Government make use of the power of issuing Emergency Ordinances as a pretext for avoiding the public deliberations of the Diet, or for destroying any existing law, the provisions of the Constitution would become dead letters, having no significance whatever, and would be far from serving as a bulwark for the protection of the people.

Of course there is no question in the present case of an Emergency Ordinance, but we chose this extract because it conveys a forcible idea of the strength of Count Ito's views as to the necessity of consulting the Diet prior to the issue or alteration of any "law." Yet another quotation may be given with advantage. Speaking of the difference between "laws," which cannot be enacted or altered without the Diet's consent, and Ordinances, which may be issued without any reference to the Diet, Count Ito says:—

What comes within the sphere of law and what within that of Ordinance, differ according to the condition of the political development of each country. These limits ought to be ascertained for each country by reference to its constitutional history. But there

are definite cases of limitation: first, when a given matter is required to be embodied in a law by an express provision of the Constitution; and secondly, in case of the modification of a law, in which case nothing but law can effect the modification. Such is the universal practice of constitutional countries.

Thus Count Ito lays down as indisputably unconstitutional the very procedure which thoughtless critics now charge him with deliberately adopting, namely, modifying law by an Ordinance. Of one thing we may be quite certain, namely, that the question whether Game Regulations of the kind just issued come within the sphere of Law, or whether they belong to that of Ordinance, received the mature deliberation of the present Cabinet Ministers as well as of their legal advisers, and inasmuch as these statesmen and experts constitute a body of persons better qualified than any others in the empire to determine such a question, we are inclined to regard as somewhat rash, to use no stronger term, the *Kobe Herald's* unqualified declaration that the Game Regulations are "unquestionably invalid and unconstitutional" and that "Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires should have known it."

But, in truth, the most singular feature of the criticisms penned against the Chargé d'Affaires is the notion that a British Representative could possibly concern himself about the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of an act of the Japanese Government. He is accredited not to the Diet, but to the Sovereign of the country, and when the Emperor and his Ministers take a certain step, it would be an incredible and unpardonable interference on the part of any Foreign Representative to constitute himself, directly or indirectly, judge of the constitutionality of that step. Need we say that no one of the Foreign Representatives has thought for an instant of meddling so unwarrantably in Japan's internal politics? They have unanimously accepted the legality of the Regulations, and unanimously taken measures to extend the prohibitions of the Ordinance to their nationals, thus bringing its privileges also within their reach. The procedure prescribed under such circumstances by Her Majesty's Orders in Council places the British methods more prominently *en evidence* than is the case with any other Power. Hence, it seems to have been thoughtlessly assumed that British subjects alone have been brought within the purview of the new Regulations. That is altogether an error, though not comparable with the really wonderful misconception that any Foreign Representative could have taken the course which Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires is so boldly censured for not adopting.

SHOOTING LICENSES.

We observe that the *Hyogo News* continues to be much excited about "the deep pitch dug by the Japanese Ministers" to entrap Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, and about the stupendous fact that the unsuspecting Chargé has "fallen into it." Our disturbed contemporary thinks that the way to avoid this catastrophe would have been for Mr. de Bunsen "merely to notify his nationals that such an Ordinance had been issued by the Japanese Authorities, and not to have rushed needlessly into legislation." Of course there is interest in the enunciation of such a view, because it affords a measure of the really remarkable simplicity that exists in some quarters about ordinary and often practised diplomatic processes. Her Britannic Majesty's Representative is unfortunately under the obligation of complying with the orders issued from time to time by his Sovereign. Were he entirely free, it is possible, though scarcely conceivable, that he might take upon himself the responsibility of following the American example by requiring his nationals to observe a Japanese law in its entirety, *qua* Japanese law. That consummation would probably shatter the last fragments of composure remaining to the *Hyogo News*, yet it is precisely what the *Hyogo News* itself recommends. For if the British Chargé d'Affaires "merely notified" his nationals that such and such an Ordinance had been issued, he would either be indulging

in a meaningless futility, or intimating that the provisions of the Ordinance were binding, *in toto*, on British subjects. It is not the habit of British officials to play practical jokes or to ignore Orders in Council in the discharge of their legislative functions. Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has to choose between one of two courses in dealing with an Ordinance of the kind under consideration. He must either make its prohibitions binding on his nationals by following the procedure which the Order in Council prescribes, that is to say, by re-enactment, and by the notification of such penalties as may seem proper; or he must ignore the Ordinance altogether. The half-way house in which, according to the *Hyogo News*, he might have taken refuge instead of leaping into the "deep ditch" where he now lies prostrate, has no existence outside our contemporary's heated imagination. As a means of not "rushing needlessly into legislation," such a notification could scarcely achieve its purpose, since in reality it would mean rushing into legislation on far more radical principles than Her Majesty's Government sanctions, or than Her Majesty's Representative has actually followed.

That excessive zeal against which the great French diplomatist warned all beginners has plunged the *Hyogo News* into a stormy tea-pot. It has been metaphorically rending its vesture and piling ashes on its head over a corpse of its own slaying. The new Game Regulations are regarded by it as "the first of a formidable series" of laws destined to play dreadful havoc with the liberties and rights of foreign residents generally. But the new Game Regulations are not binding upon anyone unless he voluntarily submits himself to their provisions by taking out a licence to shoot, or unless he wishes to indulge in poaching, or the pursuit of cockyly birds. No foreigner has primarily any right to shoot game on Japanese territory. But Japan, having enacted regulations creating that right for everyone who submits to their prohibitions, intimated her willingness to extend the right to foreigners if they, too, agreed to observe the prohibitions. Thereupon Her Majesty's Representative availed himself of this offer in the interests of his nationals. Had he not done so, the privilege of shooting could not have been enjoyed by them. That is all. Nobody is hurt. Nobody is brought under Japanese laws. We are all just where we were before. The *Hyogo News* alone gashes itself before the altar of its own particular Baal, but for all its animated gymnastics the political firmament remains as serene as ever.

As to the question of preserving game, we observe that our contemporary is sadly befogged. Our recommendation is that foreign sportsmen should preserve areas sufficiently large to secure good sport. To this the *Hyogo News* replies!—"Shades of Saul and all the false prophets! What will the *Mail* suggest next? Again and again it has declaimed against foreigners owning land outside the Settlements, and here it coolly suggests the appropriation of hundreds of acres to afford them pastime." Now, in the first place, it would have been difficult to pen a grosser falsehood than to say that we have "again and again declaimed against foreigners owning land outside the Settlements." The truth is that we have again and again declaimed in exactly the opposite sense. In frequent articles we have pointed out the utter unreason of the crusade carried on by certain Japanese against allowing foreigners to own land in the interior; in frequent articles we have pointed out that the vicarious system of ownership now practised by a few foreigners is in every sense highly beneficial to the Japanese; and in frequent articles we have pointed out that without resorting to inquisitorial methods entirely unconstitutional in the Japan of to-day, it would be impossible for the Japanese Authorities to put a stop to the practice of that vicarious system. In short, this journal has been a conspicuous defender of extra-settlement foreign ownership, as it is, and a conspicuous advocate

of universal foreign ownership as denounced by Mr. Oi Kentaro and his disciples. Therefore, we say that it would be impossible to pen a grosser falsehood than to assert that we have "again and again declaimed against foreigners owing land outside the Settlements."

In the second place, although the feverish condition of the *Hyogo News* must greatly interfere with its powers of discernment, we imagine that it should still be able to distinguish between preserving the game on a given area and "appropriating" that area. There are some rudimentary truths which ordinary folks may reasonably be expected to know, and among them is the axiom that a man need not own land in order to have the privilege of shooting game on it. Even assuming preliminary ignorance of this baby fact on the part of our keen contemporary, the Notification of H.B.M.'s Representative ought to have enlightened it. For it is there laid down that no British subject shall pursue game "within a private preserve, unless with the consent of the person to whom the permission to establish it has been granted." Need we point out that this prohibition constructively establishes the right of any British subject to pursue game within a private preserve with the consent of the preserver? And need we point out that there is such a thing as buying the consent of the preserver? And need we point out that from buying the consent of the preserver, to buying his action as a preserver, there is but a very trifling step? Nothing in the shape of "appropriating" land, or of any other illegal proceeding, need take place. We do not doubt that these representations will elicit from our polished contemporary another discharge of the brilliant and relevant euphemisms now so familiar. We shall be called "a hireling;" shall be charged with "seeking to bring every foreigner under Japanese judicial jurisdiction;" shall be accused of saying the thing that we know to be untrue, and shall be represented as adopting an entirely hostile attitude towards our nationals. But these controversial delicacies are only fringe employed to drape the coffin of a defunct cause. We do not quarrel with them. They are becoming and characteristic. If there exists among the foreign community any gallery so verdant as to derive serious entertainment from journalistic antics such as the *Hyogo News* has of late been performing, let the tumbling go on by all means. Space for the scrap of carpet and the string of bells need not be grudged.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO" AND THEET DI.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo* agrees with the Progressionist organs in condemning the politicians of the Popular Party who are beginning to regard with disgust the programme of desperate opposition inaugurated and maintained by the followers of Count Okuma. These practical politicians are ridiculed by the Tokyo periodical as being too prone to be satisfied with a partial realization of their aims. The *Kokumin* is, however, very cautious in its criticisms of the moderate politicians. It refrains from naming any particular political body, and confines its observations to the vague and generic term, Popular Party. It observes that between the Popular Party in the Diet and the public outside, there exists a gulf which is daily widening. The sentiments of the public, as expressed through the columns of the non-official press, are entirely in favour of the manly programme originally adopted by the Popular party. But of late the opposition members of the Diet have changed a great deal for the worse, being now very indifferent about the prosecution of the strong policy of former days. The progressive portion of the press calls for radical reforms in the Government, but the Popular party in the Diet is contented with half-hearted and superficial measures. Should things continue in this state for any length of time, the Tokyo periodical fears that the issue may possibly be the formation of a separate Popular party outside the walls of the Diet. Indeed, such a contingency presented itself, we are told, at the time of the second session of the Diet, when the friends of the

Min-to thought it necessary to organize an independent combination outside the Diet in order to stimulate their parliamentary representatives to hold by their original plan of uncompromising opposition to the Government. Is it not a shame, asks our contemporary, for the Popular members of the Diet to alienate the hearts of their friends so far as to necessitate the formation of a new Popular party? It recommends the revision of the Law of Election, so that fresh spirits may be enabled to find seats in the Diet. To their presence alone does the *Kokumin* seem to look for the regeneration of the Diet.

* * *

In another article, the same periodical discusses the position of the so called Civil Party *vis-à-vis* the Military Party. At present the former enjoy complete ascendancy in the Government; but the *Kokumin* believes that the latter is now secretly revolving plans for recovering its former power. It is therefore thought necessary for the Civil Party, while it retains the upper hand, to take all possible measures of defence against any surprise from the side of the Military Party. The latter is of course at variance with the Popular Party, but its immediate object of attack is the Civil Party. The aim of the Military Party, in our contemporary's opinion, is to embarrass the Cabinet so as to compel it to yield its place to the leaders of the National Union. This is evident from the outspoken manner in which these politicians have recently been criticizing the policy of the Ministry. The Cabinet is advised in the first place to sever its connection with the National Unionists; secondly, to unite with the opponents of the Military Party, viz. the Popular Party; and thirdly, to purge its ranks of all adherents of the Military Party. The *Kokumin* seems to think that the only effective defence for the Cabinet against the machinations of the Military Party consists in adopting the programme of the Popular Party in its entirety. In other words, all the unreasonable reforms advocated by the most thoroughgoing of the Opposition will have to be swallowed by the Cabinet before its position can be secured against its Military antagonists. What is required is only courage and decision. "Surrender yourselves to the Popular Party and you will be safe." Such, in effect, is the advice given to the Cabinet by the warmest friend of the Progressionists. The leaders of the present Cabinet are in the pleasant position of being invited to repose in the bosoms of two parties, of both which are supposed to be ready to tear not only it but also each other to pieces.

THE EXTENSION OF THE NAVY.

COUNT ITAGAKI, President of the Radical Party, publishes a leader in his organ, the *Yiyo*, over his own signature. He referred to this leader in his speech delivered at the general meeting. It consequently has much interest, not only as coming from the pen of the Count himself, but also as representing the policy of the *Yiyo-to* on this important subject. The Count divides his theme into three heads; first, the natural features of Japan; secondly, the existing condition of the Empire; and thirdly, the economical circumstances of the nation. As to the first, he says that Japan being an empire surrounded by sea, an invader must come by water. It is therefore essential that the Navy be strengthened in the very forefront of all preparations for national defence. The military organization is now nearly completed, there being over 200,000 men ready for immediate service, with an additional 200,000 forming the reserves. The Military problem will, in fact, be completely solved by 1895, without much further expense, the only outlay required being on account of improved arms and the construction of fortresses. The Government's proposal is to build fortresses in Tokyo Bay, at Shimonoseki, in the Strait between Kii and Awaji, in the Strait between Aki and Iyo, in Naruto Strait, at Sasebo, and at Kure. The total number of fortresses projected is over 20, and among them those in the first three places have been commenced. To complete the works in the whole seven places an aggregate sum

of 35,750,000 yen was originally needed, and the Government asks for the remaining 29,720,90 yen to be appropriated gradually from 1892. It is a very large amount. No resources from which it can be drawn have yet been found, and, moreover, the works will take a long time to complete. When they are completed, will the national defence be perfect? By no means. Hokkaido and other islands are still wholly without protection. Further, the Government proposes that the Navy be increased to at least 120,000 tons, and as there are about 50,000 tons already in the country, it follows that 70,000 tons have to be bought or built. For this purpose a sum of 58,550,000 yen is need. Such is the programme of the Government, yet they have not carried their estimate for torpedo boats beyond the construction of two in five years, which is the proportion for a fleet of only 6,750 tons. Is not that a time-serving project? Beyond question the State policy of Japan must be to extend foreign commerce, and to develop emigration and colonization. For these purposes an increase of the naval forces is absolutely necessary. But to carry out such a great undertaking a stable and long continued policy is essential, whereas, hitherto no such policy has been followed. In the years immediately succeeding the Restoration, Administrative officials were still inexperienced, and consequently their action need not be severely criticised. But in 1881 the Government formed the plan of constructing three men-of-war annually; so that the country should possess 60 war-vessels in twenty years. In the following year the plan was changed, and it was proposed to build 48 war-vessels in eight years; at a cost of 3,000,000 yen. Again in 1885, the question was taken into consideration, and in the following year Government Bonds were issued for the purpose. But the funds thus obtained were devoted solely to repairs and to constructing naval stations, and by 1888 the whole had been spent. All these changes are due to the want of a permanently fixed policy. Again, if the Government desires to accomplish any great undertaking on behalf of the nation and with the help of the people, the policy contemplated must be made known publicly. Turning now to the natural features of the empire, we find that it is completely surrounded by sea, and consequently that unless fortresses are constructed all round the coast, they cannot render effective service. Hence, from this point of view, the projects of the Government are very unsuitable. A country like Japan has to use her army for defence. The former therefore, must be under the control of the local administration and the latter under that of the central. In the Army, the establishment of volunteer corps is absolutely necessary. The Navy has to protect the whole coast instead of guarding important points alone, and must therefore be a moveable force. This general policy, then, being determined, the various steps necessary for carrying it out must be carefully considered, otherwise there will be waste of money. In pursuance of the above scheme of defence, the construction of a few large men-of-war is much more serviceable than that of a large number of small vessels. Some fortresses, such as those in Tokyo Bay and in the Strait between Kii and Awaji, are necessary, but other places ought to be defended by the Navy.

In dealing with the second part of the subject, the writer says that Great Britain and France are maritime nations of the first order, and Italy, Russia, and Germany of the second. Japan must be content to take her place in the second, but if she attains the leading position in the East, she can compete there with the first-rank Powers of Europe. Great Britain possesses a Fleet of over 1,000,000 tons, but her Eastern Squadron does not exceed 90,000 tons, and includes only one vessel of the size of 8,400 tons. China possesses 64,000 tons; but the *Tingyuen* and *Chenyuen* alone are over 7,400 tons. No nation in the East possesses a vessel of the size of 10,000 tons. Russia is constructing an iron ship of 10,150 tons in the Black Sea, but it is not to be stationed in the East. The Russian Navy aggregates over

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290,000 tons, but as it has many places to defend, only a portion of it can be collected in the Eastern Seas. Now if Japan constructs about 6 iron vessels of 10,000 tons each and a few cruisers and torpedo boats, she will have 150,000 tons of shipping, including her present squadron.

Turning, in the third place, to the state of affairs in the world, Count Itagaki sees Russia and England disputing about the eastern question, and anticipates that when the crisis comes, there will be a storm in the East. In that day, Japan's only hope of preserving her tranquillity in the midst of the belligerents, lies in her Navy. Affairs in the Orient, the Count thinks, are rapidly drawing near to a crisis, for Russia will have completed the Siberian Railways, and America opened the Nicaragua Canal in a few years, so that communication with Europe and America will be suddenly facilitated. Hence no time should be lost in augmenting the Navy. Further, the function of a fleet is not merely to engage in war, but also to protect maritime commerce and navigation, during times of peace, and to educate a spirit of emigration and colonization. The extension of the navy does not stop at an increase of the number of ships, but includes also the proper education of sailors and officers. It is not necessary to wait ten long years to accomplish these things. We have already over 720 graduates of the Naval College, and there are 118 students now in training; so that if the college organization be extended a little, we shall soon have a number of able officers. With regard to the practical training of these officials, they ought to be sent in ships along the coasts of China, Korea, Vladivostok, Singapore, Australia and the neighbourhood. It is not necessary for them to travel beyond those seas.

Lastly, with regard to the economical circumstances of the country, the project of the Government involves an outlay of 58,000,000 yen for the construction of 70,000 tons of ships. But the *Fiyu-to's* estimate is that a sum of 50,000,000 yen should amply suffice for building 100,000 tons. If the programme is to be completed in 10 years by contract with some European ship-builders, an annual payment of 5,000,000 yen will suffice. That amount can be afforded, according to Count Itagaki, considering that the exports have largely increased of late years, and that when the treaties are revised, and the customs tariff is altered, an additional 500,000,000 yen at least may be collected in the form of duties. If again, sericulture be encouraged, and arrangements be made for the direct export of silk, a further sum of about five or six million yen may be realized annually. The cotton industry has developed so greatly within the last few years, that not only is the import of cotton manufactures has greatly diminished, but Japan may soon be in a position to export large quantities. Again, when navigation is extended, the profits of the maritime carrying trade, hitherto monopolized by foreigners, will come into the pockets of Japanese. In view of all these sources of income, an annual expense of 5,000,000 yen for the construction of men-of-war will not derange the finances of the country. Further, when the organization of the Naval Department is reconstructed, and the expense of naval stations reduced, the present appropriation will at once show a surplus of 1,000,000 yen, and by suspending some of the not very urgent undertakings now in hand or contemplated, the remaining four millions can be obtained without waiting for any special access of revenue. The method to be adopted for achieving this object will be made clear by a Representation which the *Fiyu-to* members intend to present to the Diet.

THE "NICHU NICHU" ON COUNT ITAGAKI'S LEADING ARTICLES.

COUNT ITAGAKI has indicated the most urgent need of the time when he says that whereas the organization of the Army is nearly completed, the Navy, though really of more importance, is still in a backward state. We endorse his strong attack on the vacillating policy hitherto pursued

towards the Navy. For it is undeniable that the policy of the Government has been very indeterminate. Further, we have nothing to say against the necessity of building men-of-war, educating officers, and giving them practical experience; and we praise the Count for his proposition to increase the tonnage of our men-of-war to 150,000 tons. But we fear that his scheme is on slightly too large a scale, considering the immense outlay it would entail. The abolition of naval stations as advocated by him will undoubtedly serve as a plank for his Party's future platform, but in a country like ours, with such an extensive coast line, naval stations are absolutely indispensable. Moreover, the proposal for a disbursement of 5,000,000 yen annually is based upon careless calculations. The Count does not clearly state the source from which the money should be obtained, or allude to the cost of maintaining the increased fleet. We shall discuss these points hereafter. Here we content ourselves with saying that on the whole, his attack on the uncertain policy of the Government is praiseworthy, as also is the trouble he has taken to ascertain the circumstances of outer nations and to base his argument on it. In conclusion, the *Nichu Nichu* notes a striking difference between the views of Count Okuma and Count Itagaki. The former is reported to have said to a certain member of the Diet, representing Ehime prefecture, that the United States require no Navy, as its foreign policy is so wonderfully well conducted. But the latter gives an accurate account of how the United States Government proposed to construct 94 war vessels in 14 years, and how the work was commenced two years ago. The cleverest men may sometimes be guilty of carelessness, as Count Okuma has in this instance.

The *Choya Shimbun* has begun to criticize the same article, but as its comments are still incomplete, we defer their publication.

COUNT OKUMA ON HOKKAIDO.

THE *Nippon* publishes Count's Okuma's opinion on Hokkaido. It runs as follows:—"The question of Hokkaido was brought to public notice several years ago, but since that time success has not been reported in the case of so much as a single enterprise inaugurated there. The Government has spent some 50,000,000 yen on the island during the *Meiji* era; yet the total population of the place is only 400,000, about half of whom were already dwelling there at the time of the Restoration, and the remaining 200,000 include colonial troops and prisoners sent there from the interior. It is astonishing that progress should have been so slow, and that nothing should have been accomplished despite the expenditure of such great sums and in so long a period. The *Meiji* Government never stinted its appropriations on account of the island. A Governor was appointed; governmental offices were erected; colonial troops were despatched, and prisons were constructed. The public, too, recognizes Hokkaido to be the northern gate of the Empire, and deems its defence of vital importance. The climate and the soil are both good, and in fertile districts fine crops can be obtained without any troublesome cultivation. In short, all the conditions are most favourable. Yet, upon such an island a sum of 50,000,000 yen has been spent, and a period of 25 years has elapsed, without anything remarkable having been accomplished. What is the reason? The population of the main island is increasing annually, and owing to the rapidly spreading use of machines, a large number of the people, unable to find manual employment, suffer from the want of daily necessities, and emigrate largely to foreign countries. How does it happen that so few of them emigrate to Hokkaido? I think the reason is simply this, that the success of industrial enterprise depends primarily on men and only secondarily on capital. People who talk of Hokkaido always begin by referring to capital. But that is the stale argument of common-place politicians. In considering the issue of a battle,

if the forces engaged are pretty equal in all respects, it is well to count their respective numbers. But if the generals on either side are courageous and experienced, and if the soldiers under them are picked men, there is no fear of defeat even though they be arithmetically weak. Were capital alone relied on, and no choice of men made, Hokkaido would remain as it is for ever. Look at Belgium, the United States, or Germany. Did they attain greatness by money? Not at all. They were originally poor and insignificant, but their spirit, roused in poverty and suffering, pushed them to the attainment of their present positions. All great enterprises are subject to the same principle, and the extremely slow progress of Hokkaido is to be traced to this cause. I think both Count Ito and Count Inouye appreciate the reason; but if self-interest be allowed to affect their treatment of the question, success can never crown their efforts. A statesman can commit no greater blunder than to listen to the dictates of self-interest. If the Government intends to open up Hokkaido honestly, we shall see a marked improvement within a year."

THE GOVERNOR OF IBARAKI PREFECTURE.

MR. ISHII SHOICHIRO, Governor of Ibaraki Prefecture, has resigned. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, asking the reason of his sudden resignation, says:—"Is it because he is not a Satsuma man? Probably not. Is it then because of his interference in the elections? Certainly not! What then is the real reason? It is his indifferent treatment of the soldiers in the last military review, when the latter were so indignant that they went to remonstrate with Mr. Ishii, but failed to find him?" The *Mainichi* does not approve of his want of consideration towards military men, but thinks it curious that his resignation or dismissal has been so quickly effected simply because some 600 soldiers were dissatisfied, while in the case of Saitama Prefecture, where over a million of inhabitants expressed their indignation against him and the Chief Police Inspector, and many a petition was presented to the Minister of Home Affairs, no result has yet been attained. The *Mainichi* has apparently forgotten that the petitioners in the latter case were supporters of the Popular Party, and that their grievance against the Governor of Saitama Prefecture was based on his failure to assist their Party in the general elections. We ourselves believe that the resignation of Mr. Ishii is not due to the reason assigned by the *Mainichi*, but that it is caused by ill-health. At all events there is no talk of his dismissal. "Resignation at his own request" is the formula employed.

A DARING PARACHUTIST.

LEO HERNANDEZ, who to the usual excitement attendant on parachute descents from a great height, adds the sensational feature that his performance is intended to show how easily a city or a fleet might be destroyed on a dark night by explosives dropped from the clouds, has failed once in an attempted ascent in Hong-kong owing to the conflagration of his balloon, happily before it had begun to rise from *terra firma*. But of the man's doings in Sydney an account is published which shows how singularly callous to peril these performers are capable of becoming:—"On Thursday night Leo left the Exhibition grounds in a balloon, from which he was to make a parachute descent when he had reached the height of four thousand feet. To beguile the tedium of his upward journey, the aeronaut played some more or less startling pranks on the trapeze. Whilst he was performing his evolutions he saw that the red signal lights which illuminated his balloon had fired the parachute. The least hesitation must have resulted in his death, but with nerve worthy of an incomparably nobler occasion he climbed the parachute ropes and extinguished the flames which had broken out 32 feet above him. That done he descended again, cut the ropes, and landed in Hodelle Street, narrowly escaping impalement on the steeple of the Methodist Church at the corner of Perry Street. The intrepid adventurer landed on a roof, from which

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firemen who had seen the burning parachute rescued him. The extraordinary feature of the episode is that Leo's whole concern seems to have been for his parachute, which burst into flames once more as the breeze fanned the embers of the fire he had extinguished. We are not surprised to hear that the firemen were unable to enter into his humour."

MR. O'CONNOR IN HONGKONG.

It has been urged journalistically against the British mercantile communities of China that while complaining bitterly of the supposed perfectoriness of their Representatives in Peking, they do not themselves show, on every occasion, as much zeal as might be reasonably expected. This countercharge has been advanced against them especially in connection with the Telegraphic Convention recently signed between the Russian Minister in Peking and the Director-General of Chinese Customs. The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, however, did not fail to bring the matter to the notice of Mr. O'Connor, the new British Minister to China, on the occasion of his passing through the colony at the beginning of this month *en route* for his post. They said that "the mercantile community, long saddled with a two-dollar-per-word rate between China and Europe, a rate imposed and kept up by an agreement between the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Companies, had been waiting impatiently for the day when the Chinese, connecting their lines with the Russian land-lines, would be able to give a much cheaper word rate. They could do it easily and profitably, but the new convention rivetted the fetters for ten years to come." The President of the Chamber handed to Mr. O'Connor a copy of a memorial and petition presented by the Chamber in 1891 to Her Majesty the Queen on the subject, together with the reply "promising that no such Convention should be ratified." The memorial, he explained, "embodied the merchants' whole case," and as such is the fact we reproduce, from the columns of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, the most important clauses of it:—

6.—Your Petitioners most humbly represent to Your Majesty that the successful conduct of their commercial operations depends in these days, very largely, on telegraphic communication, and that it is essential that that communication be regular, effective, and cheap, and that as many different lines of communication be opened and kept open as possible.

Your Petitioners are now in communication with Europe by means of two separate telegraphic lines, one in the hands of "The Eastern Telegraph Company" and "The Eastern Extension, Australian, and China Telegraph Company, Limited," starting from Shanghai in the Empire of China and passing South by Foochow, Hongkong, Saigon, and Singapore to Australia and British India; the other, under the management of a Danish Corporation, "The Great Northern Telegraph Company," going North from Hongkong via Amoy, Shanghai, Nagasaki (in Japan), and Vladivostok (in Siberia).

Your Petitioners can only communicate with America, by telegraph, through Europe.

7.—Your Petitioners have not derived from the existence of these two separate and independent lines of telegraphic communication all the advantages that they ought to have obtained, because since the year 1875, or thereabouts, the above-mentioned companies have, to the great injury of trade, been working in combination and have by agreement between themselves established and maintained a rate of two dollars or over six shillings a word between Hongkong and Europe, and a proportionately higher rate from other ports and places in China and Japan, and have refused to reduce that rate, in spite of the vast increase in the number of messages transmitted over their lines, and of the many improvements in the means of sending and recording messages and in telegraphy generally.

8.—For many years past your Petitioners have anticipated important and valuable additions to their means of telegraphic communication with Europe, by the completion and opening of lines in the hands of the Chinese Government connecting all parts of the Chinese Empire with the lines of the Russian Government at Kiachta on the north-western frontier of China, and through them with the general European system, and by the entrance of China into the Union created by the International Telegraphic Convention of the 10th July, 1875.

Your Petitioners are also looking forward to the early connection of the Chinese lines with the British Indian System through Burma, and to the possibility of a cable from San Francisco or from your Majesty's Colony of Vancouver, and seeking a landing place on the shores of the Chinese Empire.

9.—The connection of the Chinese lines with the lines of the Russian Government at Kiachta would open for your Petitioners the most direct line with Europe, and the cheapest. Telegraphic rates on the Russian lines are phenomenally low, and the Chinese lines, wherever they come into competition with the lines of the existing cable companies, as in the south through Annam and Tonkin in connection with the French lines, charge less than one half the rate per word now charged over the same distances by the Great Northern and Eastern Extension Companies.

10.—Your Petitioners are well assured that if the Chinese lines are connected with those of the Russian Government at Kiachta and are thrown freely open to the public unhampered by any secret convention or agreement with the competing companies already named, the cost of a telegram to Europe from China or Japan would be at once considerably reduced, to the immense gain of Your Majesty's subjects, to the great advantage of British trade in the East, and to the profit and advantage of Your Majesty's friend and ally the Emperor of China and his subjects.

11.—But unfortunately, as Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Ministers are aware, a Convention between the Chinese Government, the Great Northern Telegraph Company, and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company has been entered into and signed as far back as August, 1887, by which the Chinese Government bound itself, subject to the approval of Your Majesty's Government and of the Imperial Government of Russia, to charge, over its lines to Kiachta, a fixed sum of \$2 per word on all messages to Europe, and not except with the consent of the Companies to reduce or alter that rate. The Chinese Government further bound itself to maintain that rate until the year 1903, and to apply it over any line whatever that might in the meanwhile be opened, whether through British Burma with India and Europe or through America by any cable that may be laid.

12.—That convention has not yet been made public, and your Petitioners speak with all deference when they submit to Your Majesty that that convention is publicly stated and believed to contain a provision establishing a differential rate largely in favour of Russian subjects in China sending messages over the Chinese lines to Europe, and therefore in violation of the provisions of existing treaties securing for Your Majesty's subjects in China rights and privileges equal to those granted to the subjects of any other nation.

It is further stated and believed publicly that the said Convention secures to the existing Companies, the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension, the monopoly of all messages despatched from Shanghai, Amoy, Foochow, and Hongkong, by far the larger and more important portion of the traffic, and that in which Your Majesty's subjects are most largely interested.

13.—If the Chinese lines, when completed, were thrown open freely to the public unhampered by this or any similar convention, the greater portion of the traffic from the above-named ports would flow naturally to the Chinese lines as the most direct, to the very great gain of the Chinese Government.

14.—Your Petitioners most humbly thank Your Majesty for having refused your assent to the convention and to any modification of it, and for Your Majesty's most gracious assurance, through your Ministers in the Commons' House of Parliament, that no consent will be given to the convention without full consideration of all the interests involved and without consultation with the representatives of British commerce.

15.—Your Petitioners most respectfully represent to Your Majesty that the ratification of the convention of the 10th August, 1887, between the Chinese Government and the companies hereinbefore mentioned, would be a serious injury to the future of telegraphic communication in China and throughout the world, would seriously hamper trade and especially the trade of Your Majesty's subjects in the East, and would be, they humbly conceive and represent, in breach, if not of the precise words, certainly of the spirit of the International Telegraphic Convention, entered into by Your Most Gracious Majesty at St. Petersburg the 10/22 of July, 1875, and especially of clause 19 of that convention.

16.—Your Petitioners beg further most respectfully to represent that the continued existence of the Convention, the subject of this petition, and of the negotiations for its approval or modification, is an impediment to all improvement in telegraphic communication between the East and Europe, and in particular prevents the Chinese Government from completing its telegraphic system and connecting it with the general network of telegraphic communication throughout the world via Kiachta.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray Your Majesty—

1.—To refuse your assent to the Convention or to any modification of it.

2.—To represent to the Imperial Chinese Government, through Your Majesty's Minister at Peking, that any such convention would be in violation of the spirit of existing treaties.

3.—To represent, further, to the Chinese Government that to enter into any such convention would be detrimental to their own best interests.

4.—To move His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China to put an end definitely to the convention as having failed to attain Your Majesty's assent.

5.—To move His Imperial Majesty to join the International Telegraphic Convention and connect the Chinese lines with the general European system.

6.—To move Governments, parties to the Inter-

national Telegraphic Convention of 1875, having representatives at Peking, to instruct their minister to co-operate with Your Majesty's Minister to the same end.

And Your Majesty's obedient and dutiful servants will ever pray.

The Chamber's general remarks to Mr. O'Connor were most complimentary. "We have the utmost confidence," said their chairman, the Hon. T. A. Whitehead, "in you, in your knowledge and experience, and in your activity, energy, and zeal, and we say with Lord Salisbury that your appointment is a guarantee that in future our commercial interests will be amply safeguarded and protected. We promise Your Excellency every information, assistance, and support that we can give, and the best support that perhaps we can give is our assured confidence that, however things may look, you are working for our best interests, and for the best interests of Great Britain." Mr. O'Connor, in his reply, made the following reference to Sir Harry Parkes:—"The allusion to my old chief and illustrious countryman, Sir Harry Parkes, is particularly grateful to me, and I beg to assure you that I shall be very proud if I can during the period of my tenure of office as H. M.'s Minister at Peking, walk in his footsteps. After twenty-five years' experience of diplomacy I can honestly say that I have never known a more upright, conscientious, able public servant, and certainly you will bear me out in saying that no one could combine a greater desire to unite the interests of the powerful empire of China with those of the United Kingdom." But amid all this exchange of pleasant amenities, the new Minister did not fail to remind his hearers that a British Representative in China cannot always adopt his policy to the precise requirements and wishes of the mercantile communities. "If at any time," he said, "I am not able entirely to partake of your views, or if there should be divergence of opinion between the standpoint of H.M.'s Minister at Peking and the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, pray believe that I am nevertheless inspired by the same feelings as you are, and that any divergencies of action or opinion are owing to the fact that the general interests of the Empire have to prevail at times over local opinions, rather than that I have other desires at heart than those which tend to cement the good relations between H.M. Government and the Imperial Government of China, and which make towards the development of the trade and prosperity of Great Britain."

PATERNAL METHODS AND THEIR SEQUEL.

HERE is a comical instance of the happenings that distinguish Chinese officialdom:—"The Provincial Judge of Foochow on his way home a few days ago observed four beggars knocking with their sticks on the door of a shop and demanding cash. He immediately had his chair put down and ordered his retainers to arrest the beggars, who half an hour afterwards received 250 blows each and were put in cangues. This action gave great satisfaction to the shop-keepers, but alas! a little later in the day the *yamen* runners and the *lipao* called and demanded 6,000 cash each as remuneration for ridding them of the beggars and there was nothing for it but to submit. From what we have learnt of the new Viceroy we are quite sure that he would discountenance any such squeezing, but he will probably never know anything about it."

THE END OF THE COOLIE STRIKE AT KOBE.

THOUGH the police did not yesterday, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 22nd inst., relax any of the precautions taken, it would seem that the strike is at an end, so far at least as interference with the free labourers is concerned. Yesterday Messrs. Nickel were able without any difficulty to work cargo on all the vessels of which they had the stevedoring, and secured, in addition to the numbers of free labourers who offered themselves here, a body of 80 or 100 men from Osaka, who all wore a red cloth round their heads as a badge of distinction. One or two policemen went with each battalion of men going off to the ships, and

though there were not a few sampans with strikers hovering about, there was not the slightest attempt at interference. Later on in the day the foreigners who worked the *Benledi* on Saturday were again employed. As the day wore on, fewer and fewer of the uniformed strikers were seen, and many of them are believed to have discarded the uniform in an endeavour to secure work as free labourers. When the men who had been working on the ships came back in the evening the Bund was almost deserted, and they were paid off and dispersed with a total absence of excitement. Not a little of the credit of this satisfactory state of things is due to the Japanese police, who since Saturday have acted with much firmness, without unnecessarily exciting the antipathies of the strikers.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

THE above association held a general meeting on the 20th instant, for the purpose of determining its organization and policy. The *Yiyu*, a Radical organ, and a bitter enemy of the association, now reports that the association is likely to dissolve altogether, for the following reasons:—When the Party was organized, Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Sone Arasuke, and other of its promoters, intended to unite all the members of the *Chuo Koshobu*. But some members of the latter opposed the idea of organizing any political association, and it was therefore found impossible to carry out the project last session. After the Diet had been prorogued, the promoters held a general meeting, when some warm debates as to the nature of the association took place. Certain members were still against the project of forming a political club, and at last they decided to call it a social organization. But as this might hurt the feelings of others who desired to make it a political club, they resolved to advocate certain political measures, as the reduction of administrative expenditures, treaty revision, freedom of speech and so forth, thus becoming a nominally social organization with political purposes. In fact, the agreement to form only a social club became a mere fiction. But now, once again, the same question has come upon the *tapis*, and the association can no longer avoid assuming a plain character and adopting a fixed policy. It is stated that the leaders intend to preserve the original name of social club, and to organize a new department for the purpose of discussing political affairs. Viewed from behind the curtain, continues the *Yiyu*, there are in fact three parties. The first favours a political programme, the second a social, and the last both. The first consists of the members of the Kumamoto Kokken-ha, and others known as politicians. They argue that the National Unionists should be made into a great political party, and should seek to obtain control of the Administration. The second section are strongly opposed to this. They desire to devote themselves solely to the development of national commerce and industry as well as to encouraging popular education. This party consists of so called "practical men" and members of the Diet who have no political interest. The leaders of the third section are anxious to maintain the name of a social club and to apply their strength occasionally to the solution of political problems. The Committee commissioned to compile a draft declaration of policy, together with a large number of influential members of the party, are said to be in favour of the third project. Thus, judging from present conditions, there is little doubt that the association will split into two—the second and the third sections mentioned above, joining together and the first standing aloof. Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa will join the former, whereupon the latter will probably ask these leaders to give up their heads, but as Saigo and Shinagawa seem to have no intention of fulfilling their sanguinary pledges, the trouble will doubtless end without bloodshed.

The *Kokkai* too reports the above news, and says that it will be well to divide the political members from the non-political. Judging

from the past proceedings of the Association, however, though it may be called a social club, it is unquestionably a political league. The present intention is to separate the political members, the remainder devoting their energies to education and practical affairs. In effect, the two will probably be found working together though their names be different. The *Kokkai* asks why they do not organize a political party plainly and squarely, with Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa as leaders, instead of continuing in their present nondescript state.

The members of the National Union held a general meeting in the court-yard of their head office in Shiba Park on the 20th instant. Over a thousand people assembled. Count Saigo took the chair, and delivered a short speech, stating the object of the meeting. Mr. Maki Bokushin then rose, and read out a great number of congratulatory letters and telegrams, after which a report was presented setting forth various events connected with the recent history of the Union. Mr. Arai Go made a statement of the incidents that occurred on Count Saigo's political tours in the north-eastern provinces; and Mr. Wada Hikiojiro performed the same office with reference to Viscount Shinagawa's tour in the south-western provinces. Mr. Wada then read out the Rules of the Association. They ran as follows:—

RULES OF THE NATIONAL UNION.

For the purpose of increasing the prosperity of the nation and developing the wealth of its people, a number of persons have formed themselves into an association under the name of the National Union (*Kokumin Kyokai*). Their purpose is the mutual exchange of knowledge by discussing the affairs of the nation with a view to its welfare.

Art. 1.—The business premises of the Union shall be established in Shiba Park Tokyo.

Art. 2.—There shall be one President, one Vice-President, and three Managers, to control the affairs of the Union.

The Managers shall be elected from the members of the Standing Committee.

Art. 3.—Fifty members to form a Standing Committee shall be elected from among the special members, and the term of service for them shall be one year. In addition to these, three members shall be elected for the same Committee from among the local special members, and these latter members shall be entitled to be present at the ordinary conferences.

Art. 4.—The members of the Standing Committee shall superintend the enforcement of resolutions adopted at General Meetings, and shall prepare Bills to be presented to General Meetings.

Art. 5.—Managers may, at their discretion, appoint not more than two clerks from among the members, and may entrust to them the management of affairs relating to communications, printing, and so forth.

Art. 6.—Clerks and employees shall receive appropriate salaries, which shall be determined by the Standing Committee.

Art. 7.—Any person desiring to become a member of the Union, must be recommended by two members, and must obtain the consent of the Standing Committee.

Art. 8.—The members of the Union shall pay subscriptions monthly, to defray expenses.

For the sake of convenience any member may pay the subscriptions for half a year or a year in advance.

Art. 9.—The members of the Union shall be divided into three kinds, viz. Ordinary, Special, and Honorary.

Each ordinary member shall pay 1 yen per annum, and each special member 50 sen per month. But a special member who does not require the publications of the Union need not pay any subscription. Any person who contributes over 30 yen in money or articles, or any person whose membership is considered advantageous to the Union, may, by resolution of the Standing Committee, be elected an Honorary member.

Art. 10.—Any person desiring to withdraw from the Union shall notify his intention in the office and obtain its consent.

Art. 11.—Any members of the Union who are considered to have impaired its honour, or acted in a manner detrimental to its interests, shall be expelled from the Union by a resolution of the Standing Committee.

Art. 12.—A General Meeting shall be held in Tokyo once every year for the purpose of reporting the events of the year, receiving and passing the accounts of the Union, re-electing the members of the Standing Committee, and passing resolutions on important matters with reference to the Union. The date of such General Meeting shall be determined by resolution of the Standing Committee.

Art. 13.—Should the Standing Committee consider any event of sufficient importance to call for the decision of a General Meeting, or should a question presented by not less than thirty members seem to the Standing Committee to call for general discussion, a Special General Meeting shall be convened.

Art. 14.—The meetings of the Standing Committee shall be held once every month.

But should any important question present itself, a special meeting shall be held.

Art. 15.—Unless there are more than 50 members present at a General Meeting, and more than 10 at a meeting of the Standing Committee, no resolution passed shall be valid.

Art. 16.—Réunions shall be organized at least once a month, and members shall converse together, or engage in lectures to deliver lectures.

Art. 17.—A monthly periodical shall be published in the office, and distributed among the members of the Union.

Art. 18.—The present rules may be amended by a resolution of a general meeting.

In accordance with the provisions of the second of these Rules, Count Saigo was elected as President, Viscount Shinagawa as Vice-President, and Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Maki Bokushin, and Shirai Yempei as Managers. Twenty-nine members of the Standing Committee were also elected. Mr. Furusho called for three cheers each for the President and Vice-President, and Mr. Sato Shozo spoke on the advisability of organizing a political association in addition to the Union, Viscount Shinagawa also reading, on behalf of Count Saigo and himself, a statement of the policy of the Union. Finally, Count Saigo proposed three cheers each for the Emperor, the Empress, and the Crown Prince, and the meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.

The account of these proceedings does not confirm the predictions recently uttered by the Opposition press to the effect that the general meeting of the National Union would be followed almost immediately by a split in the camp. We do not ourselves believe for one instant in the possibility of establishing and maintaining cohesion among a number of men who have no purpose stronger than "the mutual exchange of knowledge." But it is easy to appreciate the difficulty under which the National Unionists labour in the presence of two facts; first, that the present Cabinet will not ally itself with any party professing a political programme, and secondly, that the idea of not supporting, to say nothing of openly opposing, the Government, is intolerable to the great majority of the Unionists. During the present inchoate era of Japanese political history many of these curious incidents will doubtless be seen. A party which comes together really for the purpose of discharging all the functions usually contemplated by political associations, and which seeks to hold together by openly eschewing those functions, cannot be regarded as a very stable anomaly. But the National Unionists must be supposed to have understood all this when they formed their association. Doubtless they have a programme of their own which the general public can only vaguely conjecture.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that on the 20th instant, the train from Kobe to Tokyo, which ought to have reached Shimbashi at 11.50 p.m., met with an accident between Kakegawa and Fukuuroi. The account given is very brief and not easy to understand, as it states, in the first place, that the engine broke down, and in the second, that the train left the line. At all events, nobody suffered any injury. A special train despatched from Shizuoka took up the passengers, so that considerable delay was the only serious consequence, the passengers not reaching Tokyo until 8.30 the following morning.

Our own information does not tally with the above. What really happened, we believe was that one of the tubes of the engine burst, an accident which might possibly have been repaired on the spot had the officials of the train shown themselves more helpful. There was no derailment, however. A relief engine was sent from Shizuoka, but by the time of its arrival at the place of the accident, the sections were blocked, and the train was, of course, unable to pass. It was accordingly determined to await the arrival of the next up-train, and send forward the passengers by it, the result being that they did not reach Tokyo until the following morning.

THE YELLOW RIVER FLOODS.

WE alluded in a former issue, to the fact that the Yellow River had once more burst its banks and flooded a vast district. From particulars now furnished by the Rev. Ed. Nickalls, who writes to the *North China Daily News* from Shantung, it appears that the inundation was both deeper and more extensive than that of 1889, which created such a sensation and led to such generous donations of money from both Chinese and

foreigners. Despite the magnitude of the over-flow, however, the distress entailed is thought likely to be much less than it was in the former year, inasmuch as the millet stands everywhere well above the water, and could consequently be harvested. Still the calamity has assuredly been most bitter. Mr. Nickails records the opinion of the people that if one half of the money granted by the Emperor were devoted to works for controlling the Yellow River, destructive floods would be few and far between. Indeed, he represents that strong discontent prevails everywhere against the Government, and that officialdom is cordially hated. But such feelings are only too common in seasons of great distress. It is at all events re-assuring to know that the disaster will not entail suffering so widespread as might have been anticipated, and that the result most dreaded, namely, impossibility of sowing the autumn wheat, turns out to be only a dread.

POLITICAL SPEECHES.

A GRAND political meeting of the *Yiyu-to* was held on Friday last in the Kinkikan, in Kanda. By 1 p.m. there had assembled considerably over 3,000 people. The first speaker was Mr. Hatashita, who enlarged upon various administrative scandals during recent days. He enumerated them in detail, including among them the gambling in judicial circles, the barristers examination affair, and the text books business. Mr. Kanomori followed with an attack on the policy of the Ito Cabinet. Mr. Nakano announced the tactics of the *Yiyu-to* in the next session of the Diet, and made a strongly worded reference to Viscount Shinagawa's alleged confession of governmental interference in the general elections, at which point he was suspended. Mr. Tatekawa then criticised the Game Regulations on constitutional grounds; Mr. Kato Heishiro explained the policy of the *Yiyu-to*, and Mr. Mizoguchi declared that Count Ito had either forgotten to publish the policy of the Government, or was afraid of being attacked by the public. If his silence were owing to the latter cause, he ought to adopt the policy of the *Yiyu-to*. This speaker also was suspended. Mr. Suzuki Manjiro dwelt on mismanagement in educational matters. He produced a copy of an illustrated reader, and pointing at a picture of three crows picking up seed on the ground, said: "I should change these birds into officials, and instead of seeds place coins in the field, when the picture would illustrate the present state of the Government." He was suspended. Mr. Noguki Kei explained the state of affairs in Saitama Prefecture, and said that very soon the Prefectural Assembly would be dissolved, and the people would be plunged into fighting and bloodshed; if Confucius were recording the event, he would attribute it to Count Inouye, who has delayed the dismissal of the Governor. He was suspended. Mr. Hoshi Toru delivered a long speech on Responsible Cabinets. He said that the object of establishing the Diet was to maintain harmony between the Government and the people, but the result in this country had been quite the opposite, the reason being that the nation was tired of a Cabinet organized by clan statesmen, and desired to see a responsible government. He argued that the reason of the country's foreign policy remaining unsettled was because Ministers of State were so busily engaged in internal affairs that they had no time to devote energy to such matters. Judging from that point of view, the organization of a Responsible Cabinet was absolutely necessary. Suddenly the police ordered the suspension of Mr. Hoshi's speech, and the meeting was closed at 6 p.m. There were numbers of policemen present, but no disturbance of any kind took place among the audience.

ELECTION DISPUTE.

At the last general election competition was carried to such lengths that in some provinces there was much bloodshed. Kochi Prefecture was notably bad. From the second election district of that Prefecture two members were to be returned, and Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi,

and Hayashi Yuzo, ex-Radical members of the Diet, stood as candidates against Messrs. Kataoka Chokuton and Yasuoka Yukichi, Pro-Government candidates. After much disturbance and bloodshed, the latter were declared elected, and Mr. Kataoka Chokuton subsequently distinguished himself by delivering a long speech against the Representation about official interference. The unsuccessful candidates held that they had been defeated by illegal methods, and instituted proceedings in the Law Courts. The case was dismissed in the Osaka Court of Appeal, so the plaintiffs carried it to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has reversed the decision of the Osaka tribunal, and sent the case for trial in the Nagoya Court of Appeal. The following is the text of the Supreme Court's judgment:—

JUDGMENT.
KATAOKA KENKICHI } Appellants.
HAYASHI YUZO }
NISHIHARA SEITO } Counsel for
NAKAJIMA MATAGORO } Appellants.
KATAOKA CHIKUON } Respondents.
YASUOKA YUKICHI }
KAKIZAKI KINZO } Counsel for
FUKUSHIMA YOZABURO } Respondents.

The Appellants pray that the decision of the Osaka Court of Appeal delivered on the 22nd June 1892, in a suit relating to the validity of an election in which the parties to the suit were candidates, be reversed, and the respondents pray that the appeal be dismissed.

DECISION.

The Court reverses the decision of the lower tribunal, and orders that the case be referred to the Nagoya Court of Appeal for re-hearing.

REASONS.

In the pleadings of the Appellants, it was contended that the lock and key of a ballot-box controlled by the Headman of Moroki Division were not of the kind prescribed by the Law of Election, and to prove the statement an exhibit marked No. 18 A was presented. But the Osaka Court rejected the exhibit, and ruled that the statement was only verbal, and that no evidence to support it was forthcoming. This ruling the appellants declare to have been contrary to law. Now the allegation as to the lock and key was advanced by the appellants as supplementary evidence against the respondents, and since the Osaka Court considered it one of the most important charges, the Court ought to have carefully investigated the exhibit referred to, and should have furnished a clear explanation in rejecting it. But on examining the report of the proceedings, it appears that although there were several certificates to support Exhibit No. 18 A, the Court did not even break their seals. It is undoubtedly within the right of Judges to accept or reject any evidence produced, but it is illegal to disregard documents, and declare a statement to be simply verbal and unsupported. If the Exhibit in question can be considered to be included in the term used in the judgment viz.—"The Exhibit re marked A, etc." no exception can be taken. But the reasons assigned had reference simply to irregularity in counting the number of votes, and therefore no allusion to the second exhibit seems to have been made. The Court therefore decides the case as above stated.

Since the decision of the former Court is reversed on the above ground, it is not necessary to state reasons with regard to other clauses in the judgment of the Osaka tribunal.

(Signed.)—NAMURA TAIZO, Chief Judge.
TA-KI KIN, Judge.
MASUDO BUNJI, Judge.
OKAMURA TANEZO, Judge.
TAIZU HARUZO, Judge.
KUSUGI NAOICHI, Judge.
KODAMA JUNICHIRO, Judge.

(Dated) 12th November 1892.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE near approach of the meeting of the Diet invests the movements of political parties and associations with particular interest. It is scarcely necessary to repeat a fact of which our readers are already very cognizant, namely, that the present state of political parties in Japan is one of great vacillation and division, and that, hanging from the skirts of the large associations supposed to be either hostile or friendly to the Cabinet, there are a number of minor bodies, the movements of which are as uncertain as their composition is various. One of these coteries goes by the appellation of the Tameike Club, because its place of meeting is in a building in the Tameike region of Tokyo. The fact of its undefined colour is pretty clearly indicated by its members' choice not to call themselves by any name more distinctive than that of their district of meeting, but none the less they were originally regarded as Government supporters, their nucleus consisted of Messrs. Seki Naohiko, Inagaki Shimesu, and others who had always been credited with anti-Minto proclivities. The attitude which the Club would assume towards the great question of last session, namely, the question of official interference in the general elections, formed a subject of interesting speculation and remained for a considerable time in

doubt, but at the crucial moment of division the members of the Club, one and all, voted against the Government. It was of course asserted at the time that the Club followed men, not principles, and that the Kiushu representatives, who swayed its councils, had joined the Opposition chiefly, if not entirely, because the leader of Kiushu politics, Mr. Mutsu, no longer held a portfolio. But there is no occasion to have recourse to such an interpretation of motives. Many men of independent opinion, and many men originally disposed to support the Government, found it impossible to obey their proclivities in connection with this question of interference in elections, and we happen to know certainly that before the personal ties between the Tameike Club and the Cabinet had been in any way loosened, the leading members of the Club were persuaded that undue official interference had been exercised in the election, and that it would be their duty to support a vote of censure. Since then little has been heard of the Club, but it now comes before the public again in consequence of a split in the camp which has led to its dissolution. The Club held a meeting in the Tameike Hall on the 21st instant, when several of the members, as Messrs. Nishikawa Toshinobu, Sasaki Zenyemon, Kawagoye Sumumu, and Yamaguchi Kyosaku, declared their resolve not to work any longer with Messrs. Sasada and Ito. It being impossible, however, to remove the names of these last mentioned members from the roll of the Club, merely on the ground of a divergence of view, a proposition to dissolve the club was made and carried. The expectation is that the majority of the members will form themselves into a new association with a different name but the same political objects.

THE CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL CODES.

ON the 24th instant the *Official Gazette* contained an Imperial Ordinance announcing that His Majesty the Emperor has sanctioned the Bill passed by the Diet last session, for the postponement, until January 1st, 1896, of the operation of the new Civil and Commercial Codes; with the supplementary provision, added by the Diet at the last moment, namely, that the object of postponement being revision, any parts of the Codes of which the revision may have been effected at an earlier date, may be at once put into operation. We confess that the issue of this Ordinance surprises us. Our belief was that the Imperial sanction would be finally withheld, and that the Government would introduce a Bill in the next session of the Diet, providing for the postponement of only such portions as stand admittedly in need of revision. It has probably been concluded, however, that the success of such a measure would have been doubtful, while the additional celerity gained by it could not be considerable. Hence the original Bill, as passed by the Diet, is accepted in its entirety, and the Administration will doubtless take steps to carry on the work of revision with the utmost expedition.

In respect of actual procedure, no exception can be taken to the Government's action. The Constitution itself contains no provision as to the manner of extending Imperial sanction to a Bill. But the 32nd Article of the Law of the Houses says:—"A Bill which, after having been passed by both Houses of the Diet and presented to the Emperor, may receive His Sanction, shall be promulgated before the next session of the Diet." Hence the Government is strictly within its rights in devoting to the consideration of a Bill which has passed the Diet, whatever portion of the interval between two Sessions may be found convenient. On the other hand, this promulgation of Imperial Sanction at the very eleventh hour, in the case of a measure of such great importance and which has been so long under public discussion, will certainly be made the basis of a charge of vacillation against the Cabinet. We have seen what an outcry was raised when the Government recently appointed a Committee to consider the possibility of dividing the Codes,

and carrying out portions at once while deferring the operation of the remainder until revision could be effected. The Opposition claimed that such a step amounted to an insult, since it seemed to attach greater weight to the decision of a Committee than to the deliberations of the two Houses of the Diet. The criticism was very natural, but, as we pointed out at the time, there was no evidence that the Government intended to be influenced in its treatment of the Bill by the Committee's opinion. The Committee's report has not been published, but is generally understood to have been a declaration that certain portions of the Codes might, without inconvenience, be separated for purposes of immediate application. If, then, the Government ever entertained any idea of being guided by the Committee's advice, it has evidently abandoned that idea, since the Bill now receives sanction in its entirety. Nevertheless, it is much to be regretted, on account of the Cabinet's reputation for rapid judgment, that the Imperial Sanction was not given two months ago. *Bis dat qui cito dat.* The Opposition will attach comparatively small value to a concession made at the eleventh hour, and will claim that they forced the Government to accept a Bill against which the Cabinet would have rebelled had there been any hope of successful resistance.

SMOKING IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.

COMPLAINTS, echoed in the correspondence columns of this journal and of a local contemporary, have been formulated about the laxity shown by the Railway Officials in enforcing the regulation against promiscuous smoking in first and second class carriages. Undoubtedly so long as the regulation exists and is posted up in the carriages, it ought to be observed. Many passengers object to tobacco smoke, and have a right to claim exemption from the nuisance when travelling by train. But it should be remembered by persons disposed to grow choleric and even abusive about this matter, that the Japanese have never regarded tobacco smoke as foreigners regard it. No Japanese lady ever thought of objecting to the smell of a pipe until foreigners introduced the notion. If she did not smoke herself, some of the female inmates of the house assuredly did, and it would never have occurred to her under any circumstances to protest against smoking in a sitting-room, a bed-room, a railway carriage, or anywhere else. It is not fair, therefore, to denounce Japanese men as "bores," if they fail to recognise any obligation to consult the tobacco-smoke antipathies of ladies in a railway carriage. The fact is that an ordinary Japanese traveller has no conception of the foreign lady's peculiarities as to tobacco, and is innocent of any rude intention when he lights up and smokes without concern for a fellow-passenger's convenience.

THE CHINESE IN AMERICA.

THE enterprising Chinese who would fain have made arrangements to present to visitors at the World's Fair at Chicago an object lesson in Celestial histrionics, have met with a fatal rebuff. "Acting Secretary Spaulding," we read in an American exchange, "has declined to permit 200 Chinese actors to enter this country for the purpose of presenting Chinese plays in a theatre to be erected near the entrance of the World's Fair in Chicago. In doing so he says: 'The enterprise described appears to be purely a commercial one, and has no official connection with the World's Columbian Exposition. The law would exclude such persons unless they present at the time of their landing certificates from the Chinese Government identifying them as persons entitled to enter the United States in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Act of May 6, 1882, as amended by the Act approved July 5, 1884.'"

THE EXPORT OF RICE.

OWING to the high price of rice, there has been a much smaller export of this staple from Kobe this year than usual. The *Yiji Shimpō*, writ-

ing on the subject, says that the export of rice to Hamburg was almost solely in the hands of Mr. E. B. Watson, previous to his failure, while the export to other parts of the world has been conducted by Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., Messrs. Raspe and Co., and by some Japanese firms. It appears that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. entered into preliminary arrangements with Mr. Watson to succeed him in the rice exporting business to Hamburg, but for some reason no shipments to that port have been made by the firm. Mr. Watson, in the hope of again starting in business, has gone to Hamburg to arrange matters. Meanwhile, Mr. Martin Burchard, Honorary Japanese Consul at Hamburg, has communicated with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha advising them to open up business with Hamburg.

STUDENTS FOR STUDY ABROAD.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes an Imperial Ordinance relating to the despatch of students to Europe and America for purposes of study. The provisions of the Ordinance run as follows:—

Art. I.—When, in the opinion of the Minister of State for Education, it appears specially necessary to send students abroad for purposes of scientific or technical study, he shall be competent to make a selection from among the graduates or instructors of schools directly under the control of the Department of Education, and to send abroad the persons so selected.

Art. II.—The number of students or others sent abroad under the above provision by the Department of Education, shall not exceed twenty-two at a time.

Art. III.—It shall be competent for the Minister of State for Education to decide what subjects of investigation shall be taken up by students sent abroad, what countries they shall be sent to, and for what terms of years they shall remain abroad.

Art. IV.—The allowance made by the Department of State for Education for the support of a student studying abroad, shall not exceed one hundred and eighty pounds sterling (English) yearly, and the travelling expenses shall be calculated according to the lowest scale given in the Regulations for Expenses of Travelling Abroad. Provided that under special circumstances, or when a student is sent from place to place for purposes of study, a suitable allowance for expenses of maintenance, in addition to the allowance prescribed above, may be made; but such additional allowance shall not exceed one hundred and fifty pounds sterling (English), annually, during the term of such travel; nor shall any allowance for travelling expenses be made when a student is thus despatched from place to place.

Art. V.—In the case of Instructors of Schools under the direct control of the Department of State for Education, who are sent abroad for purposes of study, the salary received by them as Instructors shall cease to be payable from the day of their departure from, until the day of their return to, Japan. Provided that, under special circumstance, they may be granted an allowance not to exceed one-third of such salary.

Art. VI.—Students or Instructors sent abroad for purposes of study under the above provisions, shall not be at liberty to resign any office to which they are appointed by the Minister of State for Education, during a period of twice the number of years spent studying abroad, such period to reckon from the day of their return to Japan.

Appended Clause.—During the 25th and 26th of Meiji only, the allowance mentioned in the first clause of the fourth article may be at the rate of not more than 1,070 yen, and the allowance mentioned in the second clause of the same article shall not exceed 1,000 yen.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE DIET.

NOW that we are on the eve of the Fourth Session of the Diet, and that the political opinions of the members are pretty well settled, some of the vernacular journals seem to consider it possible to predict pretty confidently the attitudes of the various parties and coteries, always excepting a few opportunists who may at any moment turn their backs on the party which they are now pledged to support. The *Kokkai*, a nominally independent journal, records its opinion of the state of affairs as follows:—

THE JIYU-TO.

The Radical Party has over 90 members in the House. It has undergone little change, though during last session many rumours were spread about the conduct of members returned from eastern provinces. These have now formed a new Party under the name of the Eastern Radical Party (*Toyo Jiyu-to*). Moreover, by the result of a law-suit, Mr. Uyeda Nofu has replaced Mr. Tanikawa Hisatada, and by election Mr. Sugiura Hiromasa has succeeded Mr. Nitta

Jinzayemon. Hence, though there is no alteration in the numerical strength of the Party, its members are now believed to be all steadfast men, unlikely to show any vacillation in the coming session. It is reported that one or two new members will join the Party. If so, it will command over 90 votes in the House, which is considerably more than any other body can claim.

THE "KAISHIN-TO."

The next most influential party is the Progressionist. It has only 39 members in the Diet. Its number has been increased by one only since last session, but its implacable spirit and the debating ability of its members give it great weight. The nature of its attitude may easily be inferred from the list of Bills which it proposes to present next session. As long as the policies of the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* do not seriously clash, their union against the Government will be as firm as ever. This forecast derives strength from the existence of a party calling itself the Independent Popular Party, the members of which are always ready to smoothe away little differences between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*.

THE "DOKURITSU MIN-TO."

The Independent Popular Party consisted at first of Messrs. Suzuki, Nakamura, Kawashima, and two or three others only. But when Mr. Kusumoto joined it, many a member followed him, and the Party now possesses an appreciable following, and several others have expressed their intention of supporting it. Its promoters declare their resolve is to have no associate who does not think exactly as they do. The least divergence of opinion is to be followed by separation from the dissentients. So rigid a platform does not seem to afford space for much more than 15 or 16 members in the House, but it seems to be thought that a large number of so-called "independents" are willing to support the *Dokuritsu Min-to*; for example, the followers of Mr. Abei, and the Wakayama Club.

THE WAKAYAMA CLUB.

The members returned from Wakayama Prefecture supported the Popular Party in the last session. But after Mr. Matsui returned to the Cabinet, rumours began to be circulated about them, as they are supposed to be followers of his. It is now believed, however, that they will support the Popular Party as before. People ask why do they not join with the Independent Popular Party, but it is evident that they have to exercise great caution as to some questions, for instance, the question of official interference in the general elections. If the Popular Party intends simply to declare that the Government, has been guilty of mismanagement, and to urge the Cabinet to dismiss or punish certain local officials who made themselves conspicuous by interference, the Wakayama Club will support the Popular Party as before. But if the latter pushes the question further, and attempts to pass a resolution of want of confidence in the Cabinet, the members of the Wakayama Club will vote against it, as their chief is in the Cabinet. Under such circumstances they stand apart, though they only possess 5 members in all. However, they are expected to support the Popular Party on the question of the Budget and in opposing certain other governmental projects.

THE ABEI CLUB.

The followers of Mr. Abei Hankon were spoken of as being 70 per cent. Popular Party and 30 per cent. Pro-government last session. In the coming session, it is understood that they will not support the Popular Party entirely, though they have promised to vote for nearly all the Bills which the latter intends to present. They are particularly zealous in their opposition to the proposal of mixed residence in the interior, but they number only five or six members in the House.

TOYO "JIYU-TO," OR EASTERN RADICALS.

This association is not large enough to be called a party, yet, under the leadership of Mr.

Oi Kentaro, it seems to deserve the next place on the list. It possesses only three members in the House. Nominally separated from the *Yiyu-to*, they will in reality support it, seeking only to go farther than it is prepared to go. One or two other members are closely connected with the Eastern Radicals, though they do not openly admit the fact. Messrs. Morimoto Tokichirō and Ugai Ikujiro may be included in this last category.

THE "MUSHOZOKU-HA."

The last supporters of the Popular Party are the so-called Independents. Among them about 5 or 6 belong to the Popular Party, but since the Tameike Club was dissolved, they do not acknowledge allegiance to any association. Nevertheless some of them will doubtless support the Popular Party as before. Thus the maximum aggregate strength of the Popular Party is 162, giving it a majority in the whole House. The following table shows how the total is composed:—

1. The Radical Party.....	90
2. The Progressionists	39
3. The Independent Popular Party	15 or 16
4. The Wakayama Club	5
5. The Abei Club	5 or 6
6. The Eastern Radical Party	3
7. The Independents	5 or 6

Total162

THE PRO-GOVERNMENT PARTY.

If the Pro-Government members of last session may be described by the same nomenclature under existing circumstances, the *Kokumin Seisha*, otherwise called the *Kokumin Kyokai*, must be placed at the top of the list.

THE "KOKUMIN SEISHA."

The National Union possesses over 60 members in the House, and among them nearly one half belong to the Kiushu Political Party. Hence, every project of the Union is virtually controlled by the Kiushu members. Mr. Sone Arasuke nominally heads the Party on account of his connection with the President and his position, yet his real influence is far below that of Messrs. Sassa and Furusho. Since the Kiushu members number nearly one half, and the others are controlled by them, the whole can follow the same route without disagreement.

THE "CHUO KOSHO-KAI."

The Central Conference Association was originally composed of the *Kyodo-Kai*, *Kinki-Dantai*, *Chugoku Dantai*, and *Hokuriku Dantai*. Nearly all its former members joined the National Union, but over 20 of them still remain independent. There is a rumour at present that the *Chugoku Dantai* and the *Hokuriku Dantai* contemplate organizing a new Party. The *Chuo Kosho-Kai* includes one or two real independents, who will vote for the Government or the Opposition according to the nature of a measure, but the rest will undoubtedly support the National Union.

THE "DHUGOKU DANTAI."

The above name is given to the followers of Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and Mr. Nishi Kiichi. The former is supported by 4 or 5 members returned from Hiroshima Prefecture. This coterie does not always approve the policy of the National Union, but seven or eight out of every ten of its associates are certainly friendly to the Union, and may confidently be expected to vote with it on all important questions.

THE "TAMEIKE-HA."

The Tameike Club has dissolved, but several of its former members, supported by some others, intend to organize a new association, and will publish their programme in a few days. They prefer to call themselves independents, but their sympathies are entirely with the National Union. The Club will have about 10 members when reorganized.

THE "MUSHOZOKU."

Among the Independents there are about 30 members opposed to the policy of the Popular

Party, who will fight against it next session. Moreover, we have the followers of Mr. Ohigashi, and some members who left the Radical Party last session. Their policy is still unannounced. If the number of members actually belonging to the National Union, and those of other political organizations which have a close connection with the Union, be added together, they aggregate over 130, as the following table will show:—

The National Union	over 60
The Central Conference Association	over 20
The Chugoku Union	8 or 9
The Tameike Club	over 10
The Independents	over 30

Total over 130

THE NATIONAL UNION.

SIXTY-FIVE members of the House of Representatives belonging to the National Union met on the 23rd instant, and decided to form a Members' Club. They elected a number of Sub-Committees to examine the following measures:—

Transfer of Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury	Mr. Hirabayashi Kulei and two others.
Management of Forests.....	Mr. Asakura Chikatane and two others.
Investigation of Cost of establishing a Steel Foundry	Mr. Sone Arasuke and three others.
Examination of the Policy of opening up Hokkaido	Mr. Maki Bokushin and three others.
The Game Regulations.....	Mr. Furusho Yoshikado and three others.
Bill for amending the Law of Registration	Mr. Ooka Ikuzo and five others.
Organization of Law Courts	Mr. Motoda Hajime and two others.
Laying of Submarine Cables	Mr. Oshima Shin and two others.
Bills for amending the Newspaper Regulations; the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations; the Publications; and the Copyright Regulations	Mr. Watanabe Koki and two others.

In addition to the above, it was resolved to subsequently appoint Committees for the purpose of examining the questions of direct and indirect taxation, the promotion of the silk industry, the improvement of agriculture, the amendment of the export tax regulations and various others.

MAJOR FUKUSHIMA.

We learn from the *Yiyu Shinbun* that private messages have been received in the capital from Major Fukushima to the effect that he arrived at Semipalatinsk on the 1st of September. The Major was then about entering Mongolian territory, and after traversing the desert of Gobi, will go as far as Koulon, from which place he will cross again the border into Siberia and endeavour to reach Vladivostok via the Siberian steppes and Irkutsk. He has to travel through almost unexplored regions from Semipalatinsk to Irkutsk—the distance being about 2,000 miles. Some of these districts have never been visited by Europeans. He is probably journeying through these districts now, and as his arrival at Irkutsk cannot be expected before the beginning of next month, no further intelligence will come to hand before that time.

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

A COURT of Enquiry into the cause of the collision between the *Feima* and *Hangchow* was concluded at the British Consulate General, Shanghai, on the 17th inst. when Mr. Scott, read the finding of the Court as follows:—
"The *Feima* was an iron vessel of 778 tons registered tonnage, official No. 72804, built at Antwerp in 1874 and belonging to the port of Shanghai. It appears from the evidence given before this Court that she sailed from Shanghai on November 8th, 1892, bound for Chefoo with a general cargo and a crew of 29 hands as well as 62 passengers. The Court, having regard to the circumstances above stated, finds as follows:—That the British steamer *Feima* was run

into and eventually sunk by the British steamer *Hangchow*. The Court is of opinion that the collision was caused entirely by the default of the British steamer *Hangchow*, and those on board in navigating her. The Court finds that the British steamer *Feima* was pursuing a proper course; that the master was on the bridge attending to his duties and that a proper look-out was being kept. The Court finds that the master of the British steamer *Hangchow* was on the bridge attending to his duties, being perfectly aware of his responsibility, and that he committed a grave error of judgment in crowding or pressing too closely on the leading British steamer *Feima* at such a speed that a collision ensued for which he, the master of the British steamship *Hangchow*, is entirely responsible, and we adjudge him to be severely reprimanded. The Court finds that the officers, engineers, and crews of both vessels appear to have conducted themselves properly and used their utmost exertions to save lives and property, and no lives were lost. The expenses of this Court, fixed at £8.16.8, are approved."

COUNT SAIGO AND VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

THE Declaration of Policy made by Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa at the general meeting of the National Union ran as follows:—

In accordance with the statement of motives of our association, published some months ago, we, who had similar sympathies, hoped to co-operate together by exchanging our knowledge and discussing the affairs of the country, so as to promote the prosperity of the empire and increase the welfare of its people; as well as to further our own mutual interests. We accordingly compiled provisional regulations, and organized a social club. Thenceforth we often assembled in this office to discuss our future policy, and we made tours in the east and west for the purpose of publishing our purpose. The affairs of the association have now been almost settled, so we hold this general meeting to determine our programme. Among our members some advocate the organization of a political party, and are in favour of taking part in the political affairs of the country. We, however, will be satisfied if the members direct their investigations to such subjects as education, commerce, or any matter relating to the economy of the country, with the object of correcting and improving the national characteristics, and stimulating enterprise.

In accordance with its original object, the association will extend its scheme, so as to collect all the faithful and patriotic people of the country and bring them together in the localities at meetings where, in friendly conversation, knowledge and experience in matter of law, economy, education, commerce, statistics and so forth, shall be exchanged. Thus we hope to gather knowledge of the world, and apply it to our social and economical problems, to the end that not only shall every member enjoy freedom, but also the whole people of the country, whether they belong to any party or not, shall discharge their duties efficiently on account of the State and profitably on their own account. So shall the general prosperity of the empire be attained and its resources fully developed. We thus openly declare our policy to those assembled here to-day, and make the object of this general meeting known to you all.

Nothing could well be more colourless than this programme. Count Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa are plainly determined to stand aloof ostensibly from politics, so as not to clash with the declarations of the leader of the present Cabinet; that the Government must remain free from all association with political parties. The question of the day in Japan is Party Cabinets. The *Yiyu-to* and the *Kathin-to* are in favour of them; the older statesmen of the *Meiji* era and their supporters are opposed to them. A Cabinet relying on the support of an openly organized political party is as much a party Cabinet as a Cabinet which acknowledges itself liable to be driven out of office by the vote of a hostile majority in the House of Representatives. It is exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, for any association to hold together with a purpose that dictates united political action and a programme that denies any such intention.

THE WRECK OF THE "FEIMA."

We mentioned, says the *N.C. Daily News*, that the *Kobe Maru* had run into the wreck of the *Feima* on Friday evening. A representative of this paper went down to Woosung on Saturday morning and while some distance from the wreck noticed that the rake of her funnel was forward instead of aft, and that the mainmast was broken short off. A closer inspection showed that the funnel and casing had been torn away on the after side, and the funnel itself was somewhat and pierced, the hole

being on the after side. The vessel had moved slightly, apparently from the blow, so that she had a little less port list and her bow was raised a little, her stern sunk proportionately, and her head canted round also slightly. When the *Kobe Maru* struck the wreck, she cut right through the port side abaft of the funnel for about fifteen feet, that is more than half-way through the hull, and into the boiler. At low water the starboard side of the deck for nearly the whole length of the vessel is out of water. As the *Kobe* was drawing something like 15 feet, the injury inflicted must be very serious. The divers at work getting the cargo out, and Mr. Wilson, one of them, had only just come up out of the after hold when the *Kobe Maru* crashed into the *Feima*. A hole has been cut in the deck forward on the starboard side and natives with boat-hooks are engaged recovering cargo by this means. With regard to the *Kobe* she was backed out of the hole she had made and then anchored to ascertain the extent of her own injuries, but as it was found she was making very little water, she proceeded on her voyage. On Saturday afternoon Captain Roberts, having been able to ascertain the extent of the damage inflicted by the *Kobe Maru*, decided to abandon all attempts to raise the vessel, but will continue the salvage of the cargo. The *Feima* was built of iron at Antwerp in 1873, and was originally called the *Watergens*. Her dimensions are 232 ft. 6 in. long, 26 ft. 7 in. beam, 13 ft. 8 in. depth of hold, and 773 tons gross register. Her engines of 90 h.p. nom. were constructed by J. Readhead and Son, South Shields.

POLITICAL FIGHTING IN KAGOSHIMA.

The politicians of Kagoshima appear to have been indulging in a free fight, but under what circumstances or owing to what proximate cause we do not learn. A telegram from Kagoshima, dated 10 p.m. on the 22nd instant, says that, on the 16th instant, a collision occurred between partisans of the Popular Party and partisans of the pro-official Party at a place called Yujuku, the result being that a total of ten persons were wounded. On the following day, at Makurashi, a member of the Popular Party, fighting with one of the *Ri-to*, received a cut which penetrated his lungs and is likely to prove fatal. The telegram, which is despatched to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a *Kaishin-to* organ, adds that the police took no measures to arrest the wounded man's assailant, but contented themselves with giving information to the Public Procurator. We are accustomed, however, to hear these charges freely levelled against the police by Opposition journals and political agitators, on all possible occasions, and they have begun to lose both novelty and interest.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN OSHIMA.

The annual production of brown sugar in the Island of Oshima manufactured from sweet potatoes exceeds 150,000 bags. According to the *Shogyo Shimpō*, Mr. Sakano, an expert of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, is reported to have estimated that if the method of sweet potato cultivation be improved, Oshima is capable of turning out about double the quantity of sugar it does at present. With this object he went to Oshima, early this month, and is now busily engaged in suggesting various reforms in the sugar industry. Mr. Sakano proposes to commence his experiment of making refined sugar out of brown next month, and if the case succeeds he will advise the sugar manufacturers of Osaka and Oshima to establish a big refinery. Mr. Furubata, Director of the Osaka 79th National Bank, who takes much interest in the sugar trade, went to Oshima with Mr. Sakano to inspect the actual condition of the industry, and will do his best to encourage it on his return.

THE "BOKHARA."

The discovery of Mrs. Cuniffy's body in Makung harbour with her child tied to her breast, says the *N.C. Daily News*, reopens the question, which has troubled many who have not talked of the matter out of respect of

the survivors, what was done for the women on the *Bokhara*? The first impression was that the steamer broke up instantly, and all who did not happen to be on deck were drowned at once. But the evidence at the Court of Enquiry shows that land was seen "some minutes" before the *Bokhara* struck. Mrs. Cuniffy evidently had time to tie her child securely to herself, and if she and the other women had been brought on deck as soon as land was seen, would they not have had as good a chance of being washed ashore alive as those who were saved?

THE "NORMA."

The British sealing vessel *Norma*, Captain Davis, which left Yokohama in July last for sealing in northern waters, has returned to that port. The *Mainichi Shimbun* says:—"When the *Norma* was engaged in sealing off Chishima within the licensed limit of the Hakodate Marine Products Company, she was discovered by one of the latter's vessels, and compelled to move on, from whence she went into Russian waters and narrowly escaped seizure by a Russian man-of-war. She then proceeded to an island called Sutan, and while preparing firewood she attracted the attention of the Headman of the island. This official immediately reported the matter to the Captain of the *Chishima Kan*, which happened to be at anchor in Chishima at the time, and requested him to order the departure of the vessel, which the man-of-war Captain did. After leaving the island the *Norma* was engaged in hunting outside the territorial limit. But, naturally, under these unfavourable circumstances, the catch was very small, being only 103 skins."

THE "JIYU-TO" AGAINST THE "KAISHIN-TO."

SOME words used by Mr. Shimada Saburo in a speech delivered at the Koseikan on the 21st instant, aroused the indignation of the *Jiyu-to*; and they despatched Messrs. Ishizuka and Komabayashi, two of their Managers, to the office of the *Kaishin-to* on Wednesday last to seek an explanation. But as Mr. Shimada had already left the place, they explained the object of their visit to two or three prominent members of the Party, and requested them to communicate it to Mr. Shimada. About 11 p.m. on the same day, Mr. Shimada sent a reply to the effect that he had never employed any language injurious to the *Jiyu-to*, but had simply said that among the members of the *Kaishin-to* there are some who, reposing confidence in the present Cabinet, desire to support whatever new projects the Government may propose; and that as the *Jiyu-to* is such a large body, some of its members also might entertain similar views. But he had not spoken with the slightest intention of criticizing the *Jiyu-to*. Further, in reply to questions asked by the Radicals, a member of the *Kaishin-to* who visited the *Jiyu-to* office said that, since the programme of the *Jiyu-to* had been published, the *Kaishin-to* found no cause of disagreement, and inasmuch as the policy of the *Kaishin-to* also admits the necessity of increasing the Navy and so forth, Mr. Shimada could not have meant to attack the *Jiyu-to*. On the following day, the Managers reported the above reply to the members of the *Jiyu-to* in conclave, but the latter declared that the answer was vague and unsatisfactory. The Managers were accordingly despatched once more to Mr. Shimada. The *Kaishin-to* leader again explained that he had never for a moment intended to attack the *Jiyu-to*, and the deputies returned with this message. But the *Jiyu-to* members were still dissatisfied. They said that two of their reporters, present when Mr. Shimada spoke, had both heard him attack the Radical Party, and others in the audience bore the same testimony. Therefore they were determined to investigate the question more thoroughly. Thus the dispute remained unsettled. Some one then proposed that though an arrangement had been made for a general assembly of the Popular Party on Friday, the Radicals should abstain from meeting the Progressionists until the dispute had been arranged. This proposal was

opposed, however, on the ground that the projected assembly was not limited to members of the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to* alone, and therefore it ought not to be abandoned. The latter view was approved and adopted. It is stated that Count Itagaki also was very indignant at Mr. Shimada's speech, and declared himself unwilling to sit in the same room with either Mr. Shimada or any other member of the *Kaishin-to*. It looks as though these two Parties had seen the last day of their union, unless indeed the tie of opposition to the Government should draw them together once again for the purpose of a common campaign.

* * *

The social gathering of the Popular Party, alluded to above, took place in the Nakamura on Thursday last at 5 p.m. The hour originally fixed was 1 p.m., but owing to the dispute between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* the members of the former arrived very late. When all were seated, Mr. Suzuki Shigetsu, acting as Manager, delivered a short speech thanking the members for coming together, and Mr. Hatashita Kumano reported that the number of members of the Diet assembled was:—

<i>Jiyu-to</i>	65
<i>Kaishin-to</i>	29
Domestic Club	18
Independents	9

Total

He also stated that 27 members of the *Jiyu-to*, 8 of the *Kaishin-to*, and 1 Independent were absent. Mr. Hoshi Toru then rose, and having apologised for his late arrival, said:—

GENTLEMEN,—Before the present social meeting commences, I wish to speak a word or two. Mr. Shimada Saburo, a distinguished member of the *Kaishin-to*, alluded contemptuously to the policy of the *Jiyu-to* in a speech delivered by him in the Koseikan a few days ago. The members of the *Jiyu-to* were indignant, and a negotiation was at once commenced. But no settlement has yet been reached. Pending a satisfactory explanation, no member of the *Jiyu-to* is willing to sit in the same room with the members of the *Kaishin-to* as friends. But the assembly to-day consists of the whole Popular Party; in other words, of all the members of the Diet opposed to the Government. A number of those present do not belong to the *Kaishin-to*, and as we are unwilling to cause these friends any annoyance, we have come, though rather late, so I trust you will excuse us.

Mr. Suzuki, the Manager, thereupon rose and said that Mr. Hoshi's statement simply referred to a trifling disagreement between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*, and that as it had nothing whatever to do with the Popular Party, he hoped that it would not interfere with the friendly character of the meeting. Dinner was then served, and the members seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. At the close they gave three vehement cheers for the Popular Party. The meeting broke up shortly after 7 p.m.

RELEASE OF MILLER.

WE observe that Miller has been released at Singapore. His arrest by the Straits Settlements Police was made originally at the instance of the United States Authorities, Miller being an alleged fugitive from the consequences of a crime committed in Kobe. It is conjectured by the journals which announce the release that some informality in the warrant probably prevented the man's detention, but it seems to us that the result is attributable to another cause. The language of the Order in Council of June 26th, 1879, under the provisions of which alone such an arrest could have been made, says that if requisition is made to the Governor of the Straits Settlements by any Foreign State, in the case of which the Extradition Act of 1870 does not for the time being apply, or by any person recognised by him as an authorized Minister or Officer, Consul or Vice-Consul of such State, for the surrender of a fugitive criminal of such State, the Governor may issue a warrant for the arrest of the fugitive. If this provision stood alone, the legality of Miller's arrest would have been unquestionable. But elsewhere in the same Order, we find that the purposes of the Order,

the term a "fugitive criminal of a Foreign State" is defined to mean "a person accused of any such crime as aforesaid"—the nature of crimes in respect of which extradition may be practised is, of course, limited—"committed within the jurisdiction of that State;" and still further on it is declared that the words "within the jurisdiction of a Foreign State" shall be held to mean "every colony, dependency, and constituent part of such State." It is plain that Kobe, a place within the empire of Japan, cannot be considered either a colony, a dependency, or a constituent part of the United States, and consequently the Governor of Singapore was not competent, under the express terms of the Order in Council, to cause the arrest of Miller or to detain him in custody. We have very little doubt that the man's release was in consequence of these considerations.

ASSAULT ON A MEMBER OF THE DIET.

THE opening day of the fourth session of the Diet was marked by an unfortunate incident. At 8.20 a.m., as Mr. Minaye, a member of the House of Representatives, was on his way to the Diet buildings and had reached the corner of the court house in Fujimicho, Kojimachi district, a man ran up to his *jinrikisha* from behind, and struck him on the shoulder with a sheathed sword, about 2½ feet long. The sword not having been drawn, no wound was inflicted. Mr. Minaye leaped from the *jinrikisha* and took to his heels, but tripped and fell, whereupon his assailant again struck him with the sheathed weapon. Still uninjured, Mr. Minaye ran ten or twelve yards further, but was soon overtaken, and seeing that the blade of his pursuer was now bare, he held up his arm to protect himself, receiving a wound about two inches long. The *soshi* was seized almost immediately and marched off by the police, and Mr. Minaye, re-entering his *jinrikisha*, drove home and had his wound dressed. It proved a slight affair, and will cause no special inconvenience.

This affair seems to have had its origin in the extraordinary incident which occurred on the 16th inst. at Mr. Minaye's residence. On the morning of that day Mr. Kojima Tsuneki, a *shisoku* of Ibaraki Prefecture, who holds the position of Manager of the Chuo-dantai, an association of *soshi*, proceeded to the house of Mr. Minaye and asked for an interview. The man on duty at the vestibule was Goto Ichitaro, himself a Manager of another *soshi* association, the Seinen Gidan. Goto told the visitor that Mr. Minaye was not at home, and asked what was his business, but Kojima said that he had come by appointment and that his business could not be transacted with any one but Mr. Minaye himself. Goto thereupon cried out:—"You must be the fellow that took money from the *Kaishin-to*. I'll do for you," and drawing a sword sprang upon Kojima, cutting him over the head. Kojima, being unarmed, ran away bleeding, and the police arrested Goto, who now lies in prison. The *soshi*, who assaulted Mr. Minaye yesterday morning, is said to have been influenced by a desire to avenge Kojima's injury. He was at all events a member of the Chuo-dantai, of which Kojima is manager.

AN INCIDENT IN TOKYO.

YESTERDAY morning, His Majesty the Emperor left the Palace at 9 a.m. and proceeded to visit the Artillery College. The usual preparations were made by the police along the route. It happened that just about the time when the Imperial carriage was about to pass, a foreign lady rode up, attended only by a groom on foot. The police called out to her to dismount. She reined her horse to the side of the street, but the police insisted, and the lady was finally compelled to dismount, being, of course, subjected to considerable inconvenience afterwards owing to the difficulty of re-mounting without any assistance save that of a groom holding the horse's head. This incident illustrates the contingencies of foreign residence in Tokyo. According to Western notions it is an excessive proceeding to require that a lady shall dismount

when the Sovereign passes. But since that is Japanese etiquette, foreigners living in Japan must of necessity comply with it. The only course is to avoid the route of Imperial Progresses as far as possible, or to go there on foot only. The fact of the Emperor's intention to proceed anywhere is generally announced beforehand in the *Official Gazette*, and folks in carriages or on horseback will do well to take note of the route likely to be followed.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE DIET.

WE were mistaken in reporting that the Emperor was to proceed to the Diet on the 25th instant for the purpose of opening it. The Diet assembled on that day, but the official opening had not been expected to take place until the 28th, Friday the 25th, and Saturday the 26th, being devoted to the preliminary business organization, namely, division into Sections, election of heads of managers of Sections and of Chairmen of the Houses and so forth. It is now announced that the official ceremony will take place on the 29th instant. This postponement of a day is attributed to a slight delay in the preparation of the Budget, which has to be placed in the hands of the members before the ceremony. Such, at least, is the reason assigned by the *Kokkai*. The Imperial Rescript fixing the date of official opening was issued yesterday, and invitations were, at the same time; sent to those who, although not included in the list of persons entitled to attend, are admitted by special favour. The Emperor is to leave the Palace at 10.30 a.m. for the purpose of performing the ceremony. All the arrangements are carefully mapped out and published, but as they do not differ in any way from the arrangements made on previous occasions, we need not describe them.

THE "HABUTAYE" MERCHANTS IN FUKUI.

It is stated by the *Shogyo Shimpō* that the *habutaye* merchants in Fukui are complaining of the treatment of their goods at the hands of No. 14 (the name of the company is not stated) Yokohama. The foreign firm having received complaints from abroad in regard to much of the *habutaye* which has been exported, were compelled at length to soak the material in hot water to detect the false weighting of the goods. The *habutaye* complained of is said to come from Kirizu, Ashikaga, and other districts, but Fukui manufacturers say that they have never sent out such degraded stuff, and that to treat their goods as spurious is not fair. The Fukui people say they will ask the firm in question to discontinue its method of treatment of Fukui goods, and if it does not, the Fukui men will decline to deal further with the firm.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

UNDER date 25th instant, Mr. Bremner writes:—"I have the pleasure to transmit to you the following notification which the Liquidator informs me he has caused to be published in the home newspapers:—"The Liquidator of the New Oriental Bank Corporation wishes to acquaint the creditors that having regard to the wide ramifications of the Bank's operations, he is unable to arrange for the distribution of a dividend earlier than the middle of January next, prior to which time he can now say he will declare a dividend of 4s. in the £. He has thought it advisable not to await further realizations, but to hasten the division of the earliest receipts, and he trusts to be able next January to intimate that a second dividend of substantial amount will follow in three or four months. Nothing has so far occurred to vary his opinion expressed at the Creditors' Meeting some time since as to the probable result of the Liquidation. Anything like a close estimate cannot be made for many months to come."

RESIGNATION OF MR. TSUJI.

THE resignation of Mr. Tsuji, Vice-Minister of State for Education, is accepted, and as his successor Mr. Kubota Yuzuru, hitherto Chief of the Bureau of Ordinary School Affairs, is appointed. Mr. Tsuji is raised from the Second Class of the Third Grade to the First Class of

the same Grade. He has proved himself a most able and energetic official, a man of sound judgment and liberal views, and we trust that his retirement from office may be only temporary. Mr. Kubota has only twelve years service, the whole of which has been in the Educational Department. He occupied the position of a *Zokkwan* (employee) of that Department in 1880, and subsequently rose to be Chief Paymaster, a post from which he passed to the presidency of the Bureau of Ordinary School Affairs. He doubtless possesses considerable experience of educational matters.

W. B. HARMSTON'S BENEFIT.

MR. W. B. HARMSTON took his benefit last evening at the Public Hall. The audience was a fairly large one, but what it lacked in quantity it made up in enthusiasm; and was justified in doing so. The programme was good all through, and presented some delightful surprises in the songs of Little Ethel and Miss Minnie Ruby. Bob Love gave three capital songs, which were all encored. The dancing of Mdlle. Blonde was of course very charming to watch. The wonderful Feeley family went through an excellent series of pyramids, tumbling, duplicate ladders, and comicalities on chairs, and Mrs. Feeley performed various graceful evolutions upon the trapeze. The *bénéficiaire* took the title rôle in the last number of the programme—*Robert Macaire*—and played it to perfection, being well supported by Bertram (Geo. Harmston.) The company gives one more performance this evening in the Public Hall, and every one should make an effort to attend—their last in Japan—as without question the variety entertainment provided is the best we have seen for a very long time.

CHINA AND KOREA.

Two years after the event, the Chinese Government has permitted the publication of a document which the *Hongkong Daily Press* justly regards with much interest, namely a "Report of the Mission of Condolence to Korea in 1890." The incidents described in the Report convey a good object lesson as to the nature of the relationship which China steadily preserves between herself and the little Kingdom. Our colonial contemporary summarizes the Report thus:—

The Queen Dowager of Korea died on 4th June, 1890, at the age of 83. She was the actual great grandmother but, through the failure of intermediate heirs, the adoptive mother of the reigning sovereign; and the death of this royal dame furnished the Chinese Court with just the occasion they needed for displaying before the world their paternal relation to the little Court, to the maintenance of which they attached much practical importance.

Following the traditional usage between the two Sovereigns the demise of the old Queen Dowager was reported by the Royal to the Imperial Court, the mission dispatched to Peking by the regular land routes *via* Lungchow arriving at its destination on the 21st September, 1890. The Korean Envoys were received the following day with great ceremony in the Hall of the Board of Rites, where they prostrated themselves in handing to the Secretary of the Board the memorials they had brought from the Korean Capital. The memorial of the King is given verbatim, as also a much more lengthy petition presented by Hung Chung-yung, the leader of the mission. This latter document is very curious and is indeed a study in Oriental diplomacy. The ceremonial to be observed between China and Korea on the occasion of the death and burial of the Queen Dowager had excited much discussion in the peninsula. The Korean Court officials had been diligently coached both by Mr. Denny and other foreigners in the duty of throwing off their allegiance to China, and this kind of talk had grown so popular in Seoul that some of the more excitable of the native officials considered that what so many foreigners were telling them must have something in it; but when the crisis actually arrived when, if ever, a stand might be made, the Korean Government looked anxiously round among their various foreign advisers—which, mercenary and honorary, included nearly the whole foreign population of Korea—but none of them were able to furnish a scrap of assistance, or even of the commodity which had heretofore been so cheap, advice. The foreign partisans of Korean independence committed themselves to the most emphatic predictions to the effect that the Korean King would certainly perform no ceremony derogatory to his status as an independent sovereign, predictions, however, which were soon to be discredited by the event. What the Korean authorities tried to do was to prevent the usual Mission of Con-

dolence being sent from China, because the reception of such a mission would cause the greatest embarrassment in view of the many foreign witnesses who would observe it. The most strenuous exertions were accordingly made to dissuade the Chinese Court from sending any Mission; and the Korean case was embodied in the petition of Hung Chung-yung. He represented the poverty of the country, in consequence of recent famines, which would make it hard on Korea to sustain the reception expenses of a Mission, and urged that he himself would convey "with care and respect" the return message which His Imperial Majesty might deign to send to his loyal vassal, the King. But the Chinese were much too acute to be taken in by such specious arguments, and consequently, on the 7th October, the Board of Rites memorialised the Throne embodying the text of the Korean Envoy's petition, receiving the next day an Imperial Decree which settled the whole matter.

The Emperor recognizes the chronic poverty of Korea, in consequence of which the "vassal state" has received favours and courtesies in times past. He, however, declares that the usage of sending Envoys cannot be departed from, but in consideration for the impoverished condition of the King's country the burden will be lightened. The Mission will not, as heretofore, travel by land, but by sea; and in this way the expense of entertaining the expedition on the journey through the country will be saved, but as the mission "had a special significance as exhibiting the nature of our relations," no abatement could be made in any of the ceremonial observances. Accordingly, on the 15th October, the names of eligible officials were submitted to the Throne, and Hsu-chang and Chung-li were to convey the Emperor's condolence to the King of Korea. The arrangements for the journey of the two Imperial Commissioners are minutely detailed in the Report, and at every step they took on Korean soil from Chemulpo to the capital the duties of the King's officers, which were prescribed with exhaustive precision, are recorded as having been faithfully carried out in accordance with the programme laid down. Most important of course is the attitude of His Korean Majesty himself, and the reporter leaves nothing to the reader's imagination, but with tedious particularity chronicles every movement of the King's body. The long and short of the matter is that the King with the Crown Prince and military officers had to meet and welcome the Mission at a place appointed outside the city, which done, the King had to hurry back to the Palace by a shorter route than that followed by the Imperial procession so as to be ready to give the Royal reception to the Imperial Message of Condolence in the Chin Cong Hall in the Palace, where "a position in the centre passage of the Hall is assigned to the King at which he will perform the *ho-tow* with his face towards the north." At the banquet given by the King, His Majesty made two *ho-tow*: before the Senior and the Junior Commissioners, both courtesies being returned by these officials. The whole ceremonial lasted eight days, from the time of the arrival of the Commissioners in the harbour of Chemulpo to their re-embarkation there on the 14th November, 1890, and it was throughout of a most severe and elaborate character. "How admirable and satisfactory! and how glorious!" exclaims the enthusiastic scribe who chronicles the episode.

BICYCLE JOURNEY ACROSS ASIA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Paoting Fu, gives the following account of a remarkable journey just completed by two American bicyclists:—

We were surprised yesterday, October 29th, by the sudden apparition of two American gentlemen travelling on bicycles overland from Tashkent, Russian Transcaspia. They are Messrs. Allen and Sachtleben, both of St. Louis, who on the day after graduation from college left for a pleasure ride that has been prolonged into a journey around the world. They have just accomplished what Mr. Stevens unsuccessfully attempted, the actual crossing of Central Asia by bicycles. Leaving Constantinople last autumn they proceeded by way of Teheran and Askabad to Merv, Bokhara, and Tashkent, where by the kindness of the Russian authorities, they were allowed to winter. It is needless to say that during their stay in Russian Turkestan they gathered much valuable information, of which the English public will be interested to learn. Leaving Tashkent in May they crossed to Kuldja in Illi, where they were delayed seven weeks, waiting for supplies by Russian post from Siberia.

They were strongly dissuaded at this point from attempting the journey across China, and were repeatedly assured that the attempt would cost them their lives. They left, however, in mid-summer, knowing no Chinese and carrying only such supplies of money and clothes as could be strapped to the handle bars of their machines. Their route was by way of Urumtsi to the border of the Gobi at Hami. They were twelve days in crossing the desert, the sand being firm enough for them to ride the greater part of the way. At Subchan they struck the western end of the Great Wall, the line of which they followed for nearly 400 miles to Lanchow. From this point they were obliged to strike south-east to Singan in Shensi, whence they have come by way of Pingyan and Tientsin to Paoting Fu. Continuing to Peking and Tientsin their journey across Asia is completed. The entire distance,

with the exception of the short stage across the Transcaspian desert, was made on their wheels.

They have been singularly free from accidents. Their bicycles, which are of the Safety pattern and cushion-tired, would have held out almost without breakage had not the hind wheel of one of them been kicked by a mule; two spokes were broken in this way; others followed until the rim itself succumbed, and when the machines were led into Paoting Fu, the injured wheel was useless. It is now undergoing repairs. They have been followed by mobs—chiefly good-humoured—ever since leaving Kuldja, but have only on two or three occasions been in actual danger. At these times the flooring of their chief opponent, and once or twice the show of the revolvers which they carried, but never used, was sufficient to bring them out safely. The officials showed them the greatest kindness, and through the Eastern province detailed a squad of cavalry, as a rule, for their escort, apparently rather as an honour than for protection. The magistrate of Subchan, through the kind offices of the resident Belgian customs official Ling *ta-jen*, furnished them with officially stamped squares of cloth to hang before the machine handles, bearing the words *Yu li men-jen*—travelling scholars—and telling to all and sundry their nationality and destination—somewhat as one fastens a tag upon a child consigned to distant friends. In no cases did the *literati* or officials show themselves unfriendly, and on one occasion when no barricading of the inn-doors sufficed to keep out the mob the bicycles were sent under guard to the governor's *yamen*, where they remained safely incarcerated until their owners were ready to proceed.

They have carried a Kodak camera throughout the journey, and have taken up to date more than 2,000 photographs which will be used to illustrate the forthcoming volume which, in this case, is sure to be of more than ordinary interest. Their success, where others have failed, has been due partly to the excellent credentials they were able to obtain from the Chinese minister to England and from the Russian Government, and still more to it a deserved triumph of the splendid pluck and determination with which the undertaking has been carried through.

Their plans for the future include the crossing of Japan, whither they proceed at once *ad* Shanghai, and of South America, or if the route is practicable, the southern portion of the United States. It should be said that they are travelling in the interest of no journal or literary syndicate, but for pleasure merely.

THE JIZENKAI.

An appeal has come to the Jizenkai for clothing for some of the old people left destitute by the earthquake. It is impossible with the funds at its command to supply the destitute of Yokohama even. Already the clothing provided in the summer has been given out to the neediest applicants. The old clothing kindly contributed by friends last year was made up into 1,300 garments and given to the poor. The supply being now exhausted, any contributions, however small, of worn clothing, will be gratefully received and at once made up and distributed among the most needy and deserving by the Jizenkai. Contributions may be sent to 221, Bluff.

THE DOKURITSU CLUB.

THE members of the *Dokuritsu* (Independent) Club, whose head-quarters are at Tameike, have arrived at certain resolutions, says the *Choya Shimbun*, as to the Bills which they will submit in the next session of the Diet. Their proposed measures are these:—first, the transfer of prison expenditures to the charge of the Treasury; and secondly, amendments of the Press, the Publication, the Public Meetings and Political Associations, and the Game, Regulations. This is a tolerably comprehensive programme for one small party in a session lasting only three months.

COUNT OKI.

THE resignation of the President of the Privy Council has at last become an accomplished fact. Tendered several days ago, it was sanctioned by the Emperor on the night of the 22nd instant, Count Oki being, on the same day, appointed a Lord in Waiting of the Incense Chamber, and honoured by an order that he shall continue to receive the official treatment appropriate to the post which he vacates, namely, the Presidency of the Privy Council. Nothing is yet known as to Count Oki's successor.

FOUNDING OF A JAPANESE VESSEL AT SEA.

A TELEGRAPHIC message despatched by the Shanghai Branch of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and received by the Head Office in Tokyo on the 16th inst., reports that the company's sailing vessel *Chihaya Maru*, which left Kuchinotsu,

on the 27th ult., with a cargo of 589 tons of coal for Shanghai, foundered near the Barlow Island during the night of the 10th inst. The crew, with the exception of one, were rescued by a foreign steamer, which took them on to Hongkong.

Barlow Island is low and flat, surrounded by a reef, and lies about one mile south of Loney Bluff, which forms a portion of Cape Duudas, the peninsular promontory on the eastern extreme of Quelpart.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

THE Government has been obliged to appropriate a sum from the First Reserve for the purpose of adopting drastic measures to check the cattle plague. What the precise nature of the measures may be, we are not in a position to state, but doubtless they are on the lines followed in Western countries in similar emergencies. An Imperial Ordinance published on the 18th instant, authorizes the appropriation of funds from the First Reserve, but nothing being said as to the amount, we infer that this important detail is left to be determined by the circumstances of the epidemic and the discretion of those required to deal with it.

M. PATERNOSTRO.

M. PATERNOSTRO, in consequence of his approaching departure from Japan, was received in audience by the Emperor on Saturday, and had the honour of being decorated with the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun. Subsequently M. and Madame Paternostro were granted an audience by the Empress. His Majesty, in very cordial terms, thanked the eminent Italian jurist for the excellent services rendered by him to Japan during the years of his residence here.

EARTHQUAKE.

AN earthquake occurred on Monday night, shortly after half-past ten. The shock, though not violent, was sufficiently strong to set lamps and pictures in motion, and the minor vibrations lasted a considerable time both before and after the principal movement. We learn that the shock was felt in Tokyo, and though of some severity was of short duration.

BURGLARY.

AN armed burglar broke into a watchmaker's shop in the Honmura-road, on Sunday night, and helping himself liberally to the stock, got away with a large number of watches. The police, however, were very soon on his track, and yesterday captured the man and recovered all the stolen property. He is said to be a former employé of the man he robbed.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATE.

MR. SUYEMATSU KENCHO, President of the Law Bureau, has been appointed a Government Delegate in the House of Representatives. Mr. Suyematsu will have the pleasure of appearing in a new character in an arena where he has already figured very conspicuously.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Keen attention is naturally devoted to the position of the Cabinet *vis-à-vis* the various political parties in the present session of the Diet. So far as the Cabinet is concerned, it is believed on all sides that it will maintain strict neutrality, and will abstain, as far as possible, from introducing new measures. The *Fiji Shimpō* distinguishes itself by perseverance in criticizing this inactive policy of the Government. It does not deny that such a policy may be of some use to soothe the wounded feelings of the Popular Party. But it reminds the Ministers that, apart from party politicians, there are throughout the country men of independent judgment whose good opinion ought by all means to be retained. The *Fiji* fears that, if the Cabinet remains inactive, the Popular Party may steal a march upon it by adopting a positive policy, as the *Fiyu-to* is already reported to have decided to do. Should the solution of the various national questions of

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vital importance be left to the efforts of the Popular Party, the Government will one day find itself deserted by the independent educated section of the public. The Ministers of the Crown are consequently advised to devote themselves to the speedy solution of the question of Treaty Revision, the Korean problem, the extension of the carrying trade of the country, the colonization of Hokkaido, and so forth.

The position of the Radicals has now become tolerably clear. Their declared antagonism to the Government applies only to the section of the Cabinet believed to be under the control of clan influence. They will be found favourable towards the other section which they consider more or less free from the clan taint, namely, the section comprising Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu, and Mr. Kono, the Ministers of Agriculture and Commerce, of Foreign Affairs, and of Education respectively. It may have been a coincidence, but nevertheless it is an interesting circumstance, that the Radical leader, in his address at the recent meeting of his Party, insisted on the necessity of placing outside the sphere of party politics, questions relating to education, foreign affairs, industry, and the defence of the country. The positive policy of the *Yi-yu-to* is limited to these questions. The Radicals no doubt aim at overthrowing the so-called clan section of the Cabinet by giving support to the non-clan section. This is plainly indicated by an article in the *Yi-yu* which concludes thus:—"The present Cabinet, when compared to its militant predecessors, shows a certain amount of improvement. This is the reason why our Party has made some changes in its programme and has resolved to pursue a negative and a positive policy at the same moment. But we declare ourselves still opposed to the present Ministry, because improvement is limited only to a small portion of its body, and it is as a whole still clannish in its character. Our party is, however, fair and impartial; and, although we are opposed to the Cabinet as a whole, we shall be ready to give our support to such of its measures as may be deemed beneficial to the people and consistent with constitutional principles of Government."

The Progressionists are as uncompromising as ever in their opposition. The *Mainichi Shimbun* clearly states that the Administration must be thoroughly reformed before it can be entrusted with the carrying out of any new measure. Our contemporary evidently means more than it dares to express, for it borrows an analogy from the history of the latter days of the Tokugawa Government. The opponents of the Tokugawa Government knew very well that the country must be opened to foreign intercourse, but they thought it absolutely necessary first to pull down the rotten edifice of feudal Government before inaugurating a new epoch in the national history. Similarly, the Progressionist organ implies the necessity of demolishing the present Government and establishing a system of Party Cabinets before questions of every-day politics can be approached.

The Progressionist Party held its general meeting in Tokyo on the 10th instant. Writing on this topic, the *Mainichi Shimbun* says that, of the parties opposed to the Government, the Progressionists are most detested by the Authorities, the Radicals faring comparatively well in this respect. The Progressionist organ remarks that, at the time of the last general elections, local officials were instructed to assist Radicals against Progressionists, and Ministerialists against them both. "We are now," concludes our contemporary, "the principal targets of Ministerial attack, and it is time for our Party to stand forth and give battle to the enemy."

The National Union held a general meeting on the 20th instant, and as the result of the discussions then held, most of its members are now engaged in the organization of a political

party under the name of *Kokumin Seisha* (National Political Association). It should be observed that the National Union, though really a political body, professes to be a social association, and there has been talk of converting it in its entirety into a political party. But as several members object to such a step, it has become necessary to leave the National Union as it is, and create a new political body. It is reported that Viscount Shinagawa and Count Saigo, the leaders of the National Unionists, will not join the new political party. They probably prefer to pull the wires from behind the curtain. These two leaders, and several others who are said to follow their example, are condemned by the press for inconsistency, and are advised to join the *Kokumin Seisha*, if they aspire to the position of responsible politicians.

Besides the above mentioned three parties, namely the Radicals, the Progressionists, and the National Unionists, public attention is attracted by the steady expansion of a small body calling themselves the Independent Popular Party (*Dokuritsu Min-to*). Originally a little group comprising scarcely ten members of the House of Representatives, the association now numbers more than thirty. The leaders are Messrs. Kusumoto Masataka, Kawamura Jun, Nakamura Yaro, and Suzuki Shigetaro. Though upon the whole in sympathy with the Radicals and the Progressionists, they are not so thoroughgoing as the latter in their opposition to the Government. The Progressionist organs welcome them as allies, but are evidently not satisfied with their moderate programme. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* finds fault with a phrase in the programme adopted by the Independents. They state that one of their objects is to maintain the legislative power. Now, according to the principle of the Japanese Constitution, the legislative power is vested in the Emperor, the Diet being only allowed to participate in its exercise. How can any body of politicians maintain what they do not possess?

The members of the House of Representatives from the Province of Kii are just at present the subject of much talk in the capital. They are supposed to be under the control of Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. In the last session they steadily voted with the Popular party, but now that their supposed leader is in the Cabinet, their attitude is open to some doubt. The *Yi-yu* is inclined to believe that they will be found in the camp of the Popular party. It sees nothing anomalous in their being there, because, although their leader is a member of the Cabinet, the latter is pledged to a policy of neutrality towards all political parties. Should these members, however, turn Ministerialists, that would be, says our contemporary, a conclusive proof that the so-called neutral policy of the Cabinet is a mere pretext, for the members from Kii would not cast in their lot with the supporters of the Government unless strong pressure were brought to bear upon them through their leader; a convenient manner of reasoning.

The Law for the postponement of the operation of the Civil and the Commercial Codes having at last received Imperial sanction, was promulgated on the 24th instant. There is scarcely a paper not in favour of postponement. Indeed, this step of the Government, though taken tardily, has been universally welcomed. There are, of course, some sweeping reflections on the indecision and hesitation manifested by the Cabinet. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, whose strong and independent language on this subject has been the cause of much surprise, indulges, like most of its contemporaries, in considerable ridicule of the vacillating conduct of the Cabinet, and then proceeds to censure the Ministers for their apparent neglect of prompt measures to set qualified machinery in motion for the revision of the Codes. The Ministers took three months to consider the question, and when they came to the conclusion that the Codes must be post-

poned, they must have also come to some definite conclusion as to the manner in which revision should be effected so as to adapt the new laws to the requirements of the country. The *Nichi Nichi* sincerely regrets that the Cabinet has not at once provided for the carrying out of a measure so urgent as revision. Firmly convinced of the absolute necessity of revision before putting the Codes in operation, our contemporary is not less firmly convinced of the importance of giving effect to these laws as quickly as possible.

The Hokkaido question receives increasing attention from metropolitan journals. It is reported that the Radicals are engaged in extensive investigations as to the actual state of things in Hokkaido, preparatory to drafting a motion for submission to the Diet mapping out the policy that should be followed in the colonization of the northern island. From what has thus far been written by the Radical and Progressionist organs, it appears that the two parties are in favour of placing Hokkaido upon exactly the same footing for administrative purposes as the rest of the country. The principal features of their scheme are the extension of the franchise to inhabitants of Hokkaido, and the establishment of Local Assemblies. The advocates of this change have evidently a keen eye to political interests, for they vie with each other in courting the good-will of the Hokkaido folks so as to insure the return of men of their own creed in case the proposition becomes a reality. Meanwhile, the Cabinet is strongly reminded by the *Nippon* of the vital importance of adopting some definite course of policy in Hokkaido. The administration of affairs there, during the past twenty and odd years, has been, in our contemporary's opinion, a great blot upon the fair name of the Meiji Government. Public opinion is thoroughly aroused on the subject, and the *Nippon* doubts not that it will be seriously discussed by the Diet and that the Cabinet will be asked to explain the policy it intends to pursue. Unless the legitimate queries of the Diet are met with satisfactory answers, Ministers are informed that they will find themselves in a very disgraceful situation, for failure to define their policy would be tantamount to a confession that they have no policy to define.

Count Oki's resignation in connection, it is stated, with the recent scandal in the Department of Education and the changes now taking place in the higher officials of that Department, are much commented on. Some papers go so far as to intimate to the Minister of Education that, unless the supposed abuses in the Department are dealt with in a thoroughgoing manner, the old proposition for the entire abolition of the Educational Department may again be revived in the Diet.

The *Nippon* has an interesting article on the importance of adopting a new national ceremonial costume. At present European evening dress and frock-coats are used by most people, but to enforce the adoption of these throughout the country would be not only improper but impracticable; for European garments are costly and their use in the Provinces is out of question. Moreover, Western garments are incongruous in Japanese houses. Another inconvenience in the present state of things is that on occasions of Shinto ritual, robes of an entirely different kind are prescribed; consequently the Japanese of to-day have to provide themselves, first, with European garments, secondly, with Japanese costumes for civil purposes, and, thirdly, with those for religious occasions. The *Nippon* asks that there be chosen some new form of ceremonial robes, which shall be used by both the rich and the poor, on civil as well as on religious occasions, and shall be in harmony with the conditions of Japanese domestic life. Our contemporary does not indicate any particular style, the working out of the details being as usual left to practical reformers. So soon as a suitable style is discovered, the *Nippon* recommends the Government to proclaim it by Ordinance.

Original from

THE KEROSENE CASE.

SINCE the privilege of appeal to the Supreme Court is not to be exercised by the plaintiffs in the kerosene oil case, recently tried by the Yokohama Local Court and subsequently carried to the Tokyo Court of Appeal—whose proceedings and judgment we have translated and published in full—it is permissible to comment on this interesting suit. The broad facts are that Messrs. MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & CO., British merchants trading in Yokohama, deposited a quantity of kerosene oil in the Government Warehouses at Nakamura, and that some forty-three thousand cases of the oil were subsequently withdrawn without the Firm's consent, and fraudulently sold, whereupon the Firm took action against the Warehouse Authorities to recover the amount of the loss. The persons who withdrew the oil were Chinese *employés* of the Firm. Consequently, the point to be determined was whether the Warehouse Officials were entitled to regard these Chinamen as duly authorized agents, qualified to represent their employers in such transactions. In order to arrive at a conclusion, it is necessary to consider the procedure which the Regulations prescribe for deposit and withdrawal. When a merchant desires to entrust kerosene to the safe keeping of the Warehouse, he is required to submit an application containing all particulars necessary for identification. Thereupon the goods are received, and in exchange for them a Warrant is handed to their owner, acknowledging their receipt and recapitulating the particulars of identification. The owner is thenceforward at liberty to withdraw the kerosene, either in whole or in parts, whenever he finds it convenient to do so. In withdrawing goods, the procedure is that an order for delivery has to be submitted, giving the exact quantity and description of the goods, and at the same time the Warrant mentioned above is also presented. The Warehouse Authorities receive and file the Delivery Order, and then proceed to enter upon the back of the Warrant the number of cases of oil delivered as well as the number of cases remaining in their custody. This done, the Warrant is handed back to the depositor, to be again presented with a fresh Delivery Order on the occasion of the next withdrawal. These steps are repeated until the whole of the kerosene is withdrawn, whereupon the Warrant is finally returned to the Warehouse Authorities. The latter thus retain, as evidence of the transaction, the Warrant, having the original quantity of oil entered on its face and the various withdrawals tabulated on its back, and the Delivery Orders referring to each withdrawal. All this procedure was duly followed in the case under consideration. It must, indeed, have been duly followed, for without a Delivery Order and without the Warrant, no delivery of oil is ever made

by the Warehouse Officials. The question hinged, therefore, not upon the validity of the procedure, but upon the qualifications of the persons who carried it out. These persons were Chinese *employés* of the Firm by whom the oil, or at any rate some part of it, had been deposited, and the Firm claimed, first, that, as a matter of fact, the Chinamen were not duly authorized agents; secondly, that, as a point of commercial custom, no Chinaman could have been a duly authorized agent; and thirdly that, under both aspects, the Warehouse Authorities were guilty of negligence in delivering oil to such persons. It will appear to a casual reader that no difficulty should exist in determining the first question, inasmuch as each Delivery Order has to be signed, and the person qualified to sign it ought to be as clearly defined and recognised as is the signatory of a bank cheque. Such, indeed, seems to be the intention of the Warehouse Regulations, for we find there a prescribed form of Application for Deposit, in which it is clearly stated by the firm depositing the goods that delivery shall be made only on their signature. But, unfortunately, the precision contemplated by this rule is not realized in practice, for it has become customary with firms depositing oil to entrust the signature of Deposit Applications to *employés* who possess no legal authorization to represent the Firm, the latter's stamp only being added. Thus the Warehouse Authorities are deprived of any definite guide in the important matter of signatures, and are naturally led to infer that if an *employé* possessing no legal authorization is permitted to sign a Deposit Application, an *employé* similarly unqualified may be allowed to sign a Delivery Order. Were it the hard and fast habit, as evidently intended by the Regulations, that Deposit Applications and Delivery Orders must bear the same signature, and that the signature must be that either of the Firm, or of its publicly authorized agent, no uncertainty could exist, nor would any irregularity be possible except in the event of deliberate forgery. But where agents not duly authorized are suffered to figure as depositors, the rigidity of the whole transaction is impaired, and proceedings that ought to be governed by strict rule become more or less discretionary. With regard to the second contention—namely, that Chinese *employés* are never trusted by foreign firms to transact such business, and that the Warehouse Authorities, cognisant of this, ought to have sought further assurance before delivering oil to any Chinaman—the point would be weighty had it been confirmed by the evidence of practice. But, on the contrary, proof was furnished that Delivery Orders signed by the very Chinamen concerned in this fraud had been recognised by the Firm as proper and in due form. Hence the contention that Chinamen were never authorized to act in such a capacity fell to the ground,

and, moreover, the case assumed this aspect, that the Warehouse Authorities were charged, not with failing to discriminate against all Chinamen, but with failing to discriminate between repeated acts of the same Chinamen. The plaintiffs, in short, stood in the position of contending that although the validity of some deliveries made to their Chinese *employés* was not disputed, other deliveries made to the same Chinamen under precisely similar circumstances and in accordance with identical procedure, were invalid.

It will easily be inferred from all this that considerable laxity had grown up in respect of these transactions of deposit and delivery. The practice was open to abuse, and the Chinamen abused it. Their plan of action seems to have been at once crafty and daring. Representing to the Firm that a sale of so and so many cases of kerosene had been effected, they would receive a Delivery Order for that amount together with the Storage Warrant. Having then forged a new Delivery Order for a much larger quantity, they would carry this, together with the Warrant, to the Warehouse. Apparently they had access to the Firm's India-rubber stamp, or possessed a facsimile, for the forged orders were always duly stamped. The Warehouse Officials suspected nothing. They had, in the first place, a duly stamped Delivery Order, signed by a Chinaman, it is true, but a Chinaman known to be in the employ of the Firm, and known to have previously signed such Orders; and in the second, they had the Warrant of Deposit, to them the most important document of all. Entering, then, on the back of the Warrant, the number of cases demanded, they delivered the oil and returned the Warrant. It was at this stage that the Chinese showed their daring. They knew that if the entries on the back of the Warrant were at any time scrutinized and compared with the books of the Firm, discovery must at once ensue. But they trusted that no such scrutiny would be made, and they were right. Time after time entries largely exceeding the number of cases for which the Firm had received payment and for which *bonâ fide* Delivery Orders had actually been given, were passed without any notice. If the Chinese had ever drawn out the whole quantity of kerosene covered by a Warrant, they would have been detected, for in that case the Warrant must have been returned to the Warehouse Authorities, and the Firm's attention would have been called to the closing of the transaction. But they were not so clumsy. Their frauds were always kept within the limits of each Warrant, and they were thus able to continue the deceit during a long period. Evidently there was considerable looseness of management and superintendence, and it is not easy to understand how any serious hope can have been entertained of recovering damages from the Warehouse

Authorities. The judgment of the Appeal Court is lucid and well reasoned, and that substantial justice is secured by it, there can, we think, be no question. With the contention that Chinese are never employed by foreigners in capacities of serious trust, which is, in effect, the significance of the local commercial custom alleged by the plaintiffs, the Judges deal shortly and sternly, and we cannot be at all surprised at their tone.

Whether the Warehouse Authorities have been justified in permitting the growth of the loose methods brought to light by the trial, and how far they could have interfered to prevent them, we do not propose to consider here. Allusion may be made, however, to one special feature of the case which has produced a bad impression on the foreign public. The Counsel for Messrs. MOURILYAN, HEIMANN and Co. asked the Court to order the Warehouse Authorities to produce all the documents relating to the various transactions, the Deposit Applications, the Warrants and the Delivery Orders. This the Warehouse Authorities declined to do. They based their refusal on two pleas: first, that they were under no obligation to have preserved the documents, and that, in point of fact, some of them had been destroyed; secondly, that though they were prepared to produce, as far as possible, the documents relating to any specific transaction which the plaintiffs indicated as having been improper, they declined to submit all the documents *en masse* for scrutiny by the plaintiffs with the object of detecting irregularities. In fact, they declined to afford any facilities for the construction of a case against themselves. The Court accepted these pleas, and refused to make any order for the production of the documents. We do not perceive that any other course was possible to the Judges. In the first place, had such an order been made, the Warehouse Authorities might have complied with it as fully or as incompletely as they pleased. They do not acknowledge any obligation to preserve documents relating to a closed transaction. They assert that so soon as the Warrant issued by them on receiving goods for storage returns to their possession, the original depositor of the goods ceases, *de facto*, to have any claims upon them; just as a Bank ceases to have any claim against the acceptor of a Bill of Exchange to whom that document has been duly handed on maturity and payment. In a word, their liability with respect to any transaction of deposit and withdrawal depends, they say, not upon documents which they can themselves show, but upon documents which the other side can show. Further, it is manifest that if a suitor carries into Court a general charge of irregularity against public agents, he cannot expect the Court to order that the Agents shall produce their books so as to enable him to discover exactly where the

irregularity has been. Therefore, the Court seems to have been justified in rejecting the application. But we think it distinctly regrettable that the documents were not produced. The relationship existing between the Warehouse Officials and Import Merchants differs essentially from that existing between ordinary traders. It is a relationship based on a mutual obligation to avert public peril. The importer, dealing in dangerous goods, is required by law, and readily consents, to store them in such a place and under such conditions as shall prevent them from menacing public security. The Warehouse Officials, on their side, act in the interests of general safety. They seek no advantage for themselves, but only to promote the benefit of the community. Hence it is their duty to adopt every possible means of guaranteeing a depositor against inconvenience or loss; and, if he suffers either, it is not less their duty to afford him every facility in obtaining redress. It is true that the production of the desired documents could not have materially affected the issue of the case. The plaintiffs had been allowed to copy them, and to obtain from them whatever evidence they furnished. Moreover, the main fact to be shown by the documents was that deliveries of kerosene had been made to Chinamen on their own signatures. But that fact was unreservedly admitted by the defendant. No documentary testimony was needed to establish it, and the Judgment of the Court shows that it was regarded as proved. Thus the defendant probably considered that his refusal to produce the documents could not in any way impede the course of justice. Such a view, however, ought to have dispelled his reluctance to comply with the plaintiffs' desire. If the documents contained nothing that could prejudice his own case or promote his opponents', why decline to put them in? Apparently there was an apprehension that to produce them would have been equivalent to a general acknowledgment of obligation to preserve all such documents, which would, of course, be intolerable. But this difficulty might easily have been surmounted by the manner of production. What is certain is that the defendant, by refusing to comply with the plaintiffs' application, alienated public sympathy, and suggested the impression that instead of coöperating to elucidate irregularities, the Warehouse Authorities were not unwilling to throw technical difficulties in the way.

THE OPINION OF A DAUGHTER OF EVE.

"Virginia," writing in the current issue of "Black and White," in the column devoted to "The Diary of a Daughter of Eve," says:—I stayed to dine with Julia and was delighted to note an unusual amount of flavour about her soup and sauces, and while congratulating her upon my approval of her presumably new cook, I learnt that it was Liebig who deserved my commendation. The despot who rules her kitchen has been pleased to recognise the virtues of the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef, has, indeed, taken to it with enthusiasm. She does not, of course, confess the secrets of her prison house, but when Julia pays her diurnal visits downstairs she observes the tell-tale jars with their unmistakable blue signatures across the labels.

THE PAINTINGS OF MR. A. PARSONS.

ON Tuesday and Wednesday the public of Tokyo enjoyed an unprecedented treat. Mr. ALFRED PARSONS, who has been in Japan since March last, and has devoted almost the whole period of his stay here to painting, announced that he should be at home in the Imperial Hotel on the afternoons of the above days to receive any visitors desirous of looking at his pictures. The invitation was taken advantage of by nearly the entire foreign community of Tokyo, but by very few Japanese, doubtless because, in the absence of any intimation in the vernacular press, the Japanese generally remained in ignorance of the opportunity. It was difficult to determine the exact number of pictures, for no attempt had been made to set them out one by one. They were merely laid in heaps on tables and settees. Large and small, however, there must have been from a hundred to a hundred and thirty, some, of course, not completely finished, and a few intended as studies for larger pictures, but the whole forming a collection sufficiently numerous to show that the artist must have utilized every moment of his stay in Japan, fine days and wet days alike. As to the quality of the pictures, there can be only one verdict. They are water-colours, but—and this is not their least noteworthy feature—the tones are so rich and solid that all the best characteristics of oils are suggested. How such results can be obtained with the water-colourist's palette, we are preplexed to conceive. The reputation acquired by Mr. PARSONS in Europe, especially as a painter of foliage and flower effects, is of the highest, but we venture to think that it will be greatly enhanced by these beautiful pictures. We do not, of course, mean to suggest that they display any new development of the artistic instinct and technical skill for which Mr. PARSONS is already famous; or that the foliage and flowers of Japan offer any novel varieties of colouring and bloom commanding special admiration. But it is nevertheless true that nature in Japan is seen under a distinctly different aspect from that which she presents in England. The atmosphere of this country, at times of crystalline clearness, at times of opalescent softness, but always free from Occidental brume, shows us the trees and flowers with a distinctness and at the same time tenderness scarcely known elsewhere. These exquisite qualities Mr. PARSONS has succeeded in reproducing with absolute fidelity, and though we have no means of estimating whether his efforts in Japan surpass those already made by him in Europe, we are persuaded that such effects of foliage, flower, and landscape as he is carrying away from these shores to the fortunate dilettanti of the West, will create a new and enthusiastic conception of the possibilities of this branch of art.

Nothing short of a consummate knowledge of values and faultless instinct as a colourist could enable an artist to do what Mr. PARSONS has done. Looking at his sketch books, where studies of English landscape are dashed in with such truth that one seems to smell the hawthorn and hear the lambs bleat in the sweet glades of the old country, and then turning to the lotus lakes, azalea slopes, and bamboo grooves of Japan, as he has succeeded in rendering them, one realizes immediately that entirely different palettes must have been used, and that the most delicately educated perception of relationships could alone have inspired this admirable precision of reproduction. We who live among the beauties of Japanese foliage and flowers, and are accustomed to see them perpetually under her skies of enchanting softness and delicate purity, do not perhaps realize fully what is meant by such a *tour de force* as Mr. PARSONS' perfect representations involve. But to the discriminating section of the public in the West, the pictures will open a new vista of delight. We speak, it will be observed, chiefly of foliage and flowers, because, although Mr. PARSONS' landscapes command no less admiration, his trees and blossoms stand on a plane of artistic achievement far above anything we have ever had the pleasure of seeing before in the same line. Our readers will perhaps expect us to justify this verdict by reference to various pictures in detail. It would be easy to set out upon such an undertaking, but difficult to bring it to a close. For there is not one of the paintings that deserves to be passed over in silence. We find that our notes, compiled with some hope of discrimination, contain admiring references to no less than fifty-two pictures, and are brought to an end not because the end was reached, but because it seemed still too far off. Yet, if it is necessary to particularize, we should be disposed to say that the bamboos, the azalea, the wistaria, the lotus, and the *higan-bana* of Japan never came to life on canvas until Mr. PARSONS' brush created them. The bamboo is to our thinking the gem of Japanese foliage—not the *madake*, with its straight head and somewhat emaciated leaves, but the *moso*, which bows with the most perfect grace under the weight of its own luxuriant yet marvelously delicate tresses, its stem showing such a combination of lusty verdure and pearly tenderness as can be seen on no other plant or tree of the forest. If other artists have attempted to depict the bamboo as nature shows it under a Japanese sky, their work has left no impression, whereas Mr. PARSONS' bamboos can never be forgotten. During the season of cherry bloom he seems to have found the weather too unpropitious to obtain many pictures of this flower so dearly loved in Japan, but it may well be that he avoided an object which, after

all, is somewhat hacknied. The cherry, however, is not without an occasional place in his paintings and nothing can exceed the beauty and fidelity of the rendering it receives. As for the flowers and leaves of the lotus, it is impossible to speak in terms too admiring of the extraordinary faithfulness and loveliness of their representations. There is one picture, of which the foreground only, a lotus lake, is finished. Every leaf and blossom in this exquisite painting has a character of its own. The mass of rich colour and tender green lives on the canvas, glowing in the crystal air and quivering in the breeze that shows us the broad leaves in a multitude of disturbed but always graceful forms. This, we believe, is to be taken as the study for a large picture, and if, as we cannot doubt, the same success is attained on broader canvas, the picture should make a sensation. Fujiyama, it need scarcely be said, exercises upon Mr. PARSONS the charm that it possesses for every artist. He has produced some delightful landscapes, with the peerless mountain in the distance, its loveliness inexpressibly enhanced by wonderfully faithful atmospheric effects, and by foregrounds of living foliage. In these pictures, and indeed in the whole series, there is conspicuously displayed one of the artist's strongest points, excellence of composition. The balance is as perfect as the harmony. It seems to us particularly interesting that an English artist should have come to Japan and challenged the Japanese on their own ground. Floral and foliage painting has always been admitted as a field in which the Japanese artist excels, but one need only glance at Mr. PARSONS' pictures to appreciate how enormously the Japanese painter's effects fall short of the potentialities offering to an artist who, to the highest gifts of colouring and fidelity, adds a thorough appreciation of values, an unerring instinct of composition, and a master's use of chiaroscuro. It has been to us a veritable treat to look at Mr. PARSONS' pictures, and to think that the beauties of Japanese foliage and flowers as seen in Japanese atmosphere are about to be transferred to the salons of Europe and America.

NEW CODES AND OLD CUSTOMS.

VI.

THE subject of Real Servitudes, as the French term goes, or Easements and Profits, in good old-fashioned law-English, is treated in "Private Law in Old Japan," Part V, under the head of "Lesser Rights connected with Land." This chapter includes a miscellaneous assortment of topics; and the original heading under which they appear (*tochimi sokusuru gimu*, obligations pertaining to land) is clearly a mere periphrase, indicating that, though the thing existed, there was no generic scientific conception of "servitude" or

"easement." The new-coined Code term is *chi-yeki* (land-uses). The sections of the collection of customs bear the titles "Boundaries," "Vicinage," "Sundry Servitudes," "Usufruct," "Temple Endowments," "Forests," "Pastures," "Ponds and Swamps," "Drains," "Ways," "Irrigation," and "Rivers"; and among these headings it is not always easy to trace the servitudes mentioned in the more orderly numeration of the Code.

The first servitude established by law is the Right of Access and Passage. This is of two sorts—the right to use neighbouring premises for the purpose of construction or repair of one's own; and the right to pass over neighbouring premises to the highway when one's own land is shut out from all other modes of egress. The former finds no recognition in the recorded customs; though our general knowledge of Japanese habits would indicate that there is no special disinclination to admit such a privilege. The latter is several times noted as recognized by custom, the term employed for such an *enclavé* being "pouch-land" (*fukuro-chi*). In Idzumi *kuni*, for instance, "where a plot of pouch-land exists, a passage must be made by which the occupant can have egress to the main street. The closing of such outlets has for generations been the subject of a prohibition, and the rule is still strictly observed by all." Here again, we cannot refrain from observing, the French law has proved more in harmony with the genius of the country, for, as every one knows, the cold and unbending rules of English law require the owner who finds himself *enclavé* to make the best he can of it, and does not require his neighbour to help him out of the fix. The only exception is that, where a grant of one parcel of land leaves it *enclavé*, the purchaser has a right to pass out over the remaining land of the grantor to the highway, if it is possible; this is also prescribed by the Code (Art. 223). The Code requires (Art. 220) that the neighbour whose land is thus made use of shall be given, first, an indemnity for plantations, etc., destroyed, if any, and, second, an annual rental for the use of the land. Of the first we find no express record in the customs, though it is its own justification. But the second, as a general principle, was well recognized, though the modes of application differed. Sometimes the shut-in owner must merely keep the passage in repair; sometimes a rent was to be paid; or perhaps another piece of land might be handed over in compensation. In place of these the Code establishes a uniform rule that a rental must be paid. But it is clear enough that there is nothing essentially new for the Japanese people in this section of the Code.

The next servitude is that of the Use of Water. This is one of the most difficult and delicate subjects to regulate, especially in a country like Japan, where agriculture lives by irrigation and where custom is so varied

and yet so powerful. The legislators have apparently had this in mind in drafting Art. 230, dealing with riparian rights. After referring to important provisions preceding, this article allows the Courts, where there are conflicting claims on the part of riparian owners, "to decide the controversy by taking into consideration the local usage and by harmonizing the requirements of household hygiene with the interests of agriculture and industry." This safeguard ought to satisfy the most exacting critic. It is given only for the rights of riparian proprietors; but it is easy to see that the other matters of the Section have been so carefully regulated as to produce no appreciable friction with existing ideas. Article 228, for instance, provides that "if the waters of a spring are necessary to the domestic uses of a *cho*, *son*, or hamlet, the proprietor of it is bound to allow the outgo of the portion not needed. . . . The *cho* or *son* must pay a compensation for the use of the water, unless it has already had the use gratuitously for 30 years." Now compare what is recorded of Yamato *kuni*. "This village makes use of the river-water for irrigation by filling its reservoir from the river in spring and autumn, when the villages further up, lying directly along the river, do not need it, and thus sufficient water is stored up for the remainder of the year. As a compensation they pay to the upper villages a tax for the use of the water, and also are responsible for some share of the expense of repairing and cleaning the aqueducts." A closer parallel could hardly be found; and the custom here recorded is alluded to in other regions as well. Take, again, Art. 226: "Owners may not so dispose their roofs or platforms in such a way that rain-water falls directly upon the adjacent premises." This coincides with a custom practically universal in Japan. In two places it is recorded that "if rain is shed upon the adjacent land, no objection can be made;" but in twenty places the express statement is made that houses must be so placed as to prevent the shedding of rain upon neighbours' land, and in still others a distance between houses is prescribed which would have the same effect. In Rikuzen *kuni*, "dwellings and storehouses are usually placed $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the next house, but further, if there would result any inconvenience to the neighbour by the shedding of rain from the roof; for every one is under an obligation to avoid causing annoyance in that way." Away in the other direction, in Buzen *kuni*, where "the boundary space must be such as to prevent the shedding of rain on adjoining premises," it is reported that "there is an instance in old times of a dispute, about a boundary which was determined by letting down a leaden plummet from the extremity of the eaves."

For Art. 224 similar parallels occur. "The proprietors of lower estates must receive the rain or spring water which

flows down from above naturally and without the aid of man." In Shinano *kuni*, "where A is an upper owner and B a lower, and continual rains cause a flow of water down over the land of B, he cannot object to this, as the upper owner has a right to have the water pass off thus." The same servitude is recorded of other regions. In Art. 234 a similar duty is imposed of giving passage to surplus waters draining off in the course of agriculture. The corresponding custom seems indicated in Echū *kuni*, where "the lower owner must receive the water flowing from the land of owners above; nor can he erect an embankment to set back the water upon the upper land." Other *kuni* have similar records.

One more parallel in this Section must suffice. In Art. 233 it is provided that "every proprietor having the right to use natural or artificial waters situated without his premises may require, on paying compensation, passage across intervening tenements, estates, etc." This provision finds corroborative notice in the records of customs as regards wells and other water-sources. In Shinano *kuni* (and elsewhere) "where there is on A's land a well which B has a prescriptive right to use, B may pass over the land of A to reach the well; but B must repair any injury caused by him to the road, and must replace any well instrument lost or injured." Again, in Kaga *kuni*, "where the source of a stream used for irrigation by village B lies in village A, the former hires the land of village A where the stream passes, paying the taxes and sundry charges. Sometimes, however, village A presents the land to village B, and the latter presents another in exchange to the former." The fundamental idea in Code and in custom is the same.

The third Section of this Code chapter describes the right of delimitation or fixing of boundaries. There is no corresponding customary record in the Asiatic Society's publication; but we happen to know that contests over boundaries were one of the most frequent subjects of judicial settlement, and that there was a most elaborate procedure for the determination of boundaries and their permanent establishments, all of which, with a tedious array of the forms of documents, notices, official reports, etc., may be seen by consulting the well-known treatise *Ochiboshu* ("Jottings from the Provinces").

A few provisions must now be noticed in the final sections relating to fencing, position of buildings, etc.

By Art. 245 the general rule is laid down that "every proprietor may enclose his premises to such a height and with such materials as he sees fit." But Art. 262 modifies this liberty by requiring that trees and bamboos of more than 3 *ken* (18 feet) in height shall not be placed nearer than 6 feet from the boundary; if of more than 1 *ken* (6 feet) in height, no nearer than 2 feet. Practically this restriction will affect

all agricultural land; for trees and bamboo stakes are there the only fence material that can be afforded. The object of this restriction is not made clear until we consult the records of customs, and here we find that one of the most marked and general characteristics of agricultural ethics in Japan is that the neighbour shall not by the shade of his trees or fences deprive adjoining crops of the necessary sunlight. This idea finds expression in usages manifold in their variety but at one in purpose. Houses, fences, trees,—the principle applies (though not in every place) to all. The cutting off of sunlight from an adjacent dwelling was generally reprehensible; while for cultivated land the principle is almost without exception. The minimum distance allowed for trees varied widely; sometimes it was 3 feet, sometimes 72 feet, —3, 6, 12, and 18 being most common. The height of the tree (which virtually means, in most cases, the fence) varied likewise, in some places 3 feet, in others, 15 feet. Sometimes special limitations are laid down for the southern side of the neighbour's estate, while the northern is left with little or none. Timber trees in some districts are specially restricted, mulberry bushes specially favoured in others. The slope of the land, too, may affect the height allowable. The Code lays down the general rule above-mentioned; but, as on former occasions, we find the legislators, with careful prevision, adjusting it to the habits of the people by declaring (Art. 263) that its rules on this point are not obligatory where a different usage obtains. For houses, the general principle that a sun-space should exist had in Old Japan crystallized into arbitrary rules as to the number of feet to be left between each dwelling-house and the boundary-line. This space varied from 6 inches to 6 feet, and a rehearsal of the details would be tedious. The Code arranges for these variations by providing that "every proprietor wishing to construct a building with materials other than brick or stone must leave between the building and the boundary line a space determined by local usage." The exception as to buildings of brick and stone finds its counterpart and its justification in the similar special favour given in the customary law to storehouses of all sorts.

The only remaining Code principle to notice is that which forbids a direct outlook on neighbouring premises from windows, balconies, or verandahs, unless the window, etc., stands back from the boundary line at least 3 feet, or unless a screen is erected (Arts. 258-9.) This servitude already finds a fairly general recognition in Japan. In three-fourths of the passages touching on the subject the custom is either that there shall be no overlooking windows or that such windows shall be screened. In the districts where this restriction is wanting the requisition of a space between houses seems to have

been regarded as sufficient protection to the neighbour, giving him an opportunity to erect screens if desired, and yet to retain a space for light. The Code has taken a medium course. A screen is required, as above related, for overlooking windows; but where the house stands back 3 feet from the line the restriction is removed. The object has been apparently to reconcile customs and secure convenience, and the situation is certainly one where all sections of the country could not be equally satisfied. It is obvious, of course, that so far as existing custom has sanctioned any practice inconsistent with the Code rule the doctrine of prescription preserves for every individual the privileges so obtained. This idea, by the way, is indicated in the customary law in a passage relating to Yamashiro *kuni*. "Where a window has existed since old times, a neighbour cannot claim to have it closed, even though it overlooks his land; but an overlooking window cannot be newly made without paying," etc. Here we have, in the oldest part of Japan, the first cousin of the familiar English doctrine of "ancient lights."

Space forbids us to enlarge on other tempting comparisons between Code and customs in this chapter on Servitudes. This chapter, perhaps not of chief importance to the larger interests of agriculture and industry (except as regards irrigation-rights), nevertheless touches the everyday life of the people more closely than any other chapter in the Book of Property. There were, too, in this portion of the Code more opportunities than in almost any other for imposing alien rules where fixed customs already existed. Yet we have seen that the ideas of Code and custom are substantially the same; that where latitude could be given, local varieties of usage have been allowed the freest play; and that where novelties or inflexible rules have been determined upon, the situation was such as amply to justify the exercise of legislative discretion.

VII.

OUTSIDE of topics connected more or less directly with property, we seldom find adequate material for comparison in the records now before us; and for this reason we pass over the topics of Book II., Part II. (Obligations), and take up a few of the more important chapters of Book III. (Acquisition of Property). For the chapters on Occupation and Accession we find as yet, in the "Private Law in Old Japan," no topics for comparison; though doubtless there will be among the later volumes of Legal Precedents. But we must note, in passing, the conflict of customs indicated upon a point of considerable consequence in a country so subject to floods. The process known to the civilians as Avulsion, or the tearing off of portions of land by flood and their removal to other estates, did not in the civil law transfer the owner-

ship of land so torn away. Now in Idzu *kuni*, we read, "if a piece of land on the west bank is broken off and becomes attached to the east bank, it is called 'river-bank land,' and remains the property of the village whence it came;" while in Echigo *kuni* "when in consequence of an overflow of the Shinano River there occurs an increase and diminution of land by a detachment of land in one place and an accretion in another, the owners of the detached land must bear the loss, and the benefit of the accretion goes to the owner of the land increased." Under these circumstances the legislators would perhaps have been justified in at once choosing the alternative that seemed to give greater justice; yet we cannot but agree with them in relegating the matter (as they have done in Art. 12) to a special law, to be enacted, presumably, after further investigation.

The titles which demand special attention are those of Sale and Mortgage.

A sale, says Art. 25, is complete upon an agreement being reached by the parties. For immovables (realty), however, a registration is necessary at the land-registry office. This, as has already been stated, is quite in harmony with an almost universal custom of Old Japan. Registration in some form or another seems to have been usual in all transfers of realty; and even in case of horses and other personalty the feudal lords frequently required the recording of transfers. When one considers what a large place the transaction of Sale occupies among those dealing with land, one realizes how important the fact of this harmony of Code and custom is in this particular relation. Imagine the state into which all England would be thrown to-day if a law of compulsory registration of land sales were imposed, and we can understand what it means to assert that the new Code is opposed to the customs of the people, and what it means to show that on the contrary the new Code, in so broad and radical a feature as this, finds itself in entire accord with the immemorial habits of the nation. It may be noted here that while the fees for registration are in America customarily paid (we believe) by the seller, the Japanese (and the French) custom has been (according to the Collection of Customs) for the buyer to undertake these. The Code (Art. 34) leaves it to the agreement of the parties; but in the absence of agreement divides the expense equally between them. In America the registration fee is fixed according to the number of documents; in Old Japan it was a percentage (*buichikin*) of the price paid, with various presents and feasts to the officials in addition. Under the Code the fee is regulated by the assessed value of the plot transferred. In the West the last method is impossible; but this country it is quite feasible, more just, and far more effective than the practice in Old Japan, which was always liable (as the Collection

of Customs mentions) to evasion by the parties.

Personalty, it seems, was usually transferred without record, as now, under the Code. The only restriction imposed by the latter is one similar in content to our Statute of Frauds. Under Art. 60 of Book V. (Proof) every sale must be evidenced by a writing of some sort, where the value at stake exceeds 50 *yen*. As regards this requirement of written evidence (there are of course a few exceptions which need not here be touched upon), it can hardly be adjudged an innovation. It may be asserted that there is no civilized country where resort is had more readily to writing as the embodiment of important transactions than in Japan. Custom has prescribed a very strict practice on this point, and this provision of the Code introduces no new thing. What is new is the fixing of a minimum amount, above which such evidence will be required. It is obvious, however, that the line must be drawn somewhere, as soon as the law lends a sanction to the requirement of writing. Comparing the limits recognized as proper by the experience of England, America, and the Continent, the figure 50 *yen* seems not an unfair one. In England the amount is £10. In the United States it varies from "any value," in Florida, to \$300, in Montana; but the usual amount is \$50.

In the articles dealing with earnest-money we find a coincidence of custom between Rome and Japan which is not merely interesting but even startling. Long ago, even before JUSTINIAN'S codification, the rule of Roman law was that, where earnest-money (*arra*) was given, the buyer, on withdrawing, forfeited the sum; the seller, on refusing to deliver, must restore double the earnest. This provision came down the ages and found a place in the Code of NAPOLEON. It gives one almost an uncanny feeling, in looking over these records of Japanese customs, taken down from the lips of men who had never heard of Rome or the French Code and had even (in most instances) never seen a foreigner, to find a dozen passages indicating that the identical rule of Roman law obtained in Old Japan. In Suruga *kuni*, for instance: "If the buyer repudiates a contract of sale, he loses the earnest-money; this they call 'losing the earnest.' If the seller repudiates, he must pay back double the amount of the earnest; this they call 'returning double the earnest.'" The name is sometimes "clinch-money" (*sashi-kin*), sometimes "contract-money" (*yakujo-kin*); but the rule is always the same. Doubtless we may persuade ourselves that it was natural enough to hit upon the same expedient even in communities so widely sundered. But this is not the first instance we have cited of a peculiar coincidence in ideas between Japanese and French traditional rules; and we cannot refrain from calling attention again to

the greater facilities which French law has offered in the task of giving scientific form to the legal principles established among the Japanese people.

The incidence of the risk of an article sold is perhaps one of the most important questions in the transaction of sale, and of course depends usually upon where the title to the article is at the time of loss. For a century the law of England and America has been that the title passes immediately on striking the bargain, unless special conditions are imposed. The old Roman law was that the title could not pass until delivery, a notion perhaps usual in a less advanced state of law, though the risk passed immediately to the buyer. The French law has gradually got away from this requirement towards the Anglo-American position (though in the new German Draft Code the policy of requiring delivery has prevailed); and by the Japanese Code (Book II., Art. 331, Book III., Art. 25) the title ordinarily passes at the time of the bargain and without delivery. Hence follows the rule of the Code (Book II., Art. 335) that the article (when specified) is from the time of the bargain at the risk of the buyer, where no condition has been imposed and where the seller has not specially undertaken the risk. The question is, How does this accord with existing Japanese notions? Here, as might be expected, we find a variation of custom. There are eight passages referring to the point in the records of customs. In four the risk is placed on the seller; in three on the buyer; and in one other it is determined in a peculiar manner, viz., according to the point reached on the journey by the vessel bearing the goods. Where the seller bears the risk, much must be allowed for the possibility that the parties conceived the sale as conditional, and therefore not yet consummated (as would often be the case where earnest money is given), and thus even under the Code the risk would be on the seller. What the general belief is among Japanese vendors and purchasers as to the incidence of the risk can thus not be clearly ascertained from these records of customs. In either case the prevailing custom in some sections will have to be sacrificed, and the legislators in making their choice of principles have put themselves in line with the general trend of modern French and English practice. We fancy that Japan will in this respect at least be no worse off than Germany would be under her new Draft Code, after rejecting the prevailing rule of buyer's risk and throwing the risk on the seller.

The chief obligations of the seller, according to the Code, are (1) to deliver, (2) to guarantee title, and (3) to warrant the absence of defects; and of the buyer, to pay at the time and place agreed. In the Collection of Customs we read that "in sales of personalty the seller must deliver the article, and must also guarantee its

genuineness; the buyer must pay at the time and place agreed on." As to the first obligation, the general custom in Japan was, as we might expect, to place it on the seller, as in the Code. This is the sense of the half-dozen passages touching on the point; though of course the parties might have agreed to the contrary. The second obligation, the guarantee of title, is not spoken of in the Collection of Customs. But we know that a covenant against eviction was long ago used in Japanese deeds of land, and there will be nothing new in the principle here given legal sanction. The Collection of Customs, however, mentions several times what corresponds to the English covenant against disturbance by the grantor or those claiming under him; it reads, "neither I nor my descendants may hereafter raise objection to this transfer." But this guarantee seems not to be required by the Code.

There is a third implied obligation on the seller, dealt with in the Code (Art. 94) among the causes for rescinding the sale. This is the warranty of freedom from radical defects. The sale is avoidable for non-apparent defects, irreparable and unknown to the buyer, if they affect substantially the usefulness or value of the article to the buyer. This general idea appears clearly in the Collection of Customs, though not so accurately defined as in the Code. In *Settsu kuni*, "payment may be refused where the realty or personalty is of a different nature from that contracted for, or where the quantity is different." (Deficiency of quantity is governed by Arts. 48-53 of the Code.) In *Idzumo kuni*, "when an article turns out to be not as contracted for, the buyer may refuse to take it, without forfeiting his earnest money." "Not as contracted for" is the rendering of "*gan* (spurious)—*so* (make)." Again, as indicated in the Code, "where the article is bought and delivery taken and cash paid down at the time, the buyer cannot complain that the article is not as contracted for, because it is due to his own short-sightedness." This is the traditional English doctrine of *caveat emptor*. Others of the less usual forms of sale found sanctioned and regulated in the Code are also testified to in the Collection of Customs. Take, for example, sale by auction. This is the proceeding prescribed in Art. 104 in case the owners of an indivisible thing cannot agree upon a division or sale. Now, in the first place, the auction was one of the commonest institutions of Old Japan. Under the form of a "secret-ticket sale" (that is with written bids) it was used in all parts and among all classes. Furthermore, it was used, among other purposes, in the very instance prescribed by the Code, as we learn in two or three passages. In *Kaga kuni*, "where a house or an article made with money contributed by a number of persons is to be sold, ordinary auction or secret-ticket sale is employed."

In *Shinano kuni*, "where there is to be a sale of something which belongs to several persons in common, secret ticket auction is employed." In *Sagami kuni*, "When * * * forest timber which is the common property of a village is to be sold, the sale is held by auction." Here, then, it is perfectly clear that the people will find their traditional procedure fall in exactly with that prescribed by the Code. Moreover, the auction sale is stated to have been employed for disposing of the effects of a bankrupt or of one whose property had been confiscated for crime; and from this it is but a slight transition to the auction sale on an execution by a bailiff, as employed in modern law. The whole idea of using sale by auction wherever conflicting interests are concerned and securities are needed for impartiality and fairness was evidently familiar in Old Japan.

It may be noted that the Japanese idea of what an auction implies coincides with that accepted in the West, i.e., the bid offered must be accepted, unless notice of a limit or of a liberty to withdraw has been given beforehand. In *Suwo kuni*, "notice is posted, 15 or 30 days beforehand, at the cross-roads or other place where people gather. Before the day appointed, the seller usually makes out a ticket naming a price, so that he need not sell below that price. This is called 'lowest-ticket.' When the tickets are opened, if none of them reach the price named, he may refuse to sell. But unless he makes out this ticket beforehand, he must sell to the highest bidder, no matter how low the figure." This custom is mentioned in almost every passage; except that in some regions the seller is allowed to retreat, where the bid does not meet his views, by paying a forfeit.

Another point which must be noticed is the elaborate provisions in the Code (Arts. 84-93) concerning the right of re-purchase reserved by the seller. These correspond to a practice little known in Anglo-American communities, but very common in a state of society like that prevailing in Japan and surviving even yet in Europe; it finds a recognition in the French Code, and even in the new Draft German Code under the heading *Wiederkaufsrecht* or option of re-purchase. Where family patrimony has descended in the same line for many generations, as in the rural districts of Japan, but the time finally comes when adverse circumstances compel a sacrifice of the estate in order to raise money, the step is reluctantly taken but in the persistent hope of some day regaining the estate the agreement is made that on re-payment of the price at some future date, determinate or indeterminate, the buyer shall restore the land to the original owner, the use of it in the meantime being regarded as a substitute for interest. The transaction is distinct from a pledge, and the sale is made, if possible, to some near relative, who will act in an accom-

modating spirit. We know of a transaction of this sort not long ago between two members of the old feudal nobility, both *kwassoku* now, one branch of the family having been forced to raise money by parting with its estates. In the pages of the customary records this practice meets the eye everywhere. Usually the transaction is known as "sale with the right to claim the return of the original property." Sometimes it is called a "sale with return if I have money within the term." Often it was in effect merely a mortgage; but the genuine sale was a frequent transaction. The Code has given full recognition to this custom. A limit has been placed, however, upon the time for which this privilege can continue. In old custom this period was often indefinite or even perpetual; sometimes it was as short as two years. The Code fixes it at five years for realty, and two years for personality. The conflict of custom requires that some uniform rule should be established; and there is no question that the conditions of modern life, as already felt in Japan, make it undesirable that property should be tied up for too long a time by the existence of such unexercised privileges. On the whole, the legislators have adopted a solution of the difficulty which must be counted among the possible and reasonable ones. The opposite policy is to place no restriction as to time—as in the German Draft Code (where a somewhat similar problem met the Commission). But it might have been better to allow the privilege of re-purchase to continue as made by the parties, while giving the present owner after the five years' period the right of calling upon the original owner to exercise his option at once or lose it. In another respect, also, the Japanese legislators have broken with a custom which could not possibly be endured under modern individualistic conditions. This is the option (mentioned once or twice in the customary records), existing for the members of a ward or village, of becoming the purchasers of any realty offered for sale by a member of the ward or village. For instance, in Idzumi *kuni*, in "towns, when a house is to be sold, and a person living in another block offers a fair price, the seller must first give notice to all the members of his own block; and if one of them is willing to buy at the price offered the sale must be made to him." In Echigo *kuni*, "if residence land is to be sold, the owner must first notify his company and the neighbours on each side, and if no one of them desires to buy, it may be sold to some other person of the same or perhaps another block." In one place the parties announce the intended sale "at every door in the ward, and inquire whether there is any one who will buy, at the price named in the deed-of-hand; if no acceptor is found" the sale proceeds. This is an interesting relic of an earlier form of society, which

must be left to the ethnologists to interpret. But we doubt if it now possesses the stringency, as a custom, that it had in the last generation, and certainly the Code of to-day could not afford to sanction it. So far as it still answers to a sentiment of the people, local public opinion will probably furnish a sufficient safeguard.

There are a few minor coincidences, which we have not space to notice, not fully enough recorded to justify generalizations, but sufficient to indicate that we may fairly rely on a much greater harmony between Code and custom than these records enable us actually to demonstrate. For instance, Art. 81 of the Code declares the principle that "if one of the parties [to a sale] fails to fulfill his obligations entirely or in part, * * * the other may demand the rescission of the contract, according to the rules," etc. In almost the same language, the report is made of Awaji *kuni*, after an emuneration of the parties' obligations, that "if either fails to perform, the other may refuse to perform on his part." Again, Art. 33 declares that the price, which is an essential part of a sale, may be determined by reference to the market rates, present or future, of similar merchandise. A custom to this effect is noted Settsu *kuni*, where, "when sales made by wholesale or commission houses, the price paid is the ruling price at time of delivery, whether or not an interval occurs between the date of the bargain and the date of the delivery."

VIII.

OF the remaining topics concerned with property the most important is that of Securities (*Garanties*), and among these stand foremost Pledge and Hypothecation. Pledges are in the Code of two sorts, pledges of personality (*gage* or *nantissement mobilier*) and of realty (*nantissement immobilier*).

For the first we have material for comparison on only a few leading points. The fundamental idea of the pledge is that the article shall be given into the possession of the creditor or of some third person for him. This the Code prescribes in Art. 102. The same notion of a pledge prevailed equally in Old Japan. The practice of depositing with a third person (for instance, a warehouseman) was not uncommon. In Suwo *kuni* "a pledge of rice may be made by delivering the rice to the lender and receiving the loan and a written receipt, or by depositing it in the public store-house and giving the creditor an instrument of debt indorsed by the headman in charge of the storehouse." No writing is necessary for the validity of the pledge, except so far as required by the general law, already spoken of, applying to transactions involving more than 50 *yen*. But it appears that in the majority of cases it has been customary to give a written receipt. By the Code the pledge is bound to give the care of a

"careful manager" (*bon administrateur*) to the article in his keeping; an expression which relieves him from losses not occurring through his negligence. By the customary rule the pledge was not liable for losses occurring by flood, fire, or theft, a rule which corresponds fairly to the more abstract principle of the Code.

On default at the end of the term the old custom did not require, in the case of personality, any resort to the Courts for the purpose of forfeiting the pledge or of realizing on it. The property, as a rule, became the pledgee's without qualification, except that sometimes the pledgor was allowed by custom to redeem as long as the article was still in the creditor's possession. But under the Code the creditor must apply to the Court either to order a sale or to declare the article forfeit to himself. This is a requirement of modern jurisprudence which is in itself highly necessary and is besides familiar to the Japanese in its application to realty, as we shall see.

The pledge of realty is something quite uncommon in modern Europe and America, and the chapter on this subject in the Code is unique in works of the kind. In Roman law its commonest form was known as *antichresis*, in which the creditor took possession of the land and appropriated the profits in reduction of interest. In Japan the entire profits were taken in lieu of interest. The usual transaction was for the creditor to lease the land back to the debtor as tenant (*jiki-kasaku*). For these pledges the Code declares (Art. 119) that there shall be a writing, and that unless registered the transaction shall not be valid as against third parties. The requirement of a writing was universal in Old Japan, and that of registration was also, so far as appears, without exception.

The document constituting the pledge, says Art. 120, "must contain, in addition to a precise description of the realty, the amount of the claim and the interest." Certainly the people of this country will not be put out of countenance by the new-fangled notions, for this, for instance, is what a deed of pledge customarily contained in Shinano *kuni*: "A recital that the description of the plot by area, grade of soil, and name, agrees with that contained in the land-register; a recital that a specified sum of money has been borrowed for a specified terms of years; a stipulation that the property may be redeemed on the expiration of the term by paying the amount of the debt; and a stipulation that all taxes and charges shall be paid by the creditor during the term. If the description of the piece of land takes up more than one page, it is put on a separate paper, which is also attested by the village officers and is duly referred to in the principal instrument." And what terrors can the Code have for a community accustomed to the following

process, which obtained in Echigo *kuni* for the registration of hypothecs: "The instrument is countersealed by the debtor's company and transmitted with a petition to the ward-representative; the latter searches the register to see whether a prior mortgage exists, enters in the register of the ward-assembly the debtor's name, the amount borrowed, the term, and the interest, certifies by inscription the genuineness of the instrument, and hands it to the elder, who examines, endorses, and seals it"?

The Code prescribes unconditionally (Art. 125) that the creditor "shall pay the taxes and other other annual imposts." The TOKUGAWA rule was equally plain and insistent, and was directed against all the various forms of evasion of this just principle. "Any provision that, while the pledgee shall cultivate the land and take the profits, the pledgor shall nevertheless pay the taxes and render the local services; or that the pledgor who attorns as tenant of the pledgee shall render the local services; or that the pledgor shall attorn as tenant of the pledged land and shall pay and render taxes and services * * * is unlawful." The Code perpetuates (Art. 126) the old rule that the creditor is (in the absence of special contract) to take the profits of the property, if it is cultivated or forest land, in lieu of interest, thus taking the risk of good or bad crops. In hypothecs, on the contrary (where the debtor keeps possession), the creditor of course gets only the interest on his loan. The Tokugawa Courts enforced this rule strictly, and where for some reason a pledge of realty proved invalid, they treated it as a hypothec and reduced the rental due from the tenant-debtor to the rate of legal interest.

The maximum term prescribed by the Code (Art. 116) is 30 years. Here the legislators have stepped in to clarify the obscure usage obtaining in Old Japan and to fix limits more in harmony with modern conditions. The TOKUGAWA rule was that land-pledges should not exceed 10 years, and the Courts invariably refused to recognize an agreement for a longer term. But the rule always had to be forced upon the people, for, as every one knows, public sentiment here favours giving the debtor the privilege of redemption for a long time after the expiration of the term. As a matter of fact redemption might sometimes occur (as these records show) scores of years after the original default by the debtor. In most of the fiefs this could not be done in an ordinary pledge without running against the law (unless, of course, the creditor consented); and the object was usually accomplished, in such cases, by employing the "sale with privilege of re-purchase," already described. The Code, in prescribing the limit of 30 years, recognizes that the TOKUGAWA rule never really corresponded to the sentiment of the people, and yet endeavours to set

some reasonable limit which shall keep property from being tied up too long. With the same purpose, and also for the protection of the debtor against the chance of the land turning out to be unduly profitable to the creditor, the Code allows (Art. 128) the debtor to ask for a sale of the land even before the end of the term. One more topic with reference to pledges of land. The creditor-pledgor had no power of self-appropriation on default of the debtor at the end of the term. What could be a better training for the community about to come under the Code than this, in Iwashiro *kuni*:—"If a default occurs in a hypothec, a report is made to the local office, and the land is publicly offered for sale for 30 days. If no purchaser be found, the land is sold at auction, the creditor taking the proceeds, and handing the surplus, if any, to the debtor. If no bid is received, the land is transferred to the creditor"? This is substantially what happens under modern systems. In Kii *kuni*, again, "when a debtor defaults, the ward officials call upon him, and, if no result ensues, the town magistrate is informed and the property is sold to pay the debt. The surplus, if any, is given to the debtor, if not, the creditor suffers so much loss. But sometimes, when the value of the estate is much below the amount of the debt, the land is transferred directly to the creditor." We do not notice any passages where some public act (such as appearing in Court or obtaining a transfer at the registry-office) is not said, expressly or impliedly, to be customary on the part of the pledgee.

What we have said applies in part to hypothecs also. But the registration of the hypothec was probably not so general. We find only three passages where it is said to have been an absolutely private transaction, but in many cases the attestation of the village officials on the deed was probably the only means adopted for publicity. The Code of course makes registration the rule for all hypothecs. There is little of special moment to note with reference to hypothecs, unless it be a matter of legal theory which is hardly in place here,—the remarkable distinctness and consistency with which were expressed the ideas of a security transferred to the creditor's possession (*shichi-ire*, pledge) and a security retained by the debtor (*kaki-ire*, hypothec); a usage for which we can hardly find a parallel since the days of a living Roman law. The word *nantissement immobilier*, which M. BOISSONADE has applied to the pledge of realty, is, we believe, a new coinage, and even in English the term "pledge" has always been associated with personalty only. But *shichi-ire* applies equally to both.

We have no space to notice other interesting points. We cannot refrain, however, from noting that the English so-called "equitable mortgage" (where merely the title-deeds are deposited with the creditor

as a security) seems to have been well-known in Japan. It is mentioned half a dozen times. In the Musashi *kuni*, "another kind of security is the 'title-deed deposit,' the instrument of debt being executed by the parties only and deposited with the creditor and not countersealed by the headman or company." But "in this case, if a suit arises, the debt is not recognised by the Court as having any preference over others." And this was in fact the policy followed by the TOKUGAWA Courts. Nor does the Code recognize this mode of security. Another subject of interest, upon which, however, our information in the customary records is scanty, is that of preferred claims (*privileges*),—claims having a right to be paid off before others. Of the various provisions of the Code as to the preference to be given to expenses in a last illness, etc., we find no traces in these records. The principle, however, was well understood, for the Government taxes were always preferred in the case of bankruptcy (as the chapter on Bankruptcy shows), and were ranked even ahead of hypothecs. The principle, then, being a familiar one to the people, the insertion of new classes of claims in the lists of the new Code is reduced to a mere question of legislative expediency and discretion as to those particular items—a question with which we are not here concerned.

And this we may say of the whole subject of Securities. The construction of a Code requires attention to be paid to the arrangement of numbers of details and the provision of various complicated transactions. But it is enough for us to see whether the general principles of the subject have been familiar to the Japanese people. If they have, then the reconstruction of those principles in the Code is no more open to criticism than any other piece of reformatory legislation. That these principles are familiar to them amply appears, we think, from the records we have cited.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SMOKING ON RAILWAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a non-smoker, I would crave the assistance of your valuable journal in trying to get the Imperial Japanese Government Railway Department and the private railway companies of Japan, to give their officials orders to see that in the non-smoking carriages smoking is not permitted. On the Tokaido line there is generally attached to the principal trains at least one small compartment with a notice in it to the effect that smoking is not allowed in it, but unless there is a foreign lady in the carriage this notice is totally disregarded by most foreigners and Japanese, who, without so much as "by your leave," light up, and calmly puff their smoke into your face. When I am alone I never attempt to remonstrate, because I know that the non-smoker is looked upon as very selfish and unobliging if he asks for his rights, but if there is a lady I always do, and at

times I have had to take the law into my own hands. As a rule if a foreign lady is in the carriage the light will be put out if attention is called to the fact that smoking is not allowed, but ladies have told me that they have often remained in a non-smoking compartment in vain. To me, a man, it is disagreeable to have my hair and clothing impregnated with stale smoke, how much more so must it be to a lady? I would suggest to the Railway Authorities that they either abolish the concession they now give to the non-smoking second class travelling public, or give their officials strict orders to see that no smoking is allowed in them on any pretence whatever; it is far from an agreeable task for the passenger to ask the smoker to respect the notice placed in the carriage.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,
Tokyo, November 19th, 1892.

E. F.

THE LAND TAX.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

SIR,—I do not think it necessary to say anything more on this subject, than simply to refer to an extravagant assumption contained in Professor Dropper's last letter to you. He seems to think that the low prices of rice prevailing in the years 1884-1889 were quite normal. I thought he knew more about Japanese affairs. Anybody the least acquainted with contemporary history in this country, is very well aware that the rigorous measures which the Government pursued for the resumption of the fiat money brought about an abnormal depreciation of prices exactly during the period of time selected by Professor Droppers for the purpose of his "economic investigations." Which is more fair, to take only one extreme of a case as a basis of calculations, as Professor Droppers has done, or to strike an average between two extremes, as I endeavoured to do in my last letter?

I remain, yours respectfully,

M. ZUMOTO.

Tokyo, November 17th, 1892.

RELIGION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

SIR,—Kindly allow me to make a few remarks on the subject of "Religion."

"Hold up your hands all those who think you are saved."

Some hold up their hands, others do not. What is the result? One word answers the question, "Nothing," applying both to those who hold up their hands and those who do not.

Happily, there is one thing that mankind is not, and that is, mankind is not a judge to declare whether we are saved or not. This duty Almighty God alone will fulfill, for He alone is perfect, and therefore can judge us.

If one should say, "I am saved," I ask, how can you prove it? Anybody saying, "I trust I am saved, only because of my repentance and through God's all-loving and all-merciful hand," this I can quite understand. Let us read the gospel of St. Luke, Chap. XVIII., verses 9 to 14 inclusive, concerning the prayer of the Pharisee and the Publican, also concerning those who exalt themselves compared with those who humble themselves. The Publican's prayer was simply, "God be merciful to me a sinner," and this man went down to his house justified rather than the other (the Pharisee). The Pharisee's prayer was all boast, about himself alone; this our most Blessed Lord does not want of us. This "Publican" would be one of those who would not hold his hand up, but—yes! there is that small word but—he went down to his house justified rather than the boasting Pharisee.

With all reverence due, I ask, supposing our most Blessed Lord had asked, "Hold up your hands all those who think you are saved;" how many, I ask, would hold up their hands? I venture to say, "Not a single one."

According to my experience of young men at Colleges and Schools in England, there is one thing above others that keeps them away from Church, and that is; to be told that they are not saved, that they are sinners (for we all are this), that they will go into everlasting fire, and such ranting as this. I have heard them say, "We want to be taught the Scriptures, not to be ranted at that we are this and that." And so it was that when any clergyman came and preached to us (about 650 students), in the College Chapel, about the Scriptures, there seemed to be an interest taken in the sermon. But when the sermon was one incessant slanging at us, if I may use the word, we used to shuffle with our feet and blow our noses, as a hint that we had had quite enough of it, and such a clergyman was always unpopular with us. Is it right, I ask, to frighten a man in order to convert him? No, I say, it is wrong. It must be the free will of himself alone, if he is converted.

During my course at a Military College in England, though many years have passed away since I was there, I well remember the words, "Let us stand in awe and sin not," spoken at the end of an address, by the Head Master. Those words went home to us all, even to the worst of us. That Head Master we simply loved; he was most popular with one and all; he advised us, he prayed for us, but he never asked us to "Hold up our hands if we thought we were saved."

Let us take the last verse of the late Lord Tennyson's poem "Crossing the Bar"—

For though from out our bourne of Time and Place.
The Flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face.
When I have crossed the bar.

Take notice of the third line, "I hope." Even he did not venture further than using the word hope, because he knew that mankind was no judge of himself or of his fellow-beings.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

November 21st, 1892.

GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The Second Public Graduation Ceremony of the Higher Commercial School was held on the 21st inst. in the University Lecture Hall, Tokyo. The School does not yet possess a Hall of its own large enough to admit all those desiring to be present on an occasion of such interest and importance. The new buildings of the School are now, however, in course of construction. They include a Hall of sufficient capacity to seat more than a thousand people, which will thus be the largest building of the kind in Tokyo. The day was very fine, and from a little past 12 o'clock the persons invited began to make their appearance, so that by 1 p.m., the time announced for the commencement of the proceedings, the Hall was filled. A few minutes later H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa entered and took his seat on the dais, whereupon the Director of the School, Mr. Yano, opened the meeting. The first business was the granting of diplomas to graduates. Of these there were 281, the number being exceptionally large, owing to the fact that several years had elapsed since a similar ceremony had been held. To hand each graduate separately his certificate would have involved great delay, and the Director, who had evidently reduced the whole affair to the most accurate lines of organization, caused the names of the graduates to be read out in batches, according to their years and subjects, a representative of each batch coming forward to receive the certificates for the whole batch. Needless to say that the youths who acted as delegates played their parts with characteristic Japanese freedom from solecism.

Mr. YANO, President of the School, then said:—I feel highly gratified that this second Public Graduation Ceremony has been honoured by the presence of Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, and Gentlemen. When I consider that the honour thus conferred on us is indicative of the importance attached to commercial education, I feel that a heavy responsibility devolves on the graduates of this school, since they have now to take their stand in the practical world equipped with what they have learned. I, as Director of this School, have been endeavouring to my utmost to meet the needs of our community, and am glad to say that I have been enabled to send out several graduates every year. The recipients of diplomas, here to-day, are the graduates in the regular course since the 23rd year of Meiji, and the graduates in the Accountants' Course since the 22nd year of Meiji, making a total of 281 students. As most of you, graduates, are already in practical business, let me advise you to be loyal and diligent in your work, for that is the only way to fulfill what is expected of you by Society at large.

A brief reply, as follows, was read by one of the graduates, Mr. FUJIMURA, who advanced to the dais for the purpose.—It is to our great honour that this second Public Graduation Ceremony has been attended by Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, and Gentlemen. We, on this occasion, beg to express our heartfelt gratitude for the kind instruction of our Director, so liberally bestowed upon us, and to state that we shall do our utmost to faithfully discharge our duties, so as not to disappoint the expectations of the community.

H.I.H. Prince ARISUGAWA then rose and said:—When I consider the importance of Commerce for advancing and developing national wealth and strength, and when I see that the Higher Commercial School is a place for preparing and supplying this country with men fitted to direct the course of Commerce, I feel much satisfaction at being present on the occasion of the Second Public Graduation Ceremony. You, graduates,

should strive to apply in practice what you have acquired theoretically, so as to discharge the duties which your country expects of you.

Addresses from the Minister President of State, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and the Minister of State for Education, were then read out by their Private Secretaries, the Ministers themselves being unable to attend. Mr. Shibusawa, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, Captain Brinkley, and Professor Blockhuys also spoke. We reproduce below, in original or translation, these various speeches.

The number of persons present in the Hall was fully 700, the majority being leading officials or business men of standing. Such an occasion is generally taken advantage of by students and youths, who like the novelty of "Commencements," but the Graduation Ceremony of the Commercial School constitutes an exception, the greater number of the visitors being men who hold responsible positions and represent the intelligence of modern Japan in every branch. From this fact may reasonably be inferred the degree of importance attached to commercial education by the public, and the nation's wise resolution to equip its tradesmen with the qualities necessary for competition in the active field of international traffic. The Higher School was started by Mr. Yano 17 years ago, and has since then steadily continued to develop until it has reached its present state of prosperity, more than 500 students being now borne on the books. Doubtless there is room for much greater growth, but what has already been achieved is highly satisfactory. Among many features upon which the School is to be congratulated, one specially deserves notice, namely, that the same Director has presided ever since the institution was started, a fact that distinguishes the school from nearly all the other leading places of education in the capital, where the same director seldom continues to hold office for more than ten years. Among the visitors we may name H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Education; the Italian and Mexican Ambassadors; many of the principal Japanese merchants of Yokohama and Tokyo, members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, some of the members of both Houses, newspaper editors, and several other private gentlemen. Invitations had been issued to many of the foreign merchants of Yokohama, but only two or three were able to attend.

When the ceremony was over, the graduates of the School met at a garden party in the grounds of the Nihonbashi Club. More than a thousand persons were present. The grounds were lighted by electricity which added not a little to the attractions of a spacious garden, laid out in accordance with the canons of genuine Japanese art. All the visitors showed faces of genuine pleasure, the young folks especially enjoying themselves most thoroughly, and, to the credit of the school over which Mr. Yano presides, behaving with perfect orderliness and decorum.

We append the various addresses and speeches:—The address of Count Ito, Minister President of State, read by one of his private secretaries, was as follows:—I regret that I am prevented from being present at the Graduation Ceremony held to-day. I have committed to paper a few words to represent my views in connection with this important occasion. Of the many and varied means for building up a nation, commerce ranks among the most important. The wealth and strength of a nation depends on the growth of its commerce. However well equipped as to its army and navy, a nation neglecting its commerce and industries, is doomed to decay and to extinction. In the West, commerce is fitly compared to war in times of peace. The establishment of this school by our Government has no other object than to bring up men well qualified to play an active part in such warfare. I hear with great satisfaction that not a few of the graduates are already rendering highly useful services in the commercial circle of our country. It is a matter of congratulation that the school is equipped with a well-qualified director and able professors, the result of whose labour is now visible in sending out new graduates who, I have no doubt, will faithfully discharge their duties and largely contribute to the advancement of the nation. Simultaneously with my strong feeling of congratulation, this important occasion has awakened in me increased expectations of what may be expected from the school and the graduates, and of the solid contribution it is likely to make to the prosperity of the empire.

The address of Count KURODA, Minister of State for Communications, read by one of his private secretaries, was as follows:—I feel highly gratified that, as the result of hard study, you have been enabled to receive your diplomas. Let me express my hopes and expectations that you will now apply your knowledge in the field of practice, there-

by leading the commercial society of this country to a better and more prosperous state. In conclusion, let me remind you of the old saying: "The way is long and the responsibility heavy. Without courage and perseverance the goal cannot be reached."

The address of Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Education, read by one of his private secretaries, was as follows:—Commerce forms the basis of national economy, and is one of the chief sources of national wealth. Not only does it require knowledge and experience, but the man who makes it his profession must devote constant attention to the growth and development of the trade conditions and potentialities of his country. Hence the vital necessity of educating well qualified men, which is the object and aim of this School. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the School has the credit of enumerating among its graduates a considerable number of men who are already rendering conspicuous service in the commercial circles of our country. I am highly gratified that you, graduates, after years of hard study, have attained the honour bestowed on you to-day, an honour not only to yourselves, but also to the nation at large. Now that you have finished your course of study, your country expects you to apply the result of your training in the field of practice; to be prudent, diligent, and persevering in your calling, and to be true and faithful in the discharge of your various duties. Let me urge that you spare no pains to fulfil this expectation.

Mr. SHIBUSAWA said:—Your Imperial Highness, Your Excellencies, and Gentlemen:—As one of the Counsellors of the School, I have had the honour of being requested by Mr. Yano to say a few words to you, and I gladly comply. As I am suffering from a cold, I fear that my voice will not reach you well, and I have therefore to beg your kind indulgence. The credit this school enjoys, as referred to in the address of the Minister of State for Education, needs no comment of mine. Many of the graduates are holding responsible positions and doing good service in the commercial community of our country. You are now about to enter into the arena of practice, and will have to meet the requirements of the public. Here we see the principle of demand and supply fully carried out, for this school is regarded as a place to bring up such men as are needed in the commercial circle. The Director, Mr. Yano, is taking special pains to distribute the right men in the right places, and happily he is specially gifted with good judgment in such matters. As the School has already given plain evidence of its good influence and useful results, any formula of congratulation which I might employ would be of little use, since congratulations are already coming to you from all sides. Let me, however, avail myself of this occasion to give expression to what I expect from the School and from its graduates. I will touch briefly, first, on the position of our commercial community as compared with that of the past and that of the West; secondly, on the relation between theory and practical business, that is to say, the degree of closeness existing between them. And in connection with these points, I desire to express one or two ideas with reference to the training of the School's students, and at the same time to give to you, the graduates, some notion of what you will have to do in the future and how you will have to do it. I do not know how it was in old times, but just before the Restoration, the commerce of our country could not be dignified by any higher name than mere peddlery, as I have often said at the meetings of financial and economical associations. The persons carrying it on hardly deserved the name of merchants. My reasons for this assertion are that the staples of production were paid by way of taxes, their transport and sale being conducted by the Government or by the *Daimios*. Nay, more, prices were sometimes fixed by Government, and commodities saleable only at the rates so prescribed. Thus it only remained for tradesmen to retail their wares as they were directed. It is little wonder that under such circumstances no great ability was displayed and that no respectability, no strong sense of morality, distinguished the merchant's calling. Things went so far that the sale of false goods may be said to have been a common practice with merchants. Look, on the contrary, at the capabilities of the commercial community at present. They can trade with China, if they do not like to go very far from home. They can buy and sell in Australia, in Europe, in America. Truly an extensive field offers for their operations. Consider, again, the question of currency in former times. The Government could always tamper with the media of exchange if they wished to do so. But now these media are considered public property. Strict laws regulate all matters of coinage, laws and regulations such as are either on a level with those of the first commercial nations of modern

times, or are rapidly approaching that level. What a change, what an improvement, as compared with days gone by! These, however, are changes of form only. Let us look at the matter from the side of actual practice. What do we find? Comparing the state of our commerce with that of America, and of England, France, and Germany, what do we see? I do not propose to fully discuss the position occupied and the influence exercised by merchants in these countries. But what a difference there is between their merchants and ours! Our Government has stimulated foreign trade. Private and individual efforts have been made in the same direction. Yet we are still far behind foreign merchants. As to imports, it should not require very much ability to buy abroad such commodities as are required here, and several commission agencies have been started. But those agencies show themselves incompetent when we have to import such things as machinery and engines of considerable size and value, those, for example, which are required for building railways and so forth. We cannot dispense with the help of foreigners. As to exports, fifteen years have elapsed since an attempt was made to establish a silk guild in Yokohama, after consultation with foreign merchants there, the object being to transact the business on equal terms. Fifteen years have passed since then. Have we succeeded? By no means. The methods of sale with respect to our principal commodities for export, are in as unsatisfactory a state as ever. On the one hand, our commercial capabilities have grown, our responsibilities have become greater, our position has been improved. But on the other, when we apply the standard of influential foreign merchants, we may be fitly compared to a child just beginning to walk. However, much we may regret the fact, such is the actual condition of our commerce. Gentlemen, I tell you that this is the grade of our commercial community. I turn now to the relation between theory and practice. It is very easy to assert that the two must have as close a relation as possible. We cannot depend wholly on theory. Without practical experience, we can do very little. That the two should advance side by side is highly necessary for the national growth. But what is the state of things now? We have certainly made considerable progress during the past twelve or thirteen years. But we must not be satisfied. The importance attached to theory by so-called business men is as yet comparatively slight, while those engaged in the study of sciences have very little practical experience, and are apt to ignore the importance of practice. We have not yet brought theory and practice into sufficiently close relationship. This is not so distinctly visible in commerce as in engineering and similar kinds of science. Disappointment is often the result of attempting to utilize men who have acquired a great deal of book-knowledge, and complaints are common on every side. Hence has resulted an unfortunate tendency to abandon attempts which would have been important ones if accomplished. Let me impress upon you that theory and practice at present do not stand in a perfectly close relationship. How, then, are we to shape our future? How are we to steer our course? Gentlemen, these are the questions, vital questions, to which I want specially to direct your attention to. It is necessary indeed in a school to go through a regular course of study, but in this Commercial School, I should like to have prime importance attached to the practical uses of anything that may be taught. Not attractive form, but actual utility should be the aim. Theory and practice must go side by side. Your ambition must not be simply to reason and to theorize. Certainly this is not what the community expects of you. It should be the duty and obligation of this School to train its students, not simply so that they shall possess theorizing ability, but so that they shall be able to play a useful part in practical affairs. I must not fail to remind you, also, that no student of this School should trust his future to chance. Do not be ready to become Government officials, or schoolmasters, even if you have the chance of so doing. Should you allow yourselves to be engrossed by that kind of ambition, you will sow the seeds of a life of failure. Some of you may be under the impression that as students of commerce you rank below students of law or of political economy. You have no right to feel so. Studying is all the same, however different the subject may be. If the object of your learning were to convert you into peddlers and haberdashers, you might well feel degraded. Were that what is generally understood by commerce, it would certainly take rank below the science of politics and kindred subjects. But, on the contrary, commerce before everything else, now-a-days, requires able, active, energetic, courageous men. Obedience is necessary in the mercantile calling, but obedience

does not require any one to degrade himself. The morality of merchants should be based on the Doctrines of Fidelity to parents, Loyalty to masters, Faithfulness and Truth. The detestable idea that false dealing is natural to tradesmen, will only tend to drag you down to a low level. I do not know the basis of European morality, but the Chinese precepts of Fidelity, Loyalty, Faithfulness, and Truth should be the foundation on which to build the merchant's character, and in addition, he must be courageous, enterprising, and ready to brave dangers whenever the occasion arises. Look at the Europeans who have made a name in the commercial and industrial world. They all possessed the qualities of courage, activity, and enterprise. How could Columbus have discovered America without these qualities. Look at Newton. Look at Watt. It was their perseverance, their courage, their enterprise, that made their names immortal. Let us thrust away from us the abominable notion that commerce and industry require no high standard of morality. Place your moral standard as high as you possibly can, and your characters as far as possible above reproach; be possessed of courage and perseverance. When you go out of this School, and come face to face with the stern realities of this practical world you will have a great deal more to learn. You must be content to commence at the lowest rounds of the ladder, but this by no means requires you to be low in morals and weak in spirit. In a word, with school training which has practical utility for its final object, and with the character of the student based on fidelity, loyalty, faithfulness, and truth, supplemented by courage, perseverance, and diligence, we shall have men well qualified, to lead our commercial community and to promote the nation's prosperity. This accomplished we shall have raised the status of merchants, and realized the true and close relationship between theory and practice. In the speech of the Minister of State for Education, Commerce was represented as constituting one of the most important factors in the strength of a nation. Allow me to lay still greater stress on this, and to say, that however great a country's fleet, however powerful its artillery, such adjuncts are virtually useless without that which really constitutes the backbone of a nation. The men that make a State truly formidable are men of commerce. We merchants, then, are an important factor in strengthening and enriching our country, and it is impossible for us to play so important a part without a high moral sense, without courage, without perseverance, and without diligence? What I have said to you to-day is what I have constantly in my mind. I am sorry my words have become rather a lecture than a congratulatory address, but I hope you will attribute it to my earnest zeal to promote the commerce of the nation to which you and I belong.

Speech of Captain BRINKLEY.

Your Imperial Highness, Excellencies, and Gentlemen,—Your Director has asked me to say a few words on this interesting occasion, and I readily comply; not that I have any claim to occupy your attention, but because of my very old friendship with your Director, and because of my admiration for the work he has accomplished. It is just twenty-four years since I first had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Yano, and appropriately enough, the meeting took place on board one of the Pacific Mail steamers in the harbour of Yokohama. That now well known line of boats had just then begun to ply between your shores and America. Very likely it has happened that in the course of your studies at this School you have traced the influence produced upon the foreign commerce and upon the general prosperity of your country by the establishment of the Pacific Mail Steamship Service, and of other similar services that have followed in its wake. So also it has happened to me more than once to estimate with strong appreciation the excellent work which your Director, Mr. Yano, has ever since that time been doing in the same cause. Twenty-four years ago the number of men in Japan might be counted on the fingers of one hand who not only possessed a thorough knowledge of a foreign tongue, but had also gained practical insight into the commercial and industrial methods of the West. Men thus equipped might aspire to high positions in Government circles, and certainly Mr. Yano might have so aspired. But to the credit of his disinterestedness and owing to the sound view he took of the nation's needs, his choice was to devote his life to the education of a true commercial spirit and to the spread of commercial knowledge. The good results of his labours are very visible to-day, and will be amply recognised when the history of this era comes to be written. To you, gentlemen, who, after years of patient application, have graduated successfully and are now about to enter the arena of practical labour, I may be permitted to recall the wise saying that a man's

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schooling never really begins until he leaves school. Of no profession is this truer than of the mercantile profession, for although the theoretical knowledge acquired in the class-room may serve a useful purpose in the routine of office work, success is achievable chiefly by the exercise of qualities which have little connection with school training, the qualities of courageous enterprise, clear judgment, and rapid decision. I can recall the time when commercial colleges, such as you have here, were virtually unknown in the West; yet already England had built up that edifice of commerce on which her great empire is supported and from which her immense wealth is derived. The men who, in days when the perils of travel were almost comparable with those of war, sailed to the ends of the world in search of markets, and, speaking figuratively, always carried the flag of their country as part of their baggage—those men had never been trained in commercial colleges. The qualities that made them great merchants and untiring agents of their country's aggrandisement, had been developed in the hard service of apprentice life and by contact with the stern realities of actual trade. Do not infer, please, that I say this in disparagement of commercial schools such as the excellent institution to which you have the honour to belong. The sharp competition of modern times has made it essential that men should enter the arena equipped as thoroughly as theory and science can equip them. Moreover, out of the gradually elaborated processes of international trade there have grown rules and principles which can be demonstrated and inculcated in the class-room, and which may now be regarded as the alphabet of commerce. It is well that all this knowledge should be acquired by the future merchant on the threshold of his career, and it is especially well in Japan where, owing to long seclusion, you are still without the experience which has come to other nations without any special effort on their part. Commercial colleges, therefore, are most essential institutions in the present age, above all in Japan, and you are to be heartily congratulated on the possession of such an excellent and well equipped institution as this. But it may nevertheless be said of commerce, preëminently among professions, that a man's schooling really begins when he leaves school, and I venture to remind you that what you have to do now on the completion of your course of collegiate study, is not to imagine yourselves ready to take a prominent place in the field of commerce, but rather to apply yourselves to a thoughtful and patient investigation of practical methods with as much diligence and perseverance as you have already shown in acquiring the theory of your profession. As to that profession, permit me to congratulate you very heartily on the choice you have made. Separated as this generation is by a very short interval from feudal times, when administrators and soldiers were everything and the trader was counted altogether an inferior and unimportant being, it is not wonderful that the eyes of the rising generation should still be fixed, for the most part, on an official career. But if there is any lesson which the civilized world of the nineteenth century has learned by heart, it is the lesson that the chief duty of administrators and soldiers is to assure the unrestricted and uninterrupted prosecution of commercial and industrial enterprise. The navy of England, which, when you consider the area over which its blows can be struck, the power of concentration it possesses, and the sums spent upon its maintenance, represents the most stupendous military engine that the world has ever seen—that navy has one function to fulfil before all others, the protection of British commerce. You, therefore, in selecting commerce as your profession, have the satisfaction of feeling that you are working for the really solid and substantial interests of your country, and that you are also applying yourselves to redress the great mistake of earlier days, the misconception that trade and barter are operations unworthy of a gentleman's attention. They are, in fact, the highest operations that a man can perform in the field of practical life, since their successful performance contributes more than anything else to the power of his country and to the general happiness of its inhabitants. The accession of men like you to the ranks of commerce cannot fail to raise the status as well as the moral standard of the profession, and let me impress upon you that no mere point of sentiment is involved in this question of moral standard. I am afraid it must be admitted, and you yourselves will doubtless admit, that partly owing to the contempt in which trade and its votaries used to be held in Japan, and partly owing to lack of practical lessons, commercial integrity never reached a very high level in Japan. Honesty is to a great extent the outcome of circumstances. Philosophers have devoted many essays to discussing the problem whether men are

born good or whether they become good; whether, in short, their characters are shaped by innate qualities or moulded by environment. But actual observation has taught us at least this, that whatever a man's natural disposition may be, it is sensibly influenced for better or for worse by his circumstances. It used to be a common habit to describe the farmer as an honest, simple-hearted person, whom constant communion with nature had rendered just and straightforward. But in America, where men's capacities and morale are measured to-day by the most delicate standards ever conceived, the general conviction is that if you want to be thoroughly and frankly cheated, you have only to put yourself into the hands of a farmer. What is the explanation of such a striking change of view? It is this, that the farmer, whatever he may derive from contact with nature, is without the incomparably more powerful moral guides which practical experience furnishes. His manner of dealing with his neighbour does not materially affect his professional success. If the sun shine at proper times and the rain fall in due season, the farmer is prosperous. His affairs depend on the behaviour of the sky, and the sky treats all sorts and conditions of men with absolute impartiality. Hence the farmer is under no practical obligation to establish a reputation for integrity and uprightness. But with the modern merchant the case is wholly different. For not only does his place in the markets at home and abroad depend upon the reputation of his goods, but also the possibility of establishing a system of credit is based upon the mutual confidence existing between man and man. It is scarcely necessary to remind you what is involved in a system of credit. A great part of the potentialities of banking depends on it, and by its means the effective power of capital is enormously multiplied. One of the chief obstacles to the rapid development of trade and industry in your country is that a proper system of credit has not yet been established, and I can conceive no more laudable or useful rôle for the graduates of this College than that they should devote themselves to inculcating a general conviction of the vital truth, "honesty is the best policy." I must crave your pardon if in thus speaking I seem to reflect upon the merchants of your country, but in connection with this subject of honesty it certainly would not become me to show any want of frankness. I repeat the general opinion entertained by foreigners who have lived long in your country when I say that Japanese commercial integrity has not yet attained a satisfactory standard. That it should have done so was scarcely to be expected, for, as I have already said, honesty is to a large extent the outcome of circumstances, and the circumstances of your merchants in the past were not favourable. Not only were they free from the keen competition which makes failure certain for anyone lacking the essential of honesty, but also the inferior social grade to which they were relegated must have deprived them of any strong sense of self-respect. You, therefore, enter the field of practical affairs with exceptional responsibilities and possibilities, not your own interests alone but those of your country and your profession being involved in your conduct. Let me add one word. Some of you doubtless will take the open ports as your arena of practical study, and will therefore come into contact with the European and American merchants who are engaged in the foreign trade of your country. It is the fashion with many of your journalists to speak in strongly condemnatory terms of the resident foreign merchant; to describe him as an arbitrary, grasping sort of person, who sacrifices everything to the lust of gain. Now the foreign merchant himself does not deny that some of the methods to which he resorts in this country are theoretically objectionable. But he declares, and if you investigate the subject you will find his claim strictly true, that he is driven to these methods by the very defects to which I have already alluded, namely, by the lack of a trustworthy sense of responsibility and by the comparative absence of commercial integrity among the Japanese merchants with whom he deals. He himself would infinitely prefer to conduct his business on lines of mutual trust and confidence, and it would pay him far better to do so. Much might be said upon this subject, but I have already detained you too long to trespass further on your patience. What I want to impress upon you is that you should not allow yourselves to be too much influenced by the diatribes of superficial critics. As a matter of sentiment it might be very agreeable that whatever part of your country's foreign trade is carried on within her own borders should be in Japanese hands. But from the point of view of practical advantage it would be impossible to find any better agents than the foreign merchants at the open ports. They take upon themselves the whole risks

of the trade. On the side of imports, they bring here such goods as seem likely to be needed, and since the number of competing nationalities at the open ports puts anything like combination out of the question, these goods are offered to your people at prices including a minimum of profit; while, if purchasers are not found, the loss generally falls entirely on the foreign importer. On the side of exports, they buy the staples of production and manufacture directly from the Japanese producer or middlemen, paying ready-money for them, and accepting all the risks and responsibilities connected with their transport and sale abroad. It would, I repeat, be quite impossible to find better agents than these men who bring to your country their capital and experience, and who stand between Japan and every chance of loss. It is owing to the operation of such a uniquely advantageous agency that within the short space of thirty years there has been built up a commerce which puts tens of millions annually into the pockets of your people, and your shrewdest plan is to utilize the services of these agents for the future conduct of an enterprise which has hitherto fared so remarkably in their hands.

Professor E. J. BLACKBURN, then spoke as follows:—Your Imperial Highness, Excellencies, and Gentlemen,—Mr. Yano has requested me to say a few words on this auspicious occasion. I am afraid I could not say much which has not already been eloquently put before you to-day and at similar previous gatherings. Besides, I do not desire to trespass too much upon your indulgence, and with your permission I shall be very brief. Allow me, first of all, to express my heartfelt thanks for the very kind reception which has been accorded me on my arrival in Japan and to state how highly pleased and honoured I am at finding myself amongst you to-day. I fully appreciate the distinction which the Japanese Authorities have conferred upon me by appointing me as professor in the Higher Commercial School. Let me assure you that I am determined to try and do justice to their choice to the utmost of my ability, and to leave no stone unturned where the advancement of the Kōrō Shōgyō Gakko is concerned. I am sure the school authorities and staff are highly gratified—as I am myself—to see so many distinguished guests present at this ceremony. It shows the great interest the leading classes of this community take in Commercial Education. The more intense this feeling becomes, the more beneficial will be its influence, and a time is sure to come when, by the combined efforts of the leading public men and the graduates of your commercial institutions, Japan will reach the full mercantile development to which her character, her resources, and her position entitle her. Before I finish, I must not forget to address my warmest congratulations to the graduates who have received their diplomas to-day, and to wish them every success and prosperity in their future career. I feel confident that the training they received at the Commercial School has prepared them thoroughly for their coming struggles on the battlefield of life. I sincerely hope that they may one and all go through the fire with flying colours, and so render to their country the valuable services which are expected from them.

UNION CHURCH.

A special meeting of the members and seat-holders of the Union Church was held on Tuesday, at 5.30, in the vestry adjoining the Church, to consider the financial outlook. There were present Rev. E. S. Booth, Rev. J. H. Ballagh, Miss Crosby, Mrs. Van Patten, and Messrs. A. J. Wilkin, G. Sale, W. F. Page, T. Rose, H. MacArthur, W. D. S. Edwards, G. Crouch, F. G. Sale, G. Lay, and L. Pollard.

Mr. WILKIN, being voted to the Chair, briefly stated the object of the meeting, and reviewed the Treasurers' report. The estimated deficit at 31st January, 1893, the treasurer placed at \$416.22.—To lessen this deficit, so far as possible, the following proposition agreed to were:—1st that a Committee consisting of three ladies and three gentlemen be appointed by the Chair, to canvass the Church and Congregation, with the view of obtaining additional seat-holders. Committee chosen. Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. MacArthur, Miss Deye, and Messrs. Rose, Edwards, and Pollard:—2nd. That the vessels in the Harbour be regularly visited, and the men invited to attend and support the Church. Captain Efford and Mr. Palmer were elected as a "water" committee:—3rd. That an appeal be drawn up by the Treasurer setting forth the present condition of the finances, this to be read to the congregation. This year the income of the Church from Pew-rents has decreased, and donations also compare un-

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favourably with last year. From October, 1891, the receipts were considerably augmented by having a collection each Sunday morning—previously taken twice month—and this, together with \$259.33, balance of the Pastoral Fund, enabled the church to begin the current year with \$194.22 in hand.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH pointed out that a sum of \$3,000 in round numbers would be required to meet the expenses of the church during the year ending 31st January, 1894, and proposed that the Congregation be canvassed to secure 30 subscribers of \$100, which would realize the necessary amount.

As an amendment, Mr. MACARTHUR suggested the advisability of finding 30 guarantors of \$100 each, who would be prepared to make good any deficit that might exist at 31st January, 1894, it of course being understood, that the weekly offertory be taken up, and pew-rents collected as heretofore.

Several present opposed the proposition, notwithstanding the amendment, and when put before the meeting, as only three supported the motion, it was lost.

Other suggestions of an unimportant character came before the meeting, but were dismissed without action being taken upon them.

A vote of thanks to the chair concluded the proceedings.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

[TRANSLATION.]

The following Regulations have been issued by the Governor of Kanagawa Ken:—

KANAGAWA KEN ORDINANCE, No. 64.

The hereunder precautionary rules shall be observed in order to prevent the introduction of the cattle plague. Offenders against the provisions of these rules shall be liable to a fine not under two yen and not exceeding five yen.

N.B.—The present Ordinance shall be put into force on and after the date of its promulgation.

16th November, 1892.

(Signed) UTSUMI TADAKATSU,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

1.—The introduction of living horned cattle or sheep and their carcasses or undressed skins, coming directly from, or after having touched at Tokyo Fu, Osaka Fu, Hyogo Ken, Oita Ken, and Fukuoka Ken, is prohibited until further notice.

2.—Any one having imported living horned cattle or sheep from any other Fu or Ken not mentioned in the preceding article, shall immediately report it to the Police Station of the district.

3.—Should the death occur of any horned cattle or sheep, this should be reported to the Police Station of the district, to which at the same time the proper certificate of a veterinary surgeon must be presented, and after having obtained permission, the carcass shall be buried or chemically converted.

[TRANSLATION.]

KANAGAWA KEN ORDINANCE, No. 65.

The five Kens of Nagasaki, Miyé, Nara, Yamaguchi and Yehimé are to be added to those named in the first article of the rules for the prevention of the cattle plague, promulgated with the Ken Ordinance, No. 64, of the year 1892.

17th November, 1892.

(Signed) UTSUMI TADAKATSU,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL SPORTS.

The Autumn Sports of the Victoria Public School came off most successfully on Monday afternoon, upon the cricket ground. The afternoon turning out bright and warm, induced a large number of ladies to put in an appearance, and their presence helped in a great measure to stimulate the youngsters to do their utmost to achieve success. The popular head-master, Mr. H. L. Fardel, acted as judge and umpire, Mr. G. F. Feuton fulfilling the duties of time-keeper, while Mr. W. D. S. Edwards took charge of the starting, sending off each race well. The elder boys acted as a General Committee, and they performed their share of the work very commendably, the handicapping being remarkably well judged. The lads threw all their energies into the sports, with the superabundant zest of early boyhood, and the result was that things never got slow or tedious. Most of the races were gamely run through, and some close finishes are to be noted: The times for the flat races were very good, and will bear comparison with those for older athletes. The jumping

competitions produced some fair results; in the High Jump Drummond failed to beat Wheeler's handicap by only an inch. The little girls' race, which was arranged on the ground, was decidedly a popular event with the boys, although they had to give vent to some good-humoured badinage when the eggs fell from the unsteady spoons. At the close, Mrs. Wheeler presented the prizes to the victors, and was thanked most heartily with "three times three." Cheers for the ladies, Mr. Fardel, and his assistant, brought the function to a close.

Details:—

100 YARDS.—(SENIORS.)

FIRST HEAT.

J. Drummond, hcp. 2yds 1
W. Braess, scratch 2
H. Russell, hcp. 8yds 0
Russell was easily disposed of. Time, 13 secs.

SECOND HEAT.

Carst and Wheeler a bye.

THIRD HEAT.

J. Braess, scratch 1
J. Drummond, hcp. 2yds 2
G. C. Wheeler, hcp. 3yds 3
J. Carst, scratch 0

Braess caught up his men half way down and won easily; very little separated second and third. Time, 11½ secs.

100 YARDS.—(JUNIORS.)

FIRST HEAT.

W. Carst, scratch 1
A. Brent, hcp. 1yd 2
J. Charlesworth, hcp. 4yds 3
A good race for premier position resulted in scratch man landing it by a few feet. Time, 14 sec.

SECOND HEAT.

G. Russell hcp. 7yds 1
H. Lee hcp. 2yds 2
W. Johnstone, hcp. 4yds 0
The limit man maintained his position all through. Time, 13½ secs.

FINAL HEAT.

W. Carst, scratch 1
G. Russell, hcp. 7yds 2
H. Lee, hcp. 2yds 3
J. Charlesworth, hcp. 4yds 0

The scratch man soon forged ahead and led from half way down. A close thing for second place. Time, 13 secs.

LONG JUMP.—(SENIORS.)

G. C. Wheeler, hcp. 7in. 15ft. 9in 1
W. Braess, scratch, 15ft. 4½in 2
J. Drummond, hcp. 5in. 14ft. 2in. 0
S. Kuhn, hcp. 2ft. 12ft. 0
Wheeler won on his handicap.

LONG JUMP.—(JUNIORS.)

A. Brent, hcp. 2in. 12ft. 9in 1
W. Carst, scratch, 12ft. 6in 2
Brent beat Carst by an inch without the handicap.

HIGH JUMP.—(SENIORS.)

G. C. Wheeler, hcp. 4in. 4ft. 5in 1
J. Drummond, hcp. 1in. 4ft. 3in 2
W. Braess, scratch, 4ft. 1in 3
Wheeler again won on his handicap.

100 YARDS.—(UNDER 15.)

J. Drummond, scratch 1
G. C. Wheeler, hcp. 1yd 2
W. Carst, hcp. 3yds 3
H. Lee, hcp. 5 yds. 0
Barnett, hcp. 5yds. 0
Booth, hcp. 5yds. 0

Once again the race lay with Wheeler and Drummond, and the latter got home first by a few feet. Time, 12½ secs.

THREE-LOGGED RACE.—(50 YARDS.)

R. Sakamoto and W. Braess 1
G. C. Wheeler and J. Drummond 2
A. Kingdon and K. Ozawa 3
M. Sakamoto and A. Brent 0
H. Russell and H. Lee 0

R. Sakamoto and Braess just landed home by a foot in front of Wheeler and Drummond. Time, 15 secs.

OLD BOY'S RACE.—(220 YARDS.)

Henry Goddard, hcp. 5 yds. 1
C. Gibbs, scratch 2
W. Crane, hcp. 5 yds. 3
H. S. Goddard, hcp. 5 yds. 0
O. Poole, hcp. 5 yds. 0
H. Watt, hcp. 10 yds. 0
H. Drummond, hcp. 5 yds. 0

A very good race among the first three men. Time, 31 secs.

200 YARDS.—(JUNIOR.)

W. Carst, scratch 1
W. Johnstone, hcp. 10 yds. 2
H. Barnett, hcp. 15 yds. 0
Won easily; Barnett gave up half way round. Time, 30 secs.

QUARTER MILE.—(SENIORS.)

W. Braess, scratch 1
G. C. Wheeler, hcp. 10 yds. 0
H. Russell, hcp. 30 yds. 0
Braess came in alone, the others giving up.

GIRLS' RACE.

Miss Cassie Cook 1
Miss Hettie Kuhn 2
Miss Barnett 3
Eight little ladies ran, and the majority carried in their eggs safely. The winner came in with a walk.

SACK RACE.—(50 YARDS.)

M. Sakamoto 1
H. Russell 2
C. Helm 3
A. Kingdon, S. Kuhn, W. Smith, A. Pohl, and H. Roux, also ran. An easy win.

100 YARDS.—(UNDER 11.)

G. Russell, hcp. 3yds 1
J. Charlesworth, scratch 2
W. Johnstone, scratch 3
H. Cook, hcp. 3 yards 0
H. Barnett, hcp. 3 yards 0
The scratch men failed to catch Russell, who maintained his start to the finish. Time, 14secs.

WHEELBARROW RACE.—(50 YARDS.)

A. Kingdon and R. Ozawa 1
G. Allcock and R. Sakamoto 2
A. Pohl and M. Sakamoto 0
W. Braess and G. Wheeler 0
C. Helm and H. Russell 0
An amusing race, only the two first barrows succeeded in getting home in the orthodox style.

CONSOLATION RACE.—(220 YARDS.)

SENIORS.

H. Russell, hcp 10 yards 1
C. Helm, scratch 2
A. Pohl, scratch 0
J. Kuhn 3
Won by a foot. Time, 32 secs.

JUNIORS.

F. Booth, scratch 1
H. Lee, scratch 2
H. Barnett, hcp. 15 yards 0
H. Cook, hcp. 15 yards 0
Won easily. Time, 32 secs.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, October 20th.

This letter will necessarily pertain chiefly to *res Columbiana*: it will begin with the celebration in New York City; it will include some general items about the World's Fair; and will close with the special festivities of the dedicatory ceremonies in this city.

The celebration in New York City began Sunday, October 19th, with special religious services in most of the churches and cathedrals of the Eastern metropolis. On Monday began a series of imposing pageants, opened with a grand parade of 25,000 children from public, private, and parochial schools, from institutions and asylums, together with young men from colleges and universities. They were received by Vice-President Morton, Secretary of the Treasury Foster, Governor Flower and others. In the evening, a select audience gathered in Carnegie Music Hall to listen to a cantata entitled "Columbus," and to an oration by Hon. Chauncey M. Depew.

On Tuesday took place the great naval parade, in which two hundred vessels participated. All the harbour shipping was gaily decorated; and all available places on land and water were occupied by immense crowds of spectators. In this marine pageant not only our own, but also some French, Italian, and Spanish vessels, took part. Various salutes from the men-of-war, salvos from the batteries, and applause from the spectators made the noisy part of the demonstration. In the evening, the Roman Catholics, 25,000 strong, marched; and afterwards a gorgeous display of fire-works was made from the great bridge.

Wednesday, October 12th, was, of course, the big day. The feature of the morning was the great military parade, "fifteen miles long," with fully 50,000 men in line. It occupied six hours in

passing a given point, and has not been equalled since the grand review of the Union armies at the close of the war, in Washington. Probably 3,000,000 people witnessed the parade along the elaborately decorated streets. In the afternoon, under the auspices of our Italian-American residents, a monument to Columbus was unveiled in Central Park. In the evening, the streets, brilliantly illuminated, were packed with crowds to witness the parade of allegorical floats, presenting historical events and personages.

The celebration closed on Friday, with a swell banquet of over 400 prominent citizens and visitors. Mayor Grant presided; and Vice-President Morton, General Porter, Governor Flower, and others delivered addresses.

In many other localities, October 12th was observed as Columbus Day with various ceremonies. In this city, the Italian residents had an imposing parade in the afternoon, a banquet at sunset, and a ball in the evening. The Columbus Club, a Catholic organization, also had a grand banquet with eloquent addresses at the Auditorium that evening.

As a temporary digression from Columbian topics, the University of Chicago affords an item of interest. That institution, with its usual good fortune, is to have the largest and best telescope in the world, and a magnificent observatory. This is due to the generosity of "Baron" Charles T. Yerkes, the millionaire owner of part of our street railway system of cable lines.

Still another exhibition has been opened in this city. It comprises the original "John Raron's Fort," in which is also a collection of war relics.

In religious items, there has come a dramatic phase of the Briggs case. By a vote of 19 to 1 the directors of the Union Theological Seminary voted to dissolve the compact with the Presbyterian General Assembly.

The Episcopal Convention, recently in session at Baltimore, has made a noteworthy record in reforms. The new book of common prayer is to be much shorter, and the ritual has been revised with a view to simplicity.

Last week the National Council of Congregational Churches had a session of three days at Minneapolis; and among other matters, had a lively discussion over the "close corporation" policy of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

But it is now time to return to the World's Fair. Hon. W. C. P. Breckenridge finally declined to deliver the oration at the dedicatory ceremonies. Senator Daniel, of Virginia, was offered the position, but declined. Henry Watterson, of Kentucky, was then selected, and, in spite of the lateness of the hour, gracefully accepted the honour. There is considerable ill-feeling in Kentucky over the Breckenridge episode; but it will probably disappear before long.

A telegram from Private Secretary Halford definitely announces, that "the President will not be able to be in Chicago." Vice-President Morton will, of course, officiate in the President's place; but the absence of the latter will detract from the interest of the occasion.

The campaign is warming up a little, but is, nevertheless, remarkably quiet. It is a contest of principles rather than of parades, of thought more than torch-lights, and is a great disappointment to the professional politicians. James G. Blaine delivered one speech from the porch of Whitelaw Reid's house at Ophir Farm; and the leaders of both parties are "orating" here and there. Among the Democrats ex-Minister R. B. Hubbard is active in campaign work, and was honoured the other evening with a reception by the Iroquois Club of this city. It still looks as if the People's Party will fail to poll a sufficiently large vote to break the "Solid South," but will draw enough from the Republicans to make the latter lose some of the Western States. This means no choice by the people, and the subsequent election of Cleveland and Reid.

The U.S. Supreme Court has unanimously decided that the Miner Law, by which Presidential electors in Michigan are chosen by districts, is constitutional.

President Harrison has issued a proclamation opening to immediate settlement about 1,800,000 acres of the Crow Indian Reservation in southern Montana.

The new commercial treaty between Spain and the United States has been formally signed by Secretary Foster and the Spanish Minister. It gives great satisfaction to both sides.

The Chinese residents in America are making preparations to contest the registration provisions of the new restrictive law. Meanwhile, no act of Congress seems able to prevent the Chinese from marrying American girls; for the other day Dr. Gue Wo, of Omaha, was wedded to a Miss Cora Dewitt, of that city.

A newspaper item brings the information from the city of Mexico, that arrangements have been

made for the establishment of a colony of 1,000 Japanese of "none but the better classes" in the State of Sinaloa in that country. This movement is said to be "the result of an extended investigation" made by a commission sent out by the Japanese government.

The New York Chicago line of telephone is now formally "opened" for operation. Mayor Washbream of this city sent the first message to Mayor Grant of New York; and then others, including Prof. Alexander Bell, the inventor, held conversation. This line is 950 miles in length.

The grand jury of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, after it had been charged by Chief Justice Paxson, of that state as to what constitutes treason against the commonwealth, returned true bills against the members of the Homestead Advisory Committee of the strikers and also against the officials of the Carnegie Company and several Pinkertons for murder and conspiracy.

There is to be a solar Eclipse this morning and afternoon; but at present writing the sky is cloudy and does not look like clearing off. It is probable, anyhow, that but little attention will be paid to it in the excitement of the dedicatory celebration. The moon may hide the sun, but it can not eclipse the great parade which will be taking place at the same time.

The Chicago Columbian celebrations began on Sunday with special services and appropriate discourses in the various churches, and will continue throughout the week. On Monday, the guests and visitors began to arrive from the four quarters, and are still arriving in crowds. There is such a jam in the down town districts, that passage along the streets can be made only with extreme difficulty. The small boy rejoices in the presence of thousands of State militia and regular troops with their bands and banners. Vice-President Morton is, of course, the guest of honour; of the Cabinet, Messrs. J. W. Foster, Charles Foster, Elkins, Wanamaker, Noble, Miller, and Rusk are here with one or more members of their families; of the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Fuller and wife, Justices Harlan, Gray, Blatchford, Shires, Brewer, and wives; the foreign diplomatic corps in large numbers, including Ye Cha Yun from Korea, Pung Kwan Yu and Yun Kwai from China, and Minister Tateno, with Tamejima Miyasaki and Lieut. S. Nakamura, from Japan. Ex-President R. B. Hayes is here; but ex-President Cleveland, with thoughtful courtesy toward his rival, detained at the bedside of a sick wife, at the last moment sent a very kindly and delicate letter of declination. Almost every State in the Union is represented by its Governor, accompanied, perhaps, by other officials, or his staff, or part of the state militia, or all together. The officials, national and local, of the Columbian Exposition, are out almost in full numbers; and have improved the opportunity by having various meetings. Other notables, too numerous to mention, are here; and the *profanum vulgare*, the *heimin*, are well represented.

The city is magnificently decorated in all quarters, especially down town and out here by the World's Fair grounds, red, white and blue and terra cotta (the municipal colour) are variously blended. Flags of all nations may be seen here and there; in one window of Marshall Field and Co.'s retail store are four Japanese flags arranged about a sixteen-petalled chrysanthemum rosette.

Last night at the Auditorium Theatre the leading citizens of Chicago gave a reception, ball, and banquet to Vice-President Morton, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, Diplomatic Corps, Governors, Army and Navy Officers, and other prominent guests. It was a very select affair.

This morning the civil parade takes place. As it will be necessary to start early to get a good vantage point from which to view it, I must close this letter now; but as the *Japan Mail* was favoured with press privileges, I hope in my next letter to be able to give a full account of the various celebrations.

(This letter missed the last mail.)

The village of Aucun, France, is at the centre of a great basin of bituminous schist, and is interesting from a scientific as well as an industrial point of view because it contains a quantity of precious fossils. One bed yields "boghead." This matter, which has been regarded as a mineral, has been proven to be not so in reality, but an accumulation of gelatinous seaweed and of silic substance. There are also grains of pollen in enormous number, having the appearance of little round points. These grains were discharged into the air by forests of trees intermediate between the cycads and the conifers, about the close of primary times, by a phenomenon that is still reproduced in the vicinity of certain forests, giving us "rains of sulphur." By this discovery, as M. Gaudry observes, Paleontology robs Mineralogy of one of its substances.

MOUNTAINEERING IN THE JAPANESE ALPS.

BY WALTER WESTON, M.A., F.R.G.S., ENGLISH CHAPLAIN, KOBE.

Are not the mountains, waves, and skies a part
Of me and of my soul, as I of them?
Is not the love of them deep in my heart
With a pure passion?

Lucundus acti laboribus. (CICERO, DE FIN.)

"It is amid the giant heights which on three sides wall in the secluded province of Hida, that the sublimest mountain scenery of Japan is to be found," says Dixon in "The Land of the Morning," and anyone who has had opportunities of travelling amongst representative types of the scenery of Japan will fully endorse his statement. The present writer was first induced to turn his attention to these "Japanese Alps," as they well may be called, by an enthusiastic recommendation given two years ago by Professor Chamberlain, and the result was a perfect revelation of unexpected grandeur. It is probably partly owing to the fact that travelling in this mountainous district is of the roughest kind that its wild fastnesses are, as Dixon puts it, "a charmed circle within a charmed circle isolated by nature much as the whole empire was isolated by man." Of all the provinces of Japan, Hida is the most remote and least known. Few travellers, either natives or foreigners, ever penetrate the vast solitudes of the mighty ranges which on the north and east cut it off almost entirely from communication with the outer world. And yet nowhere in the bounds of the Land of the Rising Sun is there such a marvellous range, so wonderful and complete a variety of nature's beauties, to be met with. From the richness of sub-tropical vegetation, to alpine snows, nothing is wanting. When the dark cone of Fuji has lost its snowy mantle these granite peaks and castellated cliffs still bear the glittering snow upon their steep sides, and more than one great river has its volume swelled by the waters which descend from their slopes of ever-wasting, never disappearing snow.

The easiest approach into these solitary wilds is from Matsumoto on the east, or from Gifu on the south, of the boundaries of Hida.

Last summer I took the former route, and it was from the top of the Hōinkuji-tōge, between Uyeda and Matsumoto, that I got my first view of ranges and peaks such as I had hardly believed Japan could boast of. Norikura with its saddle-like summit, Jōnen-dake with its beautiful triangular form—recalling the shape of the peerless Weisshorn, queen of the Pennine Alps—and, above all, the sharp peak of Yari-gatake, the Matterhorn of Japan, in all its naked grandeur—these and countless other heights, seen across the broad plain of Matsumoto, combined to form a picture which can never fade from memory and ever will remain one of its choicest possessions.

On that occasion, a week spent in an expedition to Yari-gatake, second in height to Fuji itself, was less productive than one had hoped, through bad weather. After two nights away from our inn at Shienajima, and the exploration of a new route to the foot of the final peak—the 'Spear' (*yari*) of the mountain—we were driven back when half an hour of good weather would have landed us on the summit. Rain, however, made the rocks in a dangerous condition for climbing, and ten hours of hard work, with little food all day, had brought us too late to the last stage of the ascent. So we were compelled to accept the inevitable and turn our backs on our peak, not without one of us, at any rate, vowing vengeance upon him and determining to return another year and plant an iron heel upon the giant's head.

It was with this end, amongst others, in view, that on August 1st last my friend Dr. Miller, of Kobe, and myself left by the 9.02 a.m. train for Gifu. Our plan was to make our way into Hida from the South, and then work round to the mountains from their western side, eventually crossing the range into Shinshū, our objective point there being the town of Matsumoto.

How far our plans succeeded, I have now to tell. The journey along the Tōkaidō railway is too well known to need description, but I may mention in passing that in clear weather one can get a glimpse of the snow-streaked summits of both Hakusan in Kaga, and Ontake in Hida Shinshū, if careful watch is kept when passing through the station of Ogaki. Last November I had enchanting views of the then snow-crowned peaks, but often the summer haze prevents them from being visible. Hakusan is nearly N. and Ontake N.E. From Gifu to Seki, our first night's stopping place on the road to Takayama (the capital of Hida), is a distance of about 100 miles. The first part of the road, the Hida kaidō, is very good, but later on it becomes bad beyond expression. Warned of this, we had only engaged one *jirikisha*, into which we packed our baggage, preferring to nego-

tiate any possible pitfalls on foot, as well as to enjoy the walk through what was to be really pleasant scenery, in the calm and quiet of the dying summer day. Beyond Akutami the road crosses the Tsubokawa, an affluent of the Nagara-gawa; the view of the hills to the left and the rapids of the broad stream on the right being extremely pretty.

The last half or more of the road proved far worse even than we had been led to expect. In some places we had literally to lift the *kuruma* along, and as darkness at length fell we had to give constant attention to the baggage, for it was jolted along in momentary danger of being hurled pell-mell into the gaps yawning on every side. However, by getting all hands to the wheel, not without a frequent wish we each possessed more pairs than the nominal number with which nature had endowed us, we managed to overcome all obstacles, and after a trudge of four hours we arrived at Seki at 8.30 p.m. Here we found excellent accommodation at the "Yorozuya," additional attention being shown when the fact of my companion's therapeutic powers became known. For our landlord brought in a friend, who was ill, for examination, and as a token of gratitude for assistance given, presented each of us with a pretty little fan, and to the doctor he also gave a very neat stiletto. Some difficulty was experienced in getting *kurumas* here at anything like a reasonable rate, the reason advanced being that of the unusually bad state of the road to Takayama, and so the bargaining lasted long into the night before an agreement was reached.

As the next day's journey took us only a distance of 32½ miles, it will be at once seen that there must have been something rather rough about the road we passed over. With two men to each *inrikisha* we were off at 6.30 a.m., a lovely morning greeting us as we said our good byes and turned our faces towards Takayama. For the first seven miles or so, the road thither fully bore out the bad character it had been given, but then comes a remarkable change, the next 15 miles (the portion between Tonomura and Kanayama) being almost fit for a bicycle track nearly all the way, although the latter part is somewhat hilly. On nearing Kanayama the character of the scenery alters, growing grander as the mild hills and valleys of Mino are left behind and we draw near to ragged cliffs which wall in the swift flowing waters of the Hida-gawa.

Just outside this village is one of the most picturesque spots on the whole of the route. It is here that the Mazegawa, one of the most important tributaries of this river, comes in to swell the volume of the stream, and at the angle formed by the two a view is presented which will not readily be forgotten by those who once behold it. From Kanayama right on to Kukuino, a distance of nearly 40 miles, the road follows the course of the Hida-gawa, whose well wooded valleys and rocky ravines furnish a constant succession of scenes of varying beauty. Just after passing Shimohara, a neat village a mile or so beyond Kanayama, a picturesque temple at the foot of a magnificent grove of dark cryptomeria on the left attracts one's attention, but along the whole route it is the hand of Nature, rather than that of man, which furnishes us with a never ceasing source of wonder and delight. At one time we are passing almost within reach of the stream, at another the road winds along the edge of a precipice of 500 feet or so above, wooded from its summit to the water's edge.

Near Hiodo, 3 *ri* beyond Shimohara, the scenery is particularly striking, affording a lovely view of pine-clad islets rising from the rapids of the torrent bed.

At the former village, we are told that the day is now too far advanced to enable us to push on to the next stopping place—Gero—before night-fall. The latter part of our route has been bad enough, it is true, but the worst, the coolies say, has yet to come. The experience of the road for the last few miles has been trying, but the prospect of going on for another eight miles along anything more vile is hideous. One cannot afford, in such scenes as these, to have one's attention distracted from drinking in the charms that Nature's lavish hand holds out for our delight at every turn, by the prosaic discomforts of a *finrikisha* jolting out all the better feelings that should have play to the very full. Accordingly, we decide to stop the night at Hiodo, our resting place being an unpretentious inn on the outskirts of the little village that consists merely of a few scattered houses dotted here and there over a part of the valley rather more open than that through which we have just been making our way.

On the following day we found abundant cause to congratulate ourselves on our decision.

The road is for some distance out in the rocky face of the precipices which overhang the river on our left. Heavy rains have in some places

washed the thin layer of soil almost entirely away from the rocks beneath, and it is hard work for the *finrikisha* to get along. Having hoped to gain time on the way from Teki to Sakayama by taking them, it was somewhat of a disappointment to find them so useless. But there was no help for it, and our thoughts could not but turn with never ending delight to the fresh beauties that opened out on either hand.

Curiously enough, the most beautiful part of the route has been given the most unbecoming name of *Figoku* (Hell), apparently by reason of the fearsome aspect it presents to the beholder.

After a hard pull for some 5 or 6 miles beyond Hiodo, the road begins to improve, and a fine view greets us as the river makes a sudden bend, and passes under a picturesque bridge at the point where a branch road turns off to the Nakasendo. (This road, after crossing the boundary of Hida and Mino again, itself bifurcates, its upper parts turning round to the north-east and coming out at Fukuishima in Shinshu, whilst the lower arm takes a short cut to the south-east and joins the same great highway just after it crosses from Shinshu into Mino at Nakatsu.)

Near Gero the road loses itself in the boulders of the bed of a torrent which here dashes into the Hida-gawa on the right, and after heavy rains some difficulty must be experienced in getting *kurumas* across. Further on, at Osaka (sometimes also called 'Ossaka') we reach the loveliest of all the many beautiful scenes with which this route abounds. The village stands at the angle formed by the confluence of the Hida-gawa with the Osaka-gawa, and the sight of the wild waters of the tributary torrent as it comes rushing down a ravine on the right, combined with the stern ruggedness of the cliffs which rise up on the left, all unite to form a picture of entrancing beauty.

This, indeed, forms a fitting climax to the constant succession of charming views through which we have been passing for a day and a half, and the rest of the route is almost tame by comparison.

Another 10 miles and we are at Kukuino, where, for the present, we say good-bye to the great stream, which has afforded us such a constant source of pleasure whilst it has been our companion—though always a passer-by—during so many miles. Its name, however, is a little puzzling, as it varies, from time to time like that of most of the more important rivers of Japan, according to the locality through which it passes.

For instance, that given it at its birth from the deep emerald waters of the tarn O-ike on Norikura, whence it springs, is Adanogō-gawa. As it grows older and bigger, further on between Kukuino and Osaka, its name is changed to Masuda-gawa; whilst, curiously enough, it is not until it leaves its native province of Hida and passes into that of Mino, that it assumes the title by which it is best known, of the Hida-gawa. Near Ota, on the Nakasendo, it ceases to have any individuality, its waters being merged in those of the broad swift flowing Kisogawa whose delta embraces the broad plain at the head of Owari Bay.

From Kukuino a path follows the course of the river for seven miles as far as the village of Miza on the Nomugi Tōge from Takayama to Matsumoto, and would save a considerable distance to those who were not desirous of going on to Takayama before crossing that pass.

Leaving our *finrikishas* here—with the exception of the one containing our baggage—we applied ourselves to the crossing of the Miya-tōge, over which a remarkably good road leads, for a distance of 7½ miles, to Takayama. The summit of the pass is reached by a gentle ascent of about 1½ miles, and on attaining it a fine view of the hills on the west of Takayama is obtained. The descent from the top of the pass as far as the village and temple of Miya—the latter really giving the name to the former—is effected by a remarkable series of zigzags, the serpentine windings of this road being very cleverly arranged. It is only 24 *cho* from the top to the temple, which stands on the right hand side of the path in the shade of a fine grove of stately cryptomerias. This is the principal Shinto temple in the whole province of Hida, and is said to have been founded in prehistoric times, though the present buildings are comparatively of a recent date. The situation is very fine, and though the buildings are of the simplest character there is a solemn stateliness which is very impressive. In a shed on the right of the gateway are several wooden horses of various sizes, the smallest being apparently nothing more than a child's rocking-horse without the rockers, and presenting a ludicrous incongruity with its surroundings. Passing on from here we soon cross the river Miyagawa, and our route for a short distance follows its valley, at length coming out into the small plain in which stands the town of Takayama, the capital of the province of Hida, with a population of a little over 15,000.

Here we put up at a very comfortable inn, the Tanekaya, whose landlord, from the time he sent out a servant with a lantern to meet us on our entrance into the town, until the moment when he said a polite farewell the next morning, showed us a courtesy and attentiveness which are always most noticeable when *not* on the beaten tracks in Japan.

It was a surprise to find, on making enquiries here, that it was possible to take *kurumas* for some distance, and so save time, along the way eastwards to Hirayu, the place we had fixed upon as the basis of our operations upon the western side of the "Alps of Japan."

Accordingly our spirits rose as on the next morning we found ourselves early bowling along the road which passes out at the north-east corner of the town in the direction of the great peaks with which we were eager to make a nearer acquaintance. At first the road is somewhat rough, but later on, especially beyond Odani, it greatly improves, partly owing, no doubt, to the composition of the hills whose sides it traverses. Charming views open out from time to time in the fresh clear morning air, as we wind in and out of the hollows of the hills, now close by the side of the busy torrent hurrying down from its birth place in the great solitary mountains to join the river in the busy plain, then again looking down on its dark waters from far above as the road steadily climbs the gradients on the lower spurs of the great peaks. Perhaps the loveliest part of this charming route is that just beyond the little hamlet of Odani, some six miles out from Takayama.

Here the Niūgawa, with its dark impetuous rapids crossed at intervals by picturesque little bridges, dashes down the narrow defile between the richly wooded cliffs from its birth-place in a deep emerald lake—the Oniū-ike—which afterwards we looked down upon when climbing the higher ridges of Norikura. It is one of the summits of this peak which we now catch sight of rising far above its neighbouring satellites.

About ten miles from Takayama a neat wayside temple is passed on the left, close to the hamlet of Hiomo. It was here, as we turned to look down the valley up which we had just come, that a view, as striking as it was unexpected, met our gaze. There, 60 miles away, as the crow flies, forming an exquisite vignette in an angle of the nearer hills, rises the massive cone of Hakusan the great "white mountain" of Kaga. Its precipitous sides, "scarred with a thousand wintry water-courses" and picked out here and there with glistening slopes of snow, are sharply defined against the blue vault of heaven. There is no intervening plain to catch the eye, only the forest-clad hills in the immediate foreground, and then this grand far-off peak rising up in the angle they make as their outlines meet. The contrast between the near glorious greenery of trees of every shade and the distant grey and purple and white of this great pyramid standing solitary in the clear atmosphere of a perfect summer's day, was indescribably beautiful. It was a happy inspiration that prompted us to stop just at that spot to take some observations, for in doing so, to turn round and see this lovely picture spread out before us.

In a little less than four hours from the start, our *kurumas* come to a full stop, the road itself almost doing the same, or at any rate dwindling down to a narrow track which crosses the foot hills of the great chain and leads to the little village of Hirayu. It is about 11 o'clock when we reach Hataloko and here the *finrikishas*, for which there is no further use, are sent back, and arrangements have to be made for transporting our baggage over the pass, commonly known hereabouts as the Hirayu-tōge. This is no easy task, for we are completely in the hands of the house at which we stopped and unburdened the *kurumas*, and as this gentleman knows full well that he has us at his mercy, his demands are proportionately exorbitant. However, we had determined not to yield, and as he was in an equally obstinate state of mind, there seemed to be every prospect of a dead-lock. We had plenty of time to wait as the pass would only take about four hours to cross, so we left him to reflect until he should arrive at a better and more reasonable frame of mind. In the meantime, we fell to on our mid-day meal, and somehow or another the fact of the therapeutic powers of my companion eked out with astonishing results. For within about half an hour not only had a large proportion of the inhabitants of the village received medical attention "free of charge" but our crusty friend had so far softened as to provide us with the help we wanted at a comparatively reasonable rate. It is, however, well to bear in mind, on such occasions as these, that as the peasants in mountainous valleys usually turn out to their work at an early hour, there is always a scarcity of coolies available for transport purposes, and consequently if a man is to be induced to

leave his day's work and go off elsewhere, he generally expects to be well-paid for doing so.

It was just mid-day when we left Hatahoko, which, by the way, is well situated at the head of the valley through which we have come.

In front of us the valley divides. The left branch going up into the hills which rise between us and Hirayū, and the right penetrating far into the massive flanks of Norikura, the first of the giants of the range to which our attention is to be given. High up this valley lies the lovely little lake in which rises the Niūgawa, one of the tributaries of the Miyagawa, this again forming one of the principal feeders of the Jindzu-gawa, well known to the Japanese as almost the greatest of the swift streams that empty themselves into the Sea of Japan.

It is possible, by following a track which winds up the lovely defile towards the lake, to make the ascent of Norikura, but as we had decided to make Hirayū our head-quarters, we left this route untried, and set out, with our two porters, for that place via the Hirayū-lōge. The path winds steeply up the valley to the left, for a while near a mountain torrent of the usual noisy sort. By and by, however, we lose its companionship, and after passing a group of cottages, collectively known as Kute, we find ourselves at last out of the reach of human habitations, save here and there a solitary charcoal-burner's hut situated in an open space cleared out of the dense forest of firs, beeches, oaks, and other trees.

In a little over 2½ hours we arrive at the top of the ridge, on the other side of which, close by the summit, we find a hut tenanted only by a few more or less dilapidated stone images of Buddha. A short rest here, and down we plunge into a hollow at the bottom of which lies the little village of Hirayū, which, however, is at first hidden by an intervening slope of the steep hill side we are descending. On the way down we get good views of Norikura a little to the right, and lesser heights in front and on the left. A descent of less than an hour and we are standing at the hospitable door of Yomosaburo, and very soon afterwards we are sitting up to our necks in the hot mineral water bath close by. These waters—impregnated with iron—are conducted from the spot at which they rise, into several bath-houses in the village, by means of bamboo pipes, but as the temperature is originally some 190°, other pipes bring in a supply of cold water as well, in order to make it possible to bathe without being parboiled. The spring leaves the ground about 100 feet from the bath house furthest up the village from the inn. During the evening we had a visit from another occupant of the house, by name Mr. Kumagaye, an official in the Kanagawa department of the Agricultural Board, who was making a report on the Botany and Geology of this district. He showed us some interesting sketch maps of various sections of the neighbouring mountains, which were of assistance to us in settling our route when next day we set out for our first mountaineering expedition, the first ascent of Norikura from the N.W.

In order to do this it was necessary to spend the night somewhere on the mountain, so the next morning after our arrival at Hirayū was chiefly spent in getting information on the subject and making the necessary preparations for our climb.

As a result of our enquiries we found that it would be possible to sleep at the huts of the workmen employed at a mine situated in the hills some 4 or 5 miles from Hirayū, and from here we might be able to find some practicable route to the top of our peak. Accordingly, having secured the services of a couple of coolies overnight, we set off at 2.15 p.m., and left the village by a path to the S.E. which brought us, in a quarter of an hour, to the works where the copper from the mine I have mentioned is smelted, and, passing this, the ascent soon leads up a valley down which comes dashing the torrent of the Takahara-gawa. This eventually joins the Miyagawa on the N.W. corner of the boundary of the provinces of Hida and Etchū, that river then flowing into the Jintsu-gawa, as I have already mentioned.

A steep pull for a mile or so brings us to a point just above a magnificent cascade, formed by the Takahara-gawa near its source, which falls with a thunderous roar into a rocky basin more than 200 feet below. It was difficult to realize that this was the same as the slender silvery thread, to all appearance as light and soft as silken ribbon when seen from the village not two miles away.

In two hours from the start we found ourselves at the end of the path, and at the entrance of the little mining settlement of which we had been told. This consists of one or two long low lines of huts built on the steep hill-side in which the mines are excavated. Outside the front of the huts runs a sort of gallery or covered-in verandah, for the miners stay on here all the year round, and judging by the summer temperature as we found it, the winter cold must be intense enough to make a good

deal of protection necessary. On making as polite an application as we could—for we were alone, our porters not having yet arrived—we received a most hospitable welcome, and on accepting the kindly invitation to enter, we found ourselves in a comfortable little room, quite as cosy at least as the one in which we had spent the previous night. This, we discovered, was the office of the overseer of the mines, and served him and some of his subordinates also, for the purpose not only of office, but of dining and bed-room as well. By and by, our coolies arrived with the baggage and we immediately set to work making ourselves snug for the night. First, however, came the evening meal, and here we fared regally, being supplied by our host with a liberal quantity of octopus and sweet potatoes fried in oil, an addition to our own provisions of such an appetising character that the latter were really hardly needed.

Before turning in, we had a chat with our new friends about our surroundings. The mines, they told us, had only been working some 3 or 4 years, the quantity of copper produced being about 150,000 lbs., and that of silver 2,500 lbs. annually. A similar mine was formerly worked on the east slope of this northern spur of Norikura, and traces of the old buildings, furnaces, etc., are still to be seen in the neighbourhood of Onogawa on the Shinshū side. But for 30 years or so operations have been suspended, and the works are now deserted.

The miners at Kōzon here carry on their vocation all the year round, and as the mine is at an altitude of nearly 7,000 feet, in a somewhat exposed position, the cold in winter must be intense. The path up from Hirayū is, of course, buried deep under the snow, and as the ordinary *waraji* are unsuited for snow-walking, recourse is had to foot gear specially adapted to it. For hard snow a sort of crampon called *kana-kanyiki* is used, consisting of a flat metal band with three iron points.

When, however, the consistency of the snow will not admit of these being used, a light frame of bamboo, like a Canadian snowshoe without the interior netting, allows the walker to tread in safety over the deepest snow-drifts. About 150 labourers, of all ages, are employed, most of them being housed at night in huge dormitories in the same buildings we ourselves were occupying. This last fact, however, had its drawbacks for us, for just as we were thinking of going to *futon*, a commotion in the dormitory next to our room announced the arrival of an itinerant story-teller and his assistant *samisen* player. The workmen being unable to get down to the lowlands for their amusement, those who cater for it have to do as Malomet did to the mountain, and unluckily for us, on this occasion selected a most inopportune evening. It was hardly to be expected that when once the miners had got their mountebanks they would let them go without getting their money's worth, and as none like the Japanese so thoroughly make a business of their pleasure, this performance went on until midnight. The result was that our start the next morning did not take place until 6.30, but at that hour we found ourselves on the way. At first the coolies hesitated a good deal. "The weather was not fit," they said "it would be very dangerous—we might get benighted," and so forth. However, no notice was taken of their objections, and additional moral support came to us in the shape of a cheery old fellow who arrived at Kozan just before we started, he having come up from Hirayū that morning in order to accompany us, and so learn the way with a view to himself hereafter becoming pilot to any stray traveller who might want to follow us on this climb. He proved to be a person of surprising activity of body, and no less astonishing cheerfulness of mind, and his presence was a help to us by raising the spirits of our porters.

Our ascent began by our going down several hundred feet on a steep shale slope just below the huts, this being necessary in order to allow us to cross the torrent and get up the precipitous bank beyond at a practicable point.

Rain was falling as we got to work, and continued to close until we got clear of the forest through which we now had to make our way. This was, on the whole, the most trying part of the climb. Hidden tree stumps in the long grass lay ready to trip up the unwary one; and while attention was being given to these, an unseen branch above would be ready to catch the head. The least shake given to bush or bough brought down an impromptu shower-bath, and slippery grass brought down the climber himself. For nearly an hour this continued, and more than once the coolies wanted to give in and turn back. However, we managed to make them hold on, and at length we emerged from the forest, having rounded the spur which is thrown out between the torrent below Kozan and the one for which we were aiming and up which we wanted to climb. The altitude

of Kozan is about 7,361 feet, according to a comparison of observations by aneroid and boiling-point thermometer made the day before, but our hour's work had brought us very little above this, and it was not until after passing an awkward place which slopes down to the point at which we crossed the second torrent bed, that our ascent really began.

Far off on the right the lowest snow bed showed up dull and cheerless in the cold rain, at about 200 feet below us, but not until after a good scramble up the boulders and rocky sides of the torrent—now nearly empty of its usual stream—did we actually come into contact with snow. The rain now soon ceased, and after a halt for breakfast we again pushed on. We now turned southwards to a ridge on our left, and on overtopping this found ourselves looking down on the lake, Oniū-ike, at the head of the Hatahoko valley, from which, as I pointed out before, the Miyagawa receives a tributary, the Niūgawa, in the plain of Takayama. Northwards, the view takes in all the great peaks of the Hida chain, Yariatake, Kasadake, and many peaks of which we could not discover the names. Grand and precipitous are these granite giants of the Japanese Alps, and the cloud-curtains that veiled their lower slopes only served to heighten the appearance of their grandeur. Descending the further side of the sharp ridge we are on, and passing over a steep slope clothed with the low spreading branches of the spiky *haimatsu*, we reach a long snow slope, inclined at a moderate angle and ending in a saddle, on the other side of which is a clear lake of no great depth, surrounded on nearly all sides by rugged peaks and ridges that form a striking natural amphitheatre. At the foot of one of the most broken of the ridges some natural caves are formed, and in one of these, at an altitude of 8,820 feet, we sheltered from the wind and proceeded to fortify the inner man. After rest and refreshment came another scramble over a still steeper rocky crest, and then another gradual descent through a long stretch of *haimatsu* which eventually landed us at 11.30 at a hut built here for the benefit of those who ascend the mountain by the route from Onogawa on the Shinshū side. Leaving this—the Murodō as it is called—without delay, we made for the steep slopes in front and a short climb landed us on the sharp *arête* which runs down from the double-topped summit of the mountain and evidently forms part of the lip of the crater, for Norikura is an extinct volcano. Shortly after noon we were standing on the northernmost of the two peaks, the highest point of the mountain, the altitude of which, according to the Japanese Geological Survey map, is 10,387 feet. I think this is too high, our own calculations giving 10,150 feet as the result of the comparison of a number of aneroid and boiling-point observations.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL.

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN AND CO. V. THE GOVERNOR OF KANAGAWA-KEN—THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

Appellant—ARTHUR H. GROOM, Manager of MOURILYAN HEIMANN & Co., Export and Import Merchants, 35, Foreign Settlement, Yokohama.

OKAMURA TERUHIKO, Counsel for Appellants. HARADA KEIGO, Counsel for Appellants.

Respondent—UTSUMI TADAKATSU, Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

TAKAHASHI SUTEROKU, Counsel for Respondent.

KOIDE RIUTARO, Counsel for Respondent.

Upon resuming, Counsel for Appellants said:—I wish to refer to another statement made by the other side. It was stated that when any portion of the kerosene was delivered, the number of cases released from the official warehouse was recorded on the back of the warrant. No doubt such was the custom practised, but the officers were not bound to do so by the Regulations. Indeed, such a process is against the rules prescribed, for every time any portion of a deposit of kerosene is delivered a new warrant should be prepared recording the number of cases remaining. But I presume this having been found troublesome, the officials adopted a more convenient form of registry. Since the Regulations do not provide for such an altered mode of recording the amount of deliveries the depositor naturally does not consider it a matter of very great importance. In short, the respondent acted thus of his own choice. The second point is whether the Chinese, who demanded deliveries of the oil, had any power to do so? I believe this is the most important question that has arisen. Now, in the first place, the ap-

pellants declare that it is not the custom of Yokohama merchants to confer such powers on Chinese employes. It is the common usage never to give such powers to the Chinese; but the respondent declares that other firms do confer such powers on Chinese, and in exhibit No. 5B the name of Shinko Yoko is mentioned as an instance. But I think there is considerable doubt as to that name being that of a Chinese; it is more probably a translation of the name of some foreign firm—of course I do not acknowledge it. For instance, the title of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is translated into all sorts of Chinese characters. At any rate, the fact of no such powers having ever been conferred on Chinese was clearly stated by Mr. Middleton in the Lower Court. Moreover, the representative of the appellant firm declared that he never gave any such power to the Chinese. I think that no further evidence is required to prove my contention. As I have said before, the Chinese were mere godown-keepers, and they demanded delivery of kerosene by orders signed by the representative of the appellant firm, and nothing more. They destroyed the genuine orders, however, and prepared new ones themselves, which they took to the respondent. The latter may allege that the Chinese came so often that he considered the orders which they presented to be genuine, but that does not alter the fact that they were counterfeit from the very beginning. I don't think that it is right to urge that since these Chinese orders were brought so frequently, the authorities did not care whether they were genuine or not. The culpable negligence that we complain of on the part of the respondent is, that not only did he carelessly believe the statements of those Chinese, but also, against the very provisions of the Regulations, delivered goods to Chinese in exchange for delivery orders, signed by Chinese, and having neither the signature nor the stamp of the firm, though the goods were originally deposited in the name of Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. The respondent alleged that since the Chinese had often appeared at the warehouse on behalf of Mourilyan, Heimann and Co., the warehouseman thought that Chinese always represented that firm. But such is certainly not the case. The fact is, the authorities were deceived from the very beginning, and as the deception was practised so often, they at last came to deliver goods in exchange for delivery orders signed by Chinese only. This is, indeed, the negligence with which we charge the respondent. Now I wish to draw attention to a significant fact. Will the Court look at this document? On it is affixed a stamp of the firm over the signature of the Chinese. The respondent may allege that since a stamp of the firm is on the document, the firm must acknowledge its genuineness. But that would not be in conformity with the usage of Yokohama. Even granting that the stamp is very like the stamp used by the firm—even if we grant it to be the genuine stamp, as my associate said previously—such stamp alone cannot make the order valid, for to make it conform with the Regulations it must also bear the signature of the representative of the firm. It is expressly mentioned that the signature of the owner of the goods is required on the order before it can be recognised by the authorities, therefore, the signature of a Chinaman is insufficient at the outset. Again, Exhibit No. 7B, alleges that as the first portion of the oil was delivered to the signature of the Chinese, and such fact was recorded on the back of the warrant, the proper representative of the firm could easily have discovered that a wrongful representation had been made when he drew out the remainder with his own order on the same warrant. But that could not be the case. The warrant was given to the Chinese to keep because it was known that without a delivery order signed by the proper representative, the mere production of such warrant would not enable the Chinese to draw out any goods mentioned in it. Such being the case, the appellant firm were under no obligation to examine each warrant carefully before handing it back to the Chinese. The respondent has therefore no ground for saying that the mere possession of the warrant by the Chinese was an act of negligence on the part of appellants. The only important document in delivering goods is the delivery order. At first sight, it may seem plausible to say that as soon as the warrant is produced the goods ought to be delivered, but when one thinks the matter over it soon appears that it is not so. Again, there is a document alleged by the respondent to be received from the Chinese Consulate. The appellants presented some documents to the Consul, but whether that produced by the respondent is the same or a copy of the same, we cannot tell. At any rate, the appellants incurred a great loss and to the inexperienced it was somewhat difficult to see who had been the cause of it. Owing to this difficulty the appellants instituted a

suit against the Chinese, only to discover afterwards that the real cause of the loss was the negligence displayed by the respondent, acting through his agents. The appellants can sue either the respondent or the Chinese at the Chinese Consulate. Therefore, it is incorrect to say that the Chinese Consul ordered the appellants to investigate the matter. In fact, there is no evidence to that effect. Now I come to my third point. We have experienced much trouble in regard to the documents lying in possession of the Kencho, who have refused to comply with our request to produce them. But since the Court has ruled that there is no provision in the laws of the country to compel respondent to produce the documents, we cannot help ourselves. Under these circumstances we think that the Court ought to accept Exhibit No. 5, which is a copy of the originals in the Kencho. Why does not respondent produce the documents? Is it because he thinks that they are damaging to his case? If there were no flaw in the originals, they should have been presented readily. We have preserved copies, and have presented them as evidence, and I hope the Court will accept it. On this subject, Edwards, a clerk of the appellant firm, declared that he accepted the figures as correct in the Lower Court. Such being the case there is no dispute as to the number of cases. The respondent may ask whether there are not some more cases beside those mentioned in the documents. There might have been some more, but since the money for them has been received by the appellants they are not included in this suit. Perhaps this may not seem very clear; but in these cases the proper representative prepared the orders which the Chinese received, and having obtained the oil they sold it to the parties concerned, and then paid the money to the firm. Whether the Chinese made out fresh orders on those occasions or not is unascertainable now. Even if the Chinese did prepare new orders then, and drew out a greater number of goods than were mentioned in the originals, they brought in the proper amount of money for which the original order was prepared. The appellants must therefore consider that the proper order only was presented in those instances. As the appellants incurred no loss on those portions of oil, no compensation for them is demanded. Therefore, that amount is subtracted from the indemnity demanded by us. Now, if there is no evidence to prove that the Chinese were properly authorized by the appellant firm to receive oil on their own signatures, then the money obtained by them for the oil so received was acquired by swindling, and the law of the country will allow an indemnity for it. Perhaps it may be alleged that we were negligent in not having notified the names of the properly authorised representatives of the firm to the Kencho, but such would be an erroneous conclusion; for the Kencho is aware that it is a common custom in Europe never to notify such things, and the Kencho no doubt has acted on the knowledge. Such being the case, I believe and contend that the respondent has a legal obligation to comply with the demand of the appellants.

Counsel for Respondent—The gist of the pleading of Counsel for Appellants is that in the present case it was negligence on the part of the Kencho to have delivered goods in exchange for delivery orders signed by Chinese, and accompanied by the original warrant. Now the respondent holds an exactly opposite view. That is to say, the respondent does not consider the delivery of the goods to the appellants to be a negligence at all, but that on the contrary the negligence lies solely with the appellants. But before dwelling upon that subject, I must state that there is no just reason whatever for demanding an indemnity in the present case. When we examine the report of the proceedings in the Lower Court, we find that the appellants experienced much difficulty in stating their case. But by clever pleading they maintained that the whole of the kerosene oil imported by the *Anglo-American, Milverton, and Calypso*, was wrongfully delivered, and for this an indemnity was demanded. But now they plead quite differently. If both notes are compared, the Court will find that there is much conflict. The appellants first stated that there were altogether nearly 130,000 cases of kerosene wrongfully delivered; yet the indemnity asked for now is only for about 40,000 cases. That is not more than a third of the first stated loss. The reason for this is not easily discovered. The total number of cases imported by the *Anglo-American* and other ships amounted to over 130,000, and they were all drawn out by orders prepared by the Chinese, but out of the number some eighty or ninety thousand cases are in the hands of the appellants, or they have received payment for that amount; therefore an indemnity for the remaining forty thousand cases alone is de-

manded. They allege that about two-thirds of the value of the whole amount of oil was received in money. Where did that money come from? The kerosene oil thus delivered was sold by the Chinese, and the money paid to the appellant firm. Even if it be granted that the whole was wrongly delivered, as alleged by the appellants, they have to acknowledge also that two-thirds of the loss was recovered. Thus, when the statement of the appellants is dissected, it amounts to nothing more than this: the appellants having found a shortage of 80,000 yen on their kerosene account, demand compensation for that amount from the respondent. It is as if they said that such and such deliveries were illegal because a loss was incurred by them, and, therefore, the loss must be made good by the respondent. They allege that they incurred a loss. But unless the circumstances of such loss are plainly proved, no indemnity can possibly be demanded. That is to say, it must be proved that the delivery of the oil was illegal, and by its illegality a loss was sustained by appellants. But no such process of stating or proving their case has been adopted. They simply said that all the kerosene oil imported by the *Anglo-American* was wrongfully delivered—such a statement I believe to be a mere subterfuge. They have not, I say, gone the right way to work in formulating their demands. The appellants did not at first consider the deliveries of the kerosene oil to be illegal. For when the loss was discovered they brought a suit against Akew, Shin Kitchin, and Alai, for the theft of some 70,000 yen, in the Chinese Consulate, as exhibit No. 6B will show. Though the appellants did not acknowledge it, that exhibit bears the stamp of the Chinese Consul, and it is expressly stated beneath that the Consul has forwarded a copy of the document to plaintiff for filing. It is therefore an exact copy of the petition presented by the appellant firm, in which the appellants charge those Chinese with theft. Thus, at the beginning, the appellants believed that the sum now demanded as compensation for loss sustained by them was stolen by the Chinese, and we think that they were correct in their first belief. But to resume. The most important document in withdrawing kerosene from the warehouse is the warrant. This warrant is as valuable as a promissory note or cheque. Since the Chinese always brought with them this important document, it was only natural for the warehousemen to think that they were properly authorised to do so. Such a document might never have been left in the hands of the Chinese if the circumstances of the case are as appellants allege. The appellants declare that the warrants were always put in the safe, but when a portion of the oil mentioned in a warrant was required, the warrant was handed to the Chinese, who kept it. This warrant, I repeat, is most important, for it proves that the kerosene is deposited, and when such warrant is taken to a bank the latter will advance money upon it. Again, exhibit No. 7B, shows that the Chinese demanded delivery of a portion of the goods with a certain warrant and, subsequently, with the same warrant one of the European employes of the firm drew out another portion. If the former delivery was illegal the European clerk ought to have discovered it then. For, in accordance with the Regulations, if any case of kerosene remains in the warehouse at the end of a year after deposit, a new warrant for the remaining amount must be issued in exchange for the former. Now, if the appellants do not draw out the whole amount of a deposit of oil at the expiry of a year, they must have the old warrant revised, and obtain another new warrant in exchange. They know this well, therefore, if the Chinese drew out any oil it could easily be discovered at that time. But they did not find that it was so. We have much further evidence to show that they believed that the oil was sold and the money stolen by the Chinese, and not that the kerosene was wrongfully delivered. But I will not dwell upon this point. I now wish to prove that it was not illegal to deliver goods to any Chinaman when he produced a warrant along with a delivery order signed by himself. On this point, the appellants produced the form of the application for storage, and pleaded that since it contains the words, "You are requested to deliver goods upon an order from the undersigned . . . to no other name but Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. ought the goods to have been delivered, and, therefore, the deliveries made on signatures of Akew or Alai were distinctly acts of negligence on the part of the respondent. But it must be borne in mind that the appellants drew out a number of cases with an order bearing only the signature of Edwards; this order is contained in exhibit No. 4, as well as other orders bearing the names of two or three other European employes of the firm. The orders prepared by them were not in the least degree different from those prepared by the Chinese. That is to say,

they all bore the stamp of the firm. Now, whether those clerks were authorized to sign orders or not was never published in the newspapers, or communicated to the Kencho, but in their names deliveries of oil were always demanded. The appellants place great weight upon this document, but it really is called an "Order for Delivery," and is only used for the purpose of indicating the number of cases required. The more important document is the warrant. As it is of such very great importance it should be kept in the hands of the owner alone; for it is the only proof that he possesses that the goods have been deposited, and with that alone can he show that so much or so much oil is still in the warehouse. Again, the appellants allege that it was negligence on the part of the respondent not to ascertain whether Akew or Alai, whose signatures were on delivery orders, were proper representatives of the firm or not. But that is a very one-sided view of the matter. If a stranger were to come to the warehouse and say that he was a representative of so-and-so, and demand delivery of certain goods, and if the official delivered them to him, it would undoubtedly be a gross piece of negligence. But in the present case the men who came to seek delivery were not only employees of the appellants, who had signed the original application for deposit, but they brought with them the most important document dealing with the goods—the warrant. Therefore, the present case cannot be compared with a delivery made to a complete stranger. In short, the respondent sees and acknowledges no negligence on his part in the making of these deliveries.

Another Counsel for Respondent.—In other words, it is not only right for the respondent to consider that the Chinese were proper representatives of the appellant firm, but we think it plain that the appellants conferred the power of representing them upon those Chinese. When the question of the proper representative of a firm arises, we have generally to enquire, first of all, whether the person in question holds a power of attorney or not. In the present case, however, we must determine the question by the circumstances. First, it is necessary to ascertain what power or influence Shin Kitchin, a Chinaman, had or possessed in the appellant firm. Now that Chinaman's influence was so great that he had precedence of the other employees of the appellant firm. He managed the pecuniary affairs of the firm. Therefore, in the ordinary course of business, no one would suspect or question his drawing out any number of cases of kerosene oil. It is rumoured that the object of instituting the present suit was that owing to some unpleasant issue in another commercial concern, the appellants' creditors demanded immediate payment of a debt, and, for the purpose of excusing themselves and gaining time, they alleged that they had incurred a very heavy loss through Chinese. Again, the appellants alleged that they incurred loss by not being able to deliver goods which had been contracted for. Now among the names of purchasers of oil there appears the identical Shin Kitchin, who has an account charged against him by the appellants. If the appellants thought that Shin Kitchin was such an untrustworthy character, they would not have made any agreement with him of such a nature. In Exhibit No. 3, which concerns a contract for the sale of kerosene, you will notice that the first person with whom the contract was made was Shin Kitchin. Judging from this fact alone, the statement of appellants is contradictory. Again, the appellants allege that the number of cases wrongly delivered was 130,000, yet they claim compensation for only 40,000. Why is this? Because, they say, we received payment for the others. Quite so. But the others were as much wrongly delivered, according to their statement, as were the 40,000; and if they followed their reasoning to its logical conclusion, they would see that it is not our negligence, but theirs that prevented them from receiving payment for the 40,000 cases. Again, it was their own carelessness which prevented them from not finding out the fraudulent transactions of their Chinese employees before. For the Regulations contain an express provision that after the expiration of a year a depositor of oil must apply to the authorities for a warrant of continuation of time. It is fully two years since the kerosene oil in question was imported by the *Anglo-American*, but appellants remained ignorant of what was going on. Such an admission, however, would have been damaging to their interests, so they found a pretext and said that, though proper orders were issued, the Chinese destroyed them, and prepared others. This was their statement made in the Lower Court. They now say that they issued proper orders for 80 or 90 thousand cases (for which they received payment,) but their orders were rewritten by Chinese. For the rest,—the 40,000 cases,—the Chinese prepared orders without

the knowledge of appellants. We want to know how they draw these fine distinctions? I must confess that they appear to me merely creations of the moment. Then again, according to the statement of Edwards, who gave evidence in the Lower Court, the Chinese were authorized to receive payment for all kerosene sold to native dealers, the monies being afterwards brought to a clerk who entered the amount in the books. Therefore, whenever a delivery was properly made, the money for the amount of oil released must have gone into the office, and any sum not duly paid in could easily have been discovered by reference to the books. But if the Chinese received money in payment, afterwards handing it to the clerk, it would be the easiest matter possible for them to steal some, or the whole, while on the way from the purchaser to the office. Therefore, they would be under no necessity to counterfeit delivery orders. There would be no sense in doing so, since they were allowed to receive money and pay it in as it suited their convenience. At any rate, as counsel for appellants stated that the delivery orders upon which payment was received were proper orders re-written by the Chinese, while the present suit concerns only those deliveries made on orders signed by Chinese without the knowledge of the firm, we expected that appellants would produce evidence as to the dates on which legal orders were presented and the dates on which illegal ones were brought. But appellants have not done so. I think, under the circumstances, that they have disclosed clear evidence that they conferred powers of attorney on their Chinese employees. The appellants profess to be unaware that the Chinese made out orders themselves. Well, what is the purpose these orders serve? They are simply to indicate how many cases, out of a given number contained in the warrant, were required. By merely looking at the warrant it could easily have been seen what number of cases had been delivered in the names of Chinese. In order to avoid this argument, however, the appellant firm alleges that since the warrants were left in the hands of Chinese, they, the appellants, were unaware what the Chinese did with them. For the purpose of sustaining this allegation they declared that the warrants were at first kept in the safe, but after a portion of the oil mentioned in them had been delivered, the warrants were handed over to the Chinese. We cannot believe that this was so. Indeed, I hold that this statement was fabricated to suit appellants' argument, for the facts do not hang together. If the warrant was to be kept by Chinese, it ought to have been given to them from the very beginning. We contend that the Chinese possessed the right of representing the firm, but in answer to this they allege that it is the common custom in Yokohama never to confer such power on Chinese. The Chinese are the subjects of a treaty power, and to our way of thinking it is not right to make such a distinction between them and European employees. Surely it is only natural to think that since other nationalities are authorized to represent European and American firms, the Chinese ought to have the same right too. Exhibit No. 5 shows that Chinese have demanded deliveries of oil on their own signatures, and that other European firms do leave such matters entirely in Chinese hands; therefore, in the present case, we take it that Chinese received the kerosene for their firm. Appellants called in Mr. Middleton, who stated that it was not the custom in Yokohama to confer such powers on Chinese. But Middleton is not specially engaged in the kerosene trade, and even he declared that he could not definitely say that it was not the common custom ever to confer such powers on Chinese. Such being the case, the respondent had no obligation to inquire whether the Chinese were excluded from enjoying that competence according to the established custom in Yokohama. One more point, and I will conclude; it is in reference to the signature. In depositing oil the application for deposit must be signed by the same representative who signs the application for delivery; this the appellants do not deny. They stated in evidence that Edwards signed the delivery orders; but it must be noted that the same Chinaman who signed the delivery orders signed an original application for deposit too, in a manner similar to Edwards. It is only natural, therefore, to suppose that the signature of the same Chinese when attached to a delivery order, was as valid as when attached to an application for deposit. If the court refers to Exhibit No. 7a., which we presented to-day, it will find that previous to 1890, the date of the last kerosene imported, Chinese always demanded deliveries on their own signatures. This fact alone plainly proves that Chinese have the right to represent the firm. There is another point which I would draw attention to. How do foreigners transact business with Japanese merchants? In appli-

ants' firm the kerosene business is entirely managed by Chinese in their employ, who receive payment for goods from the Japanese on behalf of the firm. That is the common practice. It is owing to the Kencho considering the warrant to be a more important document than the delivery order, which merely indicates the number of cases the depositor desires to withdraw, that the respondent compels the depositor to produce the warrant every time any portion of oil is delivered, so that the number of cases remaining may be recorded on the back of the document. The warrant is therefore of the greatest importance, and, realising this, the appellants kept it in the safe: the mere act of subsequently handing it to the Chinese to keep, proves that the latter were properly authorized to represent the firm. In short, the respondent perceives much negligence on the part of appellants, but fails to discover any in his own conduct. He therefore declines to comply with the demand for an indemnity.

Counsel for Appellants.—There is a great difference between the competence vested in by the Chinese and the negligence displayed by appellants. The argument that it was negligent on the part of appellants to allow the warrants to be kept in the hands of Chinese, and also that by so doing they conferred the right of representing the firm upon the Chinese, is most puerile. Even if there was negligence on the part of appellants, the respondent cannot say that he is not responsible for the wrong deliveries. For when the warrant alone was produced, no delivery ought to have been made. Since the respondent carelessly believed the person who produced the warrant to be a proper representative of the firm, his negligence in the matter is clearly proved.

Another Counsel for Appellants.—I desire to speak as briefly as possible. The respondent has just said that if the Chinese stole the money or sold the goods by any deceitful act, the appellants ought first of all to have made a thorough investigation. We made such an investigation, as is shown in Exhibit No. 5-A. That is to say, we compared the dates of deliveries and the number of cases withdrawn on those occasions, and we found that their number exceeded that which was demanded by the original and proper orders. We have done all that we could to discover how the money was stolen by the Chinese on those occasions. Again, respondent alleges that we fabricated our statements concerning the preservation of the warrant in the safe. He is very much in error in making that allegation. Generally speaking all transactions in oil are made when the goods are landed at the Haroba; they are generally delivered at once to the purchasers, and what remains over from such transactions are stored at the warehouse. We should incur a loss if we were to keep goods at the warehouse any longer than is necessary; therefore, as soon as a contract is concluded an order is made out and sent to the warehouse at once. It is distinctly not right to say that the warrants were left in the hands of Chinese entirely, or that the story was fabricated afterwards to suit our convenience. Again, respondent said that the frauds arose from our not examining the warrant, but as my associate counsel has already said, there is no necessity to examine the document, because, unless a proper delivery order was sent out by the appellants, no delivery could possibly be made. In regard to the Chinese, I want to say a few words. The respondent says that since the Chinese are also subjects of a treaty power, there is no reason why they should be excluded from enjoying the same rights as other foreigners. The argument itself may be just, but we must consider their position among the white races. They have never occupied the same social position as Europeans, and to them no power of representing a firm is granted in Yokohama, as Middleton declared in the Lower Court. The respondent, again, said that Middleton's chief business was not in kerosene, but Middleton is well acquainted with the business affairs of Yokohama, and he declared that it is not the custom in Yokohama to confer such rights on the Chinese. Another point which was raised I must also explain. In our account-book, said the respondent, is recorded a contract with Shin Kitchin, therefore he was an influential member of the firm's employees from that time, etc. But really he had no power or influence in the firm; he was merely a godown-keeper. Again, to sell kerosene to the Chinese is not at all an important matter. It is on all fours with a man who buys a newspaper from a news-monger. That is to say, as long as the money is paid the article can be delivered to him. The respondent attaches the greatest importance to the warrant, but the appellants lay stress on the delivery order. It is not necessary to examine the warrant to see how many cases are still undelivered, as the account-book will show it plainly. The recording of the number on the back of the warrant is simply to save the warehousemen the trouble of counting

the cases. The delivery order, however, states the number of cases to be delivered by the respondent: with it only can delivery be obtained. Therefore, it is more important that the warrant. For instance, I deposit a certain sum of money in a bank, and when I go to draw it out, if the signature on my cheque is not my own, what will happen? Or, supposing that my money was paid out to the bearer of a cheque because the name upon it looked like mine but really was a forgery, am I to be blamed for negligence? Of course not. I think there is no difference between these two cases. In the Lower Court, as well as here, the respondent alleges that he thought the Chinese were properly authorized to represent the firm, but since they had no such authority they cannot be called proper representatives of the firm. Some other circumstances may have induced the respondent to believe that the Chinese were proper representatives of the firm, but since they are not stated, and as he has been deceived, he must be held responsible for the loss.

The Judge—You say that the Chinese have no authority to represent the firm in withdrawing goods. Do you acknowledge that they have such authority in depositing them?

Counsel for Appellants—No, we acknowledge neither.

The Judge—What has become of the suit against Shin Kitchin?

Counsel for Appellants—It is not yet concluded.

Counsel for Respondent—I wish to draw your attention to one other point. The appellants rely on the statement made by Middleton, but as I have said before, he did not say that what he stated was an established custom. The gist of the pleading of the respondent is, firstly, that in the present case the Chinese were believed to be authorized to represent the firm; secondly, that the conduct of appellants plainly showed that the Chinese were authorized to represent the firm. For instance, when a *bando* is standing behind the counter of some shop, the public knows at once that he is authorized to sell the goods of his employer. Even if he were privately prohibited from selling, such prohibition would not affect the public knowledge. And thirdly, the respondent is not at fault in the present case.

Another Counsel for Respondent—Whether out of the 130,000 cases delivered, those for which the appellants received the money were withdrawn on proper orders, and the rest on orders signed by Chinese, is uncertain. But at any rate the appellants did not issue orders for the amount lost, because they have proved that some oil was withdrawn by the Chinese on their own orders, for which no money was received. If such is the case, the appellants ought to know which and which lots were properly withdrawn out of the 130,000. If they allege that no orders were issued for those 40,000 cases, then they must indicate the dates on which proper deliveries were made. We can then subtract these from the remainder and ascertain the exact number of cases lost. The appellants have not explained this point at all.

Counsel for Appellants—It is alleged that we have not explained the cause of the loss. We have plainly proved that it arose through the respondent's negligence. Respondent has also misunderstood the distinction between a full power of attorney and a part-power of attorney, but neither can be applied to the present case.

The Judge—We shall close the pleadings now. Judgment will be delivered at 10 a.m. on Tuesday next.

The Court rose at 5.20 p.m.

The judgment of the Appeal Court in this suit, where indemnity is demanded for alleged wrongful delivery of kerosene oil, is as follows:—

JUDGMENT.

The appeal is dismissed; and the costs shall be paid by the appellant.

FACTS AND POINTS IN DISPUTE.

Statement of the Appellant—The appellant firm have been engaged in importing kerosene oil from abroad, and selling it to Japanese merchants ever since 1888. From May, 1890, to February, 1891, they imported 203,525 cases of kerosene oil by the *Anglo-American*, *Milvorton*, and *Calyppo*. Now, in accordance with the provisions of Treaties concluded with Foreign Powers, the Japanese Government, in 1880, promulgated Regulations relating to the warehousing of explosives. By these Regulations no imported kerosene oil is allowed to be stored in any private warehouse; it must be deposited in the official Warehouse at Nakamura, which is controlled by the Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture. In compliance with such Regulations, the Appellants deposited in the said Warehouse 129,792 cases of kerosene oil, imported by the above-named ships. When a depositor seeks delivery of his goods, he is required to present an order addressed to the official in charge of the Warehouse;

and the latter is bound to deliver the number of cases mentioned on the order. This procedure is expressly provided in the Regulations relating to Explosives Warehouses. Such being the process, the appellants were in the habit of issuing delivery orders on each occasion of concluding transactions with Japanese merchants. In November, 1891, the appellants, however, discovered that though they had issued no orders, 43,476 cases of kerosene oil had been delivered to some persons. The appellants thereupon investigated the matter, and discovered that the oil had been taken out of the Warehouse by Su Kessei Akew, Ali, and Akon, Chinese in the employ of the appellants firm. The said Su, a Chinaman, was the caretaker of the appellants' stores, and his duty was to receive or deliver imported goods, the other three Chinamen being employed to assist him. When withdrawing kerosene from the explosives Warehouse, these Chinese used to obtain orders from the appellant firm, which orders they were supposed to take to the Warehouse, and then having obtained the oil, to hand it over to the purchaser. But in the present case, the above Chinamen prepared delivery orders themselves without the knowledge of the appellant firm, and by means of them withdrew the deposited kerosene, the official at the Warehouse carelessly delivering the kerosene in exchange for such counterfeit orders. The Chinamen having obtained possession of the kerosene by these means, afterwards brought a certain sum of money to the appellant firm, and obtained *bond fide* delivery orders; so that the appellants could not discover the fraud. Moreover, the appellants placed confidence in the Japanese Authorities, and did not imagine that such a fraudulent practice could possibly occur. By the above fraudulent procedure, all the kerosene imported by the said three ships was delivered to the above Chinamen in exchange for delivery orders signed by themselves. But, according to the appellants books, 43,476 cases should still be remaining in the warehouse. The Chinamen in the employ of the appellant firm were engaged in a menial capacity, and had no right to issue any document in the name of the appellant firm. Besides, it is the general custom among foreign merchants in Yokohama never to entrust any such weighty responsibilities to the Chinese in their employ; and the officials at the Warehouse ought to have been cognisant of the fact. Therefore any delivery made by the officials against an order signed by Chinese alone was an act of negligence on the part of the officials, and inasmuch as the appellant firm have not yet drawn out 43,476 cases of kerosene, they are persuaded that they have a right to demand indemnity from the respondent, with whom the goods were deposited, and that the responsibility of the loss rests on his shoulders. Notwithstanding the facts of the case as stated above, the Yokohama Local Court delivered judgment in favour of the respondent, on the ground that the officials acted rightly in delivering the goods to the Chinamen, the latter being proper representatives of the firm, and that no negligence had been shown. Such a judgment is not only contrary to the facts of the case, but also in contravention of the laws of the land. For even if the respondent considered that the Chinamen were authorized to represent the firm in some matters, particular the fact of their power to act as its agents in this matter was not thereby affected. Therefore the appellant firm cannot be satisfied with the former decision, and do now appeal from it, and pray for the reversion of that judgment.

REASONS.

The gist of the appellants' case is briefly this: The damages demanded by the appellants are for the loss of 43,476 cases of kerosene oil, which, having been deposited by the appellants in the Warehouse of the respondent, were subsequently lost, the cause of the loss being that the respondent delivered the cases to certain Chinamen in the employ of the depositors. Now, according to the Warehouse Regulations, when goods are to be withdrawn from the warehouse, the depositor must present a delivery order signed by himself; and the officials in charge of the goods make delivery only upon such order. But the respondent made deliveries to Chinamen upon orders signed by themselves, and thus the appellants incurred loss. Therefore, the respondent must be held responsible for that loss. Thus the question arises whether the deliveries made by the respondent to the Chinese were legal, or in other words, whether they could be considered proper deliveries and valid as towards the appellants. The form of application for storage, annexed to the Warehouse Regulations, contains the following words:—"To be delivered only on application signed by ourselves." This would appear to prohibit the signature of any agent. But according to the statement contained in document No. 7, one Edwards signed his name as agent for the

appellants, and his signature was admitted by the appellants to be valid. Further, the appellants have admitted that they were in the habit of authorizing European and American members of their staff to represent them. Therefore, the Court must conclude that, regardless of the form prescribed in the Warehouse Regulations, any signature of agents is of equal force with the signature of principals as between the appellants and the respondent, and that the respondent might lawfully deliver upon orders signed by agents. But the appellants allege not only that the Chinamen in their employ are engaged in a menial capacity, but also that the common custom of foreign merchants in Yokohama is never to entrust representative functions to Chinamen in their service. The Court must consider, then, whether these particular Chinamen were entrusted with such functions or not. According to the Warehouse Regulations, a depositor of goods, when desirous of withdrawing them from the Warehouse, must produce the original storage warrant, as well as an order for delivery. It is also provided that the total number of cases of oil shown on the face of the storage warrant may be delivered in several lots at the depositor's option. This warrant, therefore, is as valuable as the goods themselves, and a document of such value ought not to be left at the free disposal of *employés* alleged to be of an inferior grade. The appellants, however, admit that these receipts, though kept at first in a safe, were, after delivery of a portion of the goods, left in the hands of the Chinamen; in other words, warrants without which no delivery could possibly be obtained, were always entrusted to the keeping of the Chinamen in question. Secondly, some of the endorsements on the warrants show that plainly recorded deliveries were made on the signatures of Chinamen, and, notwithstanding the fact that the number of cases remaining after such deliveries must have been counted, Edwards, who was properly authorized to represent the appellant firm, withdrew portions of remaining cases by means of the same warrants without ever objecting to the deliveries as recorded. Lastly, certain delivery orders, presented by the respondent and signed by Chinamen, bear the stamp of the appellant firm above the signature—the very same stamp that appears on other orders signed by Edwards, all of which are admitted by the appellants to be the valid stamp of the firm.

From these three facts, it is to be inferred that the said Chinamen were in fact authorized to represent the appellant firm. If a suitor appearing in this Court desires to establish such an exceptional principle as that members of a certain nationality are excluded from the exercise of privileges exercised by other nationalities, he must prove clearly to the Court that such exception really exists. The only evidence on this point furnished by the appellants was the statements of Middleton and two others, and these persons were not examined as witnesses, but were simply permitted to submit unsworn testimony. These assertions, therefore, are insufficient to prove the alleged exceptional position of Chinamen. Moreover, no statement made by them could in any way affect the significance of the three facts above mentioned. It must be held accordingly, that the Chinamen were properly authorized to represent the appellant firm, and that the deliveries made to them by the respondent were proper deliveries, and not less valid than if they had been made to the appellants themselves. The respondent cannot, therefore, be held responsible for the loss incurred. The decision of the Court below in dismissing the case was correct, and, in accordance with Art. 424 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the present appeal is dismissed, and in accordance with Art. 72 of the same Code, the costs must be borne by the appellants.

HASEGAWA TAKASHI, Chief Judge.
TAKAYA TSUNETARO, Judge.
(Signed) HIROSE SHINGEI, Judge.
HIRATA KOSABURO, Judge.
MAYEDA KOKAI, Judge.
Tokyo Court of Appeal.

The Germans are now making a collection of the languages spoken in their colonies—that is, their agents are preparing dictionaries of these languages as rapidly as possible. The task is no small one. In East Africa, the languages number 50; in South-west Africa, 12; in Cameroons, 23; in Togo, 5 or 6; and in the German South Sea possessions, at least 50. In addition are many dialects which are almost entitled to rank as distinct languages.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 44.

WHITE.

1—R to R 3
2—Kt (B 3) to Q 5 (double ch. and mate)

2—Kt x P (mate)

2—Kt to R 4 (dis. ch. and mate)

2—Kt mates at K 2

2—Kt mates at B 4

2—Kt to Kt 5 (dis. ch. and mate) of Kt

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Scacchi, Omega, Omicron, J.W.E., Digamma, M.A.W., J.D., and S. E. Unite.

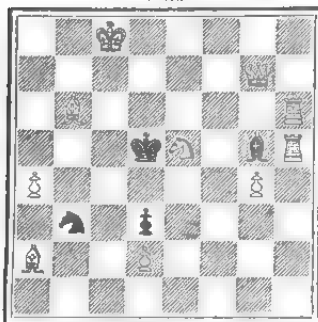
Additional correct solution of No. 43 received from O. Balk.

G.B. (Yamaguchi).—You have overlooked Black's defence of K x Kt when you play R to Q 5.

PROBLEM No. 46.

By H. J. C. ANDREWS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The following notice is posted in the local Club Rooms:—

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

PRESIDENT'S PROBLEM COMPETITION.

1892.

The President has offered a prize for a short competition, of the nature and on the conditions stated below, among the members of the Club, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take part in it.

There will be in all nine problems to be solved, and one problem to be composed.

A problem for solution will be given each week, commencing on Tuesday the 6th December. By the kindness of the Manager of the *Japan Mail*, printed slips of the problems will be sent under cover to each member of the Club on Tuesday in each week while the competition lasts. Solutions must be sent to the President at No. 172, not later than noon of Thursday in the next following week. Acknowledgments of the correct solutions received will appear, by the courtesy of the Chess editor of the *Mail*, in the Chess column of that journal on the Saturday following.

The original problem—which may be of 2 or 3 moves—must be sent in on or before the 31st January. The solution should be written on the back of the diagram. Blank forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

Competitors will be credited with as many points for each complete solution of a problem, as the problem consists of moves, and similarly as to the composition of the original problem, if sound.

JOHN GRIFFIN,
Secretary.

Yokohama, 24th November, 1892.

The October number of the *British Chess Magazine* contains a full account of the Congress at Belfast. In the Master's tourney Blackburne and Mason tied for first and second prizes. We copy one of the games between these celebrated players which finally resolved itself into a duel between knight and bishop. The way in which White manoeuvres with his King is also worthy of special note:—

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE?(Blackburne.)

BLACK (Mason.)

1—P to K 4

1—P to K 4

2—Kt to Q B 3

2—Kt to K B 3

3—P to B 4

3—P to Q 4

4—B P takes P

4—Kt takes P

5—Q to B 3

5—P to K B 4

As a novelty (attributed to Mr. S. Lipschutz), this move did fairly good service in the New York Tournament, 1889, when it was opposed by 5 Kt takes Kt, or 5 Kt to Q B 3

..... But at Amsterdam, later in the same year, in the game Mason v. van Foreest, the latter adopted the text reply, viz., 5 P to K B 4, which seems to be the *coup juste*. At Manchester, 1890, it was used successfully as a defence to Mackenzie v. Mason, while quite recently, in the match Blackburne v. Lasker, when the attack proceeded somewhat as in the present instance, the defending player won.

6—Kt to R 3? 6—Kt to Q B 3

..... This, with the check following, means the sacrifice of a Pawn, but with much justification, as presently appears.

7—B to Kt 5

7—Q to R 5 ch.

8—K to B sq.

8—B to B 4

9—Kt takes P

Better, perhaps not to take the Pawn, but to play 9 K to Kt 5, so as to be able to shut out Bishop.

10—B takes Kt

9—Castles

11—Q Kt to B 4

10—P takes ■

12—P to Q 3

11—B to R 3 ch.

13—P to K Kt 3

12—Q R to K sq.

14—K to Kt 2!

13—Q to Kt 5

..... Bad; 14 R takes P, offering the sacrifice of the Knight, would be far stronger and still give Black a fine game.

15—K takes Q

15—P to Kt 4

..... Forced, as the Black Knight had no escape.

16—P takes Kt

16—P to Kt 5 ch.

17—K to Kt 2

17—P takes Kt ch.

18—K takes P!

18—P takes P

19—R to K sq.

19—R takes P

20—B to K 3

From this point the game is virtually in Mr. Blackburne's hands. The Pawn at K 5 must eventually fall.

21—K to Kt 2

20—B to Q 3

21, B takes P (P), R to K Kt 4; and White is in danger, but King cannot retire to Kt 2.

22—Q R to Q sq.

21—P to B 4

23—P to B 4!

22—B to Kt 2

24—R to K B sq.

23—R (K 4) to B 4

25—R to B 2

24—B to B sq.

26—R to Q 5

25—R (B 4) to B 2

27—R takes R

26—R to B 4

28—Kt to Q 5

27—It takes R

29—K takes R

28—R takes R ch.

30—B to B 4

29—K to B 2

The exchange of Bishops is all needed to make victory secure. The ending, however, possesses some interest as an example of accurate play—Knight v. Bishop.

31—K to K 3

30—K to K 3

32—K takes P

31—B to Kt 2

33—B takes ■

32—B to B 3

34—P to K Kt 4

33—P takes B

35—P to K R 4

34—P to Q R 4

36—Kt to B 4 ch.

35—B to R 5

37—P to Kt 3

36—K to K 2

38—Kt to Q 5 ch.

37—B to B 3 ch.

39—K to B 4

38—K to B 2

40—P to Kt 5

39—P to R 5

41—P takes P

40—P takes P

42—P to R 5

41—B to Kt ■

43—Kt to K 7

42—K to Kt 2

44—Kt to B 5 ch.

43—B to Kt 7?

44—Resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 19th.

The petition against Mr. Balfour's election has been dismissed.

The American cotton crop is estimated at 2,000,000 pounds less than that of last year.

London, November 20th.

Mr. James has been unseated through the petition against his return for Walsall on account of the illegal acts of his agents.

The Pope has granted a dispensation for the marriage of Prince Ferdinand von Hohenzollern of Roumania and Princess Marie of Edinburgh on the condition that their children are brought up in the Catholic faith.

London, November 21st.

The negotiations between England and Russia in regard to the Pamirs have been continued, and a very favourable and complete understanding is shortly expected to be arrived at.

The French have entered Abomey unopposed, and the King has submitted.

London, November 22nd.

The President of the Council of Ministers of Belgium, in opening the Monetary Conference, said that the solution of the question involved lies in an international agreement such as regulates telegraphs, posts, and other similar matters.

[FROM THE MANILA PAPERS.]

Madrid, October 29th.

His Holiness the Pope and Prince Bismarck are ill.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

London, November 2nd.

An announcement has been made officially that the French troops have finally routed the Dahomeyans and that they have encamped close to Abomey, the capital of Dahomey.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 2nd
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Sunday, Nov. 27th.†
From America..... per O. & O. Co.		Friday, Dec. 2nd.‡
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 27th.‡
From Hongkong..... per P. M. Co.		Friday, Nov. 25th.‡
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Nov. 30th.
From Hongkong..... per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 4th.
From Hongkong..... per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Dec. 8th.

† *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on November 14th. ‡ *Galathea* left San Francisco on November 16th. † *Salazie* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 18th. † *Peru* left Hongkong on November 19th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Ancora*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 28th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 29th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 2nd.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 4th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 8th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Dec. 9th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 13th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

<i>Tokai Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 19th November.—Yokkaichi 18th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
<i>Omi Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 19th November.—Otaru via ports 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
<i>Sagami Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 19th November.—Kobe 18th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
<i>Tsuruga Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 20th November.—Yokkaichi 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
<i>Bobre</i> (5), Russian gunboat, Captain A. R. Boyle, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.
<i>Coreets</i> (7), Russian gunboat, Captain Filisoff, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.
<i>Dimitri Donskoy</i> (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Aleson, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.
<i>Vitias</i> (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Zarine, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.
<i>Hinode Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 789, Sofuye, 20th November.—Atsuki, General.—S. Asano & Co.
<i>Soyachi Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 20th November.—Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
<i>Ravenna</i> , British steamer, 1,915, G. W. F. Browne, 21st November.—Hongkong 11th, Nagasaki 16th, and Kobe 19th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.S. Co.
<i>Takasago Maru</i> , Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei,

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

21st November.—Yokkaichi 20th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 22nd November.—Moji 19th November, Coal.—Mitsubishi Sha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 22nd November.—Otaru via ports 17th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 22nd November.—Yokkaichi 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 22nd November.—Kobe 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Tamura, 23rd November.—Nemuro, General.—Mitsubishi Sha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 23rd November.—Yokkaichi 22nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Smith, 23rd November.—San Francisco 5th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 23rd November.—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 24th November.—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Ono, 24th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 24th November.—Yokkaichi 23rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korio Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Sengoku, 24th November.—Kushiro, General.—Tani Michishia.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tiple, 24th November.—Kobe 23rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bonedi, British steamer, 1,481, J. H. Clark, 25th November.—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 25th November.—Fushiki 22nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 25th November.—Shanghai and ports 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ning Chow, British steamer, 1,735, Allen, 19th November.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 19th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, H. Verron, 20th November.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 20th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Jackson, 21st November.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 21st November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 21st November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tiple, 21st November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 21st November.—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsubishi Sha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 21st November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afax, British steamer, 1,471, Rawlings, 21st November.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, Pfaff, 22nd November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Alert (4), U.S. corvette, Captain Durand, 22nd November.—Manila and Hongkong.

Triomphante (12), French cruiser, Captain De la Noe, 22nd November.—Kobe.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 22nd November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei,

22nd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dmitri Donskoy (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Alessen, 23rd November.—Yokosuka.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, Sofuye, 23rd November.—Otaru, General.—S. Asano & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd November.—Moji, Light.—Mitsubishi Sha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Tamura, 23rd November.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 23rd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 24th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 25th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 26th November.—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 25th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, K. Ono, 25th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 25th November.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, G. W. F. Browne, 26th November.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. K. Kitagaki and Mr. M. Kajima in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 69 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Miss Beckett, Messrs. J. A. Scherer, M. Mess, and A. S. Hill in cabin; Mr. G. H. Waggott, Mr. G. Kircher, Mrs. S. Wander, and Mr. and Mrs. Sessnet in second class, and 1 Chinese and 6 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—Mr. Hamada in second class and 24 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Morihara and 2 children in cabin; 31 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hanbury and 2 children, Rev. R. B. Peery, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Marx, Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Squier, Messrs. H. Kessler, W. A. Wilson, Ito Kumao, and John Murphy in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Chas. H. Cowan, U.S. Consul Manila, Mrs. Kimball, Mrs. L. Cohen, and Mrs. E. Remington in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—22 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in cabin; 20 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. C. S. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshisuye, Mr. S. Yamada, Captain Ed. H. Housberry, Mr. T. Miyagi, and Mr. E. Bird in cabin; Miss Yamada, Miss Hayashi, Messrs. S. Okami, Yamada, and S. Ichimura in second class, and 72 passengers in steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.: Dr. Chas. Begg in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. E. Nissi, M. Eason, Wilkinson, K. Koka, Hercuet, Lord Cecil Manners, Messrs. F. L. Savill, Frank Nicholls, Mrs. and Miss Asse, Messrs. K. Takagi, P. N. Gaustau, Fukuda, Tachihara, Sakurai, Kaneyama, John Steedman, and Charles Roguers in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Mann, Miss L. Cobb, Miss Graham, Miss Chittenden, Miss F. A. Duffield, Col. S. Masuno, Messrs. E. Whittall, J. Baston, Chas. A. W. Willsitt, and A. F. dos Remedios in cabin; Mrs. J. Kato, Miss Y. Uchiyama, Miss F. Yasu, Miss Ueda Moto, Messrs. Anami, Y. Miyasaki, S. Negoro, and Tung Chee Shin in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Miss Lucy Dunlop, Miss Edna Cole, and Mr. Chas. B. Hicks in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Lady Mabel Fitzgerald, Lady Nesta Fitzgerald, Mr. B. F. Norris, Mr. B. B. Garvey, Mrs. Hosken, Mr. and Mrs. Valentine, Mr. O. Meyer, Mr. G. Nagasaki, Mr. and Miss Beckett, Colonel Coffin, R.E., Mr. Todoroki and servant, Miss Byrne, and Miss Gearing in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$100,000.00.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 354 bales; Waste Silk for France, 372 bales.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 144 bales; Waste Silk, 349 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain F. Brown, reports:—Left Otaru the 15th November at 1 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 16th at 8 a.m. and left the 17th at noon; had light wind, fine weather, and high southerly swell. Arrived at Oginohama the 18th at 10 a.m. and left the same day at 4 p.m.; had moderate wind and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th November at 3 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 18th November at noon; had moderate N.E. and E. winds to Oshima with cloudy weather; at 9 p.m. passed Oshima, with moderate breeze from N.E. and continuing to Rock Island, which was passed the 19th at 1.30 p.m.; wind hauling to N.W. and W. with moderate breeze and fine, clear weather to Kanon-saki, which was passed at 6.15 p.m.; thence to port moderate N.E. winds and fine, clear weather. Arriving at Yokohama the 19th November at 7.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 20th November at 10 a.m.; had fine, clear weather and moderate north-westerly gale right up to Omai-saki, which was passed the 21st at 5.40 a.m.; when wind shifted to N.E. and blew pretty stiff. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st November at 3.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 17th November at 2 p.m.; had light to strong S.S.W. winds and fine weather; at midnight wind hauled to N.N.W. with overcast sky. Arrived at Hakodate the 18th at 8.50 a.m., fine weather throughout the passage. Left Hakodate the 20th at 8 a.m.; had moderate breeze and thick with snow to 8.20 a.m.; thence fresh W.N.W. and N.W. winds with clear weather and following sea. Arrived at Oginohama the 21st at 6 a.m. and left at 1 p.m.; had moderate to fresh N.W. winds and fine, clear weather remaining so to Noshima; thence wind hauled to the northward, moderate breeze and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd November at 2 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 5th November at 3.55 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd November at 3.40 p.m. Passage, 17 days, 6 hours, and 17 minutes. Had strong N.W. to S.W. winds with heavy sea the whole passage.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 23rd November at 4.43 p.m.; had overcast dull weather and north-easterly breeze to Omai-saki, which was passed the 24th at 1 a.m.; thence wind changed to south, and increased to moderate gale and thick foggy weather. Arrived at Yokohama 24th November at 10.25 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tiple, reports:—Left Kobe the 23rd November at 10 a.m. Arrived at Shiotsu at 1.10 p.m. and left at 5 p.m.; had light easterly winds till passing Oshima; thence moderate southerly winds and rain with high southerly sea to Rock Island; thence to port moderate northerly winds with high head sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th November at 10 p.m.

The British steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Barstow, reports:—Left Fushiki the 21st November at 6 a.m.; Kinkasan abeam at 2.38 p.m. on the 23rd, had light breezes all the way; at midnight the same day, cloudy and dark weather with heavy swell and falling barometer; Inuboye abeam at 8.58 on the 24th, wind increasing, with overcast and cloudy weather; at 3 p.m., experienced heavy gale, with terrific squalls and very heavy rain; barometer reading 28.98; hove the ship to with head to the northward and remained hove to till 6 p.m., shipping quantities of water, with very heavy sea; wind and sea then decreased.

ing, put ship on her course again. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th November at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 19th November at noon; had strong N.E. winds and cloudy weather to Nagasaki, where arrived the 21st at 9.30 a.m. and left the same day at 5 p.m. Arrived at Shimomoseki the 22nd at 6 a.m. and Kobe the 23rd at 10.30 a.m.; fresh northerly winds and clear weather. Left Kobe the 24th at noon; had strong N.W. gale to Rock Island; thence strong N.E. winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th November at 6.30 p.m.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For NEW YORK via Ports, Quick Despatch, the "PORT ADELAIDE."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

For HONGKONG via Kobe and Shanghai, November 28th, the "EMPEROR OF JAPAN."—Frazar & Co.

For VLADIVOSTOK via Fusan and Gensan (from Nagasaki), November 28th, the "SATSUMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, November 29th, the "P&RU."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI and Ports, November 29th, at Noon, the "YOKOHAMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For LONDON via Kobe and Hongkong, on or about December 1st, the "TITAN."—Butterfield & Swire.

For HONGKONG via Kobe and Nagasaki, December 2nd, at 9 a.m., the "NURNBERG."—Nord-deutscher Lloyd.

For CHIMULPO, via Shimomoseki, Nagasaki, and Fusan (from Kobe), December 6th, the "GENKAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, December 8th, the "OCEANIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., December 9th, the "EMPEROR OF INDIA."—Frazar & Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., December 13th, the "TACOMA."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Benedi, British steamer, 1,481, J. H. Clark, 25th November.—London via ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Ese, British steamer, 1,308, Watson, 12th November.—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Worcester, British steamer, 1,894, Morice, 18th November.—Bristol via ports, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Wilson, 20th November.—North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.

Aurora, British schooner, 41, C. T. Tonsant, 15th November.—Victoria, B.C., Ballast.—Captain.

Diana, American schooner, 174, Peterson, 7th October.—Sealing Cruise, 137 Seals, 46 Otter, and 4 Bear skins.—Captain.

Narwhal, British steam-schooner, 142, Flanders, 24th October.—North Pacific 5th October, Bone of 2 Whales.—Eastern Whaling Co., Limited.

Norma, British schooner, 52, J. Curney, 14th November.—Sealing Cruise, 103 Sealskins.—Jas. Pyne.

Robt. L. Belknap, American ship, 2,251, H. Staples, 9th September.—New York 30th Trading, Oil and General.—China & Japan Trading Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Bobre (5), Russian gunboat, Captain A. R. Boyle, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.

Coreia (7), Russian gunboat, Captain Filisoff, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.

Leander (10), Russian, Captain Castle, 15th October.—Hakodate.

Vitiaz (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Zarine, 20th November.—Vladivostok 11th November.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Cotton Goods generally are up all round, and held firm, owing to the smart rise at producing centres. Yarns and Shirtings especially are strong, but owing to the very limited stock on hand we do not raise quotations in our list below—which must be considered the nominal market

prices. Woollens do not appear to share in this buoyancy, and are quiet, with the exception of fancy Flannels, which show some activity.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—84lb, 384 yds, 39 inches	11.65 to 2.22
Grey Shirtings—84lb, 384 yds, 45 inches	1.85 to 2.65
T. Cloth—77lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Taffeta-Laws, 12 yards, 43 inches	0.62 1/2 to 0.77 1/2
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.15, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.32 1/2 to 1.42 1/2
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3.12, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62 1/2 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.92 1/2 to 2.10

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.27 1/2 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 26 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17 1/2 to 23
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11 1/2 to 0.17
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47 1/2 to 0.57 1/2
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

No. 10/44, Ordinary	27.00 to 28.00
No. 16/24, Medium	28.00 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	29.50 to 30.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	28.00 to 30.00
No. 28/32, Ordinary	30.00 to 31.00
No. 28/32, Medium	31.50 to 32.50
No. 28/32, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
No. 38/12, Medium to Best	33.00 to 34.00
No. 32, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
No. 42, Two-fold	37.00 to 39.00
No. 208, Bombay	69.00 to 73.00
No. 168, Bombay	67.00 to 72.00
No. 10/11, Bombay	55.00 to 65.00

METALS.

Market still remains in a lifeless condition, buyers taking little or nothing at the moment.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Flat Bars, 4 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nail, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Holders are firm, and have succeeded in getting a further advance on Russian brands.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Devoe	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

SUGAR.

Transactions have not been extensive, and prices remain about as last noted.

Brown Takao	4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila	3.65 to 3.70
Brown Datong	3.80 to 3.90
Brown Canton	5.90 to 6.00
White Java and Penang	5.65 to 5.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was of the 18th instant. Since then settlements on this market amount to 486 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 42 piculs; *Filatures*, 238 piculs; *Re-reels*, 131 piculs; *Kakeda*, 75 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 161 bales, making the total export business of the week 650 piculs.

The market remains unchanged, with rather more doing and a firmer tone at the close. The silks now on offer present but a poor assortment, especially in coarse sizes. In European sorts, there is still a fair range to select from, including some very good summer-reeled silks. In American sorts, summer reellings are a thing of the past and our quotations for such sizes are for cold weather silks.

There has been some business done each day of the week, and at closing there seems to be a speculative demand, one buyer taking considerable quantities of such *Filatures* in full sizes as now exist.

Arrivals of visible supplies are considerably less than last year, and the quality of the stock now offered is far below that which was on hand at the same time last year.

Exchange has still further declined until four months' Credits on London touched 2/10. There is a slight rebound at the close.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The American mail steamer *Belgic*, on the 19th instant, carried 1,159 bales for the New York trade and the French mail, on the 20th, had 354 bales for Lyons. These departures bring the present export figures to 28,054 piculs, against 23,009 piculs last year and 8,981 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Some little business for Europe, so-called Shimane being done at \$605.

Filatures.—Some few purchases from day to day, chiefly in sorts available for Europe. *Usen*, \$840; second quality, \$800, with lower grades at prices ranging from \$790 to \$750. In full sizes, suitable for America, there has been little done, with the exception of the speculative purchases mentioned above, consisting of good medium *Shinshu* *Filatures* at from \$820 to \$840.

Re-reels.—Rather more doing in this department, 5-Gil chop having been done in some quantity at \$775. Very common *Bushu* have been booked at \$580, with intermediate grades at intermediate prices.

Kakeda.—The trade has fallen off, buyers having skimmed off the cream of the present stock. Quotations unchanged.

In *Oshu* and *Taysam* kinds, no business.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	\$620 to 630
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	610 to 620
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 3	570 to 580
Hanks—No. 34	550 to 560
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 16, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	650 to 660
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	730 to 755
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 24	650 to 660
Kakedas—No. 34	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 4	610 to 620
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sofai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 25th Nov., 1892:—

	1891-92	1892-92	1890-92
Europe	9,743	7,601	2,901
America	17,845	14,880	5,843
Total	27,588	22,481	8,744
	Piculs 28,054	23,009	8,981
Settlements and Direct	29,450	26,300	9,800
Export from 1st July	10,500	15,200	16,800
Stock, 25th November	30,950	41,500	26,600

WASTE SILK.

Here there has been a large trade amounting to 1,800 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 120 piculs; *Noshi*, 972 piculs; *Kibiso*, 798 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

Prices are the turn in favour of buyers, but holders will not give way to any very great extent. If they would do so, more business could be done. The stock is reduced, arrivals not keeping pace with sales; but there are still 17,000 piculs on offer, besides plenty more to come forward. Under these circumstances, the market cannot be considered strong at the quotations which we give below.

Shipments this week have been as follows:—French mail, 20th instant, 287 bales *Waste*, with 85 bales *Cocoons*, for Lyons and neighbourhood. The German mail steamer *Niobe*, on the 22nd, took also 15 bales *Waste* for Basle. These departures bring the present export figures up to 14,043 piculs, against 11,367 piculs last year and 11,368 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Fierced Cocoons.—The higher grades seem to be nearly exhausted and the business for the week

Original from

consists of one parcel of Seconds at \$90, with a large lot of *Waste Cocoons* at \$178.

Noshi.—A large trade in *Oshu Tegara* at \$125, also in *Foshu Noshi* assorted, ranging from \$50 to \$72½. One parcel *Oshu* entered at \$130, with some *Filatures* at \$140; *Fine Bushu*, \$135; *Echigo* \$100, and one superlative parcel of *Foshu* at \$76.

Kibiso.—*Filatures* have been well patronized, prices ranging from \$90 to \$105. In *Hira* kinds, long lines of *Foshu* and *Bushu* have been done at prices ranging from \$42 to \$32, with some *Mino* at \$38. *Zaguri* of various grades are also entered in the list at from \$40 to \$65, according to quality.

In *Mawata* and *Sundries* there has been no business, holders asking too much for their wares.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best.....	—
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best.....	\$130 to 140
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Good.....	120 to 125
Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best.....	130 to 140
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best.....	110 to 115
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Good.....	100 to 105
Noshi-ito— <i>Shinshu</i> , Medium.....	90 to 95
Noshi-ito— <i>Bushu</i> , Good to Best.....	120 to 135
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Best.....	80 to 85
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Good.....	70 to 75
Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary.....	60 to 65
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected.....	100 to 105
Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds.....	90 to 95
Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best.....	—
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Best.....	60 to 70
Kibiso— <i>Shinshu</i> , Seconds.....	50 to 55
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Good to Fair.....	50 to 45
Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Midding to Common.....	40 to 35
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Good.....	45 to 40
Kibiso— <i>Hachioji</i> , Medium to Low.....	35 to 30
Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common.....	12 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best.....	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 25th Nov., 1892:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk.....	11,881	10,540	10,452
Pierced Cocoons.....	2,162	827	916
	14,043	11,367	11,368
Settlements and Direct } Export from 1st July } Stock, 25th November ...	19,400 16,900	14,500 16,400	16,700 9,400
Available supplies to date	36,300	30,900	25,900

Exchange has declined to the lowest point ever known, but has recovered slightly at the close. Present rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10½; Documents, 2/10½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/10½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$69; 4m/s. U.S. \$70½; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.66.

Estimated Silk Stock, 25th Nov., 1892:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks.....	440	Cocoons.....	650
Filatures.....	4,140	Noshi-ito.....	8,742
Re-reels.....	4,830	Kibiso.....	6,860
Kakada.....	557	Mawata.....	110
Oshu.....	503	Sundries.....	538
Taysam Kinds ...	30		
Total piculs.....	10,500	Total piculs.....	16,900

TEA.

Quotations as below noted, with but little doing.

	PER PICUL.
Fine.....	\$22 to 24
Good Medium.....	19 to 21
Medium.....	17 to 18
Good Common.....	14 to 16
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has continued to fluctuate, and closes at the following quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand.....	2/9½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight.....	2/9½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight.....	2/10
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight.....	2/10½
On Paris—Bank sight.....	3.53
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight.....	3.65
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1½ ¾ dia.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight.....	1½ ¾ dia.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight.....	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	7½
On America—Private 30 days' sight.....	69
On America—Private 4 months' sight.....	70½
Silver.....	39

BOARDING HOUSE FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

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TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day. Children under Twelve Half Price.

February 18th, 1892.

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SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for House use as well as for Steamers and Factories.

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HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO:

YOKOHAMA:

No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji.

Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

17.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BARNES, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribes in Abyssinia," says:—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out 1 quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. CONNOR, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says:—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a teaspoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout Word.

May 2nd, 1890.



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TRADE MARK.

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KINGDON PATENT LIGHT PORTABLE ENGINE

Stock sizes, 14 to 6 H.P. Burns less fuel, and gives three times the power, weight for weight, of any other engine. Awarded First Prize by Royal Agricultural Society England, 1890, in competition open to all makers. Illustrated Catalogue in English, French, or Spanish. Send for Copy to

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17.

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PADDLE STEAMERS WITH DRAFT RANGING DOWN TO 6 INCHES OF WATER

Stern Wheel Steamers with very shallow draft especially suitable for river navigation.

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YARROW & CO., POPLAR, LONDON, E.

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Correspondence invited from Firms who desire to handle our Whiskies.

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June 14th, 1892.

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The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.



The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel; the safest and most gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sickness of Pregnancy.

N.B.—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 3RD, 1892.

月三年五十二癸明
可麗會信通日十三

[Vol. XVIII]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 3RD, 1892.

MARRIAGE.

On November 30th, 1892, before Her Majesty's Consul, James Troup, Esq., and afterwards at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, M.A., CLARA EDWINA, youngest daughter of Geo. E. Rice, Esq., Yokohama, to WILLIAM WALLACE CAMPBELL, of Thornhill, Quebec, Canada.

DEATH.

At Kanazawa, on December 1st, MARY ALLEN WEST, of Chicago, Associate Editor of the *Union Signal*.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE annual St. Andrew's Ball has been given in Yokohama with great *téte*.

THE first snow fall in Toyama for the present season was experienced on the 25th ult.

H.I.H. THE EMPEROR performed the ceremony of opening the fourth session of the Imperial Diet on the 29th instant.

It is stated that the sittings of the Imperial Diet will probably be prolonged in consequence of the accident to the Premier.

THE managers of various branches of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have arrived in the capital to hold their general meeting.

THE Glyptic Exhibition in Ueno Park, Tokyo, which was to be closed on Tuesday last, will remain open until the 5th inst.

THE Japanese Representative to Italy and Mrs. Nakajima left Yokohama on the 29th ult. for Kobe, by the 12.30 p.m. train.

A COLLISION occurred in the Inland Sea on the morning of the 29th ult. between the steamer

Ravenna and the *Chishima Kan*, in which the latter was sunk and a great many lives lost.

COUNT ITO has met with a severe accident, which is likely to incapacitate him for the discharge of his official duties for some weeks.

THE Budget for 1893-94 has been presented to the House of Representatives. There is an excess of 2½ million *yen* on the side of Revenue.

THE sale at home of the *Aikoku*, a Japanese magazine published in America, was prohibited by the Home Minister on the 26th ult.

COUNT INOUE, as Acting Minister President, made a lengthy statement of the Government's policy in the House of Representatives on the 1st instant.

A TELEGRAPHIC message received by the Government states that Major Fukushima arrived at Kiatchka on the 26th ult., and left for Irkutsk the following day.

A MEETING attended by Counts Yamagata, Goto, Kuroda, and Inouye, Viscount Nire, and Mr. Watanabe was held at the residence of the Premier on Saturday afternoon.

A FIRE occurred on the night of the 25th ult. at 10 o'clock in an abode at Kizagatacho, Asakusa, Tokyo, destroying two houses and partly damaging nine.

COUNT INOUE, Minister of State for Home Affairs, was commanded on the 28th ult. to represent the Premier until Count Ito is able to attend business of State again.

MR. OKUMA UJIHIRO, a famous sculptor, who has just completed the statue of the late Omura recently erected at Kudan, Tokyo, has received an order for a statue of the late Count Yamada.

A TELEGRAM from Ishikawa Prefecture, dated the 28th ult., announces that the bill for the abolition of arming police constables with sabres has been passed at a meeting of the Prefectural Assembly.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between a daughter of Count Oki, ex-President of the Privy Council, and an influential resident of Kobuhara in the neighbourhood of Nikko, Yashu Province.

AT 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning an outbreak of fire took place in a kerosene refinery at Fukagawa, Tokyo, and the whole of the buildings were burnt down. A house near by was considerably damaged.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Kobe reports that the bill for the abolition of the use of sabres by police constables in Hyogo Prefecture was passed at a meeting of the Prefectural Assembly held on the 29th ultimo.

COUNTS INOUE, Yamagata, Kuroda, Goto, and Oyama, Viscount Niire, and Messrs. Mutsu, Kono, and Watanabe, Ministers of State, held a conference on the afternoon of Tuesday last at the residence of the Minister of State for War.

THE Bill for the expenses of rebuilding Prisons, amounting to over *yen* 254,400, to be defrayed during the period extending from the 26th to the 30th fiscal year, was rejected at a recent meeting of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly.

THE marriage arranged between H.I.H. Prince Kani Kuninori and Lady Daigo Yoshiko took place in Kyoto on Saturday last. Mr. M. Uda, Assistant Superintendent of the Bureau of Palace Superintendence in the Imperial Household

Department, has been despatched by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress with Imperial presents to the newly married couple.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Osaka dated the 26th ult. announces that the Osaka City Assembly has resolved to devote *yen* 13,638 towards the expenses of surveying the port of Osaka, which is to be reconstructed by the citizens.

It is stated that Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, who lately resigned the Directorship of the *Official Gazette* Bureau in the Cabinet office, intends to start a newspaper in the interests of independent principles and entirely free from the range of party quarrels.

ON the evening of the 26th ult., 16 Japanese gamblers were captured in a police raid on a house at No. 151, in China-town, Foreign Settlement, Yokohama. Over 40 persons are said to have been indulging in gambling when the house was visited by the police, but the majority got clear away.

THEATRICAL performances by the party of Danjiro, Kikugoro, Fukusuke, and many other leading actors of Tokyo, in aid of the Fukuden-Kai (a charitable asylum), will be given at the Kabuki Theatre, Kobikicho, Tokyo, during the three days ending on the 4th inst. The performances will commence at 10 a.m.

At a meeting of the Cabinet, held on the 28th ult. at the official residence of the Minister of State for Finance, there were present Counts Yamagata, Kuroda, Oyama, Inouye, and Goto, Viscount Niire, and Messrs. Mutsu and Kono. The proceedings lasted from ten in the forenoon until half-past four in the afternoon.

A VIOLENT gale, accompanied by heavy rainfall, visited Shizuoka Prefecture on the afternoon of the 24th ult. The storm commenced about one o'clock, and an hour later it reached its utmost severity, although continuing for two hours longer. Thirteen houses were damaged at Nishikida-mura in the Kimizawa District. One female was crushed to death and five dwellings damaged at the foot of Fuji.

THE Import trade continues healthy and strong, and a quotable rise can be reported both in Yarns and Grey goods, as both English and Bombay spinnings, as well as heavy and light Shirtings, have been sold at improved rates. Buyers, however, are not well supplied, and must come into the market and pay prices of which they are at the moment somewhat shy. Wool-lens are quiet, though there have been enquiries, but holders are strong and will not look at present offers. There is a little more life in the Metal trade, Bar Iron being taken in larger quantities, but there is no alteration in values. The Kerosene market is healthy, sales being good at full figures. There was a rush upon Sugar after writing last week, and nearly 30,000 piculs of Browns were taken. This sudden and unexpected raid upon the stock put all Browns up 10 cents per picul, but nothing worth reporting has been done since and prices all round might be called nominal. The Silk trade continues to flourish, and exporters have found nearly 1,000 piculs for shipment. Prices keep up, and all silk with any pretension to quality is held for high figures. Waste Silk has also been freely taken, and prices are fully maintained. There is nothing to report in Tea. Exchange has fluctuated again, and if there is any alteration at the close it is a tendency towards a rise, though rates here have been a point lower than the London price of silver seemed to warrant.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE CODES.

THE Bill to postpone the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes which passed the Diet last session, but failed to obtain the Imperial Sanction until the 22nd ult., that is to say, three days before the assembly of the Diet, has naturally evoked much journalistic comment. From time to time we have referred to the impatient criticisms evoked by the apparent hesitation of the Cabinet to advise the Sovereign definitely, and in order to complete the subject, its importance being exceptional, we shall now give a brief resume of the comments published on the occasion of the announcement of the Imperial Sanction.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* observes that though all other Bills which passed the Diet obtained Imperial Sanction within ten days after the close of the session, the Codes Bill alone was withheld till almost the last day before the opening of the next session. It is clear that the Government hesitated to solicit sanction for a long time, and their uncertainty may be gathered from the fact of appointing a Committee to examine the Codes. The *Nichi Nichi* finds it strange that the most experienced and ablest statesmen in the empire could not come to a decision about such an inevitable question for so long. Since, however, the Cabinet at last obtained the Imperial Sanction it is not necessary to animadvert upon past procedure. We must wait to see what the future will bring forth. The Government will probably allege that they delayed to seek sanction because they deemed the subject worthy of profound consideration. But since they have now obtained sanction, they must proceed, without any further delay, to publish the projected method of amending the Codes. As the subject is of the gravest importance, the Government ought once to appoint a Committee of experts, who shall examine into the defects of the laws. Many months have been spent considering the question, but the Ministers of the Crown ought to have known that these months could have been profitably employed in improving the Codes, had a Revision Committee been appointed at once. It is stated that the Government intends to amend the Sections relating to Companies, Bankruptcy, and Bills of Exchange in the Commercial Code, and to submit them to the Diet during the present session. The *Nichi Nichi* approves this programme, but asks what the Government intends to do for the other parts which are also of very great importance. It concludes by saying that the Imperial Sanction has been given not for mere postponement but for amendment, and that therefore the Government ought to announce a programme of revision at once.

The *Choya Shimbun* sums up the history of the Codes from the beginning in the following sentences:—"The first question was whether Japan required Codes? The second, whether their promulgation had taken place too soon? The third, whether they were good Codes? And the last, what method should be adopted in amending them?" The last question now invites decision; and it will be better, thinks our contemporary, to leave the matter in the hands of the Government, since there is need of learned experts, and the Government can command the services of the majority of these. But inasmuch as the Diet may disagree with the amendments, and fresh delay may thus be caused, it is advisable to request the Diet to present petitions, pass resolutions, and adopt representations which may serve as indications of parliamentary desires.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun*, the public knew well that Count Ito would not have courage to oppose the resolution of both Houses of the Diet by counselling the Sovereign to withhold sanction from the Bill for postponement. Hence, every one expected to see that sanction ultimately extended. But, on

the other hand, the influence of the advocates of immediate enforcement was so great, among them being the members of the last Cabinet who hoped to see the resolution of the Diet rejected, as well as some members of the present Cabinet who entertain the same view. Thus Count Ito was placed in an awkward position. To adopt either alternative would make some foes. But time refused to stand still for him, and at last he was compelled to obtain the Imperial Sanction a few days before the opening of the next session. He waited, indeed, until the very last day allowed by Art. 32 of the Law of the Houses. The *Hochi* therefore prefers to say that Art. 32, rather than the Ito Cabinet, obtained the Imperial Sanction. As the question is one of the gravest importance it is strange that Count Ito did not decide his policy when he organized the present Ministry. If he had done so, he need not have hesitated till the very last day allowed by the Law of the country. Moreover, he furnished the public with materials for merriment by appointing the Codes Committee. The original object of the Committee was to ascertain what argument could be advanced for enforcing the Codes, but the Minister President was compelled to change his purpose, and to direct the investigation towards determining the possibility of enforcing portions of the Codes. Finally, he has again been obliged to alter his mind, and to have recourse to the amendment of certain portions of the Commercial Code. Apart from all these things, however, Count Ito has merited public approval by adopting the Diet's Bill. The only fault is that his resolution came very late.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* asks why the Imperial Sanction was withheld till the very last day; why the Codes Committee was appointed; and why the Committee consisted of equal numbers of advocates and opponents of the Codes, its President having a casting vote in favour of their immediate enforcement. It is stated that Count Ito also was in favour of postponement at first, but he was converted to adopt the enforcement view. Ultimately, however, seeing that the country was indignant at his regarding the resolution of the Diet so lightly, and that the question would be brought up in the next session, he changed his opinion once more, and at last obtained the Imperial Sanction. Thus, during the last few months, the opinion of Count Ito changed several times.

The *Shogyo Shimpō* alleges that the defects of the Codes are well known, and that the object of postponing their operation is to amend them. But it is stated that the Government intends to present portions of the Commercial Code for immediate enforcement in the next session. As the necessity for the enforcement of these sections is felt, they may pass the Houses. But do they require no amendment? The object of those who voted for the Postponement Bill was to amend those portions specially. Therefore, if these particular laws pass the Diet, the members who voted against them will be gravely disappointed. Whether the rest of the Commercial Code may be enforced immediately or not, they do not care. The parts they desire to see amended are precisely those which it is proposed to enforce. If the sections to be now re-submitted require no amendment, they ought to have been separated from their context by the Diet before the Bill for the postponement of the whole was voted. The *Shogyo* expresses a hope that the whole will be amended instead of cutting the Codes into small portions, a course not provided for in the Bill.

The *Kokkai* publishes a brief leader on the subject in its wonted vein:—"The Bill for postponing the operation of the Codes may be compared to difficult parturition. The infant made many unsuccessful attempts to come into the world, and was born at last with much difficulty just a day before the opening of the next session. On that day the advocates of postponement must have rejoiced, and its opponents

been a prey to indignation and disappointment. Mr. Razor (the Minister for Foreign Affairs) murmured that Treaty Revision could not be accomplished for some time; Count Natural Right (Count Oki, ex-President of the Privy Council) was wroth with the peoples' progress in jurisprudential discrimination, and Count Code (Count Yamada, late Minister for Justice) sighed at the uncertainty of human affairs in this nether world."

THE GAME REGULATIONS.

We observe that the crusade instituted by local journals in Kobe against the action of H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires in connection with the Game Regulations has fared as such attacks usually fare in the Far East: the original ground of assault has been entirely ignored and a new issue is raised, the change of front being concealed behind customary politenesses, as, for example, that the *Japan Mail* is a "hired jester" and so forth. At the outset the Chargé d'Affaires was said to have "fallen into a deep ditch dug for him by the Japanese" because he had re-enacted Japanese Regulations and made them binding on his nationals. Now the chief complaint against him is that in re-enacting the Regulations he has appended penalties more severe than those occurring in the Japanese Regulations themselves. It apparently escapes the notice of his assailants that the re-enacted regulations issued by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires were drafted by legal experts—as, for instance, the Judge of Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan—who may reasonably be supposed to know how such work should be done, and what penalties accord most closely with the provisions of British law. Even assuming, however, that the editor of a journal like the *Hyogo News* knows more about such matters than trained legislators, the inconsistency of his position would not be less comical. His perturbation was originally due to an apprehension that these Game Regulations must be regarded as "the first of a formidable series of laws" designed to deprive foreigners of the privileges enjoyed by them in Japan, above all of the privilege of exemption from Japanese jurisdiction. To avoid such a terrible consummation, our contemporary would have had the Chargé d'Affaires merely direct his nationals' attention to the fact that such and such a Notification had been issued by the Japanese. Direct his nationals' attention to the fact, for what purpose? Obviously in order that they might obey the provisions of the Notification. So, then Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires is supposed to have fallen into a pit dug by the Japanese, because, forsooth, he does not declare Japanese enactments binding, as they stand, upon his own nationals, but employs the power of re-enactment vested in him by the British Government expressly to preserve his nationals from the semblance of any obligation to obey Japanese laws. He converts a certain Japanese regulation into a British form, so that it shall not, in its Japanese form, possess any binding force for British subjects, and he adds British penalties to laws drafted by British lawyers, because the very fundamental principle of extraterritoriality is that Japanese penalties shall not be enforced against British subjects. Thereupon, the loudest champions of extraterritoriality cry out that he is surrendering the extraterritorial fort because in the first place, he did not make the Japanese Regulations binding in their entirety without re-enactment; and because, in the second, he did not adopt the Japanese penalties as they stood. If these critics know their own mind, they take very good care that others shall not know it.

Many strange things have been written about these Regulations. One is, that "the French Minister refused to recognise the Japanese Ordinance." That is simply a falsehood. Another is that "the German Minister restricted himself to the issue of a Notification." That is also untrue, for the German Minister issued no Notification at all. He doubtless instructed the German Consuls, however, and they issued a notification. What was the notification? It

was an official declaration that the prohibitions of the Japanese Game Regulations must be observed by all German subjects desiring to enjoy their privileges; that the penalties prescribed by German law should be applied to enforce those provisions; and that in cases not covered by German law, a fine of from 3 to 150 marks, or imprisonment, failing payment of the fine, should be resorted to. Germany, in short, applied the prohibitions of the Regulations in their entirety to her subjects, enacting special penalties to meet contraventions not contemplated by her own laws. All the other Powers, we believe, have adopted the same course, though probably with slightly varying methods. The United States of America, indeed, maintains that Japanese laws, as such, are always binding upon her citizens, and the present Consul-General has carried this principle to its logical issue; for he has accepted the mere fact of the enactment of the Regulations by Japan as entailing upon his nationals the obligation to obey them. Other Powers, however, have been obliged to take some action, for, as we explained at the outset, no foreigners to whom the prohibitions of the Regulations had not been extended would be competent to enjoy their privileges. It is incredible that so much confusion and perplexity should have been displayed about a matter so simple and rendered so familiar by precedent.

THE ACTION AT LAW AGAINST VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA.

THE suit instituted by Mr. Oba Kikujiro against Viscount Shinagawa has fared as might have been expected. Mr. Oba is the chief founder of an association called the Saimin Club, which has its head-quarters in Kamiheyemon-cho, Asakusa, Tokyo. The members of the Club appear to have put their heads together, and concluded that it would be worth while to try the experiment of arraigning the late Minister of State for Home Affairs on a charge of illegal interference in the general elections. Mr. Oba accordingly instituted proceedings in the Tokyo Local Court, and prayed that Mr. Shimada Saburo, leader of the *Kaishin-to* in the House of Representatives, Mr. Kono Hironaka, leader of the *Jiyu-to* in the same House, and Mr. Tatekawa Umpei, who was put up by the Radicals to set forth the Opposition's case against the Government when a memorial to the Throne was proposed last session, should be summoned as witnesses. The suit would certainly have been most interesting had it been allowed to proceed, though our cannot easily conceive that such issues as the complainants advanced could not be tried by an ordinary Law Court. They alleged, in the first place, that official interference in elections being calculated to excite the people and provoke breaches of the peace, was an offence against the law; in the second, that it was a violation of the Imperial Prerogative and the Imperial virtue, as well as opposed to the spirit of the Constitution; in the third, that it was a violation of the rights appertaining to the people under a constitutional system of government; and in the fourth, that Viscount Shinagawa, as Minister of State for Home Affairs at the time and therefore responsible, must be held to have acted in defiance of the 276th and 277th Articles of the Criminal Code. The Articles run as follow:—

276.—Every public functionary who, acting in that capacity, shall have compelled a person to commit an act which he had no right to commit, or shall have unduly hindered him from exercising a legal capacity, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a period of from eleven days to two months and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen.

277.—Every magistrate, every officer of the public administration, or every officer of police, who, having known of a flagrant offence committed against the person or goods of an individual, and shall not have immediately proceeded to protective measures, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a period of from fifteen days to three months, and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen.

A petition in the above sense was duly laid before the Tokyo Local Court, but that tribunal, after brief consideration, declared itself incompetent to entertain such issues, and declined to hear the case. The Opposition are certainly to be commended for the resolution they have

shown in pushing this question of official interference. It seemed most desirable that a parliamentary Committee should be appointed to investigate the matter thoroughly, but, as was pointed out in the House of Representatives at the time, a parliamentary committee would have possessed no power to summon witnesses or conduct a thoroughly efficient inquiry. One feels inclined to regret that the Administrative Court cannot be reached, for, whatever be the rights of the case, widespread dissatisfaction seems to prevail still. On the other hand, it is very conceivable that the efforts now made to revive the matter may be entirely in the nature of political capital. The action of the *Jiyu-to* in the session just commenced will afford an opportunity of gauging the real sentiments of the Opposition.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the customs Returns for October, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1891.	1892.
Exports	7,096,452.570	10,184,846.890
Imports	5,540,188.350	6,216,919.330
Total exports and imports	12,636,640.920	16,401,766.220
Excess of exports	2,096,262.570	3,967,927.560
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		
Exports	229,915.008	229,915.008
Imports	226,944.390	226,944.390
Miscellaneous	11,437.790	11,437.790

Total..... 468,297.188

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America.....	5,093,151.860	493,811.470	5,586,963.330
France.....	2,085,085.150	189,085.380	2,274,170.530
Great Britain.....	1,887,377.980	2,915,536.190	4,802,914.170
China.....	648,027.000	1,351,838.610	2,000,865.610
Hongkong.....	2,030,745.080	800,131.150	2,830,876.230
Germany.....	58,017.210	597,070.120	655,087.330
British India.....	127,958.810	444,753.570	572,712.380
Korea.....	198,438.570	399,876.010	598,314.580
Italy.....	102,845.970	3,621.920	106,467.890
Switzerland.....	18,070.000	88,888.030	106,958.030
Russia.....	56,265.540	58,833.900	105,099.440
Canada and other British America.....	57,185.970	5,106.900	62,292.870
Belgium.....	3,124.300	56,376.930	59,501.230
Australia.....	51,328.920	2,960.390	54,289.310
Sweden & Norway.....	1,072.000	38,914.300	39,986.300
Philippine Islands.....	2,551.320	30,481.200	33,032.520
Austria.....	27,647.300	81.940	27,729.240
Hawaii.....	21,533.710	420.440	21,954.150
Holland.....	3,479.540	4,218.580	7,698.120
Spain.....	47,493.0	1,120.680	48,613.680
Peru.....	1,011.000	252.940	1,263.940
Turkey.....	70.130	300.000	370.130
Siam.....	80.000	788.060	868.060
Denmark.....	—	181.380	181.380
Portugal.....	—	5.000	5.000
Other Countries.....	40,598.750	38,480.830	79,079.580
Total.....	10,055,718.880	6,216,919.330	16,272,638.210

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama.....	3,607,230.310	2,792,708.750	6,399,939.060
Kobe.....	2,687,704.040	2,464,802.610	5,152,506.650
Osaka.....	1,870,048.330	618,227.030	2,488,275.360
Nagasaki.....	345,230.390	340,183.340	685,413.730
Hakodate.....	159,913.40	5,470.580	165,383.980
Niigata.....	70.130	838.000	908.130
Shimonoseki.....	38,786.870	43,357.030	82,143.900
Moji.....	50,705.800	—	50,705.800
Hakata.....	300.310	1,254.000	1,554.310
Karatsu.....	6,745.300	—	6,745.300
Kuchino.....	35,042.000	—	35,042.000
Izumi.....	1,553.660	4,440.560	5,994.220
Shishimi.....	1,152.500	588.910	1,741.410
Sauna.....	608.270	318.000	926.270
Otaru.....	5,170.000	—	5,170.000

Specie and Bullion { Exports..... 167,872.280

{ Imports..... 2,257,567.060

Total..... 2,425,439.340

Excess of imports..... 2,089,694.780

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports..... 1,285,435.230

{ Imports..... 1,161,908.400

Imported by Government..... 99,631.150

THE "KAISHIN-TO" AND THE "JIYU-TO."

THE quarrel between the *Kaishin-to* and the *Jiyu-to* has not been made up, nor do present appearances indicate any likelihood of a speedy settlement. An impression prevails, on the contrary, that Mr. Shimada Saburo's utterances, to which exception is taken, were not a mere incident, but rather an accurate expression of feelings that had long been growing and have now become too acute to be ignored. The provocation has been entirely on the side of the *Kaishin-to*. For some time back their organs have been saying, or hinting, disagreeable things about the *Jiyu-to*, the latter, however, refraining from all retort. The fact appears to be that the *Jiyu-to* are not sufficiently implac-

able to please the *Kaishin-to*. The programme of the latter is to steadily continue a destructive policy until the Government is compelled to accept their dictation, whereas the *Jiyu-to* are now adopting a constructive platform, in part at any rate, and seem not indisposed to judge the Cabinet's measures solely on their merits. We do not imagine that the rupture which has now occurred will have visible effects within the walls of the Diet in the immediate future. But it is not unlikely to grow wider under the stress of parliamentary debate, and certainly the contingency of a genuine coalition between the two parties has been relegated to a very distant date.

THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION SCANDAL REVIVED.

THE first examination of Barristers was abandoned on the second day, owing to the questions having been divulged; and a fresh examination was held in the Kinkikan on the 24th ult. But again a rumour went abroad that the questions had been sold for a sum of from yen 15 to 20, and that over a hundred candidates had purchased them, promising to pay the money when they had passed the examination. The rumour was first circulated by the Teikoku News Agency, but its truth has not yet been ascertained. However, a crier named Omachi Chikara was expelled from the examination hall on the 25th instant. One of the Inspectors of Examination, seeing reason to suspect that Omachi had brought a book into the hall, watched him closely, and finally detected him in the act of copying out a passage from Mr. Tanaka Yusunoshin's work on Civil Procedure. He was at once expelled from the hall. It seems to us most unlikely that the reported sale of the papers on this second examination should be true, as every precaution would naturally have been taken against such a contingency.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO" ON CURRENT TOPICS.

THE following comments on current topics are taken from the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*:—What price is Count Ito going to pay for the support of the Popular party? It will not do to pay either too much or too little. Has he no better policy to pursue? Has he nothing else to fall back upon, than soothing words and alluring baits?

It is good that the Department of the Navy has awakened to the necessity of reforms. But no reform will be of any avail, unless it is radical and thorough. The retirement of a few decrepit officials will be inadequate to procure the consent of the Diet to the construction of war-vessels.

Count Itagaki's advocacy of the augmentation of the Navy must be regarded as a concession on his part to his enemy. The example of a superior is always followed by his inferiors with added zeal. A day will come when the Count will repent of his present conduct.

Mr. Matsuda Masahisa of Kyushu, Mr. Hoshi Toru of the Central Provinces, and Mr. Kono Hironaka of the North-East, were once regarded as men of firm resolution and strong purpose. But what are they now doing? With the rise of their reputation they have become afraid of making enemies, and there are a hundred indications that they have unconsciously been transformed into weak and passive politicians. This eminent trio of Radicals would do well to reflect on their conduct.

To mention the worst features of their characters,—the Radicals are foolish, while the Progressionists are cunning. Fools are liable to be deceived, and cunning folks are apt to be hated.

We are glad of the diplomatic appointments of Mr. Nakashima Nobuyuki and Mr. Oshi Masami, because the non-official circle has thus been relieved of the presence of these equivocal persons. We hope that we may, in a similar manner, get rid of men like Mr. Suehiro Shige-yasu, Mr. Arai Shogo, and Mr. Oi Kentaro.

The Saitama Prefectural Assembly has been dissolved on account of its vote of want of con-

fidence in the Governor and Chief of Police. May we not consider this as an inevitable result of the half-hearted manner in which the punishment of local officials charged with interference in elections has been carried out? We implore the Government to take decisive measures, beginning with the Prefectural Government of Saitama. Otherwise the question of official interference in elections will again, in the coming session, lead to a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry.

REMARKABLE EXPERIMENTS IN HYPNOTISM.

On Thursday morning, says a London paper of Oct. 14, at the Charité Hospital, Paris, the series of experiments which are being made by Dr. Luys of the "exteriorisation" of the human body were continued. Thanks to the kindness of Dr. Luys, a Dalziel representative was allowed to be present at the séance. So complete was the exteriorisation of the subject that Dr. Luys was able to transfer a woman's sensibility into a tumbler of water. The tumbler was then taken out of sight of the hypnotised person, and the representative was invited to touch the water, and as his hands came in contact with it the woman started as in pain. This experiment was repeated several times, the requisite precautions being taken that the hypnotised subject should not see the contact between the hands and the water. The water retained the sensibility for a considerable time, and, if drunk before the sensibility is exhausted, the patient falls into a deadly swoon. Dr. Luys was also able to confirm the wonderful discovery made by Colonel Roche, administrator of the Ecole Polytechnique, who found that it was possible to transfer the sensibility of a hypnotised person to the negative of a photograph of the subject, and that the subject not only felt but showed signs of any mark made on the negative. Supposing, for instance, a scratch was drawn with a pin across the hand on the negative after it had been charged with sensibility, the subject would shriek with pain, and a few instants later a mark similar to that made on the negative would be visible on the hands of the subject. Dr. Luys tried the experiment on Thursday several times with an extraordinary sensitive subject now at the Charité, and each time with considerable success. The experiments, are creating a great deal of interest in the scientific world.

CATTLE DISEASE.

The cattle plague is gradually spreading all over the empire, though the Authorities spare no pains to check it. It is now reported that in the Rokugo District near Tokyo, 3 oxen caught the disease on the 21st instant, and were destroyed at once. In Kyoto the plague made its appearance on the 9th instant, and up to the 19th 9 oxen had died from it. On the 20th 9 more were swept away, and on the following day another case of the worst kind was destroyed. In Osaka, 14 cases were reported in two days, namely, the 20th and 21st instant. There have been altogether 429 cases from the beginning, and out of them 244 died and 185 were killed. On the 22nd the number of new cases was sixteen, and there is every sign of increase. In Wakayama Prefecture one case has been reported, and in Oita Prefecture the disease is spreading very rapidly. From the 15th to the 23rd 96 cattle altogether were destroyed and it is stated that out of that number 13 had been imported from Korea. In Hyogo Prefecture 81 were destroyed in a week, and the plague is reported to have spread over 17 districts. A fresh case was also detected in Shirokane, Tokyo, on the 24th instant. The Governor of Kyoto at first prohibited the import of live cattle only, but as the disease spread throughout the prefecture, he extended the prohibition to hides of cattle or sheep. The Governor of Hyogo Prefecture has forbidden butchers to export cattle to Awaji or any other provinces, and if the interdiction is violated, a heavy fine is to be imposed. Nara, Iwate, and many other Prefectures have also stopped the importation of cattle or sheep from other places, and the Kanagawa Kencho has

suspended the opening of the meat market till further notice.

With reference to the above, it may not be amiss to allude to a prejudice commonly prevailing in consequence of the epidemic. Many people have interdicted the use of beef and milk altogether in their households, or at any rate have deprived themselves of these everyday staples of diet. Now it has been abundantly proved by experience, and is admitted by experts, that no such uneasiness need be felt. In the first place, nothing is less likely than that diseased meat would be purchased by a cook, or served for use if purchased. Not only are drastic precautions exercised officially to prevent the moving about of infected cattle or the hawking of their flesh, these precautions being employed solely to prevent the spread of the epidemic; but also the chances of any open-eyed person's purchasing the beef of a diseased beast are most remote. In the second place, supposing infected beef to be purchased, cooked and eaten, no danger to the health of the person consuming it need be apprehended. The idea of having made a meal on such flesh—were any one hungry enough and sufficiently blunt-palated to do so—would certainly be disagreeable, and might even prove nauseating were the fact discovered in time. But beyond this partially sentimental objection, there is no reason to be at all disturbed. People may go on enjoying their steaks and sirloins as complacently as ever, if they can afford to be entirely complacent in the face of constantly increasing prices. As for milk, there is scarcely a remote probability of a diseased cow having any to give, and if a small quantity were obtained, nobody would be hurt by it.

THE TANKO RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Sixth General meeting of the Tanko Railway Company was held in the Koseikan at 2 p.m. on Friday last. Some 99 shareholders assembled; and Mr. Takashima Kayemon, Director of the Company, took the chair. The last half yearly account was read out. It ran as follows:—

Total revenue	702,672.016
Total expenditure	550,369.970
Profit	52,302.046
Subsidies	109,825.199
Balance	1,462.420
Total Profit	263,589.665
Payment towards Original Expenditure	1,000.000
Payment towards Tanko Mine Expenditure	3,437.500
Reserve	7,393.000
Rewards and Sundry Expenditure	10,350.000
Dividend (7½ per cent.)	239,850.000
Balance	1,559.165
Total	263,589.665

Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, one of the principal shareholders, then rose and, after congratulating the Company on the satisfactory results of the working, explained that the large fires at Sapporo and Kotaru had caused a depression of trade and industry in Hokkaido. Moreover, the fisheries on the western coast had been exceptionally unsuccessful during the last half year, many a capitalist had failed and the goal market was far from being prosperous. Indeed it might be said that the last half year had been a particularly bad time for the company. Yet, owing to the energy of the Director and the other officers of the company, a dividend of 7½ per cent. could be distributed, without touching the reserve. For such a happy result the shareholders should feel heartily thankful. At the same time he hoped that during the next half year the Company would economize its expenditures and obtain a larger revenue from coals, so as to be able to pay the same per centage of dividend, for they had to remember that their earning power would be crippled during the winter owing to the suspension of communications by

snow and frost. Mr. Takashima, Director of the Company, replied that as all necessary preparations had been made for the winter season, the rail service would not be suspended even in the depth of winter. At present there was a population of 400,000 in Hokkaido, and they cultivated about 200,000 *cho* (500,000 acres) of formerly waste land. On this basis there was land enough for an increase of 200,000 emigrants annually; and he hoped to see a million more inhabitants in five years. With a population of 400,000, the company could realise a net profit of 300,000 *yen*; therefore, an increase of a million more, supposing that each spent 1 *yen*, would enable the company to obtain one million *yen* profit per annum. But even though such a figure could not be reached, it was certain that the Company's prospects were improving gradually. A proposition relating to the appointment of officers was then discussed, the object being to abolish the official nomination of officers, and make them elective. There was much opposition, and at last the measure was rejected by a large majority. The Standing Committee of five was ultimately elected as follows:—

Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi	1,208
Mr. Tanaka Heihachi	1,137
Mr. Yuchi Sadamoto	1,000
Mr. Tojo Itatsuke	1,037
Mr. Saionji Kinnari	602

MR. MINAYE.

The injury suffered by Mr. Minaye at the hands of a *soshi* on the 25th ultimo proves to have been very slight. It is expected that he will be able to attend the opening ceremonial on the 29th. Last session it was deemed advisable to attach guards to members of the Lower House, but as this precaution will not, for the present at all events, be taken, the Chief of Police is said to have issued specially stringent instructions to the constables on duty in and about the Houses, so as to prevent any further outrages by *soshi*. Meanwhile, seven members of the *Chuo-dantai* have been arrested on suspicion of complicity in the attack made by Susa Kakichi on Mr. Minaye. Among the seven is Kojima Heikichi, who was wounded by a servant of Mr. Minaye on the 16th instant.

"AZUMA."

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD has been reading "Azuma" to a select little coterie of fourteen, mostly journalists, who met at the office of Major J. P. Bond, in the Everett House, New York. We, who have had the pleasure of hearing the play, need scarcely say that the New York audience was delighted. We gather from the comments accompanying the account of the *stance* that arrangements have not yet been concluded for the publishing or acting of the drama. One passage is quoted, the only one that Sir Edwin would allow to be made public property. The reason for his complaisance with regard to this particular part is said to have that the passage had already been printed in a Japanese paper, but that is probably a misconception. At any rate the passage is one of the many gems with which the play abounds:—

Two reigns ago—
The Emperor Toba ruling—a vast bird
Haunted Shikanozaki's craggy head,
In Yamato. A monstrous, snow-white bird;
Its spread wings like the mid-sails of a junk;
Its beak a blacksmith's shears; its talons twinned
Hooks of black bronze. And, when the women laid
Their babes upon the rice-sheaves, oftentimes
A whistle would be heard among the pines,
As though a typhoon whirled, and then would fall
The roar of those wide, terrible, white wings,
Casting their swift, dark shadow, and the scream
Of the hungry eagle swooping on the babe
With eyes ablaze, and silencing the cry—
Save for the mother's ears—of that soft prey,
Whose tender limbs the savage talons seized
And bore aloft; while some ran for their bows,
And some flung idle stones; and some made speed
To follow as they might the ravisher;
But always to the hollows of the hills
Safe made he flight.

THE CANADIAN-PACIFIC ROUTE.

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed, says the *Singapore Free Press*, for another transhipment of Imperial Marine over the Canadian-Pacific route. The troopship *Tyne* has left Sheerness

for Halifax with new crews for the cruiser *Hyacinth*, and the sloops *Daphne* and *Nimphé*, which are to be recommissioned at Esquimaux for a further term of foreign service. The *Lyne* has orders to arrive at Halifax on October 30th, and the 23 officers and 420 men who make up her company will then proceed to Vancouver, a similar number of officers and crew returning from Vancouver to Halifax on their way to England. Once again, therefore, has the Admiralty given practical evidence of its appreciation of the Imperial value of the Canadian higher-way.

MR. JAMES STEVENSON.

A VERACIOUS and polished person by name James Stevenson has been undergoing the process of interviewing in San Francisco. Stevenson appears to have resided at one time in Yokohama. He calls himself an architect, but if he ever occupied any such position here, it was without the knowledge of the public. He is a wild and evil-tongued exaggerator, to use no rougher term, and following the propensity of his kind—a propensity with which experience in Yokohama has rendered us very familiar—he seeks to substitute violence of expression for veracity. He declares the Japanese to be “the worst set of unprincipled scamps under the sun” and “the wickedest rascals under the sun in all points of honour or trustworthiness.” This fanatic hyperbole is merely amusing. Did it stand alone, we might charitably regard the man as nothing worse than the victim of a screw loose—he does, by the way, carry a loose screw about his person for the purpose of demonstrating his diatribes by showing how Japanese “brass screws” are in reality steel screws coated with brass. But Stevenson does not stop short at exaggeration. He has recourse to direct falsehood. “Rudyard Kipling,” he says, “refused to be personally conducted when he was in Japan, and, as consequence, his opinion on what he saw is voted locally the only correct one published to-day.” “Personally conducted” according to Mr. Stevenson’s definition, means to be “taken in hand by officials wherever a man goes and shown around over prepared ground.” No man receives such treatment in Japan unless he brings special letters of introduction entitling him to it. Mr. Rudyard Kipling did not bring such letters. Not the slightest notice was taken of him by the Japanese. They did not even come to a dinner given to him by the foreign members of the Tokyo Club. To say that “he refused to be personally conducted” is a falsehood. So too of this larger lie attributed to Mr. Stevenson:—

“Japanese merchants will go round to all the foreign firms in their settlement and give the same order for a certain class of goods. When the goods arrive they repudiate all their contracts, go bankrupt, and a confederate starts in and buys cheap on a flooded market.”

In his anxiety to vilipend the Japanese this Stevenson represents the foreign firms as a set of silly greenhorns capable of being taken in by any adventurer.

Unprincipled romancers like this man Stevenson are common enough, and would not be worth notice were it not for the extreme comicality of such persons posing as judges of morality in any form, but above all in the form of honesty. Incapable themselves of telling the truth, they naturally see an Ananias in every one else. The old rule as to the pot’s capacity to detect the kettle’s colour is often illustrated in such matters. It is, for example, both instructive and amusing to note the character of the local journalists who chiefly devote themselves to denouncing the want of integrity and the general depravity of the Japanese race. These very men, in the pursuit of their own profession, are absolutely dead to every sense of honour, fairness, or veracity. They deliberately pervert the arguments of their opponents, carefully abstain from allowing their readers to see any but their own side of a case, falsely attribute to an adversary statements and opinions which he never dreamed of advancing or entertaining, devote their pens solely to abuse, and make it an invariable rule to trace everything to the

worst conceivable motives. Yet these are precisely the persons who prate loudest about commercial integrity and the high principles of the “superior races.” No more revolting spectacle could be conceived. It is the most unsightly form of hypocrisy, and that it immeasurably lowers all Westerns in the eyes of discriminating Japanese, there can be no manner of doubt.

A Correspondent, signing himself “F.” takes us roundly to task for commenting severely on the remarks attributed to Mr. James Stevenson by an interviewer of a San Francisco journal. “F.” declares that “the report of the interview was most certainly garbled.” On what evidence he makes this assertion we do not perceive. Possibly he knows Mr. Stevenson to be a man incapable of uttering the wild exaggerations attributed to him by the San Francisco Journal. We, however, as “F.” rightly conjectures, have no personal knowledge of Mr. Stevenson whatever. We are acquainted with him only through the declarations assigned to him by his interviewer. Our criticisms had reference entirely to those declarations, and until Mr. Stevenson himself denies that he made such statements, we must not only adhere to our condemnation, but also supplement it by saying that we consider it moderate and gentle in view of the monstrous expressions put into Mr. Stevenson’s mouth by the San Francisco interviewer. It is very well now for a resident of Yokohama to stand forward and “object strongly” to Mr. Stevenson’s views being judged by “an apocryphal account of a supposed interview.” Perhaps the interview never took place. Perhaps, if it did take place, the language used by Mr. Stevenson was flagrantly misrepresented. But it is for Mr. Stevenson, and for Mr. Stevenson alone, to furnish conclusive information on these points. The hypotheses of a correspondent at this side of the ocean, however justified they may be by friendship or by previous knowledge of Mr. Stevenson’s character, cannot weigh effectively against a published report of views avowedly couched in the *ipsissima verba* of Mr. Stevenson himself. We cannot look beyond the interview, so long as Mr. Stevenson takes no step to contradict it. If he does so, we shall be found very willing to assist in dispelling the injurious impression now prevailing as to his veracity and judgment.

Writing on this subject, we desire to make one further comment. Here we have a correspondent addressing to newspaper columns a vigorous letter of protest against an estimate which he considers unjust to the character of an absent friend. With such a correspondent we have the heartiest sympathy. It is a thousand pities that men do not show more practical activity in such matters. The tyranny of the press would very soon be broken if every one of its unjust and unsupported criticisms were immediately challenged whenever questions of personality were concerned. “F.” must not imagine, therefore, that because we are unable to soften any of our comments so long as the alleged interview remains uncontradicted, we have any desire to see them vindicated by Mr. Stevenson’s silence. On the contrary, we shall be pleased if proof be forthcoming that Mr. Stevenson is misrepresented by his interviewer. But there is another aspect of the affair: what of the Japanese people whom Mr. Stevenson is depicted as having calumniated so cruelly? Is the crusade of vindication to be conducted entirely on behalf of Mr. Stevenson’s veracity, and is no blow to be struck on account of the nation at whose expense his gross exaggerations were uttered? That, surely, would be very one-sided justice. “F.” “strongly objects” to Mr. Stevenson’s being called “a wild and evil-tongued exaggerator” and “an unprincipled romancer” because an “apocryphal account of a supposed interview” represents him as using statements which justify even more condemnatory epithets. But what Mr. Stevenson said was that “the Japanese are the worst set of unprincipled scamps under the sun” and “the wickedest rascals under the

sun in all points of honour and trustworthiness.” He could not possibly have vilipended the Japanese nation more radically and cruelly had he deliberately set about doing so, and he must bear the brunt of such sweeping calumnies so long as he refrains from repudiating them. That his friends should be solicitous about his reputation for veracity we can well understand. But that the injustice done to him by a careless interviewer—if, indeed, the fault really lies with the interviewer—bears any comparison with the injustice done by him to the whole of the Japanese nation, we cannot for a moment admit.

THE VALUE OF LIFE IN CHINA.

As an example of the value set upon life in China the following extract from the *Peking Gazette* is worth reading:—

A month or two ago it was announced in the *Gazette* that T’an Hsiu-kang, General at K’ailua in Yünnan, was cashiered in order that that he might be tried for causing his servants to put to death his two concubines belonging to him and a man with whom they had run away. The trial has now taken place, and sentence has been passed by the Governor-General. As appears from his report, the two women were living for the benefit of their health in a house away from their husband. A small official, temporarily stationed in the same place, formed an adulterous connection with them. When his duty was finished and he was leaving, he persuaded them to go off with him. The news reached the General, who sent a petty officer with orders to kill all the three. He followed them up, caught them in a house, and shot the man, but was prevented by the people there from slaying the women. He took the women away with him, but left them *en route* while he hurried to report to the General what he had done. He also showed the General the *quene* and one ear which he had cut off from the corpse as proofs of the adulteress’s death. The General who was still implacable sent him back with a servant, giving them strict orders to put the women to death. The servant killed them, and buried them with their paramour. The Governor finds that there is no punishment for a husband who kills his concubine’s paramour on the spot; but for putting the women to death at a different time and place the General must be condemned to receive a hundred blows. As he has been cashiered, this may be taken as the equivalent of the beating. His agents, the petty officer and the servants, who slew the woman, and committed a further offence by surreptitiously burying them, are ordered to receive eighty blows. The former, however, has been cashiered, and the latter is dead, no further notice therefore need be taken of either.

MILK AND MEAT.

A SCIENTIFIC man of the highest standing writes to us as follows on the subject of milk in times of cattle epidemic:—“No one probably can say with absolute assurance that milk taken from an infected cow is innocuous. But it is nevertheless possible to form some satisfactory conclusions. I myself drink milk and let it be drunk without hesitation, and when I analyse my reasons I find them to be these:—No one has ever heard of cattle disease communicating itself to man in any way. Only gastro-enteric diseases can be easily communicated through the mouth—such as cholera and typhoid. Poisons, as you know, may be sucked from wounds with impunity provided there are no excoriations of the lips. “Matter,” and many other things active under the skin or in the blood, such as small-pox virus, may also be swallowed without detriment: the stomach digests the microbes. Thus, even if diseased (not typhoid) milk should be swallowed, no harm is to be expected. Again, the precursory fever of cattle plague will rapidly suppress the secretion of milk in cows, so that milk taken from infected cattle must be a rarity in the market, and perhaps the term “diseased” cannot properly be applied to such milk. Lastly, diseased milk will in most cases betray itself by peculiarities in appearance, smell, and taste, and thus arrest attention. I may mention that the use of milk is not interdicted at present to the patients in at least one of the principal hospitals of Tokyo. The regulations of the Sanitary Department are instituted, not for the sake of the health of the population, except in so far as that all meat which has not been slaughtered, and that in a healthy state, should be condemned as unfit for human consumption, and liable to produce diarrhoea and other troubles perhaps, while eating at least disgusting. The regula-

tions have for their prime object the stamping out of the disease, and aim at saving the country, through its cattle-dealers and carters, a vast loss of property in beasts."

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

MESSRS. MOURILYAN, HEIMANN AND COMPANY take strong exception to a portion of the speech of one of the Counsel for the defence in the recent Kerosene Oil Case, as reported in these columns, and have addressed to us a protest which we publish elsewhere. So far as the Counsel is concerned, we are entirely at one with our correspondents. No barrister has a shadow of right to stand up in open Court, and prefer an injurious charge against one of the parties to a suit unless he is prepared to substantiate his words. The language used by counsel in this particular instance was not only calculated to impair the credit of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Company, but also attributed to them dishonest motives in bringing the action. There is no excuse for such a method of defence, and we hold with our correspondent that it disgraces the Japanese Bar. But we cannot agree that the Court and the Respondent also should be included in the condemnation. The Court might, and we trust that a British Court would, have subsequently condemned recourse to methods so discreditable. But modern Courts extend great latitude to barristers: latitude which, in our opinion, often amounts to a flagrant abuse, though it finds defenders among jurists of note. Whatever view may be taken, however, of the Court's sin of omission in failing to reprimand the offending barrister, we really do not see why the latter's unfortunate client should be included in our correspondent's denunciation. It is not just, neither is it warrantable, to assume that the Kanagawa Prefectural Authorities instigated Counsel to make the obnoxious insinuation, and most certainly they did not profit by it, for its effect upon their cause could only be injurious. However, our correspondent's indignation is naturally somewhat comprehensive, and we cannot wonder that it should be so.

"A Japanese Student" addresses us on the subject of the Kerosene Oil Case, with special reference to the objectionable remarks made by one of the Counsel for the defence. Our correspondent's comments seem just in the main. Counsel for the Appellant ought certainly to have taken immediate and strong exception to the unwarranted insinuations of the Counsel on the other side, and in the failure to take such exception the public has certainly detected perfunctoriness. But as to the action of the Court, we cannot agree that its silence in the face of such remarks may be condoned by a plea of perfunctoriness on the part of Appellant's Counsel. The Bench does not wait to be instructed as to its duty by the Bar. There are many examples of Judges in England who, without so much as a hint from Counsel, have pronounced most unequivocal and damning condemnation of the methods pursued by a barrister for the prosecution or defence. The Japanese tribunal had an opportunity in the present case of showing its resolve to keep the Courts of this country free from abuses which are unfortunately becoming only too common in the West. It failed to take advantage of the opportunity, which is to be regretted for the sake of its own reputation. Many persons will doubtless hold that there was no abuse at all, and that the best Western authorities sanction the expressions used. But for our own part, we cannot approve such devices. On the other hand, we cannot but agree that in attributing to the respondent the incentive of these objectionable insinuations, Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Co. have committed the very same offence as that which they charge against the respondent's Counsel. There is no evidence whatever that the respondent was either directly or indirectly a party to the insinuations made by his counsel. On the contrary, when, as our correspondent points out, the case was conducted in the lower Court by the official who doubtless in-

structed the counsel acting in the Court of Appeal, not a word was uttered to which exception of any kind could be taken. It is not just or warrantable to invite public condemnation of the respondent, namely, the Governor of Kanagawa or the Councillor of the Prefecture, on the strength of an entirely unsupported suspicion that either the one or the other inspired the improper aspersions uttered by Counsel in Court.

With reference to this kerosene oil case, we take the opportunity of expressing regret that our editorial comments on the proceedings in the Appeal Court should have appeared while a further appeal to the Supreme Court was pending. As a matter of fact the article had stood in type for several weeks, and was not published until, as our information led us to believe, the time for reference to the Supreme Court had long passed.

TENNYSON.

THE home papers by this mail are full of Tennyson. England, bereft of her "Golden-mouthed Virgil," seems to be fully sensible of the large place he occupied in her affections. The burial ceremony in Westminster Abbey is minutely described. But, after all, what need is there to write of such things? Tennyson remains with us wherever and however his body may have been hidden from our sight. Yet there were many interesting incidents connected with the ceremony. That exquisite poem, "Crossing the Bar," one of the poet's last productions, was sung as an anthem, to music by Professor Bridge. The music was criticized by some as jerky, but the general verdict appears to have been that its onomatopoeic effects were very fine. The *Pall Mall Budget* says that the words and phrases were finely brought out, especially in the second line, where the "one clear call" "echoed through the building with thrilling effect." After this the choir sang Tennyson's last poem—"The Silent Voices"—said to have been dictated to his wife only a few days before his death. Lady Tennyson had composed the music for these ten lines.

It has been generally agreed, as already pointed out by a correspondent in these columns, that the particular part of "Cymbeline" which occupied the expiring poet's latest thoughts—he died with his finger between the leaves—was the celebrated "Song":—

Fear no more the heat o' the sun,
Nor the furious winter's rages;
Thou thy worldly task hast done,
Home art gone, and 'tween thy wages
Golden lads and girls all must,
As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.
Fear no more the frown o' the great;
Thou art past the tyrant's stroke;
Care no more to clothe and eat;
To thee the reed is as the oak;
The sceptre, learning, physic, must
All follow this, and come to dust.
Fear no more the lightning flash,
Nor the all-dreaded thunder-stone;
Fear not slander, censure rash;
Thou hast finished joy and moan:
All lovers young, all lovers must
Consign to thee, and come to dust.

The *Pall Mall Budget* says:—

Few of the Laureate's manuscripts have yet come into the market, but the half-dozen which have changed hands so far have been the subject of keen competition in the sale-rooms. The proof-sheets, with autograph corrections, of "Idylls of the Heath" sold for £25 10s. The manuscript of "Poems to the Queen" realized £30; of "The Daisy," £24 10s.; of "The Letters," £18 10s.; of "Stanzas to the Rev. F. D. Maurice," £25; of "The Brook," £51. All these consisted only of a few pages each. A portion of the manuscript of "Maud" was bought a year or two ago for £111.

"Crossing the Bar," of which Canon Ainger speaks as "too sacred for praise or comment," is said by the Canon to have been written in Tennyson's eighty-first year, on the occasion of the poet's journeying across the Solent en route from Aldworth to Farringford. But another authority asserts that the poem was composed many years previously, in response to a reproach

from the poet's nurse who complained that he had never written any hymns. Henry Montagu Butler, the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, has rendered "Crossing the Bar" into Latin verse, adding the following stanza:—

*Vespertina sonat vox "carbasa pande" monentis;
"Ne timeas portum linguere, Rector adest."
Nulla mora in nobis: ingens iterabimus æquor
Hoc Duce securi, nec piget ire domum.*

Three of the poets who aspire to the vacant laureateship have printed short *in memoriam* pieces to the dead master of song. The first, Mr. Lewis Morris, writes in *The Times*:—

Thy years were come to harvest; homespent years
Of reverence from without, of love within.
A perfect life, health, riches, honours, fame,
All these were thine, no prize was left to win;
Scant sorrow, save that fine despondency
Which fans the smouldering genius into flame;
Only two brief experiences of tears,
The dear friend lost in youth, the son in age;
Bracing thy soul to bear whatever should be.
Such lives Fate grants not often or for long,
And rarest to the suffering ranks of song.
Why should we mourn, save for our private pain.
And friendship which shall never come again?
Our race can never lose thee, whose fair page,
Rich with the harvest of a soul inspired,
So many a weakling life and heart has fired;
Thou art not wholly gone, but livest yet
Till all our England's sons their tongue forget.

Mr. Alfred Austin, who also contributes to the columns of *The Times*, writes:—

A wailing cometh from the shores that veil
Avilion's island valley; on the mere,
Looms through the mist and wet winds weeping bleak
A dusky barge, which, without oar or sail,
Fades to the far-off fields where falls nor snow nor hail.
Of all his wounds He will be healed now,
Wounds of harsh time and vulnerable life,
Fatigue of rest and weariness of strife,
Doubt and the long deep questionings that plough
The forehead of age but bring no harvest to the brow.
And there life will be comforted; but we
Must watch, like Percival, the dwindling light
That slowly shrouds him darkling from our sight.
From the great deep to the great deep hath he
Passed, and, if now he knows, is mute eternally.

The third, and to our thinking the most beautiful, is from the pen of Sir Edwin Arnold, and appears in the *Daily Telegraph*:—

No moaning of the bar. Sail forth, strong ship,
Into the gloom which has God's face for light.
No dirge, but proud farewell from each fond lip,
And praise, abounding praise—Fame's full starlight
Lamping thy tuneless soul to that large room
Where thou shalt choir with angels. Words of woe
Are for the unfulfilled; not those whose moon
Of genius sinks full-orbed, glorious, aglow.
No moaning of the bar. Musical drifting
Of time's waves turning to the eternal sea;
Death's soft wind all thy gallant canvas lifting,
And Christ thy pilot to the peace to be.

ACCIDENT TO COUNT ITO.

ON Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, as the Minister President was driving out of the gate of his residence in Nagatacho in a *jinrikisha* drawn by two men, the vehicle was met by the carriage of Princess Komatsu, which unfortunately happened to be coming out of the opposite gate at the same moment. The *jinrikisha*-drawers, in order to avoid a collision with the carriage, turned sharply to the right, and in doing so overturned the vehicle, the Minister President being thrown out with considerable violence. His Excellency received a severe cut on the temple, and four of his upper front teeth were broken. He did not lose consciousness, though unable to rise from the ground. Dr. Hashimoto was soon in attendance. He pronounced the wounds to be of no special gravity, but said that, in view of the Count's years, forty days would probably be required to restore him completely to health. There are two cuts on the left temple. They are separated externally, but communicate internally. There is also a cut extending from the lower lip down to the chin, so deep that stitches have had to be put in. It is difficult to understand exactly how such injuries were received, but the most reasonable theory is that the Count was thrown head foremost against the hub of the hind wheel of the Princess' carriage. Happily the skull is unhurt, and there are no symptoms of concussion. We need scarcely say that the event caused Original Intimement. All the great folk of

the capital crowded to the Count's residence with anxious inquiries. The poor Princess was so terribly distressed and alarmed that she stood for a long time in the vestibule of the Minister's house, quite unable to speak. Despite the favourable report of the physicians a feeling of keen anxiety prevails, for the Count has not enjoyed robust health lately, and it is understood that such a severe shock may not be without troublesome consequences in the case of a man over fifty years of age. Up to 2 a.m. on Monday morning, no fever had supervened, and the patient was in a satisfactory condition.

We are requested to state that owing to the above accident, Countess Ito will be unable to receive on the 29th instant.

Count Ito, we are happy to say, is progressing favourably. Considering the extent of his injuries there has been very little fever—only 1.7°—and his spirits and appetite are good. He claims to have a distinct recollection of every detail of the incident and to have retained full possession of his senses from first to last. In all probability such was the case, for he walked firmly into his residence, called for water, and washed his wounds himself. He denies that his head or any part of his body struck the carriage of Princess Komatsu, and alleges that his injuries were caused entirely by colliding with stones. It was supposed that the wounds about the mouth and the injury to the teeth would entail silence for several days, but the patient is able to talk and does not appear to suffer from the effort. Of course visitors are strictly excluded, but it is not easy to keep the Minister President entirely tranquil. On Monday morning he sent for the Minister of State for Finance, and conversed with him for some time. A meeting of the Cabinet, which had been arranged to take place on Monday in the Count's residence, was held in the house of the Finance Minister, the business of the hour being the completion of the Budget.

Count Ito's condition on Tuesday was most satisfactory. The slight fever of the preceding day and night had entirely subsided, and the wounds gave every indication of rapid healing. It appears that only two stitches were required, and that they were applied inside the lower lip. The front teeth, originally said to have been completely broken out, have not been broken at all, but owing to the shattering of the gum it was apprehended that they would have to be removed. There is hope now, however, that they may be saved. The event is the topic of the hour in Tokyo. The leading vernacular newspapers comment on it in terms of unanimous and evidently genuine sympathy. They all discuss its bearing on the political situation, and their view is remarkably uniform. We reproduce the gist of some of their comments:—

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* declares that often as the Ministry has changed, no statesman so able and learned as Count Ito, has ever directed affairs. Every one waited anxiously to hear this father of the Constitution propound his policy in the Diet. But most regrettably two days before the opening of the session he met with a severe accident, and is compelled to remain inactive for some forty days. It is one of the greatest misfortunes that could have happened in the political world. But as the present Cabinet consists of the ablest statesmen the Empire, it may fairly be assumed that despite the Count's absence his colleagues will follow the policy mapped out by him with their advice. The physicians declare that there is no danger to the Count's life so that some consolation exists. The *Nichi Nichi* hopes that he will soon recover and be able to serve the nation for years to come.

The *Kokkai*, says that when Shingen died Kenshin, his peer and enemy, sighed and said:—"Alas, a noble fellow is dead. I have lost my match!" Again, when Count Okuma was wounded the Anti-Treaty Revision Party's organs all grieved and exclaimed:—"Alas, Count

Okuma is *hors de combat* and we have lost our match!" Now Count Ito has been wounded just on the eve of the opening of the Diet. Have the Popular Party spirit enough to lament that they have lost their match?

The above question of the *Kokkai* elicited immediate replies from all the principal organs of the Popular Party. The *Jiyu*, the Radical organ, says that Count Ito stood at the head of the last and strongest clique of clan statesmen when he formed the present Cabinet, and that as his policy is not yet published, the public are most anxious to hear it. But now a misfortune has befallen him, and the Popular Party are struck dumb with disappointment. The *Jiyu* concludes a brief leader with an expression of sincere hope that the Count will take the utmost care of his wounds, so as to be able soon to appear before the Popular Party, and fight them stoutly, the end in view being the real attainment of constitutional government.

The *Kaishin-to* organs, the *Hochi*, the *Mainichi*, and the *Yomiuri*, all express very similar opinions. They hope that the Count will soon recover, and enter the lists against their Party. The *Mainichi* adds that as the Count's wounds are on his head, the other Ministers of State ought not to weary his brain with political consultations.

MARRIAGE OF MISS C. RICE.

IN a quiet and unostentatious manner, but amid the best wishes of everybody in the slightest degree known to or connected with the bride and bridegroom, were celebrated on Wednesday (St. Andrew's Day), in Christ Church, the nuptials of Miss Clara Edwina Rice and Mr. W. Wallace Campbell. The happy young bride, who so recently came to the "crossing of the stream where womanhood and childhood meet," is the third daughter of Mr. G. E. Rice. She is well known as one of our most charming vocalists—one who has never begrudged the services of her voice at any of our local concerts and entertainments, whether for charity or the public weal. Miss Rice is also the champion lady tennis-player of Yokohama. Mr. Campbell, the bridegroom, is deservedly popular for his genial *bonhomie*, and in the world of aquatics—both on and in the water—has gained for himself no inconsiderable niche as a successful athlete. Mr. E. W. Tilden was best man, and the bride was accompanied by her sister. As the party left the altar the Wedding March was played by Miss Wilcox, and rendered in such a spirited manner as is seldom heard in Yokohama. Many tangible proofs of the warm appreciation in which the young couple are held, graced the gift-table within the last few days.

CONCERT AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

THE capacious hall of the Academy of Music was filled on the afternoon of the 27th ult. by an audience that greatly enjoyed the entertainment provided for them, and evinced their appreciation of the excellence of the performances by hearty and prolonged plaudits. The concert was given under the auspices of the *Tokyo Ongaku-gakko Gakuyukai* (Society of Lovers of Music, members of the Tokyo Academy of Music) and under the management of Mr. Muruoka, Director of the Academy, and of Mr. Dietrich, instructor in the institution. Every number of the programme was admirably rendered. It is hard to say which was enjoyed most among all the well selected pieces given. Special mention must, however, be made of No. 2 Part II., in which Professor Dietrich took the piano and two young ladies played the violin parts. This was the most ambitious piece for the violin hitherto ventured upon by any of the pupils of the Academy in public. The accuracy and feeling with which the two young ladies played, justified their undertaking such difficult music and won them a recall. Their performance was at once a treat and a surprise. The progress that these lady artistes have made is really astonishing. The audience consisted mainly of Japanese. They enthusiastically ap-

plauded the *Koto* playing and certainly it merited an ovation. The last piece on the programme was most beautiful and effective and received full justice from each and every one of the performers. Composed three hundred and fifty years ago, it is sublime enough to live for centuries to come. Thanks are due to the Director of the Academy, to Mr. Dietrich and to the members of the Society for a most enjoyable afternoon, and we congratulate them heartily upon their successful concert. But we may be permitted to suggest to the Director that something be done to improve the ventilation of the hall, for the experience of the 27th instant clearly demonstrated the need of improvement. Below we reproduce the programme:—

- PART I.
- Chorus in unison with Piano:
 - "Lorelei" (Hirafuruyama) Slicher.
 - "Ich hatt' einen Kameraden" (Ryōyū wo omon). Slicher.
 - Clarinet-Solo:
 - "Larghetto from a quintet" Mozart.
 - Koto with Violin:
 - "Saigyō" Yamato.
 - Piano-Solo:
 - "Concert-Mazurka" Scharwenka.
 - Chorus a capella:
 - "Night, O Sacred night" (Aki no Yo) Chwatal.
 - "Und schliefst du" (Kakusha sohatsu) Jensen.
 - Violins with Piano:
 - "Gavotte" Sitt.
 - "Waltz" Sitt.
- PART II.
- Organ-Duet:
 - "Funeral March" Chopin.
 - "March" Schubert.
 - Violin with Piano:
 - "Fantasia from Wagner's 'Tannhäuser'" Jansa.
 - Chorus with Piano:
 - "Waldestille" (Sancho Yukan) Boenicke.
 - "Zigeunerleben" (Satzumaga) Schumann.
 - Japanese Popular Koto-Music:
 - "Matsukunushi" Matsushima.
 - Piano: (for six hands)
 - "Andante from the Sinfonia with the Kettle-Drum's Stroke" Haydn.
 - "Turkish March" Mozart.
 - Violins with Piano:
 - "Siciliano" Handel-Hellmesberger.
 - Chorus with Violins, Cellos, Clarinet, Organs and Piano:
 - "Old Nethandish Festival Song" (Kogei no Uta) Lassus-Kremer.
- Words by Mr. Kurukawa.

THE "JIYU-TO" AND THE FIFTEENTH NATIONAL BANK.

It is reported that the *Jiyu-to* have determined to propose that the surplus accumulated in the Treasury be applied to repaying the debt due by the Government to the Fifteenth National Bank on account of funds lent by the latter at the time of the Satsuma Rebellion. The amount of the debt is 10,000,000 yen. It is further stated that the *Kaishin-to* has adopted the same programme, and that the Domei Club has promised to support the proposal. Under such circumstances the measure will probably pass the Lower House; but as to how it will fare in the Upper House there is much uncertainty. Be that as it may, the view taken by the *Jiyu-to* is that though the Fifteenth Bank was established for commercial purposes, it is organized by nobles, who have a special duty to consider—their moral obligation towards the country. Though the original agreement was to repay the loan in 1897, the present financial condition of the nation is not favourable to such a course. Whatever may have been the circumstances at the time when the loan was contracted, the Government cannot now afford to pay such a high interest for money as 7½ per cent. Hence, though the stipulated time for repayment has not yet arrived, the Bank should not refuse to receive the money at once. On the other hand, the chief shareholders of the Bank declare that they acknowledge no such moral obligation; that they intend to make the Government fulfil the original agreement, and that in case repayment is offered, they will absolutely refuse to accept it. Besides, the sum lent by the Bank was fifteen million yen at the outset, and the rate of interest was only 5 per cent., it being a condition of the loan that no payment by instalment should be made. But in 1883 the Government paid back 5,000,000 in contravention of the agreement, the return made to the Bank for this concession being that the rate of interest on the remaining sum should be 7½ per cent. and that it should stand

out until 1897. The Government has no right to violate the contract then made, merely because there happens to be money in the Treasury available to discharge the debt at once. Party politicians ignorant of the facts of the case, clamour for a measure which suits their own purposes, but the Bank will take no notice of their outcry.

Apart from this question of repayment, we find a statement of the Bank's position given by the vernacular press. The paid up capital of the bank is sixteen million yen, out of which a sum of 10,000,000 yen is in the form of a loan to the Government, six millions remaining in the possession of the Bank. Much difficulty is said to be experienced in employing the latter sum profitably. The Directors have purchased a large number of the Japan Railway Company's shares; and are now projecting the construction of a harbour at Kominato. The plain fact is that they are much embarrassed to find investments for the funds they hold now, and if a further sum of ten million yen were suddenly transferred to them by the Government, they would be wholly unable to employ it. Hence, they cannot possibly comply with the proposal of the Popular Party. The *Kokkai* publishes the above account on the authority of a broker whose name is not given.

The sympathy of the public can scarcely fail to be with the Bank in this matter. The question is not one of mere financial expediency. An agreement has been made by the State and every principle of honour requires that its terms should be observed. There has been no instance of a breach of faith on the part of the Meiji Government up to the present. Every one of its engagements has been punctually fulfilled. The consequence is that Japan's national credit stands very high, a result of incalculable value to her. But since the Diet came into existence, a tendency has been distinctly displayed by party politicians to play fast and loose with public obligations. In the first session, serious talk was heard about cutting down the subsidy which the State has pledged itself to pay to the Japan Mail Steamship Company for a fixed term of years, and now the *Fuyu-to* and *Kaishin-to* are said to contemplate a deliberate violation of the contract with the Fifteenth National Bank. We trust that the leaders of the two parties will set their faces steadily against such a suicidal policy. Nothing could be more fatal to the nation's credit than such displays of indifference to solemn engagements. The few thousands annually which might be gained by breaking faith with the Fifteenth National Bank would not weigh a grain of sand against the immense injury that Japan would suffer were the world persuaded that her legislators are without any sufficient sense of the binding nature of a contract. Moreover, lightly as party politicians talk now of the nation's violating its promise to the Nobles' Bank, it should not be forgotten that the assistance which the Bank rendered to the State at a most critical time deserves treatment very different from that now said to be contemplated. Honour and gratitude are opposed to the *Fuyu-to*'s project.

LOSS OF THE "CHISHIMA KAN."

A TELEGRAPHIC message despatched from Matsuyama in the Iyo Province on the 30th ult. at 1.45 p.m., has brought the startling intelligence of the total loss of the Japanese new war-vessel, *Chishima Kan*, which left Nagasaki on the 28th for Kobe en route to Tokyo. About 5 o'clock on Wednesday morning, when off the shore of Horie-mura, in the Wake District of Iyo, she was run into by the British steamer *Ravenna*, and immediately went to the bottom. Out of the crew of 90, only 16 persons, including Lieut. Kaburagi, Acting Commander of the ship, and Lieut. Tsuchiyama, 13 seamen, and a French employé were saved, the remaining 74, it is feared, being all drowned. Another message from Kobe reports that the *Maya Kan*, *Musashi Kan*, and *Katsuragi Kan* have left for the spot. On the receipt

of the intelligence of the loss of the *Chishima*, Viscount Niire, Minister of State for the Navy, proceeded at once to the Palace, and reported the incident to His Majesty the Emperor.

The *Chishima* was a despatch-vessel of 750 tons, 5,000 horse power, and carried a complement of 3 guns. She was built in France, and was to have been attached to the Sasebo Admiralty station on her arrival in Japan.

It was known in Yokohama next day that the catastrophe had occurred, but few knew of the sad loss of life attendant upon it. The *Ravenna* is at anchor at Oriye, near Kurishima, having sustained serious injuries to her bows. The steamer *Ancona*, which left Nagasaki yesterday, is carrying materials for repairs sufficient to allow of the *Ravenna* to proceed to Nagasaki to dock.

The loss of life by the sinking of H.I.J.M.'s ship *Chishima Kan* adds another heavy item to the list of casualties for which this winter is unhappily memorable. It was at first reported that sixteen lives had been saved, but a later telegram says that out of a total complement of 82 officers and men, 73 were lost and only 7 escaped. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, gives the number on board as 90, and reports that 13 Japanese together with a French engineer who had been sent out by the constructors, were saved. The fact that the *Ravenna* managed to transfer her passengers to the *Empress of Japan*, which was passing at the time, whereas 76 out of 90 lost their lives in the *Chishima* will probably provoke some comment. But pending accurate details of the catastrophe, no inference of any kind is warrantable. We may be quite sure, however, that no effort was wanting on the part of either the *Ravenna* or the *Empress of Japan* to succour the crew of the war-ship. The *Ravenna* herself was too severely injured to render any effective aid. Her officers had to think first of the safety of those under their immediate care. The time of the accident was 4.58 a.m., many hours after the setting of the moon. Doubtless the scene was enveloped in complete darkness, and as the *Chishima* is reported to have sunk immediately, it is probable that even though the *Ravenna* had been able to lower boats immediately, a number of lives would have been lost. The most likely theory is that the *Empress of Japan* passed the place some time after the *Chishima* had gone to the bottom, and when there was no longer any possibility of succouring the crew of the latter. The *Chishima* was not insured, we understand. Delivery had been taken of her in France, and she was brought out at Japanese risk, being regarded as a unit of the Navy from the moment of her transfer to Japanese possession. She cost from seven to eight hundred thousand yen, so that, even from the point of view of pecuniary loss, the catastrophe hits Japan heavily. Truly there seems to be an evil genius presiding over the destiny of Japanese vessels built in France. The mysterious fate of the *Unbi Kan* is still fresh in our recollection, and now the *Chishima Kan* also has gone to the bottom. These are the only two ships, if we remember aright, lost by the Japanese Navy during the Meiji era. The *Chishima Kan* was ordered in November, 1887. We do not understand how it happens that a small vessel, whose construction did not offer any special difficulty and was not complicated by any novelty of design should have taken five years to come into possession of the Government for which she was built.

We received the following from the P. & O. Agent at this port Thursday night:—

1st December, 1892.

The Captain of the *Ravenna* telegraphs that he proposes to start for Nagasaki to-night after communicating with the *Ancona*, proceeding slowly.

The collision bulkhead is holding on, and da-

mage in the bow is being repaired as well as possible, and no cargo is damaged.

All hands in *Ravenna* quite well. Sixteen of the crew of the *Chishima* saved by the boats of the *Ravenna* and landed at Horiye, including the Commander and Engineer.

The latest news about the terrible collision by which the *Chishima Kan* was sunk is that the *Ravenna* ran full into her boilers and that an explosion immediately ensued, which tore the *Chishima* in two and sent her to the bottom in a moment. It is probable that a large number of those who lost their lives were fatally wounded, if not killed outright, at the moment of collision. Report says that all the rescued had been injured more or less severely. If this version be correct, the extent of the catastrophe is immediately accounted for.

MR. DE STRUVE.

THE *Washington Post* has the following reference to the departure from Washington of Mr. C. de Struve, who formerly represented Russia in Japan, and who seems to have become as great a favourite in the States as he was in this country:—

Within the next few days Mr. Charles de Struve, long time minister of Russia to the American Capital, will embark for Europe. He has been transferred from Washington to the Hague, and thus, after many years of residence here, after forming innumerable ties of sympathy and friendship, he leaves us to begin anew in a far-off land the formation of new associations.

It was known some months ago that such a change had been ordained, and *The Post* at that time gave utterance to what it then believed, to be the popular feeling of regret. Mr. de Struve has surrounded himself here with an affection and esteem such as few official sojourners to Washington, whether foreign or native, have ever enjoyed before or are likely to enjoy hereafter. Americans have for more than a quarter of a century cherished the warmest and most grateful recollection of Russia's unselfish loyalty to their country in the hour of its darkest need. Any representative of Russia coming here, therefore, must needs find a nation and a people prepared in advance to welcome him with genuine warmth. But Mr. de Struve has nursed that abstract predilection into something far finer—something much more real and tangible. He has not only given vitality and substance to the attachment already subsisting between the countries, but he has won for himself the personal respect and confidence of all with whom he had even the most casual contact.

We may mention here, without any impropriety, we trust, that the bereavement which has just befallen the Republic in the death of Mrs. Harrison prevented the consummation of a formal compliment to Mr. de Struve, the like of which, we think, no foreign envoy to Washington has ever experienced. Only a week or two ago some friends of his, members of the Metropolitan Club, of which he is a member, conceived the idea of tendering him a farewell dinner. The project soon took shape, and though its scheme included no one outside the club or within the ranks of the diplomatic corps, it was at once subscribed to by more than seventy gentlemen—all that the great banquetting-room of the establishment could possibly accommodate. Among Mr. de Struve's hosts were numbered Cabinet officers, judges, high officials of the Army and Navy, leaders in social and artistic circles, and citizens of every rank and class. It was not a perfunctory, it was a spontaneous and heartfelt demonstration to the kindly, courteous, and genuine gentleman whom all held in such affectionate esteem, and whose departure all regretted so profoundly. The time had been fixed for Wednesday evening, the 28th, the preparations had all been completed, and only the calamity already referred to prevented the realization of a demonstration without precedent in the history of Washington.

Mr. de Struve sails, we understand, within the next few days. We can but add that he takes with him the best wishes of all who knew him here for his welfare and his happiness wherever he may be.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

THE composition of the Budget Committee in the House of Representatives, as elected on the 30th ultimo, is remarkable. But of the 45 members, 29 belong to the *Fuyu-to* and its affiliated parties; 10 belonging to the *Kaishin-to*, and only 6 can be counted as probable supporters of the Government. It is no longer possible, however, to predict the nature of a Committee's Report merely by determining the political party to which the majority of its members belong. The ten *Kaishin-to* Committee-men may be confidently expected to vote for large reductions of the ordinary expenditures, but the action of the *Fuyu-to* is uncertain, and evidently they command the situation.

A NEW TRIBUNAL.

It will be observed that among the Bills presented by the Government to the House of Peers, there is one providing for the establishment of a new tribunal, to be called *Kengen Sagt Saibapsho*, or tribunal for determining

Original from

questions relating to limits of competence. It is stated that a draft of law in this sense was projected by the Government before the opening of the first session, but that it has only now reached completion. The object of the new Court, so far as we can perceive, is to adjudicate upon questions of jurisdictional competence which arise between the Administrative Court, the ordinary Law Courts, and the heads of the Executive. Questions of this nature have hitherto been referred to the Privy Council, but the need of a special tribunal to determine them is said to be much felt.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE GOVERNMENT'S
DECLARATION OF POLICY.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* fails to discern in the speech delivered by Count Inouye, as acting Minister President, any enunciation of the administrative policy of the Government. The only impression left by the speech on the Progressionist organ's mind is that the Cabinet purposes to purchase the support of the Popular party to its Navy Bill by promising a reassessment of the taxable value of land. That is merely a strategic device which the Cabinet intends to employ in its combat with the Diet, and can hardly be called administrative policy. The *Hochi* is strongly opposed to the method which the Government proposes to pursue in making up the deficiency of revenue caused by the reassessment of the taxable value of land. The Popular party, it declares, will never consent to reassessment, unless the funds required for the reform are supplied by reductions in the ordinary expenditures of the Government. In conclusion, the Progressionist organ regrets that none of the leaders of the Popular party took the trouble to announce their opposition to the acting Premier's speech, which our contemporary describes as "nothing less than a declaration of war on the part of the Ministry." The *Hochi's* article is short, but breathes from beginning to end a tone of fearless defiance.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* reserves to a future occasion its comments upon the details of the Declaration of Policy. But in a cursory review the philo-Progressionist journal observes that the Premier's plan of reassessing the taxable value of land indicates the Cabinet's readiness to comply with the wishes of the Popular Party. Therefore, the latter are heartily congratulated upon a signal victory. But the *Yomiuri* calls attention, on the one hand, to the uncertainty attending the fate of the Reassessment Bill in the House of Peers; and, on the other, to the fact that, besides the particular reform in question, there remain several others of equal importance which have not yet received the assent of the Cabinet. It recommends politicians of the Popular party to moderate their exultation over the partial victory they have just obtained.

The *Yiyu*, the Radical organ, writes in a perplexing strain. Apparently it shrinks from speaking out its whole mind. Having expressed much disappointment and regret because of the Premier's inability to announce the Cabinet's policy in person, it extends its dissatisfaction to the Acting Minister President's speech, on the ground that he did not show more oratorical talent by expounding the Government's policy in his own words, instead of reading from a document prepared by his chief. With the so-called "general policy to be pursued by the Government," the Radical organ is entirely at one, for there is no Party that does not aim at the promotion of the people's welfare and the elevation of the country's prestige. Then proceeding to the next passage wherein the Cabinet's intention is declared to carry out administrative reforms and remove obstacles from the path of the country's progress, the *Yiyu* observes that here it gets a glimpse of the administrative policy of the present Ministry. It finds that policy, thus enunciated, very good, but doubts whether the past conduct of the Cabinet is in conformity with its present declared intention. This doubt is founded on the Government's inability or unwillingness to deal radically and satisfactorily with the question

of official interference in elections. Passing to the Minister President's caution that administrative reforms must inevitably be carried out by degrees, the Radical organ professes to detect "a crafty stratagem" of the Government. "You reserve," says the *Yiyu* in effect, "the execution of your promise of reform to a future date, and yet you endeavour to induce the Popular Party to assist you in carrying out your administrative measures. Surely, that is not quite fair on your part." As to the practical questions of the increase of the Navy, the Revision of Treaties, the reassessment of the taxable value of land, and the improvement of river courses and embankments, the *Yiyu* disappoints its readers by abruptly refusing to make any comments whatever. "The attitude of our Party, towards these matters," it writes, "has already been fixed, but we do not consider it desirable to hazard any hasty remarks." With respect to the concluding passage of the speech, which emphasizes the duty of both Government and people to do their utmost "to complete the great work of the Restoration," the *Yiyu* does not hesitate to express unstinted applause of the Premier's statesman-like language. But the question, it remarks, is how the desired end shall be accomplished, and divergence of opinion as to practical methods is the starting point for all political discussions. The Radical organ, however, carefully abstains from declaring how far it differs from the Cabinet with regard to the practical measures proposed by the latter. It concludes with a hope that the Popular Party may ere long have the satisfaction of crossing weapons directly with Count Ito, the Minister President of State.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, like the *Yomiuri*, seems to be afraid that the Popular party, elated by the success it has achieved on the question of reassessment, may too readily bend its knee to the Government. Even on this question, the Government, remarks our contemporary, is not prepared to go far enough, for the extreme section of the Popular party desires to have the tax reduced by more than 6 million yen. As to administrative reforms, the philo-Progressionist journal is entirely dissatisfied with the cautious manner in which the Cabinet proposes to carry them out. For the rest, the acting Minister President's speech is criticized as vague and colourless.

The *Yiji Shimpō* discusses the Declaration in a practical spirit. First, it expresses unreserved approval of the proposed construction of war-vessels, for, while refusing to give precedence to either the Army or the Navy, it believes in the pressing importance of increasing the latter. Secondly, the acting Premier's allusion to the question of Treaty Revision is criticized as insipid and vague. But the *Yiji* reposes confidence in the ability of the present Ministers of State to grapple with this difficult problem in a satisfactory manner. Thirdly, the *Yiji* is strongly opposed to the proposed reassessment of the taxable value of land. Reassessment, in whatever manner carried out, will serve, in our contemporary's opinion, to create fresh inequalities. Fourthly, as to riparian improvements, the *Yiji* approves the position taken by the Cabinet, and expresses a hope that the plan of the work will be so arranged as to prevent the recurrence of the mistakes too often incidental to engineering operations undertaken by preceding Ministries.

Nichi Nichi Shimbun praises the discretion and prudence shown by the Cabinet in keeping silence about its policy until the meeting of the Diet, and refers to the similar caution displayed by the present British Ministry, which refrains from divulging its views pending the meeting of Parliament. The principal features of the administrative policy are, in our contemporary's opinion, increase of the Navy and reassessment of the taxable value of land. The *Nichi Nichi* is ready to approve the proposed increase of the Navy. It has, indeed, been strongly urging the same measure upon the Government for a long time. But the suc-

cess of this important step depends upon its financial aspects, concerning which nothing has as yet been said by the Cabinet. The *Nichi Nichi* hopes that the whole scheme may be unfolded ere long. With regard to reassessment, our contemporary though not opposed to the measure in itself, is strongly inclined to doubt whether the present is a proper time for carrying it out. The constant opening of new facilities of transport is just now causing great changes in market prices throughout the country, and under these circumstances, there is ground to be sceptical as to the success of the reform which the Ministry proposes to carry out in the short space of 12 months. The *Nichi Nichi* fails to understand why the Cabinet has decided to take up this measure at the present moment, unless, indeed, the hands of Ministers have been forced by the persistent clamour of party politicians. The question of reassessment is in Japan, though on a smaller scale, what the Irish question is in English politics. All sound legislation is virtually impossible unless the problem be disposed of one way or the other. Perhaps this circumstance may have had weight in the councils of the Ministers of the Crown. Thus considered, the Reassessment Bill become intelligible only when viewed in connection with the Navy Bill. The Ministry will doubtless strongly insist on the acceptance of both measures at the same time. But in the event of the Diet's consenting to one and rejecting the other, will the Cabinet be strong enough to advise the sovereign to withhold sanction from a Bill introduced by itself? The *Nichi Nichi* answers this query by sincerely regretting that, instead of stooping to an inconvenient compromise, the Ministry did not map out for itself a manly and independent course of policy.

The *Choya Shimbun* is the only paper that approves the Declaration of Policy in its entirety. It specially applauds the Cabinet's intention to rise above the level of party politics and devote its whole energy to the development of national resources and the raising of the national prestige.

THE "JIYU-TO" AND THE "KAISHIN-TO."
A GENERAL meeting of the *Jiyu-to* was held on the 27th instant, for the purpose of considering the policy to be adopted towards the *Kaishin-to* in consequence of the ill-feeling which has grown out of Mr. Shimada Saburo's speech. After considerable discussion the following two resolutions were adopted:—

1. To cease, henceforward, the friendly intercourse hitherto held with the *Kaishin-to*, and to convey an intimation in that sense to the latter.
2. To continue the connection hitherto existing with the *Kaishin-to* in respect of political questions.

These resolutions are in accordance with public anticipation. The Radicals, though indignant against the Progressionists, do not propose to carry their indignation to the length of a political rupture. But when one Party has openly resolved to abstain from friendly intercourse with another, and has officially informed that other of the fact, efficient coöperation between the two for any purpose is not easy to conceive.

THE NEW "ULYSSES."

THE Ocean Steamship Company's new steamer *Ulysses* arrived here yesterday morning, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 25th ult., from Liverpool on her maiden voyage to the Orient. The vessel is one of four sister ships which the well-known line have just built, two of which have not yet left the hands of Messrs. Scott & Co. of Greenock. They are steamers of a type quite new to the "Blue-funnel" Company and are likely to do great service in the Eastern trade. The *Ulysses* is 3,000 tons register, 356 feet length over all, 42 feet 6 in. beam, 30 feet depth, and has a nominal horse-power of 2,000. She is fitted with triple expansion engines and has a cargo carrying capacity of about 6,000 tons. Though essentially a cargo steamer she has excellent though limited cabin accommodation, and has proved herself on the run out to be a speedy and comfortable ship. The officers speak in terms of high satisfaction of her performance, as she made the passage out from Liver-

pool to Singapore in 30 days and the run up from the latter port to Hongkong in 5 days 16 hours. This new departure of the Company is likely to prove a successful and popular one, and we can only hope that the *Ulysses* will not be pursued by the evil fortune which has already overtaken two of the Company's steamers christened with that name.

A DAYLIGHT BURGLAR.

A cool and enterprising Japanese robber yesterday, at midday, selected as the scene of his exploit a Japanese house located in the compound of a business establishment in Main Street. Probably finding the outer gate ajar, he entered the yard and surveyed the prospect. He saw the housewife busily preparing the *hiru-gosen* at an outside kitchen, with her back turned toward him and three yards away from the house door which lay between them. Gently he entered the house and slid the *shoji* home, so as to cover his presence. Then his practised eye went a-roving in search of the most portable, and at the same time valuable, articles within reach. The clock—an attraction whose fascination no Japanese thief can resist—caught his fancy, and he quickly “lifted” it. Time pressed, or the mistress in the yard made a noise, as if returning to her domicile, for the house-breaker was content with this “swag” and forthwith made good his retreat. In passing through the gate he stumbled, and thus drew attention, but alas it was too late, for when the housewife and her nearest neighbours had reached the street they saw but the semblance of a fleeting heel disappearing round the corner into Biwa-cho.

SIR CECIL CLEMENTI SMITH.

The London correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press*, writing on the 14th ult., says:—“It is stated here, with what amount of truth I am unable to determine, that Sir Cecil Clementi Smith is desirous of being relieved of his duties as Governor of the Straits Settlements. What is more, Sir Clementi, it is declared, obstinately persists in resigning, notwithstanding that the Colonial Office has pressed him to remain, and the question is—will this resignation end his Colonial career? It is thought that after Singapore Sir Cecil would not accept any less onerous appointment than the Governorship of a first-class Colony.”

THE IMPERIAL NAVAL COLLEGE AT NANKING.

DR. FRYER writes as follows on the Imperial Naval College at Nanking, his report being reproduced in the columns of the *North China Daily News*:—

Sirs,—At your request I have examined the students of the First Divisions of the Navigation and Engineering branches on the different subjects in which they have been under instruction.

In handing you the list of names with the number of marks and order of merit, allow me to offer my congratulations upon the satisfactory results that have been achieved.

Considering that the College was only commenced two years ago, that it has been carried on under many difficulties and disadvantages, and that the present regular system of management was organised only in June last, the general progress that has been made is remarkable. It evinces in an unmistakable manner the excellence of the administration, the efficiency and assiduity of the foreign professors and native teachers, and the perseverance and natural abilities of the students. While these essential conditions are continued, it is easy to predict for the College an increasingly prosperous and useful career in the regular supply of well educated and intelligent officers for the Imperial Navy.

Glancing through the list of marks, it will be seen at once that those subjects which depend chiefly on the use of mathematics have received particular care and attention. Indeed, the acquirements of many of the students in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, navigation, nautical astronomy, etc., are unusual, and considerably beyond what might have been expected under the same circumstances from average English youths. But when it is further remembered that all their instruction has been imparted to them in a foreign language, and that all their examination papers were written under the same disadvantage, their attainments in these branches are not only extraordinary but are deserving of the highest commendation.

It is noticeable, however, that although some few can read, write, and speak English fairly well, the average attainment in this particular is perhaps hardly

so high as it ought to be, seeing that this language has been made the basis upon which their entire professional education rests. I would therefore venture to suggest that a higher standard of proficiency in the practical use of the English language should at once be aimed at; because the further the students advance in their courses the more will this necessity make itself felt.

The assistance rendered in this examination by Professors Penniell and Hearson in looking over the papers on their special subjects has been considerable, and deserves my grateful acknowledgment.

The general arrangement and regulations of the College, as well as order and discipline that prevail, it must be impossible for me to praise too highly. The kindness and courtesy extended to me by yourselves and every one connected with the establishment have combined to render this visit one of unmixed pleasure and gratification, and call for my warmest thanks.

I remain, Sirs, your obedient servant,

JOHN FRYER.

H.E. KURI, Commissioner.

H.E. SHUN, Director.
Imperial Naval College,
Nanking October, 27th 1892.

“BERI-BERI” ABROAD.

GREAT alarm was caused in New York, recently by the arrival of a ship, the *H.B. Cann*, with *beri-beri* aboard. The ship, after reporting off quarantine in New York, sailed out to Norfolk, Va., where besides two deaths, the first mate and seven men are said to be sick from the disease. As this disease is unknown in America the authorities are greatly perplexed, and, being told that it is a “contagious and fatal disease,” have put the ship in quarantine and keep close watch over all things and persons passing to and fro. The ship is laden with sugar and tea, 150 days out from Japan, from whence it is supposed the disease has been imported.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT, theatrical critic, says the *London and China Express*, has decided to forsake London during the next twelve months in pursuit of a long-cherished wish to make *le tour du monde*. In some measure his loss will be compensated by the series of letters which Mr. Scott has undertaken to supply descriptive of his journeyings. During these, Egypt, India, China, Japan, America, and the Chicago Exhibition are to be visited, and in each instance vividly described.

DISEASE IN SPRINKLED STREETS.

DR. KOCH, the world renowned bacillist, recently stated that the sprinkling of streets in time of cholera epidemic is injurious, as the moisture is conducive to the growth of the bacilli. He has not yet stated his opinion with reference to the effect street sprinkling would have on other infectious diseases.

A LONG RIDE.

A RUSSIAN traveller, Prince Wyasemsky, has arrived at Bangkok from Bangpail, where he has been for a day or two the guest of the King of Siam. The Prince travelled overland from Peking on horseback coming *via* Indo-China and the Mekong.

MARRIAGE OF AN IMPERIAL PRINCE.

THE *Official Gazette* announces the marriage of His Imperial Highness Prince Kuninori with Lady Yoshiko, eldest daughter of Marquis Daigo. Prince Kuninori is the son and heir of H.I.H. Prince Kuni, and is now in his twenty-sixth year.

THE MEXICAN MINISTER.

WE are glad to be able to state that the Mexican Minister, who has been suffering for some days from severe indisposition, is now mending rapidly, and has recovered sufficiently to be able to leave his bed.

MR. CLARK THORNHILL.

PAPERS received by the mail of Oct. 21st state that Mr. T. B. Clark Thornhill, Secretary to the British Legation in Portugal, was seriously ill with typhus fever at Oporto.

THE MINISTER PRESIDENT'S POST.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR has ordered Count Inouye to discharge the duties of Minister President of State during the indisposition of Count Ito.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING WEEK.

The Diet is now absorbing the attention of the metropolitan press. As yet it is impossible to make any positive forecast of the position which the Opposition will ultimately assume towards the Cabinet. From the election of the Chairman of the Committee of the whole House, as well as of the members of the Budget and other Committees, it is certain that the Radicals are arbiters of the situation. But the policy of the Radicals is shrouded in more or less obscurity, and even the organs of the Popular party refrain from indulging in any wild exultation over its apparent victory. What is clear beyond doubt about the present situation, as the *Choya Shimbun* observes, is that the extreme section of the Popular party, namely, the section pledged to a policy of wanton opposition to the Ministry, has been left out in the cold by a majority of politicians who now advocate the importance of pursuing a constructive course of policy. The *Choya* even holds out hope that the Radicals, who make up the bulk of the converts to the last-mentioned policy, and the National Unionists, who have followed such a policy from the beginning, may approach each other gradually until they unite together in firm alliance. Whether such a prospect is destined to be realized or not, is more than we can venture to foretell. But certainly there is little appearance of strong antipathy between the leaders of the two parties, and it is just possible that they may coöperate on certain questions.

The difficulty occasioned between the Radicals and the Progressionists by the speech of Mr. Shimada has ended very unsatisfactorily. The Radicals have plainly told the Progressionists that hereafter there shall be no friendly intercourse between them as political bodies. The Progressionist papers are doing all they can to soothe the wounded feelings of their former allies, but is not likely that the latter will easily forget the incident. Mr. Shimada has written a long article in the *Mainichi Shimbun* over his signature, trying to explain away the invidious inferences suggested by his speech. The attempt seems to be a failure, if indeed it has not aggravated the situation. Mr. Shimada pretends to congratulate himself on the “happy results” of the negotiations that have lately been going on between his Party and the *Jiyu-to* about “the misunderstanding” of his speech by the latter. What he states in two columns of his article may be reduced to a declaration that, although he criticized those who had substituted a constructive for a destructive policy, he did not intend to direct his criticism against any party in particular, there being many outside the *Jiyu-to* who advocate a similar policy. He even insinuates that, if the Radicals regard the allusion as directed against them solely and principally, so much the worse for them, since criticism is very often apt to hit just where it is most appropriate.

Of all the *Kaishin-to* journals, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* shows itself most indefatigable in recommending the Radicals and the Progressionists to be reconciled. The Progressionist organs know very well that, without the alliance of the Radicals, their Party will be nowhere, but most of them cannot speak out so plainly as the *Yomiuri*, because the latter claims to be an independent organ of the Popular Party. Its editor being an unequivocal Progressionist, the rôle assumed by his journal is evidently nominal, but still the *Yomiuri* can sometimes afford to give plain advice to both the *Kaishin-to* and the *Jiyu-to*. It will not do, says our contemporary, for the Progressionists to be on bad terms with the Radicals; but the latter ought not to place too much confidence in their numerical strength. Whether or not the Popular party will be able to attain its object in the present session of the Diet, depends upon the degree of cohesion maintained between its different sections. Petty quarrels like the one now going on between the Radicals and the Progressionists, are extremely dangerous, for they afford a unique opportunity to the artful

and ever vigilant opponents of the Popular Party to sow seeds of discord between the different branches of the Opposition.

The independent journals are inclined to reprove the conduct of the Radical leaders in connection with the above affairs. The Radicals are charged with being childish and unheroic since they allow themselves to be offended by such a trifling matter. But these journals forget, or fail to see, that the present difficulty between the two parties is the result of a long series of antecedent events. Mr. Shimada's speech only gave occasion for the pent-up umbrage of the Radicals to burst out. The rank and file of the two parties in provincial districts have been fighting each other all the while.

The comments of the vernacular press on the acting Minister President's Declaration of Policy illustrate the old adage that it is difficult to please everybody. The *Kaishin-to* organs are utterly opposed to the policy, and threaten that the Popular Party, namely the section composed of the Progressionists, will reject even the Re-assessment Bill. It is evident that the Progressionists will neither receive nor give quarter in their campaign against the Government. The position assumed by the Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, is very peculiar. It is neither disposed to approve nor prepared to condemn the Government's policy in any decided manner. Its hesitation to commit itself to any definite line is very significant. What attitude the Radicals will ultimately assume, no one ventures to predict, but it is very likely that most of them may be found willing to approve the Reassessment, and the Navy Bills, with certain modifications. At all events, such appears to be opinion of the *Kokumin Shimbun* and *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which manifest special anxiety lest the Popular Party be caught by the tempting bait offered by the Cabinet. The Independent journals, as well as the pro-Government, with the exception of the *Choya Shimbun*, are decidedly unfavourable to the Reassessment Bill, though they heartily approve the increase of the Navy.

The reception of the Budget by the Opposition press is not encouraging. The *Kaishin-to* organs maintain that, if the members of the Popular Party are at all consistent, they will not pass the Budget without introducing large reductions in its items. The *Jiyu-to* papers have not yet delivered their opinion on the subject. Everything now depends upon the position taken by that Party, for more than one half of the Budget Committee is made up of its members. The question is how far the implacable politicians of the Progressionist camp will be able to influence the Radicals. Under any circumstances there is little hope that the Budget will pass the House of Representatives in its original form. Its passage through the House of Peers will probably be easy enough, because there the majority are decidedly favourable to the present Ministry. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, pretends not to be altogether without hope of the Upper House's independence. The Peers, in our contemporary's opinion, are not on the whole subservient to the Cabinet, they are simply misled by crafty old officials who sit among them. They will before long find out their mistake, and then their exalted position and independent circumstances will make them true to the duties of their posts. Otherwise they are threatened with the vengeance of the whole people; a terrible menace, indeed, as though the Peers themselves formed no part of the nation.

The Hokkaido question engages public attention more and more. It is an old problem; nearly a hundred years of age. The eyes of the Japanese nation were first directed to the Northern Island in the beginning of the present century. But hitherto, as the *Nippon* remarks, the military side of the question alone has occupied public attention. Now, however, men are beginning to realize the vast extent of the natural resources of the island. Various associations were recently established for purposes

of investigation, while a number of the prominent citizens of the island have just arrived in Tokyo to present a petition to the Diet for the speedy development of the island by constructing railways and carriage-roads throughout its length and breadth. The *Nippon* strongly condemns the want of definite purpose in the administrative policy of the Government with respect to Hokkaido, and censures the Diet also for extreme indifference to the opening of the northern island. The Radicals have tried to get Local Assemblies established in Hokkaido. But this plan is pronounced impractical by the *Nippon*, which, while sympathizing with the Hokkaido folks now in the capital for the purpose of petitioning the Diet, refrains from expressing any opinion as to the feasibility of the plan proposed by them. Our contemporary is disposed to support the scheme of certain Peers who are going to move in the Upper House for the appointment of a Committee of Investigation to study the subject thoroughly.

The *Kokkai* is of nearly the same opinion as the last mentioned journal. It recommends the creation of a Council somewhat after the model of the Railway Council, the members to be drawn from both Houses of the Diet as well as from the principal inhabitants of Hokkaido. The Council would be placed under the control of the Minister President or the Minister of Home Affairs.

The disorderly conduct of several Local Assemblies, is receiving serious notice from the independent papers of the capital. Reports are pouring in from various localities. They plainly indicate that the agitation about official interference in elections, which long since spent its force in the metropolis, has found its way into provincial districts. Votes of want of confidence in Governors, Secretaries, and even Councillors, are now the order of the day. The *Nippon* has shown most commendable zeal in collecting news about the doings of the Local Assemblies, and presents to its readers a vivid picture of the lamentable state of things now prevailing in many places. Local Assemblies, observes our contemporary, are vying with one another to copy the conduct of the Imperial Diet, so much so that party politicians in the capital are easily able to vent their spleen upon the local authorities through the medium of these Assemblies. The same journal severely criticizes the Local Assemblies for neglecting their proper duties, and sacrificing the interests of the people of their localities by allowing themselves to be used as instruments of crafty party politicians.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also strongly condemns the foolish behaviour of members of Local Assemblies, who devote the limited time at their disposal to rendering aid to wire-pullers in the capital. In several localities, Governors have been forced to dissolve the Local Assemblies, while in others it will be necessary to veto indiscriminate reductions voted in the Estimates. Considering that the root of the evil lies with the Opposition members of the Diet, the *Nichi Nichi* reminds the latter of the serious consequences to which their inconsiderate example has led. As they themselves have already awakened to the importance of turning attention to a more profitable task than that of attacking the official class, they are earnestly recommended to correct the follies of their tools in the Local Assemblies.

The unfortunate accident that befell Count Ito on the 27th ultimo has elicited universal expressions of sorrow and regret from papers of all parties and factions. It is a noteworthy fact that the Opposition organs unanimously express their genuine disappointment at the consequent inability of the Minister President to attend the Diet for a considerable length of time.

The fatal collision of the newly arrived war vessel *Chishima Kan* with the British steamer *Ravenna*, is a subject of profound lamentation and regret. The papers are making strong appeals to public charity in behalf of the unfortunate families of the deceased officers and crew.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the current month, quiet has reigned in the press on all sides. Some of the leaders have spoken, but not on the vital topics of the day. The period seems to be one in which much is going on below the surface. Many opportunities have been afforded for that private exchange of views which must always precede the settlement of important questions. Assemblies of all sorts have been held. Among the Buddhists has occurred the general meeting of the Shingon sect, as well as a meeting of representatives from all sects to discuss the invitation for delegates to the World's Fair at Chicago. The important question was whether one or two delegates should be chosen to represent Japanese Buddhism as a whole, or whether each sect should send its own delegate. The meeting adopted by a large majority the latter plan. Doubtless, a plan which afforded a score of persons, and not merely to one or two, the opportunity of seeing the marvellous world of the West, would naturally possess greater attractions; but probably the chief motive was the unwillingness of each sect to commit its interests to the hands of any other. Unity of work and organization is one of the great topics of the day for both Buddhism and Christianity in Japan; but of the former it may be said that it is at present engaged in overcoming the vast inertia of a body at rest, while the latter has already passed this stage and is now occupied in increasing the momentum of a motion already perceptibly begun. The Annual Conference of the *Nihon Kirisuto Kyokwai* (Presbyterian) was held in Osaka, beginning November 2nd. This body, as is well known, is strongest here in the Eastern regions (the *Kumiai Kyokwai* being strongest towards the West), and the meetings of the former have usually been held in Tokyo, those of the latter in Osaka or Kyoto. This time they have reversed their practice, the former meeting now in Osaka, the latter next spring in Tokyo. After Mr. Ibuka's opening address on "Unity of Spirit," came the discussion of various topics, among them being "Evangelical Work," "Christian Education," "The Maintenance of the Church's Progress," "Theological Schools," and "The Mission to Korea." There has been also a District Conference of the *Kumiai* churches (Congregational) in Kyushu; a District Conference of the *Kumiai* churches of the Middle Provinces; and a report of the Evangelical Alliance (*Den-do-kwai*).

The assembly of the Shingon sect is the third of its kind during *Meiji*, and may perhaps be the last. The first came in *Meiji* 17, and the second in *Meiji* 19 (1886), when the present constitution was adopted. On the recent occasion everything seemed favourable at first. Scores of letters and proposals were laid before it, all tending to the end of abandoning a negative, defensive attitude, and taking up a positive, progressive attitude, in study as well as in propagandism. But the amendment of the constitution was the rock on which the assembly literally split. A certain article now reads: "Every *honsan* (chief temple) may manage all affairs under its jurisdiction without consultation with the lesser temples of the jurisdiction." A proposal was made to amend this as follows: "Every *honsan* shall manage all affairs under its jurisdiction, with the advice and consent of the lesser temples of the jurisdiction." This amendment was rejected, after much discussion; whereupon the defeated ones retired from the assembly, which subsequently dissolved without completing the work before it. A writer in a Shingon journal reproves those who are responsible for this dissension; they laughed, he says, at their brethren of the Sodo sect, when the Sodo assembly was rent with dissension, and now they find themselves equally culpable.

The leaders of Buddhism are represented by Mr. Otani, in his series of lectures on "Ethics" (*Bukkyo*) and by Mr. Nakanishi Goro, who gives a "Criticism of Religion on its Literary

Side" (*Dento*). Mr. Nakanishi evidently finds it necessary to emphasize the fact that he has not apostatized, after all, for we find him fervently praising the high qualities of Buddhist religious literature as compared with Christian. The former, in the first place, has more than 700 times the volume of the latter. Furthermore, in literary style it is not to be surpassed by any religious literature in the world. It has brilliant gems of dramatic, descriptive, and poetical form; and among them are works which stand above Plato's Dialogues, David's Psalms, Milton's Paradise Lost, and Shakspeare's plays. Mr. Otani's lectures are to be historical in form, and in this second instalment he takes up the Greek philosophy, runs over the list of names, beginning with Thales, and proceeds to dwell on the work of Socrates. Another series of articles showing research in Western philosophy is entitled "The Nature and Origin of Religion" (*Bukkyo*), and reviews the opinions of Hume, Constant, Waitz, Reinhardt, and others, as a preliminary to a discussion of the subject.

More or less is to be found every month on the subject of the Buddhist priesthood. A writer in *Bukkyo* names three prominent failings, — (1) idleness and inactivity, (2) immorality, (3) disloyalty to the faith. To-day is witnessing sad results for Buddhism, and they may be traced back to the faults of the priests. Especial inroads have been made upon Buddhism by the Unitarian faith. This differs in many points from orthodox Christianity, and comes closer to Buddhism. Many among the youth of to-day, though they do not care at all for Orthodoxy, are much attracted by Unitarianism, which shows how this faith suits the Japanese mind. We welcome it, because it opens the path to Buddhism; but the fact remains that by our idleness and sloth we are letting our own noble doctrine suffer defeat in the contest of religions. In the *Bukkyo Koron*, in the article on "The Future of the Priesthood," we are told that, though progress is the law of nature, the rule does not seem to apply to the *bosus*. Their mission is to exercise an uplifting influence on the laymen; but they cannot do this while there is, as now, a great gulf fixed between priests and people. The Christian ministers are more secular than the *bosus*, and among Christians, the Protestant more so than the Catholic. Our Buddhist priests must take note of this and must draw nearer to the people by becoming more secular in their ways. In the same journal, another writer complains that the younger priests of his sect (*Jodo*) laugh at the methods of the older generation, instead of aiding them with friendly assistance to strike out in better paths. In *Dogaku* (Shingon sect), is an article on "The Decay of Morality," the evil tendencies of the time are lamented, and the blame is attributed to the priesthood, who fail to check vice and to set an example of activity in good works. Another writer compares the Buddhist doctrine to a great capital-stock, with Shaka as the head of the house and the priests his clerks, and warns them that if the people have no confidence in the clerks, then no purchasers will come to the store.

We have more than once quoted extracts indicating that in Buddhist doctrine (as well as in Christian) there is a tendency to rationalize the accepted notions of Heaven and Hell. Two instances are afforded this month. In the *Hana no Sono* we find a specimen of Mr. Kato's peculiar Socratic preaching, and the subject dealt with is "The Aim of Buddhism." "Why," he asks, "do you believe in Buddhism? Why do you visit the temple? Is it that you may be rewarded by Buddha? That you may reach Heaven or avoid Hell? And this Heaven,—is it a place where houses last forever, where the sun always shines, and where nobody works and everybody has plenty of food and clothes? Is this your idea? If so, you are indeed of a gross and selfish nature. Truly such a Heaven is little better than a fine hotel." In *Bukkyo* an article on "Hell" begins by describing the temptations and sins that befall men in their youth, when they are

headstrong and self-willed. But this wickedness brings its own unhappiness. Death comes finally, and it is then that the recollection rushes over these men of the deeds done in the flesh, and his self-confidence disappears and remorse and inquietude take its place. This is the end of the hell of this world, and the entrance on the hell of the next.

The Buddhist press no longer teems with denunciation of Christianity; but once in a while the text is revived, that Christians are by their creed prevented from being patriots and loyal subjects. In the *Gokoku* (successor to *Dampo*), the special champion of patriotic religion (outside of Shintoist journals), we find a sermon on this text, in which the Popular Party comes in for a share of blame, on the ground that it has tried to mix religion and politics in connection with the Kumamoto school affair. Another article in the same journal, entitled "The Foundation of the Country," begins by postulating that the said foundation is Buddhism, and then goes on to ask a searching question concerning the Christian missionaries who have come here. Why, it says, have they left their own country, where there are still multitudes who do not profess to be Christians? The answer is that they find Christianity no longer advancing there, as must be the case in every nation of a high degree of civilization, and they go elsewhere in the hope of perpetuating its influence amid the more suitable surroundings of semi-civilizations. In ranking Japan among such nations they err greatly. Many Buddhists are, however, in danger of being trapped; for they think that if they became Christians they will get plenty of money and be able to perform miracles. This is a great mistake. These people cannot teach how to perform miracles; and they no longer spend money for converts and for helping the poor. They used to; but the times have changed.

In the *Fucho Shinshi* (Shinto) we find an article to the same purpose. There is a proverb, the writer says, that a man may build a house, but his grandson will sell it. The thought is that the man's son sees and remembers the labour of his father, and, when the father dies, the son keeps the family property intact, and amasses new wealth. But the grandson, never knowing the toil of the grandfather and never trained to work for himself, dissipates the patrimony and sells the homestead. This is what we have done to the heritage of our country. Forgetting or never learning the history of Jimmu Tenno's labours in the conquest of the country and the foundation of the empire, we turn to the history of foreign lands and condemn our own. Nay, more, we give our adherence to a religion which teaches that a man Christ is greater than our Emperor. Christianity is a cult taking its rise in a distant corner of Asia Minor, and has no connection with our country. For us the Emperor should be the living God, the living protector.

In the *Jiyu Kiristokyo Zasshi* (Universalist) Mr. Yoshimura writes on "Immoral Newspapers and Magazines." Some of these journals are full of indecent writings. Others make a specialty of personal gossip, selecting the peculiarity of some individual, magnifying, distorting, and ridiculing it in the most sensational manner. Mr. Yoshimura is not afraid to specify the offending journals, and names several of them. Mr. Yamada writes in timely fashion on "Enterprise and Stability." Many times have Japanese Christians established schools for the poor. But these charities have not always lasted. Started in an impulse of sympathy and benevolence, their promoters have lacked perseverance, and this quality they must cultivate in carrying out their undertakings.

In the *Rikugo Zasshi* (Congregational) Mr. Yokoi writes in a scholarly way on "The Prophet Jeremiah," describing his services to the Jewish nation. Mr. Miyake discusses "The

Development of the Idea of God." His essay is good reading; but it seems to follow closely the lines of Mr. Fiske's "Ideas of God." A review of Mr. Schmiedel's "Inspiration" confines itself to an exposition of the author's ideas, and avoids committing the critic to definite views. A correspondent indorses Mr. Asada's views, published last month, on the need of a revision of the Japanese translation of the Bible. It strikes us that these suggestions would have been much more seasonable if they had been made (and apparently they could have been) before the beginning of the expensive undertaking just completed,—the printing of the Romanized version of the Bible in Yokohama. Is it not a little inconsiderate to come in after its completion and proclaim the defects of the present translation?

The *Fukui Shimpo* (Presbyterian) prints Mr. Ibuka's address on "Unity of Spirit" at the *Kumiai* (Presbyterian) Conference. He refers to the formation of this single body out of six independent organizations; hopes that those who have been brought up amid the individualities of each separate creed will accommodate themselves to the broader tenets of the united body; and lays it down that toleration is the secret of unity. A writer on "Japanese Literature" exhorts his countrymen to pay more attention to their own literature. In purity and beauty of thought it surpasses, he thinks, anything they can find in Western literature. In the *Inochi* (Presbyterian) is an essay on "Individualism in Religions." Noting the contrasted types of individualism and socialism, the writer points out that, though the stage of socialistic development has been reached in the West, the essential phase of individualism has not yet been passed in Japan. What is still needed is earnest independent work by each Christian on his own account. In another number the complaint is raised, in some remarks addressed to "Teachers in Theological Schools," that many students, when they come to graduate, proclaim at the Commencement exercises, "I do not believe in the Divinity of Christ," and then go over to Unitarianism, evading in this way their pledge to preach for the church that has educated them. Such persons should never have been received at all. It is of no use to educate enemies, to give swords to robbers, and teachers should be more careful in this respect.

In the *Shinri* (German) we find this month no articles of Japanese authorship. The *Shukyo* (Unitarian) offers two well-known names on its list, those of Principal Inouye Enryo and of Mr. Ko Yeizo. The former takes as a subject, "Is there a Materialist Religion?" All true religions teach the immortality of the soul. But we find a compelling set of doctrines known as Materialism. It denies, however, that the soul is immortal. To this we cannot accord the name of religion. No one doubts that in a certain sense Materialism has rendered great services to religion, namely, by stimulating true religion to greater efforts, by leading an attack which could be repelled only by great exertions. But none the less is it true that Materialism is to-day the enemy; and the only great enemy, of religion. Christianity and Buddhism have alike to meet and defeat this powerful foe. Mr. Ko Yeizo writes on "Unitarianism as a Reconciling Influence in Japanese Religion." There are to-day in Japan four different religions, all struggling for mastery; they fall easily into two groups, however, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Confucianism on the one side, and Christianity on the other. Among these, who shall be the peacemaker, the reconciling influence? Unitarianism alone. In the eye of this faith there is but one religion. All the various sects and cults are but the different manifestations of the one universal religious spirit. Their source and their aims are the same in all. Paradise, *Gokurakuji* (Buddhist Heaven), *Takamagameadow* (Shinto), *Seiyeki* (Confucian),—what are these but different expressions for the same idea? The enemy of a religion is not any of its fellow religions. The real and only enemy of religion is Materialism.

Original from

THE CODES.

WE have already published a *résumé* of the opinions expressed by the vernacular press on the subject of the Bill for the postponement of the Civil and Commercial Codes. This matter has evidently cost the Government much thought and probably not a little perplexity, as well indeed it might, for no question of greater importance has occupied official attention since the commencement of the *Meiji* era. The Codes, against the immediate operation of which the Diet recorded its vote by a considerable majority last session, had been in process of compilation for fully fifteen years. They represented the outcome of the best expert labour that the resources of the State could command, and the necessity for their enactment was universally acknowledged. As to this latter point, there can be no second opinion. For though, at one time, the barristers of the English School and their following opposed the idea of codification altogether, their objection has long since been over-ruled by a general conviction that the nation's civilization will remain confessedly on a low level until a body of intelligible laws adapted to the country's modern requirements and in accord with the principles of Western jurisprudence, has been enacted and put into operation. Hence the Diet, while agreeing to postpone the operation of the Codes for a term of four years, was careful to make it quite clear that the object of postponement was not repeal but revision, and we now find the journalistic advocates of postponement declaring, in the least equivocal terms, that the speedy operation of the Codes stands second in point of importance to their revision only. On the other hand, the experience of foreign countries has shown that to postpone the operation of a Code of laws for the purpose of revision, means, in effect, to relegate it to a hermetically sealed pigeon-hole. If this experience be applicable to Japan's case, the decision of the Diet, if carried into effect, signifies that Japan must be content to remain for probably two or three decades longer without any satisfactory or sufficient body of Civil and Commercial laws. Therefore, the situation in which the present Government found itself when it came into office three months ago, was exceedingly difficult. The easiest and simplest course would have been to accept the decision of the Diet at once, and thus to transfer to the shoulders of the people's representatives all the responsibility of indefinitely interrupting the progress of useful legislation. But men like Count ITO and Count INOUE, who have directed, and for the most part inspired, Japan's modern development, were not likely to be satisfied with such a time-serving rôle. They themselves, as is well known, were not less persuaded than any member of the Diet of the necessity of revising the Codes.

But they were still more firmly persuaded of the necessity of equipping the country with a proper body of civil laws, since these constitute, in truth, the real basis of personal liberty. To many critics it has seemed that the best way to solve the problem would have been to give immediate effect to the Diet's Bill, and to take speedy steps for the revision of the Codes. But it is very conceivable that the Ministers of the Crown may have acted wisely in judging differently. It is now asserted that the deliberation shown by the very statesmen publicly known to favour revision, has served to make perfectly clear their resolve to ensure the final operation of the Codes, and not to allow postponement to be perverted into virtual rejection. The problem was one of immense gravity, and it may be assumed that all persons genuinely interested in Japan's welfare will sympathise with the difficulties her statesmen have had to encounter in solving it. The Cabinet has afforded its enemies an opportunity to accuse it of vacillation, and they have taken full advantage of the chance. Not honest advantage, indeed, for the principal *Kaishin-to* organ, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, with characteristic but suicidal anxiety to impart the worst possible complexion to every act of the Government, deliberately charges Count ITO with having changed his opinion three times during the past three months, whereas it is certain that for three years Count ITO has never wavered in his conviction that further revision of the Codes must precede their operation. But criticisms so obviously suggested by malice injure no one except their formulator. The Government unquestionably has laid itself open to a charge of hesitation. If valid reasons for its delay existed, the time has probably not yet come to publish them. The general, and apparently well founded, belief at present is that an official Bill will be presented to the Diet this session providing for the immediate operation of certain Sections of the Commercial Code, namely, the Sections relating to Companies, to Bills of Exchange, Promissary Notes and Cheques, and to Bankruptcy. Laws dealing with these subjects are sorely needed, and it seems likely that the Diet will pass such a Bill. The object of the Government in recently appointing the Committee of Investigation which caused such a commotion, is now clear: it was to obtain an expression of expert and political opinion as to the possibility of dividing the Codes in the above sense. One of the *Kaishin-to* organs does not hesitate to allege that the original intention of the Committee's appointment was to obtain a pretext for recommending the SOVEREIGN to withhold his Sanction from the Bill, but that notion is flatly contradicted by the clear explanations which Count ITO himself gave at the time. It will have been observed, also, that the *Shogyo Shimpô* regards as contrary to the express terms of the Diet's decision any

attempt to enforce the Codes piecemeal. We are wholly at a loss to comprehend such a contention, in view of the rider added to the Diet's Bill at the last moment—namely, that effect might be given to each portion of the Codes simultaneously with its revision and prior to the date of general postponement.

One satisfactory feature of the vernacular journals' comments is that they have abandoned the wild accusation perferred by some of them at the time of the appointment of the Investigation Committee; the accusation, namely, that the Cabinet contemplated keeping the Diet's Bill from the SOVEREIGN'S ken. It is scarcely conceivable how such a phantasy could be gravely asserted, for even supposing that the Constitution could be deliberately flouted by the Ministers of the Crown to the extent of virtually substituting their own sanction or veto for that of the Throne, the EMPEROR himself, as we pointed out at the time, takes far too keen an interest in, and has much too close a knowledge of, the great administrative problems of his realm to allow himself to be thus ignored. The suggestion was in reality an insult to the SOVEREIGN not to the Cabinet, and it is interesting to observe that the very journals which formulated it a month ago, now admit, either directly or by implication, that there never could have been any question as to submitting the Bill to the EMPEROR, and that nothing admitted of doubt except the time at which it should be submitted within the Constitutional limits, namely, between the date of its passage and the opening of the next session of the Diet.

It is impossible not to express the keenest regret that the postponement of the Codes has become an accomplished fact. Their operation is not only absolutely necessary in view of the radically altered conditions of civil, commercial, and industrial life in Japan, but would also mark a solid and conspicuous step of national progress. If any Japanese desires to gauge foreign opinion on this point, he has only to note that the very foreigners who habitually sneer at the Diet and its doings, have, in this instance, insisted most loudly on the inviolability of the Diet's decision; and that the very foreigners who persistently vilify Japan and implacably oppose Treaty Revision, are now most vehement in their congratulations that the Postponement Bill has been sanctioned. This is a small matter, but it is not a small matter that a distinctly retrogressive step has had to be taken in deference to an outburst of opinion, partly political, largely reactionary, and only fractionally sound.

JUSTICE ILLUSTRATED BY JOURNALISTIC METHODS.

IT is a common trick with certain local newspapers in Japan, when conducting against the *Japan Mail* the crusade which appears to be their easiest means of filling their columns, to attribute to this journal opinions which we never by any possibility could have held, and assertions diametrically the contrary of those really made by us. Needless to add that these imaginary views and statements are always calculated to represent us as fighting against the interests of our own countrymen or advocating some procedure hostile to foreigners generally. It seldom seems worth while to notice such unprincipled and dishonest tactics, but a recent case is too flagrant to be passed in silence. In August last, the *Hyogo News* undertook to prove that Japanese judges are wholly incompetent to administer justice, and that the Japanese people are "utterly incapable of grasping the ideas of Westerns with regard to what constitutes justice." In support of these sweeping assertions it adduced various examples from recent procedure in Japanese Law Courts; among other the case of Mr. ST. JOHN BROWNE, who had failed to obtain a judgment in the matter of a lease. We had already joined issue with the Japanese Court's view in this instance, but as the circumstances did not seem to warrant such an extreme inference as that drawn by the *Hyogo News*, we made the following comments:—

The third basis of the *Hyogo News'* condemnation is a recent decision of a Japanese tribunal that a perpetual lease on unchanging terms cannot be recognised by law. At the time when this verdict was rendered, we expressed strong disapproval of it, because, in the absence of any definite legal enactment to the contrary the plain terms of a contract ought, in our opinion, to be enforced by the Courts.

But it is none the less certain that the highest school of Western jurists decline to admit the propriety of perpetual leases. The new Civil Code, compiled from the best materials furnished by the Occident, does not recognise such leases, and makes special provision for converting into terminable contracts any obligation of the kind that may be in existence at the time of the Code's going into operation. The Court, in the absence of a written law, took the guidance of Japanese custom, and in so doing we cannot but think that it erred. As to the principle at stake, however, the indisputable fact is that the future law of the land, a law strictly in accord with Western jurisprudence, was anticipated, though harshly applied, by the Court. Evidently there is no ground here for alleging that "Japanese Judges have not the slightest idea of what Westerns consider justice."

We have italicized portions of the above in order to give prominence to the fact that we were strongly opposed to the ruling of the Japanese Court. Nothing could be plainer than our language. It admitted of no doubt whatever. August, however, is three months ago, and few persons remember the contents of a journal so accurately as to be able to correct a courageously falsified version three months later. Accordingly, we have the *Hyogo News* now writing thus:—

Some time since we had occasion in these columns to comment strongly on the injustice of the Japanese Courts whereby a perpetual lease was nullified. This was enough to rouse the ire of our warlike opponent, and we were freely taunted with absolute ignorance of all things Japanese. It was in vain that we urged that these perpetual leases were granted by the Government, and that irrespective of any precedent they must

on that ground alone be held valid. They were against all custom, said the Mail, and although, perhaps, it was somewhat unsatisfactory that a contract should be broken, still "no distinction between Japanese and foreigners was made," and "custom was held to be opposed to the demand preferred by the foreign lessor." "The Court, in the absence of a written law, took the guidance of Japanese custom." Here we have a very positive assertion that according to custom there was no such thing in existence in Japan as a perpetual lease. We have it in black and white on the Mail's own authority.

Then, having quoted some paragraphs from a series of articles on "New Laws and Old Customs" at present appearing in these columns, to show that perpetual tenancy was not unknown in old Japan, the *Hyogo News* concludes thus:—

In view of such a clear exposition as this, the judgment in Mr. St. John Browne's case seems iniquitous, and not the combined sophistries of a thousand Mail editors, all equally opposed to foreign rights, can make such a decision seem just.

Again we have used italics to make clear the position which the *Hyogo News* falsely assigns to us. It deliberately represents us as having concurred in the justice of the Japanese Court's judgment, whereas our words were that we "expressed strong disapproval of the judgment," that we thought "the plain terms of the contract should have been enforced by the Court," and that we were of opinion that "the Court had erred in taking the guidance of Japanese custom in the absence of written law." As to whether such things as perpetual leases had or had not existed at any time in Japan, we said nothing. The general custom of the country has always, we believe, been opposed to such leases, though they were granted under exceptional circumstances. At any rate, the Court's decision was based upon alleged custom, and while pronouncing it an erroneous decision, in our opinion, we declined to be so grossly prejudiced as to deduce from such a decision the inference that Japanese Judges are wholly incompetent to administer justice. Be the question of custom as it may, however, the point is that we were strongly opposed to the Court's verdict, and that we expressed our dissent in the plainest terms. Yet, now, the *Hyogo News* deliberately represents us as having been "roused to ire" in defence of the Court's action, and as having, in our "opposition to foreign rights," essayed a number of "sophistries" to make the decision seem just." Evidently no language admissible in the columns of this journal can adequately describe the conduct of a newspaper so unprincipled and so indifferent to the commonest rules of truth as the framer of these slanders. The *Hyogo News* must have had our article of last August before it when it wrote. It cannot plead the pretence of forgetfulness for it actually quotes, in inverted commas, sentences or portions of sentences, used in the article. Indeed, these very quotations show the daring fraudulence of its methods; for whereas we wrote, "the Court, in the absence of a written law, took the guidance of Japanese custom, and in so doing we cannot but think that it erred," the *Hyogo News* cuts off the words italicised and

makes us say simply "the Court, in the absence of a written law, took the guidance of Japanese custom." With our article before it then, with our unequivocal condemnation of the Court's verdict staring it in the face, the *Hyogo News* has deliberately resorted to the imposition of quoting fractions of our sentences in order to diametrically pervert the meaning of the whole, and in mendacious language of its own has falsely attributed to us views the very opposite of those we expressed in the simplest and plainest terms. Such falsehood and imposture may be the last resource at the command of the *Hyogo News*, but they must also mark the last notice it shall receive in these columns.

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECLARATION OF POLICY.

THE first day of actual deliberation in the House of Representatives was December 1st. Immediately after the various secretarial announcements which precede the Order of the Day, Count INOUE, Minister of State for Home Affairs, ascended the rostrum, and in his capacity of acting Minister President, made a declaration of the policy of the Cabinet. It was a written declaration, compiled by the Minister President, Count ITO, who could not himself attend on account of the injuries he received on the 27th instant. Count INOUE, though he occupies such a prominent place among the statesmen of the Meiji era, had never before stood in the rostrum of the House of Representatives, and apart from the great interest attaching to the matter of his speech, there was evidently much curiosity to see how he would bear himself. From the first, however, it was plain that neither the exceptionally responsible position in which he found himself nor the novelty of his surroundings, affected him at all inconveniently. The remarks with which he prefaced and supplemented the reading of the Declaration, were delivered with perfect self-possession, and the reading of the long document was marked by clear and emphatic elocution. Nevertheless, the vicarious element of the proceeding furnished opportunity to discontented members, one of whom showed sufficient pettiness to raise a point of order as to whether a Minister of State is entitled to read documents aloud in the House. There is a provision of the Standing Orders which forbids members to read out arguments or statements of opinion, and the cavilling member would fain have extended this prohibition to the case of a Minister of State reading a declaration of Cabinet policy written by the Minister President. This singularly childish objection was emphatically over-ruled by the President of the House, who pointed out that the plain purpose of the Standing Orders was to prevent members from reading out their speeches, and that it would be extravagant

to apply the interdict to the case of a Cabinet Minister commissioned to deliver a statement of policy on behalf of a Minister President who had been disabled by an accident. The House applauded this ruling, and laughed very heartily at another member of diminutive stature but vast cholera, who delivered himself of some shouting and puffing protests against the difficulty of comprehending a written declaration read aloud from the rostrum, and who betrayed an obstinate resolve to think that only boys in a primary school ought to be instructed in such a manner. Mr. INOUE KAKUGORO, with polite irony, reminded people of impatient understanding that they would have ample opportunity to peruse the Declaration that evening in the Stenographic Records, and to air their criticisms of it on the following day, but this did not deter the persistent Mr. TANAKA SHOZO from delivering himself of a brief diatribe, in the course of which he worked round to his inevitable red rag, Count GOTO, and simulated considerable excitement about trifles utterly out of place in the context of Count INOUE'S speech. The House, however, was in a laughing humour, and the vehement member for Tochigi descended from the rostrum amid a burst of merriment provoked by a particularly unhappy *lapsus linguae* in his peroration. Under these circumstances of more or less confusion, Mr. WATANABE, Minister of State for Finance, ascended the rostrum, and in his wonted tranquil yet impressive style of delivery, gave an interesting *exposé* of the Government's financial policy. Mr. WATANABE had a unique experience. Speaking as a Minister of State, he succeeded in eliciting the plaudits of the House. That is a record never before achieved by any member of the Cabinet. The success was not due in any sense to the fashion of his speech. He employed throughout language of the simplest and least pretentious character. The facts of the declaration were what pleased the members. They applauded vigorously when they heard that the Government intended to reassess the taxable value of land so as to lessen the burden of the Land Tax by 3½ million *yen*. They applauded the methods announced for meeting the deficiency thus caused in the income of the State. They applauded, also, when the Minister told them that the volume of exports had increased nearly 15 million *yen* since last year. Mr. WATANABE'S speech was certainly statesmanlike and well constructed. Among several striking facts which it contained, one will be found especially interesting by students of Japanese finance; namely, the remarkable achievement which stands to the credit of the Government in having gradually and smoothly reduced the whole volume of the national domestic debt from rates of interest varying between 6 and 8 per cent. to a uniform rate of 5 per cent. We call this a remarkable

achievement, and our readers will agree that the expression is not too strong. But of course the key-note of the whole speech, the chord which vibrated to the hearts of the *Fiyu-to*, was the announcement of a scheme for re-assessing the taxable valuation of land so as to reduce the volume of taxation by 3½ million *yen*. The *Fiyu-to* have the satisfaction of seeing the Government frankly adopt one of the two great fiscal measures for which they have so long been labouring.

With regard to the speech of the Acting Minister President of State, we reserve comments until our readers have had an opportunity of perusing it at leisure.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER.

THE official opening of the Diet having been fixed for the 29th instant, the Emperor left the Imperial Palace to proceed to the House of Peers at half-past ten on that morning. The procession, formed in accordance with the etiquette of a State ceremonial of the first order, reached the Diet at 10.45, where the Vice-President, Chief Secretary, and other Secretaries of the House of Peers, standing on the right hand side; and the President, Vice-President, Chief Secretary, and Secretaries of the House of Representatives on the left, received His Majesty with profound reverences. Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, performed the same office at the entrance hall, and the Emperor proceeded to the Imperial Waiting Room under his guidance. After a short interval, His Majesty, accompanied by the Princes of the Blood, and preceded by Marquis Nabeshima, passed to the Throne in the debating chamber of the House of Peers. Thereupon Count Inoue, Minister of State for Home Affairs, acting for Count Ito, Minister President of State, stepped forward, and with the usual obeisance handed a scroll to the Sovereign, who opened it and read as follows:—

We announce to the Members of Our House of Peers and of Our House of Representatives—
That We are pleased to perform in person the ceremony of opening the present session of the Imperial Diet:

That We have directed Our Ministers of State to submit for deliberation by the Diet the Budget for the twenty-sixth year of Meiji, together with various important projects of laws. It is Our hope that you will exert your utmost energy in the discharge of your public duties, always preserving harmony and unity among yourselves.

His Majesty is suffering from a cold which was doubtless aggravated by passing along the draughty passages of the building, for his voice, usually clear and sonorous, sounded husky and the reading of the Speech was interrupted by coughing. On its conclusion, Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, stepped forward to receive the scroll; and His Majesty left the Throne, setting out at 11.30 on his return journey to the Palace. In the Imperial suite were Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Viscount Hijikata, and Mr. Hanabusa, Minister and Vice-Minister respectively of the Imperial Household, Marquis Nabeshima, and Mr. Sannomiya, respectively Grand Master and Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies, and many other high officials.

After the official ceremony had been concluded, the House of Representatives met for the discharge of business. The following reply to the Speech from the Throne was agreed to, and the President was instructed to present it:

May it please Your Majesty:—
We, Your Majesty's servants, members of the House of Representatives, desire humbly to address Your Majesty.

Respectfully and with all deference, we beg to express our gratitude that Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to honour us with Your Majesty's presence for the purpose of performing the

ceremony of opening of the present session of the Imperial Diet, and that we have further been honoured by Your Majesty's gracious Speech. We, Your Majesty's servants, humbly assure Your Majesty that we shall seek, with all respect, to discharge our responsibilities of deliberation, trusting thereby to show our sense of Your Majesty's great benevolence, and to justify the trust reposed in us by the people of Your Majesty's realm. Thus worshipfully do we venture to present our humble reply.

The President then reported the various changes that had taken place in the *personnel* of the House during the recess, as well as the names of the officials appointed to discharge the duty of Government Delegates. The following list of Bills which have been presented by members was then read out:—

Names of Presenters.	Subject of Bill.
Mr. Ito Daihachi and others.....	Amendment of the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations.
Mr. Minoura Katauto and others.....	Amendment of the Press Regulations.
Mr. Kudo Kokan and others.....	Amendment of the Military Organization.
Mr. Amakasu Fumiye and others.....	Amendment of the Law for the Assessment of the Taxable Value of Land.
Mr. Sugita Tetsichi and others.....	Amendment of the Land Tax Regulations.
Mr. Kagami Kabei and others.....	Amendment of the Publications Regulations.
Mr. Node Shozaburo and others.....	Amendment of the Law No. 84 of the 33rd year of Meiji.
Mr. Node Shozaburo and others.....	Amendment of the Law of Registration.
Mr. Hatano Denzaburo and others.....	Amendment of the Land Tax Regulations.

The President then referred in sympathetic terms to the accident which had befallen Count Ito, the Minister President of State, and received the House's commission to address to His Excellency a message of condolence. The House rose at 11.45 a.m., the business for the following day having been announced to be the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 9.30 a.m. The President read out the draft of the House's Reply to the Speech from the Throne, as follows:—

May it please Your Majesty:—

We, Your Majesty's most loyal and faithful servants of the House of Peers desire humbly to address Your August and Enlightened Majesty. Your Majesty has been pleased to honour the Houses of the Diet with Your Majesty's presence for the purpose of performing the ceremony of opening the present session of the Imperial Diet, and has moreover condescended to address to us most benevolent words. We, Your Majesty's servants, will reverentially observe Your Majesty's august command, respectfully obey the provisions of the Great Constitution, and humbly preserve harmony and unity in the discharge of our public duties, to the end that we may be permitted, with all deference, to give utterance to our opinions for Your Majesty's wise consideration. Thus most worshipfully do we venture to present our humble reply to Your Majesty's benevolent speech.

The House approved this form and then proceeded to elect a Chairman of Committee of the Whole with the following results:—

Marquis Saionji	97 Votes
Prince Konoye	66 Votes

The President, meanwhile, had carried to the Palace the House's reply to the Speech from the Throne, and on his return reported that His Majesty, being ill, had deputed the Minister of the Imperial Household to represent him, and to transmit the following answer to the Peers reply:—

We approve the profound and earnest expression of Our House of Peers' loyalty.

The Chief Secretary then announced the receipt of the following:—

From the Government a Bill relating to the amendment of the Commercial Code, and of a part of the regulations for its enforcement, and to its enforcement.
Also, a Bill for the establishment of a Court to adjudicate questions as to limits of competence.

The House commissioned the President to make a visit of condolence to the Minister President of State on its behalf, and rose at 1.55 p.m., after electing the various Standing Committees.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m. The President announced that he had carried the House's

answer to the speech from the Throne to the Palace in the forenoon, but that the Emperor, being indisposed, had deputed the Minister of the Imperial Household to receive the document, His Majesty's reply being:—

We approve the profound and earnest expression of Our House of Representatives' loyalty.

The President announced that, as deputed by the House, he had proceeded to the residence of the Minister President, and enquired as to His Excellency's condition. Count Ito had been too unwell to receive him, but he had met Countess Ito, who had desired him to convey the thanks of the Minister President to the House, and to say that his injuries were rapidly mending. The election of the Chairman of Committee of the Whole was then proceeded with, the result being:—

Mr. Suzuki Shigetō	167
Mr. Watanabe Koki	101
Mr. Kono Hironaka	10
Mr. Abe Banko	5
Mr. Ando Kioka	1
Mr. Awaya Shimazo	1
Mr. Kusumoto Masataka	1

The House then proceeded to elect the standing Committees. The election took place by Sections, and the President announced a recess (2.15 p.m.) for the purpose. The results of the election were subsequently announced as follows:—

BUDGET COMMITTEE.

Mr. Minoura Katsuto	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Yamada Tōji	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Fukui Naokisli	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Ta Teikichi	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Kawashima Jun	Domei Club.
Mr. Hasegawa Tai	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Amakusa Fumiye	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Kato Masanosuke	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Katano Toshiro	Domei Club.
Mr. Sugita Teichi	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Nakanoji Yoheiji	Domei Club.
Mr. Takase Tōjiro	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Chiba Teitaro	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Shioji Hikoyemon	Kishu-ha.
Mr. Kawashima Uichiro	Domei Club.
Mr. Toyama To	Chuo Koshu-Kai.
Mr. Nagao Shiroyemon	Chuo Koshu-Kai.
Mr. Koto Kei	Kokumin Kyokai.
Mr. Takehiro Yoshimichi	Kokumin Kyokai.
Mr. Sugita Gengoro	Chuo Koshu-Kai.
Mr. Shiba Shiro	Min-to Mushosoku.
Mr. Ozaki Yukio	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Fujita Magoichi	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Iwazaki Manjiro	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Hashimoto Kiutaro	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Nakamura Yōroku	Domei Club.
Mr. Morino Tamegoro	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Kurata Jungoro	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Ishida Kwannosuke	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Kudo Kōkan	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Kono Hironaka	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Saito Keiji	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Shiota Okuzu	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Iungai Ki	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Hozumi Hisamieli	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Kusumoto Masataka	Domei Club.
Mr. Kaino Kōzō	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Hasebe Junko	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Takeichi Ansai	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Nakano Buyei	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Hayashida Tokuro	Domei Club.
Mr. Higashio Heitaro	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Okada Koroku	Fiyu-to.
Mr. Hatano Denzaburo	Kaishin-to.
Mr. Node Shozaburo	Fiyu-to.

The names of the Disciplinary and Petitions Committees were also announced. The Chief Secretary stated that the following had been received:—

- From Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi and others, a Question relating to materials for a Steel Foundry and experiments connected with the establishment of the same.
- From Mr. Kato Masanosuke and others, a Question relating to fishing by United States vessels at the Chishima Islands.
- Also, a Question relating to the management of sales of public land.
- Also, a Question relating to the granting of contracts for public works.
- Also, a Question relating to the taxation of marine products.
- From the Government, the Budget for the 26th year of Meiji, together with Estimates of Extraordinary Revenue and Expenditure for the same.

Also, a Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji.

Also, a Special Estimate of revenue and expenditure of the Imperial University and of the Upper Middle *Zoshikan* of Kagoshima for the 25th year of Meiji.

Also, an Estimate of Expenditures to be defrayed by the Treasury in consequence of agreements.

Also, a Barristers Law Bill.

Also, a Bill for the issue of Railway Bonds.

Also, a Bill relating to funds for the purchase of Railway Material.

From Mr. Inai Isoichiro, a Supplementary Bill relating to Weights and Measures.

From Mr. Motoda Hajime and others, a Bill relating to the Law of Public Meetings and Political Association, the Copyright Law and the Publication Law.

From Mr. Maki Bokushin, a Representation relating to funds for the Colonization of Hokkaido.

From Mr. Motoda Hajime, a Bill for amending the Organization of Law Courts.

From Mr. Sasaki Shozo and others, a Bill for amending the Law of Registration.

From Mr. Ooka Ikuzo and others, a Bill for the amendment of the Bailiffs Regulations.

From Mr. Kataoka Chokuan and others, a Bill relating to the transfer of Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m., the business for the 1st instant having been fixed as follows:

- (1) The First Reading of the Barristers Bill.
- (2) Election of a Special Committee to consider the same.
- (3) First Reading of the Government's Bill relating to the issue of Railway Bonds.
- (4) Election of a Special Committee to consider the same.
- (5) First Reading of the Government's Bill relating to funds for the purchase of Railway Material.
- (6) Election of a Special Committee to consider the same.

THURSDAY, 1ST DECEMBER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.05 p.m. The Chief Secretary announced the receipt of the following:—

From the Government, a Bill for the Special Amendment of the Taxable Value of Land.

Also, a Bill for Amending a Part of the Income Tax Regulations.

Also, a Bill for Amending a Part of the *Sake* Brewing Tax Regulations.

Also, a Bill for Amending the Supplementary *Sake* Brewing Tax Regulations.

Also, a Bill for Amending a Part of Law 24, issued in the 22nd year of Meiji.

Also, a Bill for Amending the Tobacco Tax Regulations.

Also, a Bill relating to the Capital of the Central Finance Relief Fund.

From Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro, a Question relating to Game Licenses.

From Mr. Tomonaga Shinzo and others, a Bill for the amendment of the System of Urban and Prefectural Government.

From Mr. Yumoto Yoshinori, a Representation relating to Works of Irrigation connected with the Three Great Rivers, Kiso, Yodo, and Tone.

From Mr. Horiyama Kanuo and others, a Barristers' Bill.

From Mr. Saito Ryosuke and others, a Representation relating to the Management of Government Forests and Moors.

From Mr. Tsunoda Shunpei and others, a Supplementary Bill relating to City Government, and a Bill for rescinding Law No. 22 of the 22nd year of Meiji.

The President announced that Mr. Kono Hironaka had been elected chairman of the Budget Committee, Mr. Nishikawa Giyen, Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, and Mr. Takata Sanaye, Chairman of the Petitions Committee.

The House having then proceeded to the

Order of the Day, Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, representing the Minister President of State, ascended the rostrum and said:—

GENTLEMEN,—I count it very happy that my official duties give me the opportunity of meeting you all here to-day. Under ordinary circumstances, the Minister President, Count Ito, would have appeared in your House and given an accurate explanation of the Government's policy, but owing to severe injuries received by him in an accident, on the 27th of last month, he is confined to his house, and his physicians consider that he will not be able to resume the duties of his office for 30 or 40 days. You have been so good as to direct that sympathetic inquiries about his condition should be made in your name, and I doubt not that you share our regret for his inability to appear here to-day. The Minister President has, however, committed to writing a statement of the Government's policy, and this, having been duly debated by the Cabinet, I shall now have the honour of reading to you:—

GENTLEMEN,—It is only a few months since, in obedience to the gracious command of our Sovereign,

we were invested with the grave responsibilities of Ministers of State; and we consider it a special honour that we are able, in the present session of the Diet, to lay before you, in our official capacity, the views we entertain with regard to the course of policy to be pursued hereafter by the Government. The general course of policy to be pursued by the Government will be, at home, to promote the improvement of the administrative machinery by bringing its operations into practical conformity with the provisions of the Constitution, and, on the one hand, to strengthen the foundations of the State in conformity with the great policy of the realm; on the other, to promote the welfare of the people by protecting their rights. Abroad, the Government aims at elevating the prestige of the country *vis-à-vis* the different Foreign Powers, and thereby attaining the great object contemplated by the nation. As to administrative reforms, to talk about them is easy; but to carry them out is a task of the greatest difficulty. But be the task ever so difficult, it must not be deferred, or executed in an incomplete manner. We are resolved unhesitatingly to remove every obstacle that blocks the path of national progress. The work of improving administrative affairs and setting them in order can not be carried out without carefully considering the future and remote consequences of the measures taken. Speedy attainment is therefore difficult; success must be achieved by degrees. It is scarcely necessary to say that the successful conduct of national affairs depends upon harmonious coöperation between Government and people. It is, gentlemen, our earnest hope that the Government's sincere intention will command your appreciation and sympathy. The many countries which, like stars, dot the surface of the globe, are competing with each other in the development of their internal resources and in the extension of their foreign trade and intercourse. Despite occasional collisions and disturbances, these countries, during recent years, have generally succeeded in preserving the forms of peace, and have endeavoured to cultivate mutual friendship. But if we look at the other aspect of the situation, we find every nation occupied with the solution of the problem how to defend itself, and taxing its resources to the utmost for the purpose of completing its military equipment. Since the first dawn of a historical era, the world has never seen such gigantic armaments as are now witnessed. A question of vital importance to Japan is her armament, and of her armament no part demands more urgent attention than the increase of the Navy. The increase of the Navy, as compared with the equipment of the Army, is attended with greater difficulties, owing to the very nature of the task, as well as to economical reasons. The condition of the country, however, is such that not a day should be lost in carrying out the work. Hence the Government, in the Budget for the coming year, has asked for large appropriations on account of the construction of war-vessels, it being thus hoped to accomplish the task in the course of the next few years. The Government cannot but hope that, in consideration of the general welfare of the country, you, gentlemen, will give your consent to these appropriations. As to foreign affairs, friendship and goodwill more than ever characterize Japan's relations with the Foreign Powers. It is scarcely necessary to state that, while endeavouring to carry out various reforms in internal administration, we are at the same time bound to prosecute one of our most cherished desires—the great work of Treaty Revision. But much caution is required in this matter, and in order to achieve the great object entertained ever since the Restoration, it is absolutely necessary above everything, to secure unanimity of national view on the subject. Stated in a few words, the principal purpose of Treaty Revision is to regain powers which a nation ought to possess, and to assume obligations which every independent State is bound to discharge. The Government, in view of the progress of the country, perceives the necessity of introducing certain economic changes in the burdens borne by the people; and proposes to lower the assessed value of the land under cultivation in whatever instances such valuation is disproportionately high. Inequalities in the assessed value of the land have not only been a subject of discussion among the people, but have also engaged the serious attention of the Government. In the sequel of careful investigations we are now in a position to carry out the desired reform. Very little practical hope can be entertained of the possibility of securing absolute equality in the assessed value of land throughout the whole country, because climatic conditions, facilities of intercourse and transport, fertility of soil, market prices, cost of labour, and the nature of the yield vary in different localities. But it is important that a uniform principle be applied in the case of localities

where, in consequence of abnormal inequalities in the assessed value of land, the people are unable to bear the burthen of the tax. In carrying out this reform, it must be remembered that, since it is impossible to cut down the expenses necessary to the maintenance of the State, a decrease of revenue in one direction must be compensated by an increase in another. That is to say, in view of the general condition of the national finance, the deficiency caused by the reform in question must inevitably be made good by an increase in some other source of revenue. With regard to the improvement of river courses and embankments, the amounts of money at present defrayed from the Treasury is inadequate to meet actual requirements. Consequently, works of this nature have hitherto been undertaken only with a view to the needs of the moment, and no permanent plan of operations extending over a number of years has been mapped out. A frequent result of such a state of affairs has been that works had no sooner been completed than they were demolished. It has, therefore, been found necessary to provide for the appropriation of a sufficient sum to meet the urgent needs of the country in this respect. As to details, they will be explained to you in due time by the Minister of State in whose province the matter lies. There is another topic to which your attention must be invited. That the Japanese nation has been from the earliest times distinguished for loyalty to the Sovereign, love of country, and devotion to public good, is amply proved in the brilliant pages of the Empire's history. But it is a source of surprise as well as of satisfaction, that in the short space of twenty odd years since the Restoration, the country has made strides of progress so large and has accomplished achievements so solid as to excite the profound admiration of all the nations of the world. The work which the State demands of us does not, however, end here. We must endeavour more and more to develop the resources of the country, to raise its prestige abroad, and thereby to complete the great work of the Restoration. You will scarcely find upon the map any country that can be compared with Japan in respect of the fact that her forty millions of loyal, public spirited, and brave inhabitants, have, in little more than twenty years, restored her prestige sufficiently to place her side by side with the great Powers of the world. Nothing can add to the happiness of us, the present generation, whose lot has been cast in an age of such splendour and glory. We must, then, make it our duty to assist in the progress of the country and in the elevation of its prestige. That in order to achieve these ends we must rely upon the harmonious co-operation of Government and people, has already been stated, but solicitude for the good of the country dictates that, once again, this vital point should be pressed upon the attention of you, gentlemen, loyal and public spirited members of the Diet. Gentlemen, the Imperial Diet is an institution for His Majesty the Emperor to hold consultation with his subjects on legislative matters, and you as the trusted representatives of the people are in a position to deliberate upon the various questions that concern the interest and safety of the country. We venture to invite your attention to such obvious facts, because a Legislative Assembly being indispensable in every constitutional country, is an object of universal interest, and the degree of its efficiency is the standard by which the country's prestige and power are judged. We deem it a great honour, let us repeat once more, that, in obedience to the gracious command of our August Sovereign, we have been able in the present session of the Diet to lay before you a general outline of the policy to be pursued by His Majesty's Government."

The above, gentlemen, is a statement of the administrative policy which the Government, with your mature consent, proposes to follow in order to achieve the smooth and satisfactory working of constitutional institutions. The Minister President will have the honour of coming before you so soon as his health is sufficiently restored, which I trust will be before long.

Mr. Kori Hoso objected to a written declaration of policy. He declared that he could not understand it, and called upon the Acting Minister President to tell them in plain language what the Government intended to do.

Mr. Takasu Minezo rose to a point of order. It was laid down in the 112th article of the Standing Orders that reading of documents from the rostrum could not be allowed. He wished to know whether this interdiction applied to members only, or whether Ministers of State also must observe it. In his opinion a Minister of State, from the time of ascending the rostrum, was bound to obey the rules of the House.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro passionately protested against having a long document read out to the House. It was impossible to follow the meaning. Such procedure was only suited to children in a primary school. The House received Mr. Shimizu's vehement denunciations with much laughter.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro had many questions to ask about the policy just declared by the Acting Minister President, but he reminded the members that they would have an opportunity of reading the Declaration in the Stenographic Records that evening, and of ventilating mature criticisms the next day. He exhorted them not to show a paltry spirit of cavilling *vis-à-vis* a Cabinet composed of the most eminent Statesmen of the Meiji era.

The President ruled that Standing Order No. 112 had reference only to members reading speeches prepared by themselves, and could not be applied to the case of a Minister of State who read aloud a declaration of the Minister President's policy, in the unavoidable absence of the latter.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo intended to run the risk of being censured for precipitancy by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, and to make some comments on such parts of the Declaration as had struck him. He observed that no mention had been made of the Departmental Organization of 1885. Possibly the Minister President's illness had impaired his memory, but it was essential to come to some understanding on this point. Compared with the state of affairs in 1872 and 1873, the number of officials had increased six or seven fold. There were forty thousand officials in 1885. There had been but thirty thousand previously. In 1890, the number had reached sixty thousand. How did it happen that the scheme of Organization promulgated in 1885 had produced no good results? He wanted to know, too, what was to be done about the Department of Education, and the divulging of official secrets by Count Oki. The shortcomings of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce were also to be noticed. What was meant by leaving Hokkaido to its fate, and at the same time talking of increasing the Army and Navy, all through fear of foreign countries? Then there was the question of official interference in elections and all the bloodshed that had resulted. How was that to be dealt with? As for the problem of Land Tax Revision, he could tell them that in Yamaguchi Prefecture there were folks who concealed their ownership of land and paid no tax at all, but he did not observe that much notice of this had been taken in the Declaration of Policy. He should have more to say when he had read the Declaration carefully, but he called for an immediate explanation as to the organization of the Administration.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, then said:—

GENTLEMEN,—I esteem it a great honour to be able to appear before you at the opening of the fourth session in the capacity of manager of the National Finances. It will not be thought unnecessary that I should make a brief statement of the Government's financial policy. I will speak, in the first place, of the existing economic conditions; and, in the second, of the programme which we propose to follow in the future. With regard to the former, although it cannot be said that our finances have made any very striking progress, yet I think it will be admitted that they are gradually progressing. Thus, owing to steps that have been adopted to convert Public Bonds bearing high interest into Bonds bearing low interest, the face value of Bonds carrying interest so high as 6 per cent. does not now exceed 2,700 yen. The result of these conversions is that the burden of the Treasury has been reduced by over 2½ million yen annually. Further, as you will see from the comparative tables given in the Budget, the revenue for this year exceeds the expenditure by more than 2½ million yen. Moreover, the foreign trade of the year shows an unprecedented condition of progress, the increase of exports amounting thus far to 14,910,000 yen. Passing, now, to the second part of my subject, the future financial programme, and having directed your attention to the fact that the Budget shows an increase of over two million yen on the revenue

side, I wish to divide my remarks into three principal lines. The first relates to the increase of military preparations for national defence; the second, to measures for improving the financial condition of the people; and the third, to the maintenance of the national prestige. With regard to the increase of military preparations for national defence, our project is to devote a sum of 16 million yen, spread over an interval of seven years, to building powerful men-of-war and cruisers. With regard to the second point, we propose to form a reserve of a million yen for the purpose of holding an industrial exhibition. Further, in respect of the problem of re-assessing the taxable value of land, which now occupies such a large place in public attention, the Government appreciates the necessity of taking some step, and after various investigations it is our intention to apply a scheme of special re-assessment which will reduce the burden of the tax by 3½ million yen. This measure, however, will cause a deficiency of 2,700,000 yen when we come to carry out the third branch of the programme, namely, the increase of military preparations for the national defence. To meet that deficiency, the Government considers that the most appropriate step will be to amend the Income Tax Regulations, and to increase the taxes on *saké* and Tobacco. Bills for these purposes will be introduced in your House. But in effecting the above improvement in the national finances, it is necessary to proceed deliberately. A full year will be required to conduct all requisite investigations into the actual facts of the value of land, and, consequently, the proposed reform cannot go into operation before the 27th year of Meiji (1894). A Supplementary Budget for the current fiscal year has also been submitted to you. The expenditures included in it are necessitated by the operation of law. Finally, in order to relieve distress resulting from the inundations in Tokushima and Okayama Prefectures, we are obliged to ask you for a supplementary grant of two million yen, which, however, can be met by funds now in the Treasury. I have thus briefly stated, gentlemen, the actual condition of the country's finances, and the policy which we propose to pursue in the future. The present Cabinet not having been long in power there has scarcely yet been time to deliberate minutely and thoroughly upon all the national affairs. I trust you will keep that fact in mind when you discuss financial questions in your House.

Mr. Kodama Chinji wished to have a Special Committee appointed to consider the question of Land Tax Reduction, but his proposal found no second.

The House then proceeded to the First Reading of the Barristers' Bill.

Mr. Kioura Keigo, Vice-Minister of State for Justice, explained that the system embodied in the Bill had been under consideration for twelve years, but owing to various difficulties had not become an accomplished fact. He dwelt upon the highly important part played by the Bar in relation to the security of life and property and the guardianship of men's rights, and pointed out that the interest of the nation was concerned in providing that Barristers should attain a high standard not only of erudition but also of morals. He entered into a general explanation of the provisions of the Bill, and declared himself ready to give detailed statements on any point referred to by the House.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, nominated by the President.

The House then proceeded to the First Reading of the Bill for the Issue of Railway Bonds and the management of Funds for the Purchase of Railway Material. The Bill was read out as follows:—

Art. I.—The Revenue and Expenditure connected with the Railway Bonds issued under the provisions of Railway Construction, Law No. 4, of the 25th year Meiji, shall be distinguished from the Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure, and treated as special Finances.

Art. II.—When the cost of material required for officially constructed Railways built with funds derived from Railway Bonds, is defrayed out of Capital for the Purchase of Materials for Government Railways, such cost may be paid in advance.

Art. III.—The provisions of the Second Article of this Law shall become operative from the 27th year of Meiji.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, explained that great and needless inconvenience and complications would be caused by not separating the railway accounts from the general accounts of Revenue and Expenditure.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, chosen by the Sections.

The House then proceeded to the First Reading of the Government Bill relating to Funds for the purchase of Railway Material, which, after a brief explanation from Mr. Tajiri, was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, chosen by the Sections.

The House took a recess at 2.35 p.m., and re-assembled at 3.15 p.m., when the President announced the names of the members chosen to form the Special Committees.

The House rose at 3.20 p.m.

THE BUDGET FOR 1893.

REVENUE.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

1. Taxes	66,676,136.476
2. Licences and Fees	2,173,088.567
3. Receipts from Government Industries and Properties	10,625,658.641
4. Miscellaneous Receipts	623,977.405
5. Interest on Money deposited	943,750.000

Total 81,042,611.098

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

1. Donations	39,576.000
2. Sales of Government Properties	554,953.949
3. Miscellaneous Receipts	153,921.650
4. Amounts transferred from the Funds for preparing and issuing Consolidated Public Loan Bonds	85,450.000
5. Amount transferred from the Famine Relief Fund	145,300.000
6. Amount transferred from the previous fiscal year	3,809,642.858

Total 4,788,844.457

Grand total of Revenue ... 85,831,455.555

EXPENDITURE.

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

1. Crown	3,000,000.000
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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

1.—The Department proper	131,648.000
1. Salaries	93,408.750
2. Repairs	4,000.000
3. Travelling Expenses	3,268.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	9,026.250
5. Department Expenditures	19,445.000
6. Reception Expenditure	2,500.000
2.—Legations and Consulates	557,504.688
1. Salaries	346,095.764
2. Repairs	6,891.000
3. Law Court and Prison Expenses	1,222.184
4. Management of Settlements in Korea	15,857.360
5. Rents of Houses	35,434.000
6. Travelling Expenses	32,378.700
7. Miscellaneous Salaries	12,020.000
8. Office Expenses	45,677.000
9. Reception Expenses	74,000.000
10. Students Abroad	10,965.760
11. Relief Fund for Japanese Abroad	191.000
12. Transmission of telegrams	1,819.820
13. Cemeteries	200.000
14. Secret Service Fund	40,000.000
15. Salaries for Foreign Employés	1,352.100

Total 689,152.688

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

1.—The Shrine of Ise	27,113.000
2.—The Department Proper	309,849.791
1. Salaries	183,005.805
2. Opium Expenses	10,000.000
3. Repairs	4,762.000
4. Travelling Expenses	24,328.440
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	26,353.125
6. Departmental Expenses	50,132.921
7. Preservation of Old Shrines	10,000.000
8. Students' Expenses	1,267.500
3.—Shrines, etc.	179,696.500
4.—Office for Superintending Public Works	124,452.373
1. Salaries	81,525.250
2. Repairs	820.000
3. Travelling Expenses	27,721.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,260.000
5. Office Expenses	8,026.123
6. Surveying Expenses	1,200.000
5.—Expenses of Penitentiaries	341,642.505
1. Salaries	36,500.750
2. Repairs	9,307.140
3. Prisoners' Expenses	187,127.937
4. Prisoners Expenses in Fu and Ken	7,603.400
5. Travelling Expenses	9,042.485
6. Miscellaneous Salaries	63,822.523
7. Office Expenses	28,228.279

6.—Metropolitan Police Bureau ..	291,272.111
1. Salaries	193,439.798
2. Repairs	2,768.000
3. Rewards	252.183
4. Superintendence of Foreigners in Tokyo	3,642.333
5. Travelling Expenses	3,450.000
6. Miscellaneous Expenses	31,962.797
7. Office Expenses	37,757.000
8. Secret Service Fund	18,000.000
7.—Police Expenses of the Seven Islands of Izu	3,543.147
1. Allowances for Dead and Wounded	18.000
2. Repairs	21.000
3. Travelling Expenses	1,365.738
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,398.290
5. Office Expenses	740.307
8.—Hokkaido Administration Board ..	967,753.910
1. Salaries	194,577.000
2. Conscription Expenses	508.715
3. Weight and Measures Examination Expenses	754.314
4. Public Works Expenses	69,253.000
5. Wrecked Ships Expenses	236.000
6. Reward and Relief fund	1,727.000
7. Travelling Expenses	53,046.000
8. Miscellaneous Salaries	141,851.264
9. Office Expenses	104,234.000
10. Management of Sailors	166.000
11. New Works Expenses	259,061.278
12. Sanitary Expenses	13,217.416
13. Educational Expenses	19,787.000
14. Relief Fund	3,721.000
15. Industrial Expenses	8,105.575
16. Prison Expenses	29,998.000
17. Prisoners' Expenses	27,555.911
18. Contingent Fund	33,010.445
19. Hakodate Quarantine Office, &c.	600.000
20. Secret Service Fund	6,344.000
9.—Sapporo Agricultural School ..	26,450.000
1. Salaries	14,892.000
2. Repairs	450.000
3. Travelling Expenses	911.250
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	643.000
5. School Expenses	7,602.750
6. Expenses for Students	1,951.000
10.—Hokkaido Penitentiaries	567,863.583
1. Salaries	48,565.656
2. Expenses of Prisoners	339,507.714
3. Repairs	2,537.687
4. Travelling Expenses	12,359.183
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	119,964.343
6. Prison Expenses	44,929.000
11.—Fu and Ken Expenditures ..	4,848,454.721
1. Salaries	2,475,082.000
2. Conscription Expenses	151,586.490
3. Weight and Measures Examination Expenses	34,470.000
4. Rewards and Relief Fund ..	150,577.000
5. Wrecked Ships	774.000
6. Management of Foreign Settlements and Repairs	129,915.120
7. Preservation of Yokohama Public Garden	950.000
8. Repairs of Yokohama Explosives Warehouses	2,045.000
9. Expenses for Nagasaki Foreign Cemetery	279.850
10. Joint Police Expenses	929,872.000
11. Travelling Expenses	450,360.000
12. Miscellaneous Expenses	120,335.103
13. Office Expenses	249,697.000
14. Quarantine Office, etc.	2,776.877
15. Public Works	35,234.250
16. Secret Service Fund	114,500.000
12.—Local Expenses of the Bonin Islands	8,481.000
1. Salaries	1,186.000
2. Expenses of Prisoners	130.000
3. Repairs	720.000
4. Wrecked Ships	27.000
5. Travelling Expenses	127.000
6. Miscellaneous Expenses	209.000
7. Office Expenses	524.000
8. Educational Expenses	692.000
9. Industrial Expenses	3,295.000
10. Public Works	1,271.000
11. Reserved Rice Fund	300.000
13.—Local Expenses of Okinawa Ken ..	162,300.736
1. Salaries	27,365.200
2. Repairs	2,484.000
3. Prisoners' Expenses	13,122.000
4. Wrecked ships	34.000
5. Travelling Expenses	3,180.400
6. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,840.190
7. Office Expenses	9,465.610
8. Public Works	6,176.380
9. Sanitary and Hospital Expenses	13,395.000
10. Educational Expenses	22,023.600
11. Minor Office Expenses	19,840.000

12. Orphanage Expenses	9.000
13. Expenses for Notifications, etc.	1,918.000
14. Industrial Expenses	3,811.600
15. Petty Officials' Salaries	33,635.756
14.—Local Police Expenses of Tsushima	8,722.000
1. Allowance for Dead and Wounded	97.567
2. Travelling Expenses	745.465
3. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,936.968
4. Office Expenses	1,942.000
15.—Local Police Expenses of Oshima	7,501.000
1. Allowance for Dead and Wounded	37.585
2. Travelling Expenses	644.150
3. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,252.868
4. Office Expenses	1,566.397
Total	7,875,096.385

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

1.—The Department Proper	362,430.167
1. Salaries	252,482.167
2. Repairs	4,076.000
3. Publication of Rates of Exchange for Customs tariff ..	400.000
4. Travelling	14,747.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	33,070.000
6. Departmental Expenses	56,538.000
7. Expenses for preparing Government Bonds and notes ..	1,117.000
2.—National Debt	20,943,750.000
1. Repayment of Bonds	4,890,074.235
2. Interest on Bonds	14,029,415.943
3. Commission on Repayment of Bonds with interest	80,509.822
4. Redemption of auxiliary Bank Notes	1,000,000.000
5. Interest on Deposits	943,750.000
3.—Rewards and Pensions	1,338,939.654
1. Annual Pension with Decorations ..	131,272.000
2. Civil Service Pensions	283,766.679
3. Military Service Pensions ..	771,186.461
4. School-Masters' Pensions	711.000
5. Pensions for Okinawa Ken ..	150,203.514
6. Pensions to Foreigners	1,800.000
4.—The Cabinet	256,939.500
1. Salaries	148,703.500
2. Repairs	2,553.000
3. Rewards of Honour	18,266.000
4. Travelling Expenses	1,112.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	13,866.000
6. Office Expenses	31,093.000
7. Expenses for Publication of Laws and Regulations	1,436.000
8. Secret Service Fund	40,000.000
5.—The Privy Council	121,978.000
1. Salaries	109,024.000
2. Repairs	1,241.000
3. Travelling Expenses	741.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,160.000
5. Office Expenses	7,182.000
6.—The House of Peers	240,033.750
1. Salaries	192,230.000
2. Repairs	1,425.000
3. Travelling Expenses	4,522.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	21,546.750
5. Office Expenses	20,310.000
7.—The House of Representatives ..	333,107.750
1. Salaries	275,366.000
2. Repairs	741.000
3. Travelling Expenses	15,150.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	21,546.750
5. Office Expenses	20,310.000
8.—Bureau for Audit of Accounts ..	139,324.000
1. Salaries	124,710.000
2. Repairs	775.000
3. Travelling Expenses	5,500.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	2,620.000
5. Office Expenses	7,719.000
9.—Administrative Court	44,589.000
1. Salaries	36,420.000
2. Repairs	445.000
3. Travelling Expenses	371.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,853.000
5. Office Expenses	5,500.000
10.—Official Gazette Bureau	195,391.420
1. Salaries	15,873.000
2. Repairs	296.000
3. Travelling Expenses	5,700.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,700.000
5. Office expenses	8,805.420
6. Expenses of Publication	164,331.000
11.—Custom House	217,610.000
1. Salaries	121,337.000
2. Repairs	9,100.000
3. Purchase of Dutiable goods ..	1,070.000
4. Travelling Expenses	3,901.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	46,535.000
6. Office Expenses	33,937.000
7. Salaries for Foreign Employees	2,630.003

12.—Expenses of Collecting Domestic Taxes	1,741,308.063
1. Salaries	1,004,705.099
2. Repairs	889.000
3. Expenses of Investigating Income Tax	27,840.000
4. Moneys handed to <i>Shi, Cho, and Son</i>	148,417.661
5. Expenses in connection with arrears of tax payments and violations of Regulations.....	14,559.707
6. Expenses of Stamps and Licenses	82,994.786
7. Travelling Expenses	211,705.740
8. Miscellaneous Expenses.....	55,527.881
9. Office Expenses	194,598.179
13. Cost of dealing with Currency	458,690.792
1. Expenses of exchanging defaced notes.....	432.356
2. Money paid to the Nippon Ginko	450,000.000
3. Miscellaneous Expenses in dealing with the Paper Currency	8,258.436
14.—Fund for Miscellaneous Repayments and for Supplying deficiencies and losses	151,327.000
1. Miscellaneous Repayments.....	145,000.000
2. Supply of Deficiencies	6,327.000
15.—Pensions of former Officials of Senate.....	40,867.909
16.—Reserve Fund of the Treasury	2,000,000.000
1. The First Reserve	1,000,000.000
2. The Second Reserve	1,000,000.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

1.—The Department proper.....	202,878.727
1. Salaries	134,295.040
2. Repairs	1,124.282
3. Uniforms	887.180
4. Horse Allowances	440.000
5. Travelling Expenses	13,718.440
6. Miscellaneous Expenses.....	21,452.854
7. Office Expenses	30,960.931
2.—Military Expenses	11,905.195.128
1. Salaries	4,478,885.324
2. Repairs	191,736.168
3. Arms and Gunpowder	1,019,940.250
4. Food	1,080,338.966
5. Uniforms	1,628,931.850
6. Horses	715,712.712
7. Medical Attendance	39,121.796
8. Survey	96,403.469
9. Reviews and Exercises	462,503.988
10. Pensions to Retired Soldiers	70.000
11. Prisoners' Expenses	32,101.020
12. Office Expenses	575,759.932
13. Travelling Expenses	299,971.500
14. Miscellaneous Salaries	350,603.093
15. Expenses of Guarding Imperial Processions.....	1,215.000
16. Secret Service Fund	32,000.000
3.—Gendarmerie	296,408.111
1. Salaries	190,974.440
2. Repairs	1,779.851
3. Arms and Gunpowder	8,427.013
4. Uniforms	23,880.333
5. Horses	11,958.494
6. Prisoners' Expenses	936.000
7. Office Expenses	13,969.920
8. Travelling Expenses	6,969.580
9. Miscellaneous Salaries	7,512.480
10. Secret Service Fund	10,000.000
4.—Colonial Militia	444,599.333
1. Salaries	109,784.262
2. Repairs	3,325.000
3. Arms and Gunpowder	14,195.811
4. Food	164,939.223
5. Uniforms	28,366.055
6. Horses	7,810.216
7. Medical Attendance	6,703.879
8. Reviews	15,886.930
9. Prisoners' Expenses	1,824.678
10. Emigration Expenses	44,328.212
11. Office Expenses	17,778.837
12. Travelling Expenses.....	16,578.810
13. Miscellaneous Expenses	13,077.400
5.—Donations to the <i>Yasukuni</i> Shrines	7,550.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

1.—The Department proper	121,081.240
1. Salaries	83,227.400
2. Repairs	800.000
3. Travelling Expenses	3,280.950
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	16,822.890
5. Office Expenses	16,950.000
2.—Naval Expenses	5,794,505.049
1. Salaries	2,103,073.742
2. Repairs	55,141.046
3. Rations	661,315.575

4. Uniforms	231,671.467
5. Purchases of articles for men-of-war and for Naval Stations	557,933.868
6. Reviews	30,000.000
7. Arms, Gunpowder, and Torpedoes.....	809,871.437
8. Building and Repairing Ships	615,645.000
9. Expenses for making water courses	51,257.275
10. Medical Attendance	15,338.550
11. Prisoners' Expenses	1,257.510
12. Contingent Fund.....	83,462.991
13. Office Expenses	192,853.870
14. Travelling Expenses	135,886.700
15. Miscellaneous Salaries	236,456.018
16. Secret Service Fund	10,000.000
17. Indemnity	100.000
18. Salaries to Foreigners	3,240.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

1.—The Department proper	139,900.192
1. Salaries	101,360.000
2. Repairs	1,800.000
3. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,552.000
5. Office Expenses	27,339.309
6. Students' Expenses.....	748.683
7. Salaries to Foreigners.....	600.000
2.—Courts of Law.....	3,495,420.433
1. Salaries	2,576,066.075
2. Repairs	57,575.000
3. Law Courts	94,673.456
4. Travelling Expenses	78,584.623
5. Miscellaneous Expenses.....	224,440.500
6. Office Expenses	455,326.779
7. Settled Expenses for <i>Gun and Kocho</i> Registry Offices	4,314.000
8. Secret Service Fund	4,440.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

1.—The Department proper	145,974.431
1. Salaries	87,649.006
2. Repairs	2,500.000
3. Travelling Expenses	6,000.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	9,244.000
5. Office Expenses	14,641.425
6. Students' Expenses.....	25,340.000
7. International Surveying Institution	600.000
2.—Earthquake Investigation Association	18,230.000
1. Salaries	1,080.000
2. Repairs	150.000
3. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,250.000
5. Office Expenses	10,250.000
3.—Schools and Libraries	845,801.141
1. Imperial University.....	414,440.286
2. High Normal School	35,181.000
3. Female High Normal School	27,222.000
4. High Commercial School	32,032.000
5. The First High Middle School	77,875.000
6. The Second High Middle School	41,591.000
7. The Third High Middle School	56,300.855
8. The Fourth High Middle School	40,753.000
9. The Fifth High Middle School	45,885.000
10. Tokyo Technical School	34,883.000
11. Tokyo Fine Art School	17,800.000
12. Tokyo School of Music	11,622.000
13. Tokyo Blind and Dumb School	2,000.000
14. Tokyo Library	8,216.000
4.—Salaries to Directors of Normal Schools in <i>Au and Ken</i>	35,970.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

1.—The Department Proper	310,966.127
1. Salaries	203,238.663
2. Repairs	3,466.540
3. Expenses for International Weights and Measures	1,490.560
4. Travelling Expenses	22,250.190
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	23,389.755
6. Office Expenses	57,121.419
2.—Forestry Office	573,830.342
1. Salaries	292,018.750
2. Repairs	3,008.000
3. Travelling Expenses	73,811.240
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	8,546.600
5. Office Expenses	60,697.752
6. Construction of Forests and Management of Timber	135,748.000
3.—Offices for Superintending Mines	108,248.983

1. Salaries	50,800.000
2. Repairs	1,500.000
3. Travelling Expenses	19,749.509
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,802.638
5. Office Expenses	30,396.836
4.—Local Agricultural Examination Offices.....	35,169.030
1. Salaries	13,723.000
2. Repairs	900.000
3. Travelling Expenses	2,948.610
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,665.500
5. Office Expenses	13,934.920
5.—Aquatic Examination Offices	33,920.000
1. Salaries	6,660.000
2. Repairs	50.000
3. Travelling Expenses	2,827.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,993.000
5. Office Expenses	19,480.000

Total

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

1.—The Department proper.....	224,710.684
1. Salaries	147,826.334
2. Repairs	3,134.000
3. Travelling Expenses	23,740.135
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	19,972.087
5. Office Expenses	30,038.128
2.—Railway Bureau	23,638.874
1. Salaries	15,593.900
2. Repairs	914.000
3. Travelling Expenses	2,448.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	923.975
5. Office Expenses	2,759.000
6. Students' Expenses.....	1,000.000
3.—Expense of Communications	5,487,503.722
1. Salaries	967,120.000
2. Repairs	15,178.703
3. Works of Communication	4,095,550.709
4. Travelling Expenses	104,812.900
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	75,434.901
6. Office Expenses	229,397.509
4.—Expense for Nautical Signals	134,637.490
1. Salaries	59,441.000
2. Repairs	631.000
3. Construction of Nautical Signals	48,375.240
4. Travelling Expenses	4,801.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	18,729.250
6. Office Expenses	2,661.000
5.—Marine School Expenses.....	38,830.500
1. Salaries	13,808.000
2. Repairs	531.280
3. Travelling Expenses	725.120
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,188.000
5. Office Expenses	6,582.100
6. Students' Expenses	13,996.000
6.—Tokyo Postal and Telegraph School.....	20,295.80
1. Salaries	9,264.000
2. Repairs	500.000
3. Travelling Expenses	198.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,157.550
5. Office Expenses	6,436.250
6. Students' Expenses	2,740.000

Total

Grand Total of Ordinary Expenditures.....

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

1.—Buildings and Repairs	7,041.645
1. New Buildings.....	4,649.660
2. Repairs	2,391.985
2.—Expenses for the Investigation of Emigration Lands	10,000.000

Total

17,041.645

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

1.—Subsidies	288,783.333
1. Navigation to Main Island of Okinawa <i>Ken</i>	5,000.000
2. Reconstruction of Tokyo Prison	20,000.000
3. Hokkaido Hemp Company.....	40,000.000
4. Mombetsu Sugar Company	2,750.000
5. Sapporo Sugar Company	25,000.000
6. Hokkaido Kosansha	2,500.000
7. Tanko Railway Company	188,333.333
8. Navigation to Hokkaido.....	4,500.000
9. Navigation to Minor Island of Okinawa <i>Ken</i>	700.000
2.—Subsidy towards Shrines	500.000
3.—Subsidy towards Expense of Public Works	219,702.836
1. Tokyo Water-works	150,003.000
2. Osaka Water-works.....	50,000.000
3. Expenses of Dredging Rivers and Harbours of Osaka	14,634.000
4. Expenses of Reconstructing Main Road between Kuma- moto and Fukuoka	6,068.336

4.—Repairs and Construction of Rivers	791,282.016
1. River Tone	87,142.297
2. River Fuji	58,596.185
3. River Teiriu	68,543.534
4. River Oi	400.000
5. River Kitagami	40,000.000
6. River Mogami	20,000.000
7. River Abukuma	400.000
8. River Shinano	125,000.000
9. River Akano	400.000
10. River Shio	400.000
11. River Kiso	260,000.000
12. River Yoshino	400.000
13. River Chikugai	100,000.000
14. River Yodo	30,000.000
5.— <i>Fu and Fen</i>	5,140.323
1. Purchase of Chinese Cemetery in Yokohama	2,103.075
2. Purchase of Foreign Cemetery in Nagasaki	1,742.500
3. Purchase of reclaimed land in Kinnamoto	1,294.748
6.—Yokohama Harbour Works	20,564.345
1. Salaries	12,266.665
2. Miscellaneous Salaries	8,297.680
7.—Cost of Building Offices and Houses of the Diet	206,570.164
1. Salaries	29,588.017
2. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,035.160
3. Office Expenses	2,770.670
4. Repairs	250.000
5. Travelling Expenses	750.000
6. Buildings	172,176.317
8.—Repairs and Building	102,127.166
1. New Buildings	71,933.761
2. Construction of a new Prison in Takatsu	25,461.380
3. Construction of a new Explosive Storehouse in Yokohama	1,391.000
4. Repairs	3,337.725
9. Expense of Surveying Rivers	60,392.849
1. Salaries	13,000.000
2. Travelling Expenses	11,988.480
3. Office Expenses	2,765.429
4. Expenses for surveying and examining Rivers	32,638.940
Total	1,695,063.732
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.	
1. Subsidies	942,459.298
1. Japan Railway Company	840,459.298
2. Sanyo Railway Company	122,000.000
2. Buildings and Repairs	28,822.000
3. Expenses of preparing and issuing Consolidated Public Loan Bonds	85,450.000
4. Subsidy to Central Famine Fund	145,300.000
Total	1,202,031.298
DEPARTMENT OF WAR.	
1. Construction of Fortresses	1,089,767.844
1. Tokyo Bay Fortresses	303,000.000
2. Shimonoeki Fortresses	100,000.000
3. Fortresses in Straits of Awaji	100,000.000
4. Arms and Gunpowder	586,767.844
2. Buildings and Repairs	525,234.850
1. New Constructions	373,808.850
2. Construction of Barracks in Ki-Tan Straits	86,404.000
3. Construction of Barracks in Shimonoeki Straits	65,023.000
3.—Construction of Machine guns	326,088.000
4.—Erection of Gun Cotton Factory	82,190.609
1. Building a new Factory	39,733.276
2. Purchase of Machines	42,457.333
5.—Additional Buildings to Seiju Cloth Factory	77,404.448
1. Building of Factory	30,563.797
2. Purchase of Machines	46,840.651
Total	2,100,685.751
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.	
1.—Building of Men-of-war	5,140,433.552
1. Building commenced in 1891	2,829,002.000
2. Building of an Iron-ship to commence in 1893	2,337,684.552
3. Building of a Cruiser to commence in 1893	983,747.000
2.—Arms and Torpedoes	437,40.820
3.—Works	587,751.550
1. Building of Kure Naval Station	200,000.000
2. Building of Saseho Naval Station	287,751.550
3. Building of Arsenal	100,000.000
4.—Building and Repairs	91,277.133
1. New Buildings	90,077.133
2. Repairs	1,200.000
5.—Expense of Repairing Vessels by Contract	55,100.000
Total	5,181,301.055

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.	
1.—Buildings and Repairs	78,881.000
1. New Buildings	78,881.000
Total	78,881.000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.	
1.—New Works	70,250.000
1. Imperial University	46,250.000
2. High Commercial School	20,000.000
3. Tokyo Technical School	4,000.000
2.—Construction of a Hospital for Infections Disease, attached to the Medical College	34,659.833
Total	104,909.833

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.	
1.—Expenses of Surveying Forests and Arable Land	39,151.500
1. Miscellaneous	8,885.000
2. Office Expenses	13,476.110
3. Travelling Expenses	16,790.390
2.—Chicago World's Fair Exhibition	241,536.881
1. Miscellaneous	30,859.600
2. Travelling Expenses	45,759.940
3. Office Expenses	23,951.841
4. Expenses for Exhibiting Articles	141,865.500
3.—United Competitive Association of <i>Fu and Ken</i>	15,000.000
4.—Expenses of Changing Weights and Measures	27,577.885
5.—Buildings and Repairs	11,250.000
6.—The Fourth National Exhibition	12,307.100
1. Miscellaneous Salaries	7,150.000
2. Travelling Expenses	2,507.000
3. Office Expenses	2,649.500
7.—Expenses of Investigating Iron Works	24,963.320
1. Salaries	4,560.000
2. Travelling Expenses	8,153.320
3. Miscellaneous Salaries	8,400.000
4. Office Expenses	3,850.000
Total	371,786.686

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.	
1.—Subsidies	943,000.000
1. Japan Steamship Company	880,000.000
2. Osaka Shosen Kaisha	50,000.000
3. Navigation between Nawa and Kobe	13,000.000
2.—Buildings and Repairs	705,052.289
1. New Buildings	680,140.918
2. Construction of a buoy at Hinomisaki	10,402.440
3. Repairs	14,508.931
3.—Expenses of Investigating Railway Routes throughout Empire	27,500.000
1. Salaries	6,220.000
2. Office Expenses	3,740.000
3. Travelling Expenses	11,720.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,820.000
Total	1,675,552.289
Grand Total of Extraordinary Expenditures	13,164,255.289
Grand Total of Administrative Expenditures for 1893	83,759,966.705

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

In the first cold night of autumn
The dahlia's pride was lost:
The hollyhock's splendour vanished
At the coming of the frost.
Even the brave little pansy
Hides under the leaves that fall,
And not one flower of the summer
Answers the robin's call.
But! in the corner yonder
There's a gleam of white and gold—
The gold of summer's sunshine,
The white of winter's cold.
And laden with spicy odours
The autumn breezes come
From the nooks and corners brightened
By the brave chrysanthemum.
Hail to you! beautiful flower,
With royal and dauntless mien
Facing the frosts of winter—
I crown you autumn's queen.
With your gleam of late sweet sunshine
You brighten the closing year
And keep us thinking of summer
Till the winter we dread is here.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE LAND TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The present discussion has reached a point where, as you suggest, it might as well be discontinued. It is not with a wish to have the last word that I beg to insert the following.

A projectile fired upward at an angle from a gun describes a parabolic curve under ideal conditions. If a gunner were not to take into account the pressure of the atmosphere or the shape of the ball, what would be thought of his practical knowledge of gunnery? All that I have contended for is that in statistically estimating the burden of the land-tax, due allowances must be made in the nature of friction, and this is all that I meant by objecting to "wholesale methods." To illustrate, I take the following from a translation of a portion of a Report of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture:—

The average price of rice in the Tokyo Rice Exchange for the year 1886 was *yen* 5.56, and for the year 1887 was *yen* 5.10. In the town of Akita the average price for 1887 was *yen* 4.02; in Omagari, situated inland, only 55 *kil.*, the average price was only *yen* 3.32. In the year 1886 the difference was even greater; *yen* 4.63 and 3.40. In 1887 at the port of Miyako (Iwate-Ken) the average price was *yen* 4.79, and in the chief town of Morioka, distant 108 *kil.*, by the prefectural road, the average price was only *yen* 4.12. In Toyama, the chief town of the rice-growing province of Echū, the average price for 1887 was *yen* 3.94. In the town of Miyakonojo (Miyazaki-Ken) the average price in 1887 was *yen* 3.39 and at the not distant port of Kagoshima *yen* 4.82. In Hitoyoshi (Kumamoto-Ken) the average price in 1887 was only 3 *yen*. Even these prices were not those received by the farmers in many cases. The following are the average prices for 1886 in the rice exchanges of—

	<i>Yen.</i>
Tokyo	5.56
Osaka	5.26
Shimonoseki	5.00
Matsuyama	4.91
Kanagawa	4.33
Niigata	4.55

These figures seem to me to prove a real difficulty in finding out what the farmer actually gets for his rice, and consequently what the taxes on rice land are. Your reply may be that you took my own figures and average prices. But to this I must object, as I gave no final statistics.

What I said about statistics and lies was quoted from Robert Giffen, one of the best English statisticians. It was jestingly uttered by him and so intended by me, but it seems to have been strangely transmuted at the end. He adds this remark, seriously, that "statistics are easily mishandled, for the simple reason, amongst others, that people like short cuts."

As for the land-tax reform of 1889, I am quite familiar with it and have a special report about it.

Yours respectfully,

GARRETT DROPPERS.

[The discussion has tended to throw light on a very interesting problem. Probably opinions now conflicting cannot be reconciled thoroughly until more minute information is collected.—Ed. J.M.]

MR. JAMES STEVENSON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since you were good enough this morning (29th) to devote about half a column of your paper to the reviling of "a voracious and polished person by name James Stevenson," I would ask you to be good enough to allow me to write a few lines on the subject.

Not content with holding up to ridicule the report of an interview which was most certainly garbled, you go on to say "Stevenson appears to have resided at one time in Yokohama: he calls himself an architect, but it he ever occupied any such position here, it was without the knowledge of the public." Mr. Stevenson certainly never resided in Yokohama, and most assuredly never stated that he did. It was in Kobe that he was established as an architect, and it was there that he gained his experience of Japanese contractors and their business methods. I would also venture to affirm that Mr. Stevenson never made any such ridiculous assertion as "Mr. Rudyard Kipling refused to be 'personally conducted' when he was in Japan," and so forth.

Finally, I would add that I hold no brief for Mr. Stevenson; but I object, and object strongly when a gentleman (evidently personally unknown to you) is abused by you "a wild and evil-tongued

exaggerator," "an unprincipled romancer," and so on simply on the strength of an apocryphal account of a supposed interview published in one of the San Francisco papers.

I am, your obedient Servant,
Yokohama, November 29th, 1892.

"AZUMA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your yesterday's issue, I notice that in reference to the reading given by Sir Edwin Arnold, of "Azuma," at New York, you say:—"One passage is quoted, the only one that Sir Edwin would allow to be made public property. The reason for his complaisance with regard to this particular part is said to have been that the passage in question had already been printed in a Japanese paper, but that is probably a misconception." The passage quoted did appear in No. 9 of the *Nihon Eigaku Shinshi*, or *New Magazine*, printed in this city. It was published over the poet's autograph signature.

Yours, etc., one of the Editors of the
"NEW MAGAZINE."
Tokyo, November 29th, 1892.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your report of proceedings in the Appeal Court in the action brought by us against the Governor of Kanagawa Ken, attributes to one of the counsel for the respondent the following remarks:—

It is rumoured that the object of instituting the present suit was that owing to some unpleasant issue in another commercial concern, the appellants' creditors demanded immediate payment of a debt, and, for the purpose of exonerating themselves and gaining time, they alleged that they had incurred a very heavy loss through Chinese.

We desire, with your permission, to state that such rumours, if they existed, were absolutely without foundation, and we are confident that your readers and the public generally will form a just opinion, not only of the advocate who put forward such a suggestion for the purpose of damaging an opponent's case, but also of the Court which received, and the client who instigated or profited by, his baseless and malicious insinuations.

In reference to an article dealing with our case, which appeared in your issue of to-day, we would add for your information, that our appeal to the Supreme Court was duly lodged some three weeks ago.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,
MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & Co.
November 26th, 1892.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the communication from Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. and your remarks on the above subject in your issue of yesterday, will you please do me the favour of enlightening me upon the following points:—

I quite agree with you that the statement in question of the Respondent's Counsel is at least unbecoming for an advocate in such an important case, while it would certainly have had the effect of injuring rather than profiting his cause; but was it not the duty—both moral and legal—of the appellants' counsel to move the Court to reprimand the offending Barrister—if he deemed the statement to be injurious to his clients—for the remarks must have been made at the same bar?

Was the Court, then, guilty of the 'sin of omission' because it did not take upon itself to reprimand the counsel, while no application or request therefor is made by the other side which was so ably represented?

You say—and I certainly think too—that no barrister has a shadow of right to prefer such a charge unless he is prepared to substantiate his words, and you hold that "it disgraces the Japanese Bar." But if I remember rightly no allusion to such rumours was made by the Respondent in the Court below when the case was conducted throughout by the Respondent's own officials. Is your correspondent then prepared to substantiate his words when he speaks of the client who instigated or profited by his baseless and malicious insinuations? The italics are mine.

If not, does this latter statement not "disgrace" the British merchants?

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
A JAPANESE STUDENT.
Tokyo, November 29th, 1892.

STATEMENTS BY COUNSEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You say very truly, of the principle which excuses in the eyes of the law the statement made by counsel in the Kerosene case, that "it finds defenders among jurists of note." You might have gone farther and said that no British or American Court would have stopped the counsel in the instance that has been criticized by the plaintiffs in that case. Here is the law of the question, as stated by perhaps the greatest American Chief Justice of the last generation (Shaw, of Massachusetts) in a passage quoted with approval by a leading Chief Justice of the present generation (Cooley, of Michigan), in a chapter on the privilege of counsel:—

The case of the party presenting his case to court or jury, or of counsel standing in his place to do the same, is also one of absolute privilege. Says Chief Justice Shaw:—

The question, therefore, in such cases is, not whether the words spoken are true, not whether they are actionable in themselves, but whether they were spoken in the course of judicial proceedings, and whether they are relevant or pertinent to the case or subject of the inquiry. . . . Much large allowance must be made for the ardent and excited feelings with which a party or counsel (who naturally and almost necessarily identifies himself with [his client]) may become animated, by constantly regarding one side only of a controversy.

Still, this privilege must be restrained by some limit, and we consider that limit to be this: that a party or counsel shall not avail himself of his situation to gratify private malice by uttering slanderous expressions, either against a party, witness, or third person, which have no relation to the case or subject matter of the inquiry. Subject to this restriction, it is, on the whole, for the public interest and best calculated to subserve the purposes of Justice to allow counsel full freedom of speech. . . . and this freedom of discussion ought not to be impaired by numerous and refined distinctions.

This is a clear statement of a wise and proper general rule, with its just limitations.

Judged by this rule, ought the Court to have stopped the Counsel in this case? His charge, in a nutshell, was that, according to rumour, the plaintiffs knew they had no case, and had brought the suit merely to satisfy the Bank's insistence. Such a matter was, in C. J. Shaw's words, very clearly pertinent to the inquiry. Suppose, for instance, the plaintiffs had been known to remark: "We know that we have no case, but we brought the suit to satisfy the Bank, on one chance in forty of winning it." Would any one say that such an admission was not highly material to the determination of the case? The fact asserted by the Counsel would, if it had been true, have been decidedly pertinent; and the Court, by the best canons of American law at least, would have had no right to stop the Counsel. So much for the Court. Whether the Counsel was morally justified in making such an assertion depends on whether he believed it to be true; but it is hard to see how an outsider has any right to prejudge him on this point.

The communication of the plaintiffs, in your columns, seems to me to be a good instance of the fragility of nine-tenths of the charges now and then made against Japanese administration of justice. These reputable and prominent gentlemen (whose feelings under the circumstances one can of course easily understand) have bitterly denounced a Japanese Court for not doing that which the highest possible American opinion would never allow them to do. The incident shows how thoroughly untrustworthy is any criticism of Japanese judicial methods made in ignorance of the professional rules and principles prevailing in the Western world. We permit ourselves in this country to criticize with the most refined captiousness that which we would not think of finding fault with in our own country. Better pluck out the beams in Western eyes before trumpeting about the discovery of moles in Japanese.

Yours, &c.,
November 29th, 1892.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

[TRANSLATION.]

KANAGAWA-KEN ORDINANCE, No. 68.

After the first Article of the Kanagawa Ken Ordinance, No. 64, of the year 1892, the words "but live cattle or sheep for food, for which the provisions of Art. 4 are observed, shall not come under this rule," and after Art. 3, the following Article, have been respectively inserted:—
28th, November 1892.

(Signed) UTSUMI TADAKATSU,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

Art. 4.—Persons desirous of importing live cattle or sheep for food shall observe the following rules:—
1. Before importing cattle or sheep, a previous permission shall be obtained from the Committee for the prevention of the cattle plague,

—stating the names of the localities from which the cattle or sheep have to arrive, the route, whether by railways or by vessels, their number, their destination, and the probable dates of their arrival.

2. As soon as they arrive, report thereof shall be made to the Committee for the prevention of the cattle plague, who will examine the cattle or sheep thus arrived, and, if found, or suspected to be, sick with the cattle plague, those cattle or sheep shall not be introduced, but if found in good health, they shall then be removed to a fixed place for the purpose of being re-examined there.
3. Cattle or sheep found to be in good health after the re-examination, shall be immediately taken to the butcheries and slaughtered—those showing symptoms of the disease shall be detained at the place and be dealt with in accordance with the directions of the Committee for the prevention of the cattle plague.

ST. ANDREWS BALL.

Once again has the swift passage of months brought us nigh unto the close of the year, and already the sands of November have run out amid the sounds of revelry and dance accompanying the loyal celebration of St. Andrew's Day. From "Caledonia stern and wild" unto the sunny land of Japan, in every place by North and South, by East and West wherever the sons of Scotia are gathered together, be it only in bands of twos or threes or be it by the hundred, their patron saint on the 30th of November is duly honoured. Dear are the recollections which cluster around that day to many a canny exile from the rugged Northern Kingdom which still holds stedfast to the memory of the charming but ill-fated Prince Charlie—their Bonnie Prince Charlie—and many an eye grows bright and many a heart beats high as Scotsmen foregather in the evening at dance or dinner to help each other break down the barriers which distance and years of absence have gradually flung around the once familiar sights and scenes of the old home. In Yokohama it has been the custom for several years past to celebrate the occasion with a ball, the St. Andrew's Society being the patrons. This year, the function was held as usual in the Public Hall, and in no respect was there any falling off in the hospitality accorded to one and all by the committee, or in the pleasures and gaieties afforded by the dance programme. The visitors, as usual, were a goodly number indeed, and many came down from Tokyo. The ladies, as in previous years, looking upon St. Andrew's ball as the event of the dancing season, wore their daintiest and most charming dresses and some confections, did space permit, deserve notice for the exquisite taste shown in the designing.

The hall was arranged somewhat as in previous years. The ante-chamber adjoining the main entrance was converted into an upper saloon, and was neatly decorated with bamboo and other foliage, several heraldic shields being used as mural ornaments. The vestibule received similar attention and was arranged with lounges. The dancing room itself was most lavishly beautified with flowers, foliage, and bunting. Upon the walls were the shields of the Buchanan, Douglas, Fraser, Campbell (McCullum More), Cameron, and Clan Stewart families, each surmounted by the red lion rampant of Scotland, and draped with various national flags. The shields arranged upon the wall facing the stage were three, the Cross of St. George and the Irish harp at the sides, with the Cross of St. Andrew, charged with the Japanese Emperor's crest—Chrysanthemum—in the centre, and draped with Japanese and Scottish flags. Over the front of the proscenium was draped the Lion of Scotland supported by St. Andrew's crosses, chrysanthemums filling in the corners, while underneath ran the words:—"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,"—a very happy conceit. The stage proper was turned into a cosy withdrawing room having the most seductive of lounges and settees, while behind in the Green-room, the ladies had an apartment all to themselves. The card room, as usual was upstairs, while the cloak rooms were fixed at the end of the vestibule. The general scheme of decorations was superintended by the Committee, headed by the Vice-President, Mr. C. E. Buchanan-Dunlop. They were Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. D. McNeill, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. A. Patteson, and Mr. R. M. Stirling who found an indefatigable secretary in Mr. C. W. Ure. These gentlemen during the evening wore silver St. Andrew's crosses on Royal Stuart tartan rosettes. Other decorated personages were the stewards who wore Royal Stuart tartan badges, and the members of the St. Andrew's society who wore content with plain badges—St. Andrew's cross on a blue shield. The flowers and foliage were

supplied Messrs. Boelmer and Co., and arranged by Mr. Unger of the same firm, Mr. E. J. Moss supplying the furniture, screens, etc. The piano was lent by Mr. Doering. We must not forget to mention that Captain Castle, of H.M.S. *Leander*, kindly supplied the bunting and flags, and also sent a company of blue jackets to hang them. The Tokyo Marine Band was in attendance and gave a very good selection of dance music. Supper was supplied by the Club Hotel.

MOUNTAINEERING IN THE JAPANESE ALPS.

BY WALTER WESTON, M.A., F.R.G.S., ENGLISH CHAPLAIN, KOBE.

(CONTINUED.)

Owing to clouds, the distant view was very limited, though once we caught sight of the mighty, serrated ridge of Ontake, next to Fuji the most elevated of all the sacred mountains, on whose summit I was standing exactly a year ago.

This lies a little to the W. of South, and in the same direction, though only just at the base of the great ridge on whose topmost point we stood, lay the beautiful lake of Oike, whose waters form the source of the Adanogo-gawa, the name borne by the upper part of the Masuda-gawa, itself again known as the Hida-gawa when entering the province of Mino on its way to join the great Kisogawa, as I have mentioned, near Ota on the Nakasendō.

A rest of half an hour is enough, and then comes the descent. A stop for lunch at the lake we had passed on our way up; another halt while the preserver of lives spent much energy in frantic but futile efforts to take that of a ptarmigan which had a provoking way of stopping until nearly within reach, and then darting into the low level clumps of *haimatsu* that formed its shelter; ups and downs along our track of the morning, and we are once more at the head of the torrent bed which had given us a pleasant climb on the ascent. But going down was no more pleasant than that of the steepest moraine of an Alpine glacier, and it was here that the *waraji* (straw sandals) of the coolie had a great advantage over our hob nailed boots, the former giving a much better hold on the slippery smooth boulders down which we had to make our way. But even this was not so trying as the passage of the forest-covered spur of which we cherished anything but the pleasantest recollections. On emerging from this we found that it had been left at the wrong point and some time was lost in descending to one where the torrent could be crossed.

It was now raining steadily, and after scrambling hard up the shale slopes to the huts of Kozan, we lost no time in gathering together the things we had left there in the morning, and after a hearty farewell to our hospitable friends—whose first guests we had been—we applied ourselves with all speed to the descent. This took just 1½ hour, the path being now in very bad condition through the wet, and it was 6.45 as we, and the darkness with us, came down on Hirayu once more. Many congratulations were offered on our safe return, and great was the curiosity evinced towards us, during the quiet Sunday we spent in our modest quarters, by a constant throng of persons of all ages, who on any or no excuse were perpetually standing gazing in at our open *shoji* like the curious crowds before the cages in a wild-beast show.

There is something interesting, though sometimes rather inconvenient, in this ingenious curiosity so common amongst the Japanese. Those foreigners who have ever chanced to walk along the street, or enter a shop in any town where such a visitor is at all uncommon, are familiar with the inevitable crowd which gathers at one's heels, or congregates outside the shop-front, themselves far more interested in the foreigner than even he can be in his sightseeing or his purchases. Probably we feel it much more than they would because we are more given to mutual criticism and therefore become more self-conscious, whilst their politeness, whatever disadvantages or un-realities it may otherwise possess, tends to prevent such habits. It is for some such reason as this that the saying of a certain French writer finds so much less application amongst the Japanese than is the case with ourselves. "Il n'y a rien que rafraichisse le sang comme d'avoir su éviter de faire une sottise."

Having successfully carried out our designs upon Norikura, we next turned our attention to the question of the ascent of a splendid rocky peak whose grey cliffs and shining snow-slopes form such a striking picture as we look down the narrow valley to the N.W. of the village.

Its name, Kasa-dake, is known to few but those who live within its neighbourhood, for even tra-

vellers whose journeyings have taken them off the usual beaten tracks, would rarely catch sight of it except when in the remotest parts of the secluded province. On making enquiries we were told that the ascent could possibly be made from a lateral valley which runs to the N.E. from that in which Hirayu lies, and also that from the same locality we should be able to cross over the main chain of Hida from west to east and so reach Matsumoto by a short cut, though, doubtless, a very rough one. It is true, that no one had ever been known to do either the one expedition or the other, but still we should be able, they told us, to accomplish both if only we proceeded to a certain place called Gamada in the valley above mentioned. There we should get information, guides, and all that we wanted, including hot mineral baths free of charge. But we were doomed to disappointment.

At 11.30 we left Hirayu and made our way down the close stuffy defile which forms the only natural way out of the basin in which that village lies, and after a descent of some 1,200 feet as far as the hamlet of Hitoegans, we turned to the right and crossed an extremely steep ridge into the valley up which the path to Gamada leads. After descending on the other side of the ridge, the broad stony bed of a stream which flows into the Takahara-gawa is crossed by a curious long log bridge which is anchored fore and aft in the oddest manner to a great heap of rocks on the one side and the bank on the other. Safely over this, we turned to the right and, after a walk of a ¾ miles from Hirayu, Gamada is reached at 2.30. On making known our object to the old gentleman to whose care we had been recommended, one Jimbei something or other, he at once cast a wet blanket on our hopes by pronouncing the expedition impossible. However, he said he would make inquiries, and let us know later on. In the meantime, we went to solace ourselves in the mineral baths, of which we had heard at Hirayu, and this over we took a stroll up the village path to a point where, from a hole in the bank of the torrent and close to its surface, a column of steam was seen escaping. The phenomenon was a very curious one, but we were unable to get across to investigate it. In the evening our host had a consultation with the headman of the village on our behalf, the result of which was that our expedition had to be abandoned, at least for the present. The rivers had burst their banks, bridges washed away, and worst of all, nobody was willing, or at any rate able, to accompany us.

So the next morning by 10 o'clock we were back in Hirayu, and on the following day, shortly after 6 a.m., we were leaving there for the passage of the Abō tōge, the highest and least frequented, though shortest, of the passes leading over the mountains from Hida into Shinano.

Probably no walk of 25 miles is to be found in the whole of Japan to surpass, if even to equal, this one from Hirayu to Shimajima (also called Hashiba) by way of Onogawa.

For some distance the narrow path leads up a steep ascent, whilst now and then care is needed where one has to cross the remains of a landslip in whose downward course great firs have been uprooted and snapped in twain like mere match-wood.

But no difficulties are met with at a single point, and the grateful shade of the glorious forest, all solemn and still except for an occasional song-bird—perhaps a sort of nightingale—or for the voice of a distant torrent, gives one a sense of quiet and restfulness beyond description.

Long will that day's walk live in our memories as one of the most repaying, in every sense, that we ever had.

For some time no view but that of the dark slopes on the opposite side of the valley we were ascending was gained, but after crossing the head of the pass (5,400 feet) and winding round the hill-side to the right, a glorious view of the snow-streaked flanks and precipitous ridges of Kasa-ga-dake burst upon us and irresistibly compelled us to halt and gaze in silent adoration.

Very striking was the contrast between its grey ruggedness with the soft outlines of the other densely wooded hills whose flanks as yet are untroubled by the woodman and whose timber has not yet begun to fall before his destroying axe.

But one cannot linger long, for there is still so much ground to be covered before our journey's end is reached. At the top of the pass we have crossed from Hida into Shinshu, and by and by the surroundings for a time are less striking.

At length, far down on the right, we see the steam rising up from the valley in which the hot springs of Shirahone lie, and then the strong broad current of the stream has to be crossed by means of a couple of long thin pine trees laid across. It isn't the nicest kind of bridge to those not possessed of the balancing powers of a Blondin, and great is the relief to be safely landed on the

other side. For to feel the slippery pole bending and swaying at every movement of the body, whilst all the while the flashing waters as they rush below in swirling eddies dazzle one's eyes in the most distracting manner—this is somewhat trying, though doubtless it does afford an opportunity of asserting the power of the will as opposed to that of the imagination and the fears thereby inspired.

An hour before Onogawa is reached, a stiff ascent for a short distance brings us to the top of another pass—the Hinoki-tōge—and as our porters are now far behind, and with them our food, we stop at a little wayside *chaya*, of the most modest kind, for refreshment.

Little, however, is to be had that is eatable, though we are certainly too hungry to stick at trifles. Dried peas, we have heard, are very sustaining, and perhaps the aged person in charge has learnt this fact for of these she has a bountiful supply and with them we proceed to appease the pangs of hunger. But Onogawa is now only some three miles away, and pushing on again, by two p.m. we are at the comfortable inn kept by Okuta Kiichi, picturesquely situated on the banks of the Mayegawa in whose cool clear stream we soon enjoy a most delicious and refreshing bath. A long wait was necessitated here by the late arrival of the baggage, and it was not until 3.30 that we got off again. But the interval was pleasantly enough filled up by welcome repast on fresh trout, cakes, and tea, served with the most charming attention on the part of our host and his wife, the former of whom to his occupation of innkeeper adds that of a subordinate official in the Agricultural Department, in witness whereof his bottle green uniform hung in a conspicuous place on the little verandah near our room. His courtesy received a reward in the shape of a diagnosis of a sickness he was troubled with and a prescription for the same, with which attention he in turn was highly delighted. Happily for his guests his gratitude, unlike that which may be too often described as a lively sense of favours to come, took a practical form, and, by the time our Hirayu coolies had arrived, there were, thanks to his kind offices, already waiting a fresh trio to take their place, and so well did they work that day that we were bound to admit we had not yet met with such a sturdy set of porters since we began our tour.

The first part of the way from Onogawa led over a new road on the left bank of the Mayegawa, but judging by the landslides which here and there had completely carried it away, it would seem to have been rather unwisely planned. In such spots as these the passage over the gaps in the precipitous hill sides were made over slender fir poles, supported, somewhat insecurely, by struts of timber from below.

But this only served to make the journey more interesting, and when the corner was turned where on the left the Adzusa-gawa receives the waters of the Mayegawa, the scene became inexpressibly beautiful. For the next 8 or 9 miles the walk takes one through a great ravine whose sides rise up so abruptly from the water's edge that it almost seems as if it is too difficult for the road to keep its hold, and out of sheer despair it has in more places than one tumbled bodily into the river a hundred feet below. These broken spots demanded a good deal of care, and one in particular will be long remembered as giving us as good a bit of climbing as we had on our travels. The road here had not been cut into the living rock, but built up round its smooth perpendicular face, and as no foothold was to be had, the pathway having vanished, it was necessary to scale the face of the cliff at an earlier point, and then, crossing over to another point above the road beyond the gap, to descend to the path once more. The passage was not a long one, and with the aid of an ice-axe and a strong line we had with us it was safely negotiated. But the experience was as exhilarating as it was unexpected, and sufficiently diverted our attention for the time being to enable us to resume our delighted contemplation of the glorious scenery about us with increased zest. High up on the left a curious 'water-slide,' so to speak, comes over the black rocks to join the emerald stream below. It is neither a cataract nor a torrent, for the water seems to *glide* rather than rush or fall, over the face of the nearly perpendicular cliff, whilst the effect produced is similar to that noticed in the case of the great stone basin in the precincts of the temple of Iemitsu at Nikko. For there the edges of the basin are so finely chiselled that the water flows out on all sides with the most wonderful evenness.

It is between Onogawa and Mekiki that the perfection of the marvellous loveliness of this grand route is to be found, and so high and steep do the sides of the valley rise that it was already getting dusk when the latter village was reached at six o'clock, and by the time we had finished the slight repast we stopped for a little while to take,

Original from

the shades of evening had closed in and the 2½ miles on to Shimashima were accomplished by lantern-light. How stony the path always seems that has thus to be traversed by the traveller belated! What boulders and holes are then discovered, which pass almost unnoticed in the broad light of day, when once the yellow rays of the swinging *chōchin* begin to cast the shadow which sunbeams never make. And as we trudge doggedly on we long for something to break the monotony of the tramp, each step of which, but for an occasional stumble, is exactly like the last and will be like the next, seeming to bring us no nearer home. On this occasion, however, our monotony was broken at one point in a manner nearly as disagreeable as unlooked for.

Readers of Mark Twain's "Tramp Abroad" will remember the dilemma in which that writer was once placed owing to suddenly meeting with a pig when on his way across the well known Mauvais Pas near Chamoni. When the encounter took place neither party at first was willing to give way, and it was impossible for either to pass the other.

As the writer remarks, the idea of a pig on a pleasure excursion in Switzerland was extraordinary. But it was no use reasoning with the pig for he was not open to argument, his motto being *Vestigia nulla retrorsum*, and the difficulty only found its solution in an ignominious retreat on the part of the humourist until the obstreperous porker could be driven by without the risk of dashing him to fragments on the rocks below. The diversion we met with was in the sudden appearance of a vicious horse who, on the sight of our lanterns, as we turned a corner in the road, became exceedingly restive and began to charge in our direction so violently that escape was sought in instant and ungraceful flight up the steep bank on our right hand, the only other alternative being a headlong downfall over that on the left, a result involving not merely breaking the monotony of our walk, but a good deal more besides.

But Shimajima at length is near; already the lights are seen shining like glow worms in the darkness of the still valley on the opposite side of the river; the path takes a turn sharp to the right, and a sudden plunge down to the massive wooden bridge; then a few steps up the steep and stony ascent to the entrance of the village and here is the Shimidzuya once more, whose hospitable walls last year gave us shelter when bent on the same expedition as that which has brought us here to-day.

Then comes the ever welcome bath—a substantial meal, and we are ready for a council of war with one of the three bear-hunters who twelve months ago piloted me to Yari-ga-take. One of them, he tells me, is dead, but he himself and his two brothers will be glad to come and help us to complete this time what then so narrowly failed of success.

AN ASCENT OF YARIGATAKE—THE MATTERHORN OF JAPAN.

A glorious morning—exquisite scenery—the best trio of guides, indeed almost the only men really deserving of the name I have had in Japan, as our companions, and once more here is the twice-trodden track up the beautiful valley on whose right rises the lower ridge of the great mass of mountains which culminate in the sky piercing shaft of the second loftiest peak of this land of mountains. All these things combine to give us promise of one of the best expeditions we have known. The fresh pure air of the cool valley, the dew-drops trembling like diamonds on the foliage, the blue vault of heaven above, and the rushing emerald stream below, why, existence itself is a pleasure. It is a joy to live in such scenes as this. Here, indeed, we are in Nature's Academy, nay in God's own picture-gallery itself, hung with some of the Creator's masterpieces. And as we step out with lighter tread our hearts bound again with exultation at the glorious prospect before us. But we are not in the mood for conversation. For it is rather a time for silent contemplation, and we should be dull and thankful indeed if our hearts were not lifted the higher by the ennobling influences of the hour. So for a while each leaves his neighbour to himself, until at length our attention is diverted by our arrival at a little wayside hut which has been put up since I was here last year, and which goes by the name of *Burō-tairo*, for here a chalybeate spring has been recently discovered and its waters, artificially heated, are said to be efficacious as a remedy for many of the ills to which the human flesh is heir. An extraordinary institution is this in a valley whose only frequenters are an occasional bear-hunter or the coolies engaged in pushing on the path that is to lead over the ridge at its head down to the upper waters of the Adzugasawa. The courteous old custodian, interested at our arrival in these wilds, insists on our stopping to drink the tea he at once proceeds

to prepare, and there is no saying "nay" to his kindly importunity, through a refusal has to be given to his further pressing invitation to test the healing virtues of his novel *furō*. For we have a long day's march before us, and we want to advance as near the base of the mountain as possible to-night, mindful of the distance still between its summit and ourselves.

At an altitude of 3,700 feet stands the Dashinosawa, only some 7½ miles out from Shimajima. But it is on the opposite side of the stream, and has to be reached by a curious slanting bridge, made of pine poles fixed, one above the other, on tiers at an angle of above 30°. At this hut I last year spent two nights, but now it was closed and we could not get in. It accommodates 8 persons besides fleas beyond computation. Since last I passed through this valley a good deal of progress has been made with the path which the Nōshōmushō (the Department of Agriculture and Commerce) is constructing. It has now been carried right up to the summit of the Tokugo-tōge, a pass which crosses the range running parallel to the great *grät* or ridge of which Yari-ga-take is the highest point. Ultimately it will head down to the Azusa-gawa, and then probably, crossing that river, come out on the Hirayu side of the chain. Should this be the case it would afford a grand "High level Route" from Shinano into Hida, and greatly facilitate travel through the grandest and wildest district in Japan.

The climb up to the top of the pass, which stands about 7,100 feet above sea-level, and 4,400 above Shimajima, between Nabekamariyama on the N. and Kasumi-ga-take on the S. is very steep, and interminable seem to be the zig-zags of the path whose sinuous windings slowly crawl through the bamboo grass and up the tree-clad slopes. The afternoon grew very hot, and even the little half wild dog our guides had brought with them seemed to feel that the pull up the *tōge* made it a thirsty journey. But perseverance gained the day, and at length the summit is reached, whereupon, our coolies being far behind, the shadiest spot is sought for and with it well-earned *hiru-ne*.

The descent to the river on the west side of the pass was a different matter from the ascent we had just accomplished. For a short time the path winds through dense bamboo grass and then hopelessly loses itself in the broken rocks of a torrent feeder of the Adzugasawa. These are very loose, and care is needed to avoid slips and sprains.

It is a welcome relief to be able to leave this when the more level ground of the forest by the river bed is reached.

Striking through this to the left, we at length came to the Tokugo hut at which also I spent a night on my former expedition.

It is grandly situated, for straight in front, rising abruptly from the flat ground on the opposite side of the stream, the magnificent peak of Miōjindake raises its head like a mighty sentinel guarding the approaches to that shrine of nature whose lonely grandeur we were invading.

A splendid mountain is this great granite giant, in form and position reminding one forcibly of the Aiguille du Dru near Chamoni. It sides are mostly too steep to hold the snow, but here and there on the gentler slopes lie gleaming sheets, and in clefts and gullies on the higher ridges white threads throw out the surrounding rocks in darker relief.

At times we were almost tempted to transfer our affections from Yari-ga-take itself, and devote ourselves to this, but the thought had to be put aside, with the hope that at some future time we might be able to return and pay our addresses here also.

A short rest at the hut, and we pass through the forest to the edge of the broad strong current of the Adzugasawa whose waters the day before had been our companion on the never to be forgotten walk from Onogawa to Shimajima.

The coolies first transport the baggage across the stream and then we ourselves, pick-a-back, make the same journey. At first it was our intention to march on as far as a cave about five miles from the Tokugo hut, near the junction of the valleys which enclose a spur running down from the main mass of Yari-ga-take, but the day was already far advanced, and after going about 2½ miles we decided to encamp in the forest near to a spot at which last year we started an eagle in the act of devouring its quarry in the shape of a *ten* (Anglice *marten*). Wood of course there was in abundance, of water a no less bountiful supply, and it was not long before one of our men brought in some delicious trout he had taken with his bamboo rod and a line of the simplest kind. Having selected a suitable spot, we proceeded to sling the hammocks we had brought with us on trees conveniently situated. Over these we made a roof of mosquito netting and Japanese oil-paper, for though the night was fine and rain unlikely to fall, we had still to guard against heavy dews which are sometimes quite as effective as a heavy

shower. In the meantime the men were busy gathering fuel and putting up a rude shelter for themselves, and soon we had a grand fire blazing, and all was cheery and bright. Did ever trout taste so dainty? Was ever curried fowl so appetizing, or Cocoa—not Epps' of that ilk, but, best of all, de Jongh's, ever prove so "grateful and comforting?" And then the stars begin to light the sky, and clear and cold the moon rises from behind the dark pine clad ridge behind the camp and the lonely form of Miōjindake with its pale slopes and lines of snow looms up in solemn grandeur before us.

The calm stillness is unbroken save for the low distant murmur of the broad stream over its stony bed, and over all comes a quiet hush which one is loth to break. But an early start has to be made on the morrow, and we take to our hammocks while the guides are still smoking their pipes by the fire and talking on, though more stolidly than is usual with this volatile impressionable people.

"Early to bed and early to rise" having been our motto last night, we were up with the sun this morning, for we were obliged to wait for the appearance of that luminary before we could make a start, to do so by lantern light even being almost impossible. The oil-paper roof of our "tent" is as wet with dew as if it had been out all night in the rain, and such parts of the mosquito net as have been exposed are soaking. A substantial breakfast follows the morning "tub," and at 5.50 we strike the camp, and taking with us as much as we need for the day, are on our way in real earnest, with eager anticipations of a grand expedition. First comes a long stretch of smooth stones and boulders white and round, by the river's edge. Then we cross a corner of the forest for a while, at length coming out near the junction of the valleys already referred to just after an hour's steady walking. This spot is called Yokōdani, and about half a mile up the wild torrent valley to the left lies the cave I spoke of. It was this valley that last year I ascended, being a shorter, though more difficult, route up the mountain than that up which the two former ascents of Yari-ga-take had been made. That it was more difficult I was fully able to endorse, but I also believe the distance to be greater, though the scenery is more interesting, and the torrent has not so often to be crossed. It is this crossing from side to side, either by wading, or leaping, where possible, from rock to rock, that takes up much time on expeditions of this kind, these torrent-valleys being often the only means of approach to the bases of the great peaks in the heart of this and similar of the higher ranges in this country. The Yokōdani route is one of savage grandeur exceeding in wildness anything of the kind, probably, to be met with in Japan.

On the left rises the bold form of Miōjindake, next to it, northwards, comes the serrated ridge of Hodakayama which is connected by a broken *arête* with Yari-ga-take itself. The ascent follows the valley up to its head, where the torrent rises in the broad snow slopes which sweep down from the grand amphitheatre of heights to the south of Yari-ga-take. Leaving the torrent behind, a climb over the snow, followed by a stiff scramble up broken ground to the right, brings one to the lowest point in a narrow ridge overlooking the eastern sides of the two peaks last mentioned. It is on the snow slopes which have now to be crossed, as one traverses the base of the cliffs of Hodakayama, that the ordinary route falls in, the way to the summit of the peak now being the same for either.

On the present occasion we decided to take the route up the valley to the right, and after 1½ hours steady work now crossing the torrent, now scrambling along the boulders at the side, and again clambering through the dense bamboo grass and thickets high above it,—at length we halt at the foot of Chōgazake and a lateral valley on the left opens out to us our first view of Yari-ga-take's aiguille like-summit.

As a rule we have kept nearly all the way along the course of the torrent, but now and then a slight detour takes us through a side stream, and in one of these I had an impressive reminder of the fact that for this kind of work *waraji* are preferable to hob-nailed boots. For my own nails were getting kicked out, and when crossing from one rock to another, I failed to get a proper hold on the slippery surface of the water-worn boulder and the next moment I was cooling my heated frame in the snow-fed stream, having sat down with great emphasis in the torrent after the manner of the commencing skater in his earliest efforts.

About 3 hours walk from Yokōdani brought us to a point where we were able to leave the water and take to the wood on the right hand side of the valley, and after a hard struggle with the dense undergrowth we emerged on to a steep slope of rotten red rocks, fragments of which, very loose and very

sharp, made the going none of the pleasantest. Crossing this we again plunged into the forest, a moment before having caught sight of the snow slope high up on the rocks to the left, which lies nearly opposite to the cave known to the hunters as the *akasaka no-iwa-goya* "the red cliff cave."

A steep scramble here brings us close to the bank of the stream once more, and before us lies the huge wedge of rock which serves as a shelter to hunters when here on the track of the bears and sheep-faced antelopes in which this wild valley abounds. It was this spot at which I had an interesting experience last year when, being unexpectedly belated on the descent from the 'spear-peak,' I had to bivouac under the lee of the rock, in pouring rain, almost without food—nor having fed for a good many hours. But we were not the worse for it then, and it was with the keenest interest and pleasure that one again gazed on the scene of past enjoyments. It was now 11 a.m. and as it seemed unlikely that we should be able to complete the ascent of our peak and get down to our last night's encampment to-day, we decided to send back one of the three hunters to that spot to bring up some extra clothing and food against our return to the *Akasaka* cave.

Meanwhile, after a long halt, we again set off, and at 12-15 descending to the stream, we once more followed its course until in about 45 minutes we were able to leave it for the loose rocks and steep slopes to the left. *Yarigatake* now comes in full view, and the sight of the great obelisk before us spurs us on to further efforts. These at last place us clear of the debris-covered steeps, and several long slopes of snow give a pleasant variety to the climb and bring back happy recollections of happy days spent in Alps of wider fame than those of Japan are ever likely to know. For there is no danger of these becoming 'fashionable' mountains in the way it has been suggested—though not altogether seriously, let us hope—that some of those in the land of Tell may one day be. The late President of the Alpine Club (Mr. C. T. Dent) in the course of a witty and interesting address to its members, stated that Switzerland might now almost be advertised as a scholastic pension. "A large staff of first-class professors always in attendance. Lifts provided to many of the minor summits. Home comforts. Terms moderate. Wine also moderate." Above the snow slopes a wilderness of broken rocks stretches up to the base of the final peak, recalling vividly a passage of Ruskin's in the 4th volume of his 'Modern Painters.' "I can hardly conceive of any one standing face to face with one of these towers of central rock, and yet not asking himself, Is this indeed the actual first work of the master, on which I gaze? Was the great precipice shaped by His finger, as Adam was shaped out of the dust? Were its clefts and ledges carved upon it by its Creator, as the letters were on the tables of the law, and was it thus left to bear its eternal testimony to His beneficence among these clouds of Heaven? Or is it the descendant of a long race of mountains, existing under appointed laws of birth and endurance, death and decrepitude? There can be no doubt as to the answer. The rock itself answers audibly by the murmur of some falling stone or rending pinnacle. It is not as it was once. Those waste leagues around its feet are loaded with the wrecks of what it was. On these perhaps, of all mountains, the characters of decay are written most clearly; around these are spread most gloomily the memorials of their pride, and the signs of their humiliation. What then were they once? The only answer is yet again—"Behold the cloud?"

This "aspect of destruction" in the cliffs of the *Chamonix Aiguilles* is very noticeable too in these of *Yarigatake*, their Japanese representative. Some of the larger fragments of rock that have been rent from its ridges have fallen into such position as to form caves, one of which, in particular, would afford a very fair shelter for any traveller disposed to spend a night in such a situation. Having no desire, however, to do so on this occasion, we pushed on, and by three o'clock were on the saddle from which the arrow like summit rises. A grand climb up the smooth rocks of the south-east arête for about 400 feet, a sharp turn to the west and then we overlook all else. *Yarigatake* is ours and, save for "Fuji the peerless" itself, we are on the highest point of the surface of the "land of the Rising Sun."

This consists of a short narrow ridge of bare rock nearly perpendicular on all sides but the south-east, and the view, as one looks straight down into the wild and desolate valleys that stretch away from the base of the mountain, is most impressive. To the north lie the almost unknown peaks of the range between the provinces of *Shinshu* and *Eichu* which stretches far towards the Sea of Japan.

On the west stands the rugged form of *Kasagadake* which we think would afford a grand climb from the valley which separates it from us.

Southwards, the eye rests on the nearer giants of this group, *Hodaka-yama*, *Miojin-dake* and the massive double topped *Norikura*, and beyond these *Ontake* with the *Komagatake* of *Shinshu* on its eastern side. To the south-east, but farther off, stands the great mass of mountains on the borders of *Shinshu* and *Koshu*, the most prominent peaks being *Shirane-san*, *Akahi-san*, and *Kamagatake*. But most striking of all is the stately cone of *Fuji* rising with its majestic sweep supreme above all else, at a distance, as the crow flies, of over 85 miles. To enumerate all the summits to be seen from the point on which we stand would be to give a list of all the grandest mountains in Japan. Only the haze and clouds to the north-west prevent our view from embracing the sea in the bay of *To-yama*, so that nearly the whole width of the central portion of the empire is included in this magnificent prospect.

The altitude, from a comparison of observations taken last summer and on the present occasion, appears to be 10,000 feet.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LETTERS FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, October 25th.

As I closed my last letter in great haste on the morning of the opening day of the dedicatory ceremonies of the World's Fair, I could give only a few sentences concerning that event; but now I can take up the story from the beginning, and give a more detailed account of what was going on. The guests and visitors were literally innumerable, and thus gave a foretaste of the immense crowds which must be handled during the period of the Exposition.

Wednesday, the 19th, was devoted to meetings of the various official bodies of the Exposition, and to Columbian celebrations in all the public schools of the city. The latter, in the main, followed this official programme:—

Reading the President's proclamation.
Raising the flag.
Salute to the flag, by the pupils.
Music—America, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."
Acknowledgment of God, in song or selected reading.
Song, "Columbus Day."
Historical essays, readings, declamations, and patriotic songs, as arranged by the teachers.
Song, "Columbus," by Joaquin Miller; arranged by O. Blackman.
Address by a pupil, "The Meaning of the Four Centuries."
Ode, "Columbia's Banner," by Edna Dean Proctor.
Song, "Flag of the Free."

The great event of Thursday, the 20th, was the grand civil parade which, with the immense concourse of spectators, fairly choked the main streets down town. In the business portion bounded by the lake, the river and Van Buren Street, no vehicles were allowed after 9 o'clock, except express companies' waggons and supply waggons, and those only by special card from the Mayor. The crowds began to gather early in order to get good positions, in windows, on balconies, on roofs, on wooden platforms manufactured specially for the occasion, on cornices and corners, on posts, or on the side of the street. The reviewing stand was erected in front of the post-office, and was reserved, of course, for special individuals, such as the guests from abroad, the press representatives, the officials of the Expositions, and school children, who, at each end, were arranged, according to the colour of their costumes, in such a way as to form the national flag. My press badge and ticket procured me admittance on the stand, from which I was enabled with comfort to view the parade. There I had the pleasure of presenting the compliments of the *Japan Mail* to the Japanese Minister, Mr. Tatenos, his Secretary, Mr. Miyakawa, and Mr. Tejima, World's Fair Commissioner. The list of organizations and prominent individuals participating in the parade occupies a full page of a daily paper, so that I can only summarize briefly. The van of the procession came in front of the post-office at 12.25 o'clock, and the rear passed by at 3.15 o'clock. There were so many hands, that there was no cessation of music. The mounted police, the Chicago Hussars, the city officials, G. A. R. veterans, with part of the Italian organizations, were in the van. Next came the governors of States with their staffs and, perhaps, troops of militia. The Connecticut National Guards with their brilliant uniforms of the Eighteenth century; and the Cleveland (Ohio) Greys attracted the chief attention. Among the governors, Patterson, of Pennsylvania; Russell, "the boy-governor" of Massachusetts; Flower, of New York; McKinley, of Ohio; Rifer, of Illinois; and Boies, of Iowa, were greeted with tremendous applause. The most striking appearance of the

entire parade was that of the boys of the Carlisle Indian School. They followed a band of their own to excellent music, and marched in perfect ranks. One file, under a banner inscribed "education," carried books and slates under their arms; then came farmers, printers, bakers, carpenters, blacksmiths, shoemakers, tinkers and tailors, each boy carrying an emblem of his occupation. Then there were Orangemen, Scotch, Polish, Swedish, Norwegian, Hibernian, Italian, German, and Grecian Societies, the County Democracy, U.S. troops and State militia, Knights Templar, Foresters, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Catholic organizations, etc., etc. There were only two or three floats, of which one, of course, represented Columbus discovering America. It has been estimated, that there were about 75,000 men in line, and probably 1,000,000 spectators. The parade was reviewed by Director-General Geo. R. Davis, of the Exposition, and Vice-President Morton. The school children sang patriotic songs.

Thursday evening, a grand feast was given at Kinsley's by the Fellowship Club in honour of Vice-President Morton. The foreign diplomats, the Cabinet, the Governors, the Supreme Court Justices, members of Congress, Exposition officials, and other distinguished gentlemen, in all about 150, were present. Speeches were made by the Presiding officer, John W. Scott, of the *Chicago Herald*; Vice-President Morton; Lyman J. Gage; John W. Foster, Secretary of State; Baron de Fava, Italian Minister; Chief Justice Fuller; Major Washburne; Chauncey M. Depew; Whitelaw Reid; and Richard M. Hunt; and various songs were sung.

Friday, October 21st, was the greatest day of the week. Although the dedicatory ceremonies were not to begin till 12.30 o'clock, as early as 9 o'clock the cable cars and the Illinois Central trains were packed with people hurrying out to get a good chance at the seats. I went in about 10.30, and found a pretty good place in the press section. The waiting crowd were entertained by the practising of the chorus of 2,500 persons. About 9 o'clock the procession started from the Auditorium on its route of nine miles to Jackson Park. The procession included General Miles and staff, the Chicago Hussars, several troops of U.S. cavalry, the Toledo (O.) Cadets (on bicycles), the governors, Exposition officials, foreign diplomats, the Cabinet and other prominent individuals. On the way, a stop was made at Mr. H. N. Higginbotham's residence, corner of Michigan Avenue and Twenty-ninth Street, to take in Vice-President Morton. Down Michigan Avenue and Grand Boulevard the magnificent line moved to Washington Park, where, together with the U.S. infantry, it passed in review before Vice-President Morton: then it moved on over the Midway Plaisance to Jackson Park, where it arrived, the van about 12.30 and the rear about two o'clock. Inasmuch as luncheon had to be served to all, it was after 2 o'clock before the exercises began.

The immense Manufactures Building, 1,687 by 787 feet, was filled with a concourse of 150,000 people, who, though not absolutely quiet, kept in good order and in good humour. The programme was as follows:—

- 1.—"Columbian March and Hymn."
- 2.—Prayer by Bishop Charles H. Fowler.
- 3.—Introductory address by the Director-General.
- 4.—Address of welcome and tender of the freedom of Chicago, by Mayor Washburne.
- 5.—Selected recitation from the Dedicatory Ode, written by Miss Harriet Moore, by Miss Sarah C. Le Moyne; World's Columbian Chorus; World's Fair Children's Chorus.
- 6.—Presentation by the Director of Works of the Master Artists of the Exposition, and award of special commemorative medals.
- 7.—Chorus—"The Heavens are Telling"—Haydn.
- 8.—Address—"Work of the Board of Lady Managers"—Mrs. Potter Palmer.
- 9.—Tender of the buildings from the President of the World's Columbian Exposition to the President of the World's Columbian Commission.
- 10.—Presentation of buildings by the latter to the Vice-President of the United States.
- 11.—Dedication of the buildings by Vice-President Levi P. Morton.
- 12.—"Hallelujah Chorus" from the "Messiah"—Handel.
- 13.—Dedicatory Oration—Henry Watterson.
- 14.—"Star Spangled Banner" and "Hail Columbia" with full choral and orchestral accompaniment.
- 15.—Columbian Oration—Chauncey M. Depew.
- 16.—Prayer by Cardinal Gibbons.
- 17.—Chorus "In Praise of God"—Reethoven.
- 18.—Benediction by Rev. H. C. McCook, D.D.
- 19.—National Salute.

At first I was not able to hear much; but, having an opportunity to move into a better seat, I was enabled to hear most of Henry Watterson's, and about all of Chauncey M. Depew's, orations. The former, though labouring under a disadvantage from a recent sickness, acquitted himself well; and the latter, who is *facile princeps* among our orators, delivered a very eloquent address. Hearty applause greeted all the speakers, even those who offered prayer; nor did the music pass unappreciated. It was 5.15 o'clock when the exercises ended after a duration of about three hours, and the immense audience dispersed.

As we were passing out through the grounds, a number were attracted to the Transportation Building where U.S. troops and State militia were camping. Some of "the boys" stood in the doorway, and invited the passers-by to "step in and see the wild horse;" "free exhibition;" "last chance." Having entered, we were passed along by "boys" to about the middle of the building, where very calmly and deliberately there was uncovered a wooden saw-horse.

That evening at Lincoln Park on the north side, Garfield Park on the west side, and Washington Park on the south side, there were magnificent displays of fireworks. At the same time the inaugural ceremonies of the World's Fair Congress Auxiliary were held in the Auditorium before an audience of 3,000 persons. The oration by Archbishop Ireland, of Minnesota, on "The World's Congress of '93," was a masterly effort, which indicated the broad scope and the high aims of that branch of the work, of that department of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Saturday, the 22nd, was given up to the dedicatory ceremonies of various State buildings. In the morning Kansas led off at 10 o'clock, and was followed at 11 o'clock by Iowa and Massachusetts; Judge Albert H. Horton, of Topeka, delivered the address for Kansas; Iowa had a fine display of her State Militia with the Iowa State Band, and addresses by Gov. Boies and Hon. C. P. Suda; Massachusetts had a very informal affair at which Gov. Russell, however, was present and spoke. At noon, the New York building was dedicated with imposing ceremonies, comprising fine music and addresses by Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, Gov. Flower, and Archbishop Corrigan. At 2 o'clock in front of the Ohio building appropriate speeches were made by Gov. McKinley, Senator Sherman, Senator Brice, and Hon. Benjamin Butterworth. At 2.30 o'clock Rhode Island had informal ceremonies in which Gov. Brown was a participant.

Most of the guests and visitors departed, of course, on Saturday; but not a few remained over Sunday. That day, in many churches, appropriately closed up the dedicatory ceremonies with lessons from the occasion.

Chicago, October 31st, 1892.

The death of Mrs. Harrison at 1.30 o'clock on Tuesday morning, October 25th, was not, of course, unexpected, but none the less lamented. And yet, to the patient sufferer, death must have been almost a welcome relief. And even to the afflicted husband, careworn from his ceaseless vigil at the bedside of his beloved wife, rest now comes in his bereavement. President and Mrs. Harrison, even in the White House, have lived the simple and true life of a happy marriage, and have made that public mansion a genuine "home," graced by conjugal and parental affection and Christian ideas. With dignity they have performed their public social duties without being inflated with their high and honourable position: for no former associate, however humble, has ever been an unwelcome guest at the White House. Mrs. Harrison was pre-eminently domestic in her tastes, and disliked notoriety; but she had culture, dignity, and grace equal to any and every occasion.

Mrs. Harrison was 57 years of age at the time of her death. She was daughter of the Rev. John D. Scott, President of Oxford (Ohio) Female College, from which she was graduated. It was while Benjamin Harrison was a student at Miami University in the same place, that he met, wooed, and won Miss Carrie Scott. They were married October 20th, 1833, and have thus lived together 39 years. The next year, the young couple went to Indianapolis, when they began life in a very humble way, but gradually obtained honour and prosperity. They have had only two children; Russell Harrison, now of Helena, Montana, and Mary Scott Harrison, wife of J. R. McKee.

In appearance, Mrs. Harrison was a type of matronly beauty with regular features, dark, expressive eyes, a well-shaped head with silvery hair in curly waves; she had also a soft voice, and moved about gently and gracefully.

She passed away quietly, just after arousing from an unconscious state and giving one look of recognition to her beloved husband. He, though deeply and visibly affected, has borne himself with a noble and dignified fortitude.

Tuesday and Wednesday the remains of Mrs. Harrison lay in State at Washington "on a bed of flowers;" while heartfelt expressions of condolence were pouring in by mail and telegram, and the Press of this and other lands were vying with each other in honest tributes to the character of the deceased. Thursday morning, preliminary services of a very simple character were held in the White House. The floral tributes were numerous and very beautiful; but those present were very few. Music, scripture reading, and prayer

made up the services; after which the funeral party started on its way to Indianapolis. Besides the family, relatives, and intimate friends, the Cabinet officials with their wives, many members of the diplomatic corps (including the Japan, China, and Korean representatives), and a few other prominent persons composed the party.

The funeral ceremonies in Indianapolis on Friday, October 28th, were beautiful and impressive. They were held in the First Presbyterian Church in the morning as soon as the funeral train reached its destination. Around the depot about 3,000 people were crowded, and watched silently the funeral procession, which, on its way to the church, passed through lines of the Grand Army veterans. In the church, the Harrison pew was draped with black but beautified with lilies of the valley. After the church quartet had sung Mrs. Harrison's favorite hymn, "Lead, kindly Light," the pastor, Dr. Haines, gave sonnet scriptural readings and then paid an eloquent and touching tribute to the memory of the deceased. After prayer by Dr. Hyde, and the hymn, "One swiftly solemn thought," the cortege took its way to Crown Hill Cemetery, where at about 1 o'clock the interment took place.

That afternoon President Harrison sent to the Press the following public note, which clearly reveals the man:—

My dear old friends and neighbours:—I cannot leave you without saying that the tender and gracious sympathy which you have to-day shown for me and my children, and much more the touching evidence you have given of your love for the dear wife and mother, have deeply moved our hearts. We yearn to tarry with you and to rest near the hallowed spot where your loving hands have laid our dead; but the little grandchildren wait in wondering silence for our return and need our care, and some public business will not longer wait upon my sorrow. May a gracious God keep and bless you all.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

At 5.30 p.m. the Presidential train left for Washington, and reached there Saturday evening; where, in his loneliness, our chief executive officer has resumed his public duties.

By common consent of all parties, political activity was intermitted on the day of Mrs. Harrison's funeral. In case arrangements for meetings had advanced too far to be stopped, parades and noisy demonstrations were omitted; and in many cases previous appointments were entirely cancelled. Some of the most appreciative and sympathetic paragraphs concerning the President's sorrow and loss were penned by Democratic editors and in Southern sanctuaries. Political partnership may yet be strong, but such prejudice is too weak to withstand true sympathy.

I feel inclined, from among the many tributes, prose and poetical, to include here these lines by "The Hoosier poet":—

CAROLINE SCOTT HARRISON.

BY JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

Now utter calm and rest,
Hands folded o'er the breast
In peace the placidest,
All trials past,
All fever soothed—all pain
Annulled in heart and brain—
Never to vex again—
She sleeps at last.
She sleeps; but, Oh, most dear
And best beloved of her,
Ye sleep not—nay, nor stir,
Save but to bow
The closer each to each,
With sobs and broken speech,
That all in vain beseech
Her answer now.
And, lo, we weep with you—
One grief the wide world through!
Yet, with the faith she knew,
We see her still—
Even as here she stood
All that was pure and good
And sweet in womanhood—
God's will, her will!

At the recent meeting of the House of Deputies of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Baltimore, seven new bishops were named, among whom are Rev. Thomas Allen Tibbald, D.D., for "Yeddo," and Rev. Samuel Roosevelt Johnson Hoyt, D.D., for Shanghai.

Rev. Dr. John Hall and Rev. Dr. Russell Booth have resigned from the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary in consequence of that institution's abrogation of the compact with the Presbyterian General Assembly.

Mrs. Baldwin, "for twenty years a missionary in China," the other day stirred up a Methodist congregation in New York City by her strong praise of the Chinese and bitter denunciations of our anti-Chinese policy.

Lieutenant Fletcher S. Bassett, formerly an officer on the *Colorado* and the *Monocacy*, is now a resident of this city. He took an active part in the John Rodgers' expedition, in which seven Korean forts were stormed; and in 1871 spent some time in Japan. He was the moving spirit in organizing the Chicago Folk-Lore Society, is its Secretary, and is the editor of its journal, *The Folk-Lorist*.

Twelve families, comprising all together fifty-seven individuals, of Esquimaux have arrived, and are located in the World's Fair grounds. They will build their own huts according to their style of

architecture, and will be here for a year. They are already fenced in, and can not be seen except upon payment of 25 cents. Occasionally one comes outside, and paddles around in the lake, evidently for advertising purposes.

I am here reminded, that the great mass of Americans, even fairly intelligent persons, are unable to distinguish the Japanese, the Chinese, the Koreans, the Siamese, the Burmese, the Persians, etc., at sight. For instance, I had been informed by several friends, that a certain physician in this vicinity had married a Japanese lady; and, thinking we might, perhaps, be able to help her socially, I called at his office to make his acquaintance, and thus learned that his wife was a Siamese lady. Perhaps, however, such a mistake is not strange, for those Asiatics are not seen here often enough to be readily distinguishable.

During the week after the dedicatory ceremonies of the World's Fair, the National Commission and the Board of Lady Managers held several sessions, and discussed various matters of routine business. The National Commission downed a resolution, that the Western Hemisphere ought to be known, not as "America," but as "Columbia;" and voted to close the gates of the Exposition on Sunday, to allow the sale of liquor on the grounds "under appropriate restrictions," and to give special rates to the working classes on special days. An appropriation of \$10,000 has been made for the expense of the "opening" exercises to be held on May 1st, 1893. These exercises will not be long or elaborate, but will include music, a poem by an American, and an oration "by a man of international fame," perhaps, Señor Emilio Castelar, Prime Minister of Spain.

The Norwegian citizens of Chicago on October 26th reminded us, that, while Columbus undoubtedly deserves great credit and honour, he was, perhaps, not the first white man to land on American soil. A festival of grapes, with addresses, commemorated the name of Lief Erikson.

Milwaukee was visited on October 28th by a very disastrous conflagration, which ravaged 23 blocks, laid 15 blocks in ruins, rendered 3,000 people homeless and destitute, deprived 5,000 men of work, brought death to four persons at least, and caused a loss of \$5,000,000 in property. It began near the river on the east side, and was carried along by a high wind until it was stopped by the lake. The devastated part contained large wholesale houses, the freight sheds of the Chicago and North-western Railway, and houses of the labouring classes. Aid had to be summoned, even from Chicago, in fighting the conflagration, which raged fiercely for six hours or more; and assistance, pecuniary and otherwise, is now pouring in from all parts of the country to the sufferers.

In Philadelphia also there was a large conflagration whose cost amounts to about \$150,000. It was started by an explosion of gas and oil at the pumping station of the gas works on the river front, and wrought much damage among the shipping.

As the result of the Presidential election is already known to you, it is unnecessary for me to make any predictions. In fact, at this stage of the campaign prognostication is no easier than before. The political equation is extremely difficult to solve, because there are so many unknown quantities whose value it is impossible to ascertain. The most uncertain factor is the People's Party, with which the Democrats have "fused" in many states, most recently in Colorado and Oregon. It really looks now as if the "Populists," as they are called, will obtain enough electors and representatives to hold the balance of power in both the Electoral College and the new Congress. All things considered, Cleveland's chances are the best, *heredemo!* Betting runs pretty even.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, October 7th.

The cholera epidemic, which has not only affected the intercourse between the infected and healthy portions of the Empire, but also reduced the flourishing trade of Hamburg almost to a standstill, has further placed a damper on politics, and for a moment suppressed the everlasting struggle of nationalities parties and individuals. But no sooner did the records of death show a slight improvement than everlasting restlessness and agitation again assumed the upper hand.

The close of the 19th century is particularly remarkable for the nervousness and haste which characterizes all action: If one notices the hurry with which political questions of the highest order are brought forward, discussed and decided upon, one feels inclined to think that the political actors are working against time and are labouring under

the impression that the close of the century will bring the finish of their political race. Germany seems in a political sense to present the focus in which all the predominant political forces meet. The reactionary ultramontane tendencies are here developed side by side with the revolutionary social democratic organisation. Each in turn giving their own colouring to the State policy, which in course of a few years has hesitatingly passed from persecution to tolerance, and is now on the point of forming an alliance with the first of these irresistible powers. By the system of universal suffrage which is carried in Germany to the extreme in the elections for the Imperial Parliament, the great influence remains with the centre or ultramontane party, which is, however, little disposed to grant support to the government for nothing, and continues to exact concession after concession in the sense of a retrograde policy. Again, at this juncture, the Government is on the point of making a bargain with them in order to pass the new Army Bill, which reduces the three years service to two years with the object of drilling a greater number of recruits every year in order to be able to mass up such a reserve of drilled men in a few years, that the military power of Germany will exceed that of France and Russia together. Unfortunately, this reform will cost between 70,000,000 and 100,000,000 marks, in addition to present burdens, and as the Imperial finances are already so strained that the present expenditure is not even easily provided for, the necessity for new taxes and new sacrifices will be brought home to Parliament at the next session. This new demand can only be carried by a majority formed by the centre, or ultramontane party, and the conservatives, for the other parties will scarcely be convinced of the necessity. What the price will be which the government will have to pay to the centre is at present difficult to conjecture, particularly as the government has nothing worth while to offer, or at least cannot give away anything of value, for instance the schools, without raising a storm of indignation all over the country. Perhaps the return to Jesuits may be demanded, i.e. the repeal of the order of banishment, which was passed by the Reichstag immediately after the creation of the Empire, a measure which was more of an impetuous character than the result of sound considerations, for in the stormy debate that brought about the law in question, no evidence at all was produced which could prove that the order of Jesuits had in Germany been guilty of acts justifying such severe measures. But to consent to their return, which was named by the congress of Catholics at Mayence lately as the next object for which the centre would be labouring will be more than Count Caprivi will dare to grant, even if he was not bound by a speech he made not long ago in the Prussian Landtag. The second demand of the centre, an interference in favour of the restoration of the Papal sovereignty in Rome is entirely out of the question, not only for Germany, but even for Austria, for it would at once drive Italy out of the Triple Alliance, though not perhaps directly into the arms of the French Republic. Thus the basis for an understanding between Caprivi and the centre in order to carry his army Reform Bill, is yet to be discovered, whilst with the remarkable ability of this party it is scarcely to be believed that they will be satisfied with anything but concrete concession and will scarcely accept promissory notes on the future.

The desire of the Imperial Government for an unparalleled increase of the military strength, is that Germany may be prepared for all eventualities in Europe. However, there is no reason whatever to fear immediately an outbreak of a European war. Russia has stoically refused the conclusion of an alliance with France, which is continually and insistently demanded by the French Chauvinists. It is easy to see why Russia will not bind itself. The object of France can only be the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine, which in reality does not interest Russia in the least degree. The object of Russia, looking at the future from the point of view of its own interests, is the settlement of the Eastern question, in other words the possession of Constantinople. To Germany, the extension of the Russian influence on the other side of the Balkan is perfectly indifferent, or to use Bismarck's famous words: "not worth the bones of one Pommernian grenadier;" but France would have to alter altogether its pretensions for predominance in the Mediterranean Sea, and forget all its Crimean sacrifices, if it assisted the Russian Empire to establish itself on the Bosphorus. For Russia and France there is therefore no sensible basis for an understanding, whilst for Germany and Russia there is no difficulty at all to come to terms, except for the presence of Austria-Hungary in the Triple Alliance. The Austro-Hungarian statesman are dead against allowing Russia the slightest incroachment on Bulgaria, Serbia, or Roumania, for they maintain

that there is no stopping of Russia's progress if the barriers, feeble as they may be, which the Congress of Berlin has erected, were allowed to be broken down. The celebrated Treaty of Alliance which Bismarck concluded with Austria, and which, according to the last utterances of Count Kalnoky remains in force in its main features as the regulator of the German-Austrian defensive union, clearly distinguishes between the case where Russia should attack either Germany or Austria, or where the latter should attack Russia (say in order to protect its Eastern interests). In this case Germany is not bound to assist Austria which will have to shift for itself. Therefore, Bismarck when put into a corner had no hesitation in publishing the Treaty of Alliance, which for the time created in Russia an anything but unfavourable impression; for it proved that it was directed only against France and not meant to stop Russia's legitimate interests. The new Treaty of Alliance with Italy is according to the statement of Count Kalnoky, not to be published, i.e. to be kept secret, and offers, therefore, room for speculation which it would be a work of supererogation to indulge in at present. But whatever it may be, it cannot affect the conviction that the Russian Emperor is to-day really the arbitrator of the European Peace, and judging from the eminently high-minded pacific character of Emperor Alexander II. who has hitherto resisted all temptations to the contrary, we may hope that the cause of European peace is for the present at least pretty well secured. Whether the energy of Russia will not in the meantime, seek an outlet on its Asiatic frontiers, is another question; but these efforts, natural enough on the part of a colossal land Power shut out almost entirely from a sea frontage, will not to any considerable extent alarm Europe—Great Britain alone excepted. We can therefore, in Germany, not attach any exaggerated importance to the question of the Russian advances on Asia proper, under whatever form it takes place. We equally trust the news, which has lately come from Constantinople, of a diplomatic altercation between Russia and the Sublime Porte on the subject of the distinguished reception accorded by the to the Bulgarian Premier Sultan, as nothing extraordinary. Even the apparent support given by France to Russian protests in this case, cannot for a moment mislead those who look behind the cards. The two Powers are far from any sort of alliance at present. The recovery of Alsace-Lorraine, with the assistance of Russia, can only be obtained on the part of the French by their sacrifice of all dreams of supremacy in the Mediterranean and the abandonment of Turkey to its fate. It is possible that at this price, Russia might be bought over, but even this is not by any means certain—and what is on the other hand certain is that a French Cabinet which would sign a Treaty of Alliance with Russia on these conditions, would not remain a week longer in office. Another question, not by any means an idle one, may be, whether if Bismarck ever returned to power he would not attempt to establish a new basis for the Eastern question for the sake of a re-approachment with Russia? According to the utterances of his Press organs he pretends that Russia has been unduly neglected by his successors in office, and that this is the cause of the unsatisfactory State of Germany's foreign relations. It may or may not be the case, but we are certainly very far from a "re-appraisal" of Bismarck, and probably nothing short of a national calamity from which heaven may preserve us, will bring him again to the foreground.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Berlin, October 15th.

We are on the eve of a great political event. The Military Reform Bill of General Caprivi will prove the touchstone of our internal party life and perhaps clear out many cobwebs which are not exactly an ornament to the German union. For the present, the details are not yet published, but the principles are already fully discussed by the government organs, which are assailed from all sides. In view of the immense increase of the army which is under contemplation, it might be interesting to examine what the present military strength of Germany is.

During the war of 1870-71, the German Army reached, according to official reports, its highest strength with 1,350,787 men. In this are included not only the army in the field but all "Etappen" reserve and garrison troops in and out of the Fatherland. During the summer of 1890, the military authorities stated in the Reichstag that the number of drilled men which could be disposed of

was (including the line, reserve, "Landwehr" and "Landsturm") 2,900,000 men. This was already more than double the strength of 1870-71. But since 1890 a further increase of military power has taken place. The peace effective of three years, namely (1890, 1891, 1892) is transferred to the reserve, while only one year's Landsturm has retired. Besides, three years effective of drilled First Class "Ersatz Reserve," which only began to be organized since 1880, have been added to the "Landwehr" of the Second Class. Thus, the war effective of the German army has already passed the total of 3,000,000. This increase will, without any change in the present system, continue. In the first instance until 1902, because only by that time the drilling of the "Ersatz Reserve" which commenced in 1880, will have produced its results for all the annual contingents in favour of the Landwehr and Landsturm; and in the second instance until 1914, because the number of newly entering recruits is greater in proportion to the number of men retiring to the Landsturm. For instance, the last annual effectives are by 40,000 men stronger than the effectives called in before 1879, and by 30,000 men stronger than the effectives of the years 1887-1889. Since 1890 annually, about 212,000 men are taken in to be drilled and instructed, and taking the effective of 24 years and deducting 25 per cent for deaths, emigration, and invalids we obtain a total of drilled men of 3,815,000 men. Adding to this the number of officers and non-commissioned officers, we arrive at 3,900,000 men, a total of more than three times the strength in 1870-1871. If now the three years' service be given up and in its place the effective be increased annually by 35,000 men (which is possible without increasing the present legal peace effective) there is an increase of 24 times 25,000, or 450,000 men, which would in course of time cause the army on its war footing to become 4,350,000 strong. What the consequences would be in case the legal peace effective should be increased, is for the moment beyond the reach of speculation, as exact statements are not yet forthcoming, but the papers are right if they exclaim that since the creation of the German Empire so enormous an augmentation has never been heard of.

The French army has, according to the Parliamentary Report, made also considerable progress in its development and strength.

In 1869 the active army contained 24,000 officers, 385,372 men; in 1892 it had 28,000 officers, and 484,015 men. The effective is, however, not the whole military strength, but is nearly doubled in case of mobilization by the reserves, and besides there exist reserve regiments composed of the former mixed regiments. To these troops must be added the territorial army, which corresponds to the German "Landwehr." The total strength of the army would be therefore 1,650 Battalions of Infantry, 600 squadrons of Cavalry, and 750 Batteries of Artillery.

According to the estimates of la "France militaire" the French military forces are estimated as follows:—Standing army 577,319, to which must be added volunteers and re-engaged men 98,583, 26,934 officers, and 25,795 gendarmes. Further, the reserve composed of the effectives of seven years at 178,246 each year, make 1,247,722 which, deducting 3 per cent. for deaths, etc., leaves net 985,702. Total in case of mobilization, without officers and gendarmes, 1,510,292. The territorial army to which annually 105,769 men are transferred, contains in its six years effective, with a deduction of 7 per cent., 994,614 men. This, added to the above 1,510,292, makes a total of 2,504,906. Besides, there is the reserve of the territorial army composed of nine years' effective. Deducting 9 per cent. for casualties, this is calculated at 1,266,192 men, and we thus arrive at a grand total, including officers and gendarmes, of 3,823,827 men. We thus find that the total of the German army already exceeds considerably that of the French army, besides the fact that the men of the latter's territorial army are not by any means all or sufficiently drilled, nor are their cadres completely organized. The new military reform in Germany is now calculated upon the necessity of fighting on two fronts, with or without allies; but as public opinion stands to-day, it is doubtful whether the change will be accepted by the Reichstag.

The Blue Ribbon Army is badly needed at Central Pennsylvania, where an infant a year and a half old has come to a sad end in consequence of drinking whisky. According to a despatch to a New York paper, John Pastula's child had just been christened and while the guests were celebrating the occasion in the accepted fashion some indiscreet individual handed the baby a whisky and soda to taste. After trying it "the little toddler became very happy," and going into an adjacent room fell into the tub of water from which it had been christened and was drowned.

Original from

LETTER FROM DENVER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Denver, Oct. 24th.

Many things have happened to make Denver famous since last I wrote. Among them, and chief of all, the 25th Triennial Conclave of Knights Templars in August, over which our city went mad with festivity and dollar making. But the world's papers had some mention of that gathering and made it unnecessary that your correspondent should speak of the display.

The most prominent feature of this part of the world is now the political hotch-potch cooked by local schemers. The campaign is being fought out with the usual amount of 'gall,' not only in the inkpots but on the stumps also. Such delicate insinuations are boldly made as that So and So—an aspirant for office—is worth three hundred thousand dollars, but not a cent. of it stands in his own name; that he is sought for by creditors who cannot collect their debts, and that he cannot disprove the charge. It is a remarkable fact that the assailed candidate is of sound financial standing and well known and trusted by the best business men of the city, so that the slander is utterly useless. Some politicians find great pleasure in calling their opponents by opprobrious names, and the party sheets bristle with epithets like "wild-eyed blatherskite," "boodler," "fraud," and "bunco." The Weavers denounce all others as Gold-bugs, Wall Street sharks, and traitors to the interests of Colorado. The others are pleased to denounce the Weavers as Crazy Loons and Calamity Howlers. Many of the most loyal Republicans and Democrats have forsaken their accustomed standards, attracted to the 'Populist' platform by the Silver-plank. Bold is he who would prophesy the results of this conflict whether in the mining States, or in the agricultural States. Local Democrats are in two camps. Those who accept the Cleveland straight ticket are called the "White-wings," a name likely to survive the present election. Their delegates to the convention at Pueblo wore white ribbons as favours; hence their nickname. These are constrained to indorse many nominees of the 'disgruntled' Democrats. A leading congregational pastor of this city was nominated by both sections for Congress, but declined the honour. The stronger section seems to be that which has 'bolted' under the lead of C. S. Thomas and T. M. Patterson, accepting the People's Party platform. It would hardly be surprising if "General" Weaver were to carry this State, simply because the creed of most Colorado people is, in brief—Silver ought to be made worth more than its market price, and whoever will promise to raise its price is the politician for us. No one needs to learn that mines which now cannot be worked at a profit would pay handsomely if free coinage ever became a *fait accompli*. But no one dreams that Weaver will be President, or that the silver question would be settled by his election. The present crisis will only end by proving the real strength of out-and-out silver men. Meantime, the Prohibitionists are hard at work, though silently for the most part, with their million vote pledges. Are all these men patry souled office-hunters? Is there none among them who honestly desires to serve his country? In the universal scramble and the war of epithet does altruism have no place? A multiplying army of cynics say, no, to all these questions. It is absolutely certain that in no other sphere of human activity on this continent is there so much trickery, so much chicanery, so much complex machinery of private greed, as in these same politics. Everybody suspects every other body who touches the ark of public weal. If one is weary, however, the rival papers make cheerful literature nowadays in their descriptions of their opponents' political meetings. "Two or three hungry office hunters, an old woman in spectacles, a policeman, and a yellow dog assembled in what was called a Republican rally last night. They shivered in the cooling air while the office-hunters took turns at yelling, but soon got tired of it and went home to bed." "The Pop-gun celebration at — came off in the usual style yesterday. Four persons doled for the average howl, and six persons listened sardonically for half an hour and then left them to complete their speeches to the impatient janitor. Colorado people have no use for calamity-mongers." No small amount of ingenuity is expended on political cartoons issued by the daily papers. True patriotism and honest politics can probably afford to leave these personalities and this purposeful lying alone.

Lady Henry Somerset is here with Miss Willard, to attend the National W.C.V.U. convention. Denver is coming to be known, the *Cosmopolitan* says, as the City of Conventions. Certainly no city in the land is more beautifully situated, and

none is more willing to be hospitable when hospitality is an advertisement.

News has recently reached here of the wreck of the P. and O. steamer *Bokhara* in the China Sea. Among the passengers were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Chain, well-known citizens of Denver and foremost in Christian labours. Many people here were conscious of personal loss. Among the missionaries in Japan are some who well know the esteem in which Denver has long held both husband and wife. They were on their way through the Far East to Palestine. Mrs. Chain was an artist of ability. Kindly, helpful, energetic, they were both representatives of that cheery Christian devotedness which is the salt of American life.

The *Kansas City Star* publishes a full account of a conspiracy to kill the famous "Sockless" statesman, Jerry Simpson. Two thousand dollars, it is averred, were offered to a blackguard named Snivell, if he would slay the unoffending Populist orator. Why one should think his influence worth destroying at such a cost passes the average man's comprehension. Possibly the whole story is a Populist "joke," developed for the sake of winning such sympathy as martyrs are sure of.

A most interesting experiment is being made at the State University. Hitherto, there has been no theological department there, but a Divinity School has now been formed under the cooperative efforts of various Christian denominations. A Baptist has been elected Dean of the Faculty, Rev. Kerr B. Tupper, of Denver. He is supported by one lecturer from each of the more extensive churches, except the Methodists, who have their own university close to Denver. It is curious to see what will happen with so cosmopolite a faculty in charge of theological instruction. Comprehensive views are to be expected in sight of these vast plains and stretching mountain ranges, but so far as I can learn this is the first time that America has found Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Baptists, Universalists, and Unitarians ready to unite in producing a preacher of the gospel. Next Sunday all preachers are asked to discuss the question of Christian Unity and to publish their remarks in the local press! This is in honour of the Columbian celebrations and the Parliament of Religions.

If there are any budding philanthropists still in the Isles of the Dawn, commend the following to them for its lucidity of expression—good for Japanese to study—its excessive modesty, and chiefly for the opportunity it offers to serve their fellows. Vistas of scientific attainment open when "electrolysis" is mentioned, and possibly some occult means of wreaking vengeance on one's foes, useful for jealous women to know. I take it from the *Denver Republican* of Oct. 25th, 1892:—

"For \$75 I will learn you manicuring, electrolysis and facial blemishes; you can make a fortune. Address—this office."

P.S.—October 29th. It is clear that the vaunted Populist party is nothing but a scheme for robbing the Republicans of the Western States. The cloven foot has appeared in the instructions given by the National Democratic Committee to the Straight Ticket Democrats of Colorado to withdraw the Cleveland electors and to unite forces with the Weaver people. Their hope is of course to make so close a vote on the Presidential election that the House of Representatives will be made umpire. The House is Democratic and would elect Cleveland. The election of Weaver is impossible, and was impossible from the first. If, therefore, this was not a plot hatched by the fertile brain of some political swindler whose teachery was expected to help the Democratic cause, appearances are grossly deceptive. Many respectable and solid men have withdrawn from the new "combine."

The members of the London Alpine Club do not suffer from giddiness, but there are occasionally mountaineers who do. For these the cure, according to a writer in the *Quarterly*, is not brandy or alcohol in any form. Stimulants are practically valueless in such circumstances. The victim will have to give up climbing. But there is surely one cure which has the reputation of having been effectual when tried. On one of these occasions four mountaineers, roped together, were just entering on a narrow ledge where the foothold was most precarious, when vertigo seized hold of one of them. He told his companions that he dared not move. The leader was one of the two most famous guides of the Oberland about 1860, and when he heard the news merely gave the command "Push him over." He was obeyed immediately and the traveller was suspended off the edge of the rock for a few seconds and then pulled up. Then he was able to go on all right. But a "pull" at the brandy flask is still the favourite remedy among mountaineers.

IN THE TOKYO COURT OF APPEAL.

W. DENING V. TANAKA HEIZABURO.

We publish below the finding of the Tokyo Court of Appeal in the suit instituted by Mr. W. Dening against Tanaka Heizaburo to recover certain monies lent. It will be remembered that when the case was first brought in the Yokohama Local Court, judgment was given against the plaintiff, who at once appealed to the Tokyo Court of Appeal. That tribunal reversed the judgment of the Lower Court and the defendant appealed to the Supreme Court. The judges of the Supreme Court returned the suit to the Court of Appeal for re-consideration, and the case has been again decided in favour of Mr. Dening.

JUDGMENT.

W. DENING, Appellant, 40, Imaicho, Azabu, Tokyo.

ASAKURA TOMOTETSU, Counsel for Appellant, 21, Kami Makicho, Tokyo.

TANAKA HEIZABURO, Respondent, 1218, Ota Village, Kanagawa Prefecture.

OTSUKA SEIKICHI, Counsel for Respondent, 1, Sanjikkhen-bori Nichome, Tokyo.

This case was returned from the Supreme Court for reconsideration of the judgment previously given in an appeal from a judgment of the Lower Court relating to a demand for the recovery of a debt. The Court once more delivers its decision and reverses the judgment of the Lower Court.

The appellant possesses the right to recover from respondent the full amount of the debt, with interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum; which amount was determined in a suit instituted by Matsumoto Seishu against Tanaka Heizaburo in the Tokyo Local Court on the 28th day of December, 1888.

FACTS AND POINTS IN DISPUTE.

The gist of the statement of counsel for appellant is that, though the name of Matsumoto Seishu appears as the creditor on the document concerning a loan of 10,500 yen to the respondent, as shown by Exhibit No. 1A, the real creditor is W. Dening, appellant in the present suit; and this fact was known to Tanaka Heizaburo, respondent in the suit. Therefore, the appellant instituted a suit against the respondent for the purpose of compelling acknowledgment of the fact, and demanding repayment of the debt with interest. The Lower Court dismissed the suit, and plaintiff appealed to the Tokyo Court of Appeal to reverse the original judgment. The principal points urged by counsel for respondent are that the respondent never borrowed any money from the appellant; while Exhibit No. 1A was given to Matsumoto Seishu so that he might appear in the suit. He acknowledged contracting a loan from Matsumoto Seishu; and for its recovery Matsumoto instituted legal proceedings, with the result that respondent was made a bankrupt, as shown by the Exhibit No. 1B. By a private negotiation with Matsumoto, however, the agreement between them was altered as shown by Exhibit No. 2B. Therefore, the respondent is under no obligation to repay the sum demanded by appellant. Again, respondent declared that he failed to understand the obligation he was under to a person who had no interest in the case. The original judgment was therefore legal, and he requested the Court to dismiss the appeal.

REASONS.

As the document relating to the loan of 10,500 yen was addressed to Matsumoto Seishu, externally, it appeared, for all intents and purposes, as if the said Matsumoto was the real lender of the money; but a document presented by the said Matsumoto to appellant, as shown in Exhibit No. 2A, contains the following words:—"Though it (the document) is addressed in my own name, you are the real creditor, therefore you can do what you like with it, and I have no right to gain-say a word," etc. During the proceedings of the Lower Court a representative of the said Matsumoto affirmed that the money was advanced by the appellant; therefore, he is the real creditor, without the slightest doubt. Such being the case it is not necessary to call that witness to repeat the same affirmation. Moreover, Akiyama Shuzo, formerly Gizayemon, who attached his name to the bond as security for respondent, also declared that he knew that the real lender of the money was appellant. This evidence was considered trustworthy. The Court therefore considers that the real creditor is the appellant in the present suit, and not Matsumoto, as alleged by respondent. Again, to ascertain whether the respondent knew whether the real creditor was the appellant or not, the Judge cross-examined the representative of Matsumoto Seishu in the Lower Court as follows:—"The Judge—Did you communicate to Tanaka

the fact that the loan contracted was advanced with appellant's money?

The Representative of Tanaka.—Yes. As Matsumoto was acting as *banto* to Denning, and as Tanaka knew that Matsumoto did not possess a sum of over 10,000 yen, he (Tanaka) requested Matsumoto to borrow that sum from Denning. —Now, Matsumoto was *banto* to appellant, and as the respondent knew that he possessed no money, he was asked to apply to Denning to advance him the amount of the proposed loan. Akiyama Shuzo, a witness, also stated that Tanaka, the respondent, knew from the very beginning that the money belonged to and was advanced by appellant. This evidence was considered trustworthy. Again, in exhibit No. 34, a letter from Akiyama to Amakura, and in exhibit No. 44, another letter from Akiyama to Amakura and Matsumoto, Akiyama asking Amakura and Matsumoto to postpone the payment of Tanaka's debt, used the words "Your Master." Akiyama, the writer of those letters, declared that the words referred to the appellant. Akiyama was the person who countersigned the document of loan as security, and Amakura and Matsumoto were employees of Denning. Thus, judging from the above letters only, it is plain that the respondent knew that his real creditor was the appellant, and that, as Matsumoto was in the employ of the appellant, for convenience sake his name was written upon the document as the assumed creditor. Though the respondent does not accept exhibits No. 3 and 4, it is clear, judging from the statements of Akiyama and Amakura and the condition of the letters, that they are not fabrications. The Court considers their evidence as genuine. In letters from the respondent to Amakura, which were shown in Exhibits 8 and 10, the former asked the latter to postpone payment. Again, Exhibit No. 5, an agreement between the respondent and Amakura, states the method by which the debt in question was to be repaid. This document is accepted by respondent. Again, Exhibits Nos. 6, 7, 8, and 9, letters from Imamura Bunsuke to Amakura, are records of the former endeavouring to raise the money for the payment of the debt in question; and they contain sentences which interpreted mean that the respondent knew that his creditor was Denning. Those letters were dated at the house of Tanaka; and there is no evidence to show that they were fabricated afterwards. Taking these letters into consideration, along with other evidence furnished by Amakura, Akiyama, and Imamura,—the latter though not authorized by Tanaka as an agent, was acting for Tanaka in obtaining postponement of the debt—it is plain that the respondent knew from the very beginning that the real creditor was appellant. Respondent argued that he altered the terms of agreement with Matsumoto; but the above evidence plainly proves that he was aware of his real creditor, therefore no contract made with Matsumoto can be held valid, unless it obtained the consent of the real creditor. Exhibit No. 2B is not only a private document, but its date is uncertain; and since Matsumoto declared that the appellant was the real creditor in the Lower Court, and accepted Exhibit No. 2A, he had no right whatever to conclude any such contract with Tanaka. In the suit brought against Tanaka by Matsumoto, Matsumoto declared in the Lower Court that he was a *feudal* of the appellant, and sued the respondent under the latter's instructions. Thus, the fact of Matsumoto's only acting as agent for appellant is plain; while it is equally clear that respondent also had knowledge of the fact. All the evidence goes to prove that appellant is the real creditor in the transaction. Since it is proved that in a judgment previously given, as shown by the exhibit No. 1B Matsumoto was declared to be acting for appellant, it is not necessary for the appellant to ask for another judgment, as shown by Exhibit No. 1A. The Court determines that the real creditor is the appellant, and he may sue for recovery of the amount due from the respondent.

The above judgment was delivered in the Third Section for Civil cases in the Tokyo Court of Appeal.

(Signed.) { KITAMURA TAICHI, Chief Judge.
KOBAYASHI YOSHIO, Judge.
HIRANO NAGANORI, Judge.
ONO YEMONDA, Judge.
TOMIYA SENTARO, Judge.

He (rising).—Then, Miss Grace, I must leave you. She.—Thank you. I endeavoured to make it plain that you couldn't take me.

On careful calculation it is now settled that two rabbits in ten years will multiply 70,000,000.

The lands in Germany devoted to grain used in beer production would support 50,000,000 people.

Over 50,000 tons of cotton-seed oil are consumed annually. Not many years ago cotton-seed was thrown away.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A large number of members and friends attended the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society held in the Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. The programme was well balanced with music and literature, and came to a close shortly before half-past ten o'clock. The opening overture—Dar Kalif von Bagdad—was given by Mr. and Miss Griffin with their usual grace of execution. Mrs. Van Petten read an original paper, a résumé of which is given below. Mrs. Brouer contributed a song, "Rinaldo Von Hindel," and Miss Wilson recited "Logan at Peach Tree Creek." Miss de Motte opened the second part with Chopin's Polonaise, Op. 71, No. 2. Mr. J. L. Dearing's reading "Grandma's Attic Treasures," though very interesting, proved a trifle wearisome towards the end by reason of its length. Mrs. James Walter's song, "The Magic Song," Meyer-Helmund, was very beautifully given. A recitation by Mrs. Hubbard, "His Mother's Songs," and a "Das Grab auf der Haide," by Mr. Studdelmann, were the concluding items.

Mrs. Van Petten in introducing her paper—Farm Life in Illinois—said that she had come to a diametrically opposite conclusion to that arrived at by Mr. Wilkin who had, last session, read a paper on farm life in Canada. That paper, indeed, had been a source of great discomfort to her. The farms which she knew had been under cultivation since the early thirties, therefore she claimed an experience sixty years longer than Mr. Wilkin. The early settlers in Illinois, knowing nothing of the rich coal beds beneath the surface, chose the wooded districts along the river, so that the felled wood might be used as fuel. The railroad had not penetrated to those regions then, and a visit to friends in New York or Massachusetts entailed a hard journey of six weeks. Chicago in those early days was called Fort Dearborn, and was a swampy, undesirable spot. Fort Clark, the modern Peoria, was a favourite camping ground of Indians who, though not exactly hostile, were not particularly pleasant neighbours. The settlers were obliged to go 100 miles to St. Louis for their flour, and were often pursued by packs of hungry wolves, from whose jaws there were many thrilling escapes. For the women of those times, as well as for the men, said Mrs. Van Petten, I have profound respect. How one ever managed to be wife, mother, cook, nurse, house-keeper, laundress, and dress-maker, and still find time for church and charitable work, is a mystery to her daughters. Yet, in most of these relations and departments of work they are the best models we have. No wonder that among their sons were found an Abraham Lincoln and a U. S. Grant. In course of time, however, railroads brought the old homes within twenty-four hours easy travel, and after that the country was settled as if by magic. The coal-beds were unearthed and the fertile prairies made accessible to the skilled and eager sons of the early farmers; Fort Clark had become Peoria and Fort Dearborn Chicago, while the Indian had vanished. The lecturer then gave a concise and graphic description of the change that had taken place in the methods of agriculture, the improvements in the farmer's house, and his increasing comforts as the years went by. She also drew attention to the gradual improvement in the scholastic opportunities of the young. The early school was generally staffed by young men and women who were working their way through college by teaching. At the present day trained teachers of the State Normal have charge of the schools. Referring to the old-fashioned diversions,—the planting and harvesting, the quilting and apple bees were all occasions of jollity—the speaker said that it seemed almost a pity that we have lost them. The farmer's wife as things are now, is not so well off as her husband, because of the difficulty in getting servants,—indeed, a mistress of a house has often to be her own servant. Having painted a glowing picture of the pleasures of farm life in a genial climate, both in winter and summer, and given a sketch of some of the amusements indulged in by everybody sound of wind and limb, the Vice-President concluded: One can but admire the strength and energy of the young men, the self-helpfulness of the young women, engendered by this very lack of servants. Take it altogether the life of a well-to-do farmer in Illinois, or almost anywhere in the Mississippi Valley, seems to me to have great possibilities for health, happiness, and comparative wealth. Cities are all very well for society and various kinds of work, but for real living one needs to go to the country. There one's comfort is not lessened by the thought of even a dog that is cold and hungry, but everybody and everything has enough to eat and a warm place to sleep in. Statesmen and Philanthropists have still much to do before this will be true of all people, even the richest city of the world.—(Loud cheers.)

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

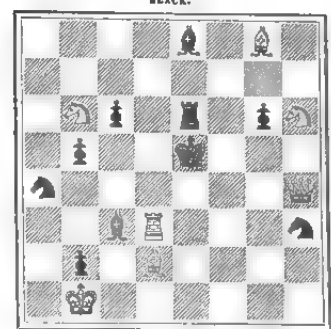
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 45.

- WHITE.
1—Q to R 8
2—Q x P
3—B mates at Kt 2, or Q at Q 4, accy.
2—Q checks at Q 8, and
3—Mates at Q 4.
2—Q to Q 8 (ch.)
3—R mates at K 7, or Q at Q 4, accy.
- BLACK.
1—K to Q 4
2—K x R or to B 4
1—K to Q 3
2—K to Kt (or R) 2 or B 4

Correct solutions received from Scacchi, W.H.S., J.D., Omega, Ed. B., and J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 47.

By G. HEATHCOTE.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The young and brilliant master, Emanuel Lasker, has added to his laurels by a complete victory over the veteran English player Bird. The match was played at Newcastle on Tyne under the auspices of the Newcastle Chess Club and resulted in a rather hollow victory for the younger man, he scoring five straight wins without a loss or draw. We copy from the *British Chess Magazine* the fourth and best game of the match.

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENCE.

- | White (Bird) | Black (Lasker) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to B 4 | 3—Kt to B 3 |
| 4—Kt to Kt 5 | 4—P to Q 4 |
| 5—P takes P | 5—Kt to R 4 |
| 6—B to Kt 5 ch. | 6—P to B 3 |
| 7—P takes P | 7—P takes P |
| 8—B to Q 3 | |

—Seldom played and inferior to the usual B B to K 5. Black's best reply is 8..... B to Q B 4

- | White | Black |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 9—Kt to K B 3 | 8—Kt to Kt 5? |
| 10—P to K R 3 | 9—P to K B 4 |
| 11—P takes Kt | 10—P to K 5 |
| 12—P takes Q P | 11—P takes B |
| 13—Q to K 2 ch. | 12—P takes P |
| 14—Kt to Kt 5! | 13—B to K 2 |
| 15—Kt to K 6 | 14—Castles |

If 15, Kt takes P, the Rook would go to K sq, with speedy trouble for White

- | White | Black |
|------------------|----------------|
| 16—Q takes B ch. | 15—B takes Kt |
| 17—Kt to B 3 | 16—Kt to R sq. |
| | 17—Kt to Kt 2 |
| | 18—P to K R 3 |

18—Q to K 4
19—P to Kt 4
Designing to get the Bishop into action as much as to keep the Knight from Q 4

- | White | Black |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 20—Kt to K 2 | 19—P to Q R 4 |
| 21—Q R to Kt sq. | 20—B to B 3 |
| 22—P to Q 4 | 21—P takes P |
| 23—P to Q 3 | 22—Q to Q 3 |
| 24—Q takes Kt P | 23—Q R to K sq. |
| | 24—B takes P |

Here it is said that Black overlooked the fact that his opponent could castle 24..... Q takes P was the correct move.

- | White | Black |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 25—Castles | 15—B takes Kt |
| 26—Kt to B 4! | 16—Kt to R sq. |
| 27—P takes P | 17—Kt to Kt 2 |
| | 18—P to K R 3 |
| | 19—P to Q R 4 |
| | 20—B to B 3 |
| | 21—P takes P |
| | 22—Q to Q 3 |
| | 23—Q R to K sq. |
| | 24—B takes P |

Throwing Black on the defensive. The difference between taking the Pawn with the Queen and taking it with the Bishop at move 21 is easily seen

- | White | Black |
|---------------|--------------|
| 26—Kt to B 4! | 25—B to B 3 |
| 27—P takes P | 26—B to Kt 4 |

All the play hereabouts is extremely ingenious.

28—R to Q 4!
29—R takes R
30—B takes B
..... If 30..... Q takes P, then probably 31 Q to R 5, regaining the Pawn at the very least. Neither can he take it on the next move for the same reason.

31—P to Q 4!
32—B to R 5
33—Q to K 6
34—P to B 4

White maintains his attack in the finest style, and Black's defence is a model one. With an eye to the end, it was necessary for the latter to get rid of the Rook's Pawn, as he does on the 36th move, though the risk was great.

35—Q takes R P ch. 34—P takes P
36—Q to K 6 35—K to Kt sq.
37—R to B 8 ch. 36—R takes P
38—R to B 8 ch. 37—R to R 2
39—Q to K 8 38—Kt to B sq.
40—R to Q 8 39—R to K B 2
41—Q to K 6? 40—Q to K 5

FA terrible blunder. Anxious to stop the threatened perpetual check, Mr. Bird here simply throws away the game. The position was not to be won for White.

42—K to R 2 41—Q to K 8 ch.
43—K to Kt sq. 42—Q to R 5 ch.
44—Resigns. 43—Q takes R

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 25th.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Mercantile Bank has approved of reconstruction.

General Caprivi, in introducing the Army Bill in the Reichstag, said that Germany had no fear of war in the future, but it was necessary for them to prepare for the next war on two fronts.

London, November 27th.

At the Monetary Conference, the delegates of Austria and Germany declared that they had been instructed that their respective countries cannot agree to any modification of the existing monetary system. France, Holland, Spain, and Mexico are ready to vote in favour of the American proposals, while Russia, Switzerland, Italy, Roumania, and Greece, have not yet voted, and reserve their opinion. Rothschild proposes an agreement between the Powers by their buying silver at a fixed price.

London, November 30th.

The meeting of Parliament will take place on January 31st.

The French Ministry has resigned.

Rothschild's proposals at the Monetary Conference, as a whole, have been favourably received in the city, but in the United States meet with disapproval.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, November 2nd.

An announcement has been made officially that the French troops have finally routed the Dahomeyans and that they have encamped close to Abomey, the capital of Dahomey.

London, November 9th.

A bomb, found in Paris, exploded, blowing four policemen to atoms, a fragment of the missile fatally wounding an Inspector of Police.

There are daily meetings of the unemployed at Tower Hill at which increasingly menacing language is used. At the last meeting it was resolved to assemble in Trafalgar Square every Saturday and Sunday with a view to compel the attention of the authorities to their present condition.

London, November 14th.

Fifty thousand of the unemployed in London assembled on Sunday in Trafalgar Square and quietly commemorated the so-called Bloody Sunday, otherwise the 13th of November, 1887, when the Military were called out to assist the police in clearing the streets around Trafalgar Square.

London, November 15th.

The Sailors and Firemen's Union has issued a notice warning passengers against travelling in vessels that are manned by Lascar or Chinese crews, and pointing to the *Bokhara* and *Roumania* disasters.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 9th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	To-day, Dec. 3rd.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 4th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Dec. 12th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 11th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 8th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Dec. 12th.

* *Gallic* left San Francisco on November 25th. * *Ancona* left Hongkong on November 25th. * *City of Peking* left San Francisco on November 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Sunday, Dec. 4th.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 4th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 6th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 8th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 9th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 10th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 13th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 20th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 27th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 26th November.—Otaru via ports 21st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 26th November.—Hongkong 19th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Hussey, 26th November.—Kobe 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 27th November.—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, S. Tsuga, 27th November.—Hakodate 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 28th November.—Vancouver, B.C., 14th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Friarburg, German ship, 1,805, Reitzenstein, 28th November.—Singapore 28th September, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Salasia, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 28th November.—Marseilles via ports 16th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 28th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 29th November.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 29th November.—Kobe 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 29th November.—Nagasaki 24th November, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Titan, British steamer, —, —, 29th November.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 30th November.—Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, Selck, 1st December.—Nagasaki 29th November, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 1st December.—Kobe 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Moray, British steamer, 1,511, Crouch, 2nd December.—Kobe 30th November, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, Sofuye, 2nd December.—Otaru 30th November, General.—S. Asano & Co.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 2nd December.—Hachinohe 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, M. Blanke, 2nd December.—Hongkong 26th November, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 2nd December.—Otaru via ports 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, K. Ono, 25th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple,

26th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 27th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Hussey, 27th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 28th November.—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.
Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, S. Tsuga, 28th November.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 28th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 29th November.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Robt. L. Belknap, American ship, 2,251, H. Staples, 29th November.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 29th November.—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, J. H. Clark, 29th November.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 29th November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 30th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 30th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 1st December.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Milke Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—1 passenger in cabin; 20 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong:—Miss C. Wood, Mr. Rohit, Douglas, Mrs. F. Preston, Rev. and Mrs. F. E. Clark and son, Mr. Angel Travel, Mrs. Jno. Wood, Mr. A. H. Nathan, Mr. H. J. H. Kirchhoff and servant, and Mr. M. Abraham in cabin; 1 passenger in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. K. Oppenheimer, Mr. T. Unogawa, and Lieut.-Major R. Harada in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 20 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Vicente Bartholemey, Rev. D. W. Calder, Mr. F. H. B. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Ferguson, Miss A. Gilbert, Mr. J. B. Gilliat, Mrs. J. B. Gordon, Rev. H. J. Hamilton, Rev. and Mrs. Jones, Miss Jones, Mr. R. Musgrove, Mr. J. W. McKenzie, Mr. J. Nation, Mr. H. Ogilvie, Mr. and Mrs. W. Pichler, Miss Payers, Mr. H. H. Rickard, Dr. T. A. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Sale, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sarstianer, Messrs. W. Saunders, D. G. Stewart, W. Stigand, M. Suberville, H. D. Walker, E. Watjen, H. S. Wilkinson, W. L. Clark, T. Brown, W. F. Inglis, and A. Cattaneo in cabin; Miss Ballard, Miss Hogan, Mr. and Mrs. H. Russell, Messrs. G. Blundell, Upton, and Pan Sun Shi in second class.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Liechtenstein, Tatsumi, Alex. Bordel, L. Bruey, Mishimaki, Defrennet, Demangelle, Takezawa, Rodimoff, Hardy Lomis, L. Huttes, D. Page, W. Crowe, Ch. Rogers, W. Sutter, Tamaki, Salvery, and Muller in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via ports:—Miss Okada and Mr. Y. Miura in cabin; Mr. S. Sakaguchi in second class, and 49 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. T. Hara in cabin; 532 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—1 in cabin; 18 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Milke Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Goldman and C. J. Strome in cabin; 16 passengers in steerage. For Hakodate: Captain J. Brown in cabin. For Otaru and ports: 10 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—His Excellency Freiherr von Gutschmidt, Mr. Wilh. Steumetz, Mr. A. Jaeger, and Mr. Ah Kee in cabin; 9 Chinese in steerage. For Hyogo: Mr. Alb. Wilkens in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Dr. Chas. Begg, Lieut. C. Bologovsky, Captain A. Bonbroff, Mr. James Comley, Mr. A. C. Jeffreys, R.N., Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Chas. King, Miss M. N. Page, Mr. S. Pankoff, Mr. H. S. Sniffen, Miss Thompson, Rev. W. M. Upcraft,

and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Warren and 2 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, fo. Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Sakurai, Rev. H. K. Harris, Messrs. T. Tsutsumi, A. Brent, Gr. N. Macondray, and D. Lariou in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Lo Kai Yuen and child, and Mrs. Aramaki in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

	NEW FRANCISCO.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	275	—	—	275
Yokohama	291	—	—	291
Hongkong	47	—	—	47
Amoy	—	601	—	601
Total	813	566	601	1,980

	NEW FRANCISCO.	YORK.	BARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	205	—	205
Hongkong	—	369	—	369
Yokohama	—	1,106	—	1,106
Total	—	1,680	—	1,680

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Mika Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 21st November at noon; had moderate N.W. winds with sharp sea and weather clear; at 10.25 passed Okushiri light, fresh N.W. winds and clear weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 22nd at 7 a.m., moderate to gentle N.W. winds and fine weather. Left Hakodate the 23rd at noon; had gentle S.W. winds, smooth sea, and cloudy weather; at 4.10 p.m. passed Shiriya-saki; on the 24th at 4.30 a.m. passed Koubesaki, fresh to strong N.E. winds with high sea; at 10.30 passed Kinkasan, and arrived at Oginohama at noon. Left the 26th at 4 a.m.; had moderate to fresh N.N.W. breezes, with high sea and cloudy weather; at 7 p.m. passed Inuboye, fresh N.N.W. breeze, high sea, cloudy threatening weather with rain; on the 26th at 3.17 a.m. passed Noshima, moderate northerly breeze and high southerly swell; thence to port had light to moderate northerly winds, fine and clear weather; passed Kanon-saki at 6 a.m., and arrived at Yokohama at 7.30 a.m.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 19th November at 3.05 p.m.; had strong N.E. monsoon with heavy sea and rainy weather till the 22nd, at noon wind veered to S.E. increasing in force from a strong breeze to a heavy gale with heavy rain and heavy sea from S.E.; barometer 29.93; on the 23rd at noon gale continued wind backing to the east, less sea and very heavy rain; at 5.50 p.m. passed Yokoshima, wind increasing and blowing a hard gale with heavy rain squalls and high south easterly sea; barometer 29.49 and falling; wind veered from S.E. to south; at 10 p.m. barometer 29.16, wind veered to S.W. and increased to typhoon force with very heavy rain and high confused sea; hove the ship to on starboard tack; at midnight wind died out, rain ceased, sky clear, barometer 28.82 lowest reading; on the 24th at 0.50 a.m. wind increasing rapidly and veering W.S.W. to west, weather cloudy and squalls, with heavy rain and low flying scud, at times very high confused sea, barometer 28.99; at 1.30 a.m. steered in an easterly direction; at 3.30 wind veered to N.W. and increased to a strong typhoon with very heavy squalls of rain and a mountainous confused sea; hove ship to, barometer 29.16; at 8 a.m. wind moderated to a strong gale, barometer 29.64; put ship on her course and proceeded to port; rough sea and high N.W. and S.W. swell and weather clearing at noon, strong gale, clear weather, and very high sea to noon on the 25th; thence to port fresh N.W. winds and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th November at 10.42 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hogo Maru*, Captain M. Matsumoto, reports:—Left Hakodate the 26th November at noon; had gentle to moderate westerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 28th at 11 a.m. and left the same day at 3.15 p.m.; had light westerly breeze and clear weather throughout the passage; after passing Noshima Lighthouse, moderate west-south-westerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th November at 5.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 28th November at 7 a.m.; had light to moderate W.S.W. winds and fine, clear weather; experienced fine weather and light westerly winds to Vries Island; thence wind N.E., light and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th November at 11.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th November at 10 a.m.; arrived at Shiotsu at 2.30 p.m., and left same day for Yokohama. Moderate north-westerly breeze with heavy sea up to Oshima,

thence to port variable wind. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th November at 6 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Mika Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Kobe the 30th November at 4 p.m.; had moderate N.W. winds and cloudy weather; at 9.33 p.m. passed Hino-misaki; at 11.40 passed steamer *Moray*; on December 1st at 2 a.m. passed Oshima; from Oshima to Rock Island, had strong to moderate N. to N.W. winds and high sea, weather fine and clear; passing Omai-saki at 1.35 p.m. and Rock Island at 4.32 p.m.; from Rock Island to port had light to gentle winds; at 9.40 p.m. passed Kanon-saki, weather hazy. Arrived at Yokohama at 11 p.m.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th November at 12.30 a.m.; had fine weather throughout the voyage; up to Linshoten Islands, strong N.E. to N.N.E. winds and rough to high sea, cloudy weather; thence to port N.N.W. winds and rough sea, cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd December at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 28th November at 10 a.m.; had gentle to moderate and fresh westerly winds to Okushiri, which was passed at 8.30 p.m., and fine but cloudy weather; similar winds and fine, clear weather to port. Arrived at Hakodate the 29th at 5.30 a.m. and left the 30th at 8 a.m.; had from moderate to fresh and strong westerly breezes with heavy snow squalls and very thick weather to Shiriya-saki, which was passed at 11.30 a.m.; at 3 p.m. weather cleared up with fresh breezes from N.W. to W. and S.W. and fine, clear weather; similar weather to port. Arrived at Oginohama the 1st December at 7.30 a.m. and left the same day at 3.45 p.m.; had from gentle to moderate N.W. and S.W. winds and fine, clear weather to Inuboye-saki, which was passed at 7.40 a.m. on the 2nd; similar weather to Noshima Lighthouse, which was passed at 2.45 p.m.; thence to port gentle to moderate and fresh N.E. and northerly winds and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd December at 7.15 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

We raise quotations to-day on Grey Shirtings, the strong enquiry for both 8½ and 9lbs. still continuing. In Turkey Reds, while buying has been moderate, holders have been able to obtain little more for stocks on hand. Woollens are very quiet, but holders are not willing to give way in prices, looking for a better market in sympathy with the advance on Cottons. Better feeling in Yarns, 28/32's and Bombays being quotably higher. Buyers, however, will not pay the higher prices if they can avoid it, hence the sales have been restricted somewhat, as holders are firm in their position.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	1.70 to 2.25
1. Cloth—7½ lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	2.00 to 2.85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.65
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	PER YARD.
Victoria Lanes, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.12 to 0.16
La Rochelle, 12 yds, 43 inches	0.00 to 0.50
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.25, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	0.62½ to 0.77½
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.85, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3½, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.7½ to 1.2½
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.85, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.85, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	1.30 to 1.60
	1.62½ to 1.72½
	1.95 to 2.10

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.24 to 0.38
Medium	0.77½ to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.24 to 0.61
Woolenine de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.17½ to 0.23
Clothes—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.11½ to 0.19
Clothes—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Clothes—Union, 51 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.57½
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.65
	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Medium	\$27.00 to 28.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	28.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 16/32, Ordinary	28.00 to 30.00
Nos. 16/32, Medium	30.00 to 32.50
Nos. 16/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/32, Medium to Best	33.00 to 33.75
Nos. 32/2, Two-fold	35.25 to 36.25
Nos. 42/2, Two-fold	34.00 to 35.00
	38.00 to 40.00

No. 20s, Bombay	PER BALE.
No. 16s, Bombay	70.00 to 79.00
No. 10/14, Bombay	69.00 to 75.00
	60.00 to 70.00

MTALS.

More done in Bar Iron, but quotations are unchanged.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Thin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

The *Glenshiel* brought some 20,000 cases of Chester, but it has had no effect on the market. Prices remaining firm and sales good.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devon	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.74½ to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72½

SUGAR.

About the end of last week buyers rushed into the market taking nearly 30,000 piculs Browns, and quotations on Manila and Daitong were pushed up 10 cents in consequence. Since then there have been some new arrivals and the market has quieted down.

Brown Takao	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	\$4.35 to 4.60
Brown Daitong	3.75 to 3.80
Brown Canton	3.80 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	5.90 to 6.00
White Refined	5.65 to 5.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 25th ultimo. Since then settlements on this market amount to 796 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 19 piculs; *Filatures*, 527 piculs; *Re-reels*, 352 piculs, while *Kaheda* shows a surplus of rejections over settlements amounting to 72 piculs. Direct shipments have been 164 bales, so that the total export trade of the week amounts to 970 piculs.

There has been considerably more business than in the previous week, one or two days being fairly active. Business has been done for both continents, some American buyers entering the market rather freely, taking such *Shinshu Filatures* as are now to be had, at prices ranging from \$820 to \$845. In European kinds, several parcels have been taken up, *Filatures*, *Re-reels* and *Kaheda* all meeting with some enquiry. At closing, the market is quiet, shippers having apparently filled their immediate orders, although there are enquiries for good silks from time to time, such as now no longer exist.

Arrivals come in to a fair extent, being all cold weather silks, and our winter seems to have set in, the weather being unusually cold for the time of year. From the statistics given below, it will be observed that visible supply to date is 1,800 piculs less than it was last year.

Exchange has hardened yet further, but not to the extent of the rise in price of silver, sterling exchange being now more on a parity with the price of bullion in London.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The English mail steamer *Ravenna*, on the 26th instant (since damaged by collision in the Inland Sea), carried 144 bales for Europe, and the *Peru*, which left port for San Francisco on the 29th, had 1,106 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the present export figures up to 29,353 piculs, against 23,333 piculs last year, and 10,253 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—A small business consisting of good medium *Chichibu* at \$580. Good *Hanks* are very scarce this year and anything of special quality is very firmly held in strong hands.

Filatures.—More than one half the trade has been done in this class, the present offerings of *Shinshu*, full size, being freely taken at prices ranging from \$820 to \$845. Present quality is unsatisfactory when compared with summer reliings. Some few parcels of *Koshu* have also been done; *Yafima*, \$820; other chops \$800. In fine sizes, medium grades have been most in demand, silks running from \$710 to \$750 being most in request.

Re-reels.—Here there has also been considerable business, and among the purchases made are *Five Girl* at \$775; *Tortoise*, \$765; *Tengensha*, \$765 and others in proportion. Very common *Bushu* have been done at \$580.

Kaheda.—About 35 piculs medium grades at \$685 and \$700, with something rather better at

\$735. These purchases have been offset by large rejections of previous purchases.
In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS.	
Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shiohshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 3 (Joshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shiohshu)	\$610 to 620
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	500 to 600
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 34	530 to 540
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Heat No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 11, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 21, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Kakadas—Extra	—
Kakadas—No. 1	—
Kakadas—No. 11	740 to 750
Kakadas—No. 2	700 to 710
Kakadas—No. 24	650 to 660
Kakadas—No. 3	630 to 640
Kakadas—No. 34	610 to 620
Oshu Sundai—No. 1	—
Hanatsuki—No. 1	Nom.
Hanatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 2nd Dec., 1892:—

	Season 1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Europe	9,387	7,921	3,024
America	18,951	14,880	6,952
Total	28,338	22,801	9,976
	Piculs 29,353	23,333	10,253
Settlements and Direct	—	—	—
Export from 1st July	30,450	27,500	10,500
Stock, and December	10,650	15,400	16,600
Available supplies to date	41,100	42,900	27,100

WASTE SILK.

In this branch there has again been a large trade, although not quite so much as in the previous week. Settlements amount to 1,275 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi*, 688 piculs; *Kibiso*, 481 piculs; *Neri*, 106 piculs. There is not much change to note in prices. Buyers are evidently on the lookout for good *Waste*, especially *Noshi* sorts, and quotations are fairly well maintained.

Arrivals have not been on the same scale and the stock is still further reduced, being not more than 16,300 piculs. Visible supplies to date are about 5,500 piculs in excess of last year. Some of the Native merchants assert that *Cocoons* of this year's crop are not so good as last season's, and give more waste at the *bassine*; hence the increased supplies of *Waste* this year.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Ravenna* taking 351 bales *Cocoons* and *Waste* for Europe. The present export figures are 15,098 piculs, against 12,610 piculs last year, and 12,943 at the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—No business in these, the remaining stock being chiefly of inferior grades.

Noshi.—The trade in *Yegara* has continued, \$130 being paid for best, of which grade several hundred piculs have been taken. A fairly good line of *Oshu Noshi* at \$135, with *Foshu* assorted at prices ranging from \$70 to \$75.

Kibiso.—Filatures have again been in request, \$105 being paid for good quality, while many parcels of seconds have been done at about \$90. No transactions of any note in *Hira* sorts, one or two small lots of *Oshu* being entered at \$41.

Neri.—Considerable purchases in this at \$13 for common and \$17 for good, both quotations being for the uncleaned stock.

QUOTATIONS.	
Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	\$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	60 to 70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 55
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 2nd Dec., 1892:—

	Season 1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
Waste Silk	12,763	11,739	12,027
Pierced Cocoons	2,335	881	916
	15,098	12,610	12,943

Settlements and Direct	—	—	—
Export from 1st July	20,700	16,950	17,300
Stock, and December	16,300	14,750	9,400

Available supplies to date 37,000 31,700 26,700

Exchange has improved a little but the rise here has not been equal to the improvement in the price of Bullion. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$; Documents, 2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$; 6m/s. Credits, 2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$69; 4m/s. U.S. \$70; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.64.

Estimated Silk Stock, and Dec., 1892:—

	RAW.	WASTE.
Hanks	435	700
Filatures	4,235	8,300
Re-reels	4,716	5,680
Kakadas	731	110
Oshu	503	510
Taysam Kinds	30	—
Total piculs	10,650	15,300

TEA.

No change to note in quotations, desirable descriptions hard to find and settlements very small.

	PER PICUL.
Fine	\$22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange continues to fluctuate, a slight improvement in rates being the latest movement:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/10 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Paris—Bank sight	5.51
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	5.51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
On America—Bank Bills on demand	67 $\frac{1}{2}$
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60
On America—Private 4 months' sight	70
Silver	39 $\frac{1}{2}$

FREDERIC ALGAR, Deceased.—Pursuant to the Statute 22 and 23 Vic., chapter 35, intitled "An Act to further amend the law of property and to relieve trustees." Notice is Hereby Given, that all creditors and other persons having any debts, claims, or demands against the ESTATE of FREDERIC ALGAR, late of Nos. 11 and 12, Clement's-lane, in the City of London, and of 31, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, London, British, Colonial, and Foreign Advertising Contractor (who died on the 2nd day of February, 1892, and probate of whose will was granted on the 1st day of March, 1892, by Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, Probate Division, Principal Registry, to Frederic Percy Algar, the son of the deceased, and Frederick Jonathan Guir, both of Nos. 11 and 12, Clement's-lane, aforesaid, the executors therein named), are required to send in particulars of their debts, claims, or demands to us, the undersigned, as solicitors for the executors, on or before the 10th day of February, 1893, after which day the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said testator among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the debts, claims, or demands only of which the said executors shall then have had notice, and that they shall not be answerable or liable for the assets so distributed, or any part thereof, to any person of whose debt, claim, or demand they shall not then have had notice; and all persons indebted to the estate of the said deceased are requested to pay the amount of their debts to the said executors.

Dated this 13th day of October, 1892.

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41, Finsbury-pavement, London, England,
Solicitors for the said Executors.

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17.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 24.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 10TH, 1892.

月三年五十二治明
司馬書信通百十三

[Vol. XVIII]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUI POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 10TH, 1892.

BIRTH.

On December 5th, at 18, Nagata-cho, Tokyo, the wife of G. J. H. SCHURR, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU YOSHIHITO returned to the capital on the 6th inst. from Dzushi.

MR. KAJIYAMA, Japanese Minister Resident in Korea, is reported to have left Jinsen for home.

MR. SHIMAMURA, Japanese Consul-General in New York, left Yokohama on the 9th instant for his post.

A FIRE broke out on the 28th ult. at 3 p.m. at Saitsu-mura, Amakusa, Kumamoto Prefecture, and destroyed 43 houses.

MR. HIRANO TOMIJI, founder of the Ishikawa Shipbuilding Yard, Tokyo, died in the capital on the night of the 2nd inst.

THE survey of various proposed routes of Government Railways throughout the Ou, Sanyo, Saoin, and Kansai Provinces has been completed.

WE learn that Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress are slightly indisposed through colds. H.I.H. the Crown Prince is also suffering from a similar cause.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Matsuyama, dated the 5th inst., announces that the *Chishima Kan* has been found sunk between Mutsuki and Goko Islands, in 38° 56' 20" N. 133° 40' E.

ON the morning of the 21st ult. at half-past four o'clock, while a strong wind was sweeping over the town of Shimonoseki, a fire broke out in a house at the port, and before the firemen

could successfully grapple with it, thirty-three houses had been burnt down, and two considerably damaged.

COUNT OKI, ex-President of the Privy Council, accompanied by his family, will leave the capital about the 14th inst. for their native place in Saga, Kyushu.

MR. KUBOTA, Governor of Saitama, was placed on the Retired List on the 3rd inst., and Mr. Gimbayashi, Secretary of the Tokyo City Government, was promoted to succeed him.

IT is stated that the Cabinet has decided to appoint Baron Senke, of the House of Peers, Chief Commissioner of the Bureau of General School Affairs in the Educational Department.

COLONELS S. OKAMURA, Y. Hasegawa, T. Takai, of Infantry; H. Kawakami, of Artillery; and Captains T. Tanaka and Soyeyima have received decorations of the Third Class Order of the Mirror.

EARLY on the morning of the 3rd instant a fire occurred in the factory of the Osaka Muslim Manufacturing Company, and four premises and four sets of weaving machines were destroyed.

A PRIVATE meeting attended by Counts Yamagata, Goto, Kuroda, and Oyama, Viscount Niire and Messrs. Mutsu, Kono, and Watanabe was held on the 5th instant at the official residence of Count Inouye, Acting Minister President.

ON the night of the 5th inst. a fire broke out in the buildings of the Hospital attached to the Medical Department of the Imperial University at Hongo, and before the flames could be got under, two buildings were burnt down. No injuries were sustained by the patients.

DURING a severe gale on the morning of the 24th ult. a junk sailing off the shore of Ujima, Kamigata-mura, Fukuoka Prefecture, gave signs of foundering. Some fifteen residents of Ujima went to the rescue of the crew, but their boat colliding violently with the junk, they were upset. Four lives were lost.

SEVERAL leading *sake* brewers, now staying in the capital, met at the Yanagiya on Friday last, and agreed to hold in the capital a general meeting of *sake* brewers throughout the country to consider their future policy in regard to the Bill for increasing the *sake* tax. They appear to be much alarmed by the introduction of the Bill.

THE members of the Japan Seamen's Aid Society, with the support of several leading shipping companies and newspaper offices, are collecting subscriptions towards the relief of survivors and families of persons lost by the wreck of the *Chishima Kan*.

A LARGE sum of money, amounting to over yen 8,000, is reported to have been stolen from a person at the Nippon Ginko, Tokyo, about 11 o'clock on the forenoon of the 5th inst. The money belonged to an employee of the Fourth National Bank, named Kawabata Seigo, who had just drawn the sum from the former Bank.

THE presentation of diplomas to over twenty graduates of the Military Academy took place on the 2nd instant at 9 a.m. H.I.M. Emperor, who was expected to be present at the ceremony, was unable to attend on account of indisposition, but he despatched Baron Yoneda, Chamberlain, as his representative. Among those present were Count Oyama, Minister of State,

and Lieutenant-General Kodama, Vice-Minister for War; Chief Army Inspector Miyoshi, and many others.

DURING last month gold, silver, and nickel coins were struck in the Osaka Mint to the following amounts:—Gold 5 yen pieces, yen 98,830.00; silver 1-yen pieces, 1,036,780.06; and nickel 5-sen pieces, yen 149,253.40.

THE Tokyo City Assembly resolved at its general meeting, held on Monday last, to present a letter of thanks to Mr. Gimbayashi, Secretary of the Tokyo City Government, who was lately appointed Governor of Saitama, for the eminent services rendered by him during his long occupancy of office.

AN action brought by a Chinese gentleman against Mr. Hamano, a wealthy Japanese rice merchant of Tokyo, which demanded compensation for injuries received through a carriage accident in which the former gentleman broke his arm, was decided in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on the 5th inst. in favour of the plaintiff. Mr. Hamano was ordered to pay yen 4,800 as damages. The defendant intends to appeal.

IT is stated that the members of the Kanagawa Prefectural assembly, now in session, have determined to pass a vote of no confidence in the Governor, the resolution having connection with alleged official interference in the past general elections. The dissolution of the Assembly will be the natural result of such action, and the electors are consequently preparing to return their present representatives should such an election take place. The vote has yet to be passed, however.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON NOZAKI, Commandant of the Sixth Army Division, and Major-General Omura, Commandant of the First Brigade of Infantry in the Imperial Body Guards, were retired on the 8th inst. Their position have been taken by Major-General H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa Yoshihisa, who was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-General, and Major-General Ogawa, Commandant of the Fourth Brigade of Infantry, who was succeeded by Colonel H.I.H. Fushimi Sadanaru, promoted to the rank of Major-General. Major-General Nogi was made Commander of the First Brigade of Infantry.

THE Import trade is not much altered, the condition of exchange seemingly acting as a deterrent to business, rendering holders firmer in their demands and crippling the action of buyers, who are working down their stocks and waiting for a little stability in silver. Yarns and Grey goods are held for more money, but Woollens are unaltered in value. There is nothing to report from the Metal market. There is not much moving in Kerosene, and a considerable addition to the stock has been made by recent arrivals, but holders are strong, and buyers, not having much stock in hand to go on with, will probably be shortly forced into the market. There has not been a great deal done in Sugar, the several sorts having fluctuated in value, Daitong and Canton having gone up from 5 to 25 cents per picul, which Manila Brown and Java and Penang Whites have declined from 5 to 15 cents. A fair amount of business continues to be done in Silk, the demand for quality being greater than the supply, consequently prices are fully maintained. There has been a large business in Waste Silk, close upon 2,000 piculs having passed the scales, and as arrivals do not keep pace with sales the stock is decreasing. The Tea trade is on a very small scale, and for what is doing prices are unchanged. Exchange continues to fluctuate, the changes being mainly downward.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

LOSS OF THE "CHISHIMA KAN."

THE loss of the *Chishima Kan* is an event sufficiently novel in the history of the Japanese Navy to excite much interest. One is disposed to think that its very novelty ought to have suggested itself as the first topic of comment, but, strange to say, none of the vernacular journals congratulate the country on the rarity of such accidents. Some critics, notably the *Choya Shimbun*, discuss the possibility that the event may have an injurious effect on the attitude of the Opposition towards the Naval Appropriations. This view is founded on the fact that the *Chishima's* fate completes a rather formidable list of mishaps to vessels ordered from abroad in recent years. The catalogue begins with the *Unebi Kan*, which disappeared suddenly just before her arrival in Japanese waters, not the smallest trace of her having been subsequently discovered. Then followed the *Itsukushima Kan* which met with such injuries en route that her voyage was most inconveniently prolonged. And now we have the case of the *Chishima*. It was stated originally that the *Chishima* had been ordered in 1887, but that appears to be a misapprehension. At all events, her keel was not laid down until November 1889, and she was ready for sea exactly a year later. In the Mediterranean Sea she met with trouble, and it was found necessary to send materials and artisans from France to effect repairs. No statement has been published as to the exact incidents of her subsequent voyage, but she seems to have been nearly two years en route, and the sequel is her total loss by collision. The remarkable immunity from serious accident enjoyed by the ships actually forming part of the Navy gives all the more prominence to these unfortunate experiences of vessels on their way to join the Navy. It is feared that the record may furnish fresh ground for doubt to politicians who charge the Naval Department with mismanagement, and that a prejudice may thus be created against entrusting public money to the present Admiralty for ship-building purposes. The contract price of the *Chishima*, with her armament, was 726,442 yen, and if the cost of repairs en route and of the long voyage out be added, it is calculated that she represented something like a million yen when she left Nagasaki on her fateful voyage. People ask why she was not insured, but of course the simple answer is that it pays the Government better to be their own insurers. The *Unebi* happened to be insured, but that was owing to some special feature of the arrangements connected with her transfer. The question of insuring or not insuring is purely one of dollars and cents. The *Choya Shimbun* doubtless understands the mood of its own nationals, but truly we shall be astonished to find that accidents like those which befel the *Unebi*, the *Itsukushima*, and the *Chishima* are perverted into arguments against ordering ships from Europe, or entrusting the business of procuring them to the present Admiralty. After all, the politicians of the Opposition may declaim as they please, but the personnel of Japan's Navy is the best and most highly experienced at her command, and on the whole she has reason to be proud of it.

The most extraordinary article published on this subject, indeed one of the most extraordinary articles, we are disposed to think, ever published under similar circumstances appears, in the *Kokkai*. That journal does not pretend to know anything about the details of the collision. The sum of its information is that the *Chishima* was cut down and that the *Ravenna* suffered considerably. Yet it unhesitatingly declares that the fault lies with the inferior seamanship and antiquated methods of the *Chishima's* navigators. By what supernatural process of reasoning this conclusion is reached we are totally unable to discover. The *Kokkai* writes in a very learned manner, and has much to say about *Kiushiki* and *Shinshiki* (old and new style). It even undertakes to sit in judgment on British and French seamanship when last the two fleets worked together, the verdict being that the

former had to take a back seat on account of its adherence to *Kiushiki*. We should not venture to query the breadth and depth of such nautical discernment were it not accompanied by a rider that the collision of the *Chishima* with the *Ravenna* is like an encounter between a warrior and a merchant, and that the blame must of necessity devolve upon the warrior. Possibly events may justify the *Kokkai's* idea, but nothing can ever justify its singular precipitancy in passing judgment without a jot of evidence, and nothing can mitigate the absurdity of its warrior-merchant comparison.

Full details of this terrible disaster says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 3rd inst., are still wanting. It was thought that a full account of the unfortunate affair would be brought by the *Ancona*, but it appears that when the *Ravenna* was passed, the latter vessel signalled that no assistance was required and the *Ancona* did not stop. The *Kosan Maru*, belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, came in yesterday afternoon and reported that on passing the *Ravenna* repairs were observed to be going on at the bow, and the steamer appeared to be getting ready to proceed. The *Chishima Kan* has sunk in deep water and none of her masts is to be seen. Fishermen were engaged at the time Japanese steamer passed in trying to locate her position by means of fuzes. The full report of the *Kosan Maru* given by the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun* is as follows:—On arrival at Mitsugahama saw the *Katsuragi Kan* and four other Japanese men-of-war in harbour. Proceeding to Horiye Bay found the *Ravenna* anchored about one mile from shore. Observed that she had sustained serious injuries to her bow. Her stem was twisted to the right, and the plates were broken and bent. Endeavours were being made to prevent the inrush of water by making temporary repairs. The exact position of the *Chishima-kan* had not been discovered, but she is believed to lie at a spot between five and six miles from Horiye Bay. The captain of the *Kosan Maru* believes it probable that when the collision was seen to be inevitable the cruiser in attempting to avoid the blow was struck on the port side. Both steamers, he further states, were in full speed at the time, and this is the reason why it is now so difficult to find the exact position of the *Chishima Kan*, both vessels drifting apart immediately after the collision. We have been favoured with the following report by Mr. F. Bischof, the pilot of the *Empress of Japan*, who writes from Bakan:—On 29th November, at 8.30 a.m., when passing Horiye Bay, in *Empress of Japan*, saw a vessel at anchor, sending up rockets; stopped engines, and after careful watching, found this vessel to be the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, at anchor, with signals of distress flying; steamed within one mile of *Ravenna* and let go anchor. Captain Lee, of *Empress of Japan*, got gig lowered and proceeded to steamer *Ravenna* at once. After about an hour and a half a small Japanese steamer came alongside of *Empress of Japan* with the *Ravenna's* passengers, mails, and luggage; embarked same on board of *Empress*; a lady passenger informed me that the *Ravenna* had been in collision with a Japanese cruiser that morning at 3.30 a.m., the latter having been cut into two halves by the former. The Japanese cruiser sank within a couple of minutes, and the collision was so sudden that of the whole complement of one hundred, eighty-four had been drowned. The *Ravenna* sustained heavy damages about her bows; by looking at her from the *Empress* I saw a big hole on port bow above water; the stem and bow-plates of *Ravenna* having been forced to starboard, which appeared to be bulged out considerably. At 11.30 a.m., after the arrival of Captain Lee on board the *Empress*, all passengers and mails being on board, proceeded on our voyage; in passing Nobotsuna-Sima saw a lot of oil floating on the surface of the water, probably from the Japanese cruiser which had been forced upwards, but not a particle of wreckage to be seen. The exact position of the collision I cannot

give, as I did not see the pilot of *Ravenna*, and the passengers' description of the place being naturally very inexact. The *Ravenna* was in charge of Mr. Kichi, a Japanese, who was the Company's pilot. Passed Shimono-seki at 5 p.m. 30th, and left *Empress of Japan* of Rokuren Light at 5.30 p.m., making the distance of 106 miles in six hours.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE 1ST INSTANT.

It is stated that Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro, who distinguished himself by his extraordinarily vehement protests of inability to comprehend the Declaration of Policy read by the acting Minister President of State in the House of Representatives on the 1st instant, has long been under instructions from his constituents to preserve silence in the House. This injunction was laid upon him because of his well demonstrated liability to effervescence. But on the 1st instant he broke away from all bonds, and fumed freely during the space of about 50 seconds, when he resumed his seat amid a chorus of laughter. Mr. Kori Hoso, the other member who complained of the Declaration's want of perspicuity, may have been on his feet in the House before, but we have never read his name in any debate. In truth, one of the most remarkable features of the whole affair was that no member having any claim whatever to prominence, attempted to criticise the declaration. Mr. Tanaka Shozo spoke, but then Mr. Tanaka Shozo is rather notorious than prominent. The House listened to the Declaration in absolute silence and refrained from all immediate comment on it. The fact is interesting—and we record it from personal observation—because it illustrates what very false impressions may be gathered and conveyed by cursory readers and over-graphic describers of debates. Thus, in the columns of a local contemporary, we find this statement:—

The reading of the Minister President's imposing and conciliatory speech so far from impressing the House, gave rise to a childish quibble as to the propriety of a Minister of State reading a document aloud in the House, or documents being read aloud at all. It was declared by some that they could not understand it; by others that it was against the rules. But all objections were overruled by the President.

It would certainly have been difficult to misrepresent the attitude and conduct of the House more completely than the above sentences—written, doubtless, in all good faith—misrepresent them. The incident reminds us of an assertion made some time ago by a writer who had never been inside the walls of the House of Representatives when he wrote, namely, that the Japanese Diet is a "rowdy place." Rowdy it most assuredly is not.

"THE IMPERIAL ENGLISH AND CHINESE DIARY."

THE annual issue of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's "Imperial English and Chinese Diary" must assuredly cause many qualms of conscience to several folks. For it is a cogent and forcible reproach to every one lacking that most essential of business qualities, a practical sense of order. We cannot conceive any compilation better calculated to teach a man what he might be were he endowed with that sense, or to furnish him with the means of cultivating it if he has not already done so. The volume, which costs only one dollar, commences with tables of Customs duties and other matters essential to merchants, and then passes to post-office regulations and rates, telegram charges, calendars, and so forth. All this matter is prefatory to the body of the book, which consists first of a diary, each leaf—measuring 13 inches by 8—having only two days, so that ample space is furnished for the fullest entries. A hundred and seven pages are devoted to this, the most important part of the work, and then comes a page of invaluable character, namely, "Memoranda of Things Lent." If the columns of this sheet were only kept filled, from how many losses would one's library be saved, and how many of one's friends might be guarded against their own negligence. But we observe that no page is added for "Things Borrowed," probably on the principle that any man precise enough to keep notes of what he lends, will be

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sure to remember what he borrows also. Each month in the year then receives a page for its "Cash Account"; another page is devoted to an "Annual Cash Summary" seven pages are headed "Register of Correspondence," with appropriate division into columns; two to "Names and Addresses"; and "Memo" and "Reminders" have one each. Happy would be the man who kept such a book on his desk and made the filling of its pages an every-day rule. His business would never fall into arrear, and order reigning supreme in all his affairs, the effective value of his industry would be doubled.

H.M.S. 'PALLAS' ON SHORE.

THE Douglas steamer *Thales* (Captain Bathurst), which arrived from the north this morning, says the *China Mail* of the 26th ult., reports H.M.S. *Pallas* having been on shore at the Pescadores. The *Thales* left Taiwanfoo on Monday last, 21st inst. There was a fresh breeze blowing, and the barometer fell to 29.74. At midnight the barometer was still falling, while the wind had increased considerably. Captain Bathurst deemed it advisable, in these circumstances, to anchor in Battery Bay (Pescadore Islands). On Tuesday a heavy gale was experienced and the barometer fell to 29.54, so he shifted his anchorage to Watering Bay, where he found H.M.S. *Pallas* and the steam-tug *Samson* (which are looking after the burying of the bodies of the victims of the *Bokhara* disaster and salvage operations), had already sought shelter. On the morning of Wednesday, Captain Bathurst received a letter from the *Pallas*, stating that she and the tug were on shore on a sand spit off Ta Tsang Island. The *Thales* stood by until high water at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, when both vessels succeeded in getting off apparently without sustaining any damage. The weather became fine, the barometer was rising, and the *Thales* was able to proceed on her voyage to Amoy.

MR. KATO'S ANECDOTE.

In the course of a recently published interview with a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. Sateri Kato, a Japanese clergyman, related an anecdote by way of response to a suggestion that a new religious sect might be established in his country. "One of the Emperors," he said "was informed by the Prime Minister at the time that another sect was in course of formation. The Emperor treated the matter lightly, and asked how many sects were already in existence in Japan. 'Sixty-nine,' was the reply. 'Then there is not much difference between sixty-nine and seventy,' said His Majesty, and the subject dropped." This story, though entitled to the welcome due an old and familiar friend, is too nearly allied to the fruit of the *castanea vesca* to justify radical deviations from its original form. As told by Vivero y Velasco, it was not a genuine emperor who made the alleged remark, nor was it a Prime Minister to whom he spoke; and the figures, instead of being sixty-nine and seventy, were thirty-five and thirty-six. It is true that the incident loses little by Mr. Kato's variations, but on the other hand it gains nothing, and people who have been attached to it for ages prefer to see it in the shape to which they are accustomed. It is unwise to trifle with cherished traditions. From the moment when George Washington's cherry-tree began to be confounded with somebody else's apple-tree, public confidence in the legend of the hatchet sensibly abated, and scarcely anybody now regards it as historically authentic. If liberties are wantonly taken with the medieval Spaniard's Japanese tale, a similar fate will assuredly befall it.

ORDER IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. MR. HOSHI TORU, whose ability as President of the Lower House, is admirably and conspicuously displayed, seems to be, perhaps, unconsciously, on the eve of a reform which would remove the one objectionable element in the present mode of procedure. The custom in the British Parliament known as "catching the Speaker's eye," becomes, in the Japanese House of Representatives, stunning the President's ear. A member desiring to speak—we do not allude, of course, to set debates when

the occupants of the rostrum succeed each other in pre-determined order—springs to his feet and cries "*Gicho*" (President). The quality of the cry varies with the interest of the occasion, and sometimes when the recognition of the Chair is not secured at once, these vociferations of "*Gicho*" become a veritable din, and convey to outsiders the idea of much disorder. Evidently the fact struck Mr. Hoshi on a recent occasion, for he suggested to the members that if, instead of crying "*Gicho*," they would call out their numbers, it would be much easier for him to distinguish between them. So it would, and what is more, the effect would be far less undignified. Were each member restricted to indicating himself by number only when seeking recognition, things would move more smoothly. There might, however, be occasional confusion. Three or four numbers called out nearly simultaneously could scarcely fail to perplex Mr. Hoshi Toru. In the end, the House is pretty sure to come to the English method, namely, that of rising silently and remaining on foot until the Speaker indicates somebody. Mr. Hoshi appears to be developing a consciousness that the present plan occasionally produces consequences not at all consistent with the good order which habitually reigns under his sway, and if he begins by insisting on numerical calls only, he will conclude by forbidding calls altogether. Then he would have something very near a model House.

THE LATE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

In politics, as in most human affairs, a great deal depends upon the point of view. Actions that are lauded by one party as full of graciousness, dignity, and rectitude, become base and contemptible when criticized by the other side. In October last, Mr. Cleveland, like many American citizens of exceptional distinction, was invited to be present at the dedication ceremonies of the Chicago Exposition. His response was to the effect that while he would gladly attend if he could do so solely in the character of an ex-President of the United States, he was unwilling to expose himself to the suspicion of seeking to gain a political advantage from the event. As a President of the past, he would be delighted to participate. As a possible President of the future he could have no share in the proceedings. His objections were, moreover, "overwhelmingly increased" by the circumstance that his rival, who had also been invited was prevented from accepting by the grave—and, as it subsequently proved, fatal—illness of his wife. Mr. Cleveland was probably influenced, in announcing this decision, by the harsh comments of Republican journals upon his appearance at the Columbian festivities in New York, a few days before the observances in Chicago. He had, in company with ex-President Hayes, reviewed the military parade from a platform in Madison Square, and had been more or less emphatically rebuked by his opponents for making himself conspicuous at a time when Mr. Harrison was compelled to remain in seclusion. It was doubtless inevitable that his motives in absenting himself should be diversely estimated, and that while receiving compliments for what his adherents termed "a manifestation of sensitive delicacy," he should be accused by antagonists of having "carefully calculated his course with an eye to popular effect;" but the extremities of eulogy and censure with which the incident was discussed were curiously at variance with the moderation generally shown in this unusually well-ordered campaign. As an example of Democratic fervour, we find in a leading Western newspaper the statement that "the true grandeur of Grover Cleveland's noble nature was never more convincingly demonstrated;" and in the opposite vein, a Republican organ insisted that "a distressing calamity was utilized by one candidate as a means of personal self-glorification at the expense of the other." The *Louisville Post* admirably declared that in this and all the actions of his life, Mr. Cleveland "stands by the truest and noblest purposes;" and the *Detroit Tribune* came in judgment with a shower of unpleasant adjectives, denouncing the letter of declination

as "discreditable, disgusting, and dishonorable, offensively presumptuous, and in excessively bad taste." The *Toledo Bee* was satisfied that the democratic chieftain had once more exalted himself as "an honour to his country, his party, and himself;" and the *Buffalo News* held that such a "display of pretentious affectation was offensive to every man's sense of the fitness of things." To a distant observer this vehement eloquence has altogether a perfunctory air. So far as we may be permitted to give an opinion, Mr. Cleveland's action was neither particularly magnanimous, nor yet the reverse. He probably disliked the interpretation put upon his public appearance at the New York celebration, and determined to avoid a repetition of the annoyance; and by staying quietly at home, saved himself a deal of trouble, and escaped a fresh deluge of equally unpalatable praise and blame.

MALE AND FEMALE EDUCATION.

In the sequel of long and patient investigations, Sir James Crichton Browne has arrived at the conclusion that there is a marked structural difference between the male and female brain. Some of the points of difference are not easily comprehended by every-day folks; others are capable of quick understanding. The female brain weighs about an ounce less than the male. It is more symmetrical, owing to its comparative poverty in secondary gyri. Its grey matter is a less highly nourished and developed tissue. Again, "the region of the brain which in men is most richly flushed with blood is that supposed to be concerned in volition, cognitions, and ideomotor processes; while the region which in woman is the most vascular is that which is mainly concerned in sensory functions." Sir James thinks that these structural differences make themselves felt all through life. From first to last the male brain differs from the female in capacities, aptitudes, and powers. Hence he deduces an important conclusion as to education. We quote his own words from the *Educational Review*:—"These differences of brain structure and function which at every stage of existence separate the sexes, have a special pathological significance at the period when sexual divergence is taking place most rapidly, and when education is being pushed forward with most vigour. Education, from first to last, can only be understood in the light of cerebral physiology. The high-school education of girls which is now so popular is full of peril for them. Children have no business with headaches, nor with weak eyes, nor with neuralgia, nor with any form of nervous exhaustion, and I am satisfied, from careful inquiry, that a large proportion of the girls in our high schools suffer from all these complaints, and as a result of overpressure. The attempt to educate young men and women on the same lines and in the same coaches cannot but be injurious to both. 'What has been decided among the prehistoric protozoa cannot,' it has been well said, 'be annulled by act of Parliament,' and the essential difference between male and female cannot be obliterated by a stroke of the pen by a *Senatus Academicus*. To essay such work is to fly in the face of evolution. The sexes diverge from each other as we ascend in the animal kingdom, and are most marked in the human species. And with this divergent differentiation of the sexes has come reciprocal dependence and higher harmony. It is no question of superiority of the one sex to the other. Each sex is higher, each is lower; together make up the perfect whole. It is in the sympathetic accord of the differentiated sexes that human progress can alone be hoped for."

ECHIZEN.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Fukui on the 3rd inst. says:—This morning, a little before three o'clock, Fukui was visited by an earthquake shock of considerable severity, the heaviest that has occurred for several months. No damage, however, has been reported. Snow began falling here on the night of the 25th ult., and has continued at irregular intervals ever since. Rain, however, has fallen in considerable quantities during the same period, so that the depth of snow on the level is only a few

inches. Miss West reached Fukui on Tuesday afternoon, November 22nd, and the same evening gave a parlour talk to a gathering of about a hundred persons. This proved to be her last address. Next morning, when she started for Kanazawa, she was not feeling well, and when she had gone some four or five *ri*, travelling by *jinrikisha*, she became quite sick. She kept on, however, and reached Kanazawa the same evening, having ridden twenty-two *ri* since the morning. Her engagements for meetings in Kanazawa had all to be cancelled, as she was by the time she reached that place quite ill, and, as you doubtless already know, that illness terminated fatally.

BIG FIRE ON YATO-ZAKA.

YOKOHAMA has been visited by another calamitous fire. About forty minutes past two o'clock on Wednesday morning the house of Kato Denzaemon, No. 1, Motomachi, Ichome—one of the block of Japanese houses which are clustered in the gully alongside the Yato-zaka, more familiarly known as Camp Hill—caught fire. A very strong breeze was blowing at the time right up the Bluff, and in a few minutes the fire had been carried to the adjoining houses. House after house was caught by the flames, and soon a roaring sea of fire was sweeping up the hill. The fire bells had by this time drawn large crowds to the spot, and the fire brigades were soon at work. It was quickly seen, however, that nothing could be done to stay the flames in the densely packed village, while the European houses on the other side of the road were in great danger. Attention was therefore directed to prevent their catching fire. The task was no light one, and the residence of Mr. E. J. Moss was twice alight, but through the exertions of Dr. Rogers of the U.S. N. Hospital, and the men under his command, the place was saved. Lower down the hill, the large tenement occupied by Mrs. Kilgour and Mr. Pass required constant drenching to prevent the flames from getting hold. The woodwork was charred, and the large windows of the verandah cracked by the intensity of the heat. All the grass on the opposite slopes was burnt to tinder. The trees by daylight exhibited a sad array of blackened branches and scorched foliage. Altogether, one hundred and thirty houses were totally destroyed. This morning, the spectacle presented by the smouldering mass was very desolate. Here and there under the brow of the French hill a fire-proof house remains, but in a damaged condition. The electric light poles which were not entirely burnt down stand out amid the fallen ruins, charred from top to bottom. So swift was the spread of the devouring element that very little salvage was effected, and in the majority of cases nothing was saved. At one time a rumour prevailed that some children had been burned to death, but we have not been able to obtain confirmation of the report. Both the Bluff and Settlement brigades were engaged, the Foreign Brigade attending under command of Superintendent Kipling with two steamers, hose reels, and engine, and 14 men. Much praise is due to the hospital authorities for their prompt aid.

WORLD'S FAIR SOUVENIRS.

ONE of the devices resorted to in connection with the Chicago World's Fair is the coining of a million silver half dollars, which are to be sold at a uniform price of one dollar, excepting five of them, namely, the 1st, the 400th, the 1492nd, the 1892nd, and the last. For these five the romantic section of the public is at liberty to offer as much as it pleases, and inasmuch as ten thousand dollars have already been bid for the first coin, it is plain that the projectors of the scheme did not make a false estimate of peoples' fancies. It is possible that among our readers there may be some who desire to obtain possession of a silver souvenir, and we therefore reproduce, for their information, a note which has been issued by the chief of the Department of Publicity and Promotion:—

The World's Fair souvenir coins are "going like hot cakes," and those who want to get one or more of them

will have to bestir themselves or they will be too late. The desire for one of these mementos of the Exposition seems to be almost as universal as is the interest in the Exposition itself, and orders for them have been sent in from all parts of the United States and also from foreign countries.

This souvenir half dollar, it is reported from Washington, will be the most artistic coin ever issued from the mint. On the obverse side will appear the head of Columbus, designed from the Lotto portrait, and so rounding it the words, "World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1892." On the reverse side will appear a caravel, representing Columbus' flag-ship, and beneath it two hemispheres. Above the caravel will be United States of America, and beneath the hemispheres, "Columbian Half Dollar." There is no doubt that this coin will be regarded as the most distinctive and highest priced cheap souvenir of the World's Fair.

All of these souvenir coins, except five, are being sold at a uniform price of one dollar each. For the first coin struck off \$10,000 has already been offered, and various prices have been bid for the 400th, 1492nd, 1892nd and the last coin. Desiring that these souvenirs be distributed as widely as possible among the people, and that all, irrespective of locality, have an equal chance to obtain them, the Exposition authorities have sought to prevent syndicates and others from purchasing large quantities and thus "cornering" the sale. On the contrary, they have arranged to supply banks, business houses and individuals in all parts of the country with as many as they may desire to distribute among their patrons, customers, or friends. They require only that the orders must be for fifty coins, or some multiple of fifty, and that the order be accompanied by the cash, at the rate of one dollar for each coin. A great many banks and business firms have gladly complied with these conditions and ordered each from 50 to 20,000 of the coins.

Notwithstanding that these conditions have been widely published, still a vast number of inquiries by letter has been received at Exposition headquarters asking how the coins may be obtained. The best way is to get them through local banks, all of which are no doubt willing to accommodate in that way their patrons and the residents of the city or town in which they are doing business. If, however, for any reason it is desired to obtain them otherwise, the proper method is to form a club of subscribers for fifty coins, or some multiple of fifty, and select some one member of the club to send on the order and money and to distribute the coins when received. Orders should be addressed to A. F. Seeberger, Treasurer, World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago.

It is probable that the coins will not be ready for distribution until some time in December. But the orders are being sent in rapidly, and will be filled in the order of being received. Therefore it is important that all who desire coins should put in their orders as soon as possible.

FIRE IN TSUKIJI, TOKYO.

FIRE broke out at 3 o'clock on Tuesday morning in the block of buildings, on lot No. 20, Tsukiji. The main roof, covering two dwelling houses, was soon one mass of flames, and the building is completely destroyed barring a few of the massive uprights which still stand in charred nakedness. The fire was virtually out, and all danger over before four o'clock. At one time the Hotel Metropole was threatened, but fortunately there was not much wind, and the Hotel just at this point presents very little but brick to the side the fire was on. The two dwelling houses were at the time unoccupied by regular tenants, but were used now and then for holding auction sales in by Mr. Hall. It is said the fire was caused by a hibachi used by the caretaker. One of the wooden outhouses caught fire in a small way two or three times, and Mr. Tyng did good work in putting out these incipient flames. The nearest fire station to Tsukiji, with steam fire engines, is Kaji Bash, a good mile off, and this and the one from Shimbashi were some little time before they arrived, but when these two, shortly supplemented by others, did come, the fire had but little chance, and was soon beaten out by the powerful streams of water thrown upon it. Just before the steamers arrived a small hand-engine put in appearance, and drew its supply from the fresh water tanks of the Hotel, and a few men did some bucket work. Mr. Dewett, the manager of the Hotel, must have lost by the naturally rough usage his furniture and effects suffered in their hasty bundling into the street, as his house was dangerously near the fire.

JAPANESE CARDS.

"THE Game of Japanese Cards" is a prettily bound and attractive little volume by Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu, explaining, as its name indicates, the manner of playing Japanese Whist, or "Hana-awase." The first foreigner whose researches extended to this particular field of Japanese civilization was, we believe, Mr. J. Conder; but before his investigations took published form, Major-General Palmer, R.E., contributed a paper on the subject to the Asiatic Society of Japan. It is scarcely necessary to say that Major-General Palmer went into the

subject with his usual thoroughness. We are, therefore, somewhat surprised to find that no acknowledgment of his work is made in the volume now before us. Mr. Rossetsu has mapped out his explanations in a most lucid manner. It seems to us that any student of his book might sit down confidently to play the difficult and intricate game discussed. Nor must it be supposed that such an achievement would be in any sense a trifling matter. Our own whist resembles chess and mathematics in this that the men destined to attain real proficiency in it are born not made.

The same seems to be true in an equal degree of Japanese *Hana-awase*. Its pretty name, "flower-matching," was apparently chosen by some lover of paradox, for the path to successful performance is strewn with thorns rather than with blossoms. We shall not attempt to justify this assertion by any explanation of the perplexing processes of the pastime. Mr. Rossetsu devotes sixty-four pages of pretty closely printed letter-press to the effort, and are do not see that he could have greatly abridged his exegesis without loss of lucidity. People desiring to be initiated must therefore be referred to his volume. To us it appears that *Hana-awase* is a combination of whist, picquet and poker. The preliminary composing of a hand, before the play of tricks actually commences, demands considerably more judgment and calculation than have to be exercised in the two last games combined, and the subsequent conduct of the game brings it into close relationship with whist. Some of its affinities to poker are quite remarkable; as for example, the right of electing to play or pass out; the holding and transfer of the "age"—which term, by the way, finds almost an exact counterpart in the Japanese "oya," or "parent"—the values of pairs, triplets, fours, and so forth. Such resemblances seem to pass the limits of mere accident, and it there were any possibility of tracing their origin, the task might be worthy of attention at the hands of some leisured ethnologist. We believe that efforts are being made to introduce *Hana-awase* into Western circles, and certainly the game would be an immense addition to our repertoire of after-dinner amusements. The Japanese play it with the most insignificant little cards conceivable. This is referred by Mr. Rossetsu to the fact that gambling having always been very strictly interdicted in Japan, card-players found it necessary to reduce to a minimum the dimensions of their tools of trade so as to facilitate concealment at critical times. In Western hands the pack of forty-eight will soon attain becoming and self-confident proportions, and since the floral designs from which the various cards derive their names are really artistic, their enlargement and luxurious reproduction would be a distinct gain. The little volume before us contains coloured facsimiles of all the cards and all their important combinations, an immense aid to the better understanding of the text. It is well printed, the illustrations are excellent, and the cover is at once gay and attractive, the whole doing credit alike to its industrious compiler, and to its enterprising publishers, the Seishi Bunsha.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

THE Budget Committee has sounded its first note. Our readers are doubtless aware that the Committee consists of 45 members, but we ought perhaps to explain its method of procedure. In the first place, the whole body is divided into a number of sub-committees to each of which a section of the Budget is entrusted for examination and report. Before these sub-committees go to work, however, it is necessary to determine the general lines upon which they shall proceed, and for that purpose a Policy Sub-Committee is chosen. The Policy Sub-Committee on the present occasion consists of four Radicals and one Progressionist. They did not take long in preparing a draft. Appointed on the 29th ultimo and organized for work on the 30th, they had compiled a programme of policy by the evening of the 2nd instant, and on the 3rd this programme was discussed by the whole Committee in session. Briefly speaking,

it recommends sweeping reductions in official salaries all round, as well as in the number of officials. When the draft came up for discussion by the Committee, Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, in his capacity of Government Delegate, assured the Committee that the Government could not consent to such drastic measures. But no attention was paid to his protest. Mr. Ishida Kannosuke, President of the Policy Sub-Committee, did indeed explain that there was no idea of interfering directly with the Law of Official Salaries, and that if the reforms mapped out in the statement of policy were accepted by the Committee, they would go before the House merely as suggestions. But that, of course, was nothing more than a device to escape the constitutional difficulty, for of course the House of Representatives has no right to interfere in matters relating either to official salaries or to the establishment of the Administration. The Committee accepted the programme with one or two insignificant alterations, and in a few days we may look to see a report submitted to the House on lines as drastic as those followed by the Budget Committee in the first session.

The Section of the Budget Committee charged with the duty of determining the general policy to be pursued by the Committee in compiling its report on the Budget, consists of Messrs. Ishida Kannosuke, Kudo Kokan, Inugai Ki, Ozaki Yukio and Kawashima Jun. These gentlemen assembled on Friday last, and agreed upon the following scheme by which the various sections of the Committee are to be guided:—

PROGRAMME FOR REPORT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE.

Art. I.—The salaries of officials shall be reduced.

(a.) The salaries of *Shinnin*, High Class and *Hannin* officials shall be subjected to suitable reductions, according to the accompanying table.

(b.) The establishment of the Administration being at present fixed at its maximum limit, a due number of officials, according to the amount of business to be discharged, shall be determined, and taken as a basis in compiling the estimates.

(c.) The appropriation demanded for the Retired List shall be granted in its entirety.

(d.) The pay of officers of staff rank in the Army and Navy shall be reduced in the various Sections in due proportion to the reductions made in the salaries of Civil Officials.

(e.) The salaries of officials enumerated in the appended table shall be treated, in each Section, according to a different standard.

Art. II.—The expenses for repairs in each Department shall be adequately reduced after due examination into the circumstances of the Department.

Art. III.—The same principle shall be applied to the Travelling Allowances in each Department.

Art. IV.—The Miscellaneous Expenses of the various Departments shall be appropriately reduced according to the following scale:—

(a.) Entertainment Allowances shall be granted only to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Governors and Customs Superintendents of the Three Cities and the Open Ports, and the Headman of Hakodate.

(b.) One carriage shall be allowed for the Foreign Office, and all the rest shall be abolished, together with all horsed vehicles, grooms, and so forth. This rule shall not apply, however, to vehicles required by the Printing Bureau for purposes of transport.

(c.) The number of *jinrikisha* drawers shall be reduced to two-thirds or less of the number demanded.

(d.) The number of employés, as waiters, servants, and so forth, shall be reduced at least ten per cent.

(e.) Allowances connected with salaries shall be reduced or eliminated according to the circumstances of each case. This refers, for example, to money given to foreigners in the Naval Department, to allowances to committees for examining into medical matters in the Departments of Education and Home Affairs, &c.

Art. V.—The various items of Office Expenditures in the Departments, shall be calculated on the principle of a general average, the articles allowed, as books, paper, pens, ink, and so forth, being estimated *per capita* of the fixed establishment in accordance with the annexed scale. Allowances on account of communications, transport, clothes, food and so forth shall be determined according to

the circumstances of each Department, and the allowance for horses shall be abolished in every case except in the case of the Foreign Department.

SCALES.

Cabinet, Privy Council; Departments of State, Administrative Court; and *Official Gazette* Bureau per official of the fixed establishment:—

Office Furniture	from 4 to 15 yen
Cost of Printing	from 10 to 30 yen
Stationery	from 5 to 12 yen
Allowance for Waste	from 6 to 8 yen
Sundries	from 10 to 15 yen
Official Residences	Expunged

Audit Bureau; Railway Bureau; City, Prefectural and other Offices, and Schools, per official of the fixed establishment:—

Office Furniture	from 1.10 to 4 yen
Cost of Printing Books	from 0.50 to 9 yen
Stationery	from 2.00 to 8 yen
Allowance for Waste	from 0.50 to 5 yen
Sundries	from 2.00 to 10 yen

Art. VI.—As to Secret Service Funds, the allowance for the Cabinet shall be eliminated; the allowances for the Police Bureau and the Cities and Prefectures shall be reduced by one half; and the rest shall be suitably reduced after due investigation into each case.

Art. VII.—No new works shall be sanctioned except those considered to be of a thoroughly sound character.

TABLE OF SALARIES.

Present Salary. Proposed Salary.

Minister President of State 9,600... 6,000

Chief Secretary of the Cabinet 3,500... 2,500

Director of the Decorations Bureau 4,000... 2,500

Vice-director 3,000... 2,000

Secretary 2,400... 1,600 to 1,400

Chief of the Law Bureau 4,000... 2,500

Councillor of the Law Bureau 800 to 2,500... 800 to 16,000

Vice-director of Law Bureau 3,000... 2,000

Examiner of Pension Bureau 1,200 to 1,400... 800 to 1,000

Ministers of State 6,000... 5,000

Vice-Ministers of State 4,000... 3,500

Directors of Bureaux 2,500 to 3,000... 2,000 to 2,500

Councillors, Secretaries and Private Secretaries 800 to 2,500... 800 to 1,800

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Translators 800 to 1,800... 700 to 1,200

Diplomatic Officials and Consuls 800 to 1,800... 700 to 1,200

Allowances for travelling expenses of Wives to be eliminated except in the case of Consul-General.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Manager of Police Bureau 1,600 to 1,800... 1,400

Surveyors of Engineering Bureau 1,500 to 2,000... 1,200 to 1,600

Superintendents of Prisons 800 to 1,800... 700 to 1,200

POLICE BUREAU.

Chief of Police 4,000... 3,000

Inspectors of Police 700 to 2,200... 700 to 1,500

Chief of Fire Brigade 1,400... 1,000

Medical Officer 1,000... 1,000

Directors of Prisons 800 to 900... 800

HOKKAIDO ADMINISTRATION.

Chief of Administration 4,000... 3,500

Secretaries 2,000 to 2,500... 1,600 to 1,800

Chief of Gendarmes 1,800... 1,200

Paymaster 1,800... 1,200

Councillor 1,000... 800

Headmen 600... 600

TOKYO MUNICIPALITY.

Governor 3,500 to 4,000... 3,500

Secretary 2,000... 1,800

Chief of Tax-Collectors 1,500... 1,000

LOCALITIES.

Governors of the Two Cities and Eight Prefectures 3,500 to 4,000... 3,000

Secretaries 1,500... 1,600

Chiefs of Gendarmes and of Tax-Collectors 1,100... 900

Governors of other Prefectures 3,000... 2,500

Secretaries 1,500... 1,200

Chiefs of Gendarmes and of Tax-collectors 1,100... 800

Chief of Gendarmes in Osaka 1,400... 1,000

Governors of Islands 1,200... 700 to 800

Councillor One at 1,000 and one at 700 One only at 800

Headmen of Districts 600 yen; 500 yen to 600 two hundred yen, and all specially appointed officers pointed re- abolished.

Superintendents of Prisons 600 to 800... 500 to 700

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Accountants and Tax Officials 800 to 2,500... 800 to 1,800

PRIVY COUNCIL.

President of Privy Council 5,000... 2,500

Vice-President 4,500... 2,000

Privy Councillors 4,000... 1,500

Chief Secretary 3,500... 2,000

Secretaries 800 to 2,500... 800 to 1,800

IMPERIAL DIET.

Chief Secretaries 3,000... 2,000

Secretaries 800 to 2,000... 800 to 1,800

AUDIT BUREAU.

Chief of Bureau 4,000... 3,500

Vice-Chief 3,000... 2,500

Examiner 1,000 to 2,500... 1,000 to 2,000

Assistant-Examiner 600 to 900... 600 to 900

Secretaries 1,500 to 2,000... 1,200 to 1,600

ADMINISTRATIVE COURT.

President of the Court 4,000... 2,500

Judge 1,200 to 3,000... 1,000 to 2,000

CUSTOMS.

Superintendent 1,200 to 3,000... 1,000 to 2,000

Appraiser 1,200 to 1,400... 800 to 1,200

Assistant-Appraiser 900 or less... 400 to 600

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

President of Supreme Court 5,000... 4,000

Chief Public Prosecutor of Supreme Court 4,000... 3,500

Vice-President of Supreme Court 3,500... 3,000

Judges and Procurators of do. 1,600 to 3,000... 1,200 to 2,500

Chief Secretary of do. 1,200... 1,000

Presidents of Tokyo and Osaka Appeal Court 4,000... 3,000

Chief Procurators of do. 3,500... 3,000

President of Osaka Local Court 2,500... 2,000

Procurators of do. 1,200 to 2,000... 1,600

Presidents of other Appeal Courts 3,500... 3,000

Other Chief Procurators 3,000... 2,500

Vice-Presidents of other Appeal Courts 1,400 to 2,200... 1,400 to 2,000

Procurators 900 to 2,000... 800 to 1,600

Judges 900 to 1,200... 800 to 1,300

Chief Secretary 900 to 1,000... 800 to 900

Presidents of other Local Courts 1,400 to 2,200... 1,300 to 2,000

Chief Procurators of do. 1,200 to 2,000... 1,000 to 1,400

Vice-Presidents of do. 900 to 1,200... 800 to 900

Procurators and Judges of do. Judges of District Courts, Procurators of do. 600 to 800... 500 to 700

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Inspectors of Schools 700 to 1,600... 700 to 1,200

President of Imperial University 4,000... 3,000

Judges 1,200... 900

Examiners 600 to 900... 600 to 900

Overseers, Forestry Officials 800 to 1,500... 700 to 1,200

Engineers 500 to 700... 500 to 700

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

General Business Officials 700 to 1,200... 600 to 1,000

Overseers 1,000... 800

RAILWAY BUREAU.

Chief of Bureau 4,000... 3,000

Vice-Chief 3,000... 2,000

Councillors 800 to 1,200... 1,000

General Business Officials 800 to 1,200... 800 to 1,800

Probationers 900 or less... 400 to 600

TABLE OF RATES FOR HANNIN OFFICIALS.

Foreign Department, Zoku Officials.....	Average 300 Yen.
Home Department, Secretaries and Clerks.....	Average 300 Yen.
Engineering Superintendence Bureau, Secretaries, and Clerks.....	Average 264 Yen.
Prison Bureau, Secretaries, Wardens, Doctor.....	Average 264 Yen.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS AND GOVERNMENT BILLS. ALTHOUGH the opinions of the members of the House of Peers, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, on the reassessment of the taxable value of land, as well as on the proposed increase of the *saké*, tobacco, and income taxes, have not yet been declared or definitely settled, an estimate may be formed from the following:—

THE "KONWA-KAI."

Hitherto the majority of the members of the House of Peers have taken very little interest in the land tax question. Several members of the *Konwa-kai* always expressed their readiness to support a Bill for reassessment, and during the present session their number has increased, so that, and especially since the Government has introduced the Bill, though they may not approve it entirely, they will amend some portions and pass it. On the other hand, they are not at all in favour of the Bills for increasing other taxes. They met at the Nobles' Club on Thursday last, and discussed the question, finally deciding to elect a committee of three members to investigate the subject. Messrs. Fujimura Shiro, Hara Chujo, and Hayashi Soyemon were chosen. The last named is one of the biggest brewers of Miye Prefecture.

THE "SANYO-KAI."

The members of the *Sanyo-kai* have always been entirely opposed to reassessment of the taxable value of land, but before the opening of the present session, considering it necessary to investigate the question, they determined to present a representation relating to the establishment of a Bureau for examining the land-tax problem. The principal matters which the Bureau would have to ascertain are:—(1) the advantage or disadvantage of reassessment; (2) the amount of reduction; and (3) the method of reassessment. The Bureau would also investigate the reduction of the land-tax. The *Sanyo-kai* have further expressed a desire that the members of the Bureau be appointed from both Houses of the Diet as well as from officialdom. This proposition having been made before the Government declared its intention of reducing the taxable value of land, the *Sanyo-kai* are not likely to abandon the project now. As for increasing the taxes on *saké*, tobacco, etc., the *Sanyo-kai* are absolutely opposed, and will devote their full energy to rejecting this proposal.

THE "YAMATO CLUB."

The members of the Yamato Club, as well as the Independents who follow Viscount Yamanoichi, are opposed to reassessment whether the scheme emanates from the Government or otherwise. They are also strongly opposed to any increase of the taxes on *saké*, etc. Not one among them has expressed a favourable opinion on the proposition of the Government.

THE "KENKIU-KAI."

Though the members of the *Kenkiu-kai* have always been opposed to reassessment of the taxable value of land, their chief aim is to support the Clan statesmen, and consequently, so soon as the Government proposed to undertake reassessment, they forgot their former attitude and now declare in favour of the reform. They will undoubtedly approve the increase of taxes on *saké* and other luxuries; but it is reported that two or three of them endorse the proposition of the *Sanyo-kai*, for establishing a new Bureau to investigate land-tax questions.

THE CHAWA-KAI.

The members of the Chawa-kai originally separated from the *Kenkiu-kai*, but not with the intention of arranging themselves against

the latter on any question which concerned the interests of the Government. Up to the present they have merely expressed their willingness to support the Government; and have not yet held any meeting.

THE INDEPENDENTS.

Each independent member holds his own opinion on the question, and as they do not meet to determine their policy, it is somewhat difficult to ascertain their real attitude. But rumour says that about 70 per cent. of them approve of reassessment; and 90 per cent. oppose the projected increase of taxes on *saké*, tobacco, and incomes.

RECEPTION DAYS.

OUR readers will doubtless find it convenient to be in possession of the following information as to the days and places of fixed receptions by some of the Japanese ladies of the Capital:—

TUESDAY.

COUNTRESS ITO.—At the Official Residence of the Minister President of State. (The Countess does not receive, of course, during the illness of the Minister President.)

MARCHIONESS HACHISUKA.—From the Second Tuesday of January, at the Official Residence of the President of the House of Peers.

MADAME HAYASHI.—At the Official Residence of the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

MARCHIONESS NABESHIMA.—At No. 1, Nagatacho, Ichome.

WEDNESDAY.

COUNTRESS KURODA.—At the Official Residence of the Minister of State for Communications, in Kobikicho (near Shimabashi).

MADAME SANNOIYA.—At No. 27, Kitamachi, Takahara.

COUNTRESS GOTO.—At the Official Residence of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce (near the British Legation).

VISCOUNTESS HIJIKATA.—At the Official Residence of the Minister of the Imperial Household (near the British Legation.) The Viscountess is not receiving at present on account of indisposition.

THURSDAY.

THE LADIES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT.

FRIDAY.

MADAME MUTSU.—At the Official Residence of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

VISCOUNTESS NIREI.—At the Official Residence of the Minister of State for the Navy, opposite the Foreign Office. (The Viscountess has not yet moved into this new residence.)

SATURDAY.

MARCHIONESS TOKUGAWA.—At Mukojima.

This list is, of course, incomplete, but even the partial information it contains will doubtless be of service.

BLOODSHED AT YOKOSUKA.

IN old times there existed a certain class of rowdies whom the Japanese termed *Nagawakizashi* (long-swords), from the fact of their carrying very long swords for use in their swash-buckling exploits. The class gradually died out after the Restoration, but some of its members still exist in the ranks of gamblers, preserving a semblance of organization and having a ring-leader. As, however, police supervision is so strict now-a-days, these gentry can seldom create any disturbance. The district most notorious for gamblers is Joshu and in the second rank stands Yokosuka. In the latter place are two ring-leaders, one nicknamed Mekane (Kosugi Kanekichi) and the other Konauta (Hamada Utagoro). Bitter enemies, these men show much energy in collecting and organizing followers, and collisions not infrequently occur between their adherents. Lately the Konauta gang has been increasing very rapidly, and its members have often behaved shamefully to the followers of Mekane, so that the latter are said to have been biding their time to get even with the former. These men are employed chiefly at the arsenal. On the 28th ultimo they all received their monthly wages. It is the custom to have a grand gambling bout on pay-day. This presented to the followers of Mekane their desired opportunity. They secretly agreed to surprise the Konauta gang while the latter were engaged in gambling. With that object they marched to the house of Konauta the same evening, and

provoked a quarrel. But the followers of Konauta had obtained information of their enemies' design, and were thoroughly prepared to meet them. Consequently the Mekane party was totally defeated, and had to fly from the house crestfallen. This unsuccessful attempt was at once reported to their leader, who forthwith ordered preparations for a fresh attack the following day. About forty of his followers accordingly assembled on the 27th, armed with swords or spears, and suddenly invading Konauta's house, wounded several of the inmates. The family escaped out of doors, and the aggressors marched into the inner room, which is reserved for the master of the house and ring-leader of the other party. After a struggle Konauta was severely wounded in the head. Meanwhile, these doings having been reported to the police station, Miyamoto, a detective rushed to the scene of disturbance. At the gate of Kashiwada he met one Ishiwatari Asajiro, who was covered with blood. The detective stopped the wounded man and was enquiring into the cause of disturbance, when one Kurabashi Kichigoro, a follower of Mekane, rushed up with a spear nearly three feet in length, and wounded Miyamoto very severely. But the detective, nothing daunted, grappled with Kichigoro, and at last bound him with ropes. After wounding Konauta, the followers of Mekane escaped into the mountain above Iriyamasu village. Meanwhile, the followers of Konauta having received intelligence that their master was wounded, some 30 of them followed the Mekane party into the mountain, and a combat ensued lasting several hours. Over 15 men on each side are reported to have received severe wounds. At last, by the energy of the police, the combatants were separated and peace was restored. It is said that no fight of such dimensions had occurred for many years.

DISMISSAL OF THE GOVERNOR OF SAITAMA KEN.

FOR months the people of Saitama Prefecture had been urging Mr. Kubota Kwanichi, Governor of the Prefecture, to resign. But he took no notice of their appeal. They then despatched commissioners to Tokyo, to petition Count Inouye, Minister for Home Affairs, to remove the objectionable official. But even this step seemed to have no effect. Finally, the members of the Saitama Prefectural Assembly became so indignant that they refused to discuss any question, of whatever importance, relating to Prefectural management. Thereupon Count Inouye despatched a telegraphic message ordering the dissolution of the Assembly; and of course local dissatisfaction blazed out more fiercely than ever against the Governor. Suddenly the *Official Gazette* announced the dismissal of Mr. Kubota Kwanichi. In his stead Mr. Ginbayashi, Secretary of Tokyo *Fu*, has been appointed. The Saitama people ought to feel contented now, for not only has the unpopular Governor been removed, but also they obtain in his place one of the most able and conciliatory local officials in the empire.

This dismissal is another of the drastic measures adopted by Count Inouye since he assumed the position of Minister of State for Home Affairs—measures which clearly indicate a resolve not to tolerate anything like a disposition to exercise undue official interference on the part of local officials, but which have nevertheless failed to receive any recognition from such implacables as Messrs. Tatekawa Umpei, Ozaki Yukio, Haseba Toshitaka, and others. These men, having ridden to the death their hobby of official interference, are now engaged in the artistic occupation of flogging the defunct animal. Last session we had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Tatekawa deliver his two hours' indictment of the Government, and we must confess that while fully appreciating the spirit which prompted the Opposition to fight for the principle of untrammelled individual liberty in elections, the chief sentiment awakened by Mr. Tatekawa's speech was one of surprise that any responsible politician could commit the egregious blunder of supplementing grave and seemingly well supported charges by accusa-

tions so obviously wild and so evidently based on pure hypothesis as to discredit the whole complaint. The defective judgment which betrayed Mr. Tatekawa into that mistake has now urged him to perpetrate the still greater error of attempting an anti-climax. The public are pretty well tired of this official interference question. They know well that the present Cabinet is above all suspicion of anything of the kind, and that it has taken every step which can reasonably be expected of it to evince its sense of the absolutely neutral position which officials ought to occupy in the field of politics. Yet here we have Mr. Tatekawa Umpei and thirty-five other members of the House declaring that the Ito Cabinet has paid no attention to the Representations made by the two Houses last session, and actually putting up one of the number, Mr. Haseba, to charge the Cabinet with actively pursuing the very practices condemned, rightly or wrongly, in its predecessor, and pursuing them, too, for the pettiest and least profitable purposes. When such accusations as these are resorted to against Count Ito and his colleagues, the whole business assumes the character of vindictive persecution, and we shall be much surprised if the result is not to disgust the nation with politicians so careless of their own dignity and of the dictates of justice.

THE VOTE OF WANT OF CONFIDENCE.

At the close of a three hour's debate in the House of Representatives yesterday, only three members stood up to support a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry. They were the three representatives of the Oriental Radicals, Messrs. Inagaki Shimesu, Arai Shogo, and Mori Riusuke. The Oriental Radicals are the followers of Mr. Oi Kentaro. They are pledged to oppose Mixed Residence, and they stand now in the very van of a radicalism visibly approximating to socialism. Mr. Inagaki used to call himself an "Independent," and used to be regarded as a supporter of the Cabinet. But he is now an associate of the *Toyō Jiyū-to*. He is the member who made the sensation in the House last session by declaring that bribes had been offered to him to support the Naval Appropriations Bill, and of course he was the hero of the hour. In all that he may have been quite honest, but when any follower of Mr. Oi Kentaro complains about the non-accomplishment of Treaty Revision, knowing well that his Party is pledged to oppose any reasonable programme of revision, we must be permitted to doubt his sincerity.

TENDERS FOR THE TOKYO WATER WORKS.

The tenders for supplying iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works have been opened and the figures are now known. They excite more than usual interest because the competition takes something of an international character, and because there has been so much talk of the pipes being manufactured in Japan. Some of the figures sent in by the competing firms are as follow:—Messrs. Harrison and Co., Bessemer Works, Alabama, \$19 (gold), per ton of 2,000 lbs., for straight pipes, and from \$45 to \$60 for specials (i.e. pipes with bends, &c.), delivered at the works. Messrs. Cochrane and Co., Middlesbrough from £4.10s. to £3.19s. 6d. per ton of 2,240 lbs. for straights from 4 inches to 42 inches; and £11 for specials, delivered at the works. Messrs. Macfarlane, Strang and Co., Glasgow (represented by Messrs. Okura and Co. in Japan), from £4.5 to £4. per ton of 2,240 lbs. for straights, and £9 for specials delivered in Glasgow, or £6.0.10 to £5.15.7½ for straights delivered at Tsukudajima, Tokyo, and £11 for specials. Another British firm, represented by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., from £6.6 to £6 per ton of 2,240 lbs. for straights, and £11.15 for specials, delivered in Tokyo. The same firm, through the Yeisho-kai, £6.3.3 to £5.17.9 for straights, and £11.11.3 for specials, delivered in Tokyo; the corresponding prices for delivery in Glasgow being £4.3.3, £3.18.6, and £9.3.6 respectively. A French firm, through Messrs. Schoene and Mottu, 95 fr. per ton of 1,000 kilo., delivered at the works. A Belgian firm, through Messrs. Favre-Brandt, 164.92 frs. to

99.50 frs. per ton of 1,000 kilo., and 60 frs. extra for specials, delivered at the works. Messrs. Stewart and Co., Glasgow, £6.18.3 to £6.6.9, and specials £4.10 extra, per ton of 2,240 lbs., delivered in Tokyo. Mr. Totaki, for pipes manufactured in Japan, 4 inch, straights, 12 kilo. each, 4.15 yen; 6 inch, 137 kilo. each, 6.50 yen; 8 inch, 192 kilo. each, 10.80 yen, and so on up to 37 and 44 inch pipes weighing 2,099 kilo. and 2,616 kilo. each, and costing 99.77 yen and 123.26 yen respectively; and 63.80 yen to 61.49 yen for specials per ton of 1,000 kilos. Messrs. Laidlaw & Co., Glasgow, per Messrs. Illies & Co. £7 to £6.9 per ton of 2,240 lbs. for straights, and £13.1 for specials, delivered in Tokyo. Messrs. Hirano & Co. (Ishikawajima), 57.36 yen per ton of 2,240 lbs. for 4 inch straights; 51.68 yen for 6 inch; 51.68 yen for 8 inch; 50.91 yen for 10 inch, 12 inch, and 16 inch; 52.62 yen for 20, 24, and 26 inch; and 56.36 yen for 36 and 42 inch. The Staunton Iron Works, Nottingham, per Messrs. Raspe & Co., £5.2.6 to £4.15.6 per ton of 2,240 lb., and £9 for specials, delivered at Liverpool. A German firm, through Messrs. Raspe & Co., 157½ marks for straights and 254 marks for specials, per ton of 1,000 kilo. delivered at Tsukudajima.

Among the above it will be observed that, so far as concerns prices for delivery at the works, America, France, and Belgium are remarkably cheap, but if prices for delivery in Tokyo be considered, Messrs. Macfarlane, Strang & Co. (per Messrs. Okura & Co.) are the most reasonable. Mr. Totaki's prices are low, but inasmuch as he has no facilities for the work and is estimating on incredibly cheap bases of manufacture, it is difficult to be sure of the results. We take leave to doubt altogether whether the pipes can be made at any reasonable price in this country.

A DRIFTING STEAMER.

The Customs cruiser *Feiho* (Captain Nielsen) arrived here yesterday, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 28th ultimo, with Mr. Forrester, second officer, and four native sailors belonging to the *El Dorado*, who were picked up from a boat on Saturday morning at about eleven o'clock, off the Saddles. It appears that on Saturday the *El Dorado*, whilst on the voyage from Tientsin to this, broke her shaft, and having no sail to speak of was practically helpless, and began to drift out of the ordinary track of steamers. On Friday morning, Mr. Forrester and the four sailors put off in one of her boats, with the intention of reaching Gutzlaff, and telegraphing to Shanghai. They sailed in the boat about thirty miles in a S. by W. direction, and made the North Saddles. They landed in South Bay, and were accommodated by the lighthouse-keeper. Hearing that the *Feiho* was in the Side Saddles they decided to seek her. On the way they encountered the *Feiho*, and were taken on board. The *El Dorado* is drifting out to sea, with anchors down and some 120 fathoms of chain; her position approximately being N. by E. 30 miles from the North Saddles. The *Esang* has been despatched to her assistance.

MR. THEODORE CHILD'S DEATH.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Theodore Child, several times repeated and as often contradicted, is finally confirmed by a dispatch from Paris, dated November 10th. Two days before, Messrs. Harper and Brothers of New York, in whose service the accomplished writer had been for several years, publicly discredited the report, and the London house of Osgood, McIlvaine & Co. stated that a letter from him had been received within a week, giving information that, though he had suffered from an attack of cholera at Tabriz, he had on the 6th of September, entirely recovered. Further testimony was offered by Mr. George A. Lucas, of Paris, in the form of a telegram from Mr. Child, dated Teheran, October 5th, declaring that he was about to start, in excellent health, upon a horseback journey over the mountains, and that owing to the irregularity of communications, six months might pass before he could again be heard from. His friends were therefore

under no anxiety, and the positive assurance of his death must have been a painful surprise. He undoubtedly fell a victim to a second seizure of cholera, which was prevalent throughout Persia at the time of his visit. Mr. Child's loss will be lamented by the literary world, and especially by the readers of *Harper's Magazine*, to the pages of which he was accustomed to contribute critical and descriptive articles of great value. He was a recognized authority on modern art, and his reputation rested chiefly upon his mastery of this subject. Of late years he had been more especially engaged in visiting remote and unfrequented parts of the world, in which he found material excellently suited to his animated and picturesque style of narrative. It was about four months ago that he set out upon the last of these excursions, accompanied by Edwin L. Weeks, the artist, who was to supply illustrations to his text. Mr. Child was generally supposed to be an American, but we believe he was born in Liverpool, about forty years ago. He graduated from Oxford in 1877, and, immediately after, devoted himself to literary work, in which he at once secured distinction. He fixed his residence in Paris, and for some years sent letters to *Yate's World* and the *Daily Telegraph*. Latterly he had confined himself almost exclusively to *Harper's Magazine*, and his last published paper, entitled "Along the Parisian Boulevard," appeared in the November number of that periodical.

THE KANAZAWA LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

The Local Assembly of Kanazawa, in Kaga, appears to be determined to cross lances with the Governor. A telegram received yesterday announces that the Assembly passed a measure for the punishment of officials who had interfered in the elections, whereupon the Governor ordered that the measure be withdrawn, inasmuch as it exceeded the legitimate powers of the Assembly. The latter, however, is standing to its guns, so that the situation is somewhat strained. Japan is not an easy country to govern at present. The Tanakas, the Arais, the Inagakis, and their confrères have sowed seeds productive of a troublesome crop of tares.

COLLISION IN THE BAY.

The steamship *Zambesi* left the anchorage on Thursday night bound to Hongkong direct, and had got as far as the Saratoga Spit when she came into collision with the *Hokumon Maru*, and sustained such injuries that she had to be run on shore to save her from sinking in deep water, the *Hokumon* having cut into the *Zambesi's* plates fully four feet below the water line. The *Hokumon* arrived at the anchorage next morning, and exhibits signs of the collision, her bows being completely stove in and her stern very much out of the perpendicular. She is a vessel of 678 tons, and belongs to the Hakodate Steamship Company. Assistance has been sent to the *Zambesi*.

The *Zambesi* now lies in the same position where she was beached after the accident, and every effort is being made to so lighten and patch her up before the advent of bad weather, as to raise and shift her to a place where she can be repaired. Her injuries are not of so severe a nature as to make it absolutely necessary that she should go into dock, and it may possibly happen that a more expeditious and less expensive method of replacing her broken plates will be found in repairing her at anchor with stern depressed and bow raised sufficiently for that purpose. The *Zambesi* does not appear at present to be injured in any way beyond the broken plates on the port bow where contact with the *Hokumon* took place. This occurred immediately abaft the collision bulkhead, that is, in the fore-hold, which has a run of 48 feet. Of this hold 18 feet of plating are stove in above the water line, measured fore and aft, the entire fracture taking the form of an irregular and inverted triangle which extends several feet below the water line. The fore hold contained flour, matches, seaweed, &c., and the top tiers of cargo were got out dry, while the lower portion

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is of course submerged, as this hold is full of water. The bulkhead separating the fore from No. 2 hold is leaking steadily, and there were six feet of water in the latter yesterday at midday upon which the pumps could make no impression, in fact the water was gaining slightly at that time. The cargo in other parts of the ship was intact yesterday forenoon, and if the weather continues fine there is little doubt that in about three days the vessel will be patched, pumped, and raised, and taken to a place of safety. In the meantime, the *Zambesi's* cargo and passengers will be transferred and forwarded, as whether the vessel be docked or not the necessary renewal of plates will occupy a considerable time, though no damage whatever has been sustained to hawse-pipes, stem, or any part forward of the collision bulkhead. One of the crew is missing, and three were injured when the collision took place.

THE ENTERPRISE OF "THE TIMES."

The Times is not in the habit of loudly proclaiming its enterprise and expenditure, but when it has a large object in view, it does not stop at trifles. The *North American Review*, before publishing the article which that periodical recently secured from Mr. Gladstone, offered to place it at *The Times'* disposal for quotation and review. *The Times* inquired as to the amount of matter that could be used, and was informed that twenty-five hundred words might be extracted—a little more than one half of the entire contribution. Whereupon an order was issued that the essay be telegraphed in full, at the cost of the London journal. This being done, about two thousand words appeared in the next morning's edition. A larger proportion was transmitted and paid for, and left unused, than the fragment which was reproduced. If *The Times* had been willing to leave the selection to its American representative it might have saved a large sum of money; but the extra outlay was not considered too lavish for the privilege of making the choice in Printing House Square. These particulars were disclosed by way of reply to a London evening paper which had the temerity to assert that the citations were "pirated." Otherwise the details of the transaction would never have been known to the public.

A NEW STYLE OF WEAPON.

YESTERDAY a visitor to the House of Representatives could not fail to be struck by the exceptional vigilance which the guards displayed. Everyone approaching the Strangers' Gallery was subjected to scrutiny of marked closeness. The explanation was that a visitor had been discovered on the previous day carrying in his girdle a pipe-case which contained a decidedly mischievous-looking dagger. His name was Yamada Keiji, and there was no question as to the authenticity of his introduction to the precincts of the House. Neither did it appear, indeed, that his intentions were open to suspicion. He explained that his constant habit was to carry a weapon for purposes of protection, and that he had forgotten to give it up at the vestibule. The guards contented themselves with taking charge of it for the moment, but the very close resemblance its sheath bore to a pipe-case, and the information that the carrying of such things had begun to come into fashion, prompted the vigilance shown yesterday.

STRIKE IN HONGKONG.

THE coolies in the employ of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company at their Hung-ham establishment, to the number of 2,000, went on strike on the 1st inst. It appears that the men have been in the receipt of double pay for night-work—all night—for some time past, and the company desired to reduce this to pay and a half, which not being acceptable to the employes the men declined to start work on the 1st of December, the date upon which the new scale of pay was supposed to commence. The company had a lot of work in hand at the Hung-ham works, but as it is only at this place that the men are on strike, the steamers under repair and other work wanted quickly have been taken

to Aberdeen and other of the Company's establishments. Everything is perfectly quiet, and the Dock officials and the leaders of the men are conferring with a view to the settlement of the dispute.

BARRISTERS-AT-LAW.

EVER since the first session of the Diet the Barristers Bill has evoked much unfavourable criticism; and though it was amended and presented to the Diet during the second session, it did not pass both Houses. The Bill has now been once more submitted to the Diet, but it will again have to undergo a troublesome ordeal. Rumour says that the students of the six principal law colleges are entirely opposed to the Bill. They assembled in the lecture hall of the Meiji Law College on the 2nd instant, and after a prolonged discussion determined to organize a campaign of opposition to the Bill. Some of them agreed to undertake the task of arguing with the officials of the Judicial Department, and others promised to visit the members of both Houses of the Diet, and point out the objections to the Bill. In pursuance of this programme, three students of the Meiji Law College went to the Judicial Department, and saw Mr. Kiyoura, Vice-Minister for Justice, Mr. Kumano, Councillor, and Mr. Yokoda, Director of the Bureau for the trial of Civil and Criminal Cases. The visitors enquired the object of the Government in enforcing the Bill, and stated their arguments against it, receiving, apparently, a polite hearing, but producing, probably, no very deep impression.

REGULATIONS FOR EXCHANGE.

New Regulations for Exchanges have been compiled by the Government, and handed to a special committee for consideration. The Regulations consist of 32 Articles. The Committee began to examine them last Friday. It is said that the Government intends to present the Bill to the Diet as soon as it obtains the approval of the committee, which consists of many of the best known men of business in the empire. They have not yet completed their investigations, but immediately on the draft's passing the committee it will be presented to the Diet, and we shall then publish a full translation of the text.

RESIGNATION OF MR. OTANI.

SINCE Mr. Otani Kayemon was appointed President of the Yokohama Traders' Union not more than three months have elapsed, but disagreements and disputes have been more frequent and troublesome than ever. Mr. Otani presented his resignation twice, but each time he was advised to remain. It is now reported that he has presented his resignation once more, and that he will not withdraw it on any account.

RE-ARREST OF MILLER.

MR. CHARLES EDWARD MILLER, whose name has recently been prominently before the public in connection with embezzlements alleged to have been committed by him at Hyogo, Japan; his arrest at Singapore on board the French mail steamer *Melbourne*; his appearance at the Police Court; his remand to the Supreme Court, and his final release on a writ of Habeas Corpus granted by the Honourable the Chief Justice, is reported to have been re-arrested at Sourabaya on his arrival from Singapore.

RAILWAYS IN SIAM.

THE first locomotive ever seen in Bangkok was started on the 7th ult. on the temporary siding adjacent to the Korat Railway terminus. The native population took immense interest in the trial run over the half mile of railway now laid. It is noted as a singular coincidence that the line between Kuala Lumpur and Kawang, constructed by the same contractor (Mr. Murray Campbell) was inaugurated on the same day.

THE TRIAL OF MR. BOX.

THE trial of Mr. T. H. Box on a charge of embezzlement and fraudulent false accounting will open in the British Court before his Honour the Judge and a Special Jury, at 9.30 on Wednesday, December 14th. The Jury were drawn

yesterday. Mr. H. C. Litchfield will prosecute on behalf of the Crown, Mr. Tison being retained by Mr. Simon on the same side. Mr. J. F. Lowder defends.

THE KOMURA-ROAD MURDER CASE.

THE hearing of the Carsten's murder case was resumed in the Japanese Law Courts at Yokohama, on the 8th inst., at 1.30 p.m. After some discussion between the Public Prosecutor and advocates, Chief Judge Maruyama declared that Carstens had lost the privileges of a subject of the German Empire, and was therefore amenable to the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts. The Public Prosecutor at once appealed against this judgment.

MR. CLARKE-THORNHILL.

THE many friends of Mr. T. B. Clarke-Thornhill in Japan will learn with pleasure that the illness said to have reduced him to a dangerous condition at Oporto, turns out to be, not typhus fever, as reported, but ague, and that at the date of latest advices from Europe, he was progressing steadily towards recovery.

RAW SILK IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE Imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast for the month of October, 1892, amounted to 10,050 bales—1,550,340 lbs.—\$5,354,268; and the imports of Waste Silk and Pierced Cocoons in the same period were 166 bales—50,100 lbs.—\$24,173.

THE *Bellona*, Captain Jagaer, which arrived here this week, picked up a Korean drifting down the China Sea in an open boat, and brought him on to this port, but how he got out to sea is not known as he could only speak his own language which no one on board the steamer understood. There was another Korean in the boat, but he was dead.

ACCORDING to a telegram received in Shanghai from Anping, the diving operations at the wreck of the *Bokhara* had been so successful that up to the night of 18th ult. treasure to the value of Tls. 65,000 had been recovered and sent away in H.M.S. *Pallas*. Salvage operations were proceeding satisfactorily.

FIFTEEN vessels, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 2nd inst., are in the vicinity of Woosuung, two, the *Saikio Maru* and *Glenfalloch*, unable to get out, and the rest unable to get in.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political situation seems to perplex many observers of current events. An idea apparently prevails in certain quarters that the House of Representatives is decidedly unfavourable to the Cabinet, and that the rumoured alliance between the Government and the Radicals has been made impossible by the turn of events. It is true that the National Unionists, though supposed to be on the whole friendly to the Ministry, have plainly indicated their willingness sometimes to assume an attitude of opposition as marked as that of the Progressionists, and that they talk of the importance of introducing reductions of 4 or 5 million yen in the Budget. It is also true that the leader of the Radical party in the House of Representatives has been endeavouring to deliver a speech on the Government's Declaration of policy in the presence of the Ministers of State. The Radicals too are reported to be in favour of sweeping reductions in the ordinary expenditures of the Government. But despite these plain facts, it is, in our opinion, premature to draw any inference as to the ultimate attitude of the Diet towards the Cabinet. Neither is it warrantable to assume that the Radicals are about to oppose the Government persistently. We have never been able to perceive any solid justification for the report that an alliance was meditated between the *Fuyu-to* and the statesmen now in power. But it is an indisputable fact that the *Fuyu-to* leaders showed

strong sympathy with the Ito Cabinet when it was first organized, and it is also equally true that the same attitude is still maintained by them, though their ardour may have cooled more or less. In the House of Representatives, the Radicals sometimes express opinions at variance with those of the Cabinet; but this ought to create no surprise, for, being pledged to certain fixed views on many questions now before the Diet, they are under the necessity of endeavouring to preserve a show of consistency. It is noticeable by every careful observer, that the Radicals are at heart ready to make as large sacrifices as possible to come to an honourable compromise with the Government. That is illustrated by their conduct on the question of the reassessment of the taxable value of land. At first it was reported that they would oppose all Government's Bills connected with the matter. But by and by they agreed to meet the Government's proposals at least half way. It is now reported that even on the question of an increase of the *saké* and tobacco taxes some of them may consent to the Cabinet's proposition with modifications. So far, therefore, there is no indication of any serious collision between the Government and the Diet, still less of deadly antagonism between the Radical politicians and these in power. Our opinion is shared for the most part by the *Choya Shimbun*, which maintains that of late there has been a strong tendency among the Popular Party to follow a conciliatory policy towards the Government, and that this tendency is not likely to abate, being inspired by experience of the fruitlessness of wanton opposition as exemplified during the past three years.

The *Nippon* thinks that it has discovered in the Government's Declaration of Policy certain passages which point to the existence of an understanding between the Cabinet and the Radical Party. These passages relate to the foreign policy of the Government. The Declaration emphasizes the importance of bringing about unanimity of opinion on the question of Treaty Revision. This declaration, according to our contemporary, was made by the Cabinet on the understanding that the Radicals would elicit the views entertained on the subject by the majority in the Lower House, and embody them in an Address to the Throne.

That our view as to the attitude of the Diet towards the Cabinet is correct, has been signally proved by the ridiculous fate of a motion for a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry, which was introduced in the House of Representatives on the 8th instant by Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, a member of the Oriental Radical party, who gained unenviable notoriety towards the close of the last session of the Diet in connection with a scandal about alleged bribery of members by the Naval Authorities. The character of the introducer and of the supporters of the motion may have had something to do with its signal defeat. But it is a circumstance well worth remarking that not one of the Progressionists, those deadly antagonists of the Ministry, voted for the motion. All things considered, it is certainly significant that the motion did not find more than three supporters, including its introducer.

The Opposition papers do not like to acknowledge that the effect of the signal defeat encountered by the motion for a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet on the 8th instant is calculated to strengthen the position of the Government. They explain that the Opposition members of the House of Representatives would have given a "hearty reception to the motion if it had been introduced at the right moment and by the right person." If this remark of the *Fiji* and others expresses the views held by their respective parties, the latter are open, as is noticed by the *Nippon* and other independent papers, to the charge of entrusting important measures to a Cabinet which they are prepared "at the right moment" to pronounce unworthy of confidence. The truth is that the Opposition

members of the Diet, especially the Radicals, are quite ready to entrust the Cabinet with measures of great moment, but have not the courage to make an open acknowledgment of the plain fact. Hence the ambiguous language which they used in opposing Mr. Inagaki's motion last Wednesday.

Certain papers publish mysterious rumours as to the bribery of Mr. Inagaki by a Minister of State to induce him to bring in his motion, in the hope that by rejecting it, the House would virtually record its confidence in the Cabinet. Other papers report that the Radicals, aware of an intention on the part of the Oriental Radicals to introduce such a motion opposed it principally to gratify a burning passion of hatred against their quondam comrades. The circulation of such rumours shows the straits in which certain folks have been placed by the force of circumstances.

The resolution passed by a large majority in the Lower House on the 8th instant, touching the conduct of the Cabinet in connection with the House's requests to the Ministers of State to attend its meeting to hear a speech by one of its members, is heartily applauded by the Opposition papers. These journals take it for granted that the Ministers of State having announced their policy to the Diet, are morally bound to listen to a counter declaration by the acknowledged leader of the Opposition. Since they have shunned coming into direct contact with the Opposition on the broad question of general policy, their conduct, according to party organs, is directly at variance with their avowed solicitude about the maintenance of harmony between the Government and the people. The Ministers of State in the opinion of these papers, have placed themselves in a very unfortunate position, for their conduct virtually amounts to a refusal to come to a clear, mutual understanding with opponents, a condition absolutely essential to the establishment of harmony between the two. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* exposes the fallacy of these contentions on the part of Opposition journals. It refuses to make any distinction between Mr. Kono and the rest of the members of the Diet. They all occupy the same position, and if one of them is entitled either to ask for the special attendance of Ministers of State or to demand a change of the Order of the Day, for the purpose of delivering a speech, all the rest may justly claim the same privilege. What necessity is there, continues the *Nichi Nichi*, for the adoption of such an extraordinary and absurd course, when there are plenty of constitutional means by which the Opposition can make its opinions known to the Cabinet or seek the latter's explanations on any question. The Opposition leaders have been betrayed into this singular step by the perverted notions which they entertain as to the proper functions of the Diet, no less than by the circumstance that they attach more importance to individual encounters with the so-called "Clan Statesmen" than to the conduct of the proper business of constitutional government.

The proposed re-assessment of the taxable value of land, and increase of taxes on *saké*, tobacco, and incomes, are much discussed. The first of these measures, the reassessment of the taxable value of land, has been practically settled for the present, the Government Bill on the subject having been passed in the Lower House by a large majority. But the fate of the three taxes is still in suspense. The *Kaishin* organs unhesitatingly oppose the taxes. In their opinion, the funds required for reassessment as well as for the reduction of the land tax, may be very easily obtained by making reductions in the ordinary and extraordinary expenditures of the Government. In the field of ordinary expenditures, 44 million *yen* in round numbers are to be reduced, while in that of extraordinary expenditures, 3,320,000 *yen* may be obtained by throwing out the Government's proposal for the construction of war-vessels. In addition to these, more than 2 million *yen* are available in

the shape of surplus, so that the funds procurable for the purposes under consideration amount in all to over 10 million *yen*. The Progressionist organs declare that their party will consent to reassessment of land only on the basis indicated above should the Cabinet refuse to approve the Re-assessment Bill on the ground of the Diet's rejection of the Bills for the increase of the *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income taxes, the Progressionist organs fear that the present Government will meet with the same ignominious fate as its predecessor.

The Radical organs refrain to speak out on these topics. From the tone of their writings as well as from trustworthy information, their Party appear disposed to make a compromise with the Cabinet; they will approve the proposed increase of income tax, but supply the rest of the required funds by retrenchments from the ordinary expenditures of the Administration. It is even supposed that a few of them may consent to the increase of the taxes on *Saké* and Tobacco within certain limits. The National Unionists will oppose the increase of the *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income taxes. So we may predict that the fate of the *Saké* and Tobacco Bills is sealed, while the Income-tax Bill has a fair chance of success.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* devotes several articles to impressing upon the members of the Diet the importance of considering these taxation Bills in the light of their mutual connection and their relationship to the Bill for the increase of the Navy. The re-assessment of the taxable value of land is, in our contemporary opinion, a means for securing Naval augmentation. It observes that there being thus an evident inclination on the Government's side to make reasonable concessions, the Opposition is bound to approach the question in a similarly conciliatory spirit.

The *Fiji Shimpō* fears that the Government's conduct about re-assessment may have the effect of alienating the independent section of the people who have hitherto been comparatively well affected toward those in power. Men of this class, says our contemporary, are opposed to the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. They do not make themselves conspicuous in political spheres, yet they wield immense influence in their respective localities, and the good will of such persons is of vital importance to the Ministry. The *Fiji* fears also that the Cabinet's compliance with the clamours of interested party politicians, in disregard of the policy its predecessors pursued, may cause a split within its own ranks. In short, our contemporary fails to perceive the wisdom of the course adopted by the Ministry.

The loss of the *Chishima Kan* continues to excite the public. Several papers have been quick to hold up this incident as a proof of the inefficiency and mismanagement of the Navy. General Aoyama was weak enough to make himself spokesman for the indiscriminate grumblers of this class by delivering in the Lower House yesterday a strong diatribe against the unfortunate officer in command of the lost war vessel in particular, and the Naval authorities in general. The *Choya Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* advise their countrymen to conduct themselves in a dignified and thoughtful manner, and to suspend judgment until the close of the enquiries which will be held in due time. It is not unnatural that the vernacular press should be inclined to complain about Naval mismanagement, as accidents have of late rapidly followed each other. But this circumstance is no reason why the Naval authorities should be charged with mismanagement and incompetency. The *Nichi Nichi* also warns its readers against indulging in precipitate condemnation of the officers in command of the British ship *Ravenna*, although our contemporary itself does not think British seamen the most cautious or courteous

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECLARATION.

THE foreign public has now had an opportunity of reading the Government's Declaration of Policy made in the House of Representatives on the 1st instant. Further, in our present issue, will be found an epitome of the comments which the Declaration has elicited from the vernacular press. These comments possess, in our opinion, an interest scarcely inferior to that of the Declaration itself. We watched for their appearance with keen curiosity, and we are bound to confess that they profoundly disappoint us. As to the tone of hostility which some of them display, that, of course, was to be expected. Indeed, we hesitated for a moment before translating the criticisms of the *Kaishin-to* organs—the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Hochi Shimbun*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The Progressionist Party are at present the slaves of a mood of blind and uncompromising enmity to the Government. It is impossible that a Cabinet Minister can do right in their sight. Whatever programme Count ITO enunciated, short of abdicating in their favour, was inevitably destined to be condemned by their organs. Hence, it seemed for an instant that time and space could only be wasted in transcribing utterances so disfigured by prejudice. Yet it is well to hear all sides, if only for the sake of learning how little there is to hear. We many laugh at the peevish exigency of a party organ which, while professing to be keenly solicitous for the reduction of a particular tax, declares that it will never consent to such reduction unless it be made by means of funds taken from official pockets. We may laugh all the more at this display of wanton implacability when we remember that the very Party which the *Hochi Shimbun* represents, has been endeavouring, during three sessions of the Diet, to effect the reduction in question by means of funds a large portion of which did not come from the source indicated. But the serious fact underlying such retorts is the implacability they indicate. The *Kaishin-to* have developed one trait at least which qualifies them to be regarded as a political party in the full occidental sense of the term, namely, incapacity to feel content out of office. This display of hostility neither surprises nor disappoints us. What we find most disheartening is the marked superficiality of the vernacular journals' comments. Count ITO speaks in two characters; as a statesman and as a politician. The political aspects of his Declaration have been appreciated by all more or less clearly, and discussed more or less astutely. But the statesman's utterances appear to have escaped general notice. Policy is to statecraft what tactics are to strategy. No intelligent critic of a campaign thinks of confining his attention

to the modes employed to bring the troops into action or deploy them for attack or defence. He scrutinizes the plan of the Commanders rather than the manner of its execution. But the Tokyo journals seem to regard Count ITO solely as a tactician. They devote themselves entirely to the methods of his programme, and find nothing to note in its motives. The methods are plain enough. Count ITO offers a compromise. He undertakes to carry out an important part of the Opposition's most cherished scheme, provided that they, on their side, agree to appropriations for increasing the Navy. A golden bridge is thus built for the Radicals to retreat from their stronghold of implacability. They recently made the strengthening of the Navy a leading plank in their new constructive policy. They have always agitated for re-assessment of the taxable value of land. The latter is now promised on condition that they accept the former. They are to have what they want in return for approving what they advocate. Easier terms could scarcely be propounded. Surely there must be some large project in the vista of such a proposal. It is this project and the manner of defining it that constitute the statemanship of Count ITO's Declaration. He aims uniquely at restoring harmony in the councils of the nation. A powerful party has sprung up crying aloud for reforms and changes, and arraigning the Government as though it blocked the path of progress. "What is your standard of reform," asks the Minister President in effect; "What your limit of change? You cannot find in the whole world a country that has made so many reforms and undergone so many changes in twenty years as Japan. You and we have ample reason to be proud of her achievements. It is our mutual glory to live in such an age and to have contributed to the making of its history. But the country's advance has been checked. The institutions whose inauguration ought to help her progress, have been perverted into instruments of obstruction. The Administration cannot do any useful work because nothing that it proposes is tolerated by you. You yourselves can effect nothing because your methods are too drastic and polemical to command general support. Yet, look back. See what was accomplished during the years antecedent to this squabbling. Are you content to have put a period to such advance, and could you not be content to resume it at the same speed? Ask yourselves, also, whether the Diet is serving its purpose; whether the legislative functions deputed to it by the SOVEREIGN are bearing any sound fruit. Let us then restore the harmony essential to successful progress. The world is watching you. It will accept the results of your parliamentary experiment as the true standard of your civilization and moral capacities. We, on our side, promise to labour

honestly for the removal of every obstacle in the path; and, after all, the story of the past offers some pledges of our sincerity. Let us raise the flag of the nation above this cloud of factional ensigus." Count ITO says all this and says it eloquently. It is the real goal of his Declaration: the rest is only an indication of routes. But the vision of the vernacular press seems to be defective. It sees the tactician, but overlooks the statesman. Is Count ITO before his time in Japan, or has the time been thrown back by political animosities?

THE ATTITUDE OF THE OPPOSITION.

IT is probably justifiable to deduce from the action of the House of Representatives on the 3rd instant some inference as to the general attitude of the Opposition towards the Government this session. Once again the Radicals introduced their *pièce de résistance*, amendment of the Land Tax. Not a single dissentient voice was raised. One member ventured to enquire how the deficiency of revenue caused by the proposed change was to be compensated. But the introducer of the Bill did not give himself the trouble to offer any genuine explanation. "There was money enough," he said in effect, and the House rested content. Thus the Bill passed virtually *nem. con.* Probably a hundred or more members were opposed to it at heart, but they understood the futility of open resistance. Now the mere fact that a majority of the people's representatives vote for reduction of the Land Tax, is not remarkable. They are pledged to do so, and they have done so every session. But we must assume some degree of practicality on the part of the Radicals. By changing the rate of the tax from twenty-five to twenty-two thousandths of the assessed value of the land, the revenue of the State will undergo a diminution of about five million *yen*. How is this deficiency to be met? Already a Bill has been submitted by the Government providing for re-assessment of the taxable value of land with the view of equalizing the incidence of the tax. To carry out this measure involves a loss of revenue amounting to 3½ millions, and the Government announce that a considerable increase in various other branches of taxation, will be necessary. It may therefore be assumed that, with the Budget constructed as at present, no margin whatever offers for giving effect to the change just voted by the Radicals. Whence, then, will funds be procured? It is inconceivable that the Radicals should pass a measure with their eyes open to the impossibility of carrying it out. The only inference we can draw is that they intend once more to manipulate the Budget according to the fashion adopted by them in the first session. They will seek to cut down the Ordinary expenditure of the Administration until a permanent surplus of in-

comings over outgoings is obtained. But such an attempt must once more precipitate a collision between themselves and the Government. The latter cannot consent to any distinctly unconstitutional interference with the SOVEREIGN'S Prerogative of fixing the establishment and salaries of the Civil Service. Reforms in that sphere must be initiated by the Government itself under the authority of the EMPEROR. Hence we find the political horizon clouded again. For a moment the public entertained a hope that some ground of compromise had been found: that the Government's consent to re-assess the taxable value of land would be accepted by the Opposition as a settlement of the land-tax question, temporarily at all events. It looks now as though the hope were vain. The Opposition has pledged itself to a step the inevitable sequel of which, so far as we can judge, will be another fight over the Budget, and a revival of all the bitter feelings that seemed to be subsiding. The Peers, of course, will throw out the Bill. Under no circumstances can it become law at present. But that can scarcely avert the fate of the Estimates. The Budget Committee is already at work, and doubtless there has been mapped out for it by the Party to which two-thirds of its members belong, a drastic programme of retrenchment. If it were possible to have the Land Tax Bill rejected by the Peers before the Budget Committee's Report is presented, the situation might be a little eased. No such exit from the dilemma is reasonably probable, however, and we can only look forward to a fresh *impasse*.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

THE Government having announced its programme, the next question of vital interest is to determine the attitude which the various political parties will assume towards the details of the scheme. Foremost among the measures contemplated by the Administration is reassessment of the taxable value of land, and in connection with this the Cabinet has presented Bills providing for an increase of the taxes on *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income. Will these Bills pass the House of Representatives? Information contained in the columns of the vernacular press seems to furnish sufficient materials for a reply. Let us take the various parties in succession.

The National Unionists, who supported the Government staunchly last session, appear disposed at present to go into opposition. They held a general meeting on Saturday, the 3rd instant, and after considerable discussion, came to the conclusion that they could not vote for any increase of the taxes on *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income. What precise form their objection takes with regard to the Income Tax, we do not discover. But in the cases of *Saké* and Tobacco they claim that to

augment the imposts on these articles of domestic production without any corresponding alteration in the Customs tariff, would encourage the import of alcoholic beverages and tobacco from abroad, and thus impoverish the country. The principal purpose of the Union is to foster the national resources and promote their development. Hence the members declare themselves unable to endorse a measure which they regard as calculated to impede that purpose. They are not opposed to reassessment of the taxable value of land, but they think that funds may be obtained from sources other than those selected by the Government.

The *Fiyu-to* had a meeting on the 2nd instant, when their President, Count ITAGAKI, addressed them as follows:—

Our Party has always hoped to accomplish amendment of the taxable value of land, simultaneously with a reduction of the Land Tax. In pursuance of our object we have conducted various investigations, but owing to certain circumstances we did not include measures in that sense among our Party's proposals during the present session. The fact that the Government has introduced a Bill for reassessment must undoubtedly be regarded as official adoption of the popular desire and as the attainment of our long cherished aim. We have to congratulate ourselves most heartily. I trust, therefore, that the members of our Party in the Diet will cooperate harmoniously with those who are seeking to make reassessment an accomplished fact. The Government has also introduced Bills providing for an increase in the taxes on *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income. We are not altogether opposed to such increases, since, on the one hand, the articles taxed are luxurious, and, on the other, the classes affected are the wealthy. But it is possible that since the Customs tariff remains still unaltered, the proposed taxation of domestic products might give an undue impulse to imports. I invite careful attention to this subject. As for the income tax, however, our investigations go to show that it may, perhaps, be increased sufficiently to furnish the desired funds without touching the taxes on *Saké* and Tobacco. The whole question calls for profound consideration.

These remarks of the President did not provoke any expression of dissent. It seems probable, therefore, that the *Fiyu-to* members, urged by their anxiety to assist the reassessment scheme, will vote for the Government Bills as presented.

The *Kaishin-to*, we need scarcely say, are utterly hostile. They themselves had intended to introduce a Bill for reassessing the taxable value of land. But the Government having stolen their thunder, nothing remains but to attack the proposed methods. They have resolved, therefore, not only to vote against all increase of taxation, but even to bring forward a proposal for reducing the very imposts which the Government contemplates augmenting.

Sixty independent members of the House have formed an association called the *Giin* Club. These, also, held a meeting on the 2nd instant, and came to the conclusion that while supporting the Bill for reassessment, they must oppose the idea of increasing the taxes on *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income. They are said to have adopted the following resolution:—"We cannot approve the Bills for increasing the taxes on *Saké*, Tobacco, and Income, which the Government has introduced for the purpose of obtaining a majority in the House."

The *Domei* Club is the only important

political association remaining to be considered. Its members, also, have determined to support the Bill for reassessment, but to oppose the Bills for increased taxation in other directions. Their programme is to obtain the necessary funds by cutting down administrative expenditure.

It will be sure from the above analysis that, with the exception of the *Fiyu-to*, the whole of the Lower House seems to stand arrayed against the Government's Bills for increasing the taxes on *saké*, Tobacco and Incomes. A strange turn of events, surely, which brings the Government and the *Fiyu-to* into the same camp.

THE TWO LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION.

THE singular action taken by the two leaders of the Opposition in the House of Representatives has provoked much comment and created a situation which adds not a little to the tension already existing between the "Ins" and the "Outs." On Thursday the 1st instant the Cabinet's Declaration of Policy was made in the House of Representatives by the Acting Minister President of State. It elicited no comment at the time from any prominent member of the House, but, on the following Monday, Mr. KONO HIRONAKA, leader of the Radical Party, rose at the conclusion of the day's proceedings, and announced a desire to make a statement by way of reply to the Declaration. He added that he wished to speak in the presence of the Ministers of State, and that he trusted they would give him an opportunity of doing so. This was civil enough in its way, and did not pledge anybody to anything, though it could not fail to be interpreted as implying an assumption that the Ministers of the CROWN might, at any time, be summoned to attend in the House of Representatives by a member desiring to address his remarks to them. When the stenographic report of the proceedings appeared the following morning, people rubbed their eyes and wondered whether the leader of the *Fiyu-to* had really meant what he said, or whether he had thoughtlessly blundered into a position indefensible from any point of view. These doubts were soon resolved. For, in the next meeting of the House, the leader of the *Kaishin-to*, which, as everybody knows, forms the other wing of the Opposition, deliberately moved that the President be instructed to ask the Ministers of State to fix a day for attending in the House to listen to speeches on the subject of the Cabinet's policy. The *Kaishin-to* are the recognised implacables of the era. They oppose for the sake of opposition, and without any concern for the nature of the measure under debate. Their *môt d'ordre* is to stand always in the van of the assault upon the Government. They aspire to play the rôle of lightning in the political

firmament, leaving the business of cloud-forming to their allies the *Yiyu-to*. True to this principle, Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, the *Kaishin-to* leader, made it his business to give practical shape to the rudimentary extravagance of Mr. KONO HIRONAKA's suggestion. He moved, as we have said, that the President invite the Ministers of State to fix a day for attending in the House. The proposal was greeted with many marks of approval, and the President, in the absence of any objection, promised to take the course indicated. Presently another member endeavoured to make himself conspicuous by outdoing the leaders of the Opposition. He moved that the Ministers be invited to attend immediately, and that the debate be suspended until a reply could be received from them. This proposition, being obviously in conflict with the motion of Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, which had already received the tacit consent of the House, was ruled out of order by the President. But no objection whatever was raised to it on its merits. Like the extraordinary proposal of the *Kaishin-to* leader, it seemed to excite no sense of astonishment or ridicule. Thus the situation was that the Ministers of State stood summoned to fix a day for presenting themselves in the House in order to listen to speeches made by members of the Opposition. This is certainly the most singular incident that has yet occurred in the history of Japanese parliamentary institutions. The constitution provides a clear route of communication between the Diet and the Government. The majority in either House may address a Representation to the Government, or any group of not less than thirty members may formulate a Question with a statement of the reasons dictating it. These are the only constitutional methods of conveying the views of either House, or a part of either House to the Government, exclusive, of course, of motions regularly moved and passed. Nowhere in the Constitution is it provided, and nowhere in the parliamentary practice of Western States has the principle ever been outlined, that a member can move to have a summons served on the Ministers of the CROWN, requiring them to attend in the House in order to listen to a speech made by himself or by another member. It will be observed, too, that not even the occasion for delivering such a speech was fixed. There did not stand upon the Orders of the Day, nor yet on the list of propositions awaiting debate, any subject in connection with which either Mr. KONO SHIRONAKA or Mr. SHIMADA SABURO was entitled to deliver a statement of views bearing upon the general policy of the Cabinet. The law of the Houses provides that "Ministers of State and Delegates of the Government shall be allowed at any time to speak" in either House, but there is no rule which entitles a member to

deliver an address unless it be in connection with some subject standing upon the Order of the Day or otherwise coming before the House according to due methods of procedure. But Messrs. KONO HIRONAKA and SHIMADA SABURO seem to have committed the mistake of forgetting altogether that there are such things as rules. They stand in the position of having simply announced their intention to speak on a subject of their own choosing, the leave of the House to introduce such subject not having been sought, and none of the authorized methods of introducing it having been adopted. Moreover, against this most singular performance not a single member of the House of Representatives raised his voice. The President did not even appear to anticipate the possibility of protest, for no sooner had the proposal of Mr. SHIMADA been formulated, than he announced that, in the absence of objection, he should take the step indicated. All this forces us to arrive at two unwilling conclusions: the first is that the Opposition has been carried off its feet by the pride of strength; the second that, in the face of a tyrannical majority, the members have for the moment lost their individual faculty of distinguishing between right and wrong; or, at any rate, are wanting in courage to assert their views. No one, giving to this matter a moment's serious thought, can entertain the notion that either House of the Diet is entitled to summon the attendance of the Ministers of State for the purpose of hearing a member's speech. Neither may any member declare his intention of delivering a speech until he has complied with the regular procedure entitling him to be heard. Messrs. KONO HIRONAKA and SHIMADA SABURO have been betrayed into a course which not only indicates an almost delirious estimate of a party leader's parliamentary importance, but also betrays marked indifference to the rule of constitutional procedure. These gentlemen, however anxious they may be to embarrass and humiliate the Government, should at least remember that they may themselves be some day required to occupy the bed which they seek to make so uncomfortable for the present holders of office. Precedents now established will be valid hereafter; a consideration which, in other countries, generally exercises a salutary restraint, though in Japan, for the moment, it seems to possess little force. Count ITO'S Cabinet has shown itself genuinely anxious to restore harmony and to conciliate the Opposition. But assuredly it cannot so far forget its dignity and ignore the rules of parliamentary procedure as to yield to the giddy and irregular proposals of Messrs. KONO HIRONAKA and SHIMADA SABURO.

MR. CLEVELAND'S INTENTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

WHAT will Mr. CLEVELAND do? To this question, now eagerly asked in all commercial quarters, no authoritative answer on any point can be reasonably expected before the coming March. It is far from probable, even, that the inaugural address will satisfy the impatience of those who look for a definite announcement of policy upon the vital subjects which occupy public attention in the United States. In the interval, speculation and surmise will be as various as are the conflicting interests which largely depend upon his action. With most of the calculations and predictions of the next few months, the wish will be the father to the thought, since nothing is less likely than that the new PRESIDENT will allow his official declarations to be anticipated through private channels. The situation is graver than any he has hitherto been required to encounter, and his natural prudence will be doubled under the necessity of keeping his counsels secret until the moment when they may be disclosed with safety. He doubtless feels that a single unwary step in the present condition of affairs may not only injure his prestige with the public at large, but weaken his grasp upon the confidence of his political supporters. So many uncertainties surround him that he may probably wait till the last possible hour before fixing the lines upon which his administration is to be conducted. For, in deciding what he will do, he must first of all consider what he can do, rather than what he would wish to do. It is a foregone conclusion that his performances will fall short of his personal desires. That will be the inevitable result of the anomalous conditions of his election. Having avowed his rooted faith in certain principles of national economy, he finds himself chosen PRESIDENT as the representative of a party by no means unanimous in the acceptance of those principles; and for a long time his efforts to execute what he conceives to be his duty will be thwarted by the opposition of powerful agencies in his own circle. If he neglects to move cautiously at the outset, he may fail to command thorough coöperation in the most important of the projects to which he considers himself morally bound.

Notwithstanding Mr. CLEVELAND'S endeavours to make the tariff a party issue, the fact remains that an influential proportion of the northern Democracy adheres as firmly as ever to protective doctrines. Any attempt, under his leadership, to introduce rapid and sweeping revenue reforms would be resisted by some of his most powerful supporters. To what extent can he run the risk of alienating these supporters and breeding dissension in the organization which has made him what he is? There are those who believe him

capable of pursuing his convictions, even in defiance of practical political considerations, but in this instance there is no reason to suppose that his convictions would ever lead him to extremities. He knows that the entire commercial structure of the country might be shaken by an abrupt assault upon the system now in operation, and he would be the last man to think of pulling down before the material is ready for building anew. Without striving to forecast events, we may fairly assume that Mr. CLEVELAND will confine himself, at least during the first year of his term, to making a safe and sure beginning in what he regards as the true direction. To do more would be to excite alarm throughout the business community, and to produce a needless uneasiness, if not more dangerous feeling, among his immediate partisans.

In dealing with the silver problem, the new PRESIDENT will again be hampered by the lack of unity in his surroundings. The course he would prefer to take is as different as can be imagined from the course into which many active Democrats would gladly force him, if they could. But in this matter, the consciousness that he has with him the best financial intelligence of his retinue may encourage him to take a more aggressive stand than he would venture with the tariff. There are, of course, other grades of intelligence which he may not value highly, but which he cannot afford to contemn. Signs have been given—signs hardly to be mistaken—that he would affirm his well known views with emphatic directness, if he were sure that the discontent he might provoke would be confined to the more belligerent and less responsible sections of his constituency. As to this, he has not sufficient evidence, and until the uncertainty is cleared away, he will not be left free to follow his inclination. He is under deep obligations to his intimate advisers, and is not likely to disregard their admonitions hereafter, as he has sometimes done in the past. They can point too readily to the unlucky results of his independent action on occasions of moment;—results to which he may or may not have been individually indifferent, but which are held up to his reproach as a political leader. Unless he is prepared to offend them irretrievably, he will take no decisive step without consulting them and securing their approval. But his views concerning silver are understood to be so pronounced that attempts will be made to bring the party into comparative harmony on the question, and to call forth such expressions of popular opinion as will warrant the administration in moving with speed and energy. We may therefore look for animated silver discussions in the American press and on the platform, from the tone of which the incoming Executive can ascertain how far it will be wise to proceed in this branch of its policy. In

accordance with the amount of favour or disfavour shown, the policy of Mr. CLEVELAND will presumably be shaped.

In fulfilling the duties of his office, a PRESIDENT of the United States is often influenced by personal as well as by party considerations. During his first term, it is natural that his mind should turn to the prospect of securing the succession for himself, and that his measures should, so far as propriety will allow, be calculated toward that end. Mr. CLEVELAND is subject to no temptation of this sort. He is about to enter upon his second tenure, and is forbidden to hope for a further extension of power. He will have no occasion to inquire as to the effect of his actions upon his own future interests. So far, he may work with a free hand. There remain, however, the bonds of party fealty, from which it will not be easy to extricate himself, even supposing he should wish to do so. He is, we believe, under fewer direct pledges than most of his recent predecessors, and except by usage and precedent he is virtually unfettered. The exception unfortunately covers a very broad and comprehensive range of limitation. Every PRESIDENT knows that he has it in his power to inaugurate reforms the postponement of which is a national discredit; yet not one, in the last fifty years, has shown the courage to set about them. It would be vain for Americans to hope that Mr. CLEVELAND will seriously exert himself to eradicate the evils of the Civil Service. His party would denounce and forsake him if he failed to turn out the mass of Republican office-holders and replace them with men of his own side. Republicans cannot consistently censure him for continuing the methods by which they have always profited. To do this would be to utterly ignore their record for a quarter of a century. His countrymen in general appear content that no blow shall be struck against the practice of rotation in office, the difficulties of arresting which are by common consent acknowledged to be beyond the might of any Chief Magistrate to overcome. Are they indeed insuperable? Or could a man of Mr. CLEVELAND'S force and resolution sweep them out of existence, if he were not held in check by the subjugating spell of party domination? He is, his friends assure us, about to address himself to labours which in the estimation of outside spectators are not less arduous, and the obstacles to success in which are scarcely less formidable. Yet we are told, with what sounds like simple and unquestioning sincerity, that throughout his second Presidency, as throughout all time, so long as there are spoils to gather in the great Republic, the victors alone must claim and enjoy them.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE leader of the *Kaishin-to* in the House of Representatives carried yesterday to a climax the curious performance inaugurated by Mr. KONO HIRONAKA on the 3rd instant. Mr. KONO, a man of comparatively moderate views and well balanced mind, probably opened the drama without serious reflection. He wanted to have a debate on the Ministry's Declaration of Policy. He wanted to have the Ministers present. He wanted, if possible, to draw them into discussion. And probably, as one of the leaders of the Opposition, he wanted to involve them in some dilemma which would serve his Party's ends. All that was fair and proper enough. But his method of achieving his purpose was utterly irregular. For he simply rose in his place, announced his intention of delivering a speech on a subject not before the House, and expressed a wish to have the Ministers of State attend in order that they might listen to him. The thing happened at the close of a somewhat tedious sitting. It is conceivable that Mr. KONO'S announcement attracted little attention or scrutiny. But no such excuse can be alleged for the action of the members on the 5th instant, when Mr. SHIMADA SABURO asked the President to invite the Ministers of State to fix a day for attending in order to hear Mr. KONO'S speech. Mr. SHIMADA must have deliberately considered the course he was pursuing. Several of the members had evidently considered it. Yet, once more, the flagrantly irregular and unconstitutional character of the whole proceeding evoked no protest. The President, properly regarding absence of objection as tantamount to endorsement, conveyed Mr. SHIMADA'S proposal to the Government, and on the 7th the latter briefly returned answer that the Ministers of the Crown being entitled to attend in the House whenever they please, no occasion exists for the latter to go to the trouble of inviting them. It is plain that the Ministry could not have returned any other answer. They might couch their reply in polite language, but they could not possibly accept the principle that the House has any right to summon their attendance for the purpose of hearing member speak. There are too recognised methods of coming into communication with the Government; by Representation or by Question. The latter is much the simpler of the two. It involves no reference to the House, and has never failed to secure an answer from a Minister of State in person when a verbal explanation seemed conducive to a better understanding. Nowhere, however, either in the Constitution or in the Law of the Houses, can a provision be found implying that the House of Representatives is empowered to require the attendance of Cabinet Ministers. On the contrary, the whole spirit of the

9th Chapter of the Law of the Houses is opposed to anything of the kind. For it is there provided that Ministers of State may speak at any time in the Diet; that they may attend the meetings of a Committee and there express their opinions; that the fact of an impending meeting of a Committee must always be reported to the Ministers of State; and that the Orders of the Day and the notices relating to debates must also be transmitted to them simultaneously with the distribution of such announcements among the members. All this plainly contemplates that the Ministers direct connection with the Diet is purely discretionary, and that their attendance or non-attendance depends entirely on their own estimate of the occasion. Mr. KONO HIRONAKA must be supposed to know the Law of the Houses and the Standing Orders. He must know that he had no right to stand up in the House and declare his intention to speak upon any subject unless he has previously complied with the regular procedure of conveying notice to the President, and getting the subject entered upon the Order of the Day. He must also know that whenever due notice is thus given, the fact is conveyed in the regular routine to the Ministers of State. Hence, when, at the end of the day's session, he rose and declared that he should speak on a matter not yet even included among the announcements placed daily in the President's hands to be read to the House before entry in the Order of a future day, he ought to have known that he was violating all the rules of procedure. And when he added the hope that the Ministers of the Crown would come to listen to his intended oration, and asked the President to convey a message in that sense to the Cabinet, he ought to have known that he was asking the House to betray itself into a palpable excess of competence. We are inclined to think that Mr. KONO acted without mature reflection. But the opportunity offered by his want of care was not to be lost. The *Kaishin-to* are always on the watch to create friction between the House and the Government. Their leader saw his chance and utilized it with mischievous adroitness. On the day following the above incident, he moved that the Ministers of State be invited to fix a day for attending to hear Mr. KONO's speech. That sounded simple enough, and since the motion was made in Mr. SHIMADA'S most polished and smiling style, it was suffered to pass without protest. "Invite the Ministers. To be sure. Why not? It would be pleasant to have a field day with them." Then came the polite snub from the Cabinet. The situation was shaping itself excellently to Mr. SHIMADA'S purpose. Mr. KONO, indeed, would fain have found an exit from the perplexity by taking advantage of the fortuitous presence of a Minister and getting off his speech at once. But though the House consented to the

quaint proposal that the Order of the Day be changed for the purpose, as Mr. INOUE KAKUGORO neatly put it, of hearing Mr. KONO deliver a lecture, the Government, having a clear perception of what is meant by Parliamentary procedure, declined to give its consent, and thus stood between the House and the establishment of a preposterous precedent. If it were possible for a member at any time to ask, as a point of urgency, that the Order of the Day be changed so as to give him an opportunity of delivering his after thoughts about some statement made on a previous Day by a Minister of State or Government Delegate, the proceedings of the Japanese House of Representatives would be exposed to quainter interruptions than have ever been conceived in a similar assembly any where else. But all this lent itself admirably to Mr. SHIMADA SABURO'S purpose. The House had made an egregious blunder and was anxiously looking for some one to suggest a means of retreat or vindication. Mr. SHIMADA seems to have thought solely of making mischief. He rose on the 8th instant, and in subtle language, the full import of which was not understood until Mr. INOUE KAKUGORO translated it into the phraseology of his robust intelligence, asked the House to commit itself to the proposition that it has the right to require the attendance of the Ministers of the CROWN, and that they acted wrongly in denying that right. Much courage is needed to openly abandon a false position. Apparently the House lacked that courage. It accepted Mr. SHIMADA'S motion, and thus fell an easy victim to the wily stratagem of the *Kaishin-to* leader. It would be difficult to conceive anything more undignified than the situation in which the members now find themselves. They must be well aware that the principle embodied in their vote is quite extravagant, and that the Government cannot possibly accept it. They must also be aware that the country would laugh at them if they took the only remaining means of enforcing their doctrine, namely, a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet because it declines to admit liability to be summoned to the House at any moment to listen to a debate. The plain truth is that the House of Representatives has allowed itself to be pushed into a humiliating and unconstitutional *impasse* by the leader of a party whose unique object is to prevent any approach to harmony between the Administration and the Legislature. We do not think that this kind of thing will be perpetually tolerated by the country. Reasonable opposition is one thing. But systematic opposition inspired simply by the hope of rendering government impossible, is another and a wholly different matter.

NEW CODES AND OLD CUSTOMS.

IX.

WE shall conclude our survey of the Civil Code with references to a few of the minor chapters which offer opportunity for comparison. Deposit is treated in Chapter X. of Book III., in the Civil Code, and further in Chapter X. of the Commercial Code. One of the first and most important matters regulated is that of the degree of care and responsibility to which the depositary is subjected. The degree required is ordinarily that care which he gives to his own; but the higher standard of "a careful manager" is applied, where he has offered his services, or where the deposit is solely for his benefit, that he may use the article when desired. Commercial deposit is regulated by Arts. 607-608 of the Commercial Code; and the higher degree of care is there required from depositaries receiving a reward, or making a business of taking on deposit, or undertaking to manage as well as to keep on deposit, or expressly undertaking greater than ordinary responsibility.

Stating these rules in briefer and looser fashion, (1) the depositary is never liable for loss happening through *vis major*, and (2) it is always enough for him to treat the property as he treats his own, unless he receives money for his services, or makes a business of storage or has the privilege of using the article. The first of these rules was almost universally acknowledged in Japan. The record for Sagami *kuni*, that "when an object received on deposit, for which a storage-fee is paid, is lost through a calamity of Heaven, the depositary does not make it good," expresses the general rule. Only two passages assert the contrary rule; but they are of course open to explanation on the ground that the depositary might in those places have been accustomed to undertake stricter responsibility, and it is obvious that even under the Code the depositary in those places would be held to his old obligation if it could be proved that he was understood to undertake the service as an insurer against "calamities of Heaven." This vernacular phrase (*ten-sai*, corresponding to our "act of God," familiar to shippers and carriers) has now been replaced in the Code by the more accurate "unavoidable force" (*fuka-ko-ryoku*); for there was not complete harmony in its interpretation in different regions. In some places (e.g. Kaga *kuni*) it appears to have included everything not due to the depositary's fault. In others (e.g. the adjacent *kuni* of Echigo) it excluded loss by fire, rats, theft, or robbery; and in these cases presumably the storehouse-keeper was regarded as undertaking to provide against such causes of loss. For this lack of a uniform standard is substituted the general test of "unavoidable force," which gives accurate form to the notion underlying *ten-sai*, just as our "act of God" has been improved

upon and displaced. It must be remembered, however, that this change affects the judges, dealing with law as a science, rather than the people in their mutual relations; for any depositary can specially increase his liability, by agreement with the depositor, so as to harmonize with the customs of the locality.

To this exemption from absolute responsibility there are in the Commercial Code two exceptions familiar to all,—the absolute responsibility of *e.g.* the banker receiving money on deposit (Arts. 617, 619), and that of *e.g.* the innkeeper (Art. 609) receiving the property of guests. The first is fully in accord with existing Japanese ideas, and the coincidence of development between Roman and Japanese law is worth noticing. In the former a *depositum irregulare* might be made by depositing money and giving the depositary the right of using it, and in this case (the depositary being usually a banker) his situation resembled that of the receiver of a *mutuum* or loan of money, and his responsibility was absolute. In the same way in Japan the deposit (*azukeru*), at first merely the handing over of a bag or box of money, to be specifically returned, became finally (in one form) equivalent to a loan, and the responsibility of return was absolute. In some districts, we are even told, "there has been no such expression as 'the loan of money for use,' the only term used for all such transactions being 'receiving money on deposit'" (Settsu and Ise *kuni*). This practice was fostered also by the desire to evade certain restrictions to which ordinary loans but not deposits were subject, and a large proportion of money loans were made as "deposits" (*azukari-kin*). We thus find indigenous in Japan the principle that is of such constant application and paramount importance in modern commerce, that "when fungibles are deposited in such a manner that according to contract or the usages of trade the depositary is entitled to the use or disposal thereof, the right of property therein and the entire risk of loss thereof or damage thereto is transferred to the depositary" (Art. 617), and that "in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary, deposits of money or precious metals made without being sealed up or otherwise secured, are to be regarded as the property of the depositary" (Art. 619). So far as the term "fungibles," in Art. 617 (that is, things made up of a number of like units, and replaceable by an equal amount of the same units) includes rice and other staples in addition to coined money, the principle in its full bearing was well known in Tokugawa times; for we learn from the "Introduction" to the volumes now before us that, in various trades, the warehousemen issued deposit receipts, which passed from hand to hand and were good for three years; and the quantity specified in the receipt was demandable by the holder

absolutely, neither fire nor any other excuse being allowable. Here we have the principle of Art. 617 in its fullest extent. The importance of the principle in to-day's commerce is our excuse for insisting upon its recognition in the Tokugawa days.

We have mentioned also the absolute responsibility of the innkeeper and similar persons. This, to be sure, can be expressly contracted away, except so far as the innkeeper's fault causes the loss. Such a provision is wise, it would seem, for this absolute responsibility does not appear to have been recognized in Old Japan; at least this inference is suggested by Nos. 46 and 47 in the volume of Legal Precedents.

Turning from this topic to that of the degree of care required, we find hopeless uncertainty and confusion among the customs. Naturally enough the expressions employed by the people to designate this idea are without fixity or clearness; *hosen suru*, *yoku hosen suru*, *moppara hosen suru*, *tori-shimari*, *mamori-oku*, *chu-i*, *kwan-shu*—these are popular expressions which it is impossible to render exactly. *Ayamachi* is a term which corresponds only loosely to our "negligence." The Civil Code adopts the uniform tests, sanctioned by the traditions of Roman and French law, of the two degrees, "care equal to that bestowed on one's own property," and "care of a careful manager." The Commercial Code adopts the two degree principle, but for the second substitutes "utmost care" (Art. 608). There will be no actual conflict; but we may note that this difference in form of expression is liable to cause confusion and ought to be amended. In our own opinion the Anglo-American test of "reasonable care under the circumstances" is in practice the most satisfactory; but Japan has chosen continental models.

The title of Prescription forms Part II., of Book V., in the Civil Code. The notion was well known in Old Japan; but we have records as yet of the prescriptive limitation of money claims only. It is not likely, in fact, that the principle acquired such definite force for land claims. According to the customary records, the term generally accepted as outlawing money claims was 10 years, though in some regions it reached 20 years. The difference between this rule and that of the new Code, as might be expected, is that the prescriptive period has been much shortened. The chief sorts of claims are classified; the longest period is 5 years; the shortest (for lodging, day-labour, etc.) 6 months. For claims not specially noted the time is 30 years. These periods are supposed to be varied according to mercantile convenience. The same idea was known to Old Japan; in Shimosa *kuni*, for instance, the claims of petty tradesmen were outlawed in 6 months.

The period is constantly liable to be lengthened by what are termed in the

Code "interruption" and "suspension." The chief examples of the former are the bringing of a suit by the creditor, which interrupts the prescriptive period, and the voluntary acknowledgment of the claim by the creditor. We do not find, in the precedents before us, any example of the first sort; but the second was a very common expedient for the purpose of keeping a debt alive. The creditor invariably got the heir to renew on the ancestor's death, and the debtor frequently renewed the instrument several times before finally paying. Moreover, the rule was once especially laid down that actions upon claims ruled out by a certain prescriptive order "shall be taken up and adjudicated, if the defendant admits the fact of the borrowing, no matter how many years have elapsed between the conclusion of the contract and the bringing of suit." The old judges were also familiar with the principle that where there is a running account the prescriptive period begins with the date of the last transaction in the account. Of the suspension of the period by reason of the minority, insanity, or other legal incapacity of the creditor they do not seem to have known; though nothing appears to prove this, and the subsequently published precedents may show the contrary. We are here concerned with criticising the Codes as formal bodies of law; but we cannot help noting, in passing, that the Commercial Code establishes in two points a rule different from that of the Civil Code: (1) the uniform period of prescription is 6 years (instead of 5 or less), and (2) the acknowledgment of the debtor which interrupts the prescription may, in the Civil Code, be either written or oral, express or implied; in the Commercial Code it must be in the form of a written promise, except only the case of a partial payment. Here there is, strictly speaking, no conflict; but this variance in the rules will not tend to make the law plain for plain people.

A few final words must be said as to the system of bankruptcy in Old Japan. The detailed regulations and elaborate safeguards of modern statutes are not to be found. The social conditions were not such as to call for them. But the fundamental ideas of bankruptcy were universally familiar in TOKUGAWA days. The sequestration of property, selling at auction, and distribution among creditors,—these three essential steps were found almost everywhere.

The modern principle of bankruptcy requires that the proceedings shall be supereded by the local or judicial authorities. This principle was universally acknowledged in Japan where the unpaid claims included money due to the feudal lord or, perhaps, the local community; but in ordinary cases we find it acknowledged in only a minority of instances. In all cases, however, the debtor's five-men company

seems to have taken an official part. The sequestration of the property probably took place under their direction. We read of seals being affixed to guard against secret removal; and exempt property was known as "unsealable" property. The laws as to exemption are meagrely mentioned in these records. The homestead exemption appears several times and was possibly a general one; but the principle was also applied to other property. Where a fraudulent sale or removal took place, the bankruptcy would not be permitted. In almost every case, the assets of the debtor were realized by having his effects sold at auction, either by sealed bids or in the ordinary mode. In the distribution of proceeds the priority of certain claims was recognized, unpaid taxes always coming first, and properly authenticated mortgages coming next. One of the most important questions is of course whether, as in modern bankruptcy, the settlement on this occasion was a final discharge of the claim, even though only a percentage of the full liabilities was realized. On this point we find two-thirds of the passages agreeing with the modern theory. In the others it appears that a creditor could come upon the debtor again whenever the latter obtained means; though sometimes, and probably usually, this was only where the instrument of debt so provided. Whether, in the cases where the settlement in bankruptcy was a final discharge, the creditors were obliged to accept the dividend and lost their whole claim if they did not (as is usual in modern involuntary bankruptcy), does not appear. In some instances the statements point in that direction. On the whole, then, the essential and even many incidental ideas of a modern bankruptcy system were familiar in Old Japanese practice.

x.

We shall not attempt to make any detailed examination of the Code of Civil Procedure, because there is as yet no authorized translation of it and because the complete ground is not covered in the volumes thus far published in the "Materials for the Study of Private Law." But the first volume of the Third Part, just issued, contains enough material on the subject of Civil Procedure to make it very clear that all the essential features of our ordinary modern procedure were present. We are not here defending the Tokugawa legal system and policy; and we need not, therefore, discuss the features of procedure peculiar to a feudal policy now passed away. What we wish to determine is solely whether the Courts and the people were in those days familiar with principles of procedure in any way similar to those of the new Code.

It is clear beyond doubt that they were, and that, as we have said, all the essential features of our ordinary modern procedure

were present in the practice of the supreme tribunal, the so-called Chamber of Decisions. In the first place there was a clear division of jurisdiction among different Courts. These Courts were classified on a principle which was peculiar to the times, but the notion was none the less distinct, and dismissal for want of jurisdiction is one of the topics under which the precedents are arranged. The jurisdiction fixed, the plaintiff applied to the *nisi prius* Magistrate for a summons; for even Supreme Court cases were first heard by a single Judge. This summons (*sashi-gami*) seems to have been of two sorts, according as it was employed in a Supreme Court or a Lower Court case. In the former instance all the Magistrates added their indorsing-seals before issuance. The summons contained a statement of the complaint, and the names of the parties; and in one case there was as much of a discussion raised over the misnaming of the defendant (who had changed his name) as ever took place in an English court on a plea in abatement.

The order in the summons was for the defendant to appear on the 7th day, if he was a townsman of Yedo, or some later day, if he was a countryman, the interval depending on the distance of his home. On this day both parties appeared and made their pleas. The plea might be to the jurisdiction, or some other dilatory plea; usually the defendant set forth his answer to the merits of the plaintiff's claim. It is impossible yet to know just when or in what order the parties' pleadings were handed in, or by whom they were written. But what is certain is that there were written pleadings, at least one by the plaintiff and one by the defendant. For the complaint (*meiyasu*) the form is not given. The defendant, it is said, in a money-action "should concisely make in writing the following statements as his written pleading: The circumstances under which the debt was incurred; the amount already paid; the wording of the instrument of debt; and the undertaking to submit to whatever order of payment may be made." Here the plaintiff had probably declared by merely handing in the instrument of debt, as in some of our modern actions; and after the defendant's reply he joined issue.

When the nature of the parties' dispute had thus become clear, the Magistrate examined them, summoning other witnesses where necessary. A number of precedents are to be found in which several witnesses on each side were summoned and questioned. The evidence was reduced to writing, presumably by a clerk, and a *précis* made of the proceeding. It is in this form that we have most of the cases of which a full account remains. This *précis* contained the comments of the Magistrate on the evidence, and ended with his provisional decision. The decision, with the whole proceeding, was laid

before the Supreme Court, and the case came up in its turn on the regular court day for the class of actions to which it belonged. The Supreme Court might question the parties again and call for documents; and might then or (better) at a later day pronounce judgment, rejecting or modifying but usually affirming the provisional decision.

There were numerous other points on which we find the Court proceeding in a manner quite analogous to that of the West—repeated deliberation in case of difficult points or the over-ruling of previous practices, respect paid to precedent, consultation of merchants and other experts as to the prevalence of local customs, strict construction of the words of documents and conventional interpretation of particular clauses, allowance of priority to certain classes of actions (such as suits on commercial paper, or for eviction), fixing a minimum sum for claims cognizable in the highest Court, and many others. These we have no space to consider; but some note must be taken of the proceedings to enforce payment by the debtor. Until 1843, great leniency was shown, and the claim was apportioned into instalments to be paid in several months or years. In 1843 this was abolished. The debtor, when judgment was rendered against him, signed a certificate reciting the facts and the judgment and engaging to pay as ordered. This was given to the creditor, and served as his muniment of title. If payment was not made after a specified period, the creditor applied to the Court and obtained an order for execution in bankruptcy. This order was directed to the defendant and the local officials of his ward or village, and contained the following statement:—

That the Court has ordered the defendant to discharge the claim within a certain term, but the defendant declares his inability to do so; that this is against law, and therefore the Court orders execution in bankruptcy; and, that the defendant, under the supervision of his local officials, is to sell his rice-field and upland, residence—land, house, storehouse, family belongings, etc., and deliver the proceeds to the plaintiff.

Another document was given to the plaintiff, attesting the issue of the above order; and the parties both signed a memorandum of the proceedings, which also contained a detailed statement of the course to be pursued in case the proceeds of the sale exceeded or fell short of the plaintiff's claim. Preferred claims, including those of a mortgagee, of course had priority over the plaintiff's, and if a mortgagee found his priority disputed, he might bring an interlocutory action to have the issue settled. If the debtor's estate was subject to a claim for taxes which covered most of the assets, the creditor might pay the amount in arrears and take possession of the estate.

In all this we see a system thoroughly feudal and clearly insufficient for the needs of to-day. But no one can fail to see also that every essential feature of a modern lawsuit was present. We are as far as possible from claiming that the practices

described in the volume before us would be adequate for any but the social conditions amid which they grew up and by which their development was limited. But it is revealed on every page that there was a definite systematic procedure, and that the judiciary and the people who followed this procedure were in possession of all the essential ideas underlying the modern system. When special pleading was abolished in England forty years ago, when Code pleading came into operation in New York at a later date, the lawyers and the judges had to begin the study of these changes and to master the new principles. No one will pretend that the new Japanese Code of Procedure does not call for more or less study by the judges and the lawyers, and more or less effort on the part of the people to become familiar with some of its notions. What we protest against is the assertion that it has been imposed upon a nation who either know nothing of the principles it rests on or have been in the habit of conducting their litigation by radically different methods. The precedents now lying before us demonstrate amply the fallacy of such a belief.

XI.

THE material for a complete comparison of the commercial rules is not yet available; but in the Introduction to the "Materials for the study of Private Law," is contained certain information which enables us to form an opinion on some of the essential points to be compared.

Among the various agencies of modern commerce (other than those resting on mechanical invention) perhaps the institutions of prime and elemental consequence may be said to be the bank, the exchange, the insurance system, the brokerage contract, and the joint-stock corporation. Of the documentary expedients for facilitating commerce and utilizing credit, the leading and indispensable types are the bill of exchange, the cheque, and the bill of lading. On these things the commerce of to-day is built up, and from them flow the majority of the relations which modern commercial law busies itself in adjusting. Now the pages of the volume before us demonstrate clearly that for over 200 years Japan has possessed every one of these types of documents, and has thus been familiar during all that period with the typical and ordinary transactions which form the material for modern commercial law. We shall not attempt to argue that Japan anticipated the Western nations in the development of these ideas; though this is easily demonstrable, for many of the above instrumentalities, as to all others than the great commercial communities of early modern times. It is enough to call to mind that these ideas are with us of a comparatively recent origin, and to point out that for more than two centuries Japan has made use of institutions and expedients

which have been known for the same length of time in but few districts of Europe.

The guild of the bankers was organized in Osaka about 1660, the only European districts having at that time a real banking system being the commercial towns of Italy. These banks in Japan lacked none of the essential features of our own. They received on deposit, honoured cheques, issued notes, negotiated bills of exchange, discounted bills drawn against merchandise, and acted in general as the intermediaries for commercial transactions. The smaller banks were connected financially with the larger ones, just as the country banks are with those of American metropolises and the provincial banks with those of London. They supported each other in times of financial embarrassment, performing substantially the functions of banks of to-day. They had some sort of a clearing-house system, the details of which are not yet clear. In short, there is little in the Western idea of a bank which the Japanese institution did not have or could not easily have assimilated.

Exchanges were the successors, alike in Japan and in Europe, of markets and fairs. The Osaka Rice Exchange at Dojima dated back to half a century after the Royal Exchange of London. There were money exchanges also, at which quotations were obtainable for gold, silver, and small money. At the Rice Exchange were brought and sold the rice certificates issued by the storehouse-keepers of the great *Daimyo*, as well as the rice-products shipped to Osaka and Yedo by the farmers themselves. Dealing in futures was one of the elementary notions on 'Change in Japan, and the Government seems to have made efforts, equally strenuous and only a little less futile than those in the West, to stop gambling in staple agricultural products. The sales in the Exchange were conducted very much as they are now; and when the bidding was opened, there was, according to the chronicles, the same madness of behaviour and vociferous competition among the brokers of 200 years ago which characterise this scene in every Exchange to-day. Of options and the like varieties of Exchange transactions, nothing specific is reported in these volumes. But enough is given to show that the methods of the Exchanges were highly developed, and that closer investigation would probably reveal all of the varieties of transactions which we know to-day, or varieties equally complex and technical.

Of insurance no details are as yet furnished us,—only enough to indicate that for the bulk of the sea traffic between Osaka and Yedo a system of mutual insurance was in operation (under the management of the guilds) for 200 years. Of the mercantile joint-stock corporation it is not possible certainly to say that it existed. Further investigation may show that commercial houses like the ECHIGO House—

where the name was borne by a family of five or six branches having a common stock and a single profit-and-loss account—were managed on the principle of the joint-stock company. Whether this was so or not is here less to our purpose; for the present popularity of the joint-stock company in Japan and the vast area of business now managed by this form of organization puts beyond any question the applicability of the new Codes to Japanese conditions. It is, however, worth pointing out that Japan is in some respects better fitted to comprehend and to apply with facility the modern corporate idea than the countries owning the sway of English law. It has taken nearly a century for the English and American bar and bench to work out the true theory of a business partnership,—the notion of the business as an entity, a legal person, quite distinct in its standing from the individuals who make it up. The true result has come, partly through Germany, but chiefly by self-discovery. Now in Japan, the notion of a business as an entity requires no effort to appreciate and apply. In the idea of a family and of a family business as an entity it has long been familiar to them. The unity, the unbroken continuity, of a family-business corresponds closely to the modern notion of a partnership, and offers a congenial field for its application in law.

When we come to the cheque, the bill of exchange, and the bill of lading, we find Japan threatening to dispute even with Italy for priority of invention. The cheque cannot be proved to have existed in the commercial transactions of Europe, outside of Italy, until the late 17th or early 18th century,—in England, indeed, not until about 1760. In Japan we find the bankers employing cheques (*furi-dashi-tegata*) as early as, say, 1650. The volume before us describes some of the practices with reference to them. One would perhaps not expect to hear of "certified cheques" in Japan in these banks of the old régime; but there they were. The indorsement was as necessary in this cheque as in our own. The dishonoured cheque was equally worthless as a payment of a debt. Perhaps the most startling parallel of all is the rule that a bank which receives from another bank a cheque drawn against no funds or otherwise faulty must return it to the latter bank before 12 o'clock in order to recover payment.

For the bill of exchange there are even older traditions. In Europe, if we forget the commerce of the classic ages, and go back only along the lines of modern commerce, we find the bill of exchange introduced nobody knows exactly where or exactly by whom, but certainly used and developed by the Lombards of the 13th century and later. In the Japan there is a law of the same century, in which such documents (*kaye-sen*) are regulated; and in later times there are plentiful references to them. The later name (*kawase-tegata*)

covered a number of varieties, brought into existence by the complexities of commerce. We need not here cite proofs in detail. It is sufficient to say that the principle was perfectly understood, and that it was applied in essentially the same transactions as at present. Most worthy of note is the fact that it served effectively to adjust the equilibrium of trade between Osaka and Yedo. The great *Daimyo* of the West in Yedo sold their rice in Osaka; but they and the people of Yedo relied on Osaka for most of the staple manufactures. Thus Osaka owed Yedo *Daimyo* for rice; Yedo wholesalers owed Osaka exporters for manufactures; and by bills of exchange an immense volume of exchange was settled at the least expense. This is only one indication, but a most important one, of the comprehension shown in Old Japanese commerce of the functions of the bill of exchange.

The bill of lading was not quite the same in form as ours; it purported to be an order by the shipper to the captain to deliver, or a notice to the consignee of the shipment, not a receipt by the company or captain, and the list of the goods was written into it, not contained in a separate invoice. A copy of the bill of lading, it seems, was, where feasible, dispatched by land route to the consignee; but usually the bill was packed in with the goods. It was sometimes made out in blank, or, at least, in the alternative; whether it circulated as representing the goods does not appear. The art of slicing down the vessel's responsibility to the smallest possible contingency was apparently unknown; but it has not taken long for Japanese shipping companies to learn the value of these limiting clauses. The rules of the guild, however, provided for the ordinary contingencies, and questions of average and freight were settled by the guild rules.

Such were the facts of Japanese commerce. It is idle to contend that Japanese mercantile life of the last generation was equal in richness of development, complexity of operation, fertility of resource, or importance of undertakings to the Western mercantile life of to-day, or even of the last generation. But we do not have to go very far back to reach a point where the comparison is not so unequal a one, and what we do find throughout is that Japanese commerce possessed, with scarcely an exception, the fundamental mercantile institutions and expedients with which Western commercial law deals. Europe and America have for nearly two hundred years had advantages which have been denied to Japan; notably they have had the opportunity for a free exchange of the new ideas which each day brings forth, an opportunity through the lack of which Japan has suffered in almost every department of commerce, whatever it may have gained in art. But meanwhile Japan has been in the possession of these fundamental commercial notions, and, like the

steward who turned his one talent into five, this country has preserved and developed these ideas to as high a degree as was possible under the circumstances. Greater opportunities for assimilation and enlargement now lie before it; and it is idle to suppose that they will not be amply utilized. What is now clear is that our attitude towards Japan is without support, when we assume that the new Code brings in notions and rules novel to the people or opposed to their traditions of commerce. Foreign art (to employ comparison) indeed has offered to the Japanese new tools, new standards, new canons. Western education is in principle thoroughly different from the received Chinese system. The railway and the steamship were never before known here. In these cases we may assert with truth that the Western importation either is an entire novelty or is radically different from what existed before. But just as Japanese paper is turned out no less skilfully merely because the processes may now be carried on by steam-power instead of by hand, so we have no cause to anticipate friction from putting into force a modern commercial Code in a nation which has for two centuries possessed nearly every leading institution and expedient therein regulated. It is simply giving to Japan the advantage of the more developed form of these ideas to which the West, by the favour of circumstances, has been enabled to bring them.

SHANGHAI HORSE, DOG AND POULTRY SHOW.

The sixth annual Show of the Society was successfully held on Saturday (26th ult.) on the Race Course. The weather was bright, but cold, and there was a fairly large attendance of visitors, who apparently took a very keen interest in the exhibits, and particularly in the pony-leaping competition. Some 87 entries had been received in the pony classes, being considerably in excess of last year. The leaping contest attracted the customary amount of attention, but somehow or other it did not appear particularly good. *En Avant* and *Puritan* were markedly superior to the other competitors, and it was early apparent that they were the two animals likely to demand the judges' greatest attention. *Puritan* was particularly good at the fences, and *En Avant* at the water jump, the latter eventually securing the first prize for the best general performance. The tandem driving was a very pretty display, and the victories of Mr. R. W. Shaw, in Class 5, and Mr. "Frank" in Class 6, evidently gave satisfaction to the on-lookers. The latter gentleman gave an exceedingly clever exhibition of driving, his handling of *Cheeky* and *Chunky*, the pretty black pair, being a pleasure to see. In the dog classes, the judges on the whole had a comparatively easy task. The fox terriers were a fair lot, the English pointers poor, and the retrievers very good. In the non-sporting dogs division, Mr. Harry Maitland secured a well deserved first with a fine bull-dog, *Bully Boy*. The poultry classes were of high average excellence. The Langshans shown by Mr. George Cameron were really magnificent birds, and it is pretty safe to say that they would have secured prizes at any show at home. Had the show been held some six weeks later they would have been in still better form, but of course that arrangement was impossible. There would have been many more exhibits but for the cold, which the small dogs particularly seemed to feel very keenly.—*N. C. Daily News*.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being.

- 1.—Applications for leave of absence from various members.
- 2.—First Reading of a Government Bill for the amendment and enforcement of certain portions of the Commercial Code.
- 3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
- 4.—First Reading of a Government Bill for creating a Court of Jurisdictional Limitations (*Angen Sogi Saiban*).
- 5.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.

The House agreed to all the applications for leave preferred by members, and then proceeded to the Order of the Day.

On the First Reading of the Commercial Code Bill, Count Yamagata, Minister of State for Justice, spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—The Bill passed by the Imperial Diet in its third session for postponing the operation of the Civil and Commercial Codes, has received His Majesty's Sanction and been duly promulgated. The Government has not neglected to appoint a Committee for revising these Codes. But there are three parts of the Commercial Code, namely, the Law of Companies, the Law of Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange, and the Law of Bankruptcy, for the immediate operation of which urgent occasion exists. These laws are absolutely essential to the safe conduct of the peoples' financial operations in the existing state of commercial progress. The lack of proper order and method in the commercial associations of our country is not a mere temporary trouble. The frequent panics and failures of companies that occur are to be attributed mainly to the fact that speculators, taking advantage of the too loose meshes of the present law, are able to devise dishonest schemes calculated to benefit themselves only. To correct this abuse the only course to is to enact suitable and sufficient laws, under the provisions of which the operations of commercial companies may be duly controlled. Hence the pressing need of the Law of Companies. As for the Bankruptcy Law, it is especially calculated to give useful effect to this Law of Companies. Unless the two laws go into operation together, the object of subjecting commercial associations to control cannot be attained. The speedy operation of the Law of Promissory Notes and cheques is also important. For in these times, when the transactions of trade are conducted with the utmost celerity, commercial and industrial development depends, to a great extent, on a system of credit, and the present law relating to promissory notes and cheques is inadequate to the full existence of such a system. The three laws being, therefore, urgently needed, and not admitting of so much as a day's neglect, the Government has caused certain revisions to be effected, and now submits to your House a Bill providing for their independent operation from the 1st day of the 1st month of next year. We trust that the measure will be so fortunate as to obtain your approval and pass your House. It is, in fact, an outcome of the separation of the Judiciary and the Executive, and the reasons I have now stated induce us to regard the question as one of pressing importance. I do not doubt that you, gentlemen, also will agree as to the urgency of the measure. Detailed information with regard to the various articles will be furnished by the Government Delegate.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 15 nominated by the President.

The Government Bill for the creation of a Court of Jurisdictional Limitations was then read. Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, said:—

It seems scarcely necessary, gentlemen, that I should enter into any explanation of this Bill. The fact is that on one side you have the Law Courts, on another the Executive, and on the third, the Administrative Court, all more or less connected and at the same time independent. Between these three bodies disputes frequently arise as to limits of jurisdiction, and in such cases it is necessary that some tribunal should exist to adjudicate their difference. Hence you will find that in the law of the Administrative Court reference already exists to a Court of Jurisdictional Limitations, so that, in submitting the present Bill to you, the Government is merely treading a previously anticipated course. Speaking broadly, the Bill may be said to have its origin in the fact that the Executive and the Judiciary have been completely separated. The measure it embodies is essential under the circumstances of the time. These, gentlemen, are the general reasons for submitting the Bill. I have no doubt that it will meet with your approval.

Any information that may be desired as to particulars will be furnished by the Government Delegate.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the best plan to pursue, in his opinion, would be, not to offer any explanation of the whole Bill, but to reply to any questions that might be put by members.

Some discussion arose as to the manner of appointing a Special Committee to report upon the Bill, but it was finally decided to entrust that duty to the President, the House taking a recess from 11.20 to 12.25.

On re-assembling, the President announced the receipt of a Question relating to the Game Regulations, from Mr. Miura Yasu, and others; also the names of the Special Committee nominated to report upon the above two Bills. The House rose at 12.35 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD. HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special Committees alone being in session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—First Reading of a Bill for amending the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations; presented by Mr. Ito and others.
- 2.—First Reading of a Bill for amending the Press Regulations; presented by Mr. Minoura Katuto and others.
- 3.—First Reading of a Bill to amend the Land Tax Regulations; presented by Mr. Sugita Teichi and others.
- 4.—First Reading of a Bill to amend the Publication Regulations; presented by Mr. Kagami Kaihei and others.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, introducing the Bill for amending the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations, said that the Regulations now in force were enacted under a bureaucratic regimen, and could not possibly be suited to these times of constitutional government. It did not seem necessary for him to enter into any detailed argument as to the necessity of reform. The House had already declared its verdict on the subject by passing, last session, the very Bill which was now again submitted. Unfortunately, the Bill had failed to come up for discussion in the House of Peers, but he trusted that if it were sent to the Peers at this early stage of the Session, it could not fail to secure favourable attention. Its provisions remained exactly in the form approved last session, with one trifling exception in the 18th Article.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the Bill now before the House was one of three measures which might be called recurrent, for they made their appearance every session. The Government had no desire that such should be the case. It would be much better that the fate of the Bill should be definitely settled in one session. The group of three sets of Regulations to which it belonged occupied a place of much importance in the view of the Administration. The Executive had its duties and responsibilities. These Regulations were not framed simply for the purpose of administrative facility. They had an intimate connection, also, with the preservation of public peace and good order. It was impossible for the Government to endorse the Bill in its present form. The House doubtless desired to pass some measure on the subject. If so, it behoved the supporters of the Bill to calculate the contingencies that had to be encountered. They might send forward a measure, but, on the one hand, the reception given to it by the Peers had to be taken into account in framing it, unless failure were deliberately invited; and, on the other, they had to remember the Government, on whose behalf he assured them that unless the Bill were greatly amended, sanction could not be sought for it.

Mr. Node Shozaburo asked the House to pass the Bill at once. Mr. Suyematsu himself, in his capacity of member, had introduced a Bill for the reform of these same Regulations. He obviously considered reform necessary. Let the measure be adopted without further discussion.

Mr. Uwazumi Itsuji wished to ask a question. Mr. Suyematsu had introduced a Bill on the same subject in a former session. It was true that his Bill had been different in some respects from the one now before the House. But if

the present Bill were amended on the lines of his own, would he still oppose it?

Mr. Suyematsu replied that, in his present office, he had nothing to do with Bills introduced by Suyematsu, the member. He appeared before them as Government Delegate and his duty was to tell them the views of the Government. He might add, however, that the Bill now associated with his name, had not been of his framing, nor did it embody his views. His connection with it had simply been that, as President of a Special Committee, he had announced to the House the views of the majority of that Committee concerning a Bill entrusted to it for examination and report.

After a brief discussion, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, nominated by the President, a Bill on the same subject submitted by Mr. Motoda Hajime, being handed to the same Committee.

Mr. Minoura Katuto, introducing the Bill for the amendment of the Press Regulations, said that it came before the House for the fourth time, and that its failure to find a place among the laws of the land must be counted a legislative shortcoming. He believed the Bill to be entirely satisfactory as it stood. When sent up to the Peers last session, the latter had expended thirty days over its examination, without bringing it forward for final discussion. He saw nothing to examine. The Bill ought to be sent up to the Peers without a moment's delay, and not thirty days but three should suffice for its passage through the Upper House.

The Bill was entrusted to the Special Committee elected for the purposes of the preceding Bill.

The Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations was then read, as follows:—

The First Article of the Land Tax Regulations, issued as Imperial Ordinance No. 7 in the 3rd month of the 17th year of Meiji (1884) shall be altered to read as follows, the alteration to go into force from the 26th year of Meiji (1893):—

Art. I.—Land Tax shall be divided into two classes. The tax on Wet and Dry Fields shall be two and one-fifth per cent. of the assessed value of the land. The tax on Urban and Rural Building Lands, on Salt Fields, on Mineral Spring Lands, on Marsh Lands, on Forest Lands, on Pasture Lands, and on Various Lands, shall be two and a half per cent. of the assessed value of the land.

Provided that the term "assessed value" employed in this Article shall be interpreted to mean the value recorded in the Land Register.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, said that, as the views of the Government with regard to reducing the rate of the Land Tax had often been laid before the House, there was no occasion to repeat them now. The members understood very well that in order to meet the necessities of the State, the public finances were already strained to their utmost. A large diminution in one of the principal sources of revenue was out of the question.

Mr. Sugita Teichi, the proposer of the Bill, felt persuaded that the House would pass it without difficulty. Its object was to relieve the burdens of the overtaxed farmers, and thus promote the nation's prosperity. The House had already, by large votes, pledged itself to the principle of the measure. He did not contemplate arresting the reform here. His hope was to see the Land Tax ultimately reduced to 1 per cent. But on the basis of a reduction of three-thousandths, in order that the change might be practicable side by side with re-assessment of the taxable value of land. The Government, in deference to the voice of the House and the wish of the people, had accepted the latter reform. He was persuaded that they would ultimately accept the former also. There was no occasion to hand the Bill to a Committee. The question was simple. It ought to be decided at once. Last session, a similar Bill had been passed and sent up to the Peers. But want of time had been alleged by the Upper House as a reason for not debating it. Let no such pretext be afforded on the present occasion. Let the Bill be accepted forthwith, and sent on to the Peers without delay.

Mr. Hirabayashi Kuhei asked what means were projected for making up the deficiency of revenue that would be caused by reducing the Land Tax.

Mr. Sugita replied that as he believed the surplus revenue to be sufficient to permit not only reduction of the Land Tax, but also the Reassessment of the Taxable Value of Land, he saw no reason to think of providing any compensatory resources.

Mr. Yamaguchi Chiosaku wanted to know why the Government admitted the expediency of Re-assessing the taxable value of land, but denied the possibility of reducing the Land Tax. Had their hands been forced by the desperate agitators supporting the former measure, whose opposition to all public enterprises could not be softened by any other sop? If so, he and his friends would immediately set about organizing a party of desperate agitators in the interests of a reduction of the Land Tax.

Mr. Tajiri said that it was simply a question of financial inability. They had the Budget before them and could judge for themselves.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai asked whether the Government consented to stand convicted of falsehood. In the sixth year of Meiji (1873) it had been announced by Imperial Rescript that the Land Tax should be gradually reduced. Four years later a reduction had been effected, in accordance with the spirit of the Imperial dictum. Since then, over thirty millions had been added to the revenue by miscellaneous taxes. But the Land Tax remained unchanged. How was the blame to be avoided of having uttered a falsehood and deceived the nation?

Mr. Tajiri said that there was no question of falsehood. The Government was actually taking measures to reduce the burden of the Land Tax. He invited the House to consider facts before forming conclusions.

Mr. Hasegawa retorted that the country was in possession of two promises made in Imperial Rescripts. Moreover, when the Constitution was promulgated, Count Ito, as President of the Privy Council, had distinctly told the Governors of Prefectures that, treading in the footsteps of Okubo, Iwakura, and Kido, he intended to reduce the Land Tax. The guilt of falsehood was inevitable.

Mr. Tajiri repeated his assertion that the acts of the Government were in accord with its promises.

Mr. Kudo Kokan observed that the Government Delegate had very emphatically announced the Administration's dissent from the Bill. Doubtless the dissent of the Administration was a serious matter. But he begged to remind the House that such difficulties were not necessarily permanent. The dissent of to-day might become consent to-morrow. They had an instance before their eyes. Last session, Mr. Watanabe, then Vice-Minister of Finance, had assured them that re-assessment of the Taxable Value of Land was out of the question. This session the same Mr. Watanabe, as Minister of Finance, had himself announced the introduction of a Bill for re-assessment. So, again, of the Codes problem. Ministers of State who, a short time ago, had been emphatically against the postponement of the operation of the Codes, were now in favour of it. All declaration must be regarded as relative. The Government evidently understood that if they rejected the measures of the Popular Party, their own measures would fare ill at the latter's hands. The Land Tax was the most important of all the public burdens. Not alone did its rate indicate the amount paid to the Treasury: it also measured the sums which the people had to disburse for local purposes. No tax had such bearings, and therefore no tax merited such prompt treatment. The transfer of Prison Expenditures to the charges of the Treasury would afford some relief to the people. But that relief being small compared with the consequences of reducing the Land Tax, the former measure had been deferred for the sake of the latter. The Government kept up a brave appearance, building splendid mansions, and so forth, but the backbone of the country, the agricultural popu-

lation, was growing weaker. He could conceive nothing more important as a measure of public relief than to reduce the Land Tax, and he called upon the House to pass the Bill without delay.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro moved that the Bill be entrusted to a special Committee. Other Bills in the same sense but differing in details had been submitted. The whole should be considered together.

The House rejected the motion.

Mr. Node Shozaburo moved that the Bill be at once carried to a Second Reading, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Ta Keikichi moved that, for the sake of perspicuity, the language of the Bill be altered to read "twenty-two thousandths and twenty-five thousandths," instead of "two and one-fifth," and "two and one-half" respectively.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai moved that the Bill be altered to read "two per cent." instead of "two and one-fifth per cent." He supported this proposal in a long speech, the gist of which was that the Government, years ago, had solemnly promised to reduce the Land Tax; that Count Ito himself had repeated the promise two years ago; and that the 6½ million yen saved in the Budget of 1890-91 had been destined to carry out this very reform. He claimed that if the eighty thousand Administrative officials were boldly cut down, three or four million yen could easily be returned from the public expenditure.

Mr. Kokura Yoshimori spoke at length in support of the Bill, but adduced no new arguments. He declared that whereas in China, Holland, Italy, and Russia the proportion of revenue derived from land-tax was only twenty, ten, five, and six per cent. respectively, in Japan it was forty per cent. The land-tax in Japan amounted to 1 yen per head of the whole population. It was not fair or just that such an unequal distribution of public burdens should continue.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai's amendment was put and lost, as was also Mr. Ta Keikichi's. The Second Reading was then carried, and the Third Reading was voted by a large majority.

The House then proceeded to the First Reading of the Bill for amending the Publication Regulations, which was entrusted, without discussion, to the Special Committee appointed to report upon the two Bills standing first on the Order of the Day.

Mr. Kono Hironaka said that he desired to submit the views of his Party for the consideration of the Cabinet, by way of reply to the Declaration of Policy made by the Acting Minister of State. He did not doubt that the Cabinet would give attention, and he asked whether it would be permissible to solicit the attendance of the Cabinet Minister for the purpose.

No objection was raised to this proposal.

The House rose at 3.20 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The Special and Standing Committees alone met.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Government Bill (First Reading) for Special Reassessment of the Taxable Value of Land.
- 2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 3.—Government Bill (First Reading) for amending the Salt Brewing Tax Regulations.
- 4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 5.—Government Bill (First Reading) for amending the Supplementary Salt Brewing Tax Regulations.
- 6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 7.—Government Bill (First Reading) for amending Law No. 14 of the 22nd year of Meiji.
- 8.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 9.—Government Bill (First Reading) for amending the Tobacco Tax Regulations.
- 10.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 11.—Government Bill (First Reading) for amending the Income Tax Regulations.
- 12.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 13.—Government Bill (First Reading) for dealing with the Capital of the Central Finance Relief Fund.
- 14.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 15.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the District Local Government System.
- 16.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Registration Law.
- 17.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending Law No. 84 of the 25th year of Meiji.

18.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the Weights and Measures Law.

19.—Representation relating to Funds for developing Hokkaido.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

Question relating to the Import of Alcohol; by Mr. Kanai Mitsugi.

Question relating to Official Interference in Elections; by Messrs. Tatekawa Umpei, Ozaki Yukio and others.

Question relating to the Amalgamation of Local Districts; by Mr. Ono Kinsuke and others.

Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations; by Mr. Uwazumi Itsuji and others.

Bill for amending the Registration Law; by Mr. Motoda Hajime and others.

Bill for amending the Mining Regulations; by Mr. Nakamura Yaro and others.

Bill for abolishing the Import Duty on Raw Cotton; by Mr. Okada Koroku and others.

Bill for the same purpose as the last; by Mr. Kato Masano-ake and others.

Bill relating to Customs Duties; Mr. Suzuki Shoji and others.

Bill for amending the Law of Medical Diplomas; by Mr. Yamada Taizo.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei declared that the question of official interference in elections remained still unsolved. The House, by a large majority, had adopted a Representation on the subject last session, but as yet no sufficient notice had been taken of it by the Government. The Acting Minister President, when announcing the policy of the Cabinet, had asserted that the Government aimed at bringing the working of the Administrative machine into practical harmony with the Constitution and at securing the rights of the people. But such announcements, though very attractive in appearance, seemed to have no real results. The whole nation had been excited by the question of official interference and wide-spread mischief had been caused, yet the present Cabinet, despite its professions, had taken no efficient steps to show their condemnation of such practices. A few Governors had been shifted, a few police officials removed, but the transfer of a Governor often meant an increase of rank or salary, and was in no sense an adequate evidence of Government disapproval. As things stood, the country could only conclude that official interference in elections had the endorsement of those in power. He need not dwell upon the mischievous consequence of such a belief. There was no desire to continue attacking the last Cabinet. Count Matsukata, however, had disclaimed all responsibility for what had occurred last February, and before the echo of his words had ceased, Viscount Shinagawa, in a speech delivered in Kinshu, had publicly acknowledged that he had interfered in the elections. Whether he spoke as the ex-Minister of State for Home Affairs, or as Viscount Shinagawa, the individual, it did not greatly matter. His confession proved that official interference had been resorted to, and what they had now to consider was whether the present Cabinet had adopted any reasonably sufficient measures to mark its sense of the impropriety of such proceedings, as well as its appreciation of the opinion placed on solemn record by the two Houses of the Diet.

Mr. Haseba spoke in a similar sense. He claimed that the present Cabinet not only had failed to inflict adequate punishment on the offenders of February last, but was also itself actually engaged in a similar breach of the Constitution. In support of the latter assertion he referred the House to the cases of Kagoshima and Kumamoto, where, as the newspaper reports showed, local officials had interfered in the election of members of the Local Assemblies. Further, in Kagoshima the police had engaged in a campaign to promote the interests of the pro-official party, and had so grossly maltreated a man who declined to obey them, that he had instituted proceedings in the Law Courts, and a constable had been sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour and a fine. At the trial an attempt had been made to establish the constable's innocence by suborning witnesses, but four of these false witnesses had been convicted of forgery and severely punished. The Government must be perfectly well aware of these things, yet they took no steps to correct them. Moreover, when an account of the affair was published in the newspapers, the Police Department had inserted a correction to the effect that the facts were misrepresented. In the same Prefecture a member of the Popular Party having been stabbed by a political opponent on the 17th of last month, had complained to the Police Office, and had been told to come the next day. He had gone home, obtained medical assistance,

and had his wound stitched. The next day a surgeon had come from the Police Station, had cut the stitches to examine the wound, and had gone away without re-placing the stitches, the police, meanwhile, advising the man to say nothing about the injury he had received. This affair was still under examination. At another place, the police had ordered the dispersal of a political meeting. A portion of the audience had thereupon retired to another place, and the police, breaking into the latter, had behaved with such violence that several persons had been wounded. This happened on the 17th of last month, and a telegram just received said that the Preliminary Court had remanded five of the policemen for trial. Instances could also be adduced of teachers in schools who had been dismissed, their only offence being that they did not support the pro-official candidates. It was not too much to say that the Central Government's authority could not be vindicated in Kagoshima Prefecture. He could not reconcile such a state of affairs with the declaration of the Minister President that the Cabinet aimed at bringing the working of the Administration into practical harmony with the Constitution.

Mr. Ishizaka Shoko suggested that it would be better to defer speeches like the above until the Cabinet Ministers were present. They had been asked to attend to-day in order to hear Mr. Kono Hironaka's reply to the Government's Declaration of Policy, but not one was in his place.

Mr. Haseba said that he had greatly abbreviated his remarks in consequence of the absence of the Cabinet Ministers. But since the question had been submitted, he, as one of its supporters, felt bound to say a few words. He hoped to have an opportunity of going into the subject more fully when the Ministers of State were in their places. He then continued his denunciation of the Government and concluded by declaring that the House owed it to itself not to let the matter rest in its present unsatisfactory state.

Mr. Shimada Saburo moved that the President be asked to inquire when the Cabinet Ministers could attend in their places. They had been invited by Mr. Kono Hironaka, on the 3rd instant, to appear to-day, but they were not present. Many of the Bills now before the House had a close bearing upon the policy of the Cabinet, and it would greatly facilitate the House's deliberations if Ministers were in their places to answer questions.

The House approved this motion and then proceeded to the Order of the Day. The Bill for reassessing the Taxable Value of Land was read as follows:—

PROJECT OF LAW FOR THE SPECIAL RE-ASSESSMENT OF THE TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND UNDER CULTIVATION.

Art. I.—In cases where the present valuation of land devoted to cultivation is considered unduly high, it shall be specially amended and reduced, the superior and inferior limits of the total reduction to be 150,000,000 and 140,000,000 yen.

Art. II.—The standards observed in amending the above unduly high valuation shall be as follow:—

- (a) The assumed yield shall be reduced in proportion to the grade of the land and to the average yield in each district.
- (b) The assumed price of rice per *koku* shall be lowered in the same ratio in the different localities, on the basis of the average market price during the five years from the 20th to the 24th year of Meiji, inclusive.
- (c) The assumed rate of interest shall be six per cent.

Art. III.—The general amount to be reduced from the existing valuation of land in each City, Town and District shall be determined by the Minister of State for Finance, in accordance with the system of territorial division adopted at the time of the Land Tax Revision. The amount to be reduced from the existing valuation of particular farms, in each City, Town or District, shall be fixed by decision of the Council of Landowners. Provided that, the organization and competence of such Council of Landowners shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. IV.—The expenses incurred for purposes of reassessment in each City, Town, or District, shall

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be defrayed by the owners of the lands the taxable value of which has been reduced.

Art. V.—Lands whose valuation has been amended in accordance with this Law, shall be taxed on the basis of the amended valuation from the 27th year of *Meiji*. Provided that, in the case of Cities, Towns, and Districts, where the work of reassessment has not been completed by the aforementioned year, the land tax shall continue to be levied on the basis of the present valuation until the work of reassessment is completed.

Art. VI.—With regard to the enforcement of this Law, Law No. 105 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*, namely, the Law of Complaint, shall not be applicable.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that the Bill needed no explanation, and he trusted the House would pass it at once.

A number of questions were asked and answered, and the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, elected by the sections.

The Bill for amending the *Saké* Brewing Tax Regulations was read as follows:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE "SAKÉ" BREWING TAX REGULATIONS ISSUED BY ORDINANCE NO. 40 OF THE 13TH YEAR OF "MEIJI."

The following amendment shall be made in the *Saké* Brewing Tax Regulations issued by Ordinance No. 40 of the 13th year of *Meiji*, and shall be enforced in respect of such Breweries as shall have been officially inspected, on and after the 1st day of the 11th month of the 26th year of *Meiji* (Nov. 1st 1893).

Art. III.—Brewers who apply for licenses shall pay License and Brewing Taxes as follow:—

License Tax for Brewing, yen 30 per Brewery. Brewing Tax as follows:—

1st kind per one *koku* Yen 5
2nd kind per one *koku* Yen 6
3rd kind per one *koku* Yen 7

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, explained that the object of this Bill was to make up the deficiency of State Revenue which would result from reassessing the taxable value of land. The two Bills were closely connected.

Mr. Horibe Hikojiro said that the increase of revenue estimated by the Bill was 1,600,000 yen, the increase of tax being 1 yen per *koku*. But according to the last statistics, the total quantity of *saké* brewed annually was 3,840,000 *koku*. Hence, an increased tax of 1 yen per *koku* should bring in a revenue of over 3½ million yen.

Mr. Tajiri said that an increase of tax would probably involve a decrease of consumption. Hence the Government's estimate. In answer to other questions he said that the Government did not consider the proposed tax prohibitive, and did not anticipate that it would cause any increase of imports. The consumers of imported alcoholic beverages and those of Japanese *Saké* were, for the most part, different altogether. There might be some effect produced at the open ports, but it seemed most improbable that imported drinks would find any extended sale in the interior on account of the proposed additional tax.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 elected by the Sections.

The next two Bills were read as follow:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE SUPPLEMENTARY "SAKÉ" BREWING TAX REGULATIONS.

The following amendment shall be made in the *Saké* Brewing Tax Regulations, issued by Ordinance No. 40 of the 13th year of *Meiji*, and shall come into force on and after the 1st Day of the 11th month of the 26th year of *Meiji* (Nov. 1, 1893).

Art. I.—Persons who brew *saké* for household use (for private drinking, mixing with sauce and other purposes) shall apply for a license to the local authorities, and shall pay taxes according to the following distinctions:—

First kind yen 3.00
Second kind yen 1.50
Third kind yen 0.50

A license for brewing the Third kind shall not be granted to the following persons:—

(1). Government officials, and those who are privileged to be treated as such. (2). Persons who pay income tax. (3). Persons who pay land tax amounting to yen 5 and upwards. (4). Members of the families of the three preceding classes of persons, and those who live with them.

Art. V.—The total quantity of *saké* brewed for household uses shall not exceed the following limit in any one family and within any one period of time:—

First kind Two *koku*.
Second kind One *koku*.
Third kind Five *to*.

BILL FOR AMENDING LAW NO. 24 OF THE 22ND YEAR OF "MEIJI."

The rate of tax set forth in Law No. 24 of the 22nd year of *Meiji* shall be amended as follows, and the amendment shall come into force on and after the 1st Day of the 11th Month of the 26th year of *Meiji*.

The License Tax for Brewing shall be Yen 20 per one Brewery.

The Brewing Tax shall be as follows:—

1st kind per one *koku* Yen 4
2nd kind per one *koku* Yen 5
3rd kind per one *koku* Yen 6

After a few questions, the Government Delegate explaining that the estimated increases of income were 220,000 yen and 58,000 yen respectively, the Bills were handed to Special Committees.

The Bill for amending the Tobacco Tax was read as follows:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE TOBACCO TAX REGULATIONS.

The following amendments shall be made in the Tobacco Tax Regulations, issued by Imperial Ordinance No. 20 of the 21st year of *Meiji*, and shall go into force on and after the 1st day of the 4th month of the 27th year of *Meiji* (April 1st 1894).

Art. VIII.—Manufacturers of Tobacco shall affix on their manufactures a Tobacco Stamp of the value of 3/10 (three-tenths) of the price of sale of the goods.

Art. XXX.—Manufacturers of Tobacco who, after the enforcement of the above amended Art. VIII., have their goods stamped according to the old rate, shall make proper additions of stamps within three months after the enforcement of these amendments. This shall also apply to goods in the hands of middlemen and retailers.

The Bill was handed to a Special Committee without question or discussion.

The Bill for amending the Income Tax Regulations was read as follows:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE INCOME TAX REGULATIONS.

The following amendments shall be made in the Income Tax Regulations, issued by Imperial Ordinance No. 21 of the 21st year of *Meiji*, and shall be enforced from the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894) and subsequently.

Art. I.—Persons in receipt of an income the annual amount of which is yen 150 (one hundred and fifty yen) and upwards, shall pay Income Tax as herein set forth.

The amount of income of any member of a family shall be joined with that of the head of that family for the purpose of calculating the family income.

Art. IV.—The grades and rate of Income Tax shall be as follow:—

Grade.	Amount of Income.	Rate of Tax.
First	Yen 30,000 and upwards	3 per cent.
Second	25,000 and upwards	2.8 per cent.
Third	20,000 and upwards	2.4 per cent.
Fourth	15,000 and upwards	2.2 per cent.
Fifth	10,000 and upwards	2.0 per cent.
Sixth	6,000 and upwards	1.8 per cent.
Seventh	3,000 and upwards	1.6 per cent.
Eighth	1,000 and upwards	1.4 per cent.
Ninth	700 and upwards	1.2 per cent.
Tenth	500 and upwards	1.0 per cent.
Eleventh	300 and upwards	0.8 per cent.
Twelfth	200 and upwards	0.6 per cent.
Thirteenth	150 and upwards	0.5 per cent.

Provided that, in places where the Regulations relating to City and Prefectural Governments are in force, the electors of and persons eligible to serve on, Committee of Inspection of Income Tax, shall be men who have been registered as citizens according to City, Town, and Village Regulations, are residents of the City, Town, and Village, and are actually paying income tax. Government officials, City, Town, and Village officials shall not be eligible.

The Government Delegate said that an increase of income to the extent of 250,000 yen was anticipated.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee, and a motion by Mr. Kudo Kokan, limiting the time for the various Committee's Reports on the above Bills, was rejected.

The Bill relating to the Central Famine Relief Fund was then read as follows:—

It shall be lawful for the Government to augment the capital of the Central Famine Relief Fund by transferring to it money from the ordinary revenue of the State. Provided that amounts so transferred shall be determined in the Budget.

The Government Delegate explained that this measure was necessitated by the heavy drains

made on the Fund during recent years in consequence of exceptional calamities. Thus the *Kwan-to* inundations in 1890 and the *At-Gi* earthquake in 1891, had reduced the Fund by 2,280,000 yen, and only 2,100,000 yen now remained. Unless some steps were taken promptly to restore the Fund to reasonable dimensions a national calamity might find the State unprepared to deal with it.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee.

On taking the Bill for the amendment of the District Local Government System, Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, explained that the Government could not agree to the proposed changes. The present method of electing members of District Assemblies, namely, by re-election by and from the members of the Divisional Assemblies, had been adopted for the sake of saving the peoples' time and expense. To hold a fresh general election for members of District Assemblies would entail needless outlay of time and money. Again, the Bill proposed to make the office of District Headman elective, instead of having its holder nominated by the Central Government. Under existing circumstances such an alteration seemed unwise. In point of fact, the system of District Local Government which the Bill sought to amend had been promulgated only two years ago, and had not come into force in more than 10 out of the 46 prefectures. To change it already could not be regarded as anything but a hasty step.

Mr. Kudo Kokan combated these objections at some length. He contended that the fact of the District System having gone into operation in only ten Prefectures, was a proof of its imperfections, and that it should not be forced upon people evidently unwilling to accept it. Further, if the principle of election favoured by the Government were extended to all Assemblies, the members of the House of Representatives ought to be chosen by and from the members of the Local Assemblies, which would obviously be wrong. Mr. Tateiri Kiichi supported the Bill.

Mr. Asakura Chikatame recommended that the advocates of making the office of District Headman elective should consider how things fared in provincial elections now-a-days. He thought that the disturbances which marked these events did not encourage any extension of the system.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House took a recess at 3.40 p.m. for the purpose of electing the Special Committees enumerated above. On re-assembling at 5.15 p.m. the names of the various Committee-men were read out, and the House rose at 5.25 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Standing and Special Committees alone coming together.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Law of Registration.
- 2.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending Law 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
- 3.—Representation relating to Funds for the Development of Hokkaido.
- 4.—Private Bill (First Reading) relating to Copyright.
- 5.—Private Bill (First Reading) for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Reply from the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to a Question submitted by Mr. Kashiwada and others on the subject of materials for a Steel Foundry.
- A Question from Mr. Shimizu Banjirō on the subject of an instruction issued by the Minister of State for Education with regard to text books for Primary Schools.
- A Question from Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and others with reference to the Government's policy towards Korea.
- A Representation from Mr. Nishiyama Shichu and others, with reference to the extension of navigation.
- A Representation from Mr. Tange Naohi and others, with reference to opening a harbour at Mutsugasaki.
- A Bill for amending the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, from Mr. Kawaguchi Susumu and others.
- A Bill for taxing the salaries of officials, from Mr. Ooka Ikuzō and others.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro desired to explain the questions submitted by him to the Government with reference to Korea. In the first session of the Diet he had addressed a question to the Government on this subject, and had received from Viscount Aoki, then Minister of State for

Foreign Affairs, an assurance that though the policy pursued towards China and Korea might have wavered in the past, it should be firm and resolute in the future. How had that promise been kept? He invited the House to consider the country's relations with Korea, especially from the three points of view to which his questions were addressed; namely, telegraphs, Quelpart, and the prohibition of the export of cereals. He had resided for several years in Korea and he had some knowledge of that kingdom's affairs. He could assure them that the prohibition of the export of cereals had injured not the merchants directly concerned alone, but the whole people of Japan. With regard to telegrams, an agreement had been made between Japan and Korea nine years ago, according to the terms of which a line of telegraph was to be constructed from Fusan to Japan, on condition that Korea, during a space of 20 years, made no contract with any other country for the laying of a cable, and that under no circumstances should a cable be laid which would interfere with the profitability of the Fusan-Japan line. Two years later, however, Korea had concluded with China a convention for the laying of a line between Fusan and Peking, and had placed all her telegraphs under Chinese control, thus deliberately trampling on her covenant with Japan. It appeared that this empire had remonstrated, but its remonstrances had been treated with indifference. Nay more, the use of the telegraph from Korea to Peking had been interdicted to Japanese residing in Seoul. Japan had protested against this interdict, and had demanded of Korea that a line of telegraph be laid between Seoul and Fusan, which line had been completed in 1887. With these circumstances before it, the House could be in no doubt that Korea had broken her treaty engagements with Japan. As illustrating the present state of affairs, he referred to the outrage at the residence of the Tai-won-Kun last June. Intelligence of the event had been sent across the wires by the Japanese Representative in Seoul on the 18th of June, but had not reached Japan until the 23rd of that month. Telegraphic inquiries subsequently addressed to Korea by the Japanese Government had been delayed for days, the whole record showing that Chinese officials controlled the service at their own convenience. Was it possible to say that the prestige of the empire was maintained in the face of such events? The House knew that a convention had been concluded by Count Ito in Tientsin seven years ago. He believed that up to the present time the Convention had not been ratified. It was not his intention, however, to rake up events of the distant past, but he must remind them that the Convention contained clauses binding the High Contracting Parties to remove their troops from the peninsula, and providing that neither should send troops there in the future without previous notice to the other. Consider this last provision by the light of last June's experience. Had the Tai-won-Kun affair assumed large dimensions, could there be any doubt that Chinese troops would have garrisoned Seoul in force before Japan had even received telegraphic intelligence of what was really happening in the peninsula? He could not be content with Viscount Aoki's assurances, but must call on the present Government to give them practical effect. Again, in 1889, the Korean Authorities had suddenly issued a proclamation forbidding the export of rice, on the pretext of an impending famine. Japanese merchants had already purchased and paid for rice to the value of 170,000 yen when this proclamation was issued in direct contravention of Treaty. A claim for indemnity preferred by Japan had received such scant attention that not until 1892, the present year, had any prospect of a settlement become visible. There was then talk of 140,000 yen to be paid by Korea, but, at the latter's request, it had been reduced to 120,000 yen, and now, long after the whole thing should have been settled, Korea was understood to allege that she could not give more than 60,000 yen. He desired to know whether any excuse could be offered for

allowing the country's just demands to be so deliberately flouted. Finally, although a Convention had been concluded with Korea in 1883 giving to Japanese subjects the privilege of fishing on the Korean coasts, the exercise of this privilege had been unlawfully prevented by the Korean local authorities during the present year. He asked to be informed what steps the Government had taken to redress this wrong.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro, who had presented a Question relating to the Department of Education, entered into an explanation of his queries, the gist of his speech being that officials of the Educational Department were in collusion with a bookselling firm, the *Tosho Kaisha*, and that by playing into the hands of the firm, they had enabled it to reap exorbitant profits. With a capital of only 50,000 yen, the firm's last balance-sheet had showed a profit of 17,000 yen, figures with which no other mercantile record in the country could compare.

The House then proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Node Shozaburo, in presenting his Bill for the amendment of the Law of Registration, said that the Bill had been before the House last session, and had reached its second reading. Consequently, no explanations ought now to be necessary. But as the Government opposed the desired amendments so strenuously, he wished to remind them that practical experience was in favour of the chief change recommended; namely, the transfer of registration functions from Courts of Law to Divisional Headmen. The Government asserted that this would be a retrogressive step, and that better security was attained by the present system, but, in point of fact, there were more complaints now than there had been when the business was in the hands of Divisional Headmen. He failed to see why Divisional Headmen, superintended by District Courts of Law, should not be a perfectly trustworthy medium for the transaction of such business. The question of expense, too, had a vital bearing on the proposed amendments. At present the annual cost of registration operations throughout the empire was 570,000 yen, and if the changes embodied in the Bill were made, a great economy would be effected. He then briefly explained the points of difference between the present Bill and the Bill presented in the previous session.

Mr. Kinoura Keizo, Vice-Minister of State for Justice, strongly opposed the Bill. The transfer of registration functions from Divisional Headmen to Courts of Law had been made in order to correct flagrant abuses, and that the transfer had been to a great degree successful in attaining that object was clearly demonstrated by statistics. The proposer of the Bill himself admitted the necessity of legal supervision in such matters, since he had inserted a clause providing for supervision by District Courts. But in truth, the provision had only a nominal value, for no possibility existed of such supervision being efficiently exercised. The Law Courts offered the only really suitable and trustworthy machinery for the management of affairs already so important, and daily acquiring fresh importance as trade developed and as its transactions were placed on a more rigid footing. When the new Commercial Code went into force, registration by men of business would become more vital than ever, and it would be an unhappily retrogressive step were such affairs restored to the management of persons like Divisional Headmen, who, in the majority of cases, were wholly without legal training or other qualifications essential to the proper discharge of registration functions. The new system had not been long enough in force to warrant any conclusive deduction as to its satisfactoriness, but thus far it had unquestionably given better results than the old. As to expense, the truth was that the proposed changes would increase instead of diminishing the cost of registration, and assuredly there would be no improvement in respect of facilities. The Government recognised that additional facilities were needed, and if they looked at the Budget they would find that provision had been made for increasing by over 200 the number of places where

registration could be effected. So far from thinking that the bonds of strict official management and judicial supervision might be relaxed in the matter, the Government had recently ordered that Local Courts should assist to secure greater accuracy and fidelity. What the Bill invited them to do was, not to make a reform, but to deliberately return to a state of affairs discredited by actual experience.

Mr. Seki Shinnosuke put some questions the gist of which was that although Divisional Headmen might be less trustworthy than Court officials in some respects, they had the advantage of being able to personally identify most of the persons applying for registration.

Mr. Iso Arashi opposed the Bill for reasons similar to those advanced by the Vice-Minister of Justice. Divisional Headmen were not salaried officials, and served for only a fixed number of years. They were doubtless a better class of persons now-a-days than they had formerly been, but it nevertheless seemed wholly unreasonable to entrust to such persons the onerous and important functions of registration. It should not be forgotten that accuracy and order in the processes of registration had a most vital bearing on the security of property, and therefore ultimately on the rights of the subject. He failed to see how any confidence could be felt unless the duties of registration were entrusted to responsible and competent officials. He also insisted that the proposed changes would involve heavy expenditure—as much as eight hundred thousand yen—and he condemned them as not only unnecessary but also mischievous. Nevertheless, the Bill had over a hundred supporters, and would therefore be doubtless entrusted to a Committee. He trusted, in that event, that the Committee would pay special attention to the question of securing celerity in the operations of registration.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji* was then read as follows:—

AMENDMENT OF LAW NO. 84 OF THE 23RD YEAR OF "MEIJI"

The Government may impose a fine of not more than 50 yen or punish by minor confinement any person violating an Administrative Regulation.

Presented by NODE SHOZABURO, KAGAMI KABET, and FUKUDA HISAMATSU.
Supported by YAMADA TOJI.

(Original.—Any person violating an Administrative Regulation may be punished by the Government with a fine of not more than 200 yen or imprisonment for not more than a year.)

Mr. Node Shozaburo explained that the object of introducing the Bill was to give proper effect to the 23rd Article of the constitution. The Law in question—No. 84 of 1890—had been promulgated by Imperial Ordinance within three months of the meeting of the first Diet. It gave the Administration great punitive power to enforce the prohibitions of regulations. Without such power, it would have been impossible to carry into effect such laws as the Premonition Regulations. The 23rd Article of the Constitution provided that no Japanese subject should be arrested, detained, tried, or punished unless according to law. It was obviously opposed to the spirit of this Article that there should be vested in the Administration competence to inflict severe punishments of fines and imprisonment without recourse to the regular processes of law. The most radical method of preventing the issue of such Ordinances as the Game Regulations and the Premonition Regulations, without reference to the Diet, was to deprive the Administration of power to enforce the prohibitions of the Ordinances. He trusted that, as the Bill was short and simple, it would be passed without the intervention of a Special Committee.

Mr. Sayematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the phraseology of the Bill was notably defective. It made minor confinement a punishment alternative to a fine of 50 yen, but it fixed no limit for the period of such confinement. The framers had probably intended to limit the punitive power of the Administration to penalties for misdemeanours, but they

had to remember that terms of minor confinement for misdemeanours varied with each class of misdemeanour, and that the periods were practically unlimited. It did not appear that the Bill had been framed in accordance with the real intention of its advocates. Further, they must remember how varied, and often how grave, were the offences that might be committed in contravention of Administrative regulations. For example, men might have to be punished for mixing poisons with drugs, for selling such a dangerous article as adulterated kerosene, for holding lotteries, and so forth. Evidently it would be futile to think of dealing with this wide range of offences by fines only, or yet by imprisonment only. In some cases a fine, especially when limited to 50 *yen*, would be wholly ineffectual; in others minor confinement alone would not be deterrent; and in others recourse must be had to both. It was impossible to reconcile the provisions of the Bill with the condition of the people and the circumstances of the time, and he trusted that the House would reject it.

Mr. Yamada Taizo asked whether the Administration Regulations were good for anything except to facilitate official interference in elections.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho declined to answer such an irrelevant and vague question.

Mr. Hashimoto Kiutaro strongly supported the Bill, but his speech was limited to a violent attack on the Premonition Regulations, which he said, could never have been enforced without the aid of Law 84. He protested against entrusting such power to an Administration capable of abusing it grossly at any moment.

Mr. Miyagi Kozo spoke at considerable length in opposition to the Bill. He agreed that Law 84 was contrary to the spirit of the Constitution, but he contended that the law which they were asked to substitute for it would be equally unconstitutional. The only rational course was to repeal the Law altogether. He entered into a long legal argument to prove that no inconvenience would be caused to the Administration by such a step, and reminded the House that if they enacted an amended form of the Law, it would be very difficult to repeal it afterwards.

The Bill was entrusted to a Committee of 9 chosen by the Sections.

The Representation relating to Hokkaido was then read as follows:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOKKAIDO.

The development of Hokkaido is one of the most urgent affairs of the country. It ought not to be neglected even for a day. After the Government had appointed a Colonial Governor in 1869, Hokkaido was divided into three Prefectures, and subsequently the Hokkaido Administrative Board was established. Thus, though the Authorities essayed various projects, the lapse of 24 years, and the expenditure of 50 million *yen*, have for their only results a cultivated area of 45,000 *cho* (112,500 acres) and a population of 400,000. How trifling is this outcome in comparison with its cost! The area of Hokkaido is 6,900 square *ri*, and its richness in forests and pasture lands renders it one of the wealthiest regions of the Empire. If enterprises of development be properly managed, it can support a population of 1,000,000 and a revenue of 100,000,000 *yen* can without difficulty be obtained from it. But if the Government follow the policy hitherto pursued, how many hundred of years must elapse before such results are attained? The fact inspires profound regret. We therefore hope that the Government will abandon the old system of favouritism (*fojitsu*), wash away the accumulated abuses, adopt a permanent policy and pursue it without delay. To attain this object it is necessary to examine the natural features of the island, and investigate matters connected with roads, railways, and telegraphs; the construction of harbours and lighthouses; the condition of the various mines, and the state of the fisheries, all of which have an intimate relation to the emigration scheme. It is also necessary to place the organization of administrative superintendence on a firm basis. When all this is achieved, the work of development can be begun. To accomplish the above undertakings there is need of funds for salaries, travelling expenses, and other miscellaneous outlays. The Government ought to prepare an estimate, under the name of

"Funds for the Development of Hokkaido," and present it to the Imperial Diet as a Supplementary Budget for the 28th year of *Meiji* (1893), so as to obtain the latter's concurrence.

We respectfully present this Representation.

Presented by MAKI BOKUSHIN, and others.

Mr. Maki Bokushin spoke at length in support of the Representation, but added no arguments to those adduced in the text. His main points were that the policy of the Government had been vacillating and ineffective; that great sums of money had been spent with insignificant results; that the island, being equal in area to Kiushu and Shikoku combined, and being possessed of great resources, might be made a home for many millions of people and a source of large revenue; that its capacities had as yet been only partially investigated, and that, unless some more vigorous procedure than that pursued by the Government were adopted, hundreds of years must elapse before any really good results were secured. He proposed to make the Committee of Investigation entirely independent.

Several questions were asked, pointing to the probable expense of the undertaking and the difficulty of organizing an independent committee, but Mr. Maki had no definite information of any kind to give.

Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu opposed the Bill in a speech of considerable length, not because he objected to the principle that had dictated it, but because he thought that until the numerous abuses now existing in the administration of the Island were corrected, it was useless to talk of developing its resources. He dwelt much on the alleged fact that the Regulations for the sale of land were not obeyed, and that people desiring to obtain land were very often unable to do so. There was an area of 240,000 *cho* to be disposed of, but only 40,000 *cho* had as yet been allotted. He thought the Bill altogether premature.

Mr. Horibe Hikojiro opposed the Bill, not because he considered it premature. He, too, held that the unsatisfactory state of Hokkaido was due to the defective policy pursued by the Government, but he did not think that things could be mended by any process of mere investigation into the resources of the island. People spoke commonly of Hokkaido as "the thieves' corner." That was probably an exaggerated formula. But it did seem pretty certain that the root of the trouble was clan Government. A certain clan was said to have marked the place for appropriation to itself. What they had to do before everything was to get rid of such abuses.

Mr. Ooka Ikazo supported the Bill in a speech of considerable length.

The Representation was rejected by the House.

The House rose at 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Applications for leave of absence.
- 2.—First Reading of a Bill sent up from the Lower House for amending the Land Tax Regulations.
- 3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.

The President announced the receipt of a Question relating to the establishment of a Steel Foundry, from Prince Niijo and others. The following documents were read to the House:—

QUESTION RELATING TO THE GAME REGULATIONS.

The Government promulgated Game Regulations by Imperial Ordinance No. 84 in October last, and abolished the Shooting Regulations issued by Notification No. 11 in January the 10th year of *Meiji*. But from the points of view of taxation and the rights of the people, the Shooting Regulations could not be changed except by Law. For what reason did the Government change them by an Imperial Ordinance.

In accordance with Art. 48 of the Law of the Houses we venture to ask the question.

Presented by SHINJO NAONOBU, Viscount.

Supported by MIURA YASU, NIJO MOTOHIRO, Prince and 41 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

The Game Regulations were enacted for the purpose of preserving the public peace, and promoting the welfare of the people. Not only do they contain no provision which violates the rights of individuals as granted by the Constitution, but also they provide punishments for any one trespassing on rice-fields or cropped lands. Thus they protect the rights of land owners. Further, fees levied for shooting licences are simply administrative fees, and not taxes as contemplated by the Constitution. The fact that they were formerly included among taxes was because no necessity then existed to clearly distinguish fees from taxes. In short, as there is no provision in the Constitution which requires that Game Regulations shall be promulgated as law, they were changed by an Imperial Ordinance.

(Signed) GOTO SHOJIRO, Count,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

(Dated) the 8th day of the 12th month of the 24th year of *Meiji*.

On proceeding to the Order of the Day, Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, explained that the Bill for amending the Land Tax could not be approved by the Government, as the economical conditions of the time did not permit such a reduction of revenue.

Mr. Ohara Shigeyasu moved that as the question was of great importance, the Bill be entrusted to a Special Committee of 15 chosen by the Sections.

The House rejected the motion by 83 to 35, and agreed to entrust the Bill to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House rose at 12.37 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for Special re-assessment of the taxable value of land.
- 2.—Private Bill (First Reading) of a Copyright Bill.
- 3.—Private Bill (First Reading) for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury.
- 4.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Bailiffs Regulations.
- 5.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the City Government Regulations.

The Chief Secretary read the following communication from the Government with reference to the attendance of Cabinet Ministers in the House:—

The Ministers of State have power to attend at any time in either House of the Diet. Hence, in order to be present there, it is not necessary for them to put the members to the trouble of making any special request in that sense.

The following documents also were read to the House:—

QUESTION RELATING TO THE GAME REGULATIONS.

The fees for shooting licenses were formerly regarded as a tax both by the Government and the Diet. But the Government has changed them to administrative fees by its own decision. For what reason has this step been taken?

Presented by SHIMIZU BUNJIRO.

Supported by WATANABE YOSHIZO and 29 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER.

Fees for shooting licenses have the nature of compensation for administrative transactions undertaken for the benefit of individuals, and do not belong to the taxes mentioned in the Constitution. Before the promulgation of the Constitution no necessity existed to make any accurate distinction between taxes and fees. Therefore at that time there were included among taxes many items which, by their nature, were not taxes at all. The term "tax" in the Constitution signifies a tax in nature. Notification No. 11 of the 11th year of *Meiji*, and Ordinance No. 33 of the 22nd year, were issued before the operation of the Constitution. Thus, though some of the items of revenue derived from their operation were included among domestic taxes or national taxes, that circumstance does not affect the principle that taxes and fees must be determined according to their actual nature. The taxes and fees enumerated in former Budgets cannot be regarded as a standard. The fees paid for shooting licenses were included among taxes, but were not in truth taxes at all. Therefore, in accordance with the 2nd clause of the 62nd Article of the Constitution, a change in such fees could be made without recourse to the processes of law.

(Signed) GOTO SHOJIRO, Count,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

(Dated) 6th December, 1892.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

A Government Bill relating to the Tax upon the sale of Saké.
 A Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji.
 A Project of Game Laws; from Mr. Oshima Shin.
 A Representation relating to the reform of the Navy; from Mr. Sugita Teichi and others.
 A Representation relating to the Game Law; from Mr. Takata Sanaye and others.

Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—The Government has presented to the Imperial Diet, in the form of a Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji, certain expenditures on account of works in Hyogo, Okayama, Tokushima, Yamanashi, and Kochi Prefectures, which suffered from inundations. I therefore propose to offer some explanations. In July last these five Prefectures were the scene of an extraordinary calamity in the form of storm and inundation. Numerous banks of rivers, roads, and fields were entirely destroyed, and the people of the Prefectures were without resources to effect repairs. The Prefectural Assemblies passed resolutions, and petitioned the Government to undertake the necessary works by means of funds paid out of the Treasury. I therefore at once despatched to those Prefectures five engineers, belonging to the Bureau for Superintending Public Works, and commissioned them to investigate the amount of the damages. The report sent in by them showed a most serious state of affairs. The worst districts were Hyogo, Okayama, and Tokushima. The area of devastation extended over two towns (*shi*), and 791 divisions (*son*); the number of deaths was 990; the number of houses washed away, over 10,000; while more than 20,000 *cho* (50,000 acres) of cultivated lands were entirely laid waste. Rice had to be provided for over 130,000 persons, and the number of houses requiring relief out of the Famine Relief Fund, approximated 40,000. With regard to public works, the utmost economy has been exercised. Only the most urgent works are to be undertaken. For all these purposes a sum of over 5,000,000 *yen* is required in the five Prefectures; out of which total, 4,600,000 *yen* will be spent in Hyogo, Okayama, and Tokushima Prefectures. It is our intention to make the people of the devastated districts disburse as large a part of the five millions as their resources will permit, the remainder alone becoming a charge on the Treasury. According to this arrangement the total sum falling to the share of the Treasury is over 3,800,000 *yen*, the distribution of which is minutely recorded in the Supplementary Budget itself. Believing that the above expenditure cannot possibly be defrayed from the local taxes, we have included it in a Supplementary Budget, which is now submitted for your consideration. The Government hopes to obtain your consent as soon as possible, so that the necessary works may be commenced without any delay, and a measure of peace and comfort may be restored to the sufferers. If you require any detailed explanations the Government Delegate will furnish them.

Mr. Kono Hironaka asked permission to have the Order of the Day changed. The President had been instructed to request the attendance of the Ministers of State, with the result indicated by the document which they had heard the Chief Secretary read. Fortunately, however, some of the Ministers were now present, and he wished to avail himself of the opportunity to make a statement.

A discussion ensued, some members contending that Mr. Kono's speech might be heard without any change of the Order of the Day. But the President ruled that no speech unconnected with the subject immediately before the House could be delivered unless the regular preliminary forms had been complied with.

The House voted in favour of changing the Order.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro asked to be informed by what title they were to call the business now before the House. Was it to stand on the records of the Diet that one item of the Order of the Day was "A Lecture by Mr. Kono Hironaka"?

Mr. Shimada Saburo supported the motion, and Mr. Arai Shogo declared his desire also to make a statement.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro opposed the motion. The first item on the Order of the Day was a Government Bill, and he did not see why they should establish the precedent of deferring debate of such a Bill for the sake of one member's convenience. Even were the promised statement confined to Mr. Kono's, the course proposed would be objectionable, but already other members had signified their desire to

speak, and it was impossible to foresee to what lengths this interruption might lead them. Supposing the Order of the Day changed as desired, what form would the substituted item take? Would it be Mr. Kono Hironaka's Lecture?

Mr. Takata Sanaye said that the Order had not been changed on Mr. Kono's account only. Any one who had remarks to make might make them.

The President denied this. The Order had been altered on Mr. Kono's account and on his account only.

This led to fresh discussion. The President said that he could not tell what the members had in their minds when they voted, but the motion put by him referred to Mr. Kono Hironaka alone. Considerable altercation ensued. Some members claimed that the President was mistaken, and, when referred to the Stenographic Records asserted that it also erred. Others urged the President to yield, but he replied that he should never yield on a point that concerned the good order of the proceedings. Mr. Abe Bankon wanted to know whether the representative of one party alone was to be permitted to speak. The President replied that, sitting there as President, he knew no distinctions of parties, but simply took cognizance of the motions as presented. Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke recommended the House to give up its altercation and go on with its speeches, otherwise "the jewel that it sought to grasp would escape." While the altercation was in progress, the President, having applied for the Government's permission to change the Order of the Day, announced that permission had been refused. Some of the members asked why it had been refused, but the President said that he had not enquired the reason, and was not empowered to do so unless the House ordered him.

Mr. Abe Bankon moved that the Government be asked to give its reasons.

The President urged the fruitlessness of such a course. In order to debate Mr. Abe's motion or vote upon it, they must again ask permission to change the Order of the Day. It seemed more manly and more businesslike to proceed at once with the fixed Order. Doubtless the Government would feel itself morally bound to afford the opportunity desired.

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Amakasu Fumiye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee was in favour of passing the Bill for Reassessing the Taxable value of Land. The details of the Bill differed in some respects from the details of similar projects presented by members, but on the whole the Committee approved the various articles of the Government's Bill. In answer to questions, he explained that the Government Delegate had stated that present financial conditions did not permit a larger reduction than 3½ million *yen*. Accurate investigations had not, however, been made as yet.

The Government Delegate, in answer to questions, said that the main object of the Bill being to relieve the burdens of the people, the proposed reform had been confined to wet and dry fields and not extended to building lands, because the latter played a comparatively insignificant part in the poorer classes' sources of sustenance. He had told the Committee that the time seemed to have come for this reform, first, because the construction of railroads tended to equalize prices of produce, and secondly because the finances could now bear the strain.

Mr. Kudo Takuji strongly opposed the Bill, his chief ground being that a measure of such great importance demanded the most careful and thorough procedure. Such a method as that contemplated was altogether superficial, and could only breed fresh discontent. Long and patient investigations and surveys were needed, instead of the hasty and empirical devices that must be resorted to if this Bill were sanctioned. He contended that the best plan was to leave the alleged inequalities to be corrected by the automatic operation of transfer. Overtaxed lands must decline in price when offered for

sale and undertaxed lands must proportionately appreciate, so that in the end perfectly equal incidence of taxation would be secured.

Mr. Kaku Risuke supported the Bill, and thought that the country should congratulate itself heartily on the fact that the Government had abandoned its former attitude of opposition and adopted this reform so much desired by the people.

The House voted for the Second Reading by a large majority, and agreed to proceed with it at once.

Mr. Kanmochi Tomotsune moved that the Sixth Article, by which the Law of Complaint was declared in operation in respect of reassessments made under this Bill, should be expunged. Such a measure as reassessment would be sure to give rise to many complaints, and he strongly deprecated any diminution of the people's lawful sources of redress merely for the sake of carrying out a measure which could be regarded as a concession to the "Implacables." When once such concessions were begun, there was no saying where they would stop, and it would be most unfortunate if the provisions of laws intended to secure personal rights were not preserved against the effects of these political agitations.

Mr. Naito Rihachi seconded the motion.

Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu opposed it. He said that innumerable abuses, bequeathed from the days of bureaucratic government, had to be mended, and if they set about the work with all the nicety and precision implied by Mr. Kanmochi, it would be like "helping a man to rice with a hair-pin." Mr. Kanmochi's argument sounded very admirable, but they must be practical before everything, and it would never do to allow a reform such as the Bill projected to be marred by perpetual cavilling afterwards.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo argued in support of Mr. Kanmochi Tomotsune. He taunted the so-called champions of the Constitution with setting the example of themselves trampling on its provisions. They were very vehement about official interference in elections, yet now a representative of the conspicuously vehement *Kaishin-to*, Mr. Fukuda, recommended suspending the operation of a cherished law merely to secure a pecuniary advantage for a section of the people and to facilitate the carrying out of a party measure.

Mr. Kudo Kokan spoke in the same sense.

The House adopted the first five articles and rejected the 6th by 143 to 105.

The Third Reading was taken at once.

Mr. Sakamoto Sokubi made a strong speech against the Bill, but confessed that he had no hope of interrupting its passage.

The Bill was finally passed.

Mr. Yamada Toji said that he believed that some of the Ministers of State were in the ante-room. He requested that a Secretary be instructed to see if they were, as in that case he desired to make an urgency motion.

Mr. Hayakawa Ryosuke, introducing the Copyright Law, explained that one of the chief reforms contemplated was the granting of copyright to newspapers and periodicals. Since, therefore, the Bill had a close relation with the Press Regulations, he trusted that the House would submit it to the Special Committee already engaged upon the Bill for amending the latter.

This course was adopted.

The House rose at 4.40 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, only the Special and Standing Committees coming together.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Private Bill (First Reading) for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury.
- 2.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Bailiffs Regulations.
- 3.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the Weights and Measures Bill.
- 4.—Private Bill (First Reading) for abolishing Law No. 2 of the 22nd year of Meiji.
- 5.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the City Government system.
- 6.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Law of Organization of Law Courts.
- 7.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the City and Prefecture Government System.
- 8.—Representation relating to the management of Public Forests.

9.—Private Bill (First Reading) for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

An announcement that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs would attend in the House the following day to answer the Questions put by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro with regard to Korean Affairs.

A Memorial to the Throne on the subject of Treaty Revision, from Mr. Suzuki Shoji and others.

A Representation for abolishing the Premonition Law.

Mr. Inagaki Shimesu asked permission to introduce an urgency motion declaring that the present Cabinet did not possess the confidence of the House.

Mr. Shimada Saburo asked permission to introduce an urgency motion in order to obtain the sense of the House with regard to the answer given by the Government the preceding day, when the Cabinet Ministers were invited to attend in the House for the purposes of hearing a statement from the members as to the Government's policy.

No objection was raised.

Mr. Shimada Saburo said that there were points which the House could not understand in the Declaration of Policy made by the Minister President of State. Without a full explanation of these points, it was impossible for the House to determine its own method of procedure. He had therefore moved that the Ministers of State be invited to attend in order that questions might be put to them, but they had answered that it was within their right to attend at any time. There was no question of interfering with that right. The only object in view was to secure the co-operation of the Government in discussing important affairs of State. Considering the position in which they now found themselves placed, it did not seem that the House had failed in its duties. The fault lay with the Government, and it appeared essential that a clear expression of the House's opinion on the subject should be elicited.

Mr. Inagaki Shimesu asked whether Mr. Shimada proposed that another application be made to the Cabinet.

Mr. Shimada replied in the negative. He merely wished to make it clear that the responsibility rested with the Cabinet. The Ministers of State would understand what that meant.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro inquired whether the idea was to pass a motion that the Ministers of the Crown, irrespective of the reply given by them yesterday, ought to attend in the House to hear an expression of certain members' opinions.

Mr. Shimada replied in the affirmative. The Ministers of the Crown had the responsibility of attending in the House.

The House approved Mr. Shimada's motion by a large majority.

Mr. Inagaki Shimesu said that the reply given on the preceding day by the Ministers of State to Messrs. Kono and Shimada's request for their attendance showed that the present Cabinet did not discharge their responsibility towards the Emperor, did not discharge their responsibility towards the forty million subjects of the Emperor, and were, moreover, criminal towards the country. The duty of the Ministers of State under constitutional institutions was to secure harmony between the Administration and the Legislature and to promote the progress of national prosperity. But the action of the present Ministers was calculated to break that harmony, and their declaration of policy, so far from giving any indication of a genuine desire to lighten the people's burdens, was a collection of falsehoods. In the exercise of his rights as a member he moved that no confidence could be placed in such a Cabinet.

No objection was raised to changing the Order of the Day for the purpose of debating this motion as a matter of urgency.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro desired to ask the House's opinion as to whether the Order of the Day should be changed twice consecutively for the purpose of debating motions which, judging from the language of their proposers, were based on the same grounds.

Other members having urged a similar objection, the President asked the House to vote as to whether the Order should be changed, and a majority was found in favour of the proposal.

Mr. Inagaki said that, as a member of the House, he stood there entrusted with the confidence of the people and commissioned as their representative. In this capacity, the procedure of the members had a vital bearing on the welfare of the State. The time had come beyond all doubt to declare that the present Ministers of State lacked the confidence of the nation and were traitors (*gyakusoku*) to their country. For many years he and his fellow thinkers had been busying themselves with political affairs, during which time they had suffered innumerable hardships, imprisonment, want, and other pains. At last they had attained their aim and seen a national assembly opened. But from the day of its convention unending disputes had arisen between the Administration and the Legislature, and to this moment not one important measure had been passed in the interests of the empire. The present Ministers of the Crown declared themselves opposed to any legislation giving real efficacy to the three great organs of freedom. They declined to allow any amendment of the narrow and exclusive Law of Election, and they suffered the empire's prestige to wane. So far from asserting the national dignity, they allowed the country to be trampled under foot by Foreign States. With such Ministers there was no hope of national progress or prestige. Nothing of real importance or public value was achieved. The methods of developing Hokkaido were wholly defective, and in every respect the policy pursued must be condemned. Bound as they were to take counsel with the House on all these subjects, the Ministers had nevertheless returned to the House's invitations a reply such as that received the day before. They had hoped for some change for the better from the Ito Cabinet, but practical experience showed that nothing was mended, and that, instead of appreciating the fact that the members of the House carried on their debates as representatives of the people, the Ministers, if they occasionally attended, went away again without saying a word. The time had certainly come when the duty of the House dictated a declaration of want of confidence in the Cabinet, and he had no doubt whatever that his motion would receive the approval of the majority. To cite the chief heads of his accusations against the Government: In the first place, came the question of Treaty Revision. Their failure to accomplish this was in itself sufficient to call for the Ministers' resignation. If they wanted an example of the way things were managed, they need not look far. For in the former Satake-yashiki at Mukojima a wealthy American citizen was permitted to live, proving that the system of Mixed Residence had already been inaugurated, the Treaties remaining all the while unrevived. Moreover, it was notorious that the Minister of State for War and Countess Oyama often visited the inmates of this residence at Mukojima, who, however wealthy they might be, were after all only merchants. How could the dignity of the country be maintained if a Minister of State humbled himself in this fashion? Count Ito, again, though appointed President of the Treaty Revision Committee, had never attended its sittings more than once. With such a man at the head of the Cabinet, need he point out the impossibility of accomplishing Revision. In the second place, the Ministers of the Crown threw every possible obstacle in the way of the reform of the Three Great Laws—Press, Public Meeting and Political Association—and declared themselves inimical to amendments ardently desired by the people in the system of local organization. Again, they showed no disposition whatever to abolish Clan Government or to correct its abuses. For twenty years they had nominally been engaged in the development of Hokkaido, but the results were virtually *nil*. On the contrary, the evils of favouritism made themselves so apparent that nothing was achieved except the growth of public distrust. How could confidence be reposed in such Ministers, let them talk ever so much of Constitutional methods. Were he to enumerate all the administrative blunders committed by the Government during the past twenty years, thirty or forty days would be needed for the purpose. Without attempting

the task, he might confidently assert that the time had now come for decisive measures of reform. He asked whether any hope could be entertained of the present Cabinet's inaugurating such measures. Unless this Clan Government were overthrown, the tranquillity and prosperity of the nation could never be secured. If the Cabinet declined to resign because of this vote of want of confidence, then the House must resolutely pursue the course leading to really representative government.

The President said that in the course of his speech Mr. Inagaki had apparently applied the term "traitors" (*gyakusoku*) to the Ministers of State. Had he really used such an expression?

Mr. Inagaki replied in the affirmative.

The President said that, according to the Law of the Houses, such an epithet was inadmissible and must be withdrawn.

Mr. Inagaki said that since the law compelled him, he should withdraw it.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku opposed the motion, not because he professed to have confidence in the present Cabinet, but because he thought that the House was not yet in a position to say that the Ministers of the Crown had actually forfeited public confidence. As for the various arguments adduced by Mr. Inagaki, were they to be discussed in detail, the whole of session would be fruitlessly occupied. Their confidence in the Cabinet was limited to the present ten Ministers of State. It was necessary to see first whether these ten Ministers really intended to act according to the genuine canons of representative government. If not, there would still be plenty of time to pass a vote of want of confidence. The House exercised one of its gravest functions when it passed a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet, and he could not think that the present occasion was sufficiently important to justify such action.

Mr. Mori Riusuke supported the motion. With many important national works inviting its attention, the Government pursued a policy of extravagance, maintaining a large number of superfluous and highly salaried officials. It had introduced a Bill for re-assessing the taxable value of land, but, on the other hand, it proposed to increase the duties on *sake* and tobacco. That could not be called lightening the burdens of the people. Asked to reduce the Land Tax, it said that no funds for the purpose were forthcoming. Yet all the while it made no attempt to introduce economy into the extravagant system of the Administration. It had interfered in the elections and caused wide-spread disorder, in defiance of the Constitutional rights of the people. How could confidence be reposed in such a Government? The Diet was now in its fourth session, but in no instance had it succeeded in getting its views adopted by the Government. A perpetual state of collision alone existed. How could the interests of the country or the prosperity of the nation be secured under such circumstances? They must overthrow this Clan Cabinet.

Mr. Ogaki Hyoji failed to comprehend the basis of Mr. Inagaki's motion. Doubtless there was some reason for it, but he confessed his inability to fathom that reason, and he condemned the notion of springing upon the House a question of such grave importance as a vote of want of confidence in the Government, involving as it did, the dissolution of the Diet. Mr. Inagaki had alleged various grounds for his motion, placing in the foreground the fact that Treaty Revision had not been achieved. But the House knew very well that opposition to Treaty Revision existed in the country itself, and that its satisfactory achievement was a matter of much difficulty. As for the charge about official interference, they must remember that the Cabinet had been in office only since August, and that it had found a number of troublesome matters to deal with within the short space of four months. To declare it unworthy of confidence at this early stage could not be called other than extremely precipitate.

Mr. Arai Shogo supported the motion. Its opponents did not pretend that they had confidence in the Cabinet, but merely alleged various pretences for not placing on record their want

of confidence; as that the step was too hasty, or that the occasion was ill chosen, and so forth. If they lacked confidence, let them say so boldly. The Acting Minister President had told them that the Government intended to clear away all obstacles to national progress. Had the Government done so? Was it doing so? Did it show any signs of doing so? If its purpose were honest, why did it not take steps to correct the abuse of official interference in elections? It talked, too, of harmony and coöperation between the governed and the governing, but in practice it paid no attention whatever to the wishes of the people as expressed through their representatives, following simply its own arbitrary ideas. Surely it was absurd to call such a government representative. Its methods had pushed the country to the edge of a perilous precipice. It had no fixed policy about the national defences, but merely drifted with the times, and in every respect showed itself unworthy of the confidence of the nation.

Mr. Yamada Toji was one of those who habitually opposed the Government, but he nevertheless thought that the occasion was ill-chosen for a vote of want of confidence. Such a vote, based on the arguments they had heard advanced, should have been passed at the opening of the Diet, if at all. What they had to do now was to carefully observe the procedure of the Government, and be guided in their attitude by the Administration's actual performances. If a vote of want of confidence were called for in consequence of acts contrary to the interests of the empire or the principles of representative institutions, there would be plenty of time to pass it.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo thought that much gratitude was due to Mr. Inagaki for introducing the motion. They had not looked for any act so discourteous to the Government from a member of the *Ri-to*. But the motion was evidently on the verge of defeat, and lest the small number of its supporters should create an impression that the Party to which he, Tanaka, belonged had confidence in the Cabinet, he felt it incumbent to protest against any such idea. He also recommended the men who to-day talked of want of confidence, namely, the members of the *Ri-to*, to consider in the first place whether they themselves deserved confidence.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro said that one of the men whom they had been pleased to dub *Ri-to* since the opening of the Diet was he, Inouye Kakugoro. He did not propose to discuss that point. If his opinions differed from those of the persons giving him such a title, that was his own business. But he asked the House to consider whether this motion now before them was likely to add to the brilliancy of their record. It declared want of confidence in the present Cabinet. But since the Declaration of the Cabinet's policy, only one of the measures announced by the Ministers of the Crown had come up for consideration, and had been swiftly passed through all its readings by a large majority. Was that their method of showing want of confidence? Was the very morrow of such a demonstration the time to declare that the policy of the Cabinet did not command their confidence in any respect? He, too, they would observe, was opposed to the motion, but they would also observe that the grounds of his opposition differed from those alleged by other members. Mr. Inagaki Shimesu, as a member of the Eastern Radicals, had brought forward this motion. He and the section to which he belonged must accept the responsibility. It did not greatly matter that a vote of want of confidence, solemnly introduced as an urgency motion and solemnly discussed by prominent members, was about to receive the support of only three men in the whole House—for that seemed to be the fate hanging over the motion. But it did matter that the records of the House should be disfigured by such a motion under such circumstances, and he trusted that the public would extend to the incident nothing worse than ridicule.

Count Goto, Minister of State for Communications, said that the members had delivered speeches for the most part hostile to the Cabinet,

but he did not propose to combat what they had said. It seemed to him, however, that the discussion had not been exhaustive. The Cabinet wished to hear the fullest possible expression of opinion with regard to such a motion. At the same time he must remind them that the Ministers of State held office by the appointment of the Sovereign and not by that of the Diet.

The President called for a vote by show of hands, when only three members rose to support the motion.

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

The Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury was read as follows:—

BILL RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF PRISON EXPENDITURES TO THE CHARGE OF THE TREASURY.

Art. 1.—Among the expenditures now disbursed from local taxes those for prisons in *Fu* and *Ken*, their new buildings and repairs, shall be transferred to the charge of the Treasury from the 26th year of *Meiji* (1893).

Art. 2.—The lands, buildings, furniture, tools, implements, and other properties of Prisons in *Fu* and *Ken* shall be transferred to the Treasury from the 26th year of *Meiji*.

Mr. Kataoka Chokuon, introducing the Bill, explained that the inclusion of prison expenditures among the local burdens had been a temporary measure, necessitated by financial circumstances but not in accord with administrative principles. Numerous petitions in favour of transferring these expenditures to the charge of the Treasury had been received, and in two sessions the Government had introduced a measure in that sense. But the House, bent upon reducing the taxes upon land, had refused its consent to any reform which seemed likely to encroach upon the funds required for that pet project. A Bill having now been passed, however, for reassessing the taxable value of land, that difficulty had been removed. In view of the importance attached to this measure by previous Cabinets, it was difficult to understand why the present Cabinet had failed to bring in a Bill for the transfer of Prison Expenditures. Presumably some reasons of temporary expediency were responsible. But there could be no manner of doubt as to the desirability of the reform, and if compared with the reassessment of land which the House so strongly favoured, the transfer of Prison Expenditures would be more widely beneficial. He spoke at considerable length, and concluded by expressing the hope that the Bill would be entrusted to a Special Committee in order that the latter might devise some expedient for obtaining the necessary revenue to carry out the reform.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo spoke against the Bill, not because he opposed the principle, but because of the grounds advanced by Mr. Kataoka. It was true that petitions had been sent from the localities, and that Local Assemblies had voted in favour of the proposed transfer, but the truth was that whereas the Government's alleged reason for making these and other expenditures a charge on the localities was because six million *yen* annually were needed for purposes of currency redemption, instead of applying the money to that purpose, it had been devoted to meet the ever-increasing outlay of an extravagant Administration.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo supported the Bill in an eloquent speech, his main point being that whereas the Opposition talked perpetually of reducing the people's burdens, they chose a field of reform which did not tally with their declarations. What the people chiefly complained of was the weight not of national but of local taxation, but what the Opposition devoted its energies to reducing was a partially felt section of the national taxes, instead of a universally felt and important section of the local taxes.

Mr. Suzuki Manjiro did not object to the principle of the Bill, but thought that the opportunity for such a measure had not yet offered. There were no visible funds available for the purpose, and even though there were, he should be in favour of devoting the money to educa-

tional purposes, which was the best way to diminish crime.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo supported the Bill. He observed that amid many professions of a desire to lighten the people's burdens, the House voted hotly for reducing the Land Tax and reassessing the taxable value of land, but threw out every Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury. Yet these changes in the land tax could benefit only the middle and upper classes, whereas the transfer of Prison Expenditures would benefit the masses who really wanted relief. They had passed by acclaim Bills for reassessment of land and reduction of the Land Tax, and they had asked no questions about available funds. Ought they not to be equally sanguine about the Prison Expenditures Bill, instead of rejecting it for reasons which should have been just as effective in the other cases?

The House voted against entrusting the Bill to a Special Committee, and rejected the Second Reading by 153 to 84.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, in introducing the Bill for amending the Bailiff Regulations, explained that the present Bailiffs, though only nominally officials, perverted their official status to the purposes of their own trade, and had acquired an exceedingly bad reputation. His object was to make them genuine officials and remove them altogether from the field of commerce. He himself could bear witness to the abuses of the present system, and to the fact that, in many cases, Bailiffs were nothing better than the tools of usurers. The reform proposed by the Bill seemed the best way to correct the abuse. It would involve a corresponding change in the Code of Civil Procedure, but he understood that a Bill for the latter purpose was about to be presented to the House.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House rose at 5.40 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE FOREIGN BORN POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The idea prevails among many intelligent people that the proportion of foreign-born population in the United States is much greater than it really is. For the benefit of such and others who may wish to know, I have copied off the following figures given by Hon. E. D. Wright, U.S. Commissioner of Labour in the last number of the *Popular Science Monthly*:—Out of a population of 62,622,250, according to the census of 1890, the total of the foreign born class was 9,249,547, or 14.77 per cent. This percentage seems to me quite small compared to the general notion. But the most important fact brought out by these figures, is found by comparing them with those given in the census of previous years. Taking the census years from 1850 to 1890, Mr. Wright finds the percentage of native and foreign born of the whole population to be as follows:—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
1850. Native	90.32	Foreign.....	9.68
1860. Native	86.84	Foreign.....	13.16
1870. Native	85.56	Foreign.....	14.44
1880. Native	86.68	Foreign.....	13.32
1890. Native	85.23	Foreign.....	14.77

From these figures you will see that the proportion has remained practically the same for the past forty years—not having varied a per cent.

Previous to 1820, the immigration to the United States was small, but commencing with that year and counting to the census of 1890, the whole number of immigrants coming to the United States was 14,820,690. When it is remembered that this number is scattered over a space of seventy years in time, the number of foreigners who have come to America is not so appalling as we have been sometimes led to think. Nevertheless, thoughtful Americans are becoming more and more anxious concerning the matter of immigration even if the ratio of foreign-born to native has changed so little. The two reasons that strike me as being the most efficient in bringing about this uneasiness are, first,

the deterioration in the quality of the immigrants. Until the last ten years I am safe in saying that 90 per cent. of them came from Great Britain, Scandinavia, and Germany, whereas the past ten years has seen an immense falling off in these, and their place has been taken by Hungarians, Poles, Italians, and Russian Jews—mostly from the very lowest classes. Indeed, it is commonly thought by Americans that the shipping of criminals and paupers to America has been assisted or encouraged by certain foreign Governments. Second, the settling together of great masses of these later immigrants, especially in the cities, and their consequent endeavour to preserve their original language and customs, even to the point of displaying strong hostility to American ideas, customs, institutions, and language, insulting the American flag, and denouncing American laws.

It is these two facts more than the number of foreigners in America that are fast bringing on a crisis. If these immigrants, even of inferior quality could be scattered evenly over the country, the problem, aided by the wonderful assimilating power of the American people, might solve itself.

Yours, &c.,
J. W. D.
December 5th, 1892.

THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wish to testify through your columns to the excellent conduct of the Japanese officials and people at the fire in Tsukiji this morning. The large empty house at No. 20 was consumed, imperiling the Club Hotel and the residences closely surrounding it. The fire was confined to the one building, however, even the servants' quarters, only a few feet away, being saved. While this fortunate outcome was due largely to the absence of wind, the firemen deserve commendation for the efforts they made to prevent the spread of the fire. From the top of the next house I had an excellent opportunity to watch the conduct of the whole affair, and it is difficult to see how it could have been managed better with such apparatus as they had. The conduct of the police is especially to be commended. They took charge at once of the surrounding premises, kept the large crowd in perfect order and at a distance, and so prevented confusion and theft.

I am, very truly yours,
WILLIAM J. LAWRENCE.
19, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Dec. 5th, 1892.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Critics who seek to influence public opinion by arguments drawn from sources not open to general inspection owe, I believe, a certain measure of good faith to those whom they address and of fairness to those whom they criticize. Neither debt has been satisfactorily discharged by your correspondent "W." I venture to say that the spectacle of a learned person and a stranger to those whom he attacks employing the weapons at disposal in the manner of your correspondent is at once unseemly and by no means common. With your leave I will make my meaning plainer.

Since "W." is a trained lawyer—his acquaintance with the sayings of the eminent deceased Shaw and the eminent living Cooley for bids a contrary assumption—since "W." is a legal expert, how came he to lead your readers to understand (as they must have understood from his letter) that an advocate's "privilege" means the right to say what he pleases without interference from the court, when in truth it means no more than his immunity from actions in respect of words uttered by him in the performance of his duty? "W." must know that the Courts of Western countries can and do control the liberty of speech in counsel, and are prompt to suppress the scandalous and the irrelevant whenever it appears: yet modesty or some other cause forbids him to parade his knowledge. It has never been said that Mr. Takahashi laid himself open to an action, but it is suggested that the Court should have interrupted him or expressed its disapproval of his conduct, and this suggestion "W." has made no fair attempt to meet.

"W." proceeds to say: "His (counsel's) charge, in a nutshell, was that according to rumour the plaintiffs knew they had no case and had brought the suit merely to satisfy the Bank's insistence." What the charge is in a nutshell—compressed that is to say by the removal of the more offensive portions—I shall not trouble to consider. In its original form it affirmed the existence of rumours as to the object of the suit, which rumours were to the effect that some other business in which the plaintiffs were engaged had come to an unpleasant issue, that their creditors pressed for immediate

payment of a debt, and that the plaintiffs for the purpose of excusing themselves and gaining time alleged that they had incurred a very heavy loss through Chinese. The first two rumours directly affect the credit of the plaintiffs, while the third conveys a distinct imputation on their honesty—that they alleged a loss through Chinese, not because they had in fact suffered it but in order to stay the demands of their creditors. Compare this result with the contents of the nutshell and the difference between them is painfully apparent, while "W.'s" argument which assumes their identity seems to lose the main part of its force and all its title to respect. The moral responsibility of counsel for his statement, I shall leave to his conscience and to "W.," merely noting that it was open to him to ascertain the truth or falsity of the rumours from the creditors, that is to say, if "W.'s" synonym be correct, from "The Bank."

I trust that I have made it clear that "the bitter denunciation of the Japanese Court" by Messrs. Mourlyan, Heilmann & Co., or in less pointed but more accurate language the appeal of that firm to the judgment of the public, was based on a fuller recollection of the charges made by counsel and a more accurate acquaintance with the principles which prevail in the Western world than your correspondent "W." cares to display in your columns.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
December 6th 1892.

A STORY FOR MR. INOUE KAKUGORO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR MR.,—I have read your writing about what Mr. Inoue Kakugoro said respecting my country and I want you to put what I think about it in Japanese.

I think this.

I think I should like to tell Mr. Inoue Kakugoro a story which we in Corea used to often tell to children: and which we now tell to grown men. Once in Corea there was a big yard. And the yard was full of bones. And in the yard there were the houses of two dogs. And one dog was a yellow dog and the other dog was a white dog. And they were both male dogs. Also there was a female dog. It was small and it was mangy and its dog-house was dirty: but it was a female dog and in the dog house were bones.

Now near by there lived another dog: and it was large and black and had teeth a finger long and its dog house had two doors. And the back side door led into the court yard. But the back side door was very often shut. And then the black dog went by the front side door and got bones in other courts, and then the white dog and the yellow dog had many bones. And the dog house of the black dog was near by the dog house of the female dog. Now it chanced that the white dog and yellow dog quarrelled and fought about the female dog. And this is the reason they made one against the other.

The yellow dog said: I will protect her against her enemies.

The white dog said: I will save her from false friends.

The yellow dog said: My grandfather was her grandfather's first cousin.

The white dog said: My grandfather eat hers up.

The yellow dog said: I taught her to bark.

The white dog said: I will teach you I can bite. This is what they said in the court. Also they growled much.

And the female dog sat in her dog house and he saw a chink in the wall and through the chink he saw the female dog and he spoke and said; Female dog do you like noise!

And the female dog said: No, for I like quiet and bones.

And the black dog said: But they will take your bones and your dog house.

Therefore I will protect you. But the doors is shut and I cannot come.

And the female dog said: Let us make the chink large and wide.

And so they did.

And outside the noise of barking and growling was great: and inside the black dog and the female dog bit and tore till the chink was large. And when the battle outside was over there was the black dog in the female dog's dog house.

And the yellow dog and the white dog were sick and sore; and they could fight no longer.

And so the female dog sat quiet and her dog house was made clean and there were always bones in it.

But now the black dog could always come into the court for when his door was shut the female dog's door was open: and before there were but

three dogs to eat the bones and now there were four. But the black dog grew strong and fat. And in the end there was only one dog that E. eat the bones.

[We print the above exactly as it has reached us. Our correspondent can scarcely expect us to translate his remarks into Japanese.—Ed. J.M.]

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the review of the religious press which appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 3rd inst., reference is made to a letter to the editor of the *Rikugo Zasshi* which is described as "indorsing Mr. Asada's view" (see *Mail* of Nov. 5th, p. 557) regarding a revision of the Japanese version of the Bible. As the writer of that letter, may I be allowed to say that I did not intend to indorse Mr. Asada's views—certainly not in matters of detail. My object in writing was to point out that Mr. Asada was wrong in his statement that the Japanese Version was based upon the Authorized English Version and not upon the Greek Text, and that a considerable share of his criticisms were directed against features for which the translators were not responsible, as they grew out of the rules of the Bible Societies which bore the expense of the work. Possibly, a more liberal interpretation of those rules might have passed without censure; but the committees in charge did not feel at liberty to go farther in the direction desired by Mr. Asada. It is true, I expressed my hearty sympathy with his desire to see a translation of the Bible which should be the product of Japanese scholarship; but I suppose all friends of Japan may unite in that desire without any necessary disparagement of the present version, beyond what is involved in the acknowledgment that it was not prepared by Japanese. Macaulay has said that no one has ever written anything deserving a place of the first rank in literature in a language which he did not acquire so early as to have forgotten the trouble which it cost him to learn it. No Japanese version can have a place in Japan corresponding to that which King James' version has won in English literature, which is not the fruit of Japanese labour. In saying this, I am not unaware of the great amount of time bestowed upon the present version by Japanese gentlemen of high literary attainments; they were, however, more or less hampered by the fact that the full responsibility did not rest with them. It was my privilege to spend six of the best years of my life as a member of the Committee for the translation of the New Testament, and I have had something to do with the care of the text ever since. For this reason, I explicitly disclaimed in my letter any purpose to engage in a discussion of the merits of the present version, though I may perhaps be permitted to say here that a very considerable proportion of the criticisms submitted to a revising committee appointed about a year ago were based upon a very mistaken conception of the Japanese idiom.

There are already several Japanese of high attainments in Biblical scholarship, but such scholarship is not the only requisite. It is by no means certain that there will be, for several years to come, a sufficient number of Japanese of good Biblical scholarship, who enjoy also a recognized standing in the literary world, to render the formation of a new translating committee expedient. Such a committee would also involve large expense. Without foreign help this expense could not at present be met, and the aid of the Bible societies under their present rules could only be secured by such concessions regarding the text as a Japanese committee might justly hesitate to make. Taking all this into consideration, it does not appear that the day for a new version is so near at hand as to render new editions of the present version inexpedient. In preparing for the edition in the Roman letter, the revision already referred to was undertaken. This revision occupied much time and earnest thought, and the new edition was carried through the press by a special committee, who bestowed upon it the most painstaking care. It presents in the best form yet attained, a version which, though prepared by foreigners, has had the benefit of the suggestions of several widely respected Japanese scholars, and has won a place in the estimation of the Christians of Japan far beyond the best hopes of the translators.

I remain, yours, &c.,

THE "RIKUGO ZASSHI'S" CORRESPONDENT.

Tokyo, December 7th, 1892.

THE OPENING EXERCISES OF THE TOHOKU GAKUIN AT SENDAI.

The formal opening of this school took place on November 19th. The school began its existence some six years ago in a very small way under the joint labours of the missionaries of the Reformed Church and the Rev. M. Oshikawa. But from the first, in spite of severe disappointments, there has been an unwavering conviction on the part of the teachers that the school would succeed. It has steadily increased its force of teachers, foreign and native, until the faculty now has three Japanese who have studied abroad, three foreigners, and eight others. The students number about one hundred and seventy-five. The course of study has been gradually extended and raised, until now the regular course covers seven years, and the theological three more. The school is situated in the centre of the city on the broadest avenue, and its new brick recitation-hall is by far the finest piece of architecture in the city. The decorations that were put up by the students in honour of the opening were a fine advertisement of what was going on. The gateway, trees, and buildings were well covered with the usual signs of festivity, and what the students failed to express in the ordinary free use of red lanterns, evergreens, flags, &c., was left to take shape in a huge telescope made of U.S. flour-barrels set up on the tower of the building. The main hall was filled to overflowing, all departments of the city being well represented. Civil and military officials as well as the faculties of the various schools were present.

Being a school with distinctly Christian principles, the exercises were of a positively religious character. There were no evasion of this, and at the same time there was no offensive insistence on it. The spirit of patriotism was accorded a most generous place, especially in the address of Mr. Hoy, the Vice-Principal, who gave a very touching history of the school, and then spoke with deep feeling and eloquence of the purpose of the faculty to give the students a well rounded education, one that should neglect no side of a young man's well being, and one that should especially fit him for Japanese citizenship in this transition period of the nation. Next came the address of Principal Ishikawa. No one who knows this man's history—how bitterly he was persecuted as a Christian years ago in Niigata, so that even an attempt was made to assassinate him on the street one night, which attempt resulted in the murder of the wrong man—can wonder at the power he has over his audiences whenever his subject touches upon the religion to which he has absolutely given his life. All the intense earnestness of his nature came out in his explanation of the principles that have influenced his choice of Christian education as his life-work. The motto over his desk, *Kei Shin Ai Jin*, gave him his starting-point. *Reverence God, Love Man*, shows at once the trend of an eastern mind in selecting the more impressive word *Reverence* for God, while a western speaker would almost inevitably have taken the form that permeates literature—*Love God, Love Man*. *Reverence* is, in the East, the bond of all witness, as *Love* is in the West. The weight of his speech, so far as it was religious, was on the word *Kami*, one of the vaguest in the vocabulary of Japan. But in Mr. Oshikawa's mind, it became a most vivid and exalted conception, illustrated by science, æsthetics, philosophy, and illumined by the exceptional character of his own profound experiences, and so was made to stand out as a living reality before the minds of his hearers. Turning to Education as based on faith in such a God, he called attention, in the same lofty style of language, to the other two mottoes which adorned the walls on the right and left, *Humanity and Divinity*, and *Talent, Virtue, Wisdom, Knowledge*.

This was followed by Mayor Endo, who modestly expressed his inability to speak after an orator like Mr. Oshikawa. With a few appropriate remarks and congratulations the Mayor sat down.

The Governor, Mr. Funakoshi, very kindly sent a letter of regret that he was detained by official business from accepting the invitation which had been extended to him. He took pains also to send his congratulations to the teachers, both foreign and native on the prospects before them.

Three cheers for the Emperor in the usual formula, *Tennō Heika Banzai*, were given by the guests within, and these were followed by three more from the students without.

The addresses fitted into the occasion with rare appropriateness. Liberty was not sacrificed to formality, yet everything was done impressively. All concerned are to be congratulated. A school with a faculty of such men must succeed.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular monthly meeting of the above mentioned Society was held on Friday, Dec. 2nd, at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku-Kiokai) Nishi-konyacho, Kiobashi, Tokyo, beginning at 5 p.m., Dr. E. Divers, F.R.S., &c., in the Chair.

Viscount C. Hori, G. Bigot, and K. T. Takahashi were unanimously elected members of the Society.

Mr. T. Tanaka was called on to report on the "Re-touching Solution" that was mentioned in the report of the last meeting. He reported very favourably, stating that he found it the best medium that he had, so far, used.

Mr. Kajima Sebi showed some very effective prints of sunset views, and an enormous camera for taking direct negatives on plates measuring 42 x 36 inches.

Pinhole photographs were shown by Mr. Favre-Brandt, Mr. Tanaka, and Messrs. W. K. Burton and K. Arito. These were of various sizes, varying from about 8 x 6 inches to 18 x 12. Some were remarkably good, showing, in the general opinion of these present, all the definition that was necessary for pictorial effect. Some members considered the effects better than these of photographs taken with lenses.

Mr. K. Arito showed a set of prints of Konodai on plane paper toned with platinum. The prints were made by the process described in the report of the annual meeting for 1891.

Mr. K. Ogura showed a set of excellent and most interesting photographs of the recent military manoeuvres.

Messrs. W. K. Burton and K. Arito showed the results of a set of experiments with plates stained with picric acid neutralized with ammonia (presumably really picrate of ammonium) to prevent halation. Mr. Burton had, some years ago, tried the effect of staining films with various dyes to prevent halation, but had not been very successful. As a rule, if halation were prevented, the plate was very much slowed, or there was great difficulty in getting density. With picric acid this was not so. The sensitiveness was somewhat reduced, but not much, whilst, so far as density was concerned, the difficulty had, up to the present, been that too great density had to be been got in every case. The picrate did not seem so much actually to slow the plate as to act as a retarder in development. This necessitated a developer strong in alkali and, even with very small proportions of pyro. or of eikonogen, the density came up too great. Doubtless farther experiments would lead to the discovery of a remedy. The next were to be made with plates coated with emulsion with which picric acid (or picrate of ammonium) had been mixed. Both halation and solarization were completely prevented.

Several hundred lantern slides were shown on the screen, and it was decided to hold a lantern evening in Yokohama at an early date.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

Chicago, November 11th.

Rev. William Elliot Griffiths, D.D., has resigned the pastorate of the Shawmut Congregational Church, of Boston, after a faithful service of more than six years. He has been honoured with the appointment for this year to the Dudgeon Lecture-ship at Harvard College. This was founded in 1751 by Chief Justice Paul Dudley, of Massachusetts; and the books making the series of Dudgeon lectures form one of the standard productions of the University. Dr. Griffiths' lecture, to be delivered in the chapel of Harvard College, will be on the subject, "The Validity of Non-Episcopal Ordination."

Rev. J. Batchelor's book, "The Ainu of Japan," is published by Fleming H. Revell Co. of this city.

It is reported here that the Canadian Pacific Railway is arranging to place two more steamers on the route from Vancouver to Yokohama.

A newspaper item has had considerable circulation to the effect that the Emperor of Japan "will visit Europe next year, and may be induced to extend his journey to the United States." Is there any truth in the statement?

The Japanese in Chicago gave evidence that they have not lost the *Yamato-damashii*, when they duly celebrated the Emperor's birthday on the 3rd inst. The Japanese workmen, about 25 in number, in the World's Fair grounds, struck work about three o'clock, and, repairing to their lodging place, had an appropriate celebration. In the

evening World's Fair Commissioner Teijima, at his residence near the grounds, entertained a number of the Japanese residents of this city and vicinity. There are about twenty Japanese who may be called permanent residents; and there are about thirty more who are here in connection with the World's Columbian Exposition.

This city is also favoured just now with a chrysanthemum show, which, though it cannot compare with those of Dangozaka, is yet very beautiful. The *Inter-Ocean* says of it:—

Some one has declared that the best illustration of the doctrine of evolution to present to a delicate and sensitive mind is the chrysanthemum, the golden flower evolved from the modest bloom springing from the sacred mountain's base in fair Japan into the glorious perfection exhibited in the Second Regiment Armory yesterday.

Palms, orchids, roses, and other flowers and plants add to the beauty of the exhibition.

Rev. S. Vishner Karmarkar, of Bombay, has been addressing various audiences in this city on the phases of Christian work in India. He is "a high caste Brahmin," and "speaks the English language fluently."

Mr. W. E. Giles, a special agent of the World's Fair in the Western Pacific islands, lost his life Sept. 12th near Loma Loma. He and his wife and two children left Loma Loma in a small boat to reach a steamer, and in a squall all were drowned.

The separate building for the department of liberal arts will stand between the German and the French headquarters in the Northern part of the grounds. It will be irregular in shape, it will contain about 160,000 square feet of ground floor with about 40,000 square feet in a gallery. It will cost \$150,000.

While the Exposition is open, there will be on the grounds twenty-five restaurants, each to accommodate 1,000 persons. The service will be of three grades; the first-class, the ordinary, and the lunch counter.

The W.C.T.U. Convention was held this year in Denver, and will undoubtedly be fully reported by your correspondent at that place. It suffices here to say, that Lady Henry Somerset, of England, was present, and that Miss Frances E. Willard was once more elected President.

THE PRESIDENT'S GRATITUDE.

Washington, November and. The President to-day requested the publication of the following card:

The expressions of sympathy with me and our family in our great sorrow, from individuals, from societies, from church conventions, from public meetings, from political clubs and committees of all parties, have been so tender and so full of respect and love for Mrs. Harrison that I reluctantly abandon the purpose of making a personal acknowledgment of each. We are grateful, very grateful, for this great cup of good will and for your prayerful intercessions. May God give to each of you in every trial that grace and strength which you have asked for us.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

The President has issued his annual proclamation of a day of thanksgiving on the last Thursday (24th) of this month.

Lieutenant Frederick Schiwaika, the Arctic explorer, died suddenly, November 2nd, at Portland, Oregon, from an overdose of laudanum.

Private Iams, the Pennsylvania National Guard, won great notoriety at the time of the Homestead troubles by cheering when the news was received of the attack on H. C. Frick. For that offence he was ordered to be strung up by the thumbs, stripped of his uniform, and drummed out of the militia. Afterwards he brought a suit before a Pittsburg justice of the peace against the officers of the militia for assault and battery. On the 5th inst., the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty.

The Briggs trial began in the New York Presbytery day before yesterday, but has not yet reached any important developments.

During the evening of the 7th inst. a cold wave, which in the north-west became a blizzard, struck the country, and made the election day sharp and cold; but it did not seem to be able to keep many from exercising the franchise.

The political campaign ended in a surprise to all parties. The sweeping Democratic victory was as unexpected to the victors as to the vanquished. Both parties had, of course, made big and boastful claims, but could not base their calculations on positive knowledge. The secret Australian ballot was an important factor in creating uncertainty and in making a pure and honest vote. It was a campaign of calm deliberation and careful weighing of the issues, and resulted in a glorious victory for the Democratic party and the cause of tariff reform. It showed that the thoughtful voters were not frightened by the bugaboo of wild-cat currency, or by the possibility of free coinage of silver, or by the "Solid South." The silver question was not an issue except with the People's Party, which, however, polled a large vote; the Prohibition Party did not play much part in the election, though it may have increased its popular vote. The tariff question was the dominant issue on which the campaign was fought.

It was known the morning after election, that Cleveland and Stevenson were surely elected; but it is not yet known exactly how the electoral vote

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

will stand. It is slow work counting the large and complex ballots, especially when so many persons declined to vote a straight ticket. In this ward, for instance, about 500 voters, like your correspondent, supported the Democratic candidates for State and county officers. Even the unofficial returns will, in some cases, be needed to settle disputed claims. There is still a little doubt about some of the electoral votes. North Dakota, for instance, is very close, with the chances in favour of the Fusion electors; and even McKinley's State of Ohio, if it goes Republican, will not give Harrison much more than 1,000 majority. The following table, giving North Dakota to Weaver and Ohio to Harrison, represents fairly the present condition of affairs:—

State.	Whole No. of votes.	Harrison.	Cleveland.	Weaver.
Alabama	11	11	11	11
Arkansas	11	11	11	11
California	9	9	9	9
Colorado	11	11	11	11
Connecticut	6	6	6	6
Delaware	5	5	5	5
Florida	4	4	4	4
Georgia	13	13	13	13
Idaho	5	5	5	5
Illinois	24	24	24	24
Indiana	15	15	15	15
Iowa	15	15	15	15
Kansas	10	10	10	10
Kentucky	13	13	13	13
Louisiana	8	8	8	8
Maine	6	6	6	6
Maryland	8	8	8	8
Massachusetts	15	15	15	15
Michigan	14	14	14	14
Minnesota	9	9	9	9
Mississippi	9	9	9	9
Missouri	17	17	17	17
Montana	5	5	5	5
Nebraska	8	8	8	8
Nevada	3	3	3	3
New Hampshire	4	4	4	4
New Jersey	10	10	10	10
New York	56	56	56	56
North Carolina	12	12	12	12
North Dakota	3	3	3	3
Ohio	25	25	25	25
Oregon	4	4	4	4
Pennsylvania	34	34	34	34
Rhode Island	4	4	4	4
South Carolina	9	9	9	9
South Dakota	4	4	4	4
Tennessee	18	18	18	18
Texas	15	15	15	15
Vermont	4	4	4	4
Virginia	12	12	12	12
Washington	4	4	4	4
West Virginia	6	6	6	6
Wisconsin	12	12	12	12
Wyoming	3	3	3	3
Total	444	444	444	444
Necessary to a choice, 212.				

The Republicans will lose a number of votes in the Senate, and thus pass into the position of a minority. In California, New York, Wisconsin, and New Jersey a Republican will be replaced by a Democrat; in Montana and Nevada, and perhaps in North Dakota by a Populist. In the Senate of the next Congress the Populists will have at least five, the Republicans probably forty, and the Democrats forty-three. This gives the Democrats a plurality, but not a majority, and puts the balance of power in the hands of the Peoples' Party.

In the new House of Representatives the Democrats will have a plurality of about 70, and a majority of about 80. Many districts are so close as to be yet in doubt; but the *Chicago Tribune*, a Republican newspaper, printed this morning a table of 217 Democrats, 127 Republicans and 11 Populists. In Arkansas, Hugh Downs, ex-Minister to Korea, was elected on a small margin; in California, the notorious anti-Chinese champion, was re-elected; in Georgia Speaker Crisp was re-elected; the "objector," W. S. Holman, is returned again from Indiana; "Socksless" Jessy Simpson, of Kansas, has another term; from New Hampshire comes ex-Senator Henry W. Blair; in New York, Bourke Cochran was re-elected; here and there valuable members, both Republican and Democratic, were re-elected. In the present Congress the Democratic majority has been too unwieldy; in the next Congress it will be somewhat less, but perhaps more easily controlled. It is to be hoped, therefore, that more will be accomplished in the line of necessary legislation.

With a few words about the State elections, this letter must close to catch the mail. In Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Wisconsin the Democrats elected Governors: in Massachusetts Governor Russell was the only successful candidate on the Democratic State ticket. In Nebraska, to the surprise of all, Crouse, Republican, beat Van Wyke, Populist, for Governor. In Colorado, North Dakota, Nevada, and, perhaps, Idaho and Montana, the Populists elected Governors. In the other States the election went about as was expected.

It is said that Mrs. Harrison, knowing that she had not long to live, expressed a wish that she might live till after the election, because she had confidence that the people would honour her husband with a re-election. In view of the result, it seems providential that she was spared the bitter disappointment of her cherished hopes.

MOUNTAINEERING IN THE JAPANESE ALPS.

By WALTER WESTON, M.A., F.R.G.S., ENGLISH CHAPLAIN, KOBE.

(CONCLUDED).

After half an hour's stay on the summit, we are reminded of the fact that we still have a long descent to make before reaching the cave at which we intend to pass the night, and at 4 p.m. the journey is begun. Coming down, the loose stones on the flank of the mountain are anything but pleasant, and need a good deal of deliberation to avoid tumbles and sprains, but once on the snow glorious glissades are possible, though in these the guides decline to share, their *wajiri* here being worse than useless, and the descent is made by them on the broken ridges above the slopes of snow.

Just before nightfall—at 6.30, for daylight dies young in these valleys overshadowed by the steep heights on either hand—the *Akasaka no iwagoya* is reached. The coolie has just returned with the supplies for which he had been sent to the lower camp, and we proceed to enjoy our well-earned food and rest. Soon a cheery fire is blazing and when our meal is over we turn in, our beds consisting of a few leaves and ferns underneath our shawls and sleeping bag sheets, whilst for pillow a rucksack and a camera suffice. Under the lee of the great wedge of rock we are well sheltered. The place has been a little improved since last year, and with an umbrella at our heads to keep off the night breeze that pierces a crevice at that end and a fire at our feet, we sleep the sleep of the satisfied.

The following day, leaving the cave at 6.15, we passed down the valley to Yokodani in three hours, picked up the rest of our baggage, and crossed the Tokugotoge to Shimajima, the little dog our guides had with them on the way, securing, after a sharp tussle, a yellow marten near the summit of the pass on the western side.

The distance from the cave to Shimajima is reckoned by the bear hunters at not quite 12 *ri* (30 miles), and it was only after a race against time from the top of the *toge* that we just managed to reach our inn by night fall (6.50 p.m.), our porters bringing in their baggage an hour or so later on.

From Shimajima—one of the most delightful of mountain retreats in which to spend a quiet "off-day" after a long expedition—a good road takes one into Matsumoto, one of the largest towns in the great and fertile province of Shinshu. This side of the range exhibits the greatest contrast to the solitudes of Hida on the West. The latter province, which covers an area of 268 square *ri* (about 1,606 square miles) has only a population of 113,485 people; comparatively little of the land is cultivated, the chief sources of livelihood being silk-worm breeding and timber cutting.

On the other hand, Shinshu, with an area of 5,088 square miles, supports a population of 1,095,998, and presents an aspect of prosperity and cultivation of the most general character.

To the north east of the town of Matsumoto, on the western outskirts of the hills over which the road to Karuizawa crosses, stands the little village of Asama, celebrated in all the country round for its hot springs, which make it the Miyanoshiita of the province of Shinshu.

After our ride from Shimajima, to which *jinrikisha* had been sent by a messenger despatched to Matsumoto for them, we found the latter place extremely close and hot, for we had lately been spending so much time at higher elevations that the change was very noticeable.

Accordingly, a visit was paid to the baths in question where, at Ume no Yu—a spacious bath-house inn of unusual size and comfort—we had a delightful experience. Private bath-rooms, some twice or thrice the size of the well known ones at the Fujiya Hotel at Miyanoshiita, supplied with every convenience, proved a genuine boon after our somewhat rough and tumble experiences of the past fortnight in the solitudes of Hida.

The water is said to be efficacious in no less than 28 specific diseases, the list I was presented with beginning with brain-disease and ending with paralysis.

At Matsumoto I had to part with my genial fellow traveller whose cheery companionship had helped to make our Hida trip so enjoyable, and whilst he went eastwards, I struck out due south, having as my object the first ascent of Akaishi-san, one of the highest peaks of the great range between the well known rivers Tenriugawa and Fujikawa. Owing to its position, the lofty ridge of which it forms the culminating point is scarcely seen from the ordinary beaten tracks, and in order to obtain a view of it one needs to stand on some

height overlooking the intervening ranges which shut it out.

A native carriage was chartered for my baggage, my own person, and that of the ever obliging young landlord of the Shinanoya inn, at which both last year and this I have found the greatest attention. On the occasion of my first visit he was indefatigable in his efforts at furthering our plans, and now he proved no less solicitous to do the same. Indeed, he volunteered to accompany me as far as I wished on my expedition, and his ever-ready help made the journey all the pleasanter. And so behold the *basha* rattling down the street leading out of Matsumoto at the southern end of the town, as we turn our backs on the great mountains which for a fortnight past have afforded so much enjoyment. A ride of 2½ hours along a good road over the Matsumoto plain brings us to Shiwojiri, and in 40 minutes more we are on the summit of the pass of that name, the well-made *shindo* (new road) taking a turn to the south-east from the village as it mounts the hills, and crosses them at an altitude of 2,800 feet.

A long but gradual descent soon takes us into the broad valley of the Tenriugawa whose swift current is approached shortly after passing through the village of Miyaki. An hour more and we reach Matsushima, here bidding a glad good-bye to the "jaunting car" a day's jolting in which—as a Scotch friend remarked of a *jinrikisha* ride over a very cobbly road—though it may be "a grand thing for the liver, is uncommonly bad for the trousers." From Matsushima Takato, our halting place for the night, a nearly level walk of 8½ miles took us across the valley, affording grand views of the summits of Komagatake of Koshiu in front, and the mountain of the same name in Shinshu on our right. On proceeding to the inn at Takato, to which we had been recommended, *de more Japonico*, we were refused admittance, and the same reception greeted us at a second. Finally, we sought the aid of the local policeman who succeeded in making our third attempt effectual. They had never had a foreigner here before, they said, and feared they could not hope to give satisfaction, but still they would try their best. Apparently they did, for the next morning when the bill was presented we were astonished to find that whilst supper, bed, and breakfast were charged at 25 *sen* each, we were called upon to pay 50 *sen* for a little carp and eel, which fish are by no means a rarity here. Takato, a busy, prosperous town of some 4,000 inhabitants, is picturesquely situated in the valley of the Mibukawa about 6 miles from the point of junction of that river with the Tenriugawa just below Ina on the Ina Kaido. This road is one of considerable importance, and from just below Shiwojiri runs for many miles nearly parallel with the Nakasendo which it has crosses at that village. It is, however, separated from it by the great mountain chain which also divides the Kiso-gawa from the Tenriugawa, and whose loftiest summit is the well-known Komagatake of Shinshu, highest of all the many mountains which bear that name. A grand expedition, taking one from the Nakasendo to the Inakaido, may be made over the summit of Komagatake (10,300 feet) from Agematsu to Ina, the views afforded being, from the central situation of the peak, of the most extensive and sublime description. The distance is estimated at a little over 12 *ri* (30 miles) and the climb involves an ascent of 7,500 feet on the west, and a descent of about 8,000 on the eastern side. The time taken, going steadily, is about 12 hours, though, as the expedition made by Mr. H. W. Belcher and myself last year was the first crossing by foreign travellers, we had no means of making any comparison in the matter of times.

Pleasant were the recollections that came crowding into one's memory as I left Takato on a gloriously clear morning, and looked back at the sharp peak for which, just at this time a year ago, my friend and I were starting. When on the top of the mountain then we were much attracted by the appearance of the great parallel range far beyond the broad valley of the Tenriugawa, and now the interest then aroused is stimulating one to make a closer acquaintance with these peaks of which but little is at present known.

Leaving Takato behind us, our route leads us high above the broad strong stream of the Mibukawa in whose company we keep for more than half the day. The most striking object in the landscape is the rugged form of the Koshiu Komagatake, which, though well seen from Takato itself, appears most to advantage at a point some 5 miles to the South, where the valley of the Kurokawa opens out on the left and discloses a magnificent prospect of the great precipices and ridges and the dark wooded lower slopes of the mountain. The ascent from this, the western side, should be an interesting expedition, but we were able to

gain very little information about it. Indeed, the ignorance of the people in this locality concerning its topography is surprising, and it was only by dint of the most minute and persistent enquiries that I was able by degrees to get any information of the mountain towards which our steps were bent. The character of the scenery in this neighbourhood is pretty without anything very striking to attract the attention when once Komagatake has fallen behind and is hidden from view by intervening lower ridges. At Ichinose (also called Entsuji) a halt was made for lunch, and a long wait was necessitated by the late arrival of the pack-horse we had chartered for our baggage, the load being, nevertheless, a very light one. Immediately on reaching the house which does duty for an inn—for few but the inhabitants of the valley use this road—we made arrangements with our host for a fresh horse to replace the one *en route* from Takao. The prospective transport, he said, would arrive *tadama*—a word which is popularly supposed to mean “immediately,” but as a matter of fact does mean, as has been pointed out already by a great authority on the language, any time between now and Christmas! In the present instance it had to be translated by 2½ hours, a disadvantage at a place where the swarms of flies were in excess of anything I ever beheld. The house at which we rested during this time was pleasingly deceptive in the matter of personal appearance. On entering, a dirty bare space with a large untidy room at the far end is all that is to be seen, but as a matter of fact there is a great deal more behind than appears at first sight, for, on turning to the right through a matless apartment, devoted, as most rooms in these parts are to the culture of silkworms, a lovely little guest room greets the traveller, and by its very neatness and coolness tempts him to rest an inordinate length of time. The mats are spotless, and the woodwork beautifully polished, in curious contrast to the front portion of the building. Nearly three hours had passed before we could move on, and when we did we found the walk lay up the close valley, narrowing at every few yards, into which the sun beats down fiercely with all the power of its early afternoon rays. Three miles out from Ichinose finds us at the head of the valley on the summit of the Ichinose-toge, 4,442 feet above sea-level; but not before I have had a narrow escape of making the quickest descent on record to the bed of the stream, down a nearly perpendicular bank thickly overgrown with thick bushes and young trees. For in this neighbourhood wild raspberries of great size grow in abundance, and their crimson fruit proves a constant temptation to stray from the pathway we are on.

From the summit of the pass the narrow road still goes due south, and as it has just left the source of the Mibugawa behind, so here it discovers the birthplace of the Kitairigawa (or Kashiogawa as it is sometimes called, from the name of the locality through which it flows) until, farther down, it joins the waters of the Koshibugawa on its way to swell the mighty torrent of the Tenriugawa itself. The path continues to descend through a shady forest of firs, maples, and *sawaya*, and as most of the few inhabitants of the valley gain their livelihood by working up the timber in various ways, saw mills form a large proportion of the erections one passes on the downward way. The character of the scenery now improves, and on the hill side about half down to Ichiba, a few scattered cottages under the name of Onnataka are worthy of notice by reason of a curious report about them. *On dit* that here *women* only are looked on as the heads of the households, whilst if any outside “Lord of creation” (what a misnomer here!) should have the temerity to aspire to the hand of one of these fair ladies, his life then is of but short duration. For though it is popularly supposed that the hen-pecked husband is in fair Japan a non-existent personage, or at any rate a *rara avis*, the reverse would seem to be the case here; since it is assuredly owing to the crushing weight of the burden of matrimonial life that these unfortunates come to such untimely ends.

Near Ichiba the scenery grows more picturesque as the valley opens out, and the pretty village with its cottages dotted about on either side of the broad river, here crossed by a long narrow bridge, at length greets our eyes. We had been recommended to the inn—doubtless the better of a poor pair—on the left bank of the stream, but owing to sickness in the house we could not be taken in, and had therefore to try the modest establishment just across the bridge, the Dai Manya by name. Here we were successful, and whilst waiting for the baggage to arrive I enjoyed the nightly luxury of a *furō*, than which nothing is more refreshing and soothing to the traveller when a good day's work has been done. As it was only six o'clock when we reached Ichiba I decided to wait for my own provisions rather than fall to on the native food with which my companion speedily

proceeded to regale himself. By about 8 p.m., however, no beast of burden had arrived, and the inner man began to assert its claims so persistently that I was obliged to called for *gosen* to satisfy its needs. Hour after hour still dragged on in weary expectation, until it at length appeared as if this Micawber-like state of waiting for “something to turn up” might go on indefinitely.

By midnight, therefore, as the baggage did not turn up, I turned in, *i.e.* turned over on the *futons*, on which I had for some five hours been already reclining, and went to sleep.

It is a fact of common experience that misery acquaints a man with strange bed-fellows, and this occasion was no exception to the rule, for how many of that domestic insect, which is always so much at home in the hostels of Japan, I fed with my own hand, though truly against my will, I should be afraid to say. How they fared I can not clearly tell, for though I may have been faint through want of sustenance, they certainly had no cause for complaint. However, it was the first time they had been out to dinner on foreign food, so one must make allowances for them, but I regret to state they made none whatever for me.

An early start next day was impossible, as it was not until 8.15 that the truant pack-horse and his laggard leader appeared on the scene. To account for the 12 hours delay, the latter explained that the former had become weak by the way, an excuse which could deceive no one, for on unloading the animal of its burden, it transpired that my share of it was only a small one, the would-be wily rustic having *en route* engaged for a mere trifle to carry on a still greater cargo for some one else, though I was to pay the full hire myself in addition to this extra charge.

The trick, however, failed of its object, and my friend was the loser by his cunning, since now I declined to pay more than a fair share, and not the whole of the hire, and the rest he was compelled to whistle for, or get it as he could.

A glorious morning made the walk on from Ichiba to Okawara, 2½ miles, very pleasant, and grandly did the rocky cliffs below the former village stand out as the Kashiogawa, down which we have been travelling, leaves us at the turn it takes westwards to join company with the Koshibugawa whose course we now have to follow almost up to its very source. A wide valley now opens out amongst the well-cultivated hills and on the lower slopes of these to the left, the pretty cottages and picturesque little temple of Okawara are perched in a sheltering grove of cryptomeria.

As we pass along the pathway leading up from the river bed to the village, the local belfry attracts our attention. This consist of a flat board of very hard wood, in shape like the ordinary notice-boards of the country, suspended underneath a narrow wooden roof, between two posts. When struck by a well wielded truncheon the board gives out a note which resounds far and wide as a call to the villagers to cease their labours and gather to the spot to hear the announcement it is desired to make. I was told that this was once quite a common object in country villages in former times, but that it is now very rarely met with except in the remotest parts.

And yet close by stands the largest and neatest village school I have seen for some time, a curious contrast with its foreign face side by side with this old relic of by-gone days.

A kindly welcome was accorded at the inn kept by Imai Takijiō, and though it was the first time he had been called on to cater for a foreign guest, yet so zealously did he, his family, and his domestics exert themselves that I fared more comfortably in this little out of the way hamlet than any where else during the whole of my trip. A chair and a desk were borrowed from the school, and every attention was shown that simple native courtesy could devise. So it was with an anticipation of genuine satisfaction that, when I had to say good bye for a couple of days or so, I was able to look forward to spending Sunday's quiet rest on my return to this hospitable inn.

We had been told at Ichiba that probably the local policeman of Okawara, one Hasegawa, would be able to give or gain information about Akaiishi San, and our expectations were not disappointed. For shortly, thanks to his intervention on our behalf, the very person we wanted arrived, a hunter, Morishita Takiya by name, who last year succeeded in reaching the summit of the peak in company with an official of the War Office who had been sent to carry out certain surveying operations in this neighbourhood for which the height and position of Akaiishi-san were particularly favourable. Him we at once engaged, and as a companion for him one of his friends whom he at once went to seek. By the time we had finished preparations, the men were both ready, and we set out for a walk of six miles to the place at which we had been told we could spend the night. The path thither was a remarkably good one for

the most part, though here and there an awkward passage had to be made over the débris of recent landslips which had obliterated all traces of the road and carried destruction far down the mountain sides to the river below. Leaving Okawara behind, the character of the scenery soon changes, a magnificent wild gorge succeeding the bright open valley with its level fields and terraced slopes. The road winds round the forest-clad heights far above the great torrent of the Koshibugawa, and passes through the neat village of Kamasawa, on the side of a steep promontory where a lateral valley opens out on the left, 3½ miles from Okawara. Then comes a descent to the level of the stream, and a tributary torrent is crossed by a bridge, after which an almost equally steep ascent takes us up once more to a height of some hundreds of feet above the river. But at length we come to a full stop, as the path suddenly ends, dipping down to the edge of the torrent, and then disappearing in the most abrupt and unexpected way.

But just above the spot where the track loses itself, stands the curious establishment of which we had been told. This consists of a rough structure containing one big room downstairs and several smaller ones in the *nska*, these latter being for the accommodation of the country folk who occasionally resort hither for the sake of the sulphur water bath which gives this odd shanty its *raison d'être*. To enter the house one has to pass by the two baths which stand on a raised platform on the left underneath a wooden shed. One of these is artificially heated to a temperature of about 120°, whilst the other is left at its natural temperature of half that amount. The advantage of having the two side by side is very great, and nowhere have I enjoyed this kind of bathing more than at this queer out of the world spot at the bottom of this lonely glen.

How politely the old grey patriarch of 73 received me and apologized for all the roughness and dirt which he said, he knew would be so trying! With modest pride he presented me with a little packet of *yubana*, the solidified deposit of the mineral spring which to him was no doubt, the most wonderful thing in the world. With what alacrity he skipped about—activity astonishing in one of his years—to get ready the best room he had got, turning out, as I afterwards discovered to my regret, a party to whom he had previously given it. Never shall I forget the polite amazement with which he watched his first foreign guest prepare and despatch the evening meal. I have had many pleasant experiences of kindly civility in one part or another of this land of bows and smiles and pretty speeches, but never, either in or out of Japan, have I met with a truer gentleman than this poor, untutored rustic dwelling all his days in an out of the way valley which “Civilisation” in its onward march has not yet reached.

Half-past six on the following morning saw us on the march for Akaiishi-san and as the route thither first lay up the torrent bed of the impetuous Koshibugawa—which by the way, gives to the bath house here its name of Koshibu-no-Yu—our climb was almost a repetition of that to the foot of Yari-gatake a week before. It was, however, never possible to take to the banks, and the whole of the time we were in the bed of the torrent our way lay over its rounded slippery boulders. Occasionally we had a grand bit of real climbing when in some narrower part of the channel it was necessary to turn some great rock at the side that jutted far out into the stream and barred the way. But the coolies seemed hardly to appreciate this form of recreation and on the descent studiously avoided such spots wherever it was possible. On either hand the cliffs that hem in the torrent, wooded very nearly from base to summit, rise up so steeply as to only leave quite a narrow band of the clear blue sky, which shows in lovely contrast with the dark hues of the sombre sides of the ravine. At length, after 2½ hours, steady going, during which we had crossed and re-crossed the stream a score of times or more, we were able to call a halt at the point where we had to leave its course and take to the precipitous pine-clad slopes of the great spur thrown out on the western side of Akaiishi San. On the left a wide valley opens up, the birthplace of the Koshibugawa, which is here joined by the wild waters of a torrent hurrying down from the south western slopes of the mountain. The spot is known to the hunters as Hirokawa, and may fairly be considered as the *sumoto* of Akaiishi, the true base of the peak. Two hours' hard scramble through the pine forest on the spur, brought us close to the point of its junction with the main mass of the mountain, our course being till now due east. A hollow spot here, called *Funakubo*, in allusion to its supposed resemblance to a boat—proved a capital place for lunch, and on making a move again we began to work round to the north. A couple of hours over the bare loose reddish rocks of the western slope brought us to a place in the midst of a great stony wilderness where the coolies—or

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rather the one who was acting as "guide"—averred we should find water.

This, however, was a delusion, for none was to be seen, so, after depositing the baggage in a safe spot, we once more turned our faces eastwards and in an hour we were on the arête which runs from the summit of Akaishi nearly due north and forms part of the boundary between the provinces of Shinshu and Suruga, the latter of which here thrusts up a tongue like portion of its area between Koshu and Shinshu. This is bounded on the east by the great Shirane-san range, and on the west by that of which Akaishi is the highest point, whilst in it the head waters of the Oigawa (here known as the Tashiro-gawa) take their rise.

The climb up to the ridge, though not difficult, was somewhat tiresome, as the mountain path here is in a very bad state of repair, albeit as we safely arrived at the wished for goal it may be inferred that we left no stone unturned, both literally and figuratively, to secure success.

Once on the arête, another hour of ups and downs due south, brought us to its highest point, and so at 4 p.m., after not quite 10 hours' going, inclusive of halts, we were by the mark put up by the Rikugunshô official who was last year the first traveller to set foot on the summit. In fine weather a grand and extensive view must be gained here, but unfortunately the dark masses of gathering clouds and the commencing snow prevented us from seeing much of the distant landscape. Now and then, though, the dark curtain would be swept aside by the chilly wind and reveal just a glimpse of the neighbouring peaks of Shirane-san.

In the immediate foreground, looking eastwards, the view was unusually wild and grand.

The arête on the right plunges down most abruptly into lonely valleys, some of which are partly filled with snow, and care is needed as we tread the edge of the sharp ridge and turn an occasional corner, to avoid the most serious consequences. After spending an hour on the top, taking boiling-point observations and waiting vainly for a view, we turned to descend. The government survey gives the altitude of Akaishi-san as 10,147 feet which would appear to be about correct.

On arrival at the spot where the baggage had been deposited, the dark clouds now coming up swiftly from the south and the heavy rain-drops beginning to fall, warned us that no time was to be lost, and gathering up our goods we fled with all speed towards the head of a ravine down the north-east flank of the mountain where, the "guide" said, we should find water, wood, shelter. Quite suddenly, however, at about 6.30 a pall of black vapour swept up the valley and in a few minutes we were almost in darkness. Sending the two coolies on to deposit the baggage at the prospective bivouac and gather firewood, my Matsumoto companion and I followed more leisurely, for we were making the descent of the loose steep rocks of a dried-up water course, which, in the fading light, was most trying to my imperfect powers of vision. By and bye, however, we came down to a place where one of the coolies was engaged in clearing a space out of the dense patches of *haimatsu* on the edge of the torrent bed. "Where is the camping place?" We asked. "Why, here it is," was the reply.

"But the cave?"

"Oh, it's further down."

"How about the water, then?" I said.

"Well, the fact is the stream has dried up just here and water rises some distance lower down the ravine," said the coolie.

Preferring a little extra stumbling whilst one we were at it, with the prospect of a decent shelter, to a night spent out in the open and at a distance of I knew not how far from our water supply, I gave orders to move on, and by 7 o'clock or so, we were at the "grand cave" of which our "guide" had spoken in such admiring tones. I had not expected very much, it is true, but I must confess to somewhat of disappointed feelings when I found the shelter to consist merely of a couple of pieces of rock leaning against each other in such a way as to leave a space between them at the bottom of about 8 feet by 3, whilst as their upper ends did not meet there was nothing to hinder whatever the elements might bring in from above. However, I managed to stretch overhead a piece of oiled paper, meant to serve as a tent in case of need, so as to form a kind of roof. And just as this operation was finished down came the storm which had been brewing for some hours past. Whilst a thunderstorm is always a grand spectacle, it is nowhere so magnificent as among the mountains, as Byron has it:—

Far along,
From peak to peak, the rattling crags among,
Leaps the live thunder! Not from one lone cloud,
But every mountain now hath found a tongue,
And Jura answers, through her misty shroud,
Back to the joyous Alps, who call to her aloud!
(Childe Harold, C. III, ga.)

Though on this occasion the storm only lasted about half an hour, it was sufficiently severe for us in our scanty shelter, but soon the sky began to clear, and the stars looked out from above to answer the light of our campfire now beginning to blaze. Before turning in,—or rather, going to ground, I produced my revolver and fired a shot into space, much to the astonishment of the hunters who had never, they said, heard such a awful report as that which now echoed amongst the sides of the ravine. As a rule, their own old fashioned muskets, which much resemble an ancient horse-pistol with elongated barrel, emit a bang no more stunning than that of the penny pistol with its pink paper caps with which we struck terror into the hearts of very juvenile brothers and sisters in the days of our childhood. And on the present occasion it was ludicrous to note the extreme surprise of my companions. "I say, what a tremendous noise it makes!" exclaims one.

"Please Sir," says the other, "don't shoot again; it is too much, my ears won't stand it."

From the various reports given by the rest of our party the next morning, I am disposed to think that the night they passed was neither peaceful nor pleasant. For myself, however, I am able to do no more than remark, that having left flea infected *futons* in the valley far below, and judging by the fact that when I awoke at dawn my head was securely wrapped up in my mackintosh cape, the probabilities are that some portion of the night at least was passed in obliviousness to surrounding circumstances.

After the storm of the previous night a perfect morning greeted us as we made our way from our bivouac at 6 a.m. and climbed to the head of the ravine to rejoin our tracks of the day before. Not till we got well up on the west slope of the mountain did we realize the magnitude of the view which Akaishi San can give. Whilst the landscape on its eastern side was shut out by the intervening arête (and this must include the whole mountain mass of Koshu, with Fuji and the sea), the prospect westwards was grand. The long range of Komagatake (in Shinshu) stands out in the nearer foreground, whilst more to the north the whole chain of the Hida mountains, of which the sharp peak of Yaiigatake is the most striking feature, rises up in all the massive grandeur of its snow streaked ridges and its granite cliffs.

A quick descent through the cool scented shade of the forest of firs; a slow one over the boulders of the torrent, and shortly after one o'clock we are once more welcomed by the genial old custodian of the baths. And yet for all his trouble and attention he only wanted to charge us 4 *sen* apiece, and when pressed to take more was overwhelmed—sincerely, I believe—with gratitude. He told us that Hasegawa San, having grown anxious at our non-appearance in Okawara earlier in the day, had come up to the bath house to make enquiries about us. So when we arrived at the village later on, that worthy was relieved to find us safe and sound. Whilst in Okawara the landlord of the inn sent a messenger to a village some distance off for a curious stone which he thought I might be interested to see. It was about the size and shape of a turkey's egg, of a buff colour and quite smooth and round except on one side where a piece had been chipped off. From the frequent admiring references I heard made to this before I actually saw it, I judged it to be a great curiosity and wondered whatever it could be, since I was told that it had been discovered some time ago in the stomach of an *iwa shika*, a mountain antelope, the *chamois* of Japan.

That the animal had swallowed it I could scarcely believe, and yet it was certainly a puzzle to know how it had reached the creature's interior from without. It was not until I got back home and happened to be reading a chapter in Dr. Bonney's "Alpine Regions" that I obtained any clue to the mystery, but there I came across what is evidently the solution of it. On page 180 (chap. VI., Alpine Mammalia, &c.) I read as follows:—"Owing probably to the resin contained in so much of their food, and its fibrous character, a hard, dark coloured ball, from the size of a walnut to that of an egg, of a bitter taste, but pleasant odour, is often found in their stomachs. This is called 'Bezoar,' and it was anciently supposed to cure all evils, and be a protection even against musket-shots. A sceptical analyst, however, I fear, expelled it from the pharmacopœia."

Taking a regretful farewell of the kind-hearted people who had been my hosts with such good will, a sentiment of which I received a touching proof when the old lady of the house, on my leaving, proudly presented me with six potatoes, a real luxury when one can get so few fresh vegetables with one's food, we left to retrace our steps over the Ichinoze-toge to Takato. Spending another night there, we then crossed over the northern end of the Koshu range by the Kana-

zawa-toge from Midogaido to Kanazawa, on the summit being confronted with a glorious—almost startling view of Yatsu-ga-take, the "eight peaked mountain." From here I went down the Koshu Kaido in a *basha* to gain a little time. Externally the *basha* is a cross between an ambulance waggon and a prison van—certainly the feelings it is conducive of are not inappropriate to both these undesirable vehicles, and only those who have suffered a couple of days' torture in it can possibly realize the anguish of the most trying means of locomotion that this land of novelties can produce.

The road was in many places undergoing repair, i.e. at frequent intervals large portions of it were covered with boulders from the size of a football downwards, with the result that a good deal more of our route was walked than we had bargained for, with a corresponding loss of time. After the solitudes of the mountain valleys on the other side of the range, the busy traffic and bustling life on this great highway was a great change, but not a very pleasant one, although it had its diversions. One of these came on me in a curious way. Passing by a cottage which stood on a bank some 20 yards from the road, I was startled, almost horrified, at the sight of a human head lying, hair upwards, on a wooden table in front of the house. Whether it was a horrible reality or a native effort at reproducing the well known conjuring trick of Maskelyne and Cook I could not at first be sure. But at last as we drew closer, the truth dawned on me. It was the master of the house enjoying his hot bath in the cool of the afternoon, with the tub placed where he could unhampered watch what was going on before his cottage door.

A thunderstorm broke on us between Kôfu and Kajikazawa, though fortunately a roadside shelter was reached just in time to escape a drenching. Never have I seen more vivid forked lightning than on that afternoon ride. But the rain served us well, for after the drought of the previous weeks the torrent feeders of the Fujikawa had been somewhat impoverished, and now their volumes swelled so rapidly that the river itself was sensibly affected, and on our arrival at Kajikazawa it was prophesied that our journey down the rapids would be of more than average quickness.

At 4.30 a.m. on August 25th I said good-bye to my Matsumoto friend and embarked in the mail boat that was to take me down the river to the Tokaido at Iwabuchi. On the previous night I had been offered a private boat at \$2, though according to "Murray" the usual hire is \$4.50. However, as I knew the mail boat was obliged to be in Iwabuchi in time for the 12.7 up train to Tokyo *doka koka*, by hook or by crook, and having found on enquiry that the number of passengers would not be large, I preferred to book a seat in the same, for which I paid the sum of 35 *sen*, and did not regret the arrangement. Like the route I had travelled down the Koshu-kaido, the trip down the rapids of the Fujikawa is too well known to need description. The scenery, though by no means tame, is so much less striking than that of the Tenriugawa, the passage of which I made last year, that possibly I was insensibly led to underrate it. Perhaps the most curious type of a Japanese gentleman I have ever met was my next door neighbour in this mailboat. Long grey hair, carefully brushed over his head and neck, a fine almost white beard partly covering his chest, and cheeks as rosy and round as a peach in full bloom, all contributed to make a most interesting object for contemplation, and for once, in spite of the interesting surroundings through which we were passing, one here at least was constrained to drift by it heedless, though mindful of the poet's words that:—"The proper study of mankind is man." For his part my picturesque old friend seemed disposed to think otherwise, or at any rate only to give a partial acquiescence to that well-worn dictum. He appeared to hold that the proper study for him, at any rate, was the care of his moustache, for a large part of his spare time, when he was not engaged in eating or smoking, was spent in extracting, with a pair of forceps such as are used for drawing out splinters from the flesh, all stray hairs which a careful search detected in his upper lip. And I am bound to say that he did his work remarkably well, inasmuch as that part of his person was ultimately rendered as smooth as that of an infant.

So well did the sendoes work, and so strong was the current that in 6½ hours we were at Iwabuchi Station. Some of my fellow passengers whose hopes, raised high by the rate at which we had been travelling, were set on catching the 11.12 down train to Nagoya, however, had the mortification of seeing it just steaming out as we came gliding in.

"Well, and after all what is the good of this mountain climbing; isn't it all making a toil of pleasure?" is a question sometimes asked of those

whose favourite pastime it is. No better answer to such an enquiry can be given than to quote some remarks one made by one of the foremost pioneers of the Alps, Mr. E. Whymper, the well known conqueror of the Matterhorn and explorer of the great Andes of the equator. For, *mutatis mutandis*, those remarks have a similar force whether used with reference to the Alps of Switzerland or those of Japan. He tells us that the moral of mountaineering is this—that "it is the purest, healthiest, and manliest of all sports. And often, in grappling with every-day difficulties, sometimes in apparently hopeless tasks, encouragement has been found in the remembrance of hard-won victories over stubborn Alps. We who go mountain-scrambling have constantly set before us the superiority of fixed purpose or perseverance to brute force. They know that each height, each step, must be gained by patient labourious toil, and that wishing cannot take the place of working. They know the benefit of mutual aid, that many a difficulty must be encountered and many an obstacle must be grappled with or turned; but they know that 'where there is a will, there's a way,' and they come back to their daily occupations better fitted to fight the battle of life, and to overcome the obstacles which obstruct their paths, strengthened and cheered by the recollections of past labours, and by the memories of victories gained in other fields."

Of the mountains which well deserve the title of the Alps of Japan the traveller who penetrates within these charmed regions may rest assured that he will find man and his works conspicuous by their absence, for here

Beyond earth's voices there is peace.

Here he can wander and climb to his soul's content, holding communion, in all that is best and noblest in his being, with that nature which at every turn bears the impress of its great Creator's hand. For who can breathe the pure clear air of alpine heights and snows without feeling that there where he is drawn up into a nobler, better atmosphere, moral as well as material, his soul is being lifted up through nature into intercourse with nature's God?

And so the aspiration of the great Hebrew musician comes to have for him a two fold signification:

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills
from whence cometh my help.

As it has been intimated that in connection with the foregoing articles, some hints on travel in the higher mountain districts of Japan might be profitably added, a few suggestions are accordingly offered in the hope that they may be of use to those whose experience has not yet reached to the districts remote enough from the beaten tracks to need a little special care and preparation for travel of a rougher kind than an ordinary visitor is accustomed to.

With regard to the general question of outfit, etc., for mountain travellers and explorers, the most valuable information ever published is to be found in the "Report of the Special Committee on equipment for Mountaineers," in the Journal of the English Alpine Club for May 1892, (published by Longmans, Green and Co., London, price 2s.). Every department of the question is dealt with in the most thorough manner, and the hints, *mutatis mutandis*, will be found to be of equal use to the traveller in the Alps of Japan or those of Switzerland, or on the "Frosty Caucasus" itself.

Valuable suggestions also are to be found in the Introductory portion of Murray's "Handbook to Japan," too well-known to need recommendation, though less information in the mountain routes is given in the body of the present edition of the work than could be wished by those travellers who prefer the unbeaten tracks to the regular road.

With regard to dress, a Norfolk-jacket with plenty of pockets, and loose knickerbockers, of a strong grey flannel will be found serviceable, whilst for under-wear the lightest and thinnest woollen, or silk-and-woollen, vests and shirts are best, since there is less risk of getting a chill after being over heated and then cooling down. A light travelling maud is also useful during halts at high altitudes, or bivouacs in the open.

If *waraji* are worn, care should be taken to have the soles of the *tabi* much thicker than those used by the natives, otherwise the feet are likely to suffer. The *waraji* give a better foothold on smooth rocks than hob nailed boots, but the latter are best when ordinary walking is being done. The blue cotton gaiters called *kiya-han* afford much more protection to the legs than woollen stockings when a way has to be made through the rough undergrowth so often found on the lower slopes of the mountains.

For ordinary boots a supply of Pound's Water-proof grease is invaluable.

A sheet, made into a bag and capable of being tied at the top; a ring air cushion to put under the hip when sleeping on the ground; and a water-proof ground sheet, will be found useful when

nights are spent away from inns. In such cases a good substitute for a tent can be made by means of three large pieces of strong oiled paper.

One piece is A shaped by folding it over a line stretched between two uprights, and the other two are tied to it by strings fastened on the edges.

For carrying purpose, the native *kori* is most convenient for provisions, books, instruments, &c., and if two or more are taken, they should fit into each other in such a way that when one is emptied the other may be put into it and so lessen the bulk.

For clothes and soft things, however, the Swiss *ruck-sack* is far better than anything else in the way of knapsacks and similar contrivances.

They are sometimes made of Willesden canvas, but I have found a sort of water proof cloth better. They consist of an oblong bag, say, 24 inches by 20, fastened at the top by a cord which can be attached to a brass ring about two inches in diameter. On this ring are sewn two straps which go over the shoulders, and, passing under the armpits, are fastened to the lower corners of the bag so as to allow the weight to rest in the strongest part of the back, just above the loins, the position being regulated by ordinary buckles. This "sack" is much the most comfortable and convenient device of the kind and has only to be used to be appreciated. By fixing straps and buckles under the lower end of the bag a mackintosh, shawl, or coat may be carried with little extra trouble.

For carrying drinks a vulcanite bottle covered with thick felt may be strongly recommended. If the liquid is wanted hot, the felt covering will keep it warm for a long time, while if it is desired to have it cool the bottle should be dipped in cold water, the evaporation of which from the soaked felt will keep the contents cold.

Maps, note books, etc., should be wrapped in some thin waterproof material to preserve them in case of one's clothing getting wet on the march.

A railway reading lamp is a great boon when in country places where the native lamps are usually of a poor kind; and it is far more satisfactory also than the native *chôchin* when walking has to be done at night on strange roads or rocky hillsides.

The question of food is to most persons of considerable importance. A man who is able to subsist entirely on the scanty resources of an out of the way hamlet is a rarity, and even if he is able to it is a question whether it is wise to do so.

Sometimes, however, one may be cut off from all sources of supply for several days, and it is well to have as much as possible in concentrated forms. "Bovril" makes a capital soup, and where hot water for this cannot be got, Valentine's meat juice with a little cold water is a valuable stimulant.

Halford's carried fowl is very appetising at the end of a day's work, and De Jongh's cocoa is the most conveniently made, and perhaps the most easily digested, by those who care for that kind of drink. Some travellers carry cold tea on the march and consider it both stimulating and refreshing. This is best made with cold water, and not with hot water afterwards allowed to cool. Few people would believe the difference there is between the two until they have tried both. The ordinary quantity of tea should be used, but instead of standing 5 minutes or so it should stand for as many hours.

Where it can be taken, however, cold coffee is perhaps still more refreshing, and can be strongly recommended.

A handful of good prunes, raisins, or dates may be put into the pocket at the beginning of a climb, the last being especially sustaining as well as tasty during the walk. Rice can always be got where the dwellings of men are met with, sometimes fish, and often eggs. A few simple medicines for ordinary ailments will generally be carried, and it is possible to get most of such things put in the form of tablets.

Of these perhaps the most handy and suitable for the ordinary traveller are the compressed drugs prepared by Burroughs, Wellcome, & Co. of Snow-Hill Buildings, London, E.C., and made up into a small pocket case under the name of "The Alpine Case." This is recommended by Mr. Clinton Dent, formerly President of the Alpine Club, a well known physiologist and surgeon, as well as a celebrated mountaineer. This case only weighs 8 ozs., and costs 21/-; a somewhat larger and more complete thing of the same kind being the "Mountaineer's Case," weighing 1½ lbs., and costing 25s.

Where the use of simple remedies is properly understood, much gratitude is the sure result of a little kindly employment of them in cases here and there met with amongst rustic folks, who never see a doctor once in a life time, perhaps, and know little of proper treatment for their common ailments.

A few little trifles taken as presents often help to secure the goodwill of those on whose help one is often quite dependent. A pocket-knife or a small compass given to the hunter who acts as guide, a pair of scissors to an inn-keeper, or a doll to his

little daughter, cost but little, and may bring in what is, under the circumstances, a considerable return. Above all things, be as polite as you can in your way, as the natives are in theirs, and you will often find things work much more smoothly. One generally finds that on many of the highways of foreign travel in Japan, the manners of the inn-keepers, &c., are extremely objectionable. There may be other explanations, but one certainly is this:—The lack of politeness and courtesy too often shown by the foreign traveller himself, the repetition of which in succeeding instances comes at last to be reflected in the unmannerly behaviour of the native himself. Whilst ice-axe and rope can practically be dispensed with in the Alps of Japan, unlike those of Switzerland, a piece of stout line often comes in useful and so will a good Alpine walking-stick, such as is sold for about 25s. by Hill & Co. 4, Haymarket, or Hennig & Co., 25, Coventry St., Haymarket, London.

As it is often necessary to do one's own cooking, whether at the country inns or when bivouacking on the mountain side, some sort of canteen is essential. It should be as compact and as light as possible. After trying various kinds, the present writer has at last found one which answers the above requirements almost completely. It is made of strong block-tin, and consists of a sort of sauce pan, 6 inches square at the top and 5½ at the bottom, the depth being 4½ inches.

A double handle of strong iron wire, about 3/16th of an inch in thickness, is fixed at one of the corners, being made so as to fold flat with the sides when not in use. Inside this pan is another which fits closely, but can be taken out and replaced with readiness. Inside this again are four oblong boxes the lids of which overlap the bodies an inch or so, fitting as tightly as possible.

These can be used for tea, coffee, jam, condensed milk, or whatever may be needed for constant use. The cover of the whole forms a frying pan, having a folding handle at one corner, whilst at the bottom, and closely fitting on to it, are a couple of plates, though of course the number may be easily increased if wanted.

The weight of this canteen is about 3½ lbs., and with the addition of a couple each of enamelled iron cups, knives, forks, &c., meets the needs of two persons. Of course a spirit lamp must also be taken with it, though it can be used, if necessary, over a fire or *kibachi*. Supplies of spirits or wine are to be obtained at chemist's shops in such towns as Takayama, Matsumoto, Takato, and elsewhere. [At all these places milk also is obtainable, but must be ordered overnight.] One of the greatest annoyances from which there is rarely any escape in native houses, is the ubiquitous domestic flea. Sometimes Keating's "Insect Powder" will keep it off, unless it be unusually hungry and correspondingly reckless. A solution of Jeyes' fluid in water, when used for washing the hands, arms, and neck, is also often efficacious. Another source of trouble is the unpleasant odour common to all Japanese inns, though this may generally be overcome by the constant use of a solution of Jeyes' fluid, a concentrated and more portable form of which, however, is to be had under the name of Creoline. This solution is also good for washing scratches and cuts, which may be further treated to advantage with an ointment known as Lano-creoline.

The above suggestions, it is hardly necessary to remark, may be added to or modified according to individual preference, though as nearly every item enumerated has been tested by the present writer in practical experience on one or other of a number of journeys in the mountain districts off the beaten tracks in Japan, it is believed that they may be of some little help to those travellers who wish to undertake journeys of a similar kind.

None of the writer's country trips have been made in the company of the "guides" usually taken on the most popular routes, with the result that expenses have been correspondingly low. A good companion is most desirable, and if the traveller has not enough knowledge of the Japanese language to make himself understood, a trustworthy native servant who understands him will be found sufficient. This plan is strongly recommended by some of the most successful of the travellers in the interior known to the writer, though he has found that even the country people are as a rule intelligent that a very little Japanese generally goes a long way.

In conclusion, the all important question of expenses claims a word. These are, naturally, much less when one travels off instead of on the ordinary routes most frequented by foreigners. In the former case innkeepers usually charge from 15 to 40 or 50 sen for *katago* (supper, bed, and breakfast) though a *chadai* is of course expected in addition. In the latter, the almost invariable price is 75 sen, whether the native food is eaten or not. Of the heavier expenses are those of transportation

of baggage, and, where a jinrikisha is available, of the traveller's person. For these, the remarks in "Murray" should be studied, though, it may be pointed out, the prices actually paid will often depend upon the persuasive powers one can employ in that most trying of all situations—striking a bargain. In any case this should be done over night, loss of time, patience, and money being thereby avoided.

The cost of the trip from Kobe to Yokohama described in the above columns, exclusive of provisions, etc., not purchased *en route*, but inclusive of expenses of a Japanese friend who travelled with the writer for the last nine days, came to \$68.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 46.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to Kt 6 1—K to B 3, or K 3
2—Kt to K 7, or B 4, acc.
(double ch. and mate)
2—Q mates at Q 7, Kt 7, or Q 4, acc.
1—K to Q 3, K 5, or B 5

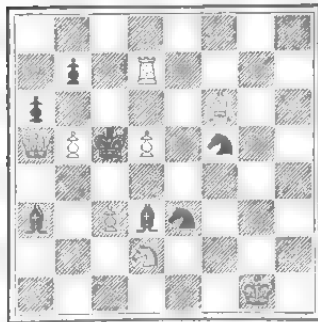
Correct solutions received from J.D., Omega, Scacchi, W.H.S., J.W.E., O. Balk, and Digamma. M.A.W.—B to K B 3 is Black's reply to your key-move.

Correct solution of No. 44 received from O. Balk.

By C. PLANCE.

PROBLEM No. 48.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

An unusually large chess match is on the tapis in England, the Northern counties having challenged the Southern counties. It is proposed to hold the meeting at Birmingham and to have fifty players on each side. We await further news with much interest.

In the City of London Chess Club the usual winter tournament is now in progress. There are no less than 140 players who have entered: "the list embraces the very cream of the Club, and the first class will include some of the very strongest metropolitan amateurs."

The new star Lasker, went over to New York at the end of September and is not expected to return to Europe before the beginning of 1893.

The following is one of the games recently played in the Master's tourney at Belfast (Ireland). We take the score and notes from the *British Chess Magazine*:—

ZUKERTORT'S OPENING.

White (Lee) Black (Blackburne)

- 1—Kt to K B 3 1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q 4 2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to B 4 3—P to K 3
4—Kt to B 3 4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3 5—Castles
6—B to Q 3 6—P to B 4

..... We should be disposed to agree with this most fully.

- 7—P to Q Kt 3 7—Kt to B 3
8—Kt to K 2 8—Q to B 2
9—Castles 9—R to Q sq.

..... On the principle of "Put your Rook in front of the opposing Queen no matter how many pieces intervene." Besides White's weak point is his Queen's pawn.

- 10—B to Kt 2 10—Kt to Q Kt 5
11—P to Q R 3 11—Kt x B

..... A most excellent exchange, which White should generally try to avoid, especially as after retaking, the Q remains unprotected at Q 3. In this case the loss of this B is felt severely later.

- 12—Q x Kt 12—P x B P
13—Q x P 13—P to Q Kt 3
14—Kt to K B 4 14—Kt to Q 4

- 15—Kt to Q 3 15—P x P
16—Q x Q 16—Kt x Q
17—Kt x P 17—B to R 3
18—K R to Q B sq. 18—Kt to Q 4
19—Kt to K 5 19—B to K B 3
20—Kt (Q 4) to B 6 20—R to Q 3
21—B to Q 4 21—B to Kt 2
22—R to Q B 2 22—B (B 3) x Kt
23—Kt x B 23—P to K B 3
24—Kt to K B 3 24—P to K 4
25—B to Kt 2 25—Q R to Q sq.
26—R to Q 2 26—K to B 2
27—Q R to Q sq. 27—K to K 3
28—K to B sq. 28—P to Q Kt 4
29—K to K sq. 29—Kt to Kt 3
30—R x R ch. 30—R x R
31—R x R ch. 31—K x R
32—K to K 2 32—B to Q 4

..... Here begins a fine specimen of end game play.
33—P to Q Kt 4 33—Kt to B 5
34—B to B sq. 34—B x Kt ch.
35—K x B
35 P x B, K to Q 4; 36 K to Q 5 is at all events not immediately worse.

- 36—K to K 2 35—K to Q 4
36—P to K 5
..... This is an important point (see last note).
37—P to R 3 37—P to B 4
38—K to Q sq. 38—P to Kt 3
39—K to B 2 39—Kt to K 4
40—B to Q 2 40—K to Q 6
41—P to B 4 41—P x P e.p.
42—P x P

Clearly Black wins by P x P f.e. K x Kt.

- 43—P to B 4 42—Kt to K 4
44—K to Q 3 43—Kt to B 5

It would be of no use to play B to B sq. and let the King walk in by way of his K 5.

..... Not at first sight so obviously advantageous as Kt x P, but see how it works out! A pretty ending to a well-played game. Lee fought well but was quite outplayed.

- 45—K x Kt 45—K to B 5
46—K to B 2 46—P to Q R 3
47—P to K R 4 47—P to K R 4
48—K to Q 2 48—K to Kt 6 and wins.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

London, December 2nd.

There is reason to believe that the report of the committee of the Monetary Conference will be against Rothschild's scheme of purchase of silver at a fixed price, and that the prospects of any practical outcome of the deliberations of the Conference are vanishing.

Mr. Clayton has been unseated for Hexham, his return having been found to have been obtained through illegal acts.

[Delayed in transmission.]

London, December 6th.

The Committee of the Monetary Conference has pronounced almost unitedly in favour of the gradual withdrawal of gold coin under twenty francs and small banknotes.

The *Times* considers that the Monetary Conference has already failed, and that a sharp fall in silver will probably ensue.

Mr. Jay Gould is dead.

M. Ribot is forming a new Cabinet, and will combine the Premiership with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

Later.

Rothschild has announced that he will withdraw the proposals he made at the Monetary Conference in view of the refusal of the American delegate's support.

Mr. Hill has introduced a bill in the Senate for the repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, December 4th.

The *Ravenna* has arrived safely at this port, and the damage through the late accident has been found to be confined to the bow forward

of the collision-bulkhead. There is a large hole above the water-line, and the stem below water is badly bent, but the collision-bulkhead remains intact, and no cargo has been damaged, local cargo only being discharged. No particulars in regard to the cause of the collision are obtainable, nor will these probably be made known until they come out at the enquiry.

Nagasaki, December 5th.

It has now been decided to discharge and land all the *Ravenna's* cargo, and dock the ship for repairs immediately.

Nagasaki, December 6th.

The *Ravenna* goes into dock here to-morrow. It is stated that the enquiry into the circumstances of the collision will probably be held in Yokohama.

FROM "EL COMERCIO."

Madrid, November 18th.

The King and Queen of Portugal, who have been attending the Columbus celebrations, returned to Lisbon to-day, after a commercial treaty had been concluded between Spain and Portugal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. V. K.	Saturday, Dec. 10th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Dec. 12th.*
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 25th.†
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 17th.‡
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 18th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Dec. 26th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Dec. 28th.
From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 31st.

* City of Peking left San Francisco on November 26th. † China left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 6th. ‡ Yarra (with English mail) left Shanghai on December 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 13th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 11th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 13th.
For Europe via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 18th.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 20th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 27th.
For Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 30th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 3rd December.—San Francisco 16th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 4th December.—Hongkong 25th November, Nagasaki 30th, and Kobe 2nd December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Flinthire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 4th December.—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Jamieson, 4th December.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Davis, 5th December.—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, J. R. Edwards, 7th December.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 16th November, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Bellona, German steamer, 1,674, Jaeger, 8th December.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 8th December.—Hongkong via ports, 30th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 8th December.—Hongkong 2nd December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 9th December.—Kobe 7th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Original from

DEPARTURES.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 4th December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Salasia, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 4th December.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Titan, British steamer, 1,525, Brown, 4th December.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 4th December.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 5th December.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 6th December.—Kobe.
Ese, British steamer, 1,308, Watson, 7th December.—Hongkong via Moji, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Worcester, British steamer, 1,894, Morice, 7th [11] December.—New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Freiburg, German ship, 1,895, Reitzenstein, 9th December.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 9th December.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 10th December.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Judge J. H. Boalt, Mrs. Boalt, Mr. A. Guilleaume, Mrs. Guilleaume, Mrs. S. Arnold, Mr. Lewis Morris, U.S.N., Rev. A. A. Bennett, Mrs. Bennett and infant, Chas. B. Bennett, Edwin T. Bennett, M. Elsie Bennett, Bertha F. Bennett, Albert A. Bennett, Harriet F. Bennett, Messrs. Chas. L. Drain, Chas. A. Taylor, Emma M. Lee, and Dr. H. Tripler in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. D. L. Bliss, Mrs. Bliss, Miss Hope L. Bliss, Mr. Chas. T. Bliss, Miss Ada E. Tobey, Mr. A. T. Holden, Rev. E. S. Bickford, Mr. Stuart M. Brumagim, Mrs. E. S. Flowers, Miss Maud Morgan, Mr. Jas. McWilliams, Miss Regina M. Bigler, M.D., Dr. J. C. Sundberg, and Mrs. Sundberg and infant in cabin. For Shanghai: Rev. A. Sydenstricker, Mrs. Sydenstricker, Edgar C. Sydenstricker, and Miss Alice M. Stanton in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Commander Bell, Miss Vigers, Miss Andrea, Mrs. Brent, Miss Moss, Messrs. E. A. Bird, Arthur Bient, and Lew Fai Woon in cabin.
 Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. Walker in cabin; 147 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Gregory, Miss Ross, Mr. D. E. Brown, Miss Parker, Miss Stewart, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Patch, Miss Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Mordhorst, Mr. M. de Bunsen, Mr. G. E. Woodhall, Lieut. O. Ehlers, Mr. and Mrs. Rollins and family, and Mr. A. Lopez de Vega in cabin; Messrs. R. W. Rolfe, Shuttleworth, Hugh S. Rose, T. G. Allen, and W. L. Sachtleben in second class; 7 passengers in European steerage, and 326 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. J. M. Kelly and W. H. Wallace in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Waslankoff, Mr. Lopez de Vega, and Mrs. Oyagi in cabin; Mr. Uyeno and Mr. Hagi in second class, and 27 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, for Hongkong via ports:—H. E. Minister Nakajima and family (Japanese Minister for Rome), Prof. Paternostro and family, Dr. L. Busse and family, Captain-Lieutenant Etienne, Messrs. F. B. Hayes, D. Thorp, Dankwerts, and one Indian in cabin; Messrs. Lo Duck Ton, Ching Mong Tow, Le Yee Pat and child, and E. Man Kai in second class, and 27 Chinese on deck.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. M. Abraham, Wong Liow Wo, Chow Tian Lip, Sutter, Salvery, Mr. and Mrs. Flothow, Messrs. Ah Yam, Veith, Koelher, J. Bertrand, Boelle, Gamain, H. Veaux, Monge, Meikle, C. H. Thompson, Mrs. and Mrs. J. McNab, Miss McNab, Messrs. John McNab, Jane McNab, Kitamura Hichiro, and Walter Herring in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbut, Mrs. J. M. Jones, and Mr. H. L. Philip in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Van-

couver, B.C.:—Mrs. Bruen, Mr. L. Boissevau, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. Gregory, Miss Harding, Miss R. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Mordhorst, Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Mr. G. Morgan, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Patch, Miss Parker, Miss Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Rollins, Miss Stewart, Rev. and Mrs. G. S. Smith, Miss E. Smith, Mr. Vegas, and Mr. C. F. Heinlein in cabin; Messrs. Allen, Rose, Rolfe, Shuttleworth, and Sachtleben in second class.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. O. Averill, Commander Bell, R.N., Madame Benezet, Messrs. T. B. Cunningham, J. A. Fraser, S. L. Husted, Jun., R. Isaacs, Miss Rose Isaacs, Messrs. J. M. Kelly, Kuino Shimichiro, C. T. Lindner, John Middleton, O. H. P. Noyes, H. D. Page, A. Parsons, O. A. Poole, J. P. Reid, Robinson, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Shinamura, Mr. J. Stratz, Mr. Geo. Trotter, and Hon. Justice Wood in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 249 bales; Waste Silk for France, 608 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In Cottons both 8½ and gibs. Grey Shirts are quoted a little higher to-day, as are also T-Cloths and Indigo Shirts. Turkey Reds and Woolens, on the contrary, are slow of sale and prices remain as last noted. The great decline in exchange rates has caused importers of Yarns to put up prices and stand firm at the advance; but buyers are loth to pay prices asked and are trying as far as possible to work down their stocks, purchasing for actual necessities only, and hoping for a change perhaps in their favour.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirts—8½ yds. 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.35
Grey Shirts—8½ yds. 45 inches	2.00 to 2.90
T. Cloth—7½ yds. 42 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Indigo Shirts—12 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 39 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.62½ to 0.77½
	PER PIECE.
Taffeta—12 yards, 45 inches	—
Turkey Reds—1½ to 2½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.17½ to 1.27½
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3½ to 4½, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62½ to 1.72½
Turkey Reds—4½ to 5½, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.95 to 2.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—1 yds. 36 inches	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.27½ to 30
Medium—	0.34 to 26½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.27½ to 23
Common—	—
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.11½ to 0.19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47½ to 0.57½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$27.00 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Medium	29.00 to 31.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	31.00 to 31.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
No. 18/32, Ordinary	30.00 to 32.50
No. 18/32, Medium	32.00 to 33.50
No. 18/32, Good to Best	34.00 to 34.50
No. 38/12, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 38, Two-fold	34.00 to 35.00
No. 428, Two-fold	38.00 to 40.00
	PER BALL.
No. 208, Bombay	71.00 to 80.00
No. 168, Bombay	70.00 to 76.00
No. 16/14, Bombay	60.00 to 70.00

METALS.

Nothing new in Metals.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Pig Iron, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 1	3.25 to 3.30

KEROSENE.

Since our last report the *Port Adelaide* and *Flintshire* have arrived with cargoes of Comet oil—increasing the stock of that brand by about 116,000 cases. There is very little business doing. Holders are strong with the fall in exchange, and

buyers begin to realize the fact that they may have to pay more for oil in the future.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1.75
Devon	1.67½ to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.72½ to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72½

SUGAR.

Not much done this week; but prices for Daitong and Canton are up 5 to 25 cents, while Brown Manila and White Java and Penang are down 5 to 15 cents. Market closes fairly strong at quotations.

PER PICUL.

Brown Takao	\$4.40 to 4.45
Brown Manila	3.90 to 3.95
Brown Daitong	3.85 to 3.90
Brown Canton	5.85 to 5.90
White Java and Penang	5.65 to 7.90
White Refined	—

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 2nd inst. Since then, settlements on this market amount to 676 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 47 piculs; *Filatures*, 367 piculs; *Re-reels*, 158 piculs; *Kakeda*, 104 piculs. Direct shipments have been 34 bales, so that the total export trade for the week amounts to 710 piculs.

There has been a fair amount of business doing from day to day, one or two days being fairly active. The tone of the market is much as last reported. Considerable business has been done in autumn-reeled *Filatures*, full size, and these are now exhausted in their turn, leaving nothing but winter reelings for future use. In sorts available for Europe, there are still some good parcels to be had, and reelers are current in their ideas, making a few sales from day to day. Best qualities of all descriptions are scarce and well held, the constantly declining exchange helping sellers to get fair prices for their wares.

Arrivals come in pretty freely, falling off somewhat at the close. The stock shows a slight increase on the week, but the visible supply to date shows a further decrease when compared with this day last year.

Exchange has drooped every day, with rather a smart drop at the end upon receipt of cable news to the effect that silver in London was down to 38½ pence per ounce. This should stimulate the export trade, but in the absence of any good news from the consuming markets, we do not seem likely to have higher prices here in the near future.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the French and German mail steamers leaving port together on the 4th instant. The former vessel, *Salasia*, carried 249 bales for France, and the latter, *Nuernberg*, had 75 bales for Genoa in transit. These departures bring the present export figures up to 29,687 piculs, against 26,515 piculs last year, and 10,676 piculs in 1890.

Hanks.—Rather more doing in this department, several small parcels being taken. *Fuyioka*, \$585; *Shinshu*, \$570; *Hachiogi*, \$515. The stock is very small—less than 400 piculs, and firmly held.

Filatures.—Some few buyers have operated in silks suitable for the United States, and claim that they have cleared out all the autumn reelings. The prices paid have been about equal to last week, and what decent quality remains is held in strong hands. In fine sizes, there has been a fair enquiry without heavy settlements, the higher grades somewhat neglected, but medium sorts have found buyers at prices ranging from \$700 to \$780.
Re-reels.—There has been some business in this department, and an advance of \$10 has been paid on Five Girl chop. *Shinshu* have also been done at \$762½, with *Bushus* at prices ranging from \$740 to \$640, while very low grade have been done, as before, at \$555.

Kakeda.—Several transactions noted on the basis of \$680 for No. 2 *Horsehead*, and \$730 for *Musume*; *Stork* chop, \$710; *Tortoise*, \$695.

In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshiu)	\$580 to 590
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 34	530 to 540
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	890 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780

Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Kakedas—Kxra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2	690 to 700
Kakedas—No. 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No. 3	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 3	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 9th Dec., 1892:—			
	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Europe	10,309	9,094	3,440
America	18,951	16,738	6,952
Total	29,260	25,832	10,392
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Total	29,687	26,515	10,676
Settlements and Direct			
Export from 1st July	31,100	30,400	11,500
Stock, 9th December	10,900	14,000	16,100
Available supplies to date 42,000			
	44,400	27,600	

WASTE SILK.

In this branch there has been again large business, buying marching on with giant strides. Settlements aggregate 1,859 piculs, divided thus:—Cocoons, 248 piculs; Noshi, 344 piculs; Kibiso, 1,129 piculs; Sundries, 138 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

Arrivals fall off considerably, and the stock is reduced 1,200 piculs on the week. The visible supplies to date are about 5,000 piculs more than last year. Prices are somewhat lower, dealers being fairly current for nearly all descriptions. More than one half the stock consists of Noshi sorts, the bulk of the demand running on Kibiso.

There have been two shipping opportunities, the French mail steamer *Salanie* taking 608 bales of Waste and Cocoons, all for Marseilles. The German steamer *Nuernberg* carried 254 bales Noshi and Kibiso for Trieste, Milan, and Marseilles. These departures bring the present export figures up to 17,839 piculs, against 13,947 piculs last year, and 14,368 piculs to the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—The remaining stock of good Cocoons has now all been purchased and 500 piculs still on hand consists of *Najiko*, *Sakusan*, and other inferior sorts, such as are classed under the head of Waste Cocoons.

Noshi.—Trade has fallen off from the previous week, and the settlements noted of late show some slight reduction in price. *Shinshu*, \$95; *Oshu*, \$125 to \$130; *Filature*, \$127½; *Hachoji*, \$125 to \$135; *Foshu*, \$70.

Kibiso.—A large business in this department. *Filatures* have been freely done at prices ranging from \$90 to \$105; large purchases of *Foshu* and *Bushu* ordinary at from \$35 to \$25.

Mawata.—No business, herein. Stock small with apparently no demand.

Neri.—Some large parcels have been done at \$17, ranging down to \$13½ for common quality.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	\$120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Foshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	60 to 70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 55
Kibiso—Foshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Foshu, Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 10
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 9th Dec., 1892:—			
	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	15,504	12,620	13,247
Pierced Cocoons	2,335	1,327	1,121
Total	17,839	13,947	14,368
Settlements and Direct			
Export from 1st July	22,500	18,000	17,800
Stock, 9th December	15,100	14,300	9,300
Available supplies to date 37,600			
	32,300	27,000	

Exchange has constantly declined and is unsettled at the following rates:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/9½; Documents, 2/9½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/9½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$67½; 4m/s. U.S. \$68½; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.55.

Estimated Silk Stock, 9th Dec., 1892:—

Raw.	PICULS.	Waste.	PICULS.
Hanks	390	Cocoons	499
Filatures	4,540	Noshi-ito	8,120
Re-reels	4,780	Kibiso	5,850
Kakeda	660	Mawata	110
Oshu	500	Sundries	530
Tayssam Kinds	30		
Total piculs	10,900	Total piculs	15,100

TEA.

Total shipments to date (not including the American and Canadian steamers of the 9th and 10th inst.) is 28,038,971lb. against 28,066,823lb. for corresponding date 1891-92. Small business doing at unchanged rates.

	PER PICUL.
Fine	\$22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange continues to fluctuate, but the main tendency is towards further decline.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/9½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	3.43
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.54
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private to days' sight	1 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private to days' sight	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	66
On America—Private 30 days' sight	67½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	68½
Silver	38½

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17.

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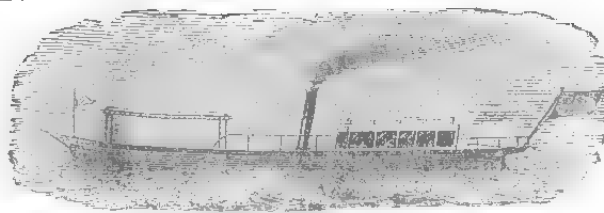
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YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 17TH, 1892.

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[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 17TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Tenriu Kan* left Shanghai on the 7th inst. for Keelung.

COUNT ITO, Minister President, is making gradual progress towards recovery.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS, who has been indisposed for some time through cold, has now recovered her ordinary health.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES Princes Arisugawa Takehito and Komatsu Yorihito visited Yokosuka on Friday last.

THE presentation of diplomas to graduates of the Naval Academy at Etajima, in Hiroshima Prefecture, will take place on the 19th inst.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligences from Kanazawa and Toyama announce that a violent earthquake was felt there on the forenoon of Friday last about 10.42 o'clock.

THE Budget Committee in the Lower House has submitted its report, showing reductions to the amount of nearly 8 million yen in the Ordinary Rependiture.

It is stated that several wealthy merchants of Osaka and Sakai contemplate establishing a steel factory in the latter town with a capital of yen 300,000.

THEIR Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have given donations towards the relief of the families of persons lost by the wreck of the *Chishima Kan*.

THE House of Representatives has passed a resolution pronouncing the Game Regulations unconstitutional, and declaring them without binding force from the outset.

THE Authorities have granted permission to the promoters of the Atami *Yinrikisha* Railway Company to construct the line. The original movers of the scheme met in the capital a day or two ago, and elected Mr. Takashima Toku-

yemon as Chairman of Committee. Among the promoters are Messrs. Okura Kihachiro, Hiranuma Senzo, and Tanaka Heibachi.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR, who has been in disposed through cold, has recovered his usual health, and H.I.H. the Crown Prince, who has been suffering from fever, is also making progress towards recovery.

MR. YOSHIDA MASAHARU, Secretary of the Communications Department, has received permission from the Decorations Board to accept decorations conferred on him by the Shah of Persia and the Sultan of Turkey.

An earthquake was felt in Tokyo on the 11th inst. at 11.34m. 39s. a.m. The duration was 2 minutes 30 seconds, and the direction from W.S.W. to E.N.E., the maximum horizontal motion being 1.1 millimetre in 1.1 second.

THE members of the Tokyo Educational Society have presented a gold medal to Mr. Gimbayashi, newly appointed Governor of Saitama, by way of expressing their thanks for the services rendered by him while President of the Society.

H.E. BARON VON GUTSCHMIDT, the new German Minister to this Court, proceeded to the Palace on the 10th inst. at 10 a.m., to present his credentials to H.I.M. the Emperor. He was afterwards received in audience by H.I.M. the Empress.

THE total quantity of coals exported through the port of Moji in Kyushu during last month was 18,689 tons, of which 4,045 tons were forwarded to Shanghai, 7,395 tons to Hongkong, 1,765 tons to Chefoo, 750 tons to Jinzen, and 4,734 tons were for ship's use.

MUCH friction exists in the localities, several Prefectural Assemblies having passed, or threatened to pass, votes of want of confidence in the Governors and Chiefs of Police in the Prefectures. Suspension or dissolution of the Assemblies has followed in most cases.

A MEETING of the Cabinet was held at the residence of Count Inouye on the forenoon of the 10th inst., at which there were present Counts Kuroda, Yamagata, and Goto, and Messrs. Mutsu and Watanabe. Shortly after mid-day the Acting Minister President drove to the Palace to have audience with the Emperor.

A FATAL landslide is reported to have occurred in Yuokedani, a small village in the Kahoku district, Ishikawa Prefecture, shortly after midnight on the 4th inst. Two houses and two godowns were buried beneath the debris, and three persons were crushed to death. Two villagers were severely injured, and several others slightly wounded.

THE returns of telegraphic messages and receipts therefrom in the Empire for the month of November last were as follow:—Inland: messages, 405,044; receipts, yen 87,189.120; Foreign: messages, 4,373; receipts, yen 10,837.324. As compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, the above figures show an increase of 317 Domestic messages and yen 2,020.890 in receipts; and 55 Foreign messages and yen 1,673.182 in receipts.

A SHARP shock of earthquake was felt in Tokyo on the 9th inst. at 8h. 1m. 18. a.m. The tremor was experienced for 1 minute 30 seconds in the direction from S.E. to N.W., the maximum horizontal motion being 0.8 millimetre in 0.4 second. Another earthquake occurred at 10h. 43m. 57s. the same morning, the oscillation

lasting for 2 minutes 40 seconds. The motion travelled in the direction from E.S.E. to W.N.W., and the maximum horizontal motion was 1.5 millimetre in 1.5 seconds. The shock was weak.

SEVEN shipwrecked Koreans are reported on to have arrived in Yamaguchi Prefecture the 5th inst. The Koreans left Torai-fu in a boat for Chohatsu-ken on the 29th ult. A severe gale coming on, the boat was soon carried out to sea. They suffered severely from want of food, and were in a desperate condition when discovered on the 5th inst. by Japanese fishermen, engaged in fishing near Mirushima. The Japanese took them to Senzakura, in the Otsu District of the Prefecture, and reported the event to the Authorities.

SHORTLY after midnight on the 6th inst., a fire occurred at Maye-tanichi-mura, Momoo-gun, Miyazaki Prefecture. The flames, being fanned by a strong wind, spread in every direction, and before they could be got under 50 houses had been burnt down, and others considerably damaged. Some 14 dwellings were totally destroyed and 9 partly damaged at Fukuso-mura, in the Ashida District of Hiroshima Prefecture, on the forenoon of the 2nd inst. Early on the morning of the 5th inst., an outbreak of fire took place in a house at Kiyamacho in the Upper Masaki District of Kumamoto Prefecture. The flames were confined to the buildings where the fire originated, but a man and a horse were burnt to death.

MARQUIS MATSUDAIRA Koso, ex-Chief of the Echizen clan, who has been staying in England for some time for the purpose of completing his studies, returned to the capital on the 11th inst. Among the large number of persons who assembled at Shimbashi Railway Station to welcome the Marquis were Mr. Tatsuami, Director of the Bureau of Imperial Works; Mr. Saito, Chief Commissioner of the Trade and Industrial Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department; the Governor of Tokushima; Judge Kuritsuka, of the Supreme Court; Judge Hasegawa, of the Tokyo Court of Appeal; Viscount Yuri, Barons Honda, and Aoyama, of the House of Peers; and Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Kato, and Mr. Oka, of the House of Representatives.

THERE is very little to be said about the import trade as markets remain mostly in the condition recently reported. The fall in exchange has continued, and those buyers who have been forced into operations have been compelled to pay enhanced prices, though much against the grain, as merchants in the interior seem inclined to run their stocks down to bare boards rather than spring another cent. This is especially the case in regard to Manchester goods, and consequently these have been taken on a gradually declining scale. Metals are also in small demand, though rates are unchanged for the few transactions put through. There is a good steady demand for Kerosene, that most in request at the moment being Russian oil, and full prices are paid. There is a fair amount of Sugar changing hands, and prices are unaltered. Considerable activity in the Silk market for Europe has caused a bit of a flutter among buyers for the United States, and the combined purchases for shipment in both directions amount to close upon 2,000 piculs. Prices continue on the upward line, unaffected by exchange. Waste Silk has also been well bought, and stocks show a slight reduction though these are still heavy. There is nothing to report in Tea. Exchange has continued on its downward course, though the latest is a slight indication of firmness.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO" ON THE SITUATION.

THE *Kokumin-no-Tomo's* utterances on political subjects must always be discounted, for the periodical is too strongly in sympathy with the so-called Popular Party, especially the Progressionist wing, to be regarded as an impartial critic of current politics. With due allowance for this circumstance, however, justice compels us to acknowledge that our contemporary's articles are always interesting and often instructive. Such certainly is the case with its latest essays on the present political situation. What will be the issue of the impending struggle between the Cabinet and the Popular Party? Before answering this question, the *Kokumin* takes a survey of the positions occupied by the confronting armies. The present Ministry's situation is peculiar. Its predecessors had reserves on which they could fall back in case of necessity. But the Ito Cabinet has no such reserves. If it be defeated, the event will mark the final defeat of the *Meiji* Government. Count Ito and his colleagues thus occupy a position of the gravest responsibility. Will they be able to maintain their ground? In the first place, the *Kokumin* discusses the strong points of the present Ministry. Foremost among them is its Minister President, Count Ito, "who, whatever complaints there may be against him, must be regarded as the foremost statesman of the present day." He understands what constitutional government means, and is credited with the intention of conducting the administration on constitutional lines. Nobody else can pre-empt the elder statesmen now in power. Secondly, the present Cabinet has no fear of restraints from outside: there are no *Kuro-maku* statesmen to impose terms. Thirdly, the chiefs of departments are in most cases men of sufficient ability and influence to maintain discipline among the officials under their control. Fourthly, whether deservedly or not, the Ito Cabinet enjoys the reputation of being a strong one. Fifthly and lastly, its conciliatory tendency and its apparent impartiality have had the effect of soothing the perturbed minds of the people. But numerous and important as its strong points are, they dwindle, the *Kokumin* thinks, into insignificance when compared with its weaknesses. First, its cohesion is defective, because it is composed of civil and military elements, mutually as repellant as oil and water. Whatever may be their private intimacy, Count Ito and Count Yamagata are not infrequently opposed to each other on political questions. There is also a constant danger of conflicts between the respective followers of these statesmen. Secondly, absence of avowed partisans in the Diet is a distinctly weak element. It is true that the National Unionists are opposed to the Popular Party, but they can never be counted unfailing supporters of the present Ministry. Thirdly, the Ministers of State have disappointed the high expectations which the people entertained of their willingness to correct administrative evils. In this context allusion is made to the half-hearted manner in which the question of interference in elections has been dealt with by the Government. Fourthly, another difficulty of the Cabinet is that it has to pay the debts of maladministration contracted by its predecessor. Fifthly, its so-called "negative policy" disgusts the people. They think that the Cabinet lacks courage either to adopt the Popular party's platform or to strike out an independent course of its own. Sixthly, the members of the Ministry are said to have lost much of their old energy; they have, in short, nearly played out their game. Seventhly and lastly, their long seclusion within the pale of officialdom has made them incapable of understanding the real wishes of the people. "In other words, they are not in touch with the times." Then, summing up the strong and weak points, our contemporary concludes that the latter outweigh the former very appreciably.

The *Kokumin* next proceeds to apply the same process of examination to the case of the

Popular Party. It commences by enumerating the *Min-to's* weak points. First, its opponents allege against it a want of able men, and the Tokyo periodical, though declining to traverse or endorse this criticism, acknowledges that the Opposition cannot boast of so many men of rank and distinction as there are in the Government. Secondly, the Popular Party lies under a charge of pursuing destructive tactics. Thirdly, it lacks knowledge as to details of administrative affairs. Fourthly, it labours under great disadvantages in matters of political combination, public meetings, and publications, in consequence of stringent laws bequeathed from the despotic régime of former years. Fifthly and lastly, it has promised much to the people, but has been unable in most cases to redeem its pledges. The *Min-to* is not to blame for this, but the fact itself cannot fail to tell against its influence. The *Kokumin* then turns to the congenial task of saying the best it can about the Popular Party. First, that Party has the credit and honour of representing the national aspirations of the people. "It is the child of reform and progress," the mainstay of the political life of the present day. Secondly, it possesses an undoubted majority in the House of Representatives; its entire strength is estimated at 171, consisting of 88 Radicals, 38 Progressionists, 19 members of the *Dōmei* Club, 11 members of the *Tohoku Dantai*, 5 members from Kii, and 10 Independents. Thirdly, not only does it command a majority in the House of Representatives, but it is also supported by the majority of the people, whose confidence it has deservedly earned by its heroic devotion during the past ten odd years. Fourthly, it pursues an aggressive programme, its principal aim being to pull down Clan Government, to establish a system of responsible administration, and thus to bring officialdom into touch with the desires of the people. Fifthly and lastly, if it be wanting in experience, it abounds in energy and activity; in other words, though its past history has been short, the future lying before it is of the most promising and bright description.

* * *

Comparing in this fashion the relative positions of the Government and the Popular Party, the *Kokumin* finds it easy to arrive at the conclusion that the latter will have everything in its hands in the present fourth session of the Diet. As for the criticism often made not only by supporters of the Government but also by the independent section of the public, that the Diet has not much to show for its three years of existence, our contemporary indignantly protests against the injustice of ignoring what has been accomplished by the Diet. First, it has effected reductions in public expenditure—reductions, which, though falling short of the Popular Party's expectations, have been of sufficient amount to compel the Government to reduce the salaries and number of its servants. Secondly, the Diet's watchful attitude has had a most salutary effect upon the management of the State's finances. Thirdly, the Diet has placed the country under a great obligation to it by instilling reformatory energy into the Executive. The *Kokumin* instances the good effects produced by the drastic changes in official organization proposed in the first session, and by the contemplated address to the throne on Military affairs in the second session. Fourthly, it has corrected many of the existing abuses in the Government and prevented the carrying out of certain injurious measures. Under this head, reference is made to the cases of the grant of subsidies to the Tea Manufacturers' Guild, the projected abatement of the selling price of the Miike Coal Mine, the sale of land under the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and so forth. Fifthly and lastly, the Diet has the credit of having forced the Government to restore some degree of discipline in its rank and file. Had there not been a Diet, would it have been possible, asks our contemporary, to effect these desirable reforms? Moreover, the blame that the Diet has not done more ought, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, to rest upon the shoulders of those who have persistently opposed radical reduc-

tions of public expenditures, amendment of the laws relating to newspapers and publication, reassessment of the taxable value of land and reduction of the land tax, and many other reforms. As to the contention that the Popular party neglects the industrial interests and defence of the country, the Tokyo periodical begs its readers to consider what the Government has effected in these fields. Spending more than 240 million *yen* upon the Army, even important forts still remain to be constructed. The Navy has consumed about 130 million *yen*, but its total tonnage is barely 50,000 tons, and even that figure includes old and useless ships. In the field of industry, what has the Government done? Nothing of importance. Such being the past record of the Government, it is very natural, says the *Kokumin*, that the Popular party should think it advisable to make thorough investigations and satisfy itself that the Government can be trusted, before it confides to the latter the conduct of any new undertaking in the fields just alluded to. For the Popular party is anxious to have full return for the money invested in any work. In conclusion, our contemporary would like to know what line of action the Government intends to take on the following questions:—reductions of public expenditure; amendment of the organization of the different branches of the administration; re-assessment of the taxable value of land; the amendment of the Newspaper, Publication, and Political Association Regulations; abolition of the Game Regulations; amendment of the system of local autonomy; colonization of Hokkaido; amendment of the Law of Election; and abolition of export duties. These questions are to be brought up for discussion in the present session of the Diet. It is now too late for the Cabinet to think of the creation of a majority favourable to it in the House of Representatives. Hence, the only course left, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, is to adopt the programme of the Popular party and thus put an end to the long history of clan administration. Otherwise the Cabinet is said to be doomed to an ignoble fate.

THE "CHISHIMA" COLLISION.

AN account has been sent to a Shanghai paper by one of the passengers of the *Ravenna* who was transferred to the *Empress*, in which the writer appears to have very much economised the truth. The journal declined to publish the full statement, but among other items given it is said that the French agent on board the *Chishima* had his wife and child with him, both of whom were lost, and that the second mate of the *Ravenna* had four fingers cut off. Both of these statements are denied by the *Nagasaki Express*, from which we take the following:—According to report, which of course must be received with all reserve, pending the official enquiry, the *Ravenna* had just passed the Kurushima Strait, when the red light of an approaching vessel was observed by the pilot and chief officer on watch. Being "red to red" no danger was apprehended, but as the sighted vessel appeared to be going at a very high rate of speed, to make doubly sure, the *Ravenna's* helm was ported to a slight extent, and judging by appearance the other vessel ported too. The *Ravenna* was then just south of Musuki-shima, and when those on board thought everything was all right, much to their surprise, as they gradually drew closer, it was observed that, for some unaccountable reason, the approaching vessel had altered its tactics, and had starboarded, a green light suddenly hove in sight. The *Ravenna's* helm was at once put hard-a-port, but as the red light had by that time disappeared, leaving the green light only visible, it was evident that the vessel was attempting to cross the *Ravenna's* bows. The close proximity of the vessels, added to the speed at which they were going, now rendered it utterly impossible to avoid a collision; and although the orders were instantly given to go "full speed astern" and "hard-a-starboard," on board the *Ravenna*, there was no time for these orders to take effect. The inevitable then occurred, and the two vessels came together with a terrible crash, which can be better imagined than described. The *Ravenna* struck the *Chishima* right amidships, between her two

Original from

funnels, and virtually cut her in two halves, causing her to sink almost instantly, taking with her all those who happened to be below at the time, or who were killed or injured in the collision. This, combined with the fact that the engines were going full speed astern, brought the *Ravenna* almost to a stand-still. Her boats were then immediately lowered, and search made for the survivors of the unfortunate sunken vessel, resulting in sixteen being picked up, including Lieut. Kaburaki, who was in command of the *Chishima*, and the French engineer. In the meantime the condition of the *Ravenna* was examined, and happily it was found that although her bow was completely stove in above the water-line, and twisted all out of shape below water, the forward collision bulk-head was thoroughly intact, and abaft that was not making any water. Shortly afterwards, the C. P. R. Co.'s mail steamer *Empress of Japan*, bound from Kobe to Shanghai, came on the scene, and by request took the *Ravenna's* passengers for that port and beyond on board. The *Ravenna* then steamed slowly to Horiye Bay, where temporary repairs were commenced, and steps taken to report the matter to the Co.'s Agents here, to which was added a request for a quantity of cement and bricks to be sent up in the Co.'s steamer *Ancona*, just on the point of leaving bound to Kobe when the unfortunate news was received. On Saturday morning the *Ravenna* resumed her journey under steam, anchoring off Isaki Lighthouse during the night, and arriving here on Sunday morning. The same day her local cargo was discharged, and early on Monday morning the discharging of her Hongkong and through cargo was commenced. This was completed yesterday, and she will be taken into the Mitsu Bishi Co.'s dock for repairs to-day. The damage to the *Ravenna* can be plainly seen from the shore with the naked eye, especially when she is broadside on; and a close inspection shows full well, not only the tremendous blow she must have struck the ill-fated *Chishima*, but also her thorough capability of withstanding it without fatally damaging herself. The damage commences by a comparatively clean cut through the stem and bow plates along the 24 foot mark, which extends aft some eight feet. From this down to the vicinity of the water-line, some six or eight feet is completely smashed in; and below that, down to, and including the forefoot, is so badly bent to starboard that it will have to be entirely renewed. On Monday morning we understand that Capt. Browne formally applied to H.B.M.'s Consul for a Court of Inquiry to be held, a full report of which we shall use every endeavour to obtain and publish as early as possible. Pending the official inquiry considerable reticence is, of course, observed with regard to giving information, consequently we are not in a position to state anything farther."

THE POWER OF THE ARISTOCRACY IN CHINA.

THE talented author of "Chinese Characteristics" seems to be again contributing some most interesting essays to the *North China Daily News* under the heading of "Co-operation in China." Referring to the influence exercised by families of which some member holds a high official position, he tells the following excellent tale:—

During the 18th century there lived a family named Lu, one of the members of which, attained to the lofty eminence of *Ko Lao*, or Grand Secretary. A family of this class, especially if it should be the only one of the sort in the district, exerts a commanding influence, and it is necessary for the local magistrate to conduct himself discreetly, in order not to win the ill-will of such a powerful corporation. It is well if he is able to collect from them even the ordinary land-tax, which all the soil of the Empire is supposed to pay. It is related of this family, that upon one occasion the district magistrate, having ordered the local constable to see to it that this tax was produced, the constable being helpless, was unable to do as he was told. Having been repeatedly beaten for his delinquencies in this respect, he presented himself at the entrance of the premises of his wealthy neighbour, and with earnest prostration begged the gatekeeper to intercede for him, and get the tax paid. The elderly widow, who was the manager of the establishment, having been informed of this plea, ordered her cart harnessed, and proceeded to the district magistrate's *yamen* for an interview. The official perhaps entertained a wild hope

that she had come to settle up her arrears of taxes, and even planned to borrow a sum of money of her, but she soon dispelled this idea, by telling him in so many words that she herself required a "loan" of a certain number of thousand of taels, which the magistrate was obliged to promise to get for her, at the earliest possible moment. As she rose to take her leave, she remarked incidentally that her gatekeeper had been much annoyed by some of the *yamen* underlings who hung about the premises under pretence of wanting a grain-tax, adding that she should expect to hear no more of such proceedings in future! Upon another occasion, while the *Ko Lao* himself was alive, a complaint was made to the district magistrate that a son of the *Ko Lao* had a maid-servant who was virtually imprisoned in the family mansion. She was originally hired, but having been betrothed and although it was time for her to be married, her employer refused to let her go. The district magistrate sent for the son of the *Ko Lao*, made known the charge, and desired the release of the person detained. He even went to the length of beating the attendant of the Lu family, who had accompanied his master, the latter being himself too lofty a subject for punishment. The son went to his home in a towering rage, and wrote a letter to his father in Peking, detailing the circumstances. Soon after this, the magistrate received the news of his promotion from the grade of *chih-chou* to that of *chih-fu*, or prefect, in the province of Szechuan. The journey to a new post is often a most serious matter for an official, and where, as in this case, he has the entire empire to cross, the trouble and expense are very great. He had no sooner reached this distant post, than he received a notification that he was promoted to another in the province of Yunnan, again involving an expensive and tedious journey. When he had at length taken up the duties of this office it was only to be informed that he was promoted afresh to the high rank of *Taotai* in some region beyond the Great Wall. He now began to perceive the significance of this strange series of events, and wholly unable either to bear the ills which he already had, or to support the prospect of perhaps greater ones yet to come, he 'swallowed gold,' and thus escaped further promotion and ruin!

ASSAULT ON MR. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI.

THE fates are particularly unkind to the Opposition in the House of Representatives. So surely as they assemble their forces for a campaign of eloquent diatribes against the residua of bureaucratic arbitrariness, and vote the Peace Preservation Regulations out of legislative existence, some incident immediately occurs to remind the public that the disturbers of good order whom these regulations are intended to control, need only opportunity to be as mischievous as ever. The most striking example of this discrepancy between radical theory and administrative practice was furnished when, in the interval between the passage of the abolition Bill by the House of Representatives and its debate by the Peers, the Government were obliged to put the obnoxious Regulations into force for the protection of the very members who had voted them superfluous. Other practical proofs that exceptional legislation is still necessary in Japan were forthcoming immediately on the passage of the Bill each session, and now, on the very day after the House of Representatives, despite the protest of the Government Delegate, recorded their opinion that the Regulations should be abolished, the *sashis* have again offered a convincing contradiction of that view. On Sunday, as Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, the well known banker and merchant, was driving through Kabuto-cho, in Tokyo, on his way to Imado, four men dressed in the garb of *jirikisha* coolies, ran up to the carriage and hacked at the legs of the horse. Happily, instead of disabling the animal, they only alarmed it, and so accelerated its movements that their apparently projected assault upon Mr. Shibusawa himself became impossible. As the horse galloped off, however, they smashed the glass of the carriage windows, and one of the pieces cut Mr. Shibusawa's hand. Two of the men were arrested immediately, but we have not yet received any information as to their names or antecedents.

DORS CHLOROFORM ACT UPON THE HEART?

THE correspondent of *The Times* at Hyderabad has announced an important medical discovery, which, if fully substantiated, will go far to relieve the most powerful of anaesthetics of its worst reputation. Surgeon-Major Lawrie, he reports, has succeeded in proving positively, by means of "cross-circulation" experiments,

that chloroform has no direct action upon the heart. In the operations conducted by this investigator, when chloroform was given so that it had access to the brain alone, the blood-pressure fell, anaesthesia was produced, and the breathing stopped in the usual manner. When the chloroform was so applied that it had not access to the brain, but was carried to the heart and other organs, anaesthesia did not follow, no effect upon the breathing was perceptible, and there was no fall of the blood-pressure. The correspondent added that the details of this discovery, with tracings of the experiments would speedily be published in the *Lancet*.

THE PRIZE WINNERS IN THE RECENT AUSTRO-GERMAN RIDE.

As is well known, Austrians showed superior horsemanship in the recent prize contest with German military officers. For of the seventeen high prizes, thirteen were won by the Austrians, and of the forty-two smaller prizes, twenty-five were won by the same army. The list of officers, times of ride, and the prizes given, are as follow:—

- 1.—Prince Starckenberg, record 71 hours 34 minutes. Reward, special honours—Ehrenpreis of the German Emperor and 20,000 Marks.
- 2.—Baron Reitzenstein, 73 hours and 6 min. Honors from the Austrian Emperor and 10,000 Marks.
- 3.—Von Miklos 74 hours 24 minutes and 5 seconds, 6,000 Marks.
- 4.—Franz Höfer, 74 hours and 42 minutes, 4,500 Marks.
- 5.—Von Czavossy, 75 hours and 16 minutes, 3,500 Marks.
- 6.—Obst. Muzyka, 77 hours and 26 minutes, 3,000 Marks.
- 7.—Von Hinke, 77 hours and 35 minutes, 2,500 Marks.
- 8.—Jacob Scherber, 78 hours and 6 minutes, 2,000 Marks.
- 9.—Von Thaar, 78 hours and 16 minutes, 1,800 Marks.
- 10.—Von Kronenfeld, 79 hours and 6 minutes, 1,600 Marks.
- 11.—Lieut. Schmiedt, 79 hours and 10 minutes, 1,400 Marks.
- 12.—Von Förster, 79 hours and 44 minutes, 1,200 Marks.
- 13.—Baron Kielmannsegg, 79 hours 57 minutes, 5 seconds, 1,000 Marks.
- 14.—Graf Bathany, 80 hours, 900 Marks.
- 15.—Heinrich Scherber, 80 hours and 24 minutes, 800 Marks.
- 16.—Obst. Hofman, 80 hours and 37 minutes, 700 Marks.
- 17.—Rittmeister Stögl, 80 hours 40 minutes, 600 Marks.

Those who received 500 Marks each are as follow:—

- | GERMAN OFFICERS. | AUSTRIAN OFFICERS. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Second-Lieut. Kimmle. | 1. Rittmeister Stool. |
| 2. Rittmeister Eisebeck. | 2. Lieut. Gormass. |
| 3. Rittmeister Tepper-Lasch. | 3. Oberst. Baron Saradauna. |
| 4. Pr. Lieut. Graf Westarp. | 4. Oberst. Baron Wolf. |
| 5. Sec. Lieut. Heyl. | 5. Oberst. Graf Vay. |
| 6. Pr. Lieut. Kummer. | 6. Rittmeister Basili. |
| 7. Sec. Lieut. Massow. | 7. Oberst. Graf Lubinski. |
| 8. Pr. Lieut. Distel. | 8. Rittmeister Haller. |
| 9. Prince Leopold of Prussia. | 9. Oberst. Buffa. |
| 10. Ritt v. Heyden-Linden. | 10. Oberst. Graf Paar. |
| 11. Rittmeister v. Gualer. | 11. Oberst. Creutzer. |
| 12. Rittmeister v. Kramsta. | 12. Rittmeister Tarjanyi. |
| 13. Rittmeister v. Witaleben. | |

This is only an approximate record, ascertained from the facts at hand. The German papers allege that the Austrians had the advantage in the race, in this, that they had the down grade while the German riders had the opposite. The decline is said to be 220 meters. Whether this made any perceptible difference in so long a race is perhaps open to doubt. The loss on both sides is said to be 32 horses. The riders were royally entertained at the points of destination, some of the leading officials taking part in the fête.

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET.

THE following is the Supplementary Budget now before the House of Representatives:—

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET.

(PAYMENTS TO BE DISBURSED BY THE TREASURY, OTHER THAN THOSE SET FORTH IN THE ORDINARY BUDGET.)

- 1.—To renew the contract of one foreigner in the service of H.I.J.M.'s Legation stationed in Russia, for the following period:—From January 1st of 27th year of *Meiji* to December 31st of 31st year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$39.00 (thirty-nine yen) gold.
- 2.—To newly employ one foreigner for H.I.J.M.'s Consulate at Mexico from April 1st of 26th year of *Meiji* to March 11th of 31st year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$100.00 (one hundred yen).
- 3.—To pay one foreigner who had been in the service of the Finance Department, a life pension of \$1,200.00 (twelve hundred yen) per annum, commencing with the 26th fiscal year of *Meiji*.
- 4.—To pay one foreigner in the service of the Department of Communications, a life pension of

Original from

\$600.00 (six hundred yen) per annum, commencing with the 26th fiscal year of *Meiji*.

5.—The term of employment of one foreigner in the service of the Custom House of Yokohama having expired, to employ another for three years commencing with the 26th fiscal year of *Meiji* (the time stipulated in the contract), at the monthly salary of \$300.00 (three hundred yen), providing him with an unfurnished house, and paying his passage money for the voyage home on the expiration of the term of service.

6.—To contract, in the 26th Fiscal year *Meiji*, for the payment of sums not exceeding the following limits, the payments to take place in the 27th Fiscal year of *Meiji* :—

For Military Schools :—Provisions..... \$80,000.00
For Military Schools :—Horses \$40,000.00
For Colonization Army :—Provisions... \$13,400.00
For Colonization Army :—Emigration Expenses \$13,600.00

7.—To renew the contract of one foreign instructor in the service of both the Naval College and Naval Accountant's School, for three years from June of 26th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$200.00 (two hundred yen).

8.—To renew the contract of one foreign instructor in the service of the Medical School of the Navy for four years from April of 26th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$70.00 (seventy yen).

9.—To contract, in the 26th Fiscal year of *Meiji*, for the payment of sums not exceeding the following limits, the payments to be made in the 27th Fiscal year of *Meiji* :—

For Naval arms, Ammunition, and Torpedo Expenses \$80,000.00
For Shipbuilding and Repairs \$50,000.00

10.—To renew the contract of one foreigner in the service of the Judicial Department for the period beginning January 1st of the 27th year and ending November 31st of 31st year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$200.00 (two hundred yen), and on expiration of the term of service to pay \$350.00 (three hundred and fifty yen) as passage money for voyage home.

11.—To contract, in the 26th Fiscal year of *Meiji*, for the payment of the following sums for the Artillery Arsenal of Tokyo and Osaka, and for the cloth factory at Senju, to purchase machinery and materials, matters of special Finance, the payments to be made in the 27th Fiscal year of *Meiji*, and not to exceed the following limits :—

Manufactory expenses for Tokyo
Artillery Arsenal \$40,000.00
Manufactory expenses for Osaka
Artillery Arsenal \$40,000.00
Raw materials for Tokyo Artillery Arsenal \$70,000.00
Raw material for Osaka Artillery Arsenal \$120,000.00
Raw materials for Senju Cloth Factory \$140,000.00

12.—To contract, in the 26th Fiscal year of *Meiji*, for the payment of the following sums for ship building work at the Yokosuka and Kure Naval Stations, the same to be disbursed out of the Shipbuilding Materials' Fund; which forms a matter of special Finance, and the payments to be made in the 27th Fiscal year of *Meiji*, within the following limits :—

For Yokosuka Admiralty \$210,000.00
For Kure Admiralty \$8,090.00

13.—To renew the contracts of Eight Foreign Professors of the Imperial University, or to employ substitutes, and to newly employ one more Professor on account of urgent necessity, on terms as hereinafter mentioned :—

One Professor from September 1st of 26th to September 10th of 31st year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$400.00 (four hundred yen), with a payment of \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) as passage money for voyage home, in the year when the term of employment expires.

One Professor from November 14th of 26th to November 13th of 29th year of *Meiji* at \$370 (three hundred and seventy yen) per mensem, together with \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) as passage money as in the preceding clause.

One Professor from May 26th of 26th to May 25th of 29th year of *Meiji*, at \$350.00 (three hundred and fifty yen) per mensem, together with \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) as passage money as in the preceding clause.

One Professor from April 1st of 26th to July 10th of 29th year of *Meiji*, at \$300.00 (three hundred yen) per mensem, together with \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) for passage money as in the preceding clause.

One professor from 26th Fiscal year of *Meiji* (time stipulated in the contract) to July 10th of 29th year of *Meiji*, at \$370.00 (three hundred and seventy yen) per mensem, together with passage money to the amount of \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) as in the preceding cases.

One Professor from October 22nd of 26th to July 10th of 29th year of *Meiji*, at \$350.00 (three hundred and fifty yen) per mensem, together with \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) for passage money, as in the preceding cases.

One Professor from November 11th of 26th to July 31st of 28th year of *Meiji*, at \$370.00 (three hundred and seventy yen) mensem, together with \$650.00 (six hundred and fifty yen) for passage money as in the preceding cases.

One Professor from May 23rd of 26th to July 10th of 27th year of *Meiji*, at \$125 (one hundred and twenty five yen) per mensem, together with \$500.00 (five hundred yen) for passage money, as in the preceding cases.

For each of the above eight Professors, to provide an unfurnished house, or to pay \$40 (forty yen) per month in lieu thereof.

One Professor from April 1st of 26th to July 10th of 29th year of *Meiji* at a monthly salary of \$125.00 (one hundred and twenty five yen).

14.—The term of employment of one foreigner in the service of the Higher Commercial School, having expired, to employ a substitute for three years from April 1st of 26th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$120.00 (one hundred and twenty yen).

15.—To renew the contract of one foreigner in the employment of the First Higher Middle School, from September 9th of 26th to September 8th of 27th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$200.00 (two hundred yen).

16.—To renew the contract of one foreigner in the employment of the Fifth Higher Middle School from May 8th of 26th to July 31st of 27th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$200.00 (two hundred yen).

17.—The term of service of one foreigner in the employment of the Yamaguchi Higher Middle School having expired, to employ one substitute for the following period from July 22nd of 26th to July 21st of 28th year of *Meiji*, at the monthly salary of \$200.00 (two hundred yen), providing him an unfurnished house, and paying him \$250.00 (two hundred and fifty yen) as passage money for voyage home, on expiration of the term of service.

18.—To raise the monthly salary of one foreigner in the service of the Railway Bureau, the present amount of which is \$575.00 (five hundred and seventy five yen), to \$600.00 (six hundred yen) from the 26th Fiscal year of *Meiji*.

"CHOSEN-AME."

MR. KOBAYAKAWA has been good enough to send us a specimen of his *Chosen-ame*, which is a decidedly palatable affair. Probably most of our readers are agreeably acquainted with it, but we imagine that their pleasant associations will be increased by perusing the delightful advertisement attached to each box :—

CHOSEN-AME

the celebrated Japanese cakes known as the main products of Higo-province, which we manufacture of selected substances after a selected best mode. It is a special point of the cakes, that both the color and the taste would never vary though preserved for any long times. So they may be carried as provisions for army, for navigation, or for travelling on railway.

To use cut it to pieces by knife, string, or, after all, by scissors.

REPORT OF EXAMINATION CHOSEN-AME manufactured by K. ROYAKAWA Semba Ichime no, 12 Kumamoto

Quantative analysis March 16th. 1892
This article is whitish square long tender mass mild-sweet taste. Dissolved by water it makes white turbid. By examining it proves to exist of the followings:

Water	20.467
Nitrogenous	1.914
Sugar	33.211
Starch	12.005
Fat	0.663
Malt	24.389
Dextrine	7.380
Inorganic alkaloid	0.213

The examination proves itself good comfortable food.
Artist K. Shimada signed
Chife of Osaka sanitary Board
Assistant artist M. Kitao signed
manager of the Board

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

"To any one," says the *Asorian*, "who does his thinking and talking and writing in a foreign language, the English must be a queer one. A foreigner down on the U. P. dock yesterday looking at the steam vessels coming and going hither and yon, said :—'See what a flock of boats.' Some one said that 'flock' was wrong; what a 'fleet of boats' is the proper expression. Well, a lot of boats together would be a fleet, a fleet of sheep would be a flock, a flock of

girls would be a bevy, and a bevy of wolves is called a drove, and a drove of thieves is called a gang, and a gang of warriors is called a host, and a host of porpoises is called a shoal, and a shoal of cattle is called a herd, and a herd of children is called a troop, and a troop of part-ridges is called a pack, and a pack of swans is called a whiteness, and a whiteness of geese is called a gaggle, and a gaggle of brant is called a gang, and a gang of ducks is called a team, and a team of widgeons is called a company, and a company of teal is called a trip, and a trip of snipe is called a whisp, and a whisp of herons is called a sedge, and a sedge of quail is called a flock, and a flock of larks is called an exaltation, and an exaltation of peacocks is called a strut, and a strut of beauties is called a galaxy, and a galaxy of ruffians is called a horde, and a horde of rubbish is called a heap, and a heap of oxen is called a drove, and a drove of black-guards is called a mob, and a mob of whales is called a school, and a school of worshippers is called a congregation, and a congregation of soldiers is called a corps, and a corps of sailors is called a crew, and a crew of pirates is called a band, and a band of bees is called a swarm, and a swarm of people is called a crowd, and a crowd of—but this is enough to show that the English language has a good many words that while not exactly synonyms can be applied to mean an aggregation of units."

MEMORIAL ON TREATY REVISION.

THE Popular Party in the House of Representatives have prepared an Address to the Throne on the subject of Treaty Revision. The following is a translation :—

AN ADDRESS TO THE THRONE ON TREATY REVISION

May it please Your Majesty :—

I, Your Majesty's most loyal and faithful servant and President of the House of Representatives, desire most humbly to address Your August and Enlightened Majesty :—

We, insignificant and ignorant though we be, have been charged, by Your Majesty's grace and by the choice of the people, with the weighty responsibility of representing our country in the Diet; and we are therefore at all times earnestly solicitous not to impair Your Majesty's prestige or slight the trust reposed in us by the people. Thus, though sensible of our own demerits, a feeling of the deepest and most faithful loyalty to Your Majesty, and a zealous desire to obey the Great Constitution which Your Majesty has graciously granted to us, and to express the true opinions of the people, inspire a hope that the fruits of a constitutional polity will be realised, and that the national honour may be made to shine brightly throughout the world.

More than two thousand five hundred years have elapsed since Your Majesty's Imperial Ancestors ascended the Throne, and began to govern the people of this Empire. During that long period, owing to the enlightenment of our Rulers, on the one hand, and the loyalty of the people on the other, foreign countries were conquered, invasions were beaten back, and never once was the nation's honour forfeited or impaired. But in the eras of *Kaei* and *Ansei* (1848-1859) the Government of the Shogunate lost its power, and the people fell into a state of inactivity. It was then that advantage was taken of our condition by foreign countries, and we were induced to conclude most unfair treaties with them.

Your August and Enlightened Majesty then ascended the Throne, and grieving over the decline of the Imperial Household, and angered at the corruption of the Government, employed the weapons of war to eliminate accumulated abuses. Thus matters at once presented a new appearance and moral virtue grew daily. Alas the unfair treaties remained unrevived. The consequence is that our jurisdiction does not extend to foreigners, living within our borders, nor do we possess tariff autonomy. Notrepass on our national rights can be greater than these; and whenever our thoughts dwell upon the subject we are constrained to bitter regrets. The exercise of the extraterritorial system enables foreigners to obey only their own laws and to be subjected to their own judiciary within the territories of this Empire. Yet we, in their countries, are compelled to obey their laws, and submit to their jurisdiction. Further, the restrictions imposed in respect of Customs tariff, disable us from exercising our natural right to tax imported goods, whereas foreign countries impose heavy duties on goods exported by us.

Original from

Thus our judicial and fiscal rights being alike impaired, foreigners are enabled to behave in an arbitrary manner. The result must be that our commerce and industries will daily deteriorate, that the national wealth will decrease, and that in the end there will be no means of recuperating our resources. The fault of concluding such treaties must be attributed to the fact that the people of Your Majesty's realm, both high and low, were basking in tranquillity and peace, and as the country had been isolated for a long time, the Ministers of State were entirely ignorant of foreign conditions.

The considerations make it impossible for Your Majesty's subjects the forget to urgent necessity of Treaty Revision.

Your Majesty, benevolent and enlightened, grieving over the decline of the national power, and graciously considering the trouble of the people, sent, in early days, ambassadors to Europe and America, and instructed them to discuss the question of Treaty Revision with foreign Governments. That was in the 4th year of Meiji (1871). Thereafter, during a period of over twenty years, the Ministers of State have been commanded to employ their utmost ability and energy for the settlement of the question. There has been no interval of neglect nor any suspension of energy. But the efforts of those statesmen were continually unsuccessful, and they failed to appreciate the Imperial purpose, because they did not consult the opinion of the country at large. We, Your Majesty's servants, judging from the condition of other countries, are persuaded that every matter relating to international intercourse must be arranged in accordance with popular opinion, since such questions have a direct and vital bearing upon the welfare of the country. No Ministers of State are competent to settle these matters in accordance with their own views alone. Had popular opinion been consulted, and negotiation with Foreign Powers conducted in accordance with it, the treaties might have been successfully revised ere now. The right of concluding treaties belongs to the Prerogatives of Your Majesty; and we, Your Majesty's servants, are not permitted to interfere with it. But since Your Majesty has made oath to the gods in heaven above and in the earth beneath, to manage all the affairs of the nation and to administer the empire in accordance with popular opinion, we, Your Majesty's servants, representing the Lower House of the Diet and the opinion of the people of the Realm, may be permitted humbly to express our opinions. They are:—firstly, that the extraterritorial system be abolished; secondly, that the empire's tariff autonomy be recovered; thirdly, that the privilege of taking part in the coasting trade be reserved; and fourthly, that all foreign interference in our domestic administration be removed.

Your Majesty, wise and benevolent, has never disregarded the desire of the country. We therefore humbly pray that Your Majesty will graciously grant our petition, and hasten the conclusion of treaty revision, thus enabling us to live joyfully under the full exercise of Your Majesty's Prerogatives, and to bask in Your Majesty's benevolence. Thus most worshipfully do we venture to present this humble address to Your Majesty.

Presented by
SUZUKI SHOSHI.
INAGAKI SHIMESU.
MISAKI KAMENOSUKE.
KATO HEISHIRO.
SHIMADA SABURO.
OZAKI YUKIO.
TAKATA SANAYE.
KAWASHIMA JUN.

ALCOHOL.

The following is the text of the Government Bill for taxing alcohol:—

BILL FOR IMPOSING A TAX ON THE SALE OF SPIRITS.

Art. I.—Persons engaged in the sale of alcohol shall be divided into the following classes:—

1. Wholesale merchants, namely, those who sell alcohol to other merchants.
2. Retail merchants, namely, those who purchase alcohol from a wholesale merchant and sell it to consumers.

Art. II.—Any person desiring to sell alcohol must obtain a license from the Authorities.

Art. III.—Any person desiring to obtain a license shall, in accordance with Administrative Rules, deposit a sum of not less than 10 yen and not more than 1,000 yen, in cash or in national bonds as security.

Art. IV.—When any merchant delays the payment of his business tax, the amount shall be deducted from above security. If the security is insufficient, the merchant shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions contained in the

Law relating to Delay of Payment of National Taxes, promulgated as Law No. 32 in the 22nd year of Meiji.

Art. V.—Any person who obtains a license, shall pay a tax annually at the following rates:—

1. Wholesale merchant—12 yen per *hoku* of alcohol.
2. Retail merchant—6 yen per *hoku* of alcohol.

Any person who sells alcohol that has not passed through the hands of a wholesale merchant, shall pay the tax for wholesale dealing as well as that for retail.

Art. VI.—The business tax shall be paid before the 31st day of the 1st month of the following year. Provided that any person who abandons his trade shall pay up to the time he closes the establishment.

Art. VII.—Every merchant shall keep an account book, and record all the transactions he has made.

The above account book shall be liable to inspection by officials appointed for the purpose.

Art. VIII.—Officials, in accordance with duly delivered orders of their superior, may inspect the account-book and other articles used in the trade.

Art. IX.—Any person engaging in business without a license shall be punished by the confiscation of all the alcohol, as well the articles and machines used in his business, in addition to being fined three times the amount of the tax. Provided that if any portion has been sold, the price obtained shall also be confiscated.

Art. X.—Any person making a fraudulent entry in his account book, or intentionally omitting any entry so as to reduce the tax, or who has so reduced it, shall be fined not less than 10 yen and not more 500 yen.

Art. XI.—Any person who neglects to enter items in his account book, shall be punished by a fine of not less than 2 yen and not more than 20 yen.

Art. XII.—In the case of any person who violates the present Law, the provisions for diminution of penalties, for aggravation of penalties on account of repetition of the offence, or for the concurrence of several offences committed by the same person, shall not apply. But cases falling under the 1st clauses of Art. 75 of the Criminal Code shall be excepted.

Art. XIII.—The present Law shall become operative on and after the 1st day of the 4th month of the 26th year of Meiji.

THE ATTACK ON MR. SHIBUSAWA RIICHI.

NOTHING definite is as yet publicly known about the motives of the *Soshi* who attacked Mr. Shibusawa's carriage on Sunday. But the opinion generally entertained appears to be that his opposition to the project of manufacturing the iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works in Japan, instead of procuring them from abroad, provoked the *Soshi* to assault him. A certain coterie of exceedingly naive persons in the Capital believe, or profess to believe, that iron pipes manufactured in Japan would be not only cheaper but much better than pipes made in England, America, or elsewhere. Mr. Shibusawa knows much better. He is a practical man of wide business experience, and he understands the absurdity of supposing that any people could suddenly start in and get ahead of the world in a maiden effort to manufacture an article requiring considerable skill, ample command of cheap material, and thoroughly organized works. The truth of this view was amply demonstrated when the tenders for the first batch of Water Works pipes were opened recently. Only two Japanese firms made any offer, and while one, which possesses a plant of machinery and has long been engaged in cognate work, frankly admitted inability to produce more than a fraction of the pipes within two years, asking, at the same time, prices considerably higher than those of European and American tenderers, the other, having no plant at all and no facilities as yet, boldly undertook to do everything, and advanced financial proposals based on obviously impracticable hypotheses. But the *Soshi* do not trouble themselves about such details. They deem it patriotic to deny the possibility of anything foreign being equal to anything Japanese, and since Mr. Shibusawa's patriotism does not take that form, they set about drubbing him.

NO. 11. OF "COSTUMES AND CUSTOMS."

MR. OGAWA has published the second volume of his "Costumes and Customs." It contains twelve collotype pictures, all of them equal, in point of excellence of technique, to the best

work hitherto done by this very successful artist. The subjects are, for the most part, Tokyo *Geisha*, chosen doubtless from among the most beautiful of their class. The grouping and posing are distinctly good, but in this matter it is necessary to note that Mr. Ogawa has not worked alone, no less than six of the twelve plates having been contributed by Professor Burton. These six, with one exception, are particularly effective, two, which represent dances at the Koyokan, being the most beautiful things of their kind we have seen. The tenderness of the collotype does not, perhaps, lend itself readily to colouring, but it seems to us that a little skilfully done tinting would add immensely to the attractiveness of these interesting volumes. Mr. Ogawa has the field to himself in the matter of collotypes: no other Japanese artist appears to approach him. His series of albums, when concluded, will be a unique index to the scenery and costumes of Japan.

THE GLYPHIC EXHIBITION.

THE display of glyphic work recently brought to a close in the Art Galleries in Ueno was not up to the level which we have been accustomed to expect in recent years. That, however, is easily explained by the fact that all the best artists are now busily engaged preparing articles for Chicago, whither the bulk of Japan's exhibits will have to be shipped in the course of the next three months. There was, however, one very remarkable object in the Ueno galleries, namely, an ivory eagle in the act of rising from a rock. The wings measured six feet from tip to tip, and the modelling was full of force and grace. Needless to say, that every feather was chiselled with the greatest care, and that the details were in every respect most accurate. This extraordinary and unique specimen was originally designed for the World's Fair, we believe, but it has been secured by the Imperial Household Department, and will doubtless be placed somewhere in the Palace, where it will constitute a striking and beautiful object. The artist is Mr. Kaneda, of Muko-yanagi-haramachi, Asakusa. He spent something like three years over this work, the proportions of which may fairly be called colossal when we remember the material composing it. Certainly his long labour is well justified by the result. The idea of such an immense mass of ivory suggests, at first, a certain degree of coldness and deadness, but no impression of that nature is conveyed by the object itself, probably because the lines are so fully of vitality and force, and the chiselling of the surface is so delicate. Truly it seems a pity not to let this most imposing specimen of the ivory carver's skill go to the World's Fair, whether the Imperial Household Department or Mr. Kaneda himself sends it. Very few pieces of equal merit, and certainly none surpassing it, are likely to appear among the exhibits, so that, to hold it altogether from the view of the millions visiting the World's Fair would be to remove an important feature from Japan's advertisement.

COUNT ITO.

COUNT Ito is steadily mending. Two of the wounds on his head have healed completely, and the third is in a much better condition than could have been hoped under ordinary circumstances. Within the past few days there was some inflammation attended by suffering in the wounded jaw, and yesterday the physicians in attendance finally decided that the four front teeth must be removed. To save these had naturally been an object, but it is certain that their removal—which was effected yesterday without much difficulty—will relieve all pain and be speedily followed by the recovery of the injured part. On the whole, it may be predicted that the Count's complete restoration to health will be speedier than the original estimate.

UNION CHURCH.

THE Gospel Meetings held with Dr. Meacham's Congregation at the Union Church for the past ten days have steadily increased in numbers and interest. The Society of Christian Endeavour recently organized there by the Rev. Dr. Clark, of Boston U.S.A., has greatly aided the pastor

in his efforts to awaken a religious activity among his people, and the series of services thus happily commenced are to be continued for some days to come. Last evening's discourse by the Rev. W. H. Daniels, the missionary evangelist who is the chief speaker at these meetings, was on the gospel of the future. This signified the prophetic, as distinguished from the historic, Kingdom of the Son of God; which Kingdom is mentioned in the New Testament no less than 57 times, and is a prominent theme not only in the gospels but in the Epistles, and especially in the Revelations. The speaker thought that the word "Kingdom" was used in the prophetic scriptures just as it is in the historic scriptures, and that it signifies an actual government, over actual people, on this planet, of which state the Son of God is to be the personal and visible head; an absolute monarchy conducted according to the principles laid down in the teachings of Christ as recorded in Matt., chapters five, six, and seven. This portion of the first Gospel usually mis-called "The Sermon on the Mount" is really Christ's announcement of the Code of His Coming Kingdom. The address closed with a brief suggestion of what this Divine ideal of a Kingdom might be; including also a few hints at the ideal Church, the ideal family, the ideal business system, and the ideal Society, all on the basis of Christian loyalty, and by the actual application of "The Golden Rule."

At the Union Church on Wednesday, the Rev. W. H. Daniels continued the discussion of the Gospel of the Future. The special topic was the manner of the coming of the Kingdom for which Our Lord has taught his people to pray. First, the Kingdom will be ushered in by the appearance of the King in person, accompanied by a retinue of his resurrected and glorified saints. It is not necessary to set the theory of the gradual coming of the Kingdom over against the doctrine of its personal and imminent appearing; both these truths are taught in the Scriptures, only we need to be careful to discriminate between the internal kingdom as it exists in the hearts of Christ's faithful followers and the outward and formal projection of that kingdom as the actual government over mankind. Second; the coming of the King, for the second time, will be with power and authority, in contrast with his first coming as the child of a peasant woman born in a stable in Bethlehem. With that Kingdom the patient persuasion of rebellious sinners ends, and the almighty power of practical righteousness takes control of the world. Thenceforth during all the personal reign of the Son of God on earth, with the exception of a brief period near its close, outward sin will be impossible. There will be no evil spirits to tempt men to do wrong and the rebellions of those who shall still reject the love and service of Christ will be curbed and crushed by the sovereign will of the King. He will secure at least outward obedience at all hazards, and thus the spread of sin will largely be prevented. Sinners sometimes imagine that because they are now at liberty to disobey the laws of Christ's Kingdom, that it will always be so; but the divine King is publicly pledged, in the sight of angels and men, to take unto himself his great power and to reign over the nations. Finally, the coming of the Divine King to set up his personal Kingdom on earth will be sudden, to the horror of his enemies and the joy of his friends. In view of all these truths our safety as well as our duty calls us to seek the favour and friendship of Christ the coming King.

"Christ may come within the life-time of persons now living," said the speaker, the Rev. W. H. Daniels, at the gospel meeting in the Union Church last night. The unwise attempts of some students of prophecy to fix definitely the date of that future event had, as he believed, done great mischief to the faith of many good people; but, like all other gospel truths, the doctrine of the second personal coming of Christ, to reign on this earth, must endure not only the opposition of its enemies but the in-

judicious advocacy of its friends, there are a few plain teachings as to the approaching end of the present age, in the scriptures, but when men attempt to read between the lines they are sure to read into the text some very hurtful errors. We cannot be too careful to follow the exact line and limit of the divine revelation, especially where there is wide and honest difference of judgment among learned and religious men. "The gospel must be preached in all the world" before the personal coming of the Kingdom of Christ, but that work is now going forward right royally; and we who watch for the appearing of our Lord in power and glory may lift up our heads for the time of our redemption draweth nigh.—There will be no gospel meeting to-night on account of the funeral of Miss West.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

FROM an essay by Mr. R. S. Gundry in the *Fortnightly Review*, under the above caption, we take the following:—

Writing two years ago, after a visit to Manchuria, with the late of Barmah and Tonquin fresh in his recollections, the present Minister of the United States at Peking hazarded a conjecture that "the vast outlying territories on the north and west of the Chinese Empire . . . will some time be subjected to a similar experience"; and Sir Thomas Wade, late H.M.'s representative in China, has expressed even graver apprehensions in speaking of the ignorance and apathy of the Chinese.

The words are pregnant with suggestion regarding the possibilities of the future in Eastern Asia. They echo, too, an anxiety which finds expression in high places in China itself; for, though the charge of ignorance is true as regards the mass of the people, there are enlightened statesmen who can perceive the danger.

The Taiping rebellion, and the advance of the Anglo-French armies on Peking, gave Russia the opportunity of wringing very important concessions from China in a treaty containing the following clauses:—

"The left bank of the river Amoor, from the river Aryoun to its mouth, shall belong to the Empire of Russia, and its right bank down to the river Usuri to China. The territories situated between the river Usuri and the sea, as up to the present, shall be possessed in common by the Empire of China and Russia until the frontiers between the two States shall be defined."

In 1850, General Ignatieff succeeded in imposing a fresh treaty confirming the first and ceding beside, the whole coast line between the Usuri and the sea, as far south as the Tumen river which constitutes the boundary of Korea.

Russia has been frequently accused of a desire to overstep the Tumen and add Korea to her Pacific seaboard. Vladivostok, her most southern port, is ice-bound during a portion of the year, whereas, the harbours of Korea are free from that inconvenience. She repudiates, of course, any such conception, and placed her disclaimer on record during the negotiations that attended our withdrawal from Port Hamilton. But China seems hardly yet convinced; having observed perhaps, like ourselves, that circumstances are occasionally too strong for the good intentions of the Czar. She may, however, find in the conflicting interests of others a safety greater than even treaties could ensure. For another great Power, hitherto little credited with designs of aggrandizement in the Far East, has been showing, lately, an interest in the once Hermit Kingdom that may prove its best safeguard against annexation to Primorsk.

At the opposite end of the long frontier the Marquis Tseng was able, at the next negotiations, to recover some of the lost ground sacrificed with such Oriental liberality in Chung-how's famous treaty. The Marquis procured the surrender of Kuldja without more serious concessions than the right to appoint Russian consuls at various points in Mongolia and Turkestan and facilities for commercial intercourse.

One important reason for China's anxiety to recover Kuldja was, that it constituted, in Russian hands, an open door into Sungaria; and it is mainly because they command passes into Kashgaria that she is disturbed by Colonel Yanoft's occupation of the Pamirs. But it is hardly possible for China to defend these outlying territories against Russia. The distances are too great in the absence of transportation facilities. It is 2,500 miles from Peking to Kashgar by the straightest route across Mongolia, and a railway must admittedly lengthen the distance by 900 miles. The mere mention of such distances is sufficient to affirm the urgency for railway communication if the territory is to be made defensible, and such an undertaking is surely beyond the reach of the Chinese Government under its present organization.

Turkestan and Mongolia are, however, regions of great distances, and it has been plausibly contended that China's best way of defending them will be by attacking Eastern Siberia, in case the emergency arise. It is indeed mainly towards Manchuria that Russia professes to be looking with apprehension where she speaks of China's aggressive designs.

The construction of line northward from Tientsin

toward Manchuria has actually been sanctioned, and the work so far advanced that the dispatch of troops during the late rising was materially facilitated. It is intended to push it on eventually to Kirin, the strategic centre of Manchuria. Kirin is situated in 43° N. and 127° E. on the upper waters of the Limgari, and is in communication by means of that river and its affluents with Tsitsihar, Sansien, and other principal rivers in northern Manchuria. Its importance has been recognized by the construction there of an arsenal which astonished Mr. James by its completeness and efficiency—"a large establishment filled with foreign machinery, with boilers and engines, and steam-hammers, such as one might see at Woolwich or at Elswick, all erected and managed by Chinese (trained of course under foreigners in China) without foreign assistance of any kind, turning out apparently excellent weapons, from repeating-rifles to machine-guns. Kirin is, in fact, the centre upon which all traffic between China and northern Manchuria hinges, and the roads are execrable, so that a railway would have a commercial as well as a strategic value. Up to seventy years ago, Chinese immigration into Manchuria was forbidden, but, although the prohibition was then removed, the absence of organization, and uncertainty of life and property, prevented at first, any considerable movement. Gradually, however, the tide gathered strength, and millions of Chinese are said to have crossed the frontier within the last twenty years, and are now spreading into Mongolia, and stretching out like a fan over Kirin and Tsitsihar.

China's wisest policy is to encourage this movement, Russia understands this well, and is said to entertain a lively fear of the progressive increase of Chinese colonization in the Usuri region, where the few Russian settlers command but indifferent success.

China is certainly pushing forward her military preparations more rapidly than her railways, but what is almost more surprising than her slowness to improve communications by land, is her neglect of the means of access by water expressly secured by the very treaties that register the Russian depredation. There is not a Chinese boat on the Amoor.

The bugbear of Russian aggression is ever present in Peking, as in Constantinople or Calcutta, and it is by no means impossible that China and England may gravitate to an alliance by force of circumstances. The Russians themselves have recognized the possibility of such an event; Turkey is no longer to be reckoned on, Persia is too weak, but China supported by British money and arms might render excellent service.

GOLDWIN SMITH'S SUGGESTION.

In a letter to *The Times*, Goldwin Smith submits a solution of the silver problem which he thinks is not now offered for the first time, but which he "respectfully commends to the attention of bimetallicists." He credits it to "an ingenious gentleman" in Washington. The proposal is that coins shall be made partly of gold and partly of silver, in order that "changes in the values of the two metals should exactly balance each other," and thus produce "a spontaneous adjustment." "In laying this device before the bimetallicists, Mr. Smith suggests that "a study of its properties and principles might put them on the road to truth." It might be convenient if the learned professor would follow the cautious example of Artemus Ward, and notify his readers at what point he leaves off being serious and begins to jest. Nothing in his letter marks the point of separation,—if there be one.

THE PRESS REGULATIONS.

THE Opposition in the House of Representatives, if the credit of being in earnest is to be extended to it, evidently imagines that Japan is a country into whose soil the most exotic institutions can be transplanted full grown; a country where systems can come to maturity in two decades that have barely attained complete development elsewhere in ten. The Radicals and Progressionists, severing at one blow all the bonds that have hitherto tied the press, would set it completely and finally free. Such large faith is greatly to be admired as a curiosity, but not at all to be commended from a common-sense point of view. Glad as we should be to think so, we find it impossible to believe that entire freedom of the press is yet possible in Japan. The men on whom devolves the responsibility of governing the realm and preserving the public peace are equally sceptical. But the *Fiyu-so* and the *Kashin-to*, who have no such responsibility, and who find the efficiency of their agitation hampered by any restraint upon liberty of speech, public meeting, political association, or organized demonstration, would boldly rescind every limiting law or regulation. In the

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three first sessions of the Diet they introduced and passed a Bill for radically altering the Press Regulations. Want of time or inclination on the part of the Peers prevented these Bills from becoming law, and now, once more, in the fourth Session, the measure was introduced in the Lower House. Having been already so often debated and passed, the Bill seemed likely to be voted forthwith. But an unlooked for incident occurred. The present Cabinet—the Harmony Cabinet it might well be called—is anxious above all things to remove the friction existing between the Administration and the Legislature. It gave the House to understand that, while very willing to meet the liberty-of-the-press men half way, a wholesale removal of restrictions could not be consented to. The House thereupon wisely entrusted the Bill to a Special Committee, with the fully appreciated understanding that its provisions should be amended in the sense of a compromise. The Committee acted accordingly. It ascertained the irreducible minimum of the Government's demands, and introduced alterations preserving the article which requires that any one starting a newspaper must pay security, retaining in Government hands the power of suspension, but limiting its exercise to a week, and authorizing the Ministers of State for War and the Navy to prohibit the publication of any military matter concerning which secrecy seemed advisable in the national interests. These conservative changes having been made by a specially appointed Committee under a clearly appreciated understanding, seemed likely to be accepted at once. But the House suddenly turned round and rejected every one of them, voting the original Bill in its integrity. So uncompromising was the mood of the members that they not only threw out amendments of procedure and principle, but declined to listen even to emendations of the text on account of perspicuity and construction. In short they virtually declared their resolve to have no manner of compromise with the Government. This, of course, signified the sacrifice of the Bill. It will either be rejected by the Peers, or amended in the sense of a compromise, or vetoed by the Sovereign. But the thorough paced character of the Opposition's animosity continues beyond cavil. Do these men really want to effect reforms, or is systematic opposition their sole object?

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

THE Budget Committee's amendments are now out. They aggregate nine million *yen* of reduction, roughly speaking. There can be little doubt that the House will endorse them, and the burning question then arises, what will the Government do. Will it withhold its consent to the changes falling within the scope of the 67th Article of the Constitution? If so, the Second Reading cannot be voted by the House, the Budget will not come into existence, and the old *impasse* will be once again created. Or will there be a compromise? The latter is the course now beginning to be regarded as most likely, in view of the general policy of Counts Ito and Inouye, with whom are Mr. Mutsu and Count Kuroda. But the Government's willingness to compromise may not be reciprocated by the Opposition. Such a contingency seems very probable, judging from the mood displayed by the Opposition towards the compromise effected by it sown Special Committee in the matter of the Press Regulations.

TAX ON OFFICIAL SALARIES.

THE tax on official salaries which is now in contemplation, a Bill on the subject having been submitted to the Diet, will be a tax in every sense of the word should it be adopted. The proposer of the Bill is Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, an Independent member who has hitherto given his support to the Government in the great majority of cases, and whose speeches and manner of voting are always distinguished by moderation and good sense. Such being the case, one is disposed to think that the Bill may be intended as a sort of compromise between the very drastic reductions of official salaries proposed by

the Opposition, and the reasonable changes to which the Government might be disposed to agree in that direction. If, on the one hand, the reductions advocated by the Radicals were carried out, and, on the other, this new tax were imposed, Administrative officials would find themselves in very sorry plight. According to Mr. Ooka's Bill, an official receiving a salary of 100 *yen* annually or less would be exempt from the tax. But all salaries over a hundred *yen* would be liable. In order to convey a clear idea of the working of the Bill we shall set down a few figures:—

Office.	Salary. Yen.	Tax. Yen.
Secretaries	800 to 1,500	34 to 850
Judges (ordinary)	900 to 1,200	63 to 96
Chief Secretaries	900 to 1,500	63 to 385
Vice-Ministers of State	4,000	1 449
Ministers of State	6,000	666
Minister President of State	9,000	1,096

If, again, this tax were imposed in addition to the reductions recommended by the Opposition, then the results would be thus:—

Office.	Present Salary. Yen.	New Salary. Yen. (reduced and taxed.)
Minister President of State	9,000	5,340
Ministers of State	6,000	4,450
Directors of Bureaux	3,500 to 4,000	1,800 to 2,250
Chief Secretaries	900 to 1,500	744 to 1,195

It is possible that official salaries are a little too high at present in Japan, but such sweeping reductions as the above seem beyond all reason. A tax of from 5 to 11 per cent., as contemplated by Mr. Ooka's Bill, seems an ample diminution. A judge of the lowest grade who receives only 75 *yen* per month, would find it a serious business to be required to hand over to the tax collector 3.75 *yen* of this already very slender amount, and a Governor of a Prison seeing himself mulcted to the tune of 2.50 *yen* monthly out of his patty stipend of 50 *yen*, would curse the day that saw a Diet convened in Japan.

Political caloric is seldom accompanied by consistency. Mr. Yamada Taizo, a leader among the Radicals, has distinguished himself each session by vigorous support of his Party's pet scheme, reduction of official salaries. At present the Puisne Judges of Japan receive a wretched salary of from 900 to 1200 *yen* per annum. They barely attain the salary level of chief tax-collectors, Inspectors of Gendarmes, or Probationers in the Railway Bureau, and they stand considerably below Examiners in the Audit Bureau, Appraisers in the Customs, and Private Secretaries. Nevertheless the Radicals would still further reduce the emoluments of these very underpaid but very important officials, and Mr. Yamada Taizo is a prominent Radical. When, however, Mr. Motoda Hajime introduced, on the 9th instant, a Bill for abolishing the system of Collegiate Courts, Mr. Yamada Taizo did not hesitate to advance, as a reason for supporting it, that he should prefer one highly trained and competent man on the Bench to a conclave of mediocre judges. If Mr. Yamada really entertains this view, why does he vote for reducing the salaries of the Judges? The highest pecuniary prize within reach of the Bench, according to the *Fuyu-to's* financial programme, would be only 4,000 *yen* annually. They would give the President of the Supreme Court only 500 *yen* annually more than a Vice-Minister of State. And they would give to Puisne Judges stipends of less than 70 *yen* monthly. Yet Mr. Yamada Taizo talks of preferring a few highly trained and erudite Judges to a number of mediocrities. The fact is that the *Fuyu-to's* programme would accentuate the fault of the system already existing: it would drive all the good men from the Bench to the Bar, and make the former a refuge for incapables.

METALS.

S. W. ROYSE & Co.'s report of October 29th, says:—Business in Pig Iron has been in an unsatisfactory state during the whole of October. Prices have fallen slowly but steadily for Middlesbrough Iron, the total drop being, however, only some 9d. per ton: Scotch Iron is also a little lower. Stocks in public stores at Glasgow have decreased by some 15,000 tons. Little business at present at Middlesbrough, makers not caring about

selling, and buyers waiting in the confident expectation of a further fall in prices, as shipments to some ports have now practically ceased for some time to come, though it is thought that there may be some demand for shipment to Scotland, prices for Middlesbrough being so much lower than for Scotch. Shipments from Middlesbrough are returned as 49,472 tons, up to the 24th inst., as against 66,466 tons during the corresponding period of last year. In the higher priced metals there is often an upward movement at this time of the year, and this is the case at present. Copper has advanced steadily from about £44 5s. to £45 15s. Tin is about £2 per ton dearer, and is firm. Spelter is steady at an advance of about 15/- per ton. Lead has fluctuated a little, but the changes have been unimportant.

AVE ATQUE VALE.

MR. AND MRS. J. H. WIGMORE leave Tokyo on Monday by the 3.35 train from Shimbashi. It is a subject of great regret that Mr. Wigmore has determined to return to America, though we can well understand his desire to pursue the wider career which his abilities cannot fail to open to him in the States. During the three years of his residence in this country, his researches have been remarkably close and extended, and their results have thrown a flood of light on the customs and canons of the Japanese in pre-Restoration days. His last contribution to the Proceedings of the Asiatic Society is in itself a work that might well represent the result of three years' labour. Occupying 443 pages of the Proceedings, it traverses almost the whole ground of private law in old Japan, and though Mr. Wigmore calls it by the modest title of "Materials for the Study" of that difficult and hitherto untouched subject, we are strongly disposed to think that the essay will remain a monograph for many a year to come. This, however, represents only a small fraction of Mr. Wigmore's work. His letters to the *Nation*, his articles in these columns, his lectures and his various papers on Japanese financial, parliamentary, and legal problems, indicate a power of research and a capacity of analysis and synthesis of a very high order. Mr. Wigmore's continued presence in this country would have enormously helped to elucidate much which has remained, and must remain, a *terra incognita*, unless some one similarly gifted with industry and acumen undertakes to exploit it. In bidding him farewell, we may be permitted to predict for him a career of high achievement and solid usefulness, and to thank him in the name of all students of Japan in particular and of ethnology in general for the admirable results he has accomplished. Mrs. Wigmore, we regret to learn, has been confined to her room for some days by a severe attack of lacquer poisoning, and has thus been obliged to dispense with many of the farewell visits which her numerous friendships, both foreign and Japanese, would otherwise have dictated.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DIET.

THE fate of the Government's taxation Bills was definitely settled yesterday in the House of Representatives. They found no supporters. Even Mr. Awaya Shinazo, hitherto a staunch and fearless friend of the Cabinet, revolted openly and went over to the Opposition, announcing his disaffection in a most significant speech. The Government is thus placed in an embarrassing dilemma. Its own measure for reassessing the taxable value of land has been carried through the Lower House and presented to the Upper, whereas the sources of revenue by means of which it intended to carry out the reform are cut off. The Representatives are determined that Administrative expenses shall be economized sufficiently to provide funds for not only the reassessment of the taxable value of land but also a reduction of the rate of the Land Tax. Moreover, the Peers also, by a slender majority of 3 in a House of 133, yesterday voted to present to the Government a Representation urging the necessity of cutting down official salaries. This, undoubtedly, is the burning question of the hour. Is it impossible to effect the sweeping reductions advocated by the Op-

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position without fatally impairing the efficiency of the Administrative machine? On the other hand, is there any chance that an exit from the present *impasse* will be found by such a concession on the Government's part? Can the Cabinet retain sufficient prestige and authority to administer the affairs of the empire if it admits, at the dictation of the opposition, that many millions of public money may be saved every year, and yet have not hitherto been saved? And supposing that the admission would not be fatal to all conservation of authority, is it reasonably probable that the Opposition will rest content with such a victory and refrain from further obstruction? These are immensely difficult problems.

CHINA NOTES.

THE simmering disquiet lately reported from Ichang has at last found vent, and a collision has occurred between foreigners and a Chinese mob. Curiously enough, the occasion chosen for the outbreak was the arrival of the newly appointed General; the moment the *Kiangtung* hove in sight with His Excellency on board, shouts of "Kill! Kill!" arose on all sides, and a serious scrimmage ensued. The roughs followed the foreigners into the Customs premises—whether they had retreated—and proceeded to reduce everything they could lay their hands on to its constituent atoms as far as their skill permitted. At last one of them, more valiant if less discreet than his fellows, aimed a blow at one of the Customs staff, and was promptly sent sprawling on the floor. "Then," says the Ichang Correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, "some fun began." The assistants were driven into the compound, and the gates locked. They found themselves caught like rats in a hole, and the Customs men fell to work in what the chronicler calls glorious style, thwacking and banging the entrapped miscreants without mercy, entirely unmoved by the howls which testified to the effectiveness of the retribution administered. While the rank and file were being thus belaboured, the ringleader was secured; seeing which, his followers rushed out at a side entrance in dismay, many of them as possible getting their heads cracked *en route* by a couple of foreigners stationed on either side for the purpose. Meanwhile, Captain Ravenhill landed a party of bluejackets, the mob being still "howling and dangerous," and the outlook decidedly threatening. But no sooner did the men put in an appearance than the entire rabble dispersed, "like crabs on the sand." By this time the City Magistrate had emerged from his lair in order to awe the crowd, but happily there was no crowd to awe; the bluejackets returned to their ship, the electric search-light (which had done good service) was withdrawn, and order once more reigned in Warsaw. What the General thought of it all is not stated. The Correspondent whose account of the affair we have been summarising thus concludes:—

Thus we have taken one step "forrader" to the goal. Next time I suppose we may look for a little more letting of blood, for, according to the oldest inhabitant, had the steamer but arrived earlier, and the rioters got to work before, there would still have been more fun for they would have endeavoured to eke out the daylight at mischief.

This then, is the welcome accorded to the new general at Ichang and two foreign ladies, who, I hear arrived by the same steamer, take up a permanent residence here. We now await future developments, but meantime the plucky fellows of the Customs staff here deserve high praise: first for their great forbearance before they actually started; secondly for preserving the property of their employers from wreck; and thirdly, for the splendid way in which they broke heads when once they commenced business. Some of the Customs Chinese boatmen also fought like niggers; and their conduct deserves to be recorded. The captured leader has been handed over to the city authorities; he admits he is a student.

Mr. Everard, the British Consul, has acted throughout a very trying week in a vigorous manner and with the help of Captain Ravenhill can be relied on, whatever happens, to give the foreign residents prompt assistance.

Are any of our readers familiar with the expression "Yankee Cow?" It seems to be much in use among foreign seamen in the China Seas, and a Correspondent of the *Daily News* writes a letter explaining its origin. The "absurd

combination," he says, is nothing more than the English mariner's attempt to pronounce the syllables Yang-küch Kou, or Ram's-horn Hollow, the name of an ancient sea-port in Shantung. Corruptions of this sort are common enough, and their evolution is a most interesting and instructive study for those who have nothing better to do. A well-known example is John Tuck, a mysterious magnate familiar to British tars anchored off Canton in the days of the occupation. If referred to the Viceroy, whose Chinese title is Tsung-tü; in Cantonese Tsung-tuk. Another is the public-house sign of Goat and Compasses from the old pious legend "God encompasseth us." The number of such is legion.

Apropos of mobs and riots, a most interesting letter from Dr. Griffith John of Hankow (unfortunately far too long to quote) relates how two friends, dupes, and adherents of the notorious Chou Han, have been convinced of the error of their ways by personal experience of missionary doctors. So great was their distrust to begin with that one of them refused to drink Dr. John's tea, lest it should be bewitched. The young man had come to see if he could be cured of a hare-lip, but repeatedly went away from the hospital door, unable to screw up his courage to enter such an uncanny place. But he subsequently made Dr. John's acquaintance, was perfectly cured of his malformation, and acknowledged how grossly he had been deceived. Both he and his friend expressed their intention of going to "have it out" with Chou Han himself, and begged Dr. John to write a letter to that extraordinary genius for them to deliver in person. The following paragraph is worth extracting:—

I asked Mr. Jen why he hesitated to come to the hospital, and this was his reply:—"I was afraid that if I once entered I might never come out again. I thoroughly believed that the foreigners did gouge the eyes and cut out the hearts of men, women, and children. I know now that it is all false; but this is to be ascribed to the fact that I have seen. I believe that if Chou Han himself could only see, his feelings would change just as mine have changed." Then he told me that in Chang-sha ninety-nine out of every hundred at least thoroughly believe these reports about the foreigners and their doings. If two or three experienced Missionaries could settle down in Chang-sha, and carry on their work of preaching and healing at Chang-sha, as they are doing at Hankow, a great revolution would soon take place in the Hunan sentiment with regard to us. I pray that that day may soon come.

The *North China Daily News* appeals to the Japanese Government to lend a hand in the eternal crusade against the Woosung Bar. It appears that a case has recently occurred in which a Japanese steamer was detained no fewer than eight days by this intolerable obstruction. And not only have ocean-going vessels been thus inconvenienced; coasting-steamers, and even the light-draught Ningpo and river-steamers, have had to wait for hours and even days, to get sufficient water to cross. "This and similar detentions will, we hope, stir up the Japanese Government, if our Government, are tempted to lie back, satisfied with the assurance that the Chinese did with the dredger *Anding* everything that was possible, and that the removal of the Woosung Bar is an impossibility, and the obstruction an Act of God, to be borne patiently and no longer struggled with. As we have said before, this despair is unreasonable, and the interests at stake are far too large and too important for the Bar to be left as it is."

Prince Kung's reference to the Bar as a "Heaven-sent Barrier" has been much criticised—as though the Prince had spoken of it as a Divine gift, specially vouchsafed to the Celestial race as a means of inconveniencing their barbarian invaders. But the word 天 or Heaven is constantly used, not only in philosophical works, but in the commonest parlance, in the sense of Nature. A "heaven-produced" thing means simply a natural thing. The probability is that Prince Kung intended to say no more than that the Woosung Bar was the product of

natural causes. But of course that is no reason why it should not be removed, even according to Chinese modes of thought.

We congratulate our Shanghai morning contemporary upon having at last found salvation upon the currency dispute. It has been wobbling for some time; but now the logic of facts appears to have grown too strong even for traditional orthodoxy. Early in the present month it published an excellent and decisive leader on the subject. Since then it has shown signs of that peculiar zeal which is characteristic of converts—which expresses grieved astonishment at the continued blindness of former associates. "It is curious," exclaims the Shanghai journal, "how obstinately the London papers adhere to monometallism." We suspect that not so very long ago the *Daily News* would have written, "It is satisfactory to note how firmly the London papers adhere to monometallism." We welcome the change, which is all the more noticeable a little further on. Our contemporary must not rat again.

Two notable utterances have been made lately about this question. One is by Sir John Lubbock, who is not a bimetalist. Sir John proposes that the rupee should be taxed; that is, that a tax of ten per cent. should be levied on rupee-coinage for the benefit of the Indian Treasury, the effect of which would be to appreciate the rupee in its relation to gold, and at the same time to increase the revenue. "That sounds right," says the *Spectator*, "and would be very pleasant to the Indian Government; but it rather increases our intellectual difficulty, which is this: All monometallists say, and we should *prima facie* agree, that no action of any Government can alter the ratio between gold and silver, that being a question of their relative supply and demand. Sir John Lubbock agrees with this, but then observes that taxation at the Mints will alter the ratio. If so, then State action can alter it, and the first idea of the bimetalists, however unsound their method may be, is in principle correct." Of course it is.

Mr. Balfour's speech seems to have been very bold and uncompromising. It was delivered at Manchester, and was of course particularly acceptable to his audience. His idea is—we quote from the *Spectator*—that the appreciation of gold, which goes on continuously, and has no visible limit, is an injury to the world; that it is necessary to found currency on the wider basis of the two metals; and that a ratio between the two can be maintained by the Governments of the world. He maintains that the contrary theory, that the price of a commodity is outside the reach of legislation, is untrue, for that legislation does affect the value of silver both in England and France. "Of all conceivable systems of currency," said Mr. Balfour, "that is the worst which gives you a standard steadily, continuously, and indefinitely appreciating." On the face of it, a medium of exchange which fluctuates in value is a monstrous anomaly. Suppose the sovereign were worth 19/6 to-day and 21/- next week, what basis would there be for the commonest mercantile transactions in England itself? Let monometallism be established between Caithness and Cornwall, for say a month. How many monometallists would there be in Great Britain at the end of it?

MR. HOSHI TORU.

It is alleged that a plot has been discovered to attack Mr. Hoshi Toru by night. Mr. Hoshi, as President of the House of Representatives, has shown himself a fearless, impartial, and resolute man. He respects neither persons nor parties, but does his duty boldly and conscientiously. This does not altogether please the implacables. In their field of vision there is no such thing as a *via media*. A man must be either wholly in one camp or wholly in the other. So soon as they detect a semblance of impartiality, they immediately construe it into an evidence of disaffection. Some of

these gentlemen have prepared and circulated a document declaring that Mr. Hoshi does not sufficiently consult the interests of his Party, and, moreover, that he is in communication with the Government. The intention of such accusations was to pave the way for an attack by *soshi* which the plotters contemplated. But it is said that happily the whole scheme has been discovered, and that the police know the names of the youths designated to carry out the attack.

THE TOKYO CLUB MONTHLY DINNER.

ABOUT eighty persons sat down to the last monthly dinner of the Tokyo Club in the Roku-meikan. Four Ministers of State were present, Count Inouye, the founder of the Club, Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu, and Viscount Nirei. After dinner Professors Milne, Burion, and Mr. Ogawa delighted the convives with an admirable display of dissolving views, representing the beauties not only of Japanese scenery but also of the Japanese fair sex. Some really exquisite landscapes were shown, and also some most interesting pictures of earthquake effects. A particularly vivid representation of disaster at Charleston or Casamicciola was unexpectedly succeeded by a striking likeness of "Our Vice-President," Mr. H. W. Denison, which elicited an outburst of applause. Mr. Edwin Dun also appeared, a good deal larger than life but not more cheery, in the interval between the reflections of a vigorous geyser and a placid Fujiyama, and Mr. T. B. Glover's portrait in a characteristic position provoked a chorus of "Auld lang syne." The evening was delightfully spent, and proved, as usual, a means of bringing Japanese and foreigners into hearty fellowship.

MISS WEST'S FUNERAL IN TOKYO.

A LARGE congregation assembled in the Azabu Methodist Church yesterday, at 10 a.m., to pay its last respects to the lamented disciple of Gospel temperance, Miss West. The services were opened by singing "Rock of Ages" in English, after which the assembly was led in prayer by Rev. Kumiya, pastor of the M. E. Church in Tsukiji. President Ikeda of the Meiji Gakuin read the opening Scripture lesson. The gentleman appointed to deliver the funeral address not being present, Dr. Cochran, in his stead, delivered a very forcible and touching address respecting the departed friend and the noble work in which she was engaged. This was interpreted afterwards into Japanese by the Pastor, Rev. Hiraiwa, with some additional remarks. Rev. J. H. Ballagh, from Yokohama, offered the closing prayer in a very touching manner. The congregation then joined in singing "In the sweet by-and-bye," after which the Rev. Daniels offered the benediction. The remains were then taken to Shimbashi, and thence to Yokohama per train, where further services were held.

FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS IN JAPAN.

THE *Kokkai* has this paragraph:—"The salaries of the foreign employés of Japan are exceedingly high. We do not say this from the point of view of the country's wealth. The fact is that compared with the emoluments they would obtain in their own countries, the sums paid to them here are excessive. Hence their services might be secured at rates much less than those paid to them by the Japanese Government at present. When a new employé, coming to Japan, sees that a man of the same qualifications as himself, or even inferior qualifications, is receiving a higher salary, he makes comparisons in his own mind, and either asks for higher pay, or is too discontented to work as well as he might. This surely is very bad economy. Of course there is no help for the cases of persons who have already been engaged and whose terms of service have not yet expired. But it is advisable that officials who have to do with these matters should give serious attention to the question."

Japan is, of course, entirely justified in seeking to obtain the services of foreign experts at the lowest possible figures. We do not in the least quarrel with the *Kokkai* for urging that

view of the question. But we greatly doubt whether our contemporary's general proposition as to the excessive rates now paid will bear examination. Let us consider actual figures. In a Supplementary Budget now before the House of Representatives, appropriations are sought for re-engaging eight foreign Professors in the Imperial University. The salaries of these Professors vary from \$300 to \$400 per month. The general rate is \$370, and only one among the number reaches \$400. That is to say, men of the highest attainments, filling the most prominent and honorable positions in the sphere of Japanese education, receive from £600 to £640 annually. Does the *Kokkai* imagine for a moment that such rates of pay are high in comparison with the emoluments attaching to similar positions in Great Britain or America? If so, our contemporary labours under a very serious hallucination. The question is perfectly plain and simple. The *Kokkai* alleges that the foreign employés of Japan receive excessively high salaries; not merely high as viewed from the point of Japan's capacity to pay such stipends; but also "exceedingly high" as compared with the remuneration which their services would command in their own countries. Now, if this allegation be true, it admits of incontrovertible demonstration. We invite the *Kokkai* to demonstrate it. There can be no doubt that our contemporary speaks in good faith. Let it then set two columns of figures side by side; one representing the sums paid by Japan to her foreign employés; the other, the sums attaching to similar posts in Great Britain or America.

We have thus far spoken of simple arithmetic. Even on that score we distinctly challenge the correctness of the *Kokkai's* assertions. But simple arithmetic is very far from exhausting the question. There is another vital consideration that has to be included in the calculation. It is this—that the foreign employé in Japan has no future whatever before him. Promotion never comes. Public recognition never comes. An increase of emoluments never comes, or at best comes only in the form of a fitful and very limited recognition. There is no career before him. He is a mere hireling; a veritable servant. He has cut himself off from all the chances that lie in the path of industry and intellect in his own country. His monthly stipend, the enthusiasm of science, and the approval of his own conscience are his only rewards. At any moment he may be discharged, and find himself as low down on the ladder of fortune and fame as he was when he first placed his services at the disposal of Japan. The case is altogether different with persons treading the same paths in England and America. Every year of successful service constitutes there a title to larger recompense both financial and moral. Permanency of office, growing emoluments, increasing reputation, public recognition, an assured future, and a comfortable old age—these are the prizes that attach in Great Britain and America to scientific and scholastic posts such as we have been considering. Factors of this kind weigh many times heavier in the balance than a mere difference of so many dollars more or less per month. It is beyond all question that every fifty cents of professional salary in England possesses more real value than a *yen* in Japan. Let the *Kokkai* take this into consideration. In the temper of the present time, the note struck by our contemporary may easily swell into a diapason of discontent. Let us then having something like the truth told.

The *Kokkai* may ask why, if a position in England or America is so much preferable to a position in Japan, Englishmen and Americans do not stay at home instead of taking service in this country. The explanation is simple; the salaries paid by Japan are higher at the outset than those obtainable in the West, and, moreover, the novelty of the field is attractive. A man commencing his career in Great Britain or the United States cannot obtain as high rates of remuneration as Japan offers. Neither does he

understand that his prospects here are virtually limited to the reward offered at the start. He hopes that in Japan, as in the West, the future has always something brighter for a zealous, clever man than the past has given him. It is a vain hope, but by the time its vanity has been discovered, the race has left him behind. He cannot go home and take the place he would have reached had he been in the competition throughout. Therefore he holds to what he has. Japan has in her service several men who, so far from being over paid as the *Kokkai* alleges, are receiving salaries far below what their attainments and work should command, and far below what they would be receiving in their own country after the same time and the same general success.

We are not blaming Japan in this matter. She chose her course from the outset and has trodden it steadily. Her decision has always been not to give rank to any foreigner exempt from her jurisdiction, and not to recognise him as a member of her permanent service. She would probably have chosen differently had circumstances permitted, but since her choice has relegated her foreign employés to the place of mere servants, the fact must not be left out of the account when a comparison is made between the advantages and disadvantages of their position.

WHAT ENGLAND IS SAYING OF JAPAN.

THE process by which Englishmen learn to know about Japan is slow and somewhat fortuitous. The comparatively few persons who travel eastward read, doubtless in many cases though not in all, the standard works about the country, and some, even though they do not contemplate a journey of such length, read the writings of men like Norman, Arnold, "Loi" and so forth, for the sake of the literary ability of these authors and of the novelty of their subject. But there is all the while going on another and a much wider kind of education, the education imparted by the columns of the daily press and the periodicals. Frequently it is a decidedly misleading education, but on the whole, it arouses interest in things Japanese and helps to dispel the clouds of insularity which are happily beginning to lift from the horizon of the old country. Let us see what this ephemeral schoolmaster had to tell the people of Great Britain in the interval between our last two mails:

The *Court Circular* has discovered that the Emperor understands French. The news is conveyed in the following paragraph:—

M. de Guerville, who has just returned from a visit to Japan, says that when he was given Royal audience the Mikado insisted that he should be addressed in French, which he understands well. The Empress was becomingly dressed in a costume of light-grey silk, the creation of a Paris dress-maker, and made in the latest style.

The *Gentlewoman*, as becomes her sex, discussed a more domestic subject:—

Japanese laundresses have increased their prices! I must say I think they are justified in doing so, for their original charge was one penny for everything, from a collar to a counterpane. Some of the washer-folk have ventured to try and get a little more money than this from some of the foreigners, so a company has been started to wash all ladies' things at 2 dols. (8s.) per 100, and gentlemen's at 1½ dols. (6s.) per 100.

Oh, how I should welcome some of these moderate souls over here! When one thinks of 3s. 6d. to 5s. for a white dress it makes one green with envy.

Who can fail to sympathise with the plaintive lament of this dear little thrifty body whose frocks pass so expensively through the wash tub. But we may comfort ourselves with the reflection that the rise of prices spoken of by her is not universal throughout Japan. Take a foreign household in Tokyo, for example. The charges paid for washing are 2 *sen* per piece, large and small, for the general articles of daily use, and 1 *sen* per piece for things appertaining to the nursery. Two *sen* is not even a penny, but only two-thirds of a penny;

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and one *sen* is a little less than a half-penny and a little more than a farthing. But why does the *Gentleman* taunt us with the suggestion that our dollar is worth four shillings. Ichabod!

Hokkaido, even distant Hokkaido, has just been attracting English attention. The *Financial Standard* has this to say about it:—

The longer we wait the more we see the similarity between this country and the islands which form the Mikado's Empire. A Consular report just received from Japan states that Government surveyors entirely bear out the estimate of American engineers with regard to the coal deposits of Yezo, which is an island about a large Ireland, containing no less than 150,000,000,000 tons of marketable coal. This is two-thirds the quantity which England is reputed to possess. After this discovery we do not see a very bright prospect for the coal beds of Tonquin, for which Mr. Chater, the well-known Hongkong financier, has obtained a concession from the French Government.

The *Liverpool Mercury* has a startling paragraph on the same subject, but the *Glasgow Engineer* gives a much more moderate estimate, for it states that according to an elaborate Japanese report, published last March, embodying the results of the most recent surveys, the workable seams in Yezo contain over 600 million tons, the total for the rest of Japan being 700 millions. There is a big difference between six hundred millions and a hundred and fifty thousand millions.

Industries. dealing in thoroughly practical matters, gives the following statistical items:—

During last month (September) Japanese imported from Great Britain 98 tons of bars and angles, 465 tons of railway material, 145 tons of cast and wrought iron, and 51 tons of lead, as compared with 446 tons, 31 tons, 154 tons, and 76 tons respectively in September, 1891.

According to the report of the Japanese Cotton Spinning Mills Association, thirty-four spinning mills, representing 324,800 spindles, were at work during the first six months of the present year. During that period the quantity of yarn spun by these mills amounted to 41,138,791 lb., giving employment to 5,420 men and 16,110 women.

A correspondent also addresses the same journal thus:—

SIR—I have read with much interest your recent leading article on this subject, which gives a very good idea of recent industrial progress in that country. As you remark, however, the official report on which the article is founded is not "so perfect as it might have been, either in matter or arrangement, as it is evident that those who supplied the information do not seem to have possessed the necessary technical skill and commercial knowledge to make it a model of what such a report should be." They especially have not distinguished between passing phases and permanent effects. They might have known that alternate periods of depression and of rapid extension in business seem to be the necessary consequence of the present industrial arrangements or rather want of arrangements. There can be little doubt that in Japan there were too many cotton mills started within a very limited time, and that the competition which was brought to bear upon them, and which they exercised on one another, had the effect of reducing their profits at the time the report was prepared. But that seems to have been only a very temporary effect, and soon after the report was completed a very great improvement took place. I find from a report which was published in one of the Japanese journals that a remarkable revival also took place in the demand for yarns, with the result that a great improvement took place in the dividends of the various companies.

It is stated that the general increase of prosperity shown by the dividends for the first half of this year is mainly due to the increase in the demand for yarn, but, to a certain extent, it is also owing to the raw cotton being purchased at a cheaper rate, and to the improvement in female labour. As you point out, Japan as well as Lancashire is finding out that the economic conditions of industry are more important than even the technical.

As to the question put by the writer of the Consular Report—whether it is wise for a nation of artist-artisans to take upon itself the burden of competition with the world in the great staples of Western manufacture—the leaders among the Japanese think that it is possible to attain a high position in the world of industry without sacrificing any of the peculiar artistic faculties for which their

country is celebrated; in fact, that modern industry may open up new and much wider fields for these faculties. YOUNG, & C., ORIENTAL.
London, 22nd October, 1892.

Mr. Okoshi's paper on the proverbs of Japan, read at the 5th Ordinary Meeting of the Japan Society on the 12th of October, has excited interest. Somebody has described proverbs as the "crystallised idiosyncrasy of ages," but such an epigrammatic blasphemer has no business to be seriously regarded. Proverbs are the most delightful of all intellectual links between the minds of our fathers of old and the thoughts of our own time. The rate of their disappearance from daily use is a fair measure of the widening interval that separates us from the past. Japan loves them and quotes them because her cults and creeds inspire above all things reverence and love for the men that are no more. She has time to look backwards. But for the busy world of the West there is only one impulse, a perpetual rush towards what the dying Laureate called the "star capped heights." A peculiar and decidedly novel feature of Mr. Okoshi's lecture was that his recapitulation of Japanese proverbs was accompanied by object lessons. "The subject of the lecture," we read in the *Queen*, "was illustrated by pictures, objects in metal, ivory, in lacquer and wood, which were lent by Lady Colin Campbell and Mr. Hart. The connection between the illustrations and the objects was pointed out by Mr. Ernest Hart in a lively description of the idea hidden in the artistic work, which is generally admired for its quaintness rather than its meaning. The miniature articles in ivory, instead of being merely carps, badgers, cats, &c., illustrate, it would seem, hundred of proverbs, such as "To be beaten is to win," "When in haste avoid short cuts," "When the cat is away the mice will play." To the "wit of one and the wisdom of many," the Japanese have added, in their artistic rendering of proverbs, a skill which is as delightful in its cunning as are the proverbs which they interpret, proverbs which have become part of the daily speech and the written language of the people.

Mr. Douglas Sladen's book, with the execrable title of *The Yaps at Home*, seems to have been favourably received. Why on earth a man should choose such a title it is difficult to conceive. Imagine calling a book *The Brits at Home*, or *The Germs and their Domestic Customs*, or *The Chins and their Habits*. A good title is difficult to evolve, but a worse title than Mr. Sladen's would also be difficult to discover. Mr. Sladen made up his mind that the Japanese are closely akin to Italians. He refers to this remarkable resemblance again and again in his book, but he gives only two grounds for the novel faith. One is that the curio shops of Yokohama remind him of nothing so much as the Mercato Vecchio, and the other that Mr. Shigeo is the Double of a Florentine. This is a capital example of the isolated pin points upon which some writers erect pinnacles of general theory. The peculiarity about the particular person alluded to by Mr. Sladen is that he differs in quite a remarkable degree from the ordinary type of Japanese. To take him as a standard of comparison is to deduce a universal law from an accident. But if we find it hard to share Mr. Sladen's mood in this respect, we by no means intend to condemn his book on the whole, for we regard it as a decidedly interesting and well-written addition to the library of works on Japan.

The *Daily Chronicle* has the following interesting note:—

A few weeks ago we referred to the wreck of Japanese junks on the north-west coast of America, and to the possibility of the continent having been unwittingly discovered and peopled by Chinese through a similar accident happening to a prehistoric Chinese vessel. Apropos of this, there has recently been found among a collection of objects from an Indian grave-house near the Chitkat village, at the mouth of the Chitkat River in Alaska, a wooden mask, which has for its eyes two large

Chinese bronze coins. The natives declare that the grave is that of a famous medicine man who lived 200 years ago, and Lieutenant Bolles, who found the object, is firmly of belief that the coins were obtained from a wrecked junk. This is not unlikely, though no dependence is to be placed on Indian chronology. In the climate of Alaska a wooden mask could scarcely survive for two centuries. Moreover, it must be remembered that for nearly a century there has been intercourse between China and the American coast, and that the early four traders sold their peltry in China, and refitted their vessels for Nootka and the northern coast in Canton or Shanghai.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE attendance at the Yokohama Literary Society meeting in Van Schaick Hall last evening fell short by one only of a hundred persons. The readings and original paper were all on Russian subjects and the music was principally from the works of Russian composers. The programme was as follows:—Pianoforte duet: "Sonata a la Russe" (Weber) Mr. J. T. Griffin, and Miss Griffin; Reading: "Introductory remarks on Russia, Mr. J. T. Griffin; Original Paper: "Tolstoi," Miss Birkenhead; Songs: "Fair Miuka," "The Postillion," Mr. F. Herb; Reading: "Nijni Novgorod," Rev. E. S. Booth; Pianoforte duet: "Spanish Dances" (Moskowsky), Mrs. Thorn and Miss Thorn; Reading: "Russian Gastronomy," Mr. J. T. Griffin; Song "Fiddle and I," Mrs. Borthwick, Violin obligato, Miss Moss; Reading: "Herr Wickiey and the Archimandrite's Banknotes, Mr. Balk; Song, Punctinello, Mr. Pollard; Russian National Anthem, Mr. Griffin.

THE KANAGAWA PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY.

It is stated that the Cabinet has decided on the suspension of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly, and that an order in that sense was forwarded yesterday through the proper channels. We do not see what other course can be adopted towards the recalcitrant assemblies. They deliberately and willingly exceed their powers when they pass votes of want of confidence in Prefects and Chiefs of Police, and it is quite plain that if they were permitted to dictate to the Central Authorities whom they will have and whom they will not have to govern them and direct the local police, the appointment of these officials by the Government would become a mere farce. Whether the system now in operation be right or wrong, it must be maintained until altered by lawful process. But assuredly all this friction is most unhappy and disquieting.

"THE AWKWARD SQUAD."

THE *New York Sun* has a delicious bit of chaff at the expense of those who are investing lyrical tears in their hopes of inheriting the Laurel Wreath. We give it exactly as it stands:—

"Don't let the awkward squad fire over my grave," said Burns. The awkward squad is firing over Tennyson's grave. Sir Edwin Arnold, Mr. Lewis Morris, Mr. Alfred Austin, three of the aspirants for the laureateship, have lapsed into elegy. They have produced three pieces of sickening doggerel which ought to be punished with solitary imprisonment for life, or compulsory reading of their own works. Mr. Morris asks:

"Dear friend and honored master, art thou dead?" Undoubtedly Tennyson is dead, Mr. Morris. Haven't you heard of it? And you have given new reason why his death should be deplored. "I am Merlin, I am dying, I am Merlin who followed the gleam," remarks Mr. Austin. Mr. Morris can't die. Mr. Austin. Vivien is probably making the old man's life unhappy now by reading your verses to him in the forest of Brocelande or Bredigan. Sir Edwin Arnold's elegy is not only the worst piece of verse produced since the time of Amos Cottle, but it is as bad as anything else that he has written.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT'S VISIT TO THE EAST.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT has, we learn by yesterday's mail, postponed for a few days his departure on his long journey round the world, in order to be present at the Lyceum Theatre on the first night of Henry Irving's revival of "King Lear," which is fixed for Saturday, 5th November, if not the Thursday before. Mr. Scott has been present at every Lyceum first night since 1863 (thirty years ago), when Fechter took the theatre to produce "The Duke's Motto," and Kate Terry enchanted all literary and artistic London. He has seen and criticised every performance of Henry Irving and Ellen Terry since they first

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stepped on the stage, with the exception of Irving's performance in "Ivy Hall" and Ellen Terry's juvenile gambols under Mr. Charles Keary, though of course Mr. Scott was a boy player long before that. The first performers that Mr. Scott can distinctly remember are Madame Vestris in "King Charming" at the Lyceum in the "forties," and James Anderson with Miss Vandenhoff in the "Lady of Lyons" in 1850 at Drury Lane—not bad memories for a man of fifty. Mr. Scott sails for Egypt on board the P. and O. *Pekin* on 11th November.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.

We regret to learn that His Imperial Highness the Prince Imperial is very ill. The malady is said to be typhus fever, but we trust that this rumour may yet turn out to be erroneous. The Prince is not naturally robust, and a sickness so grave as typhus fever could not fail to expose him to considerable danger.

We are glad to be able to state that the Prince Imperial's malady shows signs of distinct improvement. Since Monday the fever has sensibly abated, and the physicians now look forward to a speedy recovery. The news of this happy turn will be received with universal rejoicing in Japan, not merely because the Prince is the Emperor's only son, but also because His Imperial Highness gives promise of very high capacities.

The Prince Imperial is now pronounced out of danger. His temperature and pulse are normal, and complete convalescence may be looked for soon.

LIEUTENANT ROOKE.

THE escape of Lieutenant Rooke, one of the nine only survivors of the *Roumania* disaster, can hardly have been more miraculous, says an Indian paper, than his preservation on the frontier eighteen months ago. It may be remembered that Mr. Rooke was cut down by a fanatic, and that whilst he lay on the ground helpless at the mercy of the Ghazi, his horse launched out with his heels and protected his master from what would undoubtedly have been a death-blow, till assistance arrived. The would-be murderer, who declared that he had no personal feeling against Lieutenant Rooke, but was actuated solely by a desire to win Paradise by slaying a Sahib, was subsequently hanged at Quetta.

THE AMATEUR PERFORMANCE.

We desire to draw attention to the array of talent set forth in the advertisement of the amateur performance to be given in aid of a local charity and the funds of the Public Hall on Tuesday evening next, and to point out that there is every probability that there will not be a seat untaken. We are in a position to state that each item of the musical portion of the entertainment will be great treat and a distinct success, and it is only necessary to glance over the names of the ladies and gentlemen engaged in "Little Toddlekins" to see at once that the rattling old farce will be represented in such fashion as to bring down the house.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

THE meeting of the Railway Council, for which the public has been looking forward with no inconsiderable interest was held for the first time on Tuesday in the room usually used for holding Courts of Marine Enquiry in the Department of Communications. We learn from the vernacular papers that the day was occupied wholly in determining the regulations for conducting the meetings. The second meeting was to take place yesterday morning at ten o'clock, when questions relating to the extension of several private railway lines were to be considered.

TOKYO TEMPERATURE.

THE temperature in Tokyo has been lower during the past ten days than for some years past in the corresponding period of the year. In places which the sun does not reach it remains the whole day. Hopes are entertained that this cold wave will purify the air and ward off dis-

ease, a muggy December having often been attended by a considerable amount of sickness. Reports from various parts of the country show that there have been great variations of temperature, in some places as much as 40 degrees in 24 hours, and in several districts this has induced numerous cases of various ailments.

THE STRIKE IN HONGKONG.

MATTERS remain very much as they were at the Kowloon Docks, the boilermakers and engineers being the only men actually on strike. Little inconvenience, however, has been experienced by the Company, and the necessary repairs to the *Yarra* were soon effected. Though the malcontents have not shown any disposition to give trouble, preparations have been made for any ebullition of feeling.

The Dock strike was brought to a termination yesterday, says the *Daily Press* of the 7th inst., the men practically agreeing to accept the Company's terms, and to-day they will return to work. The arrangement come to is that the men are to work increased hours to entitle them to a day's pay for overtime. Whereas formerly they got a day's pay for working four and a half hours overtime, they will in future work six hours for the same wages.

THE SPANISH CABINET.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that, according to a telegram from Viscount Nomura, Japanese Representative in France, a change has taken place in the Spanish Council of Ministers. Señor Sagasta becomes President of the Council instead of Señor Antonio Canovas del Castillo, and the Marquis de la Vega de Armijo takes the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, *vice* the Duke of Tetuan. The Cabinet, in short, returns to its composition of 1890.

ANOTHER RIOT AT ICHANG.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* of the 5th inst. says:—News was received yesterday afternoon by wire of a riot having occurred at Ichang on Friday evening on the arrival of the *Titub*, or Provincial Commander-in-Chief. H.M.S. *Est* landed a force of blue-jackets for the protection of the Europeans, and no foreigners were injured. All is now quiet. Our Ichang correspondent hinted in his last letter that some more trouble might be expected, with the large number of students now in the city.

THE Messageries Maritimes steamship *Yarra*, now in the dock at Yokosuka, is expected to return to Yokohama on Sunday, 18th inst., to secure her departure from this port to Kobe and Shanghai, on Tuesday, 20th inst., at 6 a.m.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* states that while on her way to Kobe the *Neirstein* has taken the ground at Ohama, near Bakan, owing to an accident to her machinery.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

An alarming rumour is circulated in the capital to the effect that, in view of the refractory tendency of the Diet, the Government intends to advise the Sovereign to order a prorogation. It is further reported that, should the Diet remain unreasonable after the termination of the prorogation, it will be dissolved. This rumour is not believed by a large section of the public, but there is no doubt as to its circulation in circles supposed to be well informed of political secrets. The *Choya Shimbun* evidently credits the story, for it warns the members of the Diet against going too far in their wanton opposition to the Government. The Cabinet, having done everything in its power to conciliate the Diet, naturally expects to be met by the latter in a like spirit. Should the members of the Diet prove so perverse as to mistake the Cabinet's anxiety to pacify them for a sign of weakness, they will very soon find out their mistake. For, in that event, the Cabinet

will not hesitate to adopt decisive measures. The *Choya* even goes so far as to remark that the present Ministry, when once it makes up its mind, will be far more prompt and firm in the execution of its decision than were any of its predecessors.

The *Jiyu*, the Radical organ, observes, evidently in reply to the *Choya*, that the Popular Party is not afraid of a dissolution of the Diet. But at the same time it professes to doubt whether the Cabinet is so ignorant of its own interests as to resort to such a suicidal course. The last general elections resulted in the return of a number of men who owed their success entirely to official protection. The presence of such men is a disgrace to the Diet, and the Radical organ would welcome an opportunity to deprive them of their seats. In this respect, a dissolution of the Diet would, in our contemporary's opinion, be a great favour to the Popular Party. Strong as the *Jiyu's* language apparently is, no careful reader of its article can fail to perceive that it is at heart very anxious to avert the threatened catastrophe. For it takes much pain to persuade the Cabinet of the unwisdom of dissolving the Diet. It may even be assumed that the *Jiyu's* apparent equanimity is the result of confidence that the impending collision between the Cabinet and the Diet on the Budget and other questions will not be suffered to reach a dangerous point.

The principal subject of discussion in the press during the present week has been the resolution passed by the House of Representatives on Tuesday to the effect that the Imperial Ordinance relating to the Game Regulations is a violation of the constitution. The arguments advanced on both sides have been noticed in these columns, and we shall here confine ourselves to a review of the opinions entertained by the papers of different parties as to the bearings which the resolution has upon the Ministry. The organs of extreme Progressionists, such as the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*, maintain that the Cabinet ought either to dissolve the Diet or to resign. The interests affected by the Game Regulations are comparatively insignificant, but the question, say these journals, involves constitutional points of great importance. Now that the Diet has at last unanimously declared the Regulations unconstitutional, the Ito Cabinet must decide between an appeal to the country and surrender of power.

The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, is more moderate and perhaps also more ambiguous. It is not satisfied with Count Goto's declaration that the Government will take no cognizance of the resolution under consideration. Such a declaration it regards as a slight upon the Diet, and it advises the Cabinet to treat the Diet at least as its equal. Beyond these generalities, it refuses to travel, not deeming it opportune to define what course of action the Cabinet ought to take in the juncture. Evidently, the *Jiyu* does not agree with the *Kaishin-to* papers in thinking that the Ministers are bound to tender their resignation.

Some of the Progressionists themselves seem to think that the Ministers are not called upon to resign. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which always expresses the views of the moderate section of that Party, believes that everything will go right, if the Cabinet advises the Sovereign to sanction the new Game Law now about to be passed by the Diet.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* ridicules the resolution as a child's act. A resolution passed by one House of the Diet has no effect, according to the principle of the Japanese Constitution. In spite of all the talk of the House of Representatives, "the Game Regulations," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "will remain in force, so long as the Ministers of State take no notice of the resolution."

THE POLICE IN TOKYO.

IN a recent issue we alluded to the conduct of a Tokyo policeman who required a foreign lady to descend from her horse when the Imperial cortège was passing along the street. Further particulars subsequently learned have modified the view we then expressed. It appears that the lady was not in the street along which the EMPEROR was about to pass, but in a side street leading thither. She was, in fact, unconsciously approaching the line of the Imperial route, and, when informed of the fact, would have turned and ridden back had not the policeman insisted on her dismounting. In so acting, the constable of course exceeded his orders. Neither custom nor regulation prescribes that the public shall be detained on foot in every avenue of approach to the road reserved for the EMPEROR'S passage. As to whether it is permissible to sit on horseback or in a carriage in the actual line of route, we cannot speak with assurance, but certainly the habit of the police is merely to keep the centre of the street clear, and to allow the public to congregate on either side, on foot or in *jinrikisha*. Horses, or horsed vehicles, however, appear to be kept out of the crowd as far as possible. On occasions of State Progresses the whole street is reserved, as well as a certain portion of the approaches to it. The chief difficulty with foreigners is that they are not accustomed to the observance of invariable ceremonial in respect of Imperial comings and goings. In Great Britain the QUEEN, under ordinary circumstances, passes through the streets in precisely the same manner as do any of her subjects. She does not disturb the traffic in the smallest degree, and the idea of anyone being obliged to dismount from horseback or draw his carriage to one side until the Royal vehicle has gone by, is never entertained. But on occasions of State Progress the case is very different. The police and troops then reserve the street just as they do in Japan, and, from the mere point of view of safety to life and limb, we doubt greatly whether any equestrian or any vehicle drawn by horses would be permitted to remain in the actual street along which the cortège is to travel. As to the side streets, however, there can never be any doubt. Nor is there in Japan. The officious constable on the 25th ultimo behaved in a manner that his superiors would never sanction, and it is to be regretted that steps cannot be taken to identify him for purposes of reprimand. What has to be remembered, however, is that, although a nominal distinction exists in Japan between State and Ordinary Progresses of the SOVEREIGN, every passage of the EMPEROR through the streets is, in fact, invested with a degree of ceremonial unknown in the West except on special occasions.

Foreigners will do well to be prepared for this, since in such matters visitors to this country must of course comply with the etiquette of the land. Neither a Chinaman nor a Parsee removes his head-gear as a token of deference in his own country, but if either the one or the other were to remain covered in a London street when the QUEEN passed he would quickly discover his mistake. So, in Japan, foreigners must comply with Japanese forms. On the other hand, it is certainly desirable that the police of Tokyo should be instructed more accurately. On the 29th ultimo, a constable sought to compel a foreign lady to remove her hat as the EMPEROR passed, and, contrary to the habit of Tokyo police, he showed some rudeness in attempting to emphasize his view. There can not be any regulation which requires ladies to uncover their heads on such occasions. We believe that this constable, also, was led away by ignorant zeal. In point of fact foreigners are, as a rule, more willing than the Japanese themselves to show respect to the EMPEROR as he passes, and it is alike unfair and injudicious to signal them out for a display of wholly needless and misdirected authority. The Japanese nation would be greatly humiliated were the belief to be entertained and declared by foreigners that whenever the SOVEREIGN leaves his Palace, Occidentals had better shut themselves into their houses. It would be very easy to establish such a creed, however, if a few constables were to follow the unwarranted example of their two comrades on the 25th and 29th ultimo. Therefore we venture to suggest to the Chief of the Metropolitan Police that, for the sake of the country's reputation, to say nothing of courtesy and hospitality, constables should be more clearly instructed as to the precise nature of their duties in connection with the comings and goings of the EMPEROR.

TOKUSHIMA PREFECTURE.

THE exceedingly unsatisfactory state of affairs in some of the provinces has driven the Cabinet to take an exceptional step. Readers who have followed the course of events must have perceived that the example of baiting and defying the Government which has been so persistently set by the *Kaishin-to* and the *Jiyu-to* since the opening of the Diet, has gradually extended to the localities. When men like Messrs. INAGAKI SHIMESU, ARAI SHOGO, TATEKAWA UMPEI, TANAKA SHOZO and others, under leaders of such light and learning as Messrs. SHIMADA SABURO and KONO HIRONAKA, make it their daily business to obstruct the progress of legislation, belittle the Ministers of the Crown, and propagate the notion that under representative institutions the patriotic and proper course for the people's representatives is to be perpetually in antagonism to the Government, it is not unnatural that

the same programme should be adopted by the constituencies which have sent these gentlemen to the Diet. Perhaps, indeed, the cases should be reversed. Perhaps, the parliamentary obstructionists only echo the sentiments, and carry out the wishes of the constituencies. But it is hard to think that. The inhabitants of the provinces used always to be such law-abiding and peaceful folks, and their development of defiant qualities has followed by such a long interval the commencement of truculent displays in the Diet, that we can scarcely regard the latter as not standing in a causal relation to the former. At all events it is beyond question that if anything like harmony reigned in the House of Representatives between the political parties and the Government, the wretched friction now reported from the provinces would never have taken place. Whether the Opposition is justified in adopting such tactics we need not consider here. Oppositions have frequently behaved similarly in the Occident without losing contemporary credit or being pilloried in history. But the point is that Japan has never been accustomed to anything of the kind. It is still beyond her comprehension that warfare in the Diet may be consistent with peace outside its walls, and that the authority of the SOVEREIGN'S Government may be deserving of all deference though the Ministers authorized to exercise it are treated with something very like contempt in parliament. The country will learn this lesson sooner or later, but in the interim the provincials have so far lost their heads that the task of governing them is exceedingly difficult. In Saitama, in Niigata, in Fukuoka, and in Tokushima the Prefectural assemblies have virtually declared that their Governors must be changed, and news telegraphed from Okayama on the 12th instant indicates that there also strong pressure is being brought to bear on the Local Assembly with the object of forcing it to pass measures which will at once produce a deadlock. In short, the attitude of these various places must be described as frankly defiant. Now, whatever a Governor of a Prefecture may be, and however faulty his methods, it is plain that so long as he holds his commission from the SOVEREIGN, a Prefectural Assembly is not vested with competence to vote for his removal, or to abstain from all practical exercise of its deliberate functions while he remains in office. There are duly prescribed methods of moving the Central Authorities to transfer or retire a local Governor, but no Local Assembly is entitled to take the matter into its own hands, and if the Central Government permitted anything of the kind, the efficient administration of the empire would at once become impossible. A decisive measure had therefore been taken in Tokushima Prefecture.

In accordance with the 89th Article of the Law of Organization of Cities and Prefectures, an Imperial Ordinance has been issued dissolving the Assembly. New members will have to be elected within three months, during which interval the Governor has competence to administer the Prefecture on his own authority. It is to be feared that a similar step will have to be taken in other prefectures also, and inasmuch as the people everywhere declare their resolve to return the former members, conditions of friction are inaugurated which may involve very serious results. Nothing could be more regrettable than such a state of affairs. That it is a reflection of the systematic opposition carried on in the Diet seems an unavoidable conclusion.

THE GAME REGULATIONS.

ON Tuesday the House of Representatives, by a vote 174 to 73, decided that the Game Regulations issued in October are unconstitutional. A great deal has been written and said about these Regulations, but so much of it has been the outcome of obvious ignorance, that the debate in the House comes as a welcome indication of the views really held by the opponents of the Regulations. Those views may now be stated in the briefest manner. They are, first, that the issue of any such Ordinance is in excess of the powers vested in the SOVEREIGN by the 9th Article of the Constitution. Secondly, that since the Regulations modify an existing tax, their enactment by any process other than that prescribed with regard to "laws" is a violation of the 62nd Article of the Constitution. Thirdly, that since the 27th Article of the Constitution guarantees the right of property of every Japanese subject against any restrictions other than those imposed by "law," therefore an Ordinance imposing such restrictions is unconstitutional. Let us very shortly examine these three points.

The 9th Article of the constitution declares the EMPEROR competent to issue Ordinances "necessary for the maintenance of public peace and order and for the promotion of the welfare of this subjects." The Ordinances here referred to are not "urgency Ordinances," but "Administrative Ordinances." That is to say, they are Ordinances issued under ordinary circumstances. So far as the 9th Article is concerned, if it can be shown that an Ordinance is in any way calculated to maintain public peace and order and to promote the welfare of the people, its issue is constitutional. No one attempts to deny that the Game Regulations are more or less designed to secure these ends. The introducers of the condemnatory motion themselves admit as much. Hence their essay to establish a violation of the 9th Article was an obvious extravagance.

The 62nd Article of the Constitution distinctly provides that neither can a new tax be imposed or an existing one modified except by recourse to "law." But the same Article, with equal distinctness, excepts "administrative fees" from the "taxes" contemplated in the above restrictions. The payments prescribed by the Game Regulations are voluntary payments made by persons desiring to obtain shooting licenses. They differ essentially from taxes in the fact that they are not levied for the purposes of revenue or imposed as a common duty to be discharged by all. Their voluntary and partial character, however, though it may suffice to exclude them from the category of ordinary taxes, does not suffice to include them in that of "administrative fees." For the latter purpose it must be shown that payment of a license fee secures to the payer some special compensatory service from the Administration. This is where the real difficulty of the problem occurs. Much may be said on both sides. The Government, acting with the advice of the best Japanese and foreign experts, has declared its absolute conviction that fees paid for game licenses are administrative fees. The Opposition, with equal assurance, assumes a contrary view. It has to be remembered, however, that whereas the Government's original judgment was not affected by any interest or prejudice whatever—the question being absolutely without political importance—the parties in opposition are, on the contrary, swayed by a paramount desire to condemn all official procedure. All thoughtful outsiders will agree that only the temerity of ignorance can betray anyone into a dogmatic verdict in either sense.

The 27th Article of the Constitution guarantees the right of property of every Japanese against all restrictions other than those imposed by "law." It is alleged that the holder of a shooting license acquires some sort of title to trespass upon other people's lands, and thus to disturb their right of property. The pretence is beyond the range of any ordinary comprehension and need not be considered here. It does seem, however, that unless the Opposition had been conscious of an exceedingly weak case, they would never have attempted to bolster it up by such arguments as the first and third of the above.

The supporters of the motion consisted of the *Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Domei* Club, together with some National Unionists and Independents. It does not appear that they regard their decision very seriously, for they declined, by a majority almost equally large, to amend the language of the motion in the sense of challenging the Government's tenure of power.

The motion itself is peculiar in more than one sense. It is not a Bill, but simply a "decision" (*Ketsugi-an*). In other

words, it does not go up to the Peers. Hence it now stands unchallengeable so far as parliamentary action is concerned. Further, it proceeds to the extraordinary length of declaring that an Imperial Ordinance which has been in operation for a month, was invalid from the outset. It rescinds retrospectively as well as prospectively. That is something novel in the history of legislative assemblies. It is also something impossible in administrative practice. The House of Representatives is very happy in being free from the responsibility of giving effect to its own decisions.

"SOSHI."

FROM what we gather as to the ways of *soshi*, these gentry proceed in such a manner that the people on whose behalf they appear to exercise their lawless methods are often less responsible than might be imagined. A case illustrating this recently came to our notice. The hero is a quiet unobtrusive member of the House of Peers, who, during the sessions of the Diet, lives in perpetual apprehension of intrusion by *soshi*. He does not, indeed, fear any violence at the hands of these political parasites. They do not either threaten or demonstrate, but merely solicit. On the eve of the Diet's opening, or immediately after its session commences, the youths present themselves by twos and threes at the member's residence, and ask for food and lodging. Gifts of money they never seek. All that they require is a roof to cover them and food to sustain them. In return, they undertake to act in the interests of their host, without, of course, defining the precise nature of the action contemplated. Up to the present he has succeeded in keeping them out, but one of the penalties of his success is that he is obliged to rent a part of his house, since, if the *soshi* saw him occupying a spacious mansion and possessed apparently of sufficient means to keep it up, he would find it almost impossible to resist their importunate attempts to quarter themselves on him. We do not suppose that there are many instances of a member so much annoyed on the one hand, and so willing, on the other, to live under the shadow of an unnecessary annoyance. But the strong probability is that, in numerous cases, the *soshi* have found it a successful policy to thrust themselves upon reluctant patrons by insidiously limiting their proposals to food and shelter and refraining from any definition, which might be startling, of the services they propose to render. A Japanese finds it very difficult to refuse importunities of such a kind, especially if the persons seeking hospitality happen to belong to his own province and even to his own district, a feature to which the *soshi* doubtless pay

texture of Japanese life there is a thread of obligation often too slender to seem worthy of notice in Western eyes. In prosperity, a man is expected to recognise the claims of his most distant relations. When he becomes an official, his duty is to extend every possible aid to the young office-seekers of his native place. When he starts an industry or inaugurates a commercial enterprise, he must find employment for all persons having the slightest claim of consanguinity. When he reaches a position of any prominence in politics, he is morally bound not to turn his back upon such of his provincials as choose politics for a career. One result of these widely ramified obligations is that the Japanese seem to fail constantly in matters of organization. There is no absolute freedom of selection. The man best suited to fill a post has to be set aside in favour of some one with a moral claim, and the number of persons associated for the conduct of an undertaking has to be regulated by considerations other than those of pure economy. Another result is that *soshi* can grow and flourish. These unwholesome parasites, instead of being peremptorily dismissed, are temporized with in deference to some tenuous claim or on account of some remote contingency. To give food and board to four or five of them for a few weeks is not a serious tax. Morally invertebrate people find such a concession much less painful than a stern refusal. Thus the *soshi* obtain a tolerated footing in a household, and by and by they take muscular means of showing their gratitude or demonstrating their necessity. It is an evil that feeds upon itself, and grows fatter all the time by the process. Mr. MINAYE, the latest victim before Mr. SHIBUSAWA, appears to have harboured *soshi*, and through their lawless zeal in his behalf, he had his arm hacked by other *soshi*. Thus an atmosphere suited to the development of these parasites is created. When violence is in the air, they find a *raison d'être*. They would soon cease to exist were the time less deficient in moral courage.

THE END OF AN EXTRAORDINARY CAREER.

NO reports of serious illness immediately preceded the announcement of Mr. JAY GOULD'S death, and it may therefore be inferred that his end was sudden; yet the event could not have been wholly unexpected, in view of the numerous and rigid precautions with which the failure of his health had latterly compelled him to surround himself. On more than one occasion, warning had been given that his life was dependent upon precarious chances, and that accident might at any moment bring his course of adventure to a fatal close; and although these statements were for a considerable time believed to be deceptively designed, to facilitate the execution of his gigantic schemes, the

evidence of his increasing weakness became at last too direct and pronounced to be disputed. After his pitiful collapse in the midst of a memorable railroad conference, no one questioned that his bodily power was wasted beyond recovery. Since that occurrence, few signs of his participation in great enterprises have been visible, and it was supposed that his business activity could no longer be directed to the accumulation of new stores of wealth, but merely to the establishment of a firm legal claim upon the vast possessions already in his grasp. To accomplish this, and to preserve what remained to him of physical vitality, were thought sufficient tasks for his declining energies.

The duty of reviewing, however hastily, the life and achievements of this extraordinary man is not an attractive one. If adherence to the rule that nothing but good be spoken of the dead were demanded in his case, the only possible alternative to an annalist guided by common opinion would be to pass his name unnoticed and his deeds unrecorded. For it does not appear that, by the great bulk of his countrymen, he was ever credited with a worthy action or—unless in his intimate domestic relations—with an impulse that was not selfish and predatory. In what light his character will be regarded by justly critical Americans of the next generation, we can not foresee clearly. But contemporary judgment, loudly and repeatedly proclaimed, has been so scathing and relentless that it has often seemed to us incredible how any human being could year after year continue to exist under it. To pass from early manhood to mature age through a ceaseless storm of invective; to know that one is shut out from the sympathy of his fellows by an animosity which is never for an instant relaxed, and never tempered by a word or thought of kindness; to feel one's self the object of an abhorrence which is always manifest, even when thinly disguised under a pretence of servile adulation;—these are ordeals which few men have been called upon to bear. Yet JAY GOULD is said to have endured them not only with composure, but with a perpetual air of careless and sneering unconcern. At no time did he suffer himself to appear sensible of the odium in which he was held. To popular opinion and its moral consequences he seemed utterly different. It was only when brought into personal peril by some supremely hazardous exploit that his assurance deserted him; and experiences of this kind were so infrequent, and so dexterously veiled in obscurity, that they had but slight effect in diminishing his reputation for callous and reckless effrontery. He over-rode, said his critics, the hostile sentiment of the community as audaciously as he scoffed at its rights and trampled on its laws.

To observers from afar it has been a marvel that a career like his, if truly represented by common report, could prosper

in any land where society is held together by principles of order and integrity. It has been pointed out, however, that his rise and first steps of progress were coincident with a period of such disorganization and instability as the great Republic had never before witnessed. The excesses of the war had uprooted many of the old traditions, and the bonds of moral restraint were everywhere loosened. Opportunities for desperate speculation were open to the unscrupulous in all directions. A little while before, JAY GOULD had been a toiling civil engineer, without means, and without expectation of fame or fortune. Chance threw him into contact with that mass of tinsel imposture, JAMES FISK, just then emerging from the chrysalis of his peddler's waggon, and beginning to soar in the spangled metropolitan sphere of his choice. Hand in hand these kindred spirits plotted and pillaged, until the more aggressive and notorious of the pair was laid low by an assassin's bullet,—the victim of one of his own horde of victims. It was regarded as characteristic of the survivor that he lost no time in converting to his private possession, by methods recently disclosed in the New York courts, the entire bulk of his murdered partner's property, leaving the latter's family in a state of comparative penury, from which they never afterward rose. With the disappearance of FISK from the scene, many supposed that the stupendous game of so-called spoliation would come to an end, but it was soon apparent that JAY GOULD'S unaided resources were more than sufficient to keep alive and to multiply the projects previously conducted by the joint combination. All that he handled turned to gold for his purposes, and to ashes for the needs of other men. There seemed to be no limit to his ambitious greed, or to his faculty of satisfying it. Great lines of railroads, telegraphs, and steamships fell into his clutch, some to be wrecked and plundered, others to be utilized more permanently in his campaigns of conquest and absorption. Law had no terrors for him, the tribunals with which he mainly had to deal being merely convenient parts of his system. If meddling newspapers asked ugly questions, he bought them, and used their influence for his special ends. Once or twice, not oftener, he met with rebuffs, and was forced to disgorge some of the millions he had gathered; but the millions thus refunded bore but a small proportion to his immense aggregation, and before he reached his fiftieth year he had amassed a property surpassing in magnitude the largest acquired by any other citizen's individual exertions, and exceeded by only a few—perhaps two at the most—of the great inherited American fortunes.

That JAY GOULD was in many important senses a danger to the country in which he dwelt, and that the course he consistently pursued was menacing to

public confidence and tranquillity, has been persistently maintained by persons familiar with the financial history of the United States during the past third of a century. The exceptional power which he wielded was always thought liable to be exercised to the injury of the community. Property of every description was contaminated by his touch. The slightest rumour that he was about to connect himself with any railroad or similar corporation had the instant effect of creating a panic among the shareholders, and lowering the market price of stock and bonds. Toward the close of his life he was commonly regarded as incapable of any proceeding in which some discreditable motive could not be detected. When he took the step—unprecedented in his record—of offering a gift of thirty thousand dollars to a certain church fund, presumably at his daughter's request, a chorus of derision followed the transaction, in which the donor and the recipients were assailed with equal contumely. We can recall no other example of a man so conspicuous in the world's affairs, whose name was never mentioned with consideration or respect, and for whom no reputable place could be found in the estimation of his fellow creatures. His death will be the subject of many melancholy commentaries, but that it will elicit any sincere expression of regret, outside of his circle of personal association, it would be unreasonable to believe. Yet, in recording this contemporary view of an extraordinary man's career, we are strongly tempted to doubt whether many persons could be found who, possessing his exceptional faculties, would have used them differently, and whether a great part of the obloquy heaped on his name is not inspired by sentiments as unworthy as any of those attributed to him.

NEW CODES AND OLD CUSTOMS.

XII.

IT remains to take notice, briefly, of certain criticisms, recently made, that bear upon the present subject.

The first to be considered are contained in the Manifesto of the Code Opponents, appearing last June. Of the innuendoes and loose statements contained therein it is impossible, even if it were worth while, to take notice. We have in the preceding chapters endeavoured to be concrete in method, and we shall notice those points only where that document specifies distinctly the point of conflict between custom and Code. This it does in eight instances only; four of these concern family law and public law, which are here out of our purview.

The first charge is that Art. 22 and 26 of Book II., declare barracks, Government offices, etc., to be public property and untransferable as such, and, hence, "even though the Diet sanctions the sale, none of the above named property may be disposed of

to private individuals. This * * no longer forms a part of modern codes, and certainly does not agree with the prevailing practice in Japan." But it will be apparent to any one that an Administrative ordinance may at any time declare such property no longer devoted to public purposes, that is, no longer "*hors du commerce*;" and it is then immediately acquirable by private persons. The assumed perpetual untransferability of such property is absolutely without foundation in the Code.

The next charge is that Art. 233 of Book II.

confers on individuals the right of using for industrial or agricultural purposes any water found in streams or canals, even though the appropriation of such water causes great inconvenience to hundreds of persons, and even though the water has to be conducted through other people's grounds in order to be utilized. . . . If these laws go into force, a few greedy individuals would be able to appropriate the supply which has heretofore sufficed to meet the wants of hundreds of agriculturists.

We quote the full statement because it will show how deliberately demagogic is the misrepresentation which the authors have here dared to make. Art. 233 reads:

Every proprietor who has the right to use natural or artificial waters lying without his estate may, on paying compensation, require a passage over the intervening estates, for industrial as well as for agricultural and domestic purposes.

The harmony of this provision with existing custom has already been shown. But the statement in the Manifesto erroneously reports this Article; no right to use waters is given by it, but merely a certain facility is given to those who (by other principles) are found to possess such rights. The Manifesto has read into this Article the provision of Art. 229, establishing rights of taking flowing water for riparian owners. Even here the effect of the Article is grossly misrepresented. We need not take account of the qualifications imposed ("without modifying the direction or the volume") which the Manifesto completely ignores; we need only cite the next Article (230) which prescribes that

in case of disagreement between riparian owners and others desiring to make use of the water, the Courts shall decide, taking into consideration local usages and harmonizing the needs of household hygiene with the interests of agriculture and industry.

In the face of this Article, how was it possible for authors not planning to deceive their readers to employ the positive and sweeping language above quoted, and to assert that

a few greedy individuals would be able to appropriate the supply which has heretofore sufficed to meet the wants of hundreds of agriculturists?

This one instance ought to be sufficient to discredit the whole document; but we must note briefly the third citation. This is Art. 31 of the Commercial Code, which, it is said, requires "every trader to keep minute accounts of his business," and then sets forth the various transactions required to be entered. The moral is said to be that

to keep books after the fashion prescribed would involve the employment of a trained book-keeper and of a law student, an expense which the majority of traders are not in a position to defray.

It will scarcely be believed that at the very

beginning of this Art. 31 occurs the provision (which the Manifesto carefully ignores) that the trader "is bound to keep books in the manner usual in the branch of trade in which he is engaged, and fully setting forth the conduct of his business," and four classes of transactions in particular are then specified for daily record. The clause in italics puts quite a different complexion on the meaning of the Article, though it did not suit the purpose of the authors to refer to it. It is a fact, of which these writers are apparently ignorant, that the art of book-keeping has been carried to a very fair degree of variety and complexity by the Japanese merchant, and that the requirements of the Code will clash very seldom with their usages. This these lawyers might doubtless have learned if they had even glanced at the 100 pages describing Commercial Books, in the "Collection of Commercial Customs," printed 12 years ago and described in the "Introduction" before us; but such a method, or indeed any method, of informing themselves on their subject has been sedulously neglected by these masters of innuendo and evasion.

A fourth citation remains. Art. 824 allows Japanese registration to ships owned (1) entirely by Japanese subjects, or (2) by firms or companies domiciled in Japan under Japanese jurisdiction, provided (a) all the partners, or (b) one half the partners, if a limited firm, or (c) all the directors, if a stock company, are Japanese subjects. The authors declare, carefully abstaining from setting forth this Article, or the words in italics, that "it will be possible for ships to be owned and registered by companies more than one half of whose shares are held by foreigners;" and on this basis alone it protests that "a law which plays into the hands of foreigners is certainly to be deprecated. With such a law in operation the coasting trade would soon pass into the hands of foreigners." This is a fair sample of the extravagant, not to say baseless, conclusions that are put forth to readers from whom the evidence for these conclusions is carefully concealed. That all the directors of a company shall be Japanese subjects is a safeguard sufficient at once to discredit the statements of the Manifesto; but they allow no intimation to escape that any such limitation exists.

We have spoken very plainly about this Manifesto, because we think that the evidence of insincerity is too clear to be doubted, and because a demonstration of this, on the points where demonstration is possible, will enable us to judge how trustworthy are its authors' statements where they confine themselves to general and intangible assertions which elude direct disproof.

XIII.

THE other criticism of which some notice is unavoidable is contained in an article

published some months ago under the title "Tokugawa Laws and their Administration." It was professedly a résumé of the material contained in a collection of Tokugawa laws recently published in Japanese. The "Materials for the Study of Private Law" will show, on a comparison, how un-representative and untrustworthy the former collection is. But upon it were based certain generalizations so incorrect and misleading that attention must here be called to the new opportunities offered for their disproof by the volumes of the Asiatic Society. We shall not attempt here to offer this disproof of the errors founded on the perusal of the Japanese collection; ample refutation will be found without difficulty in the pages of the Asiatic Society's volumes. We shall only say that among the generalizations thus worthy of peremptory contradiction are the following:—

A perusal of such reports of the law cases as are extant reveals the fact that the morality or immorality of actions, rather than their legality or illegality, was the chief subject of inquiry with the Tokugawa judge.

The laws issued were of the vaguest description, savouring more of the character of moral precepts and exhortations than of laws.

The laws were all based on the fundamental principle of Confucianism—the submission of the younger to the elder, of children to parents, wife to husband, and so on.

With the judge who administered these laws the relationship of the litigants determined the nature of the verdict.

Individual rights, as such, were not recognized. Men's social acts were invariably controlled and guided so as to be made to subserve political ends.

Law and Morality were to the men of those days synonymous terms. Tokugawa legislators themselves saw no distinction between them.

The written laws which guided their decisions were few, and such as existed were so loosely worded as to be capable of the most varied interpretation.

In the majority of cases which came before the courts, social custom, political considerations, and the current ethical code, rather than any written law bearing on the case *sub judice*, swayed the mind of the judge.

We feel bound to declare, with the Asiatic Society's volumes as our vouchers, that every one of these nine generalizations is either totally untrue or radically misleading. Some of the charges are of so serious a nature that one is impelled to call them nothing less than gross libels on the Tokugawa legal system and on the civilization of Japan. Some future time must serve for a detailed refutation; meanwhile, the reader who wishes to have correct ideas can do nothing better than erase these generalizations completely from his memory. But one statement in particular we feel it necessary to disprove here, because it bears most intimately on the methods of Tokugawa jurisprudence and upon the legal traditions and spirit of the country and their harmony with the juristic spirit of the West. Besides, the demonstration of the error in this case can be made so clear and in so short a compass that it will perhaps be accepted as a type of what might be effected with the remainder also. The passage reads:—

In the days of Hidetada, a magistrate called Shimada Yuyu, who had been administering justice for 20 years, purposed publishing a full account of the cases that had come before him. This

was forbidden by the Shogun, who acted on the advice of the *Gorojiu*, or Chief Councillors of State. The ground of the objection is worth recording. It was contended that since the verdict in each case must depend on the facts elicited, and since these facts cannot possibly coincide in any two cases, it would only lead to mistakes were the decisions of judges to be based on verdicts pronounced by others. *The process of generalisation is one which the legal expert must use sparingly. Every case must be decided on its own special merits, and the power to detect those merits is one whose development would be seriously hindered were the habit of vesting verdicts on precedents to become common. Such was the view of the legislators of the Tokugawa era.*

The italics are ours, and they represent generalizations of which the writer (following his own phrase) should have been more sparing. We have not seen the passage from which the above statements are amplified; but it may be said without any hesitation that they are absolutely incorrect and represent the exact opposite of the truth. For the one particular point in which the Tokugawa judiciary approximated to the English rather than the French or German judges of to-day was their greater reliance upon legal precedent. *The first resort of the Tokugawa judge in case of doubt was to search for precedents.* It is not too much to say that this was one of the distinguishing and notable features of their jurisprudence, as exposed in the official compilation published by the Asiatic Society. We quote a few of the clearest examples, short passages which, even apart from their context, will demonstrate this characteristic. The pages are those of Part III., Section I., of the Asiatic Society's series:—

I then examined the precedents. (29.)

I made further examination, and finding no precedent in my own Court, I inquired of the Superintendent, etc. (36.)

I accordingly asked the [Town Magistrate] about this; and he answered that, although there had been no precedent for this suit of Chiye, wife of Shinshichi, etc., yet it was the ordinary practice, etc. (36.)

We have perused your letter, in which you say, etc., that you think it desirable for the two Courts to adopt a uniform practice on the subject. (31.)

We understand you to refer to the case, etc., and we searched for precedents on that point, but found none. We discovered, however, a case in which this Court was asked, in Gembun, IV., 10 (November, 1839), etc. But in Kwansei, VI. (1794) etc., the Full Chamber decided (there being no precedent), etc., etc. We trust that you will lay the matter before the Full Chamber, so that our practice for the future may be determined. (34.)

The date of this case was 1829; the search had therefore covered nearly 100 years at least.

This has been our regular practice, etc., so that if we suddenly changed it and ordered, etc., much confusion might occur. * * We have no precedent for allowing, etc. We shall feel it necessary, at least in the suit now before us, to adhere to our former practice. * * You explain that it has been customary with you to, etc., and that it would be very inconvenient were this custom to be supplanted by a rule requiring, etc. We think that you are right. But, on reviewing the precedents to which you referred us, we find that in these the rule you follow is applied without distinction between the, etc. We are desirous to see a uniformity, if it be possible, in the practice of the different Courts, and we made inquiry of [the Temple Magistrate]. He replied that your custom of making no distinction between, etc., though settled as far as you are concerned, has not yet been the subject of a general agreement of the Courts, so that it cannot be regarded as unchangeable. (46-48.)

Of course in principal actions there are sometimes cases, etc. But such cases are rare, and exceptional cases may be treated in an exceptional manner. For ordinary actions, whether, etc., we may lay down the general rule, etc. (48.)

We have sought for precedents on this point, but have found only one, a ruling of the Chamber of Decisions, in Kyoho II. (1717); running as follows, etc. In analogy to that case, if the plaintiff here, etc., you may, etc. (57.)

This case is dated 1838; thus the rule ran back 120 years.

But we do not think that any exception should be made for that class of debtors. First, it would result in non-uniformity of practice if we employed different processes in similar actions, etc. (93.)

The matter may perhaps be regarded of lesser consequence for, etc. But our decision in this case will be taken as a precedent for the future. Furthermore, the exceptional treatment of the loans of the Lord of Kii, etc., might give rise to the rumour the Government makes distinctions between near and distant relations, which might, etc., stain even the honour of the Shogun himself. (144.)

Upon searching for precedents it appeared that in the last Ape year (1848) a similar case had come before our colleagues of the other Department, etc. In that case they had not been able to discover any precedent, and had inquired of us. (153.)

In order to avoid non-uniformity of practice we beg to bring the matter before you. (154.)

We made inquiry of you recently, etc., and desired to know whether there was any precedent for, etc. You then replied that, although in your Department also no precedent existed, you were of opinion, etc. (155.)

Such is my opinion, though after careful search I can find no precedent applicable to the case. I enclose, however, a case which I found; though after all you may not consider it worth notice. (161.)

Are we not reading the letter of some English or American case-lawyer of to-day?

On due consideration we find that no instance has ever been known (except in the case of, etc.), where one of the gentry has brought an action for, etc. We except also the case of Matsudaira Tarozayemon, who recently, etc. It is true that there are precedents when, etc. But these were cases of genuine deposits, etc. If those should be allowed to, etc., all sorts of irregularities would be introduced. On the whole, reflecting that ever since the period Horeki (1751-1763) interest loans, etc., have invariably been, etc., we regard it as unreasonable that this Office should now make a special exception for the benefit of, etc. (170-172.)

This case is dated 1861.

Money loan actions shall, as above provided, be determined according to the old usages and precedent. (179.)

Being unable to discover any enactments or precedents on the point, you have made inquiry of us as to the existence of any enactments or precedents relating to, etc. (180.)

We have no precedents covering the cases you state, but we send you, as above, our opinion. (189.)

I should like to obtain some precedent. . . . My answer is that after due search I can find no precedent on the point you inquire about. (216.)

Of these actions before [the Town Magistrate.] I did not know last year, when the action was decided as above by me; but now, on being apprised of them, and on comparing the different actions, I perceive that though in each case the fact of the forfeiture of the benefice existed, yet two opposite rules have been adopted for the same state of facts, etc. Such a result is quite undesirable; and, on further reflection, I concluded that decision of [the Town Magistrate] was the correct one for the following reasons. . . . Desiring, therefore, to establish a uniform rule for such cases (which we cannot suppose will not occur again), I now etc. (239-40.)

As it is undesirable that there should be conflicting rules on the same subject, I have considered the matter again. (241.)

With this precedent before us, it seems proper enough that Zenyemon, the surety, etc. (36.)

I cannot find any precedents in my office, and I therefore consult you on the point. . . . Your letter of consultation has been received, and search has been made for precedents. I found that there has been a regular practice on the subject. (307.)

These are arguments in favour of regarding him as Ichisaburo's successor. How should the action be decided? There are no precedents to go by. There are, however, cases in which it has been held, etc. Shall we follow this principle? etc. I am unable to come to a decision and beg to consult you. (335.)

A perusal of the pages of the volume it—
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self of Legal Precedents gives one a much more vivid impression of this characteristic of Tokugawa judges than these bare extracts can convey. If, therefore, each of the statements above italicized were taken in exactly the reverse sense, it might then, and only then, be said with truth, in summing up, that "such was the view of the legislators of the Tokugawa era."

But, it will of course be asked, how is it that we can receive such contradictory impressions from two such similar sources of information? The explanation is not difficult. It is as if one should take up the report of some trial in the Elizabethan Star Chamber and predicated on this foundation certain generalizations concerning the English legal system of the present century; or as if one should attempt to judge the jurisprudence of the United States, not knowing the volumes of the National or State Supreme Courts, from the records of trials in the backwoods. In other words, the collection which served as the foundation of the article in question is not representative of the TOKUGAWA legal system either in the time it deals with or the sources it represents. The rules of certain *daimyo* for the behaviour of their *samurai* cannot be taken as the real material of jurisprudence, any more than the barrack-room regulations of HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S Lancers can be ranked with the decisions of the Supreme Court or the statutes of the Diet. Most of all, the TOKUGAWA era is not to be judged by the legal material of the first half of the 17th century; and the regulations cited in the above article are all within on close to that period. The Supreme Court had not then been fully established. IYEMITSU had scarcely completed his (and his grandfather's) great work of laying the foundations of a strong administrative system. The inheritance of these two rulers was disorder and martial misrule; their bequest to their successors was peace, order, and commercial prosperity. Only in the beginning of the next century, under the great YOSHIMUNE, the 8th Shogun, did the fruits begin to show themselves plentifully. The first period from which we have the right to judge the full grown parliamentary system of England is the time of PITT; the first period in which we have a right to look for material representative of the TOKUGAWA legal system is the time of YOSHIMUNE. Of what account is it, then, that a certain SHIMADA figures, in the early days, in the incident related above? Whether such a request was made, or was rejected, or why it was rejected—all this avails nothing in the face of the copious proofs that the spirit and practice of the law for the last century and a half have been to exactly the contrary effect. When we treat Japanese laws historically, we may take all the grist that comes, placing it in proper perspective and proportion. But when one is con-

fessedly attempting (as in the article above quoted) to found a political argument for the new Codes on the defects and crudities of the legal system already existing here, then one is bound to draw the line fairly, marking the limits of the last and best periods of the TOKUGAWA era, the periods by which it has a claim to be judged.

Our survey, so far as the material at hand has made it possible, is now complete. We have endeavoured to be concrete in method, and to employ no inferences for which the evidence was not at hand. We began by asking the question: Are the new Codes in conflict with the existing customs of Japan? We at first expected, it may be confessed, that the answer would be less satisfactory than it has been. The doubts that may be raised, the direct discrepancies, and the points of legislative policy open to dispute, have dwindled far below our expectations. We have seen that the leading ideas of Code and custom (where comparison is possible) have the same content; that where latitude could be given, the new Code has allowed to local varieties of usage the freest play; and that where novelties or inflexible rules have been determined on, the conditions were such as to admit of the exercise of legislative discretion. Looking once more over the detailed comparisons of the foregoing chapters, we cannot see how there can be more than one answer to the question we started with,—the answer that in any fair sense the Codes are *not* in conflict with the existing customs. The ultimate thing to be ascertained is whether this nation has been so devoid of legal institutions and notions that the principles of the new Codes will be utterly out of place amid this civilization; or if not, whether the new scientific rules are substantially out of harmony with fixed notions already prevailing in unscientific shape. Whether we take details of comparison, or whether we measure the conditions of the situation broadly and in the rough, it seems to us that both these inquiries are to be answered distinctly in the negative.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Committees only coming together.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Government Bill relating to the Tax on the Sale of Alcohol.
- 2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 3.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the Weights and Measures Law.
- 4.—Private Bill (First Reading) for rescinding Law No. 23 of the 2nd year of Meiji.
- 5.—Private Bill (First Reading) for supplementing the City Government Organization.
- 6.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Organization of the Law Courts.
- 7.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Organization of Prefectures and Cities.
- 8.—Representation relating to Public Forests.
- 9.—Private Bill (First Reading) for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.
- 10.—Representation relating to the control of the four great rivers, Kiso, Yodo, Tone, and Shinano.
- 11.—Private Bill (First Reading) for abolishing the import duty on raw cotton.

- 12.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Medical Diploma Regulations.
- 13.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- An answer from the Minister of State for Finance to the Question on the subject of the import of alcohol.
- A Question relating to the loss of the *Chishima Kan*, from Mr. Aoyama Hōgata and others.

The Question with reference to alcohol—submitted by Mr. Kanaye Mitsugi and others—set forth the fact that the import of alcohol had increased immensely of late years, being $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as great in 1890 as in 1889, and 7 times as great in 1892 as in 1889; that the spirit was largely employed for the purpose of manufacturing Japanese *sake*; that the brewing of the latter had consequently diminished to the extent of causing a loss of over five millions of revenue to the State; that while the Government found it necessary to impose a heavy tax on *sake* and tobacco in order to obtain funds for reassessing the taxable value of land, this important source of loss was neglected; and that foreign imports were thus encouraged. The Questioners asked what steps the Government had taken or intended to take.

The Answer of the Minister of State for Finance was as follows:—

The Government considers it advisable to impose a tax on alcohol and has introduced a Bill in that sense.

Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have with me here a copy of certain Questions addressed to the Government by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and others, with reference to Korean affairs. It is my intention to answer these Questions as fully as possible, but as some of the matters touched bear upon phases of foreign policy which require reserve, it may not be in my power to give you entire satisfaction. The main points of the Questions are four, and I shall address myself to answering these in detail. With regard to the first, namely, the Government's action in respect of an alleged breach of the Telegraph Convention—which I find wrongly described in the Question—with Korea, I regret that I am not in a position to speak openly. Not that there is question of anything so important as a secret of foreign policy, but merely that this Telegraph Convention was concluded in relation to an agreement made by Korea with a certain German firm, and as the latter is still unpublished, the former must also remain private. Some of you, gentlemen, appear to regard this Telegraph affair as of great moment, but that is an exaggerated estimate. The Convention is of no serious consequence. It was made when Count Inouye held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and I can assure you that the rumours of Korea having treated it as waste paper are not well founded. In the second place, with regard to the line of telegraph between Fusan and Seoul, there is no special reason why I should offer explanations, and there is a distinct difficulty in the way of my doing so. For Fusan and Seoul, as you know, lie in Korean territory, and when I am asked to describe the methods of working a line of Korean telegraph lying within the Korean borders, it is not easy for me to give an explicit answer. Looking, however, at the speech delivered by Mr. Inouye when presenting the Question, I observe that he has fallen into rather a grave error. I find it there asserted that telegrams sent by Japanese over the line are delayed. That, probably, is the ground of complaint. But you will agree that if between man and man it is essential to adduce distinct evidence in support of an accusation—as, for example, when the Korean telegraph officials are charged with purposely delaying telegrams handed in by Japanese—similar accuracy is all the more necessary when the question is international. The Koreans, however, are still more or less inexperienced in the use of telegraphs, and it is not easy to determine in their case how much be due to wilful neglect and how much to intentional obstruction. The presenters of the Question refer to the incident which occurred in the residence of the Tai-won Kun, but that will not be found a sufficient proof. I see by Mr. Inouye's speech that he alludes to a long delay having occurred in the transmission of a telegram sent by the Japanese Representative in Korea to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, but I am sorry to have to inform him that he is wrong in his facts. He alleges that Mr. Kajiyama's telegram relating to the Tai-won Kun incident was despatched on the 17th of the month, and did not reach Tokyo until the 22nd. But the truth is that the telegram was handed in on the afternoon of the 21st and that it was received in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 22nd. I do not say that a

day between the two capitals can be called rapid transmission, but certainly it cannot be regarded as proof of wilful tardiness. I may mention that the incident in the Tai-won Kun's residence is here stated to have occurred on the 16th, but in reality it occurred on the 17th. You will doubtless find all these details tedious, but I could be briefer were the Question couched in clearer terms. The third point refers to the prohibition of the export of grain. This occurred in September, 1890, and much trouble and time were involved in determining whether and to what extent losses had been caused. The Korean Government came distinctly to the conclusion that the action of the local authorities had been a violation of the Treaty, and the amount of compensation to be paid is now under discussion. But there has been no question on either side of cutting down or increasing the amount demanded by the other. Nevertheless, the delay that has occurred being distinctly inconvenient, I have been taking all the steps in my power to bring the matter to a settlement. When it comes to a question of actually paying money, we cannot be surprised that delay should occur. Japan and Korea do not furnish a solitary example. I think you will find that in almost all cases, negotiations between States for determining the amount to be handed by one to the other, have been more or less tedious. It must not be understood, however, that bargaining is taking place between Japan and Korea. But it would not be consistent with my official duty to explain to you the details of negotiations now actually in progress. Coming to the fourth point, the fishing business at the island of Seishu, I find the ideographs employed a little perplexing; but reading them as they stand, the meaning appears to be that the Japanese Government has failed to take note of a breach of so-called "fishing regulations." There are no such regulations. The 42nd Article of the Trade Regulations is also indicated. Neither of the two Governments has failed to consider that Article. Japanese fishermen were in the habit of fishing off the coast of Seishu, and the Korean Government repeatedly asked the Japanese Government to have these operations suspended until the 30th of November, 1891. The Trade Regulations were to come into force from the 1st of December of that year, and on the 1st of December some Japanese, going thither to fish, got into a fight with the Koreans. The affair was described in very graphic terms by the *Chinsei Nippo*, but it was not by any means such a serious business. The fact seems to be that the local authorities of Seishu were ignorant of the time when the Trading Regulations came into force, and, in their ignorance, they interfered to prevent fishing. It has been alleged that the Koreans attacked our countrymen with guns and spears; and it has also been alleged that our countrymen raided the local office with various lethal weapons in their hands. But all that is gross exaggeration. The fishing is now going on peacefully enough, and there is no breach of Treaty, so far as we can see, on Korea's part. I think these explanations will suffice.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro said that the Minister had spoken of difficulty in deciphering the ideographs used in the Questions. Very likely. He, Inouye Kakugoro, was not a scholar. He was a farmer's son; if he wrote badly, he could only confess his ignorance. But if the meaning were obscure on account of the calligraphy, he ventured to think that the Minister might have inquired what was intended, and that such a course would have been more dignified and considerate than to bring the matter before the House. He had been corrected, also, in his terminology. He had employed an abbreviated term in alluding to the Telegraph Convention. But truly that was a paltry matter. Much more important was the question of secrecy. He alleged that an agreement had been violated, and the charge was met by a statement that the agreement was secret. Such a reply suggested that so long as a Foreign Minister did not choose to divulge the nature of a covenant, he could never be called to account for having failed to enforce it. Secret the convention might have been, but its violation was open, and under the circumstances it was surely necessary to explain its terms. Again, the Minister had corrected his dates. The telegram of Mr. Kajiyama had not been despatched from Seoul, they now learned, until the 22nd. Very well. He accepted the correction. But another question arose. The incident in the Tai-won Kun's residence had occurred on the 17th. How did it happen that Mr. Kajiyama sent no information

of it to his Government until the 22nd? Was that the way to discharge the functions of Japanese Minister in Seoul? Then, Mr. Mutsu had said that really he could not undertake to tell them how a line of telegraph was worked which lay within Korean territory. Perhaps not. But when the manner of working the line had connection with a convention between Japan and Korea, he ventured to think that such an answer hardly became a Minister for Foreign Affairs. They had been told that the Korean local officials had made a mistake. Ignorant of the fact that an international covenant had gone into force, they drove away the Japanese fisherman by force. Well, as to that, if they went to the prison at Tsudajima, they would find a great many unfortunates working out penal sentences for violating laws of which they had been ignorant. Not to know the law was never admitted to be a valid excuse in the case of an individual. Why should it be admitted between nation and nation? Finally, the Minister had told them that whereas the prohibition of the export of grain had occurred in August 1890, and whereas the fact of its being contrary to Treaty had been admitted, the amount of indemnity was still undetermined. What could he said about such a method of negotiation? The minister had told them that questions relating to money payments by one State to another were always tedious. He found no proof of that in history. Delay was often involved in determining whether a country had been in the wrong, but once that fact was established, there should be no difficulty in determining the amount of indemnity.

Mr. Mutsu replying, said that Mr. Inouye had propounded a difficult question, but truly only one answer could be given, namely, that the facts of the Telegraph Convention might not be divulged. However often they asked him, his answer must be the same. So long as the Convention did not appear in the *Official Gazette*, his mouth was sealed. With regard to the indemnity for the prohibition of the export of grain, there appeared to be a misunderstanding. The difficulty was not between the two Governments. There had not been any demand made by Japan, or any counter proposal advanced by Korea. It was simply a question of examining the numerous claims put forward. They could understand this easily if they remembered that a great number of traders had been affected by the prohibition, and that each had his own case to put forward and his own statement of injury to make. As for the allegation that the Korean local authorities had violated the Treaty and that the Japanese Government had overlooked the incident, he could only say that Mr. Kajiyama had addressed himself with all proper promptness and resolution to the Korean Government, and that the incident had been satisfactorily closed. He begged the House to make its mind easy. There remained no unatoned-for violation of treaty on Korea's part. The Minister concluded by paying a compliment to Mr. Inouye's eloquence and erudition.

Mr. Inouye asked the House whether it considered that the Minister's answer had been satisfactory, but did not press for a reply.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro asked a question about Korean affairs, but the President ruled that as it had no connection with Mr. Inouye's Question, it could not be put without going through the prescribed formalities.

Major-General Aoyama Hogara explained his Question about the loss of the *Chishima Kan*. He dwelt upon the importance of a navy, as illustrated by the fact that the first Napoleon found nothing in the whole world that he could not conquer except the British Navy under Nelson. He claimed that the collision by which the *Chishima* was lost, had occurred within the effective radius of a light-house's illumination and on a moonlight night. He dwelt upon the seriousness of two ships being lost to the small Japanese Navy, as the *Unbō* and *Chishima* had been lost; and he declared that the object of his inquiries was to strengthen public confidence in the Admiralty. But his questions did not extend beyond asking the

Minister of the Navy to explain the steps which had been taken to fix the responsibility of the loss.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, as President of the Committee, made a brief report of the Committee's progress, explaining that owing to the very large number of petitions presented, he refrained from entering into details, but would ask the House to examine the printed report distributed among the members.

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, explained that alcohol had come to be largely used in preparing spirituous liquors in Japan, and the Government found it necessary, for fiscal reasons, to take some measures. It would be superfluous for him to tell the House what they already knew, namely that the import of alcohol had largely increased, and that if its sale were not taxed, the State would suffer a heavy loss of revenue.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Imai Isoichiro, introducing the Weights and Measures Supplementary Law, said that the Weights and Measures Bill had been very carefully considered by the Upper House in the first session, but, owing to lack of time, had not received full attention from the Lower. The Law was very good so far as it went, but practice had demonstrated some defects, and the Bill now introduced was intended to remedy them.

The Bill, after a brief discussion, was passed through all its Readings in the following form:

BILL RELATING TO ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS OF THE LAW OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following clause shall be added to Art. VIII. of the Law of Weights and Measures:—

"Any person who has obtained a license for sale, may repair scale-cords and weight-cords, which are not made of metal."

The following clause shall be added after the 3d clause of Art. IX. of the Law of Weights and Measures.

"Repaired scale-cords and weight-cords, which are not made of metal, require no inspection."

The Bill for abolishing Law No. 12, by which the cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto were placed under a special system of government, was opposed by the Government Delegate, but the House passed it through all its Readings.

The Bill for supplementing the Law of Organization of Cities was also passed without debate in the following form:—

BILL FOR SUPPLEMENTING THE LAW OF ORGANIZATION OF CITIES.

The following clause shall be added to Art. 72 of the Law of Organization of Cities, which was promulgated as Law No. 1 in the 21st year of Meiji.

In Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, the Headman of each *Ku*, or his representative, may assist and control the administrative affairs, and matters relating to finance, under the direction and superintendence of the Headman of the *Shi* and of the Revenue Officers.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, introducing the Bill for amending the Organization of Law Courts, explained the principal features of the Bill namely, the abolition of Collegiate Local Courts; publicity of proceedings in Collegiate Courts; elevation of Bailiffs to the place of officials, and so forth.

Mr. Kiyoura Keigo, Vice-Minister of Justice, said that the Government was strongly opposed to the abolition of Collegiate Courts. The jury system did not exist in Japan, and in order fully to carry out the provisions of the Constitution and to secure due administration of justice, a bench of associated judges was deemed absolutely essential. With regard to the other proposed amendments, there was no special objection.

Mr. Miyagi Kozo opposed the Bill. He strongly objected to meddling with matters of such grave importance as the organization of the Law Courts until ample time had elapsed for testing the system now in force. It had had only two years' trial, and there was no guarantee that, if the present Bill were passed, fresh alterations might not be proposed in two years more. They could not conceal from themselves the fact that this problem, so vital to the interests of the people, was in

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danger of being obscured by the dissensions of Law Schools wedded to the systems of different countries. He spoke at length in favour of Collegiate Courts.

Mr. Yamada Taizo preferred one good captain to a number of half-trained soldiers. He should vote for abolishing Collegiate Courts.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The Bill for amending the Law of Organization of Cities and Prefectures was then introduced, the chief changes proposed being that members of City and Prefectural assemblies should be elected directly, instead of being chosen from and by the members of District Assemblies; and that the special provisions relating to large land-owners should be rescinded.

The Government Delegate opposed the Bill, as did Mr. Ogaki Hyoji, the latter pointing out that whereas, under the present system, over six million persons had a voice in the election of members of City and Prefectural Assemblies, the proposed change would reduce the number to a little over a million.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 chosen by the Sections.

The House rose at 5.45 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.20 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

Report of the Special Committee on the Project of Law for establishing a Court to Litigate Disputes relating to Official Competence.

The President reported the receipt of various Bills from the Lower House; and of the Government's Reply to a Question from Prince Niho and others with relation to a Steel Factory.

Marquis Hosokawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Law for Establishing a Court to Litigate Disputes relating to Official Competence, and explained the reasons for establishing such a Court, as well as the amendments which the Committee recommended in the provisions of the Law. He added that, according to the information given by the Government Delegate, the expense of the Court would be very small.

LAW FOR THE LITIGATION OF DISPUTES RELATING TO OFFICIAL COMPETENCE.

CHAPTER I.—ORGANIZATION.

Art. I.—Disputes relating to the limits of official competence shall be adjudicated in the Court of Official Competence, as provided for in this law.

Art. II.—The Court of Official Competence shall have one Chief, and thirteen Counsellors, all of whom shall be holders of other official posts.

Art. III.—Counsellors shall consist of five judges of the Court of Cassation, three Counsellors of the Administrative Court, and five Administrative officials of high grade.

Art. IV.—The Chief Judge of the Court of Official Competence shall be the chief of the said Court, unless prevented by circumstances from so acting, in which case the senior Counsellor shall take his place.

Art. V.—In the adjudication of a dispute coming under this law, the Court shall consist of the Chief of the Court and six Counsellors, four of whom shall be judges of the Court of Cassation and Counsellors of the Administrative Court.

Art. VI.—The Court of Official Competence shall have secretaries in its service.

CHAPTER II.—COMPETENCE.

Art. VII.—The cases to be adjudicated in the Court of Official Competence shall be such as may be brought before the Court by the Minister President of State, the Ministers of State, the Superintendent General of Police, the Governor of Hokkaido, the Chief of the Railway Bureau, and Governors of Cities and Prefectures, relating to the transactions of administrative offices, and bearing upon matters under their respective control and management, under the following circumstances:

1. When a case before any of the Judicial Courts is considered to come within the competence of either an Administrative Office or the Administrative Court, and not to be judicable by a Law Court.

2. When a case before the Administrative Court is considered to come properly within the competence of an Administrative Office, and not to be judicable by the Administrative Court.

CHAPTER III.

Art. VIII.—Disputes as to Official Competence

shall be brought before the Court in writing, stating the reason, or reasons thereof.

Such document shall consist of the original and two copies, except in case of the presenter being one of the parties to the suit, in which case only one copy is required.

Art. IX.—The documents relating to disputes as to Official Competence shall be forwarded to the Court of Official Competence through the Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arises.

The Court shall issue a receipt for the documents when received.

Art. X.—When a case is brought before the Court of Official Competence, its prosecution in a Law Court shall be suspended.

A suit before the Court of Official Competence shall be considered to commence when the documents in reference thereto are sent into the Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arises.

When, in accordance with the tenor of this article, proceedings in a Law Court are suspended after the completion of oral discussion, judgment cannot be given in the suit.

Art. XI.—When the nature of the case brought before the Court of Official Competence, is such that a Court of Law has already been able to give temporary effect to its judgment, the Law Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arises, shall suspend the said effect, and no appeal shall be allowed against the suspension.

Art. XII.—On receiving the documents relating to disputes of Official Competence, the court shall forward information to the parties to the suit, together with copies of documents. When one party to the suit is an administrative office the information shall be sent to the other party only.

Art. XIII.—The party receiving the information as stated in the preceding Article, can send in a reply within a period of fourteen days, accompanied with two copies of the same.

Art. XIV.—On receipt of the reply, the Court shall send a copy of the same to the Administrative Office by which the suit was instituted.

Art. XV.—After the lapse of the period stated in Art. XIII., the Court, whether in receipt of the reply or not, shall forward all the documents relating to the dispute to the Court of Official Competence, together with a document stating its own views. Should the case have been instituted by a Court of Law, the documents shall be forwarded through the Minister of State for Justice.

Art. XVI.—When a case of dispute relating to Official Competence is brought by a lower Administrative Office, the Minister of State under whose control the office is, can forward his views in writing to the Court of Official Competence.

CHAPTER IV.—WITHDRAWAL OF A SUIT.

Art. XVII.—The Administrative office bringing a suit can apply to withdraw it, at any time before judgment is given.

The Minister of State can apply for the withdrawal of a suit brought up by any of the Administrative offices under his supervision, at any time before judgment is given.

Art. XVIII.—The Application for withdrawal of a suit shall be forwarded to the Court of Official Competence.

Art. XIX.—When a suit is withdrawn by application, all the documents in reference thereto, shall be returned to the Minister of State for Justice, or to the Administrative Court.

The Minister of State for Justice shall return the same to the Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arose.

The said Court shall inform the parties of the withdrawal, and shall then be competent to continue the suspended legal procedure, or to cancel the suspension of the temporary effect of the judgment.

CHAPTER V.—ADJUDICATION.

Art. XX.—On a day previously appointed, the Court of Official Competence shall open the Court by summoning the parties to the suit, when they will be orally examined.

The Court shall not suspend its sitting even if either of the parties fail to appear on the day appointed. The merits of the absentee's case shall be judged by documentary evidence.

Art. XXI.—The Chief Official of an Administrative Office may appoint a substitute to appear in the Court.

The said substitute shall prove his capacity to act by a document prepared for the purpose.

Art. XXII.—A decision of the Court of Official Competence shall be determined by the opinion of the majority of the judges.

Art. XXIII.—The reasons for the decision shall be stated in the judgment of the Court, which shall be signed and stamped by the Chief Judge and the Counsellors.

The original of the said decision shall have the stamp of the Court of Official Competence affixed thereto and shall be countersigned and stamped by the secretary of the said Court.

Art. XXIV.—The Court of Official Competence shall forward one original text of its decision to the Administrative Office by which the suit has been brought, and three copies of the same document either to the Minister of State for Justice or to the Administrative Court. When reference to the Court of Official Competence has been made by one of the parties to the suit in question, the above documents sent to the Minister of State for Justice or to the Administrative Court, shall be two in number.

The Minister of State for Justice shall forward the said documents to the Law Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arose.

Art. XXV.—The Law Court within the jurisdiction of which the case arose, shall forward the original text of the decision to each of the parties to the suit.

Art. XXVI.—The decision of the Court of Official Competence shall be binding on Law Courts, on the Administrative Court, and on Administrative offices, so far as concerns the matter of the suit.

Art. XXVII.—Re-examination shall not be made after the Decision of the Court of Official Competence.

Art. XXVIII.—The court within the jurisdiction of which the case originally fell, shall continue the suspended legal procedure, or cancel the suspension of temporary effect of its judgment, made in accordance with the tenor of Art. XI, in the following instances:—

1. When the case is decided as coming within the competence of a Law Court, and not within the competence of an Administrative Office or the Administrative Court.

2. When the case is decided as coming within the competence of the Administrative Court, and not within the competence of an Administrative office.

Art. XXIX.—When a case has been decided as not coming within the competence of the Court before which it was originally brought, no costs shall be charged. Any disbursements already made on this account shall be equally borne by both parties to the suit.

Art. XXX.—No fees shall be charged in connection with a suit in the Court of Official Competence. But any expense incurred in bringing the suit shall be defrayed by the party incurring it.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS.

Art. XXXI.—Documents relating to disputes as to official competence shall be signed and stamped by a barrister-at-law, except when such documents are forwarded from an Administrative Office.

Art. XXXII.—The Administrative Offices referred to in Articles VII. and XXVIII. include the public offices which transact administrative affairs of *Fu, Ken, Districts, Cities, Towns, and Divisions.*

Art. XXXIII.—When a judgment has already been given on a case, but no appeal has yet been made, the case is considered in law as still belonging to the Court by which the judgment was given.

Art. XXXIV.—Any procedure not provided for in this Law, with reference to the litigation of disputes relating to the limits of official competence, shall be governed by the Law of Organization of Courts, and the Law of Civil Procedure, and the Court of Official Competence shall be guided by the provisions of those Laws.

Art. XXXV.—Rules and regulations necessary for the enforcement of this Law shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

A long discussion ensued, Messrs. Kinoshita, Watanabe, and Viscount Tani opposing the Bill, on the ground that the Court would become chiefly a tribunal for standing between the people and the remedies offered by ordinary processes of law.

The Second Reading was ultimately thrown out, and the House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Barristers Bill.
- 2.—Representation relating to the management of Public Forests.
- 3.—Private Bill (First Reading) of a Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.
- 4.—Representation relating to the engineering control of the Four Great Rivers, Kiso, Yodo, Tone, and Shinano.
- 5.—Private Bill (First Reading) for abolishing the duty on imported Cotton.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

Answer from the Minister of State for Education to a Question from Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro.

QUESTION RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

On the 25th of October in the present year, the Minister of State for Education issued an Instruction to the effect that the decision of the various

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Cities and Prefectures with regard to text books of ethics required in the Primary Schools should be deferred until the 4th month of the 27th year of *Meiji*. Concerning this instruction we desire to ask the following questions:—

(1) After the promulgation, on the 30th of October in the 23rd year of *Meiji*, of an Imperial Rescript relating to moral education, the Department of Education fixed the Policy to be adopted by it on this subject, and having assembled the educational officials of the various Cities and Prefectures, explained to them the spirit of the Imperial Rescript, the Departmental Notifications and the Ministerial Instructions. Further, with regard to that policy, the following communication was addressed by the Chief of the Bureau of School Affairs to Governors of Cities and Prefectures on the 7th of Oct. in the 24th year of *Meiji*:—

With reference to the instructions given by Inspectors of Schools in the 5th month of the 20th year of *Meiji*, to the effect that the sections of Ethics in the Primary Schools should refrain from coming to any decision on the subject of educational text books, I am now directed by the Minister of State for Education to inform you that a decision on this subject is required. As a point of precaution I may add that the text books decided upon as above will of course be subject to the inspection and approval of the Department of Education.

In accordance with this communication, it followed, as a matter of course, that after October of the 24th year of *Meiji*, the Governors of the various Cities and Prefectures set about investigating and deciding the question of ethical text books. But in October of the following, that is to say the present year, Departmental Instruction No. 8 was issued, deferring a decision for two years longer. Was this because the educational policy is not yet determined, or was there some other necessity for the issue of such an instruction?

(2.) Two years have already elapsed since the issue of the Imperial Rescript on the subject of Education, yet its spirit does not seem to have yet been carried into effect. The Minister of State for Education ought therefore to lose no time in coming to a decision on the subject of ethical text books, whereas instruction No. 8 alluded to above, tends to produce fresh delay. The Government is responsible that the Imperial Rescript does not receive perfunctory treatment. We therefore venture to seek an explanation upon this point also.

(3.) Instruction No. 8, alluded to above, required that Governors of Cities and Prefectures should defer any decision on the subject of ethical text books until the 4th month of the 27th year of *Meiji*. But the examination and determination of such books by the Department of Education itself does not appear to have been suspended. If the Department has not suspended the operations of the examiners, and if certain text books have already been decided upon, with what object is their temporary use forbidden between the present time and the 27th year of *Meiji*?

Presented in accordance, &c.

(Signed) SHIMIZU BUNJIRO and others.

REPLY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

The communication addressed by the Chief of the Bureau of School Affairs on the 7th of the 10th month of the 24th year of *Meiji*, indicating that a decision would be required on the subject of ethical text books, cannot be supposed to have referred to an immediate decision, but merely indicated that the appearance of suitable text books which, on examination, would be found to satisfy the standard laid down at that time, should be looked for. In the 5th month of the present year, instructions were issued that as the choice of good text-books was of vital importance to the success of education, the publication of suitable books should be awaited, and after the most careful examination a choice should be made, anything like a hasty decision on such a subject being avoided. The instruction issued by the Department of Education in the 10th month of the present year, simply gave greater explicitness to the general caution embodied in the Instruction of the 5th month, and being intended to secure that the best works should be selected from among the great number offering, was not in any sense at variance with the policy previously followed. In fact, the purpose of those various Instructions was to emphasize the fact that in view of the vital importance of moral education too much care could not be exercised in determining the text books to be used.

Educational text books, considered from the point of view of the rôle they play in forming the people's character, as well as from that of financial economy, ought not to be lightly changed when once decided upon. No argument, therefore, can be found for the use of temporary text books, and moreover, economical considerations forbade it.

(Signed) KONO TOSAMA,
Minister of State for Education.

A Question from Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro with regard to money paid to Korea.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro declared himself dissatisfied with the Minister of State for Education's answer, and hoped that the Minister would himself attend and offer explanations. He also spoke with regard to his Question about money returned to Korea. It was understood that a sum of twenty-two thousand yen, being interest which had accumulated on a loan made to Korea, had been returned to the latter last spring, and that the return had been obtained through the efforts of Messrs. Omiya Chobei and Masuda Nobuyuki, employes of the Korean Government, and through the good offices of Mr. Kurino, Chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, who belonged to the same province as Mr. Omiya. It appeared that the transfer of this sum to Korea on the authority of the Foreign Office alone, had been a distinct excess of competence, and full explanations were desirable.

Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister of State for the Navy, said that he proposed to answer the Question put by Major-General Aoyama the preceding day, with reference to the loss of the *Chishima-Kan*.

Mr. Abe Bankon moved that the reply be given in secret session.

Major-General Aoyama declared that there was nothing secret about the business.

Admiral Ito proceeded to explain that Major-General Aoyama had been mistaken in saying that the collision took place on a moon-light night. The moon had already set when the catastrophe occurred. As to the question of which side was in fault, no opinion could be pronounced until the regular investigation had been concluded. The complaint made by Major-General Aoyama that whereas the contract speed of the *Chishima* was 21 knots, she had only made 19 knots on her trial, was true. But the fault did not lie with her build. The trouble was in the boilers. Such incidents were common in ship-building, wherever the dock-yard. The contract price of the ship with her armament had been 669,689 yen, and she was not insured.

Mr. Konishi Juninosuke asked why a Vice-Minister of State had come to reply to Major-General Aoyama's Question. A Minister of State should have come. Was any explanation offered?

Mr. Seki Naohiko complained generally of the method adopted by the Government in answering Questions. A Question had to be supported by over thirty members. It ought to be answered by a Minister in person. The habit of sending a written answer to be read by the Chief Secretary, or deputed a Vice-Minister to reply showed an insufficient sense of the importance of such matters. He moved that the House express an opinion on this point.

Major-General Aoyama said that he had asked an important Question, being much troubled about the loss of the *Chishima*. He wanted to know what business the Captain of the ship had to come back alive, having lost his vessel.

The President said Mr. Seki's motion must take the form of asking the House to determine whether Ministers of State might answer Questions by proxy. He inquired whether Admiral Ito appeared as representative of the Minister of State for the Navy.

Admiral Ito replied in the negative.

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Maruyama Neisei, on behalf of Mr. Hatoyama, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee approved the Barristers Bill with some amendments, the principal of which were, first, that no restrictions should be imposed on the place of practice of barristers; and secondly, that they should not be required to pay security into the Local Court.

After some questions and desultory discussion, the Second Reading of the Bill was voted:—

LAW FOR BARRISTERS.

CHAPTER I.—QUALIFICATION AND SERVICE OF BARRISTERS.

Art. I.—Barristers may receive instruction from suitors, and shall comply with the regulations determined by the laws of the ordinary court or by decrees of the courts of justice.

Art. II.—Those who desire to become barristers must possess the following qualifications:—

- (a.) They must be Japanese male subjects having the competency of the Civil Code.
- (b.) They must have passed the two Regulation Examinations set for that purpose.

Art. III.—By the first examination the extent of legal knowledge, and by the second the practical skill of the candidates, will be tested.

Regulations for the examination and practical training of candidates shall be determined by the Minister of Justice.

Art. IV.—Graduates in Law of the Imperial University, or of the previous Tokyo University; graduates of the previous Law Academy attached to the Department of Justice, and supplementary officials of that Department, shall not be required to pass the first examination.

Persons having the qualifications of a Judge or a Public Prosecutor shall be admitted to the privileges of a Barrister without examination.

Art. V.—No person can be admitted a barrister

- (a.) Who has been convicted of a crime, unless such crime be of a political nature, and who has not been rehabilitated.
- (b.) Who has been convicted of a delict punishable with hard labour.
- (c.) Who has been adjudged insolvent and has not been rehabilitated, or who is an undischarged bankrupt.

Art. VI.—A Barrister is not permitted to occupy any public office to which a salary is attached. He may be a member of the Imperial Diet, a standing member of local assemblies, or discharge functions specially entrusted to him from a public office.

A Barrister is not permitted to engage in commercial affairs, unless he has obtained permission from the Barristers' Society.

CHAPTER II.—REGISTER OF BARRISTERS' NAMES.

Art. VII.—Every Local Court shall be provided with a copy of the Register of Barristers.

A Barrister must belong to the Court where his name is filed. Provided that he cannot file his name in more than one Local Court.

Barristers belonging to a Court wherein a suit is instituted shall alone be employed as counsel for persons who come under Art. 258 or 279 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Art. VIII.—Those who desire their names registered shall be presented to the Minister of State for Justice through the medium of the Public Prosecutor's Office to which they belong.

To the form of registration shall be subjoined testimony relating to Arts. 2 and 6.

Art. IX.—Persons who have received permission to register as Barristers shall pay 20 yen as commission.

Every change of register from one Court of Justice to another necessitates the payment of 10 yen commission.

Art. X.—Regulations relating to the Registration of Barristers shall be determined by the Minister of State for Justice.

CHAPTER III.—RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF BARRISTERS.

Art. XI.—No person can discharge the duties of a Barrister before his name is properly filed in the Register of Barristers.

No Barrister can practise in the Supreme Court before the expiration of three years after his name is registered.

The above provision does not apply to Judges or Public Prosecutors who have served as such for over three years.

Art. XII.—Any Barrister may practice his profession within the territorial limits of the Local Court, in the Appeal Court to which the Local Court is attached, and in the Supreme Court. When a case in which he is concerned is transferred to another Court, he may practise there without regard to the present provision.

This article does not prevent Barristers from appearing in suits for others in Special Courts of Justice appointed by Special Laws.

Art. XIII.—In the case of a deficiency in the number of Barristers practising in a District Court, official authority may be given to the adjoining Courts to allow some of their Barristers to assist in the work of the Court, or, on application, suitable candidates may be admitted.

Art. XIV.—Unless a Barrister can certify an appropriate and reasonable excuse he cannot refuse to discharge any duties which the Court may relegate to him.

Art. XV.—Barristers may not practise in suits of the following nature:—

1. Cases in which the Barrister has been in consultation with both parties, or received the private instructions of the opposing party.
2. Cases which have been conducted before him while acting as Judge or Public Prosecutor.
3. Cases in which he has acted as mediator.

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Art. XVI.—Barristers cannot contract to receive a portion of the benefit arising from a suit, neither can they acquire by money any right therein.

Art. XVII.—Should a Barrister be denied full instructions on matters concerning a suit, he shall promptly report the affair to his principal, and if he does not properly discharge all the functions appertaining to the prosecution or defence of a suit, he shall be liable for all the damages thereby caused.

Art. XVIII.—Barristers shall fix the District Bureau to which they belong near to the Local Court within whose territorial limits they practise, and they shall present their reports to the Bureau.

Should Barristers leave the Bureau for more than a week they are required to report to the Bureau.

Art. XIX.—At the time of registration a Barrister is required to deposit a sum of money as security for any indemnity or fine which may arise from any miscarriage in his profession, in the Local Court where he files his name. When his security is reduced, he shall not be permitted to practise again until he has raised it to the full amount.

The amount of such security shall be determined by the Minister of State for Justice according to the conditions of the different districts. It shall not be less than 100 *yen* and not more than 300 *yen*.

Art. XX.—Barristers are allowed to utilize the services of aspirants to the Bar who have passed their first examination, as such employment would materially assist the latter in their practical training.

CHAPTER IV.—BARRISTERS' SOCIETIES.

Art. XXI.—Barristers shall institute a Barristers' Society in which those who belong to a Local Court may be enrolled members.

Art. XXII.—The Barristers' Society shall be under the supervision of the Public Procurator General in the Local Court.

Art. XXIII.—A Barristers' Society shall have a President; and a Vice-President, if necessary.

Art. XXIV.—A Barristers' Society shall meet in general session at stated times yearly, and in case of necessity an extraordinary session may be called.

Art. XXV.—A Barristers' Society is permitted to admit supernumerary members at its own discretion, but if it has more than 20 ordinary members it ought to admit no supernumeraries.

Art. XXVI.—Each Barristers' Society shall regulate itself by rules which must receive the sanction of the Minister of State for Justice, being presented to him in the first instance through the medium of the Presiding Public Procurator.

Barristers shall strictly observe the Rules of the Barristers' Society to which they belong.

Art. XXVII.—The rules for Barristers' Societies shall determine the election and duties of the President and Vice-President; regulation of the General Meetings; the procedure of the Society and its supernumerary members, the debates, guarantee, and fees, and the maintenance of the morals of Barristers, besides rules necessary for the performance of other business of the Society.

Art. XXVIII.—The result of the election of President and Vice-President, the general and supernumerary members' Meetings, with the subjects of debate, must be presented to the Public Procurator General.

Art. XXIX.—In a Barristers' Society no subject other than laws, orders, or matters expressly provided in the Rules of the Barristers' Society, and questions submitted from the Minister of State for Justice, shall be discussed.

Art. XXX.—The Presiding Public Procurator can at any time enter a Barristers' Meeting and has the power to forbid the Society from reporting the matters of debate.

Art. XXXI.—If any of the resolutions of a Barrister's Meeting infringe the laws, orders or rules of the Society, the Minister of State for Justice can either declare them ineffectual or totally abolish them.

CHAPTER V.—DISCIPLINARY PUNISHMENTS.

Art. XXXII.—Should a Barrister commit an act which is contrary to his professional status or which is deemed sufficient to destroy his professional credit, the President of his Society, in order to submit the transgressor to disciplinary punishment, shall, after the decision of a general or supernumerary Meeting, report the fact to the Presiding Public Procurator. The Public Procurator General, acting on the report of the President of the Meeting, shall grant the request demanded.

Art. XXXIII.—Disciplinary punishments passed against members of the Barristers' Society shall be referred to the Appeal Court which controls the district.

Art. XXXIV.—Disciplinary Punishments shall be as follow:—

(a.) Reprimands.

(b.) A fine of less than 100 *yen*.

(c.) Suspension of professional privileges for a period not exceeding one year.

(d.) Expulsion.

Art. XXXV.—As regards the execution of Punishments, the same regulations as to the Disciplinary Punishment of Judges shall be applied.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES.

Art. XXXVI.—Persons at present practising at the Bar are permitted to be made Barristers without examination, if they have petitioned for the registration of their names 60 days before this law comes into force.

Art. XXXVII.—Barristers now practising can carry on their business until otherwise determined, despite territorial limits, if cases are placed in their hands before the date of operation of this Law.

Art. XXXVIII.—The provisions of clause 1 of Art. XI. shall not apply to Barristers enrolled before the promulgation of this Law.

Art. XXXIX.—The present law shall come into operation on the 1st day of the 5th month of the 26th year of Meiji (1st May, 1893).

Notification No. 1A of the Department of Justice, dated the 13th year of Meiji (1880), relating to Regulations for Barristers, shall cease to be operative from the day on which the present Law comes into force.

Mr. Saito Riosuke, introducing the Representation as to Public Forests, explained that the object in view was the ultimate transfer of public forests to the hands of private individuals. At present the aim of the Government seemed to be to get all the best forests into its own hands. But the results of the system were very insignificant. The gross revenue derived from State forests was only a million *yen*, and the expenditure exceeded six hundred thousand. The Government was engaged in a survey which had been undertaken on the hypothesis of fifteen years' work. Twelve years had still to run, and it did not seem at all wise from a financial point of view that so much delay should take place. Want of funds was the alleged reason, but the money required for completing the survey in the course of a year or two, would be easily recovered when the forests now in the hands of the State were sold to private individuals. He adduced statistics to show that in European countries the proportion of forest land in the hands of private persons was much larger than in Japan. He desired to see at least from 12 to 13 million acres transferred to private enterprise out of the 22 million acres now held by the State:—

THE REPRESENTATION RAN AS FOLLOWS:— REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF STATE FORESTS.

The management of forests having long been neglected, the growth of the nation's wealth has been correspondingly impeded. Investigations into the actual condition of forest lands were undertaken by the Government with the view of revising the system of control. But the chief object of the revision was to obtain official possession and direction of all the good forests; a measure which, even supposing that it might have remedied some of the existing abuses, could scarcely fail to beget others in their stead. We consider it advisable that all forests, except those the official ownership of which is absolutely essential to the preservation of public peace, should be transferred to the hands of private individuals or local associations, and we are persuaded that the transfer would promote the prosperity of the country. It would be necessary, however, that a system of superintendence and limitation should be established. The Government has undertaken to survey all the forests in a period of fifteen years, twelve of which have still to elapse. But the development of the national resources is too urgent a matter to permit such leisurely methods. Some means must be devised for enabling the survey to be quickly completed. We therefore request the Government to prepare and submit to this House a Bill for the management of State Forests, together with estimates of the expenditure required.

Presented by

SAITO RIOSUKE,
KUROKAWA SHUZO,
and 33 others.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku found himself obliged to oppose the Representation. In the Budget two years ago a sum of 850,000 *yen* had been appropriated for the survey of forests, and the Government had then explained that the main part of the survey was already completed, and that the whole would be concluded and the maps drawn by 1894. He saw no reason therefore, to take any such step as that now suggested, prior to the completion of the survey.

After some further discussion, the Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Uozumi Itsuji, introducing the Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations, said that the abolition of these Regulations had been already three times voted by the House, but the Government had been always opposed to the measure. The present Cabinet, however, might take a different view. It professed to be anxious to bring the workings of the administrative machine into harmony with a constitutional polity, and it could show the sincerity of its desire by agreeing to abolish these Regulations, which belonged essentially to despotic methods of Government.

Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, said that the Government was compelled to oppose the proposition. The statement that the Peace Preservation Regulations were not in keeping with constitutional institutions was applicable to their form only. The fact was that they served to secure the peaceful working of such institutions. The House must be very well aware that the fever of politics had attained a very high degree of late years and that numbers of irresponsible waifs banded together to disturb the political arena, resorting to force in times of elections, subjecting law-abiding people to all sorts of intimidation, and even assaulting the members of the House themselves. It was impossible, in the face of such a state of affairs, to think that the time had come for abolishing these Regulations.

Mr. Yamaguchi Chiosaku wished to ask the Government Delegate whether any benefit had been derived from the exercise of the Regulations.

The Vice-Minister answered in the affirmative. In answer to another question, he said that, according to the Government's belief, the time was not far distant when the Regulations might be abolished. He frankly admitted that mistakes had been made on the last occasion of enforcing the Regulations, but said that investigations were now in progress to make amends for those errors.

The House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill, and passed through the Second and Third Readings at once.

The Representation relating to the Engineering Control of the Four Great Rivers was then briefly discussed, and entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President. The Representation ran as follows:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE ENGINEERING CONTROL OF THE FOUR GREAT RIVERS.

In the second session of the Imperial Diet, in the 24th year of Meiji, the House of Representatives presented to the Government a Representation relating to the engineering control of rivers, and investigations into the condition of the nine great rivers, as well as other smaller rivers under direct control of the Government, were commenced. But among rivers under the direct control of the Government, there are some for which engineering works must be concluded as rapidly as possible. These rivers are, the Kiso, the Yodo, the Tone, and the Shinano. It is for the interest of the country that works connected with these rivers should be accomplished without any delay. We venture to indicate some of the most urgent works in this category:—

1. Kiso River.—For the repairs of this river, we trust that the Government will present to the Diet during the present session, a Bill increasing the amount of continuing expenditure already granted so as to hasten the completion of the works for the Kiso, Nagara, and Ibi Rivers, the increased grant to be included in the appropriations for the present year.

2. Tone River.—For the repairs of this river, we trust that the Government will present to the Diet during the present session, a Bill for increasing the amount of continuing expenditures, already granted, so as to hasten the improvement of the banks which are not safe in flood time.

3. Yodo River.—As the repairs of this river have been suspended at present, and in consequence the *Fu* and *Ken* along its course are suffering greatly, we trust that the Government will present to the Diet during the next session, a Bill increasing the appropriations so as to hasten the works.

4. Shinano River.—With regard to the repairs of this river those on the upper and lower parts, and on the Aka River, have not been completed within the allowance granted, and in consequence

much damage has been sustained by the people along their course. We therefore trust that the Government will draft a Bill increasing the amount of continuing expenditures, and present the same in the next session of the Diet.

Presented by YUMOTO YOSHINORI.
Supported by MATANO KAGETAKA
and 100 others.

The House rose at 6.15 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—First Reading of a Government Bill for re-assessing the Taxable Value of Land.
- 2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 3.—First Reading of a Bill sent up from the House of Representatives for supplementing the Weights and Measures Law.
- 4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 5.—First Reading of a Bill sent up from the House of Representatives for abolishing Law No. 12 of the 22nd year of Meiji.
- 6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 7.—First Reading of a Bill sent up from the House of Representatives for supplementing the Town Government Organization Law.
- 8.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.

The President reported the receipt of the following:—

- A Bill for taxing Official Salaries, and exempting Incomes; presented by Mr. Hara Tadao and others.
- A Representation relating to the Reduction of Official Salaries; presented by Mr. Kaga Nobunori and others.
- A Bill for amending the 19th Article of the Conscription Law; presented by Mr. Hayashi Toshiyuki.

The Minister of State for Finance said:—

GENTLEMEN.—I think it advisable to submit for your consideration the views I entertain with regard to the Bill for reassessing the Taxable Value of Land. The measure has more or less connection with the various Bills submitted by the Government to the House of Representatives for providing sources of State revenue, and in speaking of it I am consequently obliged to refer to the general financial policy of the Government. I trust, therefore, that you will excuse me if I appear to pass beyond the subject under immediate consideration. It is scarcely necessary for me, I think, to speak of the national administration, seeing that you are well acquainted with it. But I may call attention to the Government's conviction that the paramount objects to be kept in view are the increase of the empire's prestige abroad, and the development of the people's resources at home, these two aims being pursued simultaneously with whatever degree of celerity circumstances of the time and the finances of the country permit. You will agree, I am persuaded, gentlemen, that the best interests of the State forbid that either of these objects should be neglected on account of the other, or that one should be subserved to the other. The Budget of the present year is compiled in accordance with this policy. One of the methods which we propose to adopt for strengthening the country's military defences is to make arrangements for the construction, within a period of seven years, of two powerful armoured vessels, and, within a period of six years, of one cruiser and one despatch boat. Again, among the plans which we desire to pursue for the development of the national resources, are the more vigorous prosecution of work for the engineering control of rivers, which have for some years been under consideration, and the removal of inequalities in the incidence of the Land Tax by reassessing to a certain extent the taxable value of the land. These measures will produce a deficiency of revenue to the extent of twenty-seven or twenty-eight hundred thousand yen, and to meet this deficit we consider it most advisable to increase the taxes on Saké, Tobacco, and Incomes, Bills for which purpose have been prepared and submitted to the House of Representatives. Such are the main lines of our financial policy. In the House of Representatives I explained fully that the various financial measures bearing upon it were related to each other, and ought to be discussed in that mutual connection, but the Representatives passed only the Bill for reassessing the Taxable Value of Land, the other financial Bills being still in the hands of Special Committees. I am firmly persuaded that the Representatives, not neglectful of the duty of providing for the security of the realm and the growth of national prosperity, will not allow such an unhappy contingency to arise as that no provision of funds can be made for the building of men-of-war and the reassessment of the taxable value of land. Nevertheless, as the House of Representatives has passed only this Bill for the Special Re-assessment of the Taxable Value of Land, and has not yet discussed the financial measures connected with it, I am sorry to be obliged to ask you to consider whether it will be advisable to come to an independent decision upon this Reassessment Bill, pending the settlement of

the question whether financial resources will be provided for carrying it out side by side with the building of men-of-war for the defence of the Empire. I trust that you will give the matter your fullest attention and extend due consent to the Bill.

Mr. Yamaguchi Naofusa said that from the Minister's speech he inferred a close relation between this Bill for Reassessment, and the other Bills relating to increases of taxation. Was it to be understood that the Bills must stand and fall together, and that the Government desired the House of Peers to suspend final judgment on the Reassessment Bill until the fate of the taxation Bills in the Lower House was known?

The Minister of Finance replied that he had not thought of making any suggestion as to the House's manner of voting, but that he had sought merely to convey the fact that the reform contemplated by the Reassessment Bill could not possibly be carried out unless some compensatory sources of revenue were found. It was true that inequalities existed in the incidence of the land tax, and it was also true that the Government desired to amend them, if possible. But the financial circumstances of the State had to be considered, and the Government by no means considered that the hardships of this unequal incidence were so severe as to call for redress at all costs.

Viscount Soga inquired whether the necessary funds might not be obtained by some system of reducing Administrative Expenditure.

The Minister replied that if some system of effecting reduction were forthcoming, the needed surplus of revenue might doubtless be found, but unless the proposed system were expounded, it was impossible for him to give a definite answer.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 15 elected by the whole House.

The Supplementary Weights and Measures Bill was entrusted, after some questions, to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President, as were also the Bills for abolishing Law No. 12, and for supplementing the Town Government Organization Law. The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Special Committee on a Private Bill for amending the Law of Public Meeting and Political Associations.
- 2.—Report of the Special Committee on a Private Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
- 3.—First Reading of a Private Bill for abolishing the Import Duty on Raw Cotton.
- 4.—First Reading of a Private Bill for revising the Medical Diploma Regulations.
- 5.—First Reading of a Private Bill for amending the standing Orders of the House.
- 6.—Representation relating to the Extension of Navigation.
- 7.—Representation relating to the reopening of Matsuzaki Harbour.
- 8.—First Reading of a Private Bill for taxing Official Salaries.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Question relating to the administration of Cities and Prefectures; presented by Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu, and others.
- Bill for abolishing Governmental Savings Banks; presented by Mr. Kozuka Zennosuke and others.
- Bill for abolishing the Tax on Marine Products in Hokkaido; a Bill for supplementing Imperial Ordinance No. 61 of the 11th year of Meiji; a Bill for extending the operation of the Business Tax and Miscellaneous Tax Regulations to Hokkaido; a Bill for extending the operation of the Local Land Tax Regulations to Hokkaido; and a Bill for establishing a Local Assembly in Hokkaido; presented by Mr. Hyakuman Unosui and others.
- Bill for abolishing the tax on vehicles; and a Bill for amending the Shipping Tax Regulations; presented by Mr. Tsuzuki Hidetaro and others.

The House then proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Fukuda explained that his Question as to the administration of Cities and Prefectures was dictated by the unfortunate friction now existing between Governors and Local Assemblies. He wished to know whether the Government had any policy for ameliorating such a serious situation. His own belief was that official interference in elections had been only the proximate cause of the trouble, and that the real origin lay much deeper. But, however that might be, some remedy must be found. Considering what had recently occurred in Saitama, Tokushima, and Niigata, it might almost be said that the working of the local administrative machinery was completely out of gear. In reply to the action taken by public-spirited men in the localities, the Government had explained that since Local Governors held office by au-

thority of the Emperor, it was most improper that votes as to their removal or transfer should be passed by Local Assemblies. Such an answer seemed inconsistent with the spirit of representative institutions. The Government appeared to have no resource except to suspend or dissolve the Local Assemblies. Was that the policy they intended to pursue? He desired to have an explicit answer, because upon the nature of the plan indicated by the Government must depend the subsequent steps taken by him and his fellow-thinkers.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Law of Public Meeting and Political Association, with certain modifications.

The House voted to proceed with the Second Reading at once, and after discussing the Bill clause by clause, passed it finally as amended by the Special Committee.

Mr. Node Shozaburo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee recommended the passing of the Bill for revising the Registration Law, but had modified it so that, instead of transferring the whole business of registration from the District Courts to the Divisional Headmen's Offices, either the former or the latter should be available for the purpose according to the convenience of the persons desiring to register. Several minor changes had also been made.

The House voted for the Second Reading, after some discussion.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke, introducing the Bill for abolishing the import duty on Raw Cotton, entered into statistics showing the progress of the cotton spinning industry in Japan, and said that it was of vital importance to the prosperity of the country to encourage manufacturing enterprise. There seemed a reasonable prospect that Japan might one day be able not only to supply herself with cotton manufactures, but also to export them to Korea and China. One method of bringing about that desirable conjuncture was to facilitate the supply of the raw material, and he strongly urged the necessity of removing all duty upon the import of foreign-grown raw cotton.

Mr. Higashio Reitaro inquired whether, in event of the Government abolishing the duty upon a foreign import, it would not forfeit the power to re-impose the duty.

Mr. Kato replied emphatically in the negative.

Mr. Sasaki Shozo asked whether it was certain that Japanese manufacturers would benefit by the proposed change. Might not the foreign merchants continue to charge the same price for the imported cotton?

Mr. Kato thought that no one need be uneasy on that score.

Considerable discussion ensued. Messrs. Watanabe Yoshigi and Kanmochi Tomotsune opposed the Bill on the ground that Japan should try to grow her own cotton and that there was hope of her being able to do so, whereas the free introduction of foreign raw cotton at the present juncture would certainly delay the process. They urged that manufacturers evidently found their account already in the cotton-spinning industry and needed no special help. If there were question of encouraging the export of Japanese cotton manufactures, the best method to pursue would be a system of drawbacks.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 chosen by the Sections.

Mr. Yamada Taizo, introducing the Bill for amending the Medical Diploma Regulations, explained that the chief object of the Bill was to preserve from extermination the physicians of the old school who still played a useful part in the country.

Dr. Hasegawa Tai asked how proposers of the Bill reconciled his project with the fact that the drugs and simples of the school he wished to preserve were no longer articles of commerce.

Mr. Yamada replied that he did not take count of such things. His sole idea was to secure equal treatment for all schools of medicine.

Mr. Higashio asked how examinations as to

the proficiency of physicians of the Chinese School were to be conducted; to which Mr. Yamada answered that he left that point to the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, being questioned as to whether he saw any method of conducting such examinations, said that truly he failed to perceive what could be done except to take the *Shokanron* as text book. But he took the opportunity of saying, on behalf of the Government, that the adoption of the course indicated by the Bill must be distinctly injurious to the progress of sound medical science in Japan.

The Bill was finally entrusted to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1—Decision relating to the constitutionality of the Game Regulations.
- 2—Private Bill (First Reading) for a system of Game Regulations.
- 3—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Standing Order of the House.
- 4—Representation relating to the Development of Navigation.
- 5—Representation relating to the opening of Matsugasaki Harbour.
- 6—Private Bill (First Reading) for taxing Official Salaries.
- 7—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Mining Law.
- 8—Representation relating to the reform of the Navy.
- 9—Representation relating to the rescinding of the Premonition Law.

The first measure on the Order of the Day was read as follows:—

DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE GAME REGULATIONS.

The Game Regulations, promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 48, being opposed to the Constitution, are inoperative from the outset. This House, therefore, decides that it does not accept the Government's Ordinance.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, introducing this measure, said that its general purpose was to pronounce the Regulations unconstitutional, and to declare that, consequently, they had no binding force. In discussing the matter, he should address himself first to prove that the Regulations were contrary to the Constitution; and, secondly, to show how the House ought to proceed with regard to them. The Articles of the Constitution which the Regulations violated were the 9th, the 62nd, and the 27th. He did not deny that the Game Regulations might be more or less necessary "for the maintenance of public peace and order, and for the promotion of the welfare of the subject," as laid down in the 9th article, where the Sovereign's power to issue Ordinances was defined. But he contended that Ordinances issued under the 9th Article must be chiefly calculated "for the maintenance of public peace and order, and for the promotion of the welfare of the subject," whereas these Game Regulations were chiefly designed to protect individual rights. The former Game Regulations had been submitted to the Senate for approval, but these new Regulations had been promulgated simply on the authority of an Imperial Ordinance; a difference of process which plainly indicated their unconstitutionality. Turning now to the 62nd Article, they found it laid down that new taxes could not be imposed or existing ones modified except by law. This limitation did not extend, however, to "administrative fees or other revenue having the nature of compensation," and the point to be considered consequently was whether the license fees fixed by the Game Regulations were of the nature of taxes, or whether they belonged to the category of administrative fees or revenue having the nature of compensation. He maintained that they belonged to the schedule of taxes. Speaking frankly, it must be admitted that they partook to some extent of the nature of administrative fees, but on the whole they must be classed with taxes. The most convincing proof was that a distinction was made between pursuing game for sport and pursuing it as a means of livelihood. If the charge for a passport were an ad-

ministrative fee, pure and simple, why should a sportsman have to pay more for his license than a man who made the capture of game a profession? In point of fact, the distinction ought to tell in exactly the converse sense. The conclusion must be reached that the license fee was a tax on luxuries (*Kyofun-zei*) and such imposts were regarded as taxes by all students of jurisprudence in the West. Moreover, in Budgets compiled previously to the new Regulations, the fees for shooting licenses had invariably been included among "taxes," a fact sufficient in itself to show that the Government did not regard them as administrative fees. The Government, in reply to Questions, had denied that these fees for shooting licenses belonged to the domain of taxes, but he thought that, after what he had said, the fallacy of such a contention would be apparent. The problem of what constituted and what did not constitute a tax might be discussed with more propriety by jurists than by politicians. For the House, the plainest course to pursue in coming to a decision was to observe the system hitherto followed by the Government. According to that system, the fees were undoubtedly a tax, and if the Ministry desired to change a tax, they must obtain the consent of the Diet. Otherwise, they were guilty of a distinct breach of the Constitution. Finally, the 27th Article of the Constitution provided that the right of property of every Japanese subject should remain inviolate and could not be restricted except by law. A man carrying a license to pursue game could not, however, avoid trespassing on the property of other persons and thus violating their rights. To subject individual rights to any such restriction the processes of law were alone competent, and to attempt anything of the kind by Imperial Ordinance was distinctly unconstitutional. The Ordinance being unconstitutional, could not possess any binding force, and he therefore called upon the House to declare its resolve not to accept it.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo asked whether the Regulations would lose binding force simply by a declaration of the House that it refused to accept them.

Mr. Takata replied that without any such decision the Regulations already possessed no real binding force.

Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, said:—

GENTLEMEN,—You have now before you a resolution on the subject of the Game Regulations. The Government regards it with unbounded surprise. Mr. Takata's statement of the reasons for introducing it, enables me to form some conception of the meaning, and leads me to offer a brief explanation. Mr. Takata has told you that the Ordinance is in conflict with the provisions of Art. 9 of the Constitution. But it was precisely in the exercise of the power conferred by that Article that the Government issued the Ordinance. Mr. Takata affirms that any Ordinance issued under Art. 9 must be chiefly devoted to promoting the welfare of the people and maintaining peace and public order. I confess that I am unable to follow him. How is this question of "chiefly" to be determined. Does it refer to a third of the Ordinance, or to a fourth of it, or to what fraction of it? If you admit, as Mr. Takata has done, that the Regulations are in some degree designed to preserve peace and order and promote the welfare of the people, then you cannot escape the conclusion that their issue is authorized by the 9th Article. As for the alleged infraction of the 62nd Article, it depends upon the assertion that fees for shooting licenses are taxes and not administrative fees. But the Government is absolutely assured that they are administrative fees. The inference drawn from their former Budgetary classification as "taxes" has no value, for the Government does not regard the items of the Budget as establishing any standard in such matters. Further, there is not the least validity in the argument that the Game Regulations impose restrictions upon the right of property. On the contrary, their purpose is to maintain that right. The Government is persuaded, therefore, that the Regulations do not in any way violate the Constitution. Mr. Takata told you that so soon as the Regulations are shown to be unconstitutional, their conflict with other laws need not be demonstrated. So, too, since I have shown you that they are not unconstitutional, it is unnecessary

for me to enter into other points. But with regard to the character of your proposed decision, I wish to say a word. Let me ask you, what possible value can your declaration have that you do not accept the Regulations. Are not the Regulations already in operation in Japan? I have never heard of such a contention as that a decision of this House can deprive an Imperial Ordinance of retrospective binding force. Even if the Regulations be unconstitutional, surely your decision on the subject should be confined to declaring them so. I can assure you that, for the reasons I have stated, the Government will not be swayed by any decision at which you may arrive of such a nature.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo said that the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce had recently told the House that the Cabinet Ministers held office by appointment of the Emperor, and would not resign whatever decision the Diet pronounced. There was no reason to be surprised that a Minister enunciating such a doctrine should differ from the House's interpretation of the Constitution. But he desired to be informed distinctly whether Count Goto intended to announce that the Cabinet would similarly disregard the decision of the House in this instance, or whether Count Goto agreed with Count Ito's commentary on the Constitution.

Count Goto replied that the vote of want of confidence which had elicited the comment in question and the matter now before the House were different. He saw no occasion to bring them into the same category for any purpose. As to whether his interpretation of the Constitution tallied with that of Count Ito, he had never discussed renderings of the Constitution with other members of the Cabinet, and he did not feel called upon to submit any interpretation of the Constitution to the House in answer to questions put at the present juncture.

Mr. Tanigawa Shochu said that the 9th Article of the Constitution interdicted the alteration of any existing law by means of an Ordinance. Were the Game Regulations any kind of law?

The President called the member to order. He was not entitled to discuss Constitutional interpretations under the guise of questions.

Mr. Tanigawa altered his query into—"Are the Game Regulations a law or not?"

Count Goto replied that they were not.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro congratulated Count Goto on the thickness of his skin. The celebrated Chushi might take points from him in shamelessness.

Count Goto said that the thickness of a man's skin did not appear to be an especially suitable subject for debate in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke opposed the motion. He agreed in thinking the Game Regulations unconstitutional, but he considered that the House would be altogether exceeding its competence if it undertook to declare that the Administrative measure, promulgated by Imperial Ordinance and put into operation some time previously, had been from the outset unconstitutional and without binding force. The correct course in his opinion would be to memorialize the Throne as to the unconstitutionality of the Regulations and to abide by the Imperial decision.

Mr. Yamada Toji said that the 9th Article of the Constitution forbade the alteration of any existing law by the machinery of an Ordinance. But if the Game Regulations were examined, they would be found to contain a special provision relating to the punishment of fraud. That was plainly an alteration of the Criminal Code. As to the last speaker's contention that a declaration of an Imperial Ordinance's invalidity would be contumelious, he claimed that the House's first duty was to determine the constitutionality or otherwise of a measure. He had heard with unbounded astonishment the statement of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce that no respect would be paid by the Government to the House's expression of opinion. Such a position could scarcely be assumed by a Cabinet having any respect for the spirit of representative institutions.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro opposed the motion and strongly condemned the course to which its proposers would fain commit the House. These very men had raised their voices only

three days previously against the impropriety of passing hasty judgment on such an important issue as the House's confidence in the Government; yet here they were inviting the House to declare that the Government had been guilty of a violation of the Constitution, and that an Imperial Ordinance which had already been some time in operation could not be allowed and was without effect. They had the right of making representations to the Government or addressing the Throne. The latter course would place them in the route to obtain a clear and impartial verdict as to the constitutionality of the Regulations, but instead of adopting it, they were invited to take a precipitate and grave step. The fact was that this question was being treated in a party spirit, and the supporters of the motion, instead of being guided by the letter and spirit of the law, were allowing themselves to be carried away by what was supposed to be public opinion. They had already acquired some experience of the results of deciding constitutional questions precipitately. Every attempt of the kind had ended in their discomfiture. As for the legal arguments advanced in support of the motion, they were told that a tax could not be imposed or altered by an Ordinance, that a Law could not be changed by an Ordinance; and that restrictions upon the subject's right of property could not be imposed by an Ordinance. But with regard to the first point, they themselves admitted that a fee for a game license partook of the nature of an administrative fee. Yet, while making this radical admission, they maintained that inasmuch as the fees for game licenses had been included among taxes in the Budget from days prior to the promulgation of the Constitution, therefore, they must be regarded as taxes now. In other words, because a mistaken classification had been adopted in the times when accurate distinctions on such points were not required, therefore the principle represented by the mistake must be accepted as final in perpetuity. It was true that a Law might not be modified by an Ordinance, but before building any argument on that foundation, they had to prove that there was question of a law. In pre-Constitution days Ordinances and Laws had been virtually one and the same. Many enactments which undoubtedly belonged to the category of laws had been promulgated by Ordinance. They must consider not the legislative methods of the past, but the nature of the measure themselves. To say that the old Regulations were a law, and that therefore they could not be altered by Ordinance, was merely to beg the question. He regarded it as very singular and a little inexplicable that they should show so much readiness to deduce hard-and-fast principles from the ancient procedure of a Government which they were now so prompt to accuse of unconstitutionality. Previous speakers had contended that the right of private property was restricted by the regulations: that they conferred on a licence-holder competence to trespass on another's land. Such an argument must be termed a mere make-shift. No man's land need be trespassed upon if he choose to adopt any of the ordinary precautions against trespass, neither did the fact of possessing a game license entitle its holder to put so much as one foot into the property of another if the latter were unwilling. Finally, even granting that the Regulations were unconstitutional, it was exceedingly doubtful whether the House had competence to pronounce any decision as to the validity or otherwise of an Ordinance *ab initio*. He warned them to pause before they placed themselves in a false position. There were other and legitimate means of settling the question.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei supported the Bill, but adduced no new arguments.

Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro, in a speech of considerable length, supported the proposal, but moved an amendment, namely, that instead of declaring the impossibility of endorsing the Regulations, the House should invite the Government to consider its responsibility in connection with them. He condemned the whole policy of the Cabinet, and declared that this

opportunity should be taken either to compel a fresh appeal to the country or to bring about the Cabinet's resignation.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei followed in the same general sense, but opposed the suggested amendment.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, traversed all the arguments advanced in support of the unconstitutionality of the Game Regulations. They were not in conflict with the 9th Article of the Constitution, because their purpose was "to maintain public peace and order and promote the prosperity of the people." They were not in conflict with the 27th Article, because, so far from restricting the right of property, they assisted to protect it. They were not in conflict with the 62nd article, because the fees levied under them did not belong to the category of taxes. The only argument of any apparent force adduced to show that license fees were taxes, was the statement that they had been classed with taxes in former Budgets. But a Budget dealt simply with revenue and expenditure. It was not an instrument for determining and distinguishing the legal character of the various items included in it. Apart, too, from the question of constitutionality, they were about to pronounce a decision as to the validity of the Ordinance *ab initio*. How could effect be given to such decision? How could its operation be made retrospective in respect of the various measures already taken under the Ordinance? He called upon them to think seriously before they took a step so subversive of good order.

The closure was put and carried.

A motion to entrust the measure to a Special Committee was put and lost. The House decided to vote by closed ballot.

The ballot with regard to Mr. Takanashi's amendment, showed 78 "ayes" and 176 "noes." The ballot with regard to the original measure showed 174 "ayes" and 73 "noes."

The Project for a new Game Law was then introduced and entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 chosen by the Sections.

The House rose at 5.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Special and Standing Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji.
- 2.—Second Reading of the Barristers Bill.
- 3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Newspaper Regulations Amendment Bill.
- 4.—Report of the Special Committee on the Publication Regulations.

The Chief Secretary read the following documents:—

REPLY OF THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE NAVY TO A QUESTION BY MAJOR-GENERAL AOYAMA.

The Minister of State for the Navy has not neglected to take all necessary procedure with regard to the loss of H.I.M.S. *Chishima-Kan*, which was sunk by coming into collision with the British merchant steamer *Ravenna*, on the 30th November, between the Islands of Yoko and Mutsuki, off the coast of Iyo. But as the Court of Inquiry convened to examine into the circumstances of the collision and to determine on which side the fault lay, has not yet reached a decision, the Minister cannot furnish any information on these points. As to the question of the vessel's speed, it is true that on trial she attained a speed of only 19 knots, whereas her contract speed was 21 knots. But as the former speed was sufficient for the duties she would have been required to perform, the Department agreed to take her over, in consideration of a reduction of 429,563 francs from her contracted price. Her failure to develop the estimated speed was due simply to a leakage of steam, and had nothing to do with her general construction. Had the defect in her machinery been repaired, it was expected that she would have developed the original estimated speed. Her price, armament included, was 534,630,872 yen, and the total expenses incurred in connection with her up to the present day have been 13,339,595 yen. She was not insured for the voyage out, because delivery having been taken in France, and the Japanese flag having been hoisted

there, she became from that moment a unit of the Imperial Navy, and consequently was not insured, none of the ships of the Navy being insured.

REPLY OF THE MINISTERS OF STATE FOR FINANCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO A QUESTION BY MR. SHIMIZU BUNJIRO.

In the 15th year of Meiji, the Treasury placed in the hands of the Specie Bank a sum of 170,000 yen, to be lent to Korea. The rate of interest charged by the Treasury was 4 per cent. The Bank lent money to Korea at 8 per cent., it having been agreed that the 4 per cent. over and above the interest payable to the Treasury 1 per cent.—which excess did not belong to the Treasury—should go to the Bank by way of Commission, and the remaining 3 per cent. should be allowed to accumulate, and be held by the Bank for disposal in accordance with instructions from the Ministers of State for Finance and Foreign Affairs. These two Ministers instructed the Bank to restore the amount to Korea, and a sum of 20,727,611 yen was accordingly paid over.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

A Bill for amending Law No. 15 of the 22nd year of Meiji; presented by Mr. Nakamura Yoroku and others.

A Bill for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan, and a Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan; presented by Mr. Ishida Kanosuke and others.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro complained that the reply given to his question was not satisfactory. He understood that the accumulation of interest had been intended as a precaution against any failure on Korea's part to act up to her agreement. Why, then, had the money been fruitlessly paid over to her? That was what he wanted to know. Further, if the money did not belong to the Treasury, to whom, then, did it belong?

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Kono Hironaka, on behalf of the Budget Committee, explained that the Committee had authorized him to report on the Supplementary Budget for the current year in advance of the general Budget for next year, because rapid changes in the market prices of goods and financial convenience dictated that order. The portion of the Supplementary Budget relating to grants on account of inundations, had not yet, however, been fully considered, it having been submitted to the Committee at a late date. With regard to the rest of the items, the Committee reported favourably, certain reductions being recommended, and some items in the Department of Communications being eliminated as not properly belonging to a Supplementary Budget.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that as the proposed reductions would entail considerable inconvenience, he trusted the House would agree to the Budget in its original form.

Many questions were asked, especially with reference to the item for "Joint Police Expenditure" in the Department for Home Affairs, some of the members being evidently suspicious as to the circumstances which had necessitated an increase of 124,793 yen in this branch. Considerable discussion also took place with regard to the additional sums demanded for the ordinary expenditure of the Department of Communications, the House being disposed to infer that despite its previous refusal to sanction the new works contemplated by that Department, the Minister had persisted in following his own original plans.

The Supplementary Budget was then taken item by item, the Committee's amendment being voted in every instance with one exception.

Before putting the Budget finally to the vote, the President inquired whether the Government's consent was required in respect of any of the items, and having been answered in the affirmative by the Chairman of the Budget Committee, asked the Minister of State for Finance to inform the House whether the Government's consent would be given.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, replied:—

GENTLEMEN.—The items of expenditure included in the Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji, are all necessary. That such is the case has been explained by me from the beginning of the session, and confirmed distinctly by each of the Government's Delegates. Your House, never-

theless, has deemed it advisable to make reductions in several items, and I am now asked to state whether the Government gives its consent to such of these reductions as fall within the purview of the 67th Article of the Constitution. It is needless for me to say that great difficulties will be experienced when these altered items have to be carried into practice, and that the Government would prefer to invite your careful re-consideration of the Budget as originally submitted. But the time for giving effect to the provisions of this Supplementary Budget being very close, its passage without a day's delay is desirable, as was explained to you a short time ago by the Chairman of the Budget Committee. We have no recourse, therefore, but to come to an immediate decision. I accordingly inform you on behalf of the Government that we consent to the reductions proposed by you in such items of this Supplementary Budget as fall under the provisions of Art. 67 of the Constitution.

The Supplementary Budget was then voted.

The Barristers Bill was discussed item by item, but before passing the 7th Article the House was counted out at 5.50 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The Standing and Special Committees alone met.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Barristers Bill; Second Reading continued.
- 2.—Report of Committee on Bill for amending the Press Regulations.
- 3.—Report of Committee on Bill for amending the Publication Regulations.
- 4.—Report of Committee on Bill for amending the Copyright Regulations.
- 5.—Report of Committee on Bill for amending the District Government system.
- 6.—Private Bill (First Reading) for amending the Standing Orders of the House.
- 7.—Representation relating to the extension of Navigation.

The President announced that the Government had requested that the debate on the Address to the Throne with reference to Treaty Revision be held in secret session.

Also, that the Government requested the House to use all possible expedition in discussing and disposing of the Bills for amending the Income Tax Regulations, for amending the *Saké* Brewing Tax Regulations, for amending the Supplementary *Saké* Brewing Tax Regulations, for amending Law No. 24 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*, for amending the Tobacco Tax Regulations, and for adding to the Capital of the Central Famine Relief Fund.

A Reply was read from the Minister President of State to a Question relating to the amalgamation of Local Districts.

The President announced the receipt of

A Bill for changing the Limits of the Jurisdiction of Law Courts; presented by Mr. Takasu Minzō and others.

Mr. Kono Hironaka, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported the Committee's decision as to the Budget for the next fiscal year. He confined himself to saying that the amended Budget had been placed in the hands of the President, and reserved his explanations as to the principles that had guided the Committee.

The House proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Yamada Taizo moved as an amendment to the Barristers Bill that no Judge or Public Procurator should be allowed to practise as a Barrister until the expiration of one year from the time of resigning his position as a Judge or Public Procurator. He advocated the amendment in a speech of some length, emphasizing the great importance attaching to the proper discharge of a Barrister's functions, and pointing out that a strong tendency existed at present to resign the Bench for the sake of practising at the Bar, and that it did not appear expedient to exchange the duties of Judge or Procurator at a moment's notice for those of a barrister. In answer to a question, he explained that his amendment had reference only to the case of a Judge or Procurator acting as Barrister in the Court where he had been hitherto serving as Judge or Procurator.

The motion did not obtain the fixed number of supporters.

The remainder of the Bill was discussed clause by clause, the Committee's amendments being accepted in almost every case, including the elimination of Art. XIX., which provided

that Barristers, on registration, must deposit a sum of not more than 300 *yen* and not less than 100 *yen* by way of security for the proper discharge of their duties.

Mr. Hatano Denzaburo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Press Regulations, with certain amendments, the principal of which were the granting of the power of suspension of a newspaper for a period not exceeding one week; the granting of power to the Ministers of War and the Navy to forbid the publication of military items injurious to the interests of the State, and the exaction of security money in varying sums according to the place of publication.

These amendments evoked several questions. The House finally voted to proceed with the Second Reading, and to open it at once.

On coming to discuss the Bill article by article, the House showed a disposition to reject the Committee's amendments and vote for the original Bill.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, reminded the members that when the Bill was originally introduced, the Government's dissent from it had been distinctly announced. It was understood, however, that with some modifications the Government might consent, and in view of that understanding the Bill had been entrusted to a Special Committee, although, considering that it had been passed in previous sessions, such a preliminary might have been dispensed with. But the House now seemed disposed to reject the Committee's amendments and adopt the Bill in its original form. It became, therefore, his duty to point out that whereas the Government's consent might be secured by mutual concessions, that consent must inevitably be withheld if the Bill were passed as it stood.

The House nevertheless rejected the Committee's amendments in every case and voted for the original Bill.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, President of the Special Committee, while expressing his great regret and humiliation that the Committee's amendments had met with so little favour at the hands of the members, begged the House to pause before passing the Bill in its present form. They were carrying their animosity to unreasonable lengths. Many provisions of this Bill, as it now stood, were at variance with the Bill already sent up to the House of Peers for amending the Law of Public Meeting and Political Association. He did not in any degree resent the rejection of the amendments advocated by the Special Committee, but he should greatly regret to see the House pursue such a contradictory course.

Mr. Hatano Denzaburo spoke in the same sense. He charged the House with endorsing a Bill which they had not examined, precisely after the fashion alleged to be practised by inefficient Administrative Chiefs of Bureaux who affixed their seals to documents without reading them, and he declared that such procedure was merely playing at legislation.

Mr. Motoda Hajime said that there was now no hope of getting the Bill into proper form. Better send it as it was to the Peers.

The President thought that to re-commit the Bill to a Committee would only lead to fresh complications. He advised passing it as it was. A means of amending it would doubtless be found subsequently.

The House voted the Second and Third Readings at once.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, on behalf of the Publications Regulations Amendment Bill Committee, reported in favour of the Bill with certain amendments, and hoped that the House would treat these amendments with more consideration than it had done in the case of the last Bill.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the Government had no desire to withhold consent from the House's measures. He therefore trusted that this Bill would be passed in such a form as not to necessitate dissent, and that the House would remember the

connection between this measure and that relating to the Press.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Ito Daihachi, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that very few amendments had been considered necessary in the Bill for amending the Copyright Regulations.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The First Reading of the Bill for amending the District Government system was then taken.

The discussion turned at the outset on the amendment providing that District Headmen should be elective instead of being nominated by the Government as at present.

Mr. Sakamoto Kitei asked whether such an amendment would not be a violation of the Constitution which provides that the Emperor appoints and dismisses officials.

Mr. Kudo Kekun denied that anything unconstitutional was contemplated. The House was merely asked to vote whether the office of District Headman should be elective or not.

Mr. Asakura Chikatame strongly opposed the proposal. He asked the House to consider the experiences already furnished by elections; how the public peace was disturbed, what corruption took place, and what ill will was engendered. If such lamentable results attended the election of members of the Diet whose personal connection with the electorate was comparatively small, what might not be expected in the case of elections for the purpose of choosing Headmen, who were intimately connected with the electors?

Mr. Kato Kichiyemon contended that such an argument constituted no solid objection when compared with the advantages to be gained by the reform. As yet the system of District Government had gone into operation in only 13 Prefectures, and the present was the time to amend it.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, but declined to proceed with it at once.

The Bill for amending the Standing Orders of the House was read as follows:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(N.B.—Portions included in brackets are to be excised and italicised portions added.)

Art. 86.—Any member desiring to propose a Law, Address, Representation, or resolution (*ketsugian*) which expresses the opinion of the House, shall make a draft thereof, and present it, with an explanatory note, to the President, after it is signed by the required number of supporters. The President shall thereupon cause the draft to be printed, and distributed among the members.

Art. 92.—At the second reading of a Bill each article shall be read and voted upon separately in succession. In the case of an Address or Representation the whole draft shall be read.

Art. 127.—When the President considers it necessary, or when it is demanded by not less than twenty members of the House, an open or closed ballot shall be employed in lieu of a show of hands.

If objection be made to the method of voting, and if such objection be supported by more than twenty members the objection shall be considered valid without any further discussion.

Art. 160.—If for some reason a member expects to be unable to attend the House for several days, he shall apply for leave of absence for a definite period, stating the reason, and leave shall be granted. If a member has not been able to attend the House for some time, owing to [official business] sickness, or some other unavoidable cause, he shall send in an excuse for his absence stating the reason therefor.

Presented by KAWAGOE SUSUMU and ISOMURA YOSHIYUKI.

Supported by UYEDA RITAKO and 20 others.

After a brief discussion the Bill was rejected. The House rose at 6 p.m.

THE YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

This Club having concluded its sixth season, during which 24 races have been sailed, viz., 12 by each Division, we now give the following analysis of the same:—

A. DIVISION.

Date.	Courses.	Miles.	Wind.	Character of Race.	Winners.
May 21	Home	8.5	Strong	Class	1. Daimyo.
May 24	Nakane	10.5	Variable	Handicap	1. Princess Maud.
June 7	Tomiooka	17.0	Very Light	Handicap	1. Daimyo.
June 18	Home	8.5	Very Light	Class	1. Daimyo.
July 4	Kawasaki	26.25	Light	Handicap	1. Princess Maud.
July 14	Nakane	10.5	Fresh	Handicap	1. Daimyo.
July 30	Tomiooka	17.0	Fresh	Handicap	1. Momotaro.
Aug. 21	Home	8.5	Very Light	Class	1. Daimyo.
Sept. 10	Home	8.5	Very Light	Class	1. Daimyo.
Sept. 24	Honmoku	11.25	Moderate	Handicap	1. Daimyo.
Oct. 8	Home	8.5	Variable	Handicap	1. Daimyo.
Oct. 22	Honmoku	11.25	Light	Handicap	1. Daimyo.

A. DIVISION.

Date.	Rating.	Number of Starts.	Distance Sailed.	Elapsed Time.	Average Speed.	Prizes.	Record.	Total.
May 21	39	1	8.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
May 24	38	1	10.5	3:56	2.59	2	1	3
June 7	32	1	17.0	3:04	3.46	1	1	1
June 18	32	1	8.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
July 4	32	1	26.25	4:50	3.77	1	1	1
July 14	32	1	10.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
July 30	24	1	17.0	3:04	3.46	1	1	1
Aug. 21	24	1	8.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
Sept. 10	24	1	8.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
Sept. 24	24	1	11.25	4:12	3.34	1	1	1
Oct. 8	24	1	8.5	3:55	2.77	1	1	2
Oct. 22	24	1	11.25	4:12	3.34	1	1	1

A. DIVISION.

Date.	Distance.	Aborigine.	Momotaro.	Daimyo.	Mary Jane.
May 21	8.5	1:54.38	1:54.38	1:54.38	1:54.38
May 24	10.5	4:53.38	4:53.38	4:53.38	4:53.38
June 7	17.0	6:15.00	6:15.00	6:15.00	6:15.00
June 18	8.5	2:55.29	2:55.29	2:55.29	2:55.29
July 4	26.25	3:51.08	3:51.08	3:51.08	3:51.08
July 14	10.5	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40
July 30	17.0	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40
Aug. 21	8.5	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40
Sept. 10	8.5	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40
Sept. 24	11.25	4:08.37	4:08.37	4:08.37	4:08.37
Oct. 8	8.5	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40
Oct. 22	11.25	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40	3:51.40

A. DIVISION.

Date.	Molly Bawn.	Princess Maud.	Box of Curious.	Sans Souci.	Fastest Speed.
May 21	2:15.45	2:17.30	2:44.25	—	—
May 24	5:09.55	—	5:40.35	—	—
June 7	5:46.48	5:54.40	—	—	—
June 18	2:48.12	2:50.21	—	—	—
July 4	8:00.35	7:48.58	—	—	—
July 14	4:39.24	4:56.34	—	—	—
July 30	3:58.46	4:00.59	—	—	—
Aug. 21	2:55.05	3:12.40	—	—	—
Sept. 10	3:47.13	3:48.11	—	—	—
Sept. 24	2:13.13	2:19.38	—	—	—
Oct. 8	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 22	3:30.55	3:39.40	—	—	—

B. DIVISION.

Date.	Courses.	Miles.	Wind.	Character of Race.	Winners.
May 14	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Violet. 2. Petrel.
June 4	Inside	4.5	Moderate	Class	1. Jessie.
June 11	Inside	4.5	Fresh	Class	1. Jessie.
June 25	Inside	4.5	Moderate	Class	1. Jessie.
July 9	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Jessie.
July 23	Inside	4.5	Fresh	Handicap	1. Sayonara.
Aug. 13	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Jessie. 2. Hat.
Aug. 20	Special Inside	7.5	Light	Handicap	1. Petrel.
Sept. 3	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Petrel.
Sept. 17	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Sayonara. 2. Sayonara.
Oct. 1	Inside	4.5	Light	Class	1. Petrel.
Oct. 15	Special Inside	6.0	Light	Handicap	1. Sayonara. 2. Sayonara. 3. Jessie.

B. DIVISION.

Date.	Rating.	Number of Starts.	Distance Sailed.	Elapsed Time.	Average Speed.	Prizes.	Record.	Total.
Isabel	17	12	54.5	17:15	3.04	—	—	—
Jessie	16	12	58.5	20:06	2.91	6	1	8
Petrel	16	12	58.5	15:26	3.14	3	1	5
Violet	16	12	58.5	4:28	2.17	1	—	1
Aloha	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
White Wings	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Queenie	13	3	72.0	4:51	2.48	—	—	—
Sayonara	12	9	33.0	10:19	2.65	—	—	—
Akambo	12	1	4.5	6:53	2.19	—	—	—
Gloriana	12	1	4.5	9:23	2.14	—	—	—
Jessie	10	5	12.5	9:23	2.68	—	—	—
Hat	10	1	4.5	9:15	2.00	—	—	—
Seagull	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

B. DIVISION.

Date.	Miles.	Isabel.	Jessie.	Petrel.	Violet.	Queenie.	Sayonara.
May 14	4.5	1:50.40	1:53.56	1:47.05	1:45.10	—	—
June 4	4.5	1:07.49	1:05.32	1:06.49	—	—	1:21.27
June 11	4.5	1:02.54	1:03.55	—	—	—	—
June 25	4.5	1:00.40	1:00.35	1:00.07	—	—	1:06.45
July 9	4.5	1:31.25	1:31.14	1:36.07	—	—	1:43.15
July 23	4.5	1:00.22	1:02.38	1:10.07	—	—	1:25.18
Aug. 13	4.5	1:58.53	1:49.30	1:53.05	—	—	—
Aug. 20	7.5	2:40.12	2:22.30	2:26.16	3:06.45	3:38.00	—
Sept. 3	4.5	1:40.00	1:34.45	1:39.00	—	—	—
Sept. 17	4.5	1:08.35	1:04.31	1:07.50	—	1:26.52	1:13.17
Oct. 1	4.5	1:56.10	1:48.35	1:43.45	—	—	2:21.30
Oct. 15	6.0	—	3:43.22	—	—	—	3:18.00

B. DIVISION.

Date.	Akambo.	Gloriana.	Jessie.	Hat.	Fastest Speed.
May 14	—	—	—	—	Violet.....2.57
June 4	—	—	1:30.15	—	Jessie.....4.47
June 11	—	—	—	—	Isabel.....4.29
June 25	—	—	—	—	Jessie.....4.46
July 9	—	—	—	—	Isabel.....2.98
July 23	—	—	—	—	Jessie.....3.97
Aug. 13	—	—	2:19.15	2:24.37	Jessie.....4.47
Aug. 20	—	—	—	—	Jessie.....3.17
Sept. 3	—	—	—	—	Petrel.....3.00
Sept. 17	1:15.05	—	1:31.40	—	Jessie.....4.20
Oct. 1	2:52.70	2:05.00	—	—	Petrel.....2.60
Oct. 15	3:46.15	—	4:00.00	—	Sayonara.....1.83

In the above tables all the distances are expressed in nautical miles, and the elapsed times are computed from the actual times taken to sail each race, without any correction for time allowance, which is omitted on account of the yachts having sometimes sailed under arbitrary handicap.

It will be seen at a glance that the Sailing Club has not been at all fortunate in the matter of wind. The B. Division suffered most from this cause but with two or three exceptions all the races this season were sailed in very light breezes, and one A. Division race could not be finished.

The Record Prizes in the various classes were won as follows:—

39 Raters Aborigine with 2 Points.
32 Raters Daimyo with 20 Points.
26 Raters Molly Bawn with 19 Points.
17 Raters Jessie with 17 Points.

The average speed of the Record Prize winners is lower even than last year which was also a season of light winds. As these prizes have again been won by the same boats we are able to give the results of the two seasons together for comparison:—

Raters	1891.	1892.
39 Aborigine	17.0 miles at 3.28 knots.	8.5 miles at 2.17 knots.
32 Daimyo	16.0 miles at 3.73 knots.	15.75 miles at 3.71 knots.
26 Molly Bawn	24.5 miles at 3.48 knots.	15.75 miles at 3.45 knots.
17 Jessie	36.5 miles at 3.31 knots.	58.5 miles at 2.91 knots.

There is little to be said about the 39-rating class, only one out of three boats entered in that class having finished a single race.

Daimyo again held her own against the whole fleet, as well as in her class, and appears to be sailing better than ever; Momotaro, her only dangerous opponent, being only able to beat her in a good breeze, for which opportunity seldom offered in the prevailing light winds of last summer.

The interest in the 26-rating class has somewhat decreased in consequence of the withdrawal of *Lady Louise*, *Tortoise*, and *Mary Jane*. The last named was altered in the spring, her centre-board having been removed and a lead keel substituted, making her a fine, able boat. Her sail plan was increased at the same time, thus placing her in the 32-rating class. This left the racing in the 26-rating class practically between *Molly Bawn* and *Princess Maud*, who divided the honours fairly evenly. The 21-rating class never seems to have found favour, although under the present rules a good seaworthy boat for this class, fit to cruise anywhere in the Bay, could be built and kept up at much less expense than a 26-rater. A boat on similar lines to the *Isabel* would answer well for this class; she would be a safe and comfortable boat, with plenty of room for a party of friends and comparatively inexpensive. At the present time the small boats of the 17-rating class seem to be coming more into favour, and thirteen of these have competed at different times during the season. The plan of offering a second prize for the smaller boats of this Division has had the effect of bringing out some new ones, and giving increased interest to the racing. If the Sailing Club Committee are careful to encourage the little 12-raters we may look for still better sport next season, as boats of this size are very inexpensive, and do not require a sloop to look after them. The break-water when completed will much improve the harbour for small boat sailing, and the small boat sailors are already looking forward to having a good time next year. *Jessie* was, as usual, at the top of her class, but towards the end of the season *Petrel*, having been improved by some slight alterations, began to come to the front, and another season may yet prove herself to be as fast as her

hitherto successful rival. *Isabel* was most unfortunate, as she is the strong wind boat of this class, and strong winds not being the order of the day she failed to get any prizes.

In England many of the small racing boats are owned and successfully sailed by ladies, but as yet in Yokohama the sport has not become popular with them, and although ladies are sometimes seen afloat in the harbour, with one or two exceptions they seldom venture themselves in a race. We were one day pleased to see a lady at the helm of the *Momotaro*, sailing her in a fresh breeze, and for the encouragement of the fair sex we must mention, that on that occasion the *Momotaro* came in a winner by half an hour, by far her best performance this season. Yachting is a healthy recreation, and one of the few sports in the East in which ladies can join with their husbands and brothers. Of course the rough part of the work must be left to stronger hands, but they can easily learn to steer, and not only get enjoyment out of the sport for themselves but add zest to it for the sterner sex by their presence.

The Yacht Racing Association of England will soon have to consider whether they will continue the present Length and Sail Area Rule or make some new rule. Whether there is any change made or not, we may expect much valuable information from experts before it is settled, and yachtsmen will no doubt find a great deal about their favourite sport in the pages of the *Field* during the coming year that will be of interest of them.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, October 28th.

All that was mortal of the late Poet Laureate, was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey last Wednesday. Next to the late Robert Browning in the Poets' Corner, was the place selected for the last resting place of the late Lord Tennyson. The state funeral accorded the late poet was the most impressive ceremony witnessed in London for many years. The Queen and the Prince of Wales were represented at the service, and sent wreaths to be placed on the grave.

There has been considerable speculation since Lord Tennyson's death as to whom the Queen would elect to fill the vacant Laureateship. The suspense, however, virtually ended when it became known that Sir Theodore Martin would have the first refusal of the appointment. While the selection was still a matter of conjecture, a number of names were put forward as being eligible for the offices of "Poet in General to the Queen," among which may be mentioned those of G. C. Swinburne, Edwin Arnold, Lewis Morris, Robert Buchanan, William Morris, and Alfred Austin.

The Japan Society of London held a meeting in the Society of Arts last week, when a lecture was given under the chairmanship of Mr. Diosy on the similarity of English and Japanese proverbs. The audience learnt that such sayings as "Set a thief to catch a thief," and "It's never too late to mend," had their counterpart in Japanese. Dr. Ernest Hart entered into some very interesting explanations of the specimens of Japanese art which he had lent from his large collection to illustrate the lecture. The Combative Carp were there in their hundreds by the side of realistic statues of Phryne and Hercules à la Japonaise, and the God of Laughter. Dr. Hart related the myths connected with the Japanese Olympus. Two leviathan screens lent by Lady Colin Campbell were also exhibited—splendid specimens of the golden age of Japanese art, for Dr. Hart seems to think that in matters relating to art, the East is at present in as much a state of decadence as the West. One of the screens represented the seven philosophers walking in a bamboo grove. After the lecture, the chairman, Mr. Diosy, stated that the society now numbered 275 members and he hoped it would have reached its third hundred when it meets again in two months' time for a discussion on the fascinating subject of fans.

Considerable consternation was caused when the news reached London of the wreck of the P. & O. steamer *Bokhara*. Several messages had been received in reference to the vessel's delay in arriving at Hongkong, but until the very last it was believed that the worst that could have happened was that the engines had broken down and the ship was making for port under sail. The sad intelligence of the large number of lives lost, and the total wreck of the vessel, therefore burst upon those interested with terrible suddenness. So seldom have P. & O. steamers been lost or even partially wrecked, and the reputation of safe carriage obtained by the company from this fact has been so thoroughly established of recent years, that people

have come to look upon a voyage in a P. & O. steamer as attended with about as much risk as a constitutional walk in the Park. This sad calamity, however, most unpleasantly reminds one that the risks to which those "who go down to the sea" are exposed, are by no means a thing of the past.

The Inman liner, *City of Paris*, has broken all previous records across the Atlantic during her last voyage, having gained an hour and 34 minutes on the hitherto quickest time, which was also accomplished by the same vessel in July last. On the last trip she arrived at Sandy Hook from the Mersey, including the stoppage at Queenstown, in 6 days 2 hours 24 minutes. Her time from Queenstown to Sandy Hook being 5 days 14 hours and 24 minutes. The best day's run was 530 knots, as against 520, maximum made in July; whilst the average speed for the voyage, 20.7, is nearly a quarter of a knot increase on the previous performance.

Among the list of new publications this week, appears a work entitled "The Japs at Home," by Douglas Sladen; Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., publishers; 15/. The book, which is splendidly illustrated, has had a large sale, and I understand the first edition was sold out a few days after leaving the Press. A second edition will be ready next week.

"How long will a ship last, under ordinary circumstances, is a question that has been dealt with by Mr. Robert Thompson, the new President of the Northeast Coast Engineers and Shipbuilders, who states that the period varies according to where the ship is built. Vessels constructed in Norway last on an average thirty years. Italian ships average twenty-seven; British, twenty-six; German, twenty-five; Dutch, twenty-two; French, twenty, while those built in the United States hold out for eighteen years only. The average death-rate of the world's shipping is about 4 per cent, and the birth-rate exceeds this by 1 per cent.

The Imperial Institute is now approaching completion. The rooms set apart for the accommodation of Fellows have been open since midsummer, and the portion available to the general public is now almost finished. The crowning feature of the Institute will be a complete peal of bells, which will be second in London only to the great peal of St. Paul's. These bells are the gift of an aged Australian lady, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and by permission of the Princess of Wales are to be designated the "Alexander peal." The only condition specified by the donor is that the bells shall be rung on the birthday and accession day of the Queen, and the birthdays of the Prince and Princess of Wales. They are to be completed and rung for the first time on the occasion of the inauguration of the Institute by the Queen next year.

Mr. Joseph Whitehead has just completed a bust of the late Mr. W. H. Smith which is to be placed in the vestibule of the Council Chamber of the City of London, where the busts of Lord Palmerston, Lord Derby, General Gordon, and various city dignitaries at present stand. The bust is executed in Carrara statuary marble, and presents a very effective likeness of the late statesman.

The case of Mrs. Maybrick is revived again by Mr. Stead in this month's *Review of Reviews*. A letter has been received by the Editor of the "R. of R.'s" purporting to contain the dying confession of a man who declared that he conspired with another person to bring suspicion on Mrs. Maybrick, by putting arsenic in the wine-glass and food that had been used by Mr. Maybrick. This, however, he stated, was done after Mr. Maybrick's death and to his knowledge no poison was administered to him at all. The letter comes from South Africa and is written in broken English by a Dutchman, who had promised the dying man to send his statement to Sir Charles Russell, the leading counsel for Mrs. Maybrick at the trial. As, however, he received no reply from Sir Charles he decided to put his case before Mr. Stead. Mr. Stead believes in the authenticity of the communication, and having reviewed the whole of the evidence in the case which has come to light, states, as his conclusion that Mrs. Maybrick is being tortured to death for a crime of which she is innocent. After realistically describing the horrors which Mrs. Maybrick is undergoing in her solitary confinement, Mr. Stead winds up by strongly urging the Home Secretary to take immediate action in the matter.

The Prince of Wales made his first appearance on the race-course last week since the death of the Duke of Clarence, when he was present at the Newmarket Autumn meeting, to witness the Cesarewitch.

A team of amateur cricketers sailed last week in the *Kaiser-i-Hind*, bound for India. Several of the members are almost unknown to the cricket public, but included in the list are the familiar names of Lord Hawke, Mr. F. S. Jackson, Mr. G. F. Vernon, and Mr. C. W. Wright. Lord Hawke

has been the moving spirit in the enterprise. At Bombay the cricketers are sure to meet with a hearty welcome, for Lord Harris is said to be in as good form as ever, and in no way allows his Governmental duties to interfere with his enjoyment of his favorite game.

Mrs. Langtry seems to be having rather a bad run of luck just now. After a short run of the "Queen of Manoa" which proved a complete failure, a new commercial play "Agatha Tylden, Merchant and Shipowner," by Edward Rose, was staged on Tuesday evening, and the verdict of the public is again decidedly unfavourable. Miss Tylden is the daughter of a Blackport shipowner who has died before the plot begins. Having no one to advise her but a weak-minded old head clerk, it seemed natural that the most satisfactory way of carrying on the business would be to marry a man of some commercial enterprise. However, Miss Tylden thinks differently. She rejects the proposal of one friend, Macfarlane, who suggests amalgamating his firm with hers by entering into a life partnership and refuses to marry another, Hugh Ainsworth, although he has been devoted to her from childhood and bids fair to creditably fill the position formerly held by her late father. It is the ambition of the young heroine to carry on the business herself. Ten years elapse, and things have not been going over well. For some reason, best known to the author, Hugh Ainsworth, who is now a partner in a well-known firm of London financiers, is sent down to examine the books of Messrs. Tylden. Here comes the crisis of the play. The scene is in the office of Miss Tylden, telegraph tape, telephone speaking tubes well in evidence. Ainsworth having gone through the books of the firm declares it to be hopelessly insolvent. In impassioned language he begs Miss Tylden to sign a petition in bankruptcy. However, in the nick of time a blind nobleman who, as he says, is "absurdly rich" comes to the rescue with £80,000, and the firm of Tylden & Co. sails merrily on. The heroine, again the head of a prosperous concern, accepts the offer of her former suitor, Ainsworth, who, by the way, has been by no means too tender in his financial dealings with her, and then the play comes to an end. Mrs. Langtry with charming grace tries to make the most of the title rôle, and although the character is well adapted to her natural resources, it was easily seen that she was fighting against too great odds. The unsympathetic tendency of the play and the absurdly intricate commercial details that had to be waded through, are for the most part perfectly unintelligible to the major part of the audience. By the way, time appears to deal kindly with the "Jersey Lilly," and at the present time she looks as young and piquant as when she first made her début on the stage.

Mr. Geo. Grossmith, the popular "one-man" entertainer, left England for America on Wednesday in the *Teutonic*. I understand that if he can make his engagements fit in, he will make the return trip by way of the Orient, giving entertainments en route.

Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" show came to an end last week, when the buck-jumpers, mustangs, saddles, harness, grand stands, scenery, tents and general "props" were sold under the hammer. Colonel Cody sat on horseback near the auctioneer during the sale, and gave the bidders the benefit of his personal knowledge, which seemed to be so universally in favour of every animal sold that some of the buyers were ungracious enough to insinuate that the gallant colonel might have "spoke sarkastick" in some cases. According to the colonel, the animals were given away at the prices they fetched, but taking into account that it is not every one who wants to go scampering over rough prairies at break-neck speed, and then stop suddenly with a jerk of the bit that would be enough to pull any ordinary hackney's head off, the figures obtained were really quite as good as might be expected. The majority of the horses fetched an average of about twenty guineas, while Colonel Cody's own cob, a present to him from Rosa Bonheur, realised 100 guineas. The last lot on the catalogue was a team of four handsome mules, which have been driven daily in the "Deadwood Coach" during the season. Three hundred and eighty guineas was the price paid for these, with their elaborately ornamented harness, and it was rumoured that the proprietors of Pears' Soap were the buyers.

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1892.

(PASSED BY THE LOWER HOUSE.)

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

8.—Hokkaido Administrative Board.		
20. Weights and Measures Examination Expenses	259,562	unchanged
11.—Fire and Ken Expenditures.		
5. Management of Foreign Settlements and Repairs	1,825,950	unchanged
9. Joint Police Expenses	124,793,907	unchanged
16. Weights and Measures Examination Expenses	11,881,643	not allowed
Total	138,761,062	126,619,857

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

3.—Rewards and Pensions	233,642,483	unchanged
2. Civil Service Pensions	43,202,089	unchanged
3. Military Pensions	162,873,845	unchanged
4. Naval Pensions	27,566,549	unchanged
6.—The House of Peers		
1. Salaries	46,045,000	45,941,000
3. Travelling Expenses	41,400,000	unchanged
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,804,000	unchanged
7.—The House of Representatives		
1. Salaries	841,000	737,000
3. Travelling Expenses	122,933,500	122,620,500
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	103,446,000	unchanged
5. Office Expenses	13,691,000	unchanged
6. Expenses of Publication ..	1,860,500	1,762,500
10.—Official Gazette Bureau.	3,936,000	3,721,000
6. Expenses of Publication ..	42,173,252	unchanged
Total	444,794,235	444,377,235

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

2.—Military Expenses	379,024,954	unchanged
4. Food	261,533,440	unchanged
6. Horses	117,491,514	unchanged
3.—Gendarmerie ..		
4. Horses	770,497	unchanged
4.—Colonial Militia		
4. Food	66,472	unchanged
Total	446,202,923	446,202,923

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

3.—Expense of Communications ..	388,632,922	236,363,172
1. Salaries	78,688,000	35,302,000
3. Works of Communication ..	271,950,716	181,150,670
4. Travelling Expenses	26,066,900	11,359,263
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	9,068,630	5,924,430
6. Office Expenses ..	2,918,676	2,626,809

Grand Total of Ordinary Expenditures ..	1,418,391,142	1,251,822,749
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EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

8.—Buildings and Repairs		
1. New Buildings	19,556,705	3,456,705
13.—Reconstruction of Offices destroyed by Fire ..		
1. Sapporo Ku Office and Police Station rebuilt	1,484,010	unchanged
14.—Purchase of Land in Hokkaido ..		
1. Land Purchased ..	139,456	unchanged
Total	21,180,771	5,08,171

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

1.—Subsidies		
1. Subsidy to the Japan Railway Company	187,396,221	unchanged

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

4.—Buildings and Repairs		
4. New Buildings ..		
4. Barracks	17,710,768	15,693,750

DEPARTMENT OF NAVY.

1.—Building of Men-of-war	—	—
1. Building of Men-of-war	178,110.482	unchanged
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.		
3. Buildings and Repairs	198,258.230	98,708.960
7. Buildings of Parcels Post Office ...	181,928.230	81,908.960
8. Repairs of Parcels Post Offices ...	16,330.000	16,800.000
Grand Total of Extraordinary Expenditures ...	602,655.872	484,989.584
Grand Total ...	2,021,047.014	1,736,812.333

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 47.

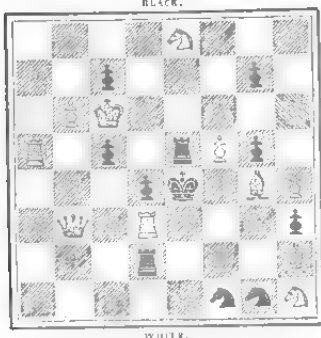
WHITE. BLACK.
1.—B to R 7 1.—Anything
2.—Q, Kt, B, or R mates acc.

Correct solutions received from Omega, Scacchi, W.H.S., O. Balk, J.D., and Digamma.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1 (BY E. G. B. VALLE) IN PRESIDENT'S PROBLEM COMPETITION.

1.—K to B 6 1.—K x Kt
2.—K to Q 5 (dis. ch. and mate). 1.—P x Kt
2.—R mates at Q 7. 1.—Q moves or P advances
2.—Kt x P on K 2, or O to R 8, acc. (mate).
[If Q to Kt 8 or to R sq., either of these moves mates.]
1.—R moves
2.—Kt x P on Kt 5 (mate).

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Shogi, Omega, J.D., Ed. Batavus, O. Balk, G.S., and H. L. Fardel.

PROBLEM No. 49.
BY R. H. SEYMOUR.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The tournament is progressing well in the local Chess Club, the second round now being played. We hope to give the score of the first and second rounds next week. As it looks now, Messrs. Balk, Davieson, Mason, and Schiff are going strong and the final tussle will probably be contested by some of these players.

Herr Lasker seems to be continuing his triumphant progress in the New World. We clip the following from a recent copy of the *New York Times*:—

AN ARTISTIC CHESS GAME.

LASKER DEFEATS J. W. BAIRD IN A REMARKABLY CLEVER CONTEST.

Herr Lasker gave another exhibition of fine chess strategy yesterday afternoon, when he beat J. W. Baird in a most artistic manner.

The game was one of the best contested of the series, the unlooked-for sacrifice of the pawn by Lasker on his twenty-third move and the rare vigour and precision with which he brought about the utter demolition of the adverse position are an apt illustration of the German master's style.

This is Lasker's twentieth victory; he will play

the last game of the series at the Manhattan Chess Club with E. Delmar. The game in full:—

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White (Baird)	Black (Lasker)
1.—P to K 4	1.—P to Q 4
2.—Kt to K B 3	2.—Kt to Q B 3
3.—P to Q 4	3.—P x P
4.—Kt takes P	4.—P to K Kt 3
5.—B to K 3	5.—B to Kt 2
6.—B to K 2	6.—P to Q 3
7.—Castles	7.—Kt to B 3
8.—P to K B 3	8.—Castles
9.—P to B 3	9.—P to Q 4
10.—Kt x Kt	10.—P x Kt
11.—P to K 5	11.—Kt to K sq.
12.—P to K B 4	12.—P to B 3
13.—P x P	13.—B x P
14.—Kt to Q 2	14.—Kt to Q 3
15.—Kt to B 3	15.—R to Kt sq.
16.—R to Kt sq.	16.—Q to B 2
17.—Kt to Q 4	17.—B to Q 2
18.—B to Kt 4	18.—Kt to B 5
19.—B to B sq.	19.—B x B
20.—Q x B	20.—B x Kt ch.
21.—P x B	21.—Q to B sq.
22.—Q to K 2	22.—Q to B 4
23.—B to Q 2	23.—P to K 4
24.—Q x P	24.—Q to B 7
25.—K R to Q sq.	25.—R x B P
26.—Q to K sq.	26.—R to K 5
27.—Q to B 2	27.—R to K B sq.
28.—Q to B 5	28.—R to K 7
29.—R to K B sq.	29.—K R to B 7
30.—P to K 6	30.—R x R ch.
31.—R x R	31.—R x R ch.
32.—Resigns.	

A JAPANESE CENTRAL MISSION.

BY REV. W. T. A. BARBER, M.A.

The present state of Christian Missions in Japan, and the effect of the anti-foreign reaction on the adherents of a creed necessarily introduced from foreign lands, offers a most interesting problem to the sympathetic outlooker, and a most important subject to the faith and prayer of the Western Churches. The world is familiar with the revolution which, in a moment seized a gallant nation from the further edge of the East, and set it marching abreast of the progress of the world. Three or four years ago that nation reached the crest of the westernising; the schools were crammed to suffocation with boys and girls learning English, and the ordinary routine of the mathematics and science of the West; the picturesque, but inconvenient, native dress was rapidly disappearing in the great cities—even the pretty Japanese ladies, with their becoming *coiffure* and robes, were rapidly changing themselves into waistless and dowdy imitations of second-rate Englishwomen. Parallel with these signs came a large influx into the Christian—i.e., the Western—Church. But the barque of Japanese life rides on choppy and changeful seas; already it has passed from crest to trough. Native dress is once more in the ascendant; schools, built large for the hopes of the moment of success, lie half-empty, and the communicant rolls of most of the missions are diminished or stationary. The reasons of this rapid change cannot be enlarged on here. The immediate irritating cause has been the ill-success of the attempt of Japan to shake herself free from the extra-territoriality clauses of the European treaties. By the conditions of these, foreigners resident in Japan are amenable to the jurisdiction of their own consuls, and not to Japanese law. The aspirations of a Westernising nation naturally yearn for the removal of the last stigma of barbarism. But popular confidence takes long to grow, and so far the Western Powers decline to take the risk; Japanese *amour propre* has been deeply wounded, and the vainest race in the world revenges itself by a hasty recoil from the manners of the civilisation which thus demonstrates its contempt for its imitator. The self-styled *national* party, which distinguishes itself by its anti-foreign expressions, yet out-Westernises the world in its agitation, during the first year of the new-founded Japanese Diet, asked for powers beyond those of the recent Liberal Constitution. It seeks to force the Government to resign if censured by the majority of the Diet, and has had to be content with the calm firm-seatedness of a Cabinet formed on the Prussian model and receiving its appointment imperturbably from the Emperor, irrespective of the blatanacy of political parties. But deep beneath all other reasons and expressions of reaction lies the innate fickleness and love of change of the Japanese. Like the French, brave, vain, artistic, neat, sensitive, quick, they are also, like the French, ever ready to toss away the toy of the previous hour and to clutch a fresh one.

Ever since Paul wrote to the Galatians the Christian missionary has found quick initial success and subsequent special difficulties in dealing with such a people. It is of no use to grow discouraged and to give up the attempt. The solution of the problem is this—recognising the volatile elements of change, by a holy opportunism to use the right means for winning the respect and affection of a nation, quick and susceptible, even if unstable. Thus it is that the desire for education has been utilised by almost every one of the missionary societies at work in Japan; large and handsome Mission Schools are to be found everywhere, and no inconsiderable degree of success has been gained through this means. Notable among these is the Doshisha, at Kyoto, where, even in this time of depression, some 700 boys and girls are being taught, and where it rarely happens that a "graduate" has not in his course become a Christian. Our own Society is not represented, but our work is suitably and ably done by our healthy daughter, the Methodist Church of Canada. The traits of resemblance are perfect, and there is a curious thrill of pleasure to the British Methodist in passing from the work of other missions, excellent and satisfactory as it is, to that which vibrates with the same modes and utterances of spiritual life as his own. Naturally the work in Tokyo, the new capital of the empire, excites special interest. A splendid girls' school, taught by devoted women, instinct with true Christian life, gives much hope for the homes of the future. Society classes, led by three of the girls, one of them sorely beset by unbelieving parents; regular Bible lessons; meetings for prayer in which girl-voices sound—Methodist in utterance of spiritual communion; a strong Christian influence leading to the Saviour—all these signs delight with the hope and belief that here is being built up the firmest future of the Church. In fact, to attend a service in the large Azabu Church, with its Canadian-educated native pastor, its self-supporting congregation, its pews of bright boys and girls, is an inspiration to the visitor, who listens while he longs for the interpreter of the gift of tongues.

Elsewhere are similar congregations, though unassisted by schools. But the most striking department of the work of the Mission is the Central Tabernacle service of Rev. Dr. C. S. Eby, who avowedly imitates the West London Mission of Rev. H. P. Hughes. The phrase, "a holy opportunism," has been used above. None more fit can be found for Dr. Eby's modes. His reasoning is this, "The Japanese love change, debate, show. We will have no hole-and-corner business in secluded parts of the city. We will settle ourselves in a central site, and will show them we mean to stay and to win this city." Tokyo is the citadel of the nation's intellectual life. Its university and its graded schools give a resident population of some fifty thousand students, from schoolboys upwards. Win these, argues Dr. Eby, and Japan is won. A tabernacle has been built, burnt, rebuilt, electric lighted, organed, pianoed, and frequently filled—all during the last two years. Something like 20,000 dollars have been spent. Social and literary meetings, lectures, concerts, and the like, are means used to draw the young men, and the religious aim of the enterprise is always held well to the front. During a recent short visit to Tokyo I naturally visited this seat of work, so utterly unlike anything possible in unprogressive China. The Wednesday evening meeting was notable by the extension of the right hand of fellowship to those who had joined the Church during the preceding quarter. Some of these were quite little boys, attending the primary or middle schools of the neighbourhood, who, though the sons of heathen parents, had experienced no hindrance in their desire to confess Christ. During the eighteen months of the active work of the Mission there have been a hundred applications for baptism, and more than fifty have been received into the Church. In many cases these were young men coming up to the University from districts where Christianity had scarcely been known. The peculiar minglement of the social with the religious was evidenced in the conduct of this meeting, where, after an address on mission work in China, volubly translated by a graduate of the University, ices were served round, and a violin duet by two girls, students in the Tokyo School of Music, followed by the story of Daniel given by a youth after the fashion of the tea-house story-tellers, occupied the rest of the evening, which closed with a double doxology in Chinese solo and in Japanese unison! The arrangement had been left in the hands of the Japanese themselves. The following Saturday evening was devoted to a regular entertainment, comprising recitation, readings, vocal and instrumental music in the style to which England is so accustomed. The main interest naturally attached to the Sunday services. The

Original from

morning service of the ordinary Church type is not largely attended. In the afternoon an audience of some couple of hundred young men, almost entirely unbelievers, assembled to hear a lecture from Rev. Dr. Cochran on "Moses, the Liberator and the Legislator." This formed one of a series, reminding me strongly of a similar set, delivered at the Madras Christian College, a series offering a magnificent, even unique, opportunity of reaching a thoughtful and independent class of the nation's brightest youth. The lecture was first delivered in pointed English paragraphs, and then translated into flowing Japanese by the same Tokyo graduate as has been mentioned before. I felt fairly thrilled at the skill and power with which the lecturer brought home to the consciences of his hearers the great moral and spiritual truths of his theme. He concluded by announcing as his next Sunday's theme, "Justin Martyr." In the evening a crowded audience assembled to hear a sermon, illustrated with magic-lantern slides. Dr. Eby has in his own house a manufactory of Scripture slides, photographed and coloured by Japanese, and hopes, ere long, by the sale of spare copies, to make this part of his mission self-supporting. He binds himself down to no absolute continuity of detail in his plans, but changes as the notices flagging of interest. Of course, the main reliance is in the strong Christian influence among their fellow-students of the young men already brought to Christ.

It would be unwise to appraise this bold effort. It seemed to me that the experiment is well worth trying. The results are probably less satisfactory than those of ordinary steady mission work in the solidity and permanence of the Church built up, and there are evident traces of the danger of attracting from the more ordinary Churches around. But the Canadian Mission is proving its worth of the high trust reposed in it by neglecting no means, determinately and bravely aiming at the flower of the nation's youth, and its reward is in a thoroughly representative and all-round work, which must have a grand effect on the future. Here, at any rate, there is growth and life. Different types of Christian intelligence will lead to sympathy with different sides of this work. As experienced in the mission problems of another land, I rejoice in both sides. Coming fresh from a field where patience is the first of all needful qualities, I couldn't help asking Dr. Eby what he and his English prototype would have done had their lot fallen in China, and expressing my belief that less than a year would have broken either of them down. His answer was suggestive. "God knew that was so, He has sent neither of us there. My work is here, I use this method." By fruits shall we know. Let one personal trait conclude these notes. Struck with the expense of the undertaking, I asked Dr. Eby, "Have you the audacity [I used a shorter Anglo-Saxon term] of your prototype?" "Ah, sir," said he, "I think I should have at home; but it is hard to have—audacity—at five thousand miles distance."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 9th.
The Monetary Conference is now about to discuss the general bimetallic scheme.

London, December 12.
In the United States Senate, Mr. Stewart moved an amendment to the Sherman Act by the free coinage of silver and the issue of Treasury Bonds based upon silver deposits.

London, December 15th.
The Monarchists and the revolutionists of all shades are seeking to fan the growing discontent, both in Paris and throughout France, with the present régime, consequent upon the daily extension of the Panama Canal scandal.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, December 13.
The *Ravenna* Court of Enquiry will be held in Yokohama about the 20th inst.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

The United States Delegates have submitted their proposals to the International Conference, and consider that it will be necessary to establish an International agreement for providing an unlimited coinage of both gold and silver bullion into full debt-paying money, fixing the ratio of both the metals and creating a uniform charge to the public for coining their gold and silver.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } Nagasaki and } Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 25rd.
From America... per P. M. Co.		To-day, Dec. 17th.*
From America... per P. M. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 25th.†
From Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Dec. 18th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Dec. 26th.‡
From Europe via } Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed. day, Dec. 28th.
From America... per U. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 31st.
From Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Jan. 5th.

* City of Peking left San Francisco on November 26th. † China left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 6th. ‡ Empress of China left Vancouver on December 25th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via } Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 20th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Dec. 20th.
For Shanghai, } Kobe, and } Nagasaki.....	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 20th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 24th.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Dec. 27th.
For America... per U. & O. Co.		Thursday, Dec. 29th.
For Europe, via } Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Dec. 30th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Jan. 6th.
For Victoria and } Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 12th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 10th December,—Otaru via ports 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 10th December,—Shanghai and ports 4th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 11th December,—Fushiki 4th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pak Ling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 11th December,—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 12th December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 12th December,—Kobe 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 12th December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.
Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. P. Lapage, 12th December,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tipple, 12th December,—Kobe 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Brown, 13th December,—Kobe 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 14th December,—Otaru via ports 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 14th December,—Kobe.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,210, Barstow, 15th December,—Hachinohe 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 15th December,—Yokosuka 15th December, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, De Maubeuge, 15th December,—Marseilles via ports 30th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, J. R. Edwards, 16th December,—Kanazawa 16th December, Light.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.
Hioho Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 16th December,—Hakodate via ports 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 17th December,—Hongkong 10th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 16th December,—Shanghai and ports 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 16th December,—Kobe 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 17th December,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 10th December,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 10th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Davis, 10th December,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 11th December,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 11th December,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 12th December,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Pender, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, Jaeger, 13th December,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 13th December,—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 13th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 13th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 13th December,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.
Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Jamieson, 14th December,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tipple, 14th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 15th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. P. Lapage, 15th December,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, De Maubeuge, 16th December,—Yokosuka, Light.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 16th December,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 16th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pak Ling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 16th December,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 17th December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,210, Barstow, 17th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Messrs. Z. Kadoya, G. Jinko, M. Kunitatsu, and T. Ino in cabin; 69 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Lucy B. Blanchard, Rev. H. J. Foss, Mrs. Uchida, and Mrs. Oyeda in cabin; Mr. Yamada and Mr. Yamamoto in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. H. Miller and Mr. W. E. Bridgeman in cabin; 79 Chinese and 7 Japanese in steerage. For *Tacoma*: Mr. and Mrs. F. Dodwell and 4 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in cabin; 5 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. J. Hara, Governor of Yamaguchi, Mr. H. Tomioka, Chief Engineer (Navy), and Lieutenant Commander K. Ito in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 18 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Turuda Komekitchi, Riband, Cherel, Devergie, Mrs. Marshall, Messrs. Hatano, Munter, Wilson, and Hanbury in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hioho Maru*, from Hakodate via ports:—Mr. Y. Yagihashi in cabin; Mr. T. Takahashi and Mr. Y. Kotoku in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Whithall and daughter, Mrs. Wm. Thompson and 4 children, Mr. M. Abraham, and Mr. Wallace in cabin; Messrs. John Sullivan, H. W. Flint, and J. Ninham in second class, and 23 passengers in steerage. For *Hakodate*: 4 passengers in steerage. For *Otaru*: 2 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Miss Funk, Rev. Chas. Beal's son, and Rev. and Mrs. Medhurst and 2 children in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. J. B. Cousins, John

Doe, and Chun Fat Chum and native servant in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. A. H. Nathan, L. M. Conwell, C. H. Hill, J. B. Gilliat, F. H. B. Ellis, W. H. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Fein Son and child, Mrs. Fun Lum and child, and Mr. Ah Yet and child in cabin; 3 Chinese and 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Michinaga, Miss T. Stewart, Mrs. Ishikawa, Mrs. Steadman, Mr. Lee Bew Sang, and Mr. S. J. Caswell in cabin; Mr. S. Imanichi in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 97 bales; Waste Silk, 494 bales.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	PACIFIC COAST.	TEA, NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	31	—	—	31	31
Hyogo	81	—	172	305	558
Yokohama	69	—	347	—	416
Total	181	—	519	305	1,005

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	280	—	280
Yokohama	500	—	500
Total	780	—	780

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$24,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 6th December at 2 p.m.; had strong W.N.W. winds and passing snow squalls; had same weather to Hakodate, where arrived the 7th at 9.15 a.m. and left the 8th at 8 a.m.; had gentle S.S.W. winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 9th at 6.30 a.m. and left at 0.20 p.m.; had strong N.W. winds and clear weather; off Inuboye wind light and variable with light rain showers; thence clear and fine weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th December at 1 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 4th December at 11 a.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 6th at 3 a.m. and left the same day at 3 p.m. Arrived at Moji the following day at 3 a.m. and left again at 7 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 8th at 3.20 p.m. and left the 9th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama the following day at 3 p.m. Experienced moderate N.E. winds and fine, cloudy weather to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe had light northerly winds, and dull, cloudy weather, moderate N.E. winds were met with and fine, clear weather along the coast to Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Fushiki the 4th December at midnight; had light winds from N.W. and fine weather until 4 p.m. on the 5th when the wind freshened from the south with increasing sea and every appearance of bad weather; at 6 p.m. wind chopped round to westward, and freshening all the time with heavy squalls and rain, increasing sea; at 11 p.m. blowing a whole gale from N.W., dangerous cross sea, ship labouring heavily with a heavy list to starboard and taking large quantities of water overhawl; decided to run to Funakawa; at midnight similar weather, squalls much heavier; on the 6th at 1.35 a.m. anchored at Funakawa, the weather continuing the same throughout the whole day; on the 7th, at 7 a.m., weather having moderated slightly left for Yokohama at 8 a.m. Wind and sea increasing, ship making very little head way; at 9.20 a.m. terrific gale, sea confused and dangerous; ship sometimes entirely submerged in water; bow up again for Funakawa, arrived there at 10.35 a.m.; on the 8th, at 8 a.m., left again for Yokohama; had moderate W. and S.W. winds with heavy sea and squally weather to Shiriya-saki, which was passed at 1.7 on the 9th; thence to Kinkasan, which was passed at 10.50 p.m. moderate S.W. and W. winds, fine weather and moderate sea; thence to Inuboye, which was passed at 4 p.m. on the 10th, moderate N.W. and variable winds; at 9 p.m. wind freshening from westward with very heavy sea; at midnight blowing a whole gale high dangerous sea, shipping large quantities of water forward; at 6.55 a.m. on the 11th rounded Noshima, wind and sea moderating a little and gradually decreasing on nearing Yokohama, which arrived at noon, had strong north-easterly current between Inuboye-saki and Noshima.

The Japanese steamer *Senda Maru*, Captain Tittle, reports:—Left Kobe the 11th December at 10 a.m. and proceeded full speed for Shiotsu; fresh W.N.W. breeze and clear weather. Arrived

at Shiotsu at 1.24 p.m. and left at 2.50 p.m. same evening and proceeded full speed for Yokohama; had moderate to fresh breeze at N.N.W. with clear weather and smooth sea to Oshima, which was abeam at 8.46 p.m.; thence to port fresh to strong W.N.W. and west winds with fine, clear weather and high following sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th December at 5.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Mike Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 8th December at 2 p.m.; had moderate S. to S.W. winds, overcast sky, and threatening to snow; on the 9th at 5.30 a.m. passed Okushira light, strong southeasterly winds and freshening, slight sea, cloudy, overcast weather with sleet; at 10 a.m. moderate gale from N.N.W. with hard squalls of wind accompanied with frequent heavy snow storms, moderate sea, same weather continued throughout to Hakodate; passing Shirakami at 1 p.m. and arrived at Hakodate at 5 p.m. Left the 11th at 8 a.m.; had strong N.W. winds and freshening, accompanied with thick snow, land obscured; at noon moderate gale from W.N.W., hard squalls of wind with blinding snow storms, weather clear at times, high sea; at 12.30 p.m. passed Shiriyasaki; at 1 p.m. wind and sea decreasing less snow and weather cleared; on the 12th at 3 a.m. passed Yamada, gentle to moderate westerly winds and fine, clear weather, slight sea, which continued throughout to Oginohama, arriving there at 2 p.m. and left the same day at 11 p.m.; from Oginohama to Inuboye, passed at 6.30 p.m., had gentle to moderate S.W. to westerly breeze with fine, clear weather, slight southerly swell; at midnight moderate wind and fine, clear weather, high southerly swell; on the 14th at 3.40 a.m. passed Noshima, strong breeze and freshening with high sea; at 7.13 a.m. passed Kanon-saki, light airs and misty. Arrived at Yokohama at 8.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain M. Matsumoto, reports:—Left Hakodate the 14th December at 10 a.m.; had gentle west-north-westerly breeze and snowy weather till 9 p.m.; thence similar breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 15th at 9.25 a.m. and left at 1.50 p.m.; had gentle north-westerly and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th December at 3.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 8th December at 1.45 p.m.; encountered strong N.W. gales with occasional snow showers, up to arrival at Nagasaki the 10th at 8.20 p.m. Left Nagasaki the 11th; had continued strong N.W. gales and snow showers at intervals. Arrived at Kobe the 13th at 1 p.m. and left the 15th at noon; had fresh to moderate N.W. and N.E. winds and fine, clear weather up to arrival at Yokohama the 16th December at 5.30 p.m. Passed nothing of note except, large sailing ship standing for Kobe off Rock Island, yesterday.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 15th December at noon; had from gentle to moderate north-westerly winds and fine, clear weather to Oshima, which was passed at 8.25 p.m.; thence to midnight gentle to light variable wind increasing to moderate breeze from N.N.W., with clear weather continuing to Rock Island, which was passed at 11.30 a.m. on the 16th; wind then hauling to N.E. with cloudy weather and moderate breeze, similar winds and weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.25 p.m. On the 16th at 10.40 a.m. passed German ship *Frieburg* 10 miles W.S.W. of Rock Island and steering west.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 10th December at 3 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th December at 1.50 a.m. Passage, 6 days, 9 hours, and 8 min. To the north end of Formosa had strong N.E. gales with a very heavy head sea; thence to Yokohama had moderate N.N.W. breeze; thence to port fine weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Market remains, in most respects, as last noted. The drop in exchange has continued, and buyers have been compelled to pay full prices for goods purchased, which they claim leaves but little or no margin for them, as interior merchants are far below the parity of this market—and will probably go without rather than pay up.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—84 in, 384 yds, 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.35
Grey Shirtings—90 in, 384 yds, 45 inches	2.00 to 2.90
F. Cloth—74 in, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Indigo Shirtings—72 yards, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 39 inches	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Paffacholas, 12 yards, 45 inches	0.64 to 0.77

Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.15, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.17 to 1.27
Turkey Reds—2.15 to 3.15, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.50 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.64 to 1.74
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.95 to 2.10

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.27 to 0.30
Medium	0.24 to 0.26
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.17 to 0.23
Common	0.14 to 0.19
Mousseline de Laine—Craps, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47 to 0.57
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 34 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16/24, Medium	\$27.00 to 29.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	29.00 to 31.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	31.00 to 31.50
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	29.50 to 30.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium	30.00 to 32.50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	32.00 to 33.50
Nos. 28/32, Medium to Best	34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 32, Two-fold	34.00 to 35.00
No. 42, Two-fold	38.00 to 40.00
No. 20s, Bombay	PER RICE.
No. 16s, Bombay	71.00 to 80.00
No. 10 1/4, Bombay	70.00 to 76.00
No. 10 1/4, Bombay	60.00 to 70.00

METALS.

Demand small, at unchanged quotations.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	PER PIECE.
Flat Bars, 6 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Round and square up to 4 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Steady trade continues, Russian brands at the moment being especially sought for; prices obtained in some cases being a little higher than quotations given.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77
Comet	1.72 to 1.75
Devco	1.67 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.72 to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72

SUGAR.

Market unchanged, with fair business doing.

Brown Takao	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	\$4.40 to 4.45
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 3.95
Brown Canton	3.85 to 3.90
White Java and Penang	5.85 to 5.90
White Refined	5.65 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 9th instant. Since then, settlements on this market amount to 1,650 piculs, divided thus:—Hanks, 148 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,232 piculs; *Re-reels*, 145 piculs; *Kakeda*, 107 piculs; *Oshu*, 18 piculs. In addition to this, direct shipments have been 144 bales, and the total export trade of the week is therefore 1,800 piculs.

The fair daily business reported in our last has since increased until we had a very large business, with advancing prices. The initiative seems to have come from Lyons this time where there has been apparently a considerable revival in trade. This news has led to large operations on this market, principally in fine-sized *Filatures* of medium and best quality. The activity thus caused has induced some little buying also for the United States, and altogether we have had a lively week with high prices, in spite of further weakness in exchange.

Supplies come in from the interior to a fair extent, but not sufficient to keep pace with the sales, and the stock shows a decrease on the week of 900 piculs. It will also be noticed from our statistics given below that the available supplies to date are over 3,000 piculs less than they were this time last year.

Exchange has drooped from day to day, until at last we are once more about on a parity with the price of silver bullion in London.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The Canadian steamer, *Empress of India*, December 9th, took 426 bales; the American mail *Oceanic*, December 10th, 278

bales; the English mail *Ancona*, December 11th, 97 bales for Europe, and the Northern Pacific steamer *Tacoma*, on the 13th, had 500 bales for the New York trade. These departures bring the present export figures up to 31,036 piculs against 28,993 piculs last year, and 11,446 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—Some revival in the demand, and about one-third of the stock on this market has been settled at about late rates, hardening towards the close, especially for anything of decent quality.

Filatures.—The great bulk of the trade has been in this department, principally for Europe, although the coarse-sized *Filatures*, such as they are, have been much enquired for the last two days. In European sorts, a rise of \$20 or \$25 has been paid, and quotations now stand as per our list at foot. Good, desirable parcels are now getting to be scarce and with the prevalent demand are very firmly held.

Re-reels.—A small business in this department, quality generally being very unsatisfactory, even taking into account the time of year. Tortoise chop has been done at \$780, with others in proportion. Very common *Re-reels* are noted at \$550. In other chops no business.

Kakeda.—Considerable enquiry for best grades, of which the stock is very small. One parcel supposed to be Extra is reported sold at \$790, while there is a talk of some No. 1 at \$772½; other grades, as to which buyers complain of the mixed quality, are held as follows: No. 1 *Horsehead*, \$730; No. 2, \$680; No. 3, \$640.

In *Oshu* and *Taysam* sorts, no business has been done.

QUOTATIONS.	
Hanks—No. 14	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinsu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom.
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinsu)	\$590 to 600
Hanks—No. 24 (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 24 to 3	575 to 580
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 560
Hanks—No. 34	530 to 540
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Kakeda—Extra	790 to 800
Kakeda—No. 1	770 to 780
Kakeda—No. 14	730 to 740
Kakeda—No. 2	690 to 700
Kakeda—No. 24	650 to 660
Kakeda—No. 3	630 to 640
Kakeda—No. 34	610 to 620
Kakeda—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 24	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 16th Dec., 1892:—	
SEASON 1890-1891.	1891-92.
Bales.	Bales.
Europe	10,306
America	20,155
Total	30,461
Piculs	31,036
Settlements and Direct	32,900
Export from 1st July	30,500
Stock, 16th December	10,000
Available supplies to date	42,900

WASTE SILK.
There has again been a large business in this branch, although settlements are not so plentiful as in the previous week and the buying entered in the daily sales amounts to 1,300 piculs, distributed thus: *Cocoons*, 64 piculs; *Noshi*, 590 piculs; *Kibiso*, 646 piculs. Direct shipments have been trifling, and the business of the week practically stands at 1,300 piculs.

Prices are firm in sympathy with the Raw Silk market, but without any notable advance. Arrivals from the interior do not keep pace with sales and the stock is reduced 800 piculs on the week.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The *Empress of India*, December 9th, carried one bale of Tama for the New York trade. The English mail *Ancona*, 494 bales for Europe and the *Port Adelaide*, (Canal steamer for New York December 14th), had 12 bales of *Cocoons*. These departures bring the present export figures up to 19,336 piculs against 15,275 piculs last year, and 15,335 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Cocoons.—The remaining stock is cleared out on

the basis of \$65 for medium grade, and the season for these may be considered closed.

Noshi.—Good inquiry for *Joshu* and some large lines are entered at from \$65 to \$72. There have been large purchases of *Oshu* also at from \$130 to \$140. Nothing done in other sorts.

Kibiso.—A large business at the beginning of the week, but latterly the market is more quiet. *Filatures* have been done to some extent, prices ranging from \$85 to \$100. In *Hira* sorts a large parcel of *Hachoji* was entered at \$25½; another parcel of *Mino* at \$62½ and some *Zaguri* at \$54.

Nothing reported this week either in *Mawata* or *Neri*.

QUOTATIONS.	
Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	\$120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinsu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushi, Good to Best	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinsu, Best	60 to 70
Kibiso—Shinsu, Seconds	50 to 55
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	50 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	40 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 16th Dec., 1892:—	
SEASON 1890-91.	1891-92.
Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	16,974
Pierced Cocoons	2,304
Total	19,336
Settlements and Direct	23,800
Export from 1st July	19,600
Stock, 16th December	14,300
Available supplies to date	38,100

Exchange has continued its downward course, closing rather firmer. Present quotations are:—
LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/9½; Documents, 2/9½;
6m/s. Credits, 2/9½; Documents, 2/9½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$67½; 4m/s. U.S. \$68½; PARIS, 61 LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.52.

Estimated Silk Stock, 16th Dec., 1892:—	
RAW.	WASTE.
Piculs.	Piculs.
Hanks	250
Filatures	3,900
Re-reels	4,790
Kakeda	570
Oshu	460
Taysam Kinds	30
Total piculs	10,000
	14,300

TEA.	
Nothing new to report.	
Fine	22 to 24
Good Medium	19 to 21
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	14 to 16
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.	
Exchange has continued to fall, but there is a slight, though unquotable, reaction at the close.	
Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/8
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/8
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/8
On Paris—Bank sight	3-42
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3-51
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	3-7, dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	71
On America—Bank Bills on demand	65½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	67½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	68½
Silver	38½

BOARDING HOUSE FOR MISSIONARIES & OTHERS.

MISS H. G. BRITTAN, 2, Bluff, Yokohama,
will be happy to receive and accommodate Missionaries and others during their stay in Yokohama.

TERMS:—One Dollar and a Half per Day.
Children under Twelve Half Price.
February 18th, 1892.

FOR SALE, THE BEST HOKKAIDO COAL:

SORACHI AND PORONAI.

THE above Coals are very well adapted for
House use as well as for Steamers and
Factories.

HOKKAIDO BAITAN GUMI,

HEAD OFFICE:—

TOKYO: No. 13, Minami Iida-machi, Tsukiji. YOKOHAMA: Bentendori, Nichome.

Agents in Hongkong, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

February 27th, 1892.

1Y.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BARZAN, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribunes in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. Courne, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1891, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors the throughout World.
May 21st, 1890.



**ATKINSON'S
WHITE ROSE**

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 26.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 24TH, 1892.

月三年五十二癸明
可意寄信週日十三

[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 24TH, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU (junior) left the capital on Friday last for Sano.

THE Law of Premonition was put into operation in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 21st inst.

THE political situation causes much uneasiness. Universal uncertainty prevails as to the issue.

MR. TANIO TOSHI, Sectional Chief, and Mr. Saito Kyushin, engineer, of the Yokohama Waterworks Office, have been dismissed.

THE House of Representatives has voted, in every case up to the present, the sweeping reductions recommended by the Budget Committee.

THE sittings of the Imperial Diet will be closed for the Winter vacation on the 24th inst., and will be resumed on the 9th of January next.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Matsuyama under date the 16th inst. announces that several rice-brokers having gambled in stocks have been arrested.

AN Imperial New Year's entertainment will be given to the members of the both Houses of Imperial Diet on the 5th prox. in their respective Houses.

THE Emperor has sanctioned a marriage between H.I.H. Princess Ayake, elder sister of H.I.H. Prince Kunihiko, and Viscount Takenouchi Koretada.

MADAME YANAGIWARA, a Lady in Waiting, was despatched by the Empress on the 18th inst. with an Imperial present to Marquis Date, who has been suffering from a dangerous illness.

AN application of Mr. Asano Soichiro, of Tokyo, for permission to construct oil tanks at Kanagawa has been accepted by the Local Authorities. The cost of the work is estimated at yen 30,000.

THE House of Peers has unanimously rejected the Bill for reducing the rate of the Land Tax,

and by a majority of 110 to 40 has thrown out the Representatives' Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.

THE spread of rinderpest in Tokyo was believed to have been checked, and the order preventing cattle passing through Asakusa and the neighbourhood was rescinded on the 19th inst. But the disease has appeared again.

THE rumoured removal of the Japanese Minister Resident in Korea has become an accomplished fact, Lieutenant-Colonel Kajiyama being released from his post on the 16th inst. Mr. Oishi Masami has succeeded him.

THE *Ravenna-Chishima* collision case, which had occupied the Court of Enquiry at H.B.M. Consulate since Tuesday last, was concluded to-day, when the President announced that the Court would adjourn until two o'clock on Wednesday next, when its decision would be given.

THE editor and publisher of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* have been sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of 50 yen for libelling the House of Representatives, a criminal suit having been instituted against them by direction of the House. They have appealed against the sentence.

A CONFERENCE attended by Counts Inouye, Goto, Kuroda, Oyama, and Yamagata, and Messrs. Mutsu, Kono, and Watanabe was held in the Ministers' Chamber in the buildings of the Diet on the afternoon of Friday last. The proceedings commenced at one and concluded shortly before five o'clock.

THE dividends of the following companies for the second half of the present year are estimated as follows:—Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Company, 8 per cent.; Tokyo Yarn Company, 2½ per cent.; Japan Edible Sea-weed Company, 12 per cent.; Japan Weaving Company, 5 per cent.; Tokyo Tramway, 10 per cent.; and Tokyo Electric Light Company, 5½ per cent. per annum.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA, who was lately appointed Commandant of the Sixth Army Division, Kumamoto, gave a farewell entertainment on the 18th inst. at the Hama Detached Palace to members of the Imperial Family, Ministers of State, high officials of the Army and Navy, the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police, the Vice-Ministers of various Departments, and the Governor of Tokyo.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Osaka under date the 19th inst. reports that in consequence of the rise in price of the chemicals used in the manufacture of matches, the manufacturers of the City have agreed to cease working on the 20th inst. Another telegram from that City announces that owing to the great conflagration at the premises the Osaka Cotton Spinning Company, the price of the shares, which were sold at yen 137 each on the 19th inst., dropped to yen 90 the following day. The message further states that the remains of eighty-eight persons who were burnt had been discovered up to the evening of the 20th inst.

On the 15th inst. the body of a young woman was discovered at Shimo-machiya, in the Koza District of Kanagawa Prefecture, which is located along the line of the Tokaido Railroad. The circumstance was at once reported by the Koza Police to the Procurator's Bureau in the Yokohama Local Court. Public Procurator Kokubu, proceeded to the District the following day to inspect the body, and the examination proved that the woman much have been strangled. It

is also believed that the murder took place on a train, and that the body was thrown out of a carriage.

DETAILS of the great conflagration which took place in the town of Shidzuoka on the night of the 14th inst., show that at 11.40 o'clock when the flames broke out in the residence of a woman called Murata Shin, at No. 21, Hitoyadocho, Ichome, a strong gale was blowing over the town. In a few moments, the flames had been carried in all directions, and they destroyed about 370 houses, of which 12 were situated in the street where the fire originated, 125 in Ryogayeicho, 76 in Ottecho, 119 in Gofukuchio, 2 in Shimoishicho, 32 in Fudanotsujicho, and 2 in Shichikencho. All the official buildings in the town, with the exception of the Prefectural Government office, were burnt to the ground, and the offices of the *Taimu Shimbun*, the *Shidzuoka Nippo*, the *Yi-tsuru Nippo*, and the *Shidzuoka Minyu* were also destroyed.

A DESPATCH from the Hokuroku province reports that severe shocks of earthquake were felt there on the 9th and the 10th inst. At Anamidzu, the tremors were most severely felt and much damage was done to buildings. At Seppi-mura the oscillations were not less severe, but no injuries were discovered. The earthquake was even more strongly felt at Kanamaru in Kajima District, where some three or four houses were totally overthrown, and about fifteen were considerably damaged, few buildings in the district remaining uninjured. Many landships also occurred, and several fissures were produced. The earthquakes, which have not occurred in these districts for some time, were during the night, and great excitement was caused, but no loss of life is reported.

THE Import trade is as good if not a little better than last reported, exchange conditions being a great drawback to transactions. The sale of Yarns has been restricted partly on account of the uncertainty of rates, and buyers are held off by the attitude of holders, who are asking from 50 cents to a dollar a picul above recent quotations. Grey goods are firm, though no actual rise has been obtained for parcels taken. More money has been paid for Turkey-Reds, and these have been freely bought. Woollens are not in much demand, but prices are well maintained. There is a slight improvement in the Metal trade, and though the lots taken have not been large, rather better figures have been reported. Holders of Kerosene are strong in anticipation of the coming demand consequent upon exhausted supplies reported from the interior. There has been rather more done in Sugar, and quotations for Canton Brown have been raised. In the principal Export things have been lively—"bordering on a boom" being a fair description of the week's business in Silk. Shippers complain of being unable to find parcels to suit the requirements of their clients, yet over 3,000 piculs have been taken, and more business could certainly have been done had the quality been forthcoming. Waste Silk has also been a heavy business, 3,416 piculs leaving passed the scales. Stocks of both have been reduced, the arrivals bear no comparison to the sales, and the stock of Raw is at present less than half the amount on the market here at the same date last year. A few hundred piculs of Tea have been bought, but the business is trivial. The export amounts to 28,300,000 lbs. Exchange goes down, down, and rates are the lowest ever known in Japan. At the close there is a firmness, but this perhaps is only a temporary check.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE RADICALS AND THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

As we foretold, the relations between the Radicals and the Progressionists have become more and more strained with the progress of the session, until an apparently final estrangement has now taken place. It is true that all friendly intercourse between them was stopped a few weeks ago in the sequel of the offence given by a speech of Mr. Shimada Saburo, a Progressionist leader. But they still continued to negotiate about movements in the Diet, in the name of the Clubs to which the members respectively belong. Even that, however, is now to be discontinued. The immediate occasion for this last rupture was furnished by the conduct of the Progressionists about the Bill for Amending of the Newspaper Regulations. At the outset, they made a compact with the Radicals to adopt the moderate amendments of the Special Committee. Not only, however, did they ultimately disregard this agreement, but by a clever ruse they also managed to betray the Radicals into supporting the original Bill, which, we may mention, had been introduced by one of the Progressionist members. The ruse was this:—Seeing that the Radicals were resolved to back the Special Committee, the Progressionists invented a story that the National Unionists intended to oppose the Special Committee's recommendations and steal the Radicals' thunder by supporting the original Bill. The Radicals, being a comparatively simple-minded and straightforward set of men, believed this story, and thinking that there was no hope of the amendments proposed by any committee being passed by the House, very reluctantly agreed to please the Progressionists by supporting the Bill in its pristine form. But when it came to a division, the National Unionists voted for the Special Committee's amendments, whereupon the Radicals were naturally indignant at the trick played upon them by the *Kaishin-to* politicians. On the 16th instant they sent a delegate, Mr. Nishiyama, to the Progressionists to give them notice that henceforth there should be no intercourse whatever between the two parties under whatever guise. Mr. Nishiyama saw Mr. Shimada and made this announcement directly to him. Mr. Shimada tried to explain away the misunderstanding, but the Radical delegate declined to listen, alleging that he had been entrusted only with the duty of carrying the notice and not with that of discussing it. Nothing is as yet known as to the sequel of this affair.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

THE second meeting of the Railway Council was held in the Department of Communications on the 15th instant. Although stenographic records of the proceedings are said to be taken, the meetings being secret, only the main points of the matters taken under consideration by the body find their way to the vernacular press. From these we gather that the questions dealt with at this meeting were the application of the Settsu Tramway Company for permission to alter its line to an ordinary railway; that of the Nippon Railway Company for the construction of a branch from Shiriuchi to the port of Same via Hachinohe, and that of the Kobu Railway Company for the extension of its line from Shinjuku to Misaki-cho in Tokyo. Whilst the two former applications were passed without much debate, the Misaki-cho extension caused considerable discussion, at the close of which the majority were in favour of postponing the subject until a decision had been reached about the "Central line" to connect the capital with Nagoya; for in case of the adoption of the alternate line starting from Hachioji instead of that from Gotemba the purchase of the railway would become necessary. To allow of the extension of the line in face of these facts was considered inexpedient. The question of altering the Standard gauge of Japan from 3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet 8½ inches arose. A special committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Matsumoto, Ishiguro, Watanabe, Murano, and Takahashi, was nominated to investigate and

report on the subject. The third meeting is to be held on the 20th instant.

We learn that the more important work of the Railway Council will not probably begin till next year, when the results of the surveys of the various lines proposed to be constructed within the so-called "first construction period" are expected to be completed. The several parties of engineers of the Railway Department who were despatched during the summer to make the surveys, returned at the end of the last month. They have since been busily occupied in the preparation of drawings and reports, with the view of getting them in a presentable form for the Council by the end of this month.

As the Railway Council is destined to become a body of which a great deal will be heard hereafter, and as several additional nominations have recently been made to it, it may not be out of place to give the names and positions of the persons composing it:—

PRESIDENT.

General Kawakami Soroku, Sub-chief of the General staff.

MEMBERS.

Viscount Inouye Masaru, Director of Railways, Mr. Kawazu Sukeyuki, Vice-Minister of Communications.
General Kodama Gentaro.
Mr. Arishima Takeshi, Chief of the National Debt Bureau.
Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Chief of the Bureau of Agriculture and Commerce.
Mr. Matsumoto Seichiro, Chief of the Traffic Bureau, Railway Department.
Mr. Furusawa Umi, Chief of the Post Bureau, Communications Department.
Colonel Takahashi Korenari.
Captain Arima Shinichi, I.J.N.
Mr. Ishiguro Isaji, Engineer of the Public Works Bureau.
General Viscount Tani, Member of the House of Peers.
Viscount Hotta Seiyō, Member of the House of Peers.
Mr. Watanabe Kōki, President of the Ryomo Railway Company and Member of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Kawada Koichiro, President of the Bank of Japan and Member of the House of Peers.
Mr. Murano Sanjin, Vice President of the Sanyo Railway Company and Member of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Komuro Shinobu, Member of the House of Peers.
Mr. Wakao Ippai, Member of the House of Peers.
Mr. Ito Daihachi, Member of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Saito Riji, Member of the House of Representatives.
Mr. Minoura Katsuo, member of the House of Representatives.

SPECIAL (RINJI) MEMBERS.

Major Yamane Takesuke.
Major Yamaguchi Keizo.
Mr. Nakane Jinichi, Councillor of the Railway Department.
Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce.
Mr. Tamura Taihei, President of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce.

MANAGER (KARJI).

Mr. Den Kenjiro, Secretary of the Communications Department.

THE MEETING OF THE RADICAL MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

THE Radical members of the Lower House held a meeting on the 17th instant. Count Itagaki was in the chair. Addressing his followers on the subject of the much talked of Bill for the amendment of the Newspaper Regulations he regretted that an unforeseen circumstance—he alluded to the ruse said to have been employed by the Progressionists—had led to the rejection of the moderate recommendations of the Special Committee. The views of the Committee being well known to represent the attitude of the Radicals, their comparatively moderate nature had evoked much unfavourable criticism from the *Kaishin-to* organs and other papers. Count Itagaki, however, did not hesitate to declare his conscientious belief that the course originally adopted

by his Party was best calculated to promote the cause of freedom of speech, since otherwise there was no hope of the Bill receiving the approval of the Government. After the delivery of this speech, the Radicals resolved to adopt the Government's Income Tax Bill with some modifications, one amendment being to fix the lowest limit of taxable income at 300 yen. This was followed by an announcement that with regard to the proposals made by the Progressionist Party to abolish the tax on vehicles, the Radical Party had declined to confer with the Progressionists. After the meeting, Count Itagaki convened a conference of the divisional heads of the Party, and urged on them the necessity of rejecting the Government appropriations for the construction of war-vessels, so long as the Government did not take steps to adopt the measures proposed by the Radicals for the reform of the Navy. He alluded to the rumour that some of the Radicals had changed their minds and agreed to support the appropriations. But the divisional heads assured him that the rumour was unfounded. There is a suspicion, however, that they were not quite sincere in their assurance.

THE LATE CAPTAIN SAMS.

A "STAFF OFFICER" writes to the *Standard*:—I have not seen it noticed in any reports on the loss of the *Bokhara*, that the Captain of that ill-fated vessel served as chief officer of the *Ganges*, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, when the latter vessel was our Army floating hospital in the Harbour of Suakin, during the Eastern Soudan Campaign of 1885. I returned to England in the *Ganges* on the expiration of hostilities, and can testify to the high character for kindness and seamanship shown by Captain Sams, under Captain Andrews, then the commanding officer, to all on board, sick, wounded, and convalescent. I made an effort to get the medal and Khedive's star granted to both these officers, a precedent having been given in the Egyptian campaign of 1882, but for some reason, although the late Colonel Duncan, M.P., took the matter up, and Sir G. Graham, the General commanding the forces, supported the application, the Naval authorities declined to entertain it; consequently these slight recognitions were not obtained. In view of the fact that we are anxious to encourage officers of the Mercantile Marine to join the Royal Naval Reserve, it seems a pity when opportunities of recognition occur, they should not be seized, especially as, in 1882, Commanders and Chief Officers of Transports received these decorations. I may add that I was quartered at Hongkong in 1873, when the *Bokhara*, I think on her first voyage soon after leaving with the Home mails, ran on an unknown rock, now named the "Bokhara rock," had to return to Kowloon, and was only saved by the pluck of her then Commander, Captain Tomlin, and the way in which her stokers kept the fires going until she was docked.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE CONSTITUTION.

It is highly amusing to read the conflicting opinions expressed by the different party-papers upon Lord Salisbury's article in the last *National Review*. The *Spectator* calls it brilliant, and says it is the ablest contribution the writer has yet made to the political discussion before the country. The *Star* pretends to "pause in blank astonishment" as it reads "the schoolboy-like, or at best undergraduate-like," effusion. The *Standard* says the earlier portion of it is a clever piece of sardonic criticism and the concluding half a timely, temperate, and conclusive admonition of the perils that are threatening us. The *Daily News* of course has nothing but contemptuous anger for both article and writer, while the *Saturday Review* is probably right in guessing that the latter part of the Marquis's essay will be more distasteful to Ministerialists than the earlier. Lord Salisbury deals delightfully with Mr. Frederic Harrison's now notorious article about "Driving Home Rule home." It is curious, indeed, that a grave philosopher and teacher should have laid himself open to such almost universal ridicule; the five hundred Gladstonian sweeps with whom he threatens to swamp the

House of Lords will probably not soon be forgotten, any more than his Bombastes Furioso description of the Lords inevitable and dismayed surrender when "Mr. Gladstone and the nation are thundering at their doors." In such a case, remarks Lord Salisbury, the Lords probably would surrender—even if the nation were thundering alone. The dry humour of that is exquisite. "But it must be a real nation and real thunder." At present those conditions are certainly not fulfilled. Lord Salisbury further points out that if 21 constituencies, with Gladstonian majorities varying from 3 to 62, and amounting in sum total to only 765 out of some six millions, had gone the other way, there would have been no Gladstonian majority at all. "Can any one in his senses," asks the *Spectator*, "speak of that number of votes in the balance—a number attained, too, in most cases by distracting the minds of men from the true issue, by all sorts of petty interests and promises which have no connection with the true issue,—as giving a result that the merest breath of popular caprice might not easily reverse?" Not less cogent, too, are the remarks of the *St. James's Gazette*. "Let the Home Rulers 'sweep the country;' let them come back to power, on an election fought after the country has seen the Home Rule Bill, a hundred seats to the good in Great Britain alone, to say nothing of Ireland; and then they may indeed speak with the Peers in the gate. In the meanwhile the House of Lords may laugh at Gladstonian threats, whether they emanate from demagogues or philosophers. For every Gladstonian knows in his heart that if the Lords did delay or defeat Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill, so far from falling victims to the just wrath of a roused and indignant nation, they would be rapturously applauded by a large minority in Ireland, in Scotland, and even in Wales, and enthusiastically supported by the great bulk of the people of the not unimportant country named England."

COUNT OKUMA ON THE SITUATION.

THE *Nippon* has again been able to elicit from Count Okuma some very interesting remarks on the situation. Indeed, interesting accounts of interviews with distinguished statesmen have become one of the principal attractions of that enterprising if somewhat adventurous journal. We do not pretend to know how far the present account may be correct, but judging from past experience, we find no difficulty in believing that our contemporary's report is trustworthy on all essential points. The distinguished leader of the Progressionist party commenced by expressing disappointment at the unexpectedly weak conduct of the Diet in the present session. The Popular party is the principal motive force in the Diet, but he regretted to observe that its note had been discordant from the outset, and that of late there had been indications of a rupture between the various sections composing it. He was sure, however, that neither the Radicals nor the Progressionists would combine or coöperate with the National Unionists, because between the latter and either of the former there lay an impassable gulf of antagonism not only in political opinion but also in personal feelings. Then turning to the present condition of the struggle between the Government and the Diet, Count Okuma observed that war is waged with one of two objects, either to humble an enemy or to get something out of him. The present struggle between the Diet and the Government is, in his opinion, conducted on the latter principle. The Diet is well satisfied if it obtains some substantial gains from the Government. The Cabinet has no fixed policy towards the Diet: it merely shapes its conduct according to the requirements of the moment. One of the principal causes that prevent the Government from pursuing a definite policy is, in the Count's opinion, the peculiar relations existing between the Minister of Justice, Count Yamagata, and the National Unionists. Count Ito and Count Inouye are unable to carry on the Government in a more brilliant manner, "because they are surrounded by a fog of commonplace ideas." But nevertheless, these two statesmen are the foremost of all those connected

with the Government, and when the situation reaches an extreme stage, they have, Count Okuma believes, courage either to resign or to dissolve the Diet. Either of those courses would be advantageous for the Government to pursue. But the Count proceeded to say that there was yet another possible course, namely, to induce Count Itagaki and a few other politicians of the Popular party to take office. That, in his opinion, would be the least advisable programme of all. He then made the following avowal:—"With regard to administrative policy, I agree with Counts Ito and Inouye; the only point on which I differ from them relates to the constitution of the Cabinet. Count Ito insists on the system of Neutral Cabinets (*Chosen Naikaku*), while I advocate the system of Responsible Cabinets. Here is the root of all the difference between us. Count Inouye, however, inclines towards Responsible Cabinets. I wonder if Count Inouye will be able to turn Count Ito from his erroneous opinion?" The Progressionist leader again assured his interviewer that, speaking individually, both Count Ito and Count Inouye are remarkable statesmen. But looking at them as parts of the Cabinet, they lose their individuality in the common-place atmosphere that environs them. The same remark, said the Count, applies equally to the statesmen of the Opposition.

Alluding to Count Okuma's remarks about a coalition between the Ito Cabinet and the Radicals, the *Nippon* observes that, although that course is deprecated by the Progressionist leader, many persons are impatiently desirous of bringing about such an alliance. Our contemporary even goes so far as to state that the scheme is taking a practical shape.

The *Nippon* attaches a mysterious note to the above account of its representative's interview with Count Okuma. "A light has come from the south," it says, "while another light has issued from the north. They have met in the skies and became one light." These two lights evidently apply to Count Inouye and Count Okuma, respectively. Assuredly the air is full of mysterious rumours.

INCREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

Is the currency question going to be settled for us in what both bimetalists and monometalists would agree in considering the most natural way? Silver is not the only metal whose production is increasing, after all. The scarcity of gold appears to be no longer what it was. Here are the figures, vouched for by *The Times*:—

The yield, it says, is yearly increasing and that of 1891 was the largest ever recorded. In round numbers, the production for the last five years was 2,1887,509,760 oz.; 1888, 5,251,000 oz.; 1889, 5,641,000 oz.; 1890, 5,586,000 oz.; and 1891, 6,033,000 oz. The chief feature of recent years has been the development of the Witwatersrand Goldfields. In 1889 it was only 34,897 oz.; it was in 1891 729,213 oz. The total for the whole Transvaal in 1892 is expected to reach 1,250,000 oz.; or 21 per cent. of the world's supply. At present the nations stand:—United States, 1,586,500 oz.; Australia, 1,169,200 oz.; Russia, 1,019,000 oz.; but it is expected that in 1893 the Transvaal will reach the second place. It is a curious reflection that the little States formed by men whose only desire was to get away from civilization, and lead a patriarchal life, untouched by outside influences, should end in being fed by the greatest gold mine the world has ever seen.

There is a letter upon the subject in the *Spectator*, which is also worth considering.

RENAN-ANA.

THE *Fortnightly Review* has three most charming articles upon Ernest Renan. The last, by M. Hugues de Roux, deals with Renan's table-talk, and shows the great Hebraist and critic as a man of the gentlest and most polished wit. Here are one or two examples. When M. Fréycinet, the Minister for War, was standing for the Academy with a considerable political position but no literary qualifications, some one asked Renan if he would vote for him. With a good humoured smile he answered, "I'll vote for him with both hands—unless, indeed, M. Carnot wishes to compete." On another oc-

casión Princess Mathilde was speaking a little bitterly of M. Taine for having written as he did of Napoleon I.—but for whom she might then have been selling oranges in the streets of Ajaccio. "Ah, Princess," said Renan, nodding, "for merely having told the truth I fell into the bad graces of a much greater lady than you." "Whom do you mean?" "Our holy Mother Church," was the reply. "Oh, M. Renan," cried an old woman to him once (she had just lost her only son), "if God is good why does He allow such things to happen?" With a sigh Renan extended his hands, palms outward, in deprecation. "He would like to prevent it, but He is not able to yet." For Renan believed that God Himself was in process of development. But then his ideas of God were peculiar. So must have been some of his literary tastes, great critic as he was; for he avowed himself unable to read Flaubert's "Madame Bovary" on the ground that it was too badly written!

MR. TAGUCHI UKICHI ON THE ABOLITION OF EXPORT DUTIES.

MR. TAGUCHI UKICHI, editor of the *Ketsui Zasshi*, delivered an interesting lecture on the subject of the abolition of export duties, at a recent meeting of the Economical Association, which was attended by a large number of the members of both Houses of the Diet. He commenced by expressing satisfaction at the increasing interest taken in the question by practical men of business. The abolition of export duties, he thought, was the most urgent of the many questions now demanding immediate attention. He regretted that, although his countrymen had come to understand the importance of the position Japan is destined to occupy in the new political and commercial system likely to be developed in this part of the globe after the completion of the Siberian railway and the opening of the Nicaraguan Canal, they do not yet seriously consider the means of enabling Japan to take advantage of the unique opportunity that then be will thrown in her path. The so-called Oriental Question (*Tosho mondai*) is now a very popular theme of discussion in a certain circle of scholars and politicians, the most prominent figures in this field being Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, author of *Japan and the Pacific*, and Mr. Oishi Masami, author of the *Nippon Ni-dai Seisaku*, who was recently appointed a Minister Resident. These two men have written and spoken much on the subject; but their incessant efforts do not extend beyond encouraging their countrymen, in general terms, to make full use of the splendid opportunity coming in sight. They make no attempt to indicate what practical measures are essential to the realization of these high expectations. Indeed, the views which they have lately been proclaiming with such noise, Mr. Taguchi claims to have treated of as early as the beginning of 1889. It is true that they have laid stress upon the importance of constructing docks; but that, too, is an old question, already fully discussed by Mr. Taguchi himself and by men like Mr. Tokumomi Ichihiro, editor of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, and Mr. Sakatani Yoshiro, of the Finance Department. Mr. Taguchi regrets extremely that Messrs. Inagaki and Oishi have not made the slightest allusion to the important question of abolishing export duties. That, in his opinion, is one of the most vital measures to be carried out by Japan, if she wishes to become a prosperous commercial nation. Indeed, Mr. Inagaki even hints disapproval of the abolition of export duties. Free trade, Mr. Taguchi declares, is one of the essential conditions of Japan's future prosperity, and the abolition of export duties is advocated as an initiatory step in the right direction. The instance of Hongkong is cited by way of illustrating the beneficial effects of free trade. The wonderful development which that little British colony has made in the short space of half a century is ascribed to the circumstance that its harbour is thrown open to the commerce of the world without any injurious artificial restraints in the shape of customs duties. The question of

twenty years of endeavour. The Foreign Office had not taxed foreigners, as it might have done. The Foreign Office had not yet asserted Japanese jurisdiction over the foreign communities. For all these failures it was to be punished by a fine of 29,880 yen. At the same time, Mr. Ozaki was careful to point out that there was no intention of "bullying" (*ijimeru*) the Foreign Office. The idea was simply to rouse its officials to greater zeal. If they consent to be roused, then, doubtless, Mr. Ozaki will vindicate his reputation for consistency by proposing that they be restored to the nation's good graces, and re-instated in the annual enjoyment of the 29,880 yen now taken from them. It is really startling to hear such a speech from a man so clever as Mr. Ozaki Yukio. He has succeeded in converting into a veritable burlesque the attitude of the Budget Committee towards the Foreign Office, and in committing the House of Representatives to arrogate the Sovereign's prerogative of reducing or augmenting official salaries according to the merits and achievements of their recipients. Of course the explanation of this quaint ebullience is to be sought in the fact that the *Kaishinto*—among whom Mr. Ozaki occupies a leading place—are particularly hostile to the present Minister for Foreign Affairs. Any opportunity to attack the Department over which Mr. Mutsu presides is welcome to them.

COUNT OKUMA AND COUNT YAMAGATA.

THE *Nippon* of the 20th instant reports a meeting which recently took place between Count Okuma and Count Yamagata. It says that on the 17th instant a four-wheeled carriage was observed to enter the gate of Count Okuma's residence at Waseda. The visitor, who proved to be no other than the ex-Minister President and present Minister of Justice, was at once shown into a secret chamber where he had a long conversation with his host. While the interview was taking place, no person, even a servant, was allowed to enter the room. Such is the version of the story published by the *Nippon*, which journal is naturally perplexed to understand what business these two statesmen, standing, as they do, at opposite extremes of political opinion, could have found to require a secret conference. Did the *Nippon* refer to this conference when it spoke in its previous issue of a mysterious meeting of two lights in the skies one coming from the north and the other from the south? We thought that our contemporary meant Count Inouye by "the light from the south," because it talked of thunderbolts and so forth, and Count Inouye is sometimes known by the name of "the thunderbolt statesman." Perhaps the *Nippon* was at first misinformed and supposed that the recent visitor to Waseda was really Count Inouye. Be this as it may, we are in a position to help our contemporary out of its perplexity regarding the meaning of the strange meeting between the *Kaishinto* leader and the Minister of Justice. The fact is, that the meeting had no political significance whatever. On the lamented death of Count Yamagata's son a short time ago, he received extremely touching messages of sympathy from Count Okuma. The meeting which has been magnified into such significance by the *Nippon*, arose simply out of Count Yamagata's desire to return thanks to Count Okuma personally. According to our information, Count Yamagata had meant only to leave his card, but was specially asked by Count Okuma to enter and have a talk. When they were seated together, they were joined by Mr. Koizuka, editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and a few members of the Diet, and the party talked for some time on indifferent topics of various kinds.

THE LAW OF PREMONITION.

ONCE more the course of events has proved singularly unkind to the champions of liberty in the House of Representatives. We have before remarked that so surely as they vote for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations, some incident occurs to prove that unfortunately the time has not yet come for such a reform. Apparently fate intends to be similarly ironical

about the equally obnoxious Law of Premonition. Against this also the House of Representatives has been arraying itself, and now, while the Diet is actually in session, the disagreeable Law has had to be put into operation. The Chief of Police, acting, of course, under due authority, issued orders for the enforcement of the Law at 1 p.m. on the 21st inst., and before evening 24 *soshi* had received warning to depart from the capital within twenty-four hours. The operation of the Law was extended to Yokohama also, but we have not yet learned any details concerning the latter. It is not stated, of course, what circumstances constitute the proximate cause of the measure thus taken by the police, but we can easily conceive that the *soshi* were discovered to have contemplated more or less serious breaches of the peace during the existing crisis of political events now closely impending. Several good citizens of the capital will breathe much more freely now that these truculent and irresponsible young agitators are banished out of harm's way. But it is to be sincerely regretted that recourse to such an expedient has again been found necessary. The Peace Preservation Regulations and the Law of Premonition are pieces of legislation which constitute a dark blot on Japan's escutcheon and greatly disturb the world's estimate of her law-abiding character. It is not the existence of such statutes that disgrace her, however, but the necessity for their existence, and all her well-wishers will heartily welcome the day when she can safely dispense with both of the obnoxious laws.

MR. THEODORE WORRES' PICTURE.

By the kind hospitality of the Mexican Representative and Madame Rascon, the leading Japanese residents and the members of the foreign community of Tokyo were enabled, last Saturday, to view the picture just painted by Mr. Theodore Worres, whose representations of Japanese life and customs have already attracted attention in Europe and America. The picture is the largest and most elaborate of any hitherto painted by Mr. Worres in Japan. It represents one of the celebrated danseuses of Kyoto dancing to the music of a Koto. The scene is laid in a verandah of Yaami's Hotel in Kyoto, so that the trees surrounding the inn and the extended view over the city—the view so familiar to all who have visited Kyoto—afford an excellent middle-distance and background. Mr. Worres has chosen for the pose of the little *maiko* the moment when she is just sweeping round, fan in hand, with the peculiar undulatory movement characteristic of the Japanese dancer. The drapery is painted with admirable realism, and the picture constitutes, on the whole, a remarkable contribution to the gallery of Japanese scenes now growing rapidly in Western salons. It is to be sent to the World's Fair, we believe, where it will doubtless attract attention. The arrangements made on Saturday for the display of the picture were excellent, and the hospitalities of the Mexican Legation were, as usual, dispensed with all the grace conceivable.

THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WAR VESSELS.

MEMBERS of the Diet, who are desirous of having the taxable value of land re-assessed, are exerting themselves to get a majority in the Lower House for the support of the Government's appropriations for the construction of war-vessels. Mr. Amakasu, a well known member of the Radical party and chairman of the Special Committee charged with the Bill for the Re-assessment of the taxable value of land, is said to have had a conference with the Minister of Finance. As the result of this conference, so the story runs, a number of Radical members of the Diet now intend to support, with some modifications, the appropriations asked by the Government for the construction of war vessels. It is believed that, unless these appropriations are granted, the Government will withdraw the Bill for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. The leaders of the *Yiyu-to* have been thrown into great consternation by the reported change of mind on the

part of some of their followers with respect to the Naval appropriations. As we have already noticed, Count Iiagaki strongly condemned such a course at a recent meeting of the *Yiyu-to* members of the Diet. It is now reported that, not satisfied with his recent admonition, he has since addressed a circular to his followers in the Diet, calling upon them to be true to the decisions of their party, and warning them that, if they disregard those decisions, decisive measures will be taken against them. This letter will no doubt have the effect of terrifying into submission many of the wavering members, but it is doubted whether some of the Radicals may not even brave such consequences by supporting the Navy appropriations in exchange for a reform which has occupied their attention more than anything else.

The *Chu-o Shimbun* publishes the following table showing the number of members of all parties for and against the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels:—

	Against.	For.	Those who did not vote.
Radicals	85	5	—
Progressionists	38	2	—
Kii Members	—	—	5
Dōmei Club	15	6	—
Yuraku-Gumi	2	8	—
Koritsu-ha	6	8	—
National Unionists	—	68	—
Chu-o Kōshō-bu	—	29	—
Oriental Radicals	2	—	2
Shiba Shukaijo	—	19	—
Total	148	145	7

From this table, it is seen that those in favour of the appropriations are in a minority of three. But it is hoped that the five members from Kii, who at present intend to absent themselves when the question comes up for discussion, may be induced to change their minds, for they are supposed to be under the influence of Mr. Mutsu. At any rate, the fight on this question will be a close one.

KILLED BY A JELLY-FISH.

AT Port Darwin a boy who was bathing in the sea baths met his death by being stung by a jelly-fish. The fish fastened itself to the boy's body and so tenacious was its grip that it could only be released by pulling it off in lumps, which, however, was only a matter of seconds, assistance being promptly at hand. A doctor living within a few hundred yards was sent for, but as soon as he saw the boy he pronounced him beyond all human aid. On one arm and on the left side of the body of the boy were the marks made by the jelly-fish, but death was probably due in part to the sudden shock and extreme pain which attended so unexpected an attack. From the stinging to the boy's death was only a matter of from two to three minutes.

FUNERAL OBSEQUIES FOR THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE "CHISHIMA KAN."

A FUNERAL service on an imposing scale was conducted yesterday on account of the officers and men of the Imperial Japanese Navy who lost their lives by the sinking of the *Chishima Kan*. Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, the French Chargé d'Affaires, Captain Ingles, R.N., and a Lieutenant and a party of Seamen from H.B.M.'s *Leander* were among those present. The Captain of the *Leander* was unfortunately prevented by illness from attending.

EARTHQUAKES AT TIMOR.

CAPTAIN SHANNON of the E. & A. Steamship Co.'s steamer *Catterthun*, on his last voyage up from Sydney, reports:—On the ship's arrival at Timor (3 p.m., 28th November) it was reported that a very heavy shock of earthquake had been felt at 2 a.m. that morning, and while the ship was at anchor there during the night of the 28th, two shocks were distinctly felt on board, the vessel shivering all over as if grating along a coral reef. One shock was felt at 9.30 and the other at 11.40, and each was accompanied by a low rumbling noise. The shocks were so distinct that they were felt by every one on board. The residents of the place

were in great fear, but up to the time of the ship's departure no damage had taken place, with the exception of the side of a house (the residence of a Mr. Santos) having fallen in and several walls having collapsed.

THE METROPOLITAN JOURNALISTS AND THE NEWSPAPER REGULATIONS.

THE journalists of Tokyo are making strenuous efforts to secure the passage through the Upper House of the Bill for the Amendment of the Newspaper Regulations. The representatives of the different newspapers and magazines in the Capital, held a conference on the 19th instant at the *Kyosen Dosha* Club at Hiyoshicho, Shimbashi, nearly thirty persons being present. They decided to form a league for the attainment of their object, and discussed the principal points of the Bill recently sent up to the Peers by the Lower House. Recognising, apparently that the Bill in its present form has no hope of receiving the assent of the House of Peers, they resolved to approve the provisions requiring security money from publishers of political journals and rendering journalists liable to imprisonment with hard labour. As to the vital question of suspension, they were ready to approve prohibition of the sale and distribution of the particular issue of a journal containing obnoxious matter, but declared themselves opposed to the idea of suspending a journal for a number of days. On this point alone, they mean to stand firm; the rest may be left to the Government's option. Such is the basis which the Tokyo journalists league would have the Peers adopt in modifying the Bill. It was also resolved, first, that four *Kanji* be elected to take charge of the business of the league; secondly, that an office be established in a convenient quarter of the city; thirdly, that the members of the House of Peers be interviewed on the subject; fourthly, that a reunion of the journalists of the capital be held on the 22nd instant; and fifthly, that communications be opened with provincial journals to secure unanimity of action.

It is very likely that, should the Peers be disposed to send back the Bill to the Representatives with modifications on the lines mapped out by the Metropolitan Journalists' League, the Lower House will agree to the amendments.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VERSUS THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN."

THE libel case brought by the President of the House of Representatives against the publisher and editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* was heard at the Tokyo Local Court on the 21st instant. The seats reserved for the public had all been occupied some time before the proceedings commenced, and a large number of eager spectators could not obtain admission. The most conspicuous places in the gallery were filled by the writers and publishers of the incriminated journal. Justice Matsunaga presided, the prosecution being conducted by Public Prosecutor Kawashima, and the defence by Messrs. Yamada Kinoshige, Suzuki Jubi, Shionoya Tsunetaro, and Miyako Keizaburo. The Public Prosecutor maintained that the article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 16th instant, was a gross libel upon the whole House of the Representatives. That the whole House was attacked he claimed, because of the expression "three hundred heads," with which the article opened. He argued that the action of the publisher and the editor of the *Nichi Nichi* fell under the scope of Art. I. of Law No. 28, 1889. The points raised by the defence were numerous. First, it was pleaded that the publisher, Mr. Amenomori Iwanoshin, having been confined to his house by sickness at the time the article was written and published, as proved by a medical certificate, could not be held responsible for the contents of the paper. Secondly, that even if he had not been absent from his office, he ought not to be held responsible, since the Newspaper Regulations make an explicit distinction between an editor and a publisher, and he, being the publisher, was not properly subject to any penalty for what

appears in his paper, except in certain special cases. Thirdly, that the article in question was not libellous, having been written for the sole purpose of admonishing certain members of the Lower House who, for some time, had been behaving in a most discreditable manner, especially with regard to the amendment of the Newspaper Regulations. Counsel for the defence produced copies of several Tokyo papers, such as the *Nippon*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the *Kokkai*, the *Mainichi*, etc., which had criticised the conduct of members in similar language. What the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* did was merely to repeat the criticisms that had been written by other papers about the notorious conduct of some members of the Diet. Fourthly, as to the nature of the expressions used by the *Nichi Nichi*, it was a delicate question to determine whether they were defamatory or not. Such a point must be decided with due regard to the character of the persons against whom the remarks were directed, as well as to the nature of the occasion which elicited the article. Counsel further quoted expressions that had been used by some members of the Lower House in speaking of Ministers of State, and claimed that, in addressing politicians so regardless of delicacy and dignity, the *Nichi Nichi* was justified in using strong language, for upon such persons ordinary language would produce no impression. Fifthly and lastly, Counsel contended that the article was not directed against the House of Representatives collectively, but only against some of its members. The term "three hundred heads" did not necessarily mean the Lower House collectively, the word, "three hundred" having been used simply in the sense of "many," a common figure of speech under similar circumstances. The proceedings, which commenced at 10 a.m. were concluded at a quarter past noon, and judgment was delivered on the 23rd instant. The Court found Mr. Yamasaki Yosuke, editor, and Mr. Amenomori Iwanoshin, Publisher and Printer, guilty of the crime laid to their charge, and sentenced them to one year's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of 50 yen each. It is scarcely necessary to say that this wonderful sentence was at once appealed against.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

THE Winter Vacation will commence on Saturday, the 24th December, 1892, and end on the Tuesday, 10th January, 1893. During this period no ordinary civil suits other than those already set down for hearing will be heard, except by special order, and the time allowed defendants to answer petitions filed between the days above named will be computed from the 11th January, 1893. Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Summary, Civil, and Police cases will be taken as usual, and the Offices of the Court will be open from 10 to 12 o'clock daily.

TROUBLE IN SAPPORO.

A TELEGRAM despatched from Sapporo on the 19th instant at 8 p.m. announces a curious episode. On the 18th instant, at 1 p.m., says the message, the people of the *Hokkaido Mat-nichi Shimbun* stirred up the firemen, caused the fire-bell to be rung, and with over a hundred men, made a raid upon the office of the *Hokumon Shimpō*, which they set on fire. Much disturbance ensued, and over ten persons were wounded. This is newspaper rivalry with a vengeance.

MADAME MUTSU.

WE are requested to state that as Madame Mutsu is occupied attending to her only daughter, who is seriously indisposed, she desires to convey to her friends her regrets and excuses at not being able to receive them on Wednesday during the remainder of the year, or to have the pleasure of visiting them.

THE PREMONITION LAW.

THERE are many conjectures, of course, about the enforcement of the Premonition Law, but the Tokyo New Agency alleges that the proximate cause is the discovery of the *soshi's* resolve to make things hot for certain big

merchants who are supposed to be contributing largely to the spending of Japan's money abroad, and for members of the House of Representatives who oppose the Popular Party's measures. The Police, alone, understand these things fully.

THE P. AND O. FLEET.

ON the 1st October the P. & O. Company possessed a fleet of 54 steamers of 220,898 registered tonnage and 225,150 horse-power; since then the *Bokhara* has been lost. The *Australia* and the *Himalaya* head the list in size, being of 7,000 and 6,898 tons respectively; then follow the jubilee steamers, *Arcadia*, *Oceana*, *Victoria*, and *Britannia* of over 6,000 tons each.

AN O.B.C. DIVIDEND.

MR. BREMNER writes:—"I have the pleasure to inform you that I have now received instructions from the Liquidator by telegram to pay a dividend of 20 per cent. on 16th January next to creditors whose claims have been sent in and admitted."

THE HEIGHT OF YARIGATAKE.

IN the paper recently published in these columns, "Mountaineering in the Japanese Alps," the height of Yarigatake was incorrectly printed as 10,000 feet. It should have been 10,500 feet.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

A momentous crisis seems to be impending in the political world, judging from the general tone of suspense and uncertainty which pervades the whole press of the capital. Everybody seems to feel that things are out of joint, and that something startling may take place at any moment. But nobody is certain as to the character and the shape which the expected incident will assume. Situations like the present have happened often enough in the past few years. But there is one significant circumstance which distinguishes the present case from all others. On the eve of past crises, the organs of some one party at any rate were always found ready and willing to define the course of policy that ought to be pursued by their fellow-thinkers. But in the present juncture, all parties seem to be equally unwilling, or unable, to speak out their minds. The only apparently reasonable interpretation of this circumstance is that all are alike uncertain as to the part they will have to play in the coming drama. They all hope to find themselves in leading positions, but all shrink from attempting anything which may compromise their hopes. To speak plainly, it seems to be generally believed that the Government is contemplating a definite approach to either or both of the two wings composing the Opposition. Will it succeed in securing the co-operation of both at the same time? If not, with which of them will it decide to ally itself? Such appear to be the principal questions now engrossing the attention of practical politicians. We do not of course pretend to say that the Government is really considering such a step. On the contrary, we are rather disposed to think that the statesmen now in office are in the last degree unlikely to pledge themselves rashly to any course virtually amounting to the introduction of Government by party. Things are not yet ripe for that consummation in Japan. Hence, in what we write here, our endeavour is simply to reflect faithfully the impressions produced by a careful perusal of the vernacular press during the week.

The only paper that has spoken frankly about the present situation is the *Fiji Shimpō*, although suggestive articles have been published by the *Choya Shimbun* and the *Chu-o Shimbun*. The *Fiji Shimpō* considers that the Government is now on the bank of the Rubicon, uncertain and hesitating to take a final decision. In this critical situation two courses offer. The first is to fall back, though at the eleventh hour, and pursue an independent line of policy, regardless of the wanton opposition of the Popular

party but in conformity with the wishes of the independent section of the nation. The second is to boldly cross the stream and unite with the Popular party. For its own part, our contemporary would like to see the Government adopt the former course. The *Fiji* believes that, standing aloof from party politics and disgusted with the destructive attitude of the Opposition, there is a section of the nation large and powerful, although the men forming it do not noisily advertise themselves after the manner of political agitators. Persons of this description are found everywhere throughout the country. They have been disappointed, according to the *Fiji*, at the step which the Government has taken on the question of land re-assessment. They would not have refused to give whatever moral support they could to the present Cabinet, had the latter remained true to its duty and pursued an independent course of policy, instead of trying to please the Popular Party by adopting a reform which is regarded by all impartial observers as antagonistic to the best interests of the nation. But it is never too late to mend. The *Fiji* advises the Government by all means to return to its original standpoint and resume an independent policy, with the true interests of the country always in view. Nevertheless, the *Fiji* fears that the Government has gone too far to retrace its steps. In that case, it has no alternative but to direct its course towards the establishment of a Responsible Cabinet. At all events, the Government has to make its decision promptly and finally; for nothing, in the *Fiji's* opinion, can be more dangerous than to continue an attitude of uncertainty and hesitation. The present Cabinet has, on the one hand, alienated the affections of the independent classes by its ill-considered endeavour to please the Popular Party, while, on the other, the Popular Party itself shows no signs of receiving its quondam foes with open arms. Deserted by one and treated with indifference by the other, the Cabinet is in danger of serious dissensions within itself. It is advised to make a decision as quickly as possible.

The *Chūō Shimbun*, which is believed to be the organ of a section of the National Unionists, takes much pains to persuade the public that the Progressionist Party has undergone, or is about to undergo, a metamorphosis. Our contemporary believes that Count Okuma, the leader of that party, is now ready and even anxious to enter the Cabinet. His alleged declaration to a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun* that neither Count Ito nor Count Inouye would dare to bury the past in oblivion, is interpreted as a hint to these statesmen that if they can see their way to receive him back into their company, he will be very glad to join them. The *Chūō* is evidently ill pleased with the turn things are taking, and endeavours to heap abuse upon the *Kaishin-to* as well as on the *Jiyu-to*, so as to discredit them with the people.

The same remark, we are obliged to confess, may be applied to the *Chōya Shimbun*. It has been doing its utmost to ridicule the Radicals for their alleged transformation into a moderate and conciliatory party. It now advises the Progressionists to show their true character either while the Diet is in session or when it comes to a close. The true and most congenial rôle for the Progressionists is not to oppose the Government, but to serve as its unreasoning instruments. "The sooner you doff your mask, the better for all parties concerned." Such, in brief, is the gist of the *Chōya's* article—a purely dust-stirring composition.

The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, alluding to the recent meeting between Count Okuma and Count Yamagata, observes that all the idle rumours now circulated concerning alleged negotiations between the Cabinet and the Progressionist party are matters of utter indifference to the Radicals. These rumours, continues our contemporary, only indicate that the Cabinet has begun to be uneasy about its ability to cope with the Opposition. "Appearances go to show,"

that the Ministry is now endeavouring to adopt the wishes of the people and pursue a new policy. The forces have already been set in motion, and we only wonder how the commotion will terminate."

The Progressionist organs maintain profound silence, although on minor questions of the day they write as though the Popular Party were determined to fight with the Government as inveterately ever.

The Budget, which is now under discussion in the House of Representatives, does not, strange to say, receive from the press half the attention concentrated on it in former sessions of the Diet. Not only in the press but within the House itself, there is observable a marked degree of indifference. The large reductions recommended by the Budget Committee are being voted by the House without the slightest show of resistance. It is also noticeable that nearly one-third of the members' seats are vacant. Such a state of affairs is curious. There is no doubt that the present House of Representatives attaches at least as much importance to the Budget as its predecessor did. Two explanations offer. One is that the opponents of the Budget Committee's Report, finding themselves completely outnumbered, think it useless to offer any resistance. The other and more probable is that they have in their minds certain future contingencies which alter the situation so completely as to make it possible or necessary to go over the same ground on a new basis. It is even rumoured that the debates on the Budget are not hurried forward, as they would be under ordinary circumstances, the delay being designed to defer the final stage of the discussion to some time in January, when the Minister President may have sufficiently recovered to attend to the question personally. In short, it seems to be agreed on all sides that some sort of compromise will be effected before the Diet meets again after the New Year's vacation which commences from the 25th instant. Whatever may be the explanation, it is an undoubted fact that the papers are paying comparatively little attention to the subject. Only the Progressionist organs make some comments. But they pretend to believe that the Government will find difficulty in agreeing to the amendments now being voted in the House of Representatives, because the Ministry has already accepted the far more sweeping reductions made in the Supplementary Budget for the current year. The Minister of Finance's speech is also taken as a proof of the conciliatory attitude of the Government.

The *Nippon* regrets very much that serious political complications should arise year after year on the same question of public expenses. Until this question has been disposed of finally, it will be impossible to carry on constitutional Government smoothly. Our contemporary holds the Yamagata Cabinet primarily responsible for such state of things, for in that Cabinet's Budget extremely incomplete and the sweeping reductions voted by the Diet had to be agreed to. After its first victory, the Diet naturally imagines that it can vote reductions in any money bill introduced by the Government. In the case of the Budget now before the House of Representatives, the *Nippon* thinks that there are grounds for some of the reductions that have been proposed by the Committee. It declares the Cabinet bound to put an end, once and for all, to this unsightly practice of bargaining over the Budget after the manner of petty traders.

The questions of the re-assessment of the taxable value of land and the construction of war-vessels attract much journalistic attention. They are regarded as inseparably connected. The Bill for re-assessing the table value of land is now before Upper House. Even if that House should pass it, however, its acceptance by the Government is generally believed to depend upon the Lower House's willingness to vote the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is

strongly opposed to the building of men-of-war, remarks that the reason why the Upper House still defers discussion on the Re-assessment Bill is because, in obedience to the desire of the Government, it awaits the verdict of the Lower House on the Naval appropriations. So soon as the latter are rejected by the Representatives, the former will be thrown out by the Peers, and *vice versa*. Our contemporary bitterly complains of the unreasonable conduct of the Peers, but has not a word to say against the Representatives.

The Opposition organs have been violently shocked by a report that several members of the Popular party propose to vote for resuscitating the Naval appropriation which have been entirely erased by the Budget Committee. The degree of consternation into which these journals have been thrown by the report is proved by their violent condemnation of the conduct attributed to the zealous supporters of the Re-assessment Bill within the Popular Party's camp. These men are threatened with expulsion from their respective parties, and are assured that they will be branded with the disgrace of deserting the people's cause. The distressed journals are not inclined to think that the present Cabinet will stoop to the use of money for getting the Navy appropriations passed by the House of Representatives; but they believe that the shrewd tacticians in the Cabinet will not lack means to bring over to their side some of the Opposition members of the Diet.

The House of Peers is honoured by all sorts of preaching from the vernacular press on the subject of the Bill for the amendment of the Newspaper Regulations now in its hands. The metropolitan journals, with a few exceptions, have formed a league for the sole purpose of bringing pressure to bear upon the Peers, and they are inviting their provincial contemporaries to send delegates to the capital for a demonstration which they have in mind. The Special Committee of the Upper House has decided to recommend the retention of the provisions relating to security money, punishment with hard labour, and suspension. As to the last mentioned clause, the Committee propose to fix the maximum length of suspension at one week. The papers are very angry with the Committee for proposing to preserve the clause relating to suspension at all. The Opposition journals in particular being loud in their condemnation of the Committee's amendments. The Peers are warned against being duped by false scholars who are dependent upon official favours. They are also threatened with a violent outburst of popular passion should they be weak enough to be guided by these false prophets. The *Nippon* thinks the attitude of the Peers on the question of the Newspaper Regulations will furnish an unerring guide as to the real character of the Cabinet, which lays claim to being a constitutional Ministry.

The Bill for the imposition of a tax on the sale of alcohol seems to be in principle approved by the majority of the metropolitan papers. But they are agreed in doubting whether the measure proposed by the Government will suffice to effect the desired object, namely to check the undue importation of alcohol from foreign countries. In the first place, they ask whether the Government has well considered that protest which the foreign Powers are sure to make against the imposition of the new tax. Secondly, they are afraid that the proposed law will not prove any obstacle to people who buy alcohol direct from foreign merchants and convert it into various kinds of drink. This apprehension is based on the fact that the law provides only against the sale of alcohol, and cannot be enforced against foreign merchants. Thirdly, the law does not exempt alcohol employed for medicinal purposes as well as in many useful industries. Altogether the draft project submitted to the House is pronounced very incomplete, and the papers advise the Committee entrusted with it to make thorough investigations and due amendments.

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THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE "NICHU NICHU SHIMBUN."

THE House of Representatives on the 16th inst. decided by an almost unanimous vote that the President be instructed to take criminal action against the *Nichu Nichu Shimbun* on account of an article which had appeared in the columns of that journal. We have translated the article in our report of the proceedings, so that readers can judge for themselves what nature of provocation the House had to endure. As to that we refrain from comment, a criminal suit being on the tapis. It may be interesting, however, to note that the law under which the prosecution will doubtless be undertaken is No. 28 of 1889, entitled "A Law for protecting the Diet and its Members" (*Gikai narabi ni gi-in hogo-ritsu*), of which the 1st article runs as follows:—

Any person who slanders or insults the legally constituted Diet, shall be punished by imprisonment with hard labour for a period of from two months to two years, together with a fine of from 10 to 100 yen. Provided that, criminal proceedings must be taken by the House before any question of crime can be raised. It is a common saying in the West that a corporate body has no soul to be saved nor any character to be blasted, but the laws of Japan protect the Diet, at all events, as a corporate body, and the President of the House of Representatives should have little difficulty in obtaining judicial cognizance of his plaint. Doubtless this incident will recall the celebrated debate in the English House of Commons on the 12th of March, 1771, on the motion of Colonel ONSLOW to bring before the House for punishment "three brace of journalists" who had ventured to publish a speech of the Colonel's and to call him "little Cocking George." The debate lasted till 5 o'clock in the morning during, which time the House divided twenty-three times, one division being on an amendment that not only the printers be summoned, but also "their compositors, pressmen, correctors, blackers, and devils." The Japanese House of Representatives, proceeding by clearly defined provisions of law, had no difficulty. A very short time sufficed for it to make up its mind and pass an almost unanimous vote.

It cannot fail to strike any one reading the Debate that if the House is jealous of utterances outside its walls which may impair its dignity, it pays very little heed to what transpires in its own debates. Nothing written about it by any public journal could possibly disgrace it so much as did the conduct of Mr. TANAKA SHOZO in connection with this very question. Mr. TANAKA stood up in his place and declared, in the most emphatic manner, that the newspaper article concerning which the House was about to instruct the President to institute criminal proceedings, had been inspired by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, composed in the Cabinet, and written by Mr. ITO MYOJI, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. Not a single mem-

ber rose to remonstrate against the monstrous libel. The House not only passed it in silence, but suffered Mr. TANAKA to repeat it in still more energetic language, and allowed another member, Dr. HASEGAWA TAI, to express approval of Mr. TANAKA'S accusations. Thus, while indignantly taking measures to vindicate itself against insulting journalistic utterances, the House of Representatives permitted one of its own members to openly insult the whole Cabinet in the grossest manner and to utter a malicious libel against a Minister of State and a Chief Secretary. Everything said by a member of the House in his place is privileged: the Law of the Houses guarantees him against legal prosecution or administrative punishment. Underlying the liberty thus secured to him is the theory that, standing in the presence of a tribunal which is the very fountain head of law and order, he will never be allowed to trespass beyond the limits of due propriety. The Japanese House of Representatives has unhappily demonstrated that its sense of the responsibilities attaching to its privileges is glaringly inadequate. Were it animated by a genuine sentiment of self-respect, we cannot think that it would have suffered one of its members to disgrace it so signally. Mr. TANAKA SHOZO, indeed, is not regarded very seriously. He has established for himself the unenviable privilege of being treated with comparative indifference. But so long as he remains a member of the Diet, the House of Representatives must accept the responsibility of his acts, and those acts, unrebuked as they are, appear to us incomparably more hurtful to the House's reputation than fifty newspaper articles could be.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GAME REGULATIONS.

THE House of Representatives persists in treading the curious route which it entered when it passed a vote annulling the new Game Regulations. That it should have recorded its opinion as to the constitutionality or otherwise of the Regulations was perfectly *en règle*, for many people hold that the issue of such Regulations, except by due process of law, is a distinct violation of the Constitution. The general public, indeed, if we may judge from journalistic utterances, seems to have formed only a very superficial estimate of the affair. We read expressions of horror, for example, at the notion that such a subject as the preservation of game could have been held to justify an urgency Ordinance, and that any Government, professing to be guided by the spirit of representative institutions, should have ventured to play the arbitrary part of abstracting the matter from the purview of the Diet. These criticisms sound plausible and even forcible, but their value is im-

paired by the fact that there never was question of an urgency Ordinance at all. The Constitution reserves to the EMPEROR power to issue two kinds of Ordinances having the effect of law, namely, urgency Ordinances and Administrative Ordinances. The former are issued under the provisions of the 8th Article, and are warrantable only in the presence of "an urgent necessity to maintain public safety or to avert public calamities." The latter are issued under the 9th Article, and the justification for their issue is that they must be "necessary for the carrying out of the laws, or for the maintenance of the public peace and order, or for the promotion of the welfare of HIS MAJESTY'S subjects." The Game Regulations were issued as an Administrative Ordinance, under the provisions of the 9th Article, and that the EMPEROR is entitled by that Article to issue any regulations which he may consider essential to any of the objects enumerated therein, is beyond all question. There is, further, another important difference between Urgency and Administrative Ordinances: the former have to be submitted to the Diet during its next session; the latter need not be submitted to the Diet at all. It is difficult to be influenced by the arguments of critics who have evidently failed to distinguish even the fundamental character of the legislation they discuss. But whether the Ordinance be of the Urgency or of the Administrative class, the power of issuing it must be exercised within the limits of the law. In other words, no provision of the Ordinance must conflict with any provision of existing laws or of the Constitution. It is here that the difficulty occurs. The Game Regulations provide that a certain sum must be paid for a license by any person desiring to pursue game. The Constitution provides that no tax can be imposed or modified without the consent of the Diet. If, then, the price paid for a license be a tax, its imposition or modification by an Ordinance, instead of by due process of law, is unconstitutional. But if it be classifiable as an Administrative fee, then to deal with it by means of an Ordinance is perfectly lawful and constitutional. The Government claims that such payments are administrative fees; the Opposition avows that they are taxes. That is the whole question. Evidently it is an exceedingly delicate question, well worthy of discussion by experts. But the critics are, for the most part, absolutely confident. With the assurance that does not characterize angels, they rush in and denounce the Government in terms which suggest that the Ministers of State have been guilty of some flagrant and heinous abuse of power, and that only contempt for Constitutional restrictions could push them to such an excess. This extravagance is amusing. It also consists well with obtuseness displayed in connection with the subsequent history of the affair. For we find these extremely

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confident critics waiting to see what reception the Representatives' "Bill" will receive from the Peers, whereas the striking feature of the affair is that the measure introduced in the House of Representatives was not a Bill at all but merely a Resolution (*Ketsugi-an*). It was simply a declaration of the House's opinion, and as such does not go up to the Peers or to the Throne either. Now, that the House of Representatives is entitled to record its opinion on any topic, is beyond dispute. But that the House of Representatives, which forms only a fraction of the Legislative body, has competence to pronounce an Imperial Ordinance invalid *ab initio*, is a startling and novel proposition. Yet that is what the House of Representatives did. Not only did it announce its conviction that the issue of Game Regulations by means of an Ordinance was unconstitutional—which it had an indisputable right to do—but it also went on to determine that the Ordinance was invalid from the outset—which it certainly had no manner of right to do. Laws are enacted, repealed, or modified by the SOVEREIGN and the two House of Diet. One House alone is utterly incompetent to deprive any law or Ordinance of validity. It was open to the House of Representatives to pass a Bill for annulling the Game Regulations on the ground of unconstitutionality, and to send the Bill for discussion by the Peers, and ultimately for Imperial sanction, by duly prescribed process. But of its own solitary authority to rule an Ordinance out of the statute book, was a flagrant excess of power on the part of the Lower House. In the very act of asserting the Constitution, the Representatives set an example of seriously violating it. Moreover, as stated above, they are persisting in their false route. For the Budget Committee has excised from the items of revenue all fees collected on account of game licenses, the alleged reason for the excision being that the license fees must be classed as taxes. It was pointed out to them that to invite the Government to include under any heading whatsoever in the Budget, monies collected under the provisions of an invalid law, was like hanging the highwayman and appropriating the proceeds of his theft. But they would not listen to any of these things. In short, the Representatives are behaving just as though the legislative powers divided between the SOVEREIGN and the two Houses of the Diet were combined in the Lower House alone. This appears to us to be the second gravely false step taken by the majority in the Lower House during the present session. The first was when, on the motion of Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, they voted a resolution that the Ministers of State may be summoned to listen to a speech made by one of the members; which amounts to declaring that any member is competent to make a Representation to the Government, whereas the Law con-

fers such competence only on the House in its collective capacity. The second is this usurpation of independent and final authority with regard to an Imperial Ordinance. There is no reason to be surprised that errors should be perpetrated in these early days of parliamentary inexperience, but unfortunately the two errors distinguishing the present session greatly accentuate the difficulty of the situation in which the Administration and the Legislature find themselves.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Bill (First Reading) for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.
- 2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 3.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.
- 4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 5.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the 17th Article of the Conscription Law; presented by Viscount Hayashi Tomoyuki.
- 6.—Representation relating to the reduction of Official Salaries; presented by Mr. Kage Nobunori.

Viscount Tani said that the disaster which had befallen the *Chishima Kan* and her crew, could not be passed over in silence. He desired, on behalf of the House, to convey expressions of sincere sympathy to the friends and relatives of the deceased officers and men, and also to place on record the House's regret for the loss of the ship.

Prince Konoé and several members supported the motion, which was passed without comment.

The President asked the House's permission to change the Order of the Day in order to discuss the Supplementary Budget for the current year, which had been sent up from the Representatives, and concerning which the Government had requested all possible despatch to be used.

The House consented.

Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, President of the Budget Committee, said that the Committee would undertake to present its report on the supplementary Budget by the 19th instant, if the House instructed it in that sense.

The House agreed, and then proceeded to the Order of the Day.

No questions being asked as to the Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations, it was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Viscount Soya said that this Bill had now been three times sent up from the Lower House, but, owing to one cause or another, had failed to evoke a decision from the Peers. The fact had provoked much criticism, and he now desired to move that the Special Committee be instructed to present its report within a week's time.

The House passed the motion.

The Bill for amending the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President, but a motion of Mr. Hayashi Soyemon, that the Committee be instructed to present its report within one week, was thrown out, as was also a motion by Viscount Matsudaira that the report must be presented within two weeks.

The Bill relating to the Conscription Law having been temporarily withdrawn, the Representation relating to Official Salaries was read as follows:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE REDUCTION OF OFFICIAL SALARIES.

When a nation's resources are duly husbanded, its people are harmonious and happy, and diligently engage in their respective businesses, so that the nation, even though small, becomes rich and strong. But when the public resources are misapplied, the people grow discontented and lazy, so that poverty and feebleness result for the nation, even though it be large. Japan is a small nation in the East. Having remained for several

hundreds of years in seclusion, she has now to take her stand in the arena of universal competition, and must seek to occupy a successful position by fostering her national strength. To that end, education must be encouraged, the military equipment must be completed, commerce and industry must be developed, Hokkaido must be opened, and in other directions also various outlays have to be incurred. All these undertakings increase the expenditures of the State. Yet our annual revenue is not much more than eighty million *yen*. If such an amount be compared with the incomes of powerful foreign nations, the discrepancy makes us lament our insignificance and feebleness. Now is the time for the people both high and low, to economize all unnecessary outlay, and to apply the money saved to some practical use. According to the existing Administrative Organization, the amount of official salaries is over fifteen million nine hundred and eighty thousand *yen*. Deducting the salaries of military and naval officers, and diplomatic and consular officials abroad, a sum of over ten millions two hundred and sixty thousand *yen* remains. This total represents more than twelve percent of the whole revenue of the country. On the other hand, inasmuch as officials receive such high salaries, they gradually become luxurious and wasteful, and everything appertaining to the Government is splendid and showy, with the result that the simplicity of the people is impaired and they fall into extravagance; while there simultaneously spring into existence the abuses of commercial immorality, personal greed, and the predominance of individual interests. The wealth of the nation decreases. Deceitful merchants and overpaid officials alone become daily richer. The people at large grow discontented and lazy. Friction between rulers and ruled augments to such an extent that cries of "reduce Administrative Expenditures" and "lessen the burdens of the people" resound all over the empire. Unless the Government corrects these abuses now with a strong hand, the future of the nation is indeed critical and lamentable. We therefore sincerely hope that the Government will return to its original intention of economizing the wealth of the nation, and that having regard to the cause of universal discontent, it will at once reduce official salaries to about seven per cent. of the revenue, dismiss all superfluous officials, and economize all needless expenses, thus setting an excellent example of industry and simplicity. If such a courageous measure be adopted, able and faithful scholars will come forth to serve administrative posts regardless of the amount of the emoluments they may receive. Further, a reduction of expenditure to the extent of over four million five hundred thousand *yen* will not only enable us to build two iron-clad men-of-war annually, but the goodwill of the people will also be reawakened, their discontent will change into satisfaction, and their laziness into diligence. Thus the nation will once more become simple, and its burdens being decreased, it will grow rich and strong. So soon as the Government shows discretion in choosing able and honest men, abolishing the abuse of favoritism, correcting the habit of extravagance, and coöperating harmoniously with the people, the national rights will be asserted and we shall attain a permanently superior position in the world. What can be better than such a prospect of tranquillity and happiness? Ever since the 18th year of *Meiji* (1885) though the Administrative Organization has undergone several reconstructions, no effort has ever been made to restore to the people joy and content. We therefore venture to present this Representation relating to the reduction of official salaries. With regard to the abolition or amalgamation of various offices and the dismissal of superfluous officials, so as to facilitate administrative processes and thereby not only economize wasteful expenses but also make the Administration efficient, since these reforms belong to the functions of the Government, we make no detailed reference to them here.

Presented by KAGE NOBUNORI.

Supported by Prince KONOÉ ATSUMORI, and others.

Mr. Kage Nobunori said that to secure the happiness and prosperity of a State nothing was more essential than harmony between rulers and ruled. It could not be said, however, that such harmony existed at present in Japan. The constant cry of the nation was for economy of administrative expenditure and lightening of the burdens of the people. He believed that the abuse chiefly responsible for this unhappy state of affairs was to be sought in the inequality existing between the emoluments of the official class and the circumstances of the people. The salaries and luxurious habits of officials were

out of proportion with the general standard of living, and it resulted that not only was a pernicious example set, but also great discontent was engendered. He trusted that these considerations would secure the support of the House for the Representation which he had the honour to present.

Viscount Tani supported the Representation. His views had not been hastily formed. The Representation now before the House was, in truth, in accord with the Representation (*Kinken Shobu no Kengi-an*) introduced by himself last session. He did not support the doctrine now so prevalent among the people that administrative expenditure should be reduced merely for the sake of cutting down the Land Tax. His contention was that many other works of national importance called for prompt action. If the resources of the State permitted, he would be the first to vote for liberal salaries to officials. But when he observed the country's urgent need of an increased Navy, of military equipment, and of coast defence, he was ready to give even the clothes off his back to further these vital objects. The need of the time demanded that all should make every possible sacrifice on behalf of their country, and, being thus persuaded, he entertained no doubt that the Representation would be adopted by the House.

In answer to a question by Baron Ozawa, Mr. Kage said that the first purpose of the Representation was to secure a reduction of official salaries. But it also aimed at cutting down the number of superfluous officials.

Mr. Miura Yasu said that since the Restoration many reductions had been effected in official salaries, but it was impossible to feel satisfied yet. The example of luxury and extravagance set by officials must be ascribed to their excessive emoluments. In 1870, when the late Okubo had set about building for himself an official residence in Nagata-cho, Saigo Takamori had found fault with its magnificence. Yet the house in question would scarcely pass to-day as the official residence of an ordinary *sonin* officer. With regard again to the full dress uniform of officials, it used originally to be worn only in connection with foreign intercourse. But now it was used on all occasions and by all officials. As to official residences, he saw no reason to grant them, except to the Minister President and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The splendid houses and luxurious manner of living now characteristic of the official classes, had led to a perfunctory manner of discharging duty and were calculated to impair the general standard of morality. The Diet, in its first session, had effected a reduction of 6½ millions in the Budget. But the consequences were scarcely perceptible. Now, once more, the Committee in the Lower House were said to be engaged in making retrenchments, and he believed that in the item of official salaries alone, a reduction of about four million *yen* would be effected. Doubtless the reform could be carried out without any difficulty. He himself, when serving as an official, had been very sensible of the extravagance of his salary, and he was persuaded that among his hearers there were many officials conscious of the same fact. He urged them to openly support the Representation, and acquire the honorable reputation of having led this patriotic reform.

Baron Ozawa moved that the Representation be entrusted to a Special Committee of 9, nominated by the President, for amendment, as the language used in some places seemed unduly harsh.

Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho, speaking as an official and as a member of the House, opposed the Representation. He reminded the House that an official had to be a man of certain attainments, and that, to qualify for his position, he was obliged to obtain an expensive education. It seemed only right and wise that the State should remunerate its competent servants in a sufficient manner. Underpaid officials were a source of grave abuses. Faults of administration were due in a much greater degree to inadequate than to excessive salaries. His own

conviction was that the scale of official salaries instead of being too high, was too low at present.

Viscount Matsudaira approved of the spirit of the Representation but objected to its phraseology. He seconded Baron Ozawa's motion for a Committee of Amendment.

Mr. Watanabe Kyoshi opposed the Representation. If it were claimed that official salaries were too high, some proof of the fact ought to be offered. A mere assertion in that sense could not carry conviction. The State ought to pay its servants. Undue economy in this respect could only result in incompetent or corrupt service. He fully endorsed the language of the Representation where it referred to the abuse of favouritism, but he failed to see what that had to do with official salaries, or why salaries should be reduced because favouritism was practised. He noticed, too, that members who supported this Representation did not themselves always set the example of practising the virtues which they preached. Receiving the same pay as the rest of the members, they were frequently conspicuous by their absence from the House. Such lax habits were not permitted to officials, who had to work long, regularly, and hard, to earn their stipends.

Inspector-General Takagi said that he had never before addressed the House, and that he felt considerable diffidence about doing so. He was not altogether opposed to the Representation, but he could not believe in the possibility of putting its principle into practice. Serious discontent would at once be created throughout the whole body of officialdom. Already men were far from satisfied with their emoluments, and if sweeping reductions were now made, it seemed inevitable that the resulting discontent would beget neglect of duty, and that the injury to the public service would far outweigh the pecuniary advantage of the proposed economies. For this practical reason he felt compelled to oppose the Representation, though he endorsed the theory it embodied.

Baron Ozawa's motion was then put and lost.

The President said that in view of the important character of the Representation, it seemed advisable to take a closed ballot.

Objection being raised to this course, the opinion of the House was taken, when a majority voted for proceeding by the ordinary method of a show of hands.

The President called for a show of hands, and declared the Representation lost, but his decision being challenged, an open ballot was taken, when 68 voted in favour of the Representation and 65 against it.

The House rose at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.10 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Third Reading of the Barristers Bill.
- 2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the *Sake* Brewing Tax Regulations.
- 3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending No. 24 of the second year of Meiji.
- 4.—Representation relating to the extension of Navigation.
- 5.—Representation relating to the opening of Matsugasaki Harbour.
- 6.—Bill (First Reading) for taxing Official Salaries.
- 7.—Representation relating to Reform of the Navy.
- 8.—Representation relating to the dispatch of Commissioners to examine into the state of Foreign Industries.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Bill for amending the Mining Regulations; presented by Mr. Takami Mineo.
- A Representation relating to the establishment of a Steel Foundry; presented by Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi and others.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, reported that 1,853 petitions had been received, and that the Committee had divided them into two classes, the first for submission to the House, and the second for rejection.

After some discussion the Third Reading of the Barristers Bill was passed.

Mr. Suzuki Shoji, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported against the Bill for increasing the Tax on *Sake* Brewing. The reason for the Committee's adverse decision was that the sole object of the Government in seeking to impose this increased tax, was to obtain funds for reassessing the taxable value of land. But the Committee believed that ample funds for that purpose could be obtained by cutting down administrative expenses in the Budget. They did not say that if occasion arose, an increase of the

Brewing Tax might not be advisable, but they considered that, from the point of view of equal incidence of taxation, this impost ought not to be the first to undergo augmentation. Another consideration which influenced them was the marked increase of late years in the importation of alcohol. Even with the *Sake* Brewing Tax as at present, foreign alcohol was rapidly taking the place of the domestic manufacture, and it was impossible to doubt that if further obstacles were placed in the way of *Sake* brewers, the importation of alcohol could not fail to receive a great impulse.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo, as a member of the Special Committee, asked permission to add a few words. He too opposed the Bill. They knew how he had hitherto supported all the Government's measures. They had called him the captain of the pro-official company, and had asserted that whatever emanated from the Government was sure of his support. That estimate was not correct. It was true that his attitude hitherto had been invariably favourable to those in power, but the reason was that he had approved their measures. It did not matter to him who supported or who opposed a Bill. If he believed in it, he voted for it. But he now found himself compelled to take part against the Cabinet. The object of this Bill and of the measures allied with it was to favour the farmer at the expense of the manufacturer. He did not for a moment believe in such a policy. Moreover, he was weary of attempting to discuss measures on their merits. No such method of discussion existed any longer in the House. Everything was subserved to party interests. They had a *Jiyu-to*, a *Katshin-to*, and a *Kokumin Kyokai*. The sympathies and antipathies of these decided the fate of every Bill. He abandoned all hope of harmony between the Administration and the Legislature until a coalition Cabinet were formed. Nothing short of the admission of Count Itagaki and Count Okuma to the Cabinet could possibly place matters on a harmonious basis. It was impossible for any Cabinet to be stable or to pursue a conscientious and resolute policy under existing circumstances. Henceforth, he must not be counted as the captain of the pro-official party. He abdicated the position definitely.

On a vote being taken to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, only one member, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, stood up to support it.

Mr. Suzuki Shoji, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported adversely to the Bill for amending Law No. 24 (*i.e.* the Law relating to licenses for brewing *Sake*). His reasons were the same as in the case of the previous Bill.

On a vote being taken to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, it found no supporters.

The Representation relating to Navigation was then read.

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF NAVIGATION.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the important relation that maritime communications bear to the welfare of the state. Especially is this true in an insular country like ours, the prosperity of whose inhabitants must largely depend on their communications by water. It is essential, therefore, to consider the subject profoundly. The public has already recognized that the extension of navigation is one of the most urgent needs of the nation, and that it ought not to be neglected even for a day. Nevertheless the maritime enterprise of our country has been but little extended abroad. The only regular services are to the coasts of China, Korea, and Manila. In order to develop such enterprise, it is absolutely necessary to make extensions to foreign countries, namely: Australia, Europe, America, and Vladivostok. With respect to these lines discretion must be used in determining which shall be first organized. We consider a line to Australia to be the most urgent, and that a line to Europe should follow next in order. As for the American line, it will not be too late to establish it after the Nicaraguan canal has been completed. The Vladivostok line should be opened before the completion of the Siberian Railway, but the Australian line and the European line should be established at once. There is at present no regular service between Australia and any Oriental nation, but a certain State has been attempting to organize such a service, and thus deprive Japan of the opportunity which, if she loses it, she will find it difficult to offer again. For that reason the

Australian line should be established first. There are regular services of foreign companies' steamers to Europe, and all Japanese are carried by them, eighty per cent. of the profits derived from freight being monopolized by those vessels, and only twenty per cent. remaining for Japanese steamers. In order to recover this profit now it is best to open a new line to Europe. The advantages will be very great when our steamers voyage to all the European harbours. For these reasons the European line ought to be opened in the second place.

To establish these two great lines and undertake such enterprises in consideration of appropriate subsidies, it is necessary to have a strong steamship company. At present there is no suitable company in existence except the Japan Steamship Company (*Nippon Yusen Kaisha*). Therefore that company must be ordered to undertake the enterprise. If, however, additional subsidies be granted to the Company for the above purpose, we seem it necessary to alter the system now pursued with regard to the company.

The nature of the subsidy granted to the Japan Steamship Company at present is very vague and we cannot consider it proper. It must be altered and brought into accord with the method commonly practised in other countries; that is to say, the amount of each subsidy must be determined separately with regard to the mileage of the line and its difficulties. Such we believe to be the most approved method.

Subsidies should be granted for navigation abroad only, and no such allowance should be made on account of the domestic coastwise trade. The responsibilities imposed on the Japan Steamship Company with respect to the domestic cabotage by the provisions of Art. VIII. of the Company's Charter, should be annulled; and subsidies should be granted on account of services in foreign waters only, namely: the Yokohama-Shanghai line, the Kobe-Vladivostok line, the Shanghai-Vladivostok line, the Kobe-Tientsin line, the Kobe-Newchwang line, and the Kobe-Manila line. Moreover, the amount of the present subsidies should be reduced. In the case, however, of any line, such as that to Hokkaido, which seems absolutely necessary for purposes of communication, the Government may investigate the matter, and prepare a Bill for submission to the Diet.

As the Government has rendered itself responsible by contract for the subsidies to the Japan Steamship Company, negotiations ought to be opened with the latter, in order to devise some means of changing the contract. When an agreement has been arrived at, the period of the new contract might be prolonged so as to cover that of the new lines. The sources of subsidies for the two new lines should be determined by the Government and a Bill on the subject should be submitted for the concurrence of the Diet. Provided always that the Government shall, as far as possible, seek such sources in economies of Administrative expenditure.

The gist of the above Representation may be summarized as follows:—

1.—The nature of the subsidies to the Japan Mail Steamship Company should be changed, the amount of each subsidy being determined separately on the basis of the mileage of the line and its difficulties.

2.—Subsidies should be for foreign navigation only, none being allowed for the domestic. By this system the actual amount of the subsidies now paid may be reduced.

3.—Regular lines to Australia and Europe should be established and subsidised.

4.—To effect the above changes the Government should negotiate with the Japan Mail Steamship Company.

5.—The sources of the subsidies should be determined by the Government and submitted for the consent of the Diet. Provided always that the Government, as far as possible, should seek such sources in economies of Administrative Expenditure.

Presented by { NISHIYAMA SHICHO.
SUZUKI SHIGETO,
and 70 others.
Supported by KONO HIROAKA, and
30 others.

Mr. Nishiyama Shicho made a long speech in support of the Representation. He dwelt upon the importance of maritime facilities to a country like Japan, and referred to the history of England showing how enormously the wealth of a country could be increased by means of a commercial navy. Japan resembled England geographically and in respect of her natural formation, and there could be no doubt that her best plan was to take a lesson from England's history. So soon as the Nicaraguan Canal and the Siberian Railway

were finished, this country would find herself most advantageously situated on one of the greatest routes of the World's Commerce, and she ought to prepare to take full advantage of the opportunity. But he did not urge the immediate opening of lines to America and Vladivostok. Such lines did indeed call for establishment, but they might be deferred for the present in favour of lines to Australia and Europe. Above all, a regular service of Japanese steamers to Australia was essential. It would probably suffice if a subsidy were granted at the rate of 2 yen per mile on the Australian route, and 1.70 yen or 1.80 yen on the European route. Looking round, however, at the shipping companies that now existed in Japan, only two of any size presented themselves—the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. The latter, however, seemed scarcely available for the contemplated purposes, and they were consequently obliged to fall back on the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. That Company was now in receipt of a subsidy of 880,000 yen annually, in connection with the carrying trade in domestic waters. He considered that no occasion whatever existed for such a payment from the Treasury, and he proposed that, in view of establishing a line of steamers to Australia, the Company should receive a subsidy of 500,000 yen, and should be deprived altogether of the subsidy now paid to it on account of the domestic coastwise carrying service.

Mr. Wada Hikojiro asked whether it was intended that no subsidy whatever should be given for navigation in home waters, and that the Treasury should assist navigation abroad only.

Mr. Nishiyama answered in the affirmative. He admitted that some inconvenience might result from stopping the subsidy for service to such a place as the Goto Islands, but his belief was that maritime enterprise had now been sufficiently developed to need no State protection so far as home waters were concerned.

Mr. Ugai Ikujiro, in a speech of some length, urged the importance of immediately establishing a line of steamers between Niigata and Vladivostok, and moved an amendment in that sense.

The Representation was entrusted to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Kuroda Tsunahiko asked permission to introduce an urgency motion with regard to an article which had appeared that day in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

Permission was granted.

Mr. Kuroda presumed that the members had read the article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of that day with reference to the House. Nevertheless it would be necessary to read it aloud:—

Alas for the empire! Once again we have to say so. Three hundred heads! They are not the heads of puppets. They have eyes to see; ears to hear; mouths to speak; feet and hands to move. Emaciated they may be, but do they not bear the burden of the nation's hopes? Coarse their brain tissue may be, but do they not constitute the legislative machine? What kind of responsibility devolves on them towards the Sovereign above; towards the people below? Do they discharge their duty when they idly become noisy frogs; become cicadas; become crows; become fish-hawks; become owls? In the morning they cry "aye;" at eve they shout "no;" on the right they applaud; on the left they denounce; their inconsistency has robbed them of the nation's confidence. The uprightness and virtue which they habitually profess constitute no real object of their vision. The interests of the country and the prosperity of the people have no abiding place in their intellect. Let them be stirred up, they become as oxen, become as horses. Collide with them, they become as wild boars, become as stags. Cajole them, they become as cats, become as *chin* dogs. Talented, brainless, they have no fixed point of view. By single sounds of censure or applause from those about them they are prostrated; are elevated; are enraged; are deprived of life; are moved to mirth; are melted in tears; are excited to cawing vehemence. The expectations which the people based on them are dissipated. There is no further use for them in the world. They are as boneless lampreys. Let them be boiled and eaten.

He bore no ill-will to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, but he claimed that such an article was distinctly calculated to bring the House into con-

tempt, and that it could not possibly be passed over in silence. He moved that the President be instructed to take criminal proceedings against the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* for slandering the House.

Mr. Yamada Taizo moved that the matter be entrusted to a Special Committee.

Mr. Ito Daihachi expressed surprise that any member could hesitate under the circumstances, and called upon the House to adopt the motion unanimously.

Mr. Suzuki Rinzo opposed the motion. He did not attempt to defend the language used by the *Nichi Nichi*, but he asserted that other journals were daily writing the same thing in different phraseology, and he urged that the manliest course for the House would be to overlook the incident.

Mr. Yamada Toji declared that the obnoxious article was not directed against individuals but against the Legislature. It was a direct insult to one of the most important branches of the Executive. Emphatic and prompt action should be taken.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroiku opposed the motion. He agreed entirely as to the objectionable character of the article, but he asked the House to consider the character of the defendant in the proposed suit. Was it not a mere *Go-yo Shimbun* (official organ). When a dog came looking around for food, human beings did not trouble themselves to drive it away. He was for letting the thing alone.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei supported the motion. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* made a constant habit of attacking individual members. That might be passed over, but when the whole House was insulted, the case assumed a different aspect.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo not only supported the motion, but went a good deal further. He claimed that some one must have inspired the article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and that its inspirer had been the Minister of State for Home Affairs. Why had not the Minister of State for Home Affairs suspended the newspaper? He affirmed that the writer had been Mr. Ito so-and-so, and that the article had been composed in the Cabinet.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho said that no special occasion presented to speak on behalf of the Government in this matter, but he could not refrain from surprise at hearing a member of the House urge that a newspaper should be suspended.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo wanted to know how Mr. Suyematsu could sit in his place as a member at one moment, and appear in the seat of a Government Delegate the next. What did he know about the sentiments of the Minister of State for Home Affairs? He was not fit to be a Government Delegate. He (the speaker) was prepared to declare distinctly over and over again that the offensive article had been inspired by the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai supported the motion and applauded Mr. Tanaka Shozo's remarks.

After some further discussion the motion was voted almost unanimously.

The Representation relating to Matsugasaki Harbour was then taken:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE OPENING OF MATSUGASAKI HARBOUR.

Matsugasaki Harbour in the Province of Ye-chigo in Niigata Prefecture, is one of the best anchorages in the country. But in consequence of a special agreement with Niigata Town, the harbour has never been opened to ships. It is not only contrary to nature to leave a fine natural harbour in the hands of a Local Division, thus depriving the public of a general benefit, but also the present time and circumstances, which call for the speedy development of communications, do not sanction the continued closure of such a good port. We therefore hope that the Government will adopt appropriate measures to open the said harbour, thus conferring much benefit and convenience on the public at large.

Presented by { TANGO NOBUHEI.
KATO KATSUYA.
Supported by SASAKI SHOHYO, and 75 others.

The Representation was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House rose at 5.35 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The Standing and Special Committees alone met.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of Special Committee on the Law relating to capital for the purchase of articles for State Railways.
- 2.—Report of Special Committee on the Railway Bonds Bill.
- 3.—First Reading of the Bill for taxing Official Salaries.
- 4.—Representation relating to Reform of the Navy.
- 5.—Representation relating to Commissioners to inspect Foreign Industries.
- 6.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law 8th of the 33rd year of Meiji.
- 7.—Second Reading of the Bill to amend the Law of registration.

The President announced the receipt of Answers to various Questions, which were read as follow:—

1.—QUESTION RELATING TO AMERICAN POACHING VESSELS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF THE KURILE ISLANDS.

For several years it has been rumoured that American vessels visit the seas adjoining the Kurile Islands for the purpose of poaching. Further, it is now alleged that the number of such vessels has increased gradually, and that the profits earned by them are very great. If, despite these facts, the Government take no measure to restrain such proceedings, it is impossible to measure the injury that may be done hereafter to the nation's rights. The question therefore, appears to be of grave importance. We desire to know whether the Government has received intelligence of the above doings; whether it has ever seized any of the poaching vessels, and what measure it intends to adopt against them in future.

2.—QUESTION RELATING TO THE SALE OF LAND.

It is stated that certain persons who have bought or rented lands sold or let by the Hokkaido Administrative Board, in accordance with existing Regulations, are violating the conditions expressly provided in the Regulations, since they either fail to cultivate the lands at all, or cultivate small portions only of them, leaving the rest untouched. In short, they hold the land simply for purposes of speculation. Yet the Administrative Board has taken no measures against them. If such a state of affairs be suffered to continue, the land of Hokkaido will entirely fall into the hands of speculators, and no cultivation of it can take place. We desire to know why the Government does not compel these violators of the Regulations to return their lands.

3.—QUESTION RELATING TO THE PROCESS OF PAYING CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

It is reported to be the custom in Hokkaido that when the Administrative Board concludes a contract for a public work, should the latter not be completed at the end of the year, the officials connected with the work enter into collusion with the contractor, to send notice of the completion of the work, together with an application for payment of the amount of the contract to the Administrative Board. The money is thus obtained from the accountant, and kept in the hands of the officials until the completion of the work, when it is paid over to the contractor. In some cases it is alleged that the officials spend the money held by them, and the contractors do not receive the sum agreed upon for the work; are such rumours well founded?

4.—QUESTION RELATING TO THE TAX ON MARINE PRODUCTS.

A heavy tax was imposed on the Marine products of Hokkaido from the time when the island was governed by the Matsumaye clan till the 19th year of Meiji (1886). But in the latter year Count Yamagata and Count Inouye went round the island, and amended the old system of taxation by taking as a basis the average produce of the 16th to the 18th year of Meiji. By this amendment the tax was reduced to less than 220,000 yen. Thus the people were enabled to increase the number of nets, and the fisheries became more prosperous. Subsequently, the Government took the average produce from the 21st to the 23rd year of Meiji—the most prosperous time—as a basis of taxation, and the total tax was consequently increased to 310,000 yen. The people engaged in the fisheries thus had to pay an additional 90,000 yen. Moreover, a special system was adopted for collecting the tax; that is to say, a tax office was established, and a number of employes were engaged for the purpose of collection. The expenses of this office and its employes had to be paid by the people, so that they found themselves embarrassed, the number of nets decreased, and the fishing industry gradually deteriorated. Such are the statements made by the people. We desire to know whether they are true. We

also desire to know why the Administrative Board did not take the average produce for the 3 years commencing with the 18th year; and why the expenses of collecting the tax have to be paid by the people.

In accordance with Art. XLVIII. of the Law of the Houses, the above Questions are asked, and we hope that the Government will favour us with an immediate reply.

Presented by { KATO MASANOSUKE.
ASAKA KATSUTAKA.
FUKUDA HISAMATSU.
Supported by { YAMAMOTO NOBORU
and 29 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWERS.

ANSWER I.

It being reported that foreign poaching vessels visit the seas adjoining the Kurile Islands, the Government despatched the *Kaimon Kan*, a man-of-war, in the 24th year of Meiji (1891), and the *Iwaki Kan*, another man-of-war this year, to cruise about the Kurile Islands. But no poaching vessel was discovered or seized. Steps have been taken to investigate the number of schooners entering Yokohama and Hakodate harbours during the 24th year of Meiji, and it has been ascertained that there were 15 vessels—11 entered at Yokohama and 4 at Hakodate. Further, according to a report prepared by the *Iwaki Kan*, 6 American fishing vessels and 1 British entered Hakodate during January and June of the present year, and 5 vessels entered Atsukishiro and Kotan for provisions and water, but whether they were poaching vessels or not was not ascertained.

For the last 30 years or more some American salmon ships have been in the habit of sailing from San Francisco to the Sea of Okotsk via the Kurile Islands. The number of such vessels is increasing annually, nevertheless it is reported that their average catch is 7 or 8 thousand *koku* per annum. But whether they fish in the territorial waters of this Empire or not, has not yet been ascertained.

Henceforth, as in the past, the Government intends to despatch men-of-war in the fishing season, and to encourage Japanese subjects to fish in the above seas, so as to give no opportunity to any foreign vessel to poach in Japanese waters. For this purpose the Government included in the Budget an appropriation to conduct investigations in the marine products so as to ascertain the best fishing districts, and to improve the fishing interest generally.

(Signed) GOTO SHOJIRO, Count,
Minister of State for Agriculture
and Commerce.

ANSWER II.

Whenever land rented in accordance with the provisions of the existing Regulations is discovered to be neglected, the Administrative Board has always ordered its return, and land is never sold except to persons who cultivate it. No neglect is shown in punishing violators of the Regulations. Inasmuch, however, as the land rented has increased yearly in area and the labour and expense of superintendence increases proportionately, it is not possible at present to carry on thorough and active supervision. The Government, therefore, looks to adopt some appropriate means for making more thorough investigation.

ANSWER III.

There is no such custom as that stated in the Question with regard to the payment of contract sums for public works under the Hokkaido Administrative Board. It was found, however, that an official did resort to such a scheme, and that he spent the money received for the contractors. The Board, therefore, at once took appropriate measures to punish him. But no suit at law was brought against the Board by any contractor.

(Signed) INOUE KAORU, Count,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

ANSWER IV.

The reason of taking the average rate of produce of the 21st to the 23rd year of Meiji, in determining the price of marine products, in accordance with the provisions of Art. XVI. of the Regulations relating to Taxes on Aquatic Products in Hokkaido, was that those years were the latest on record. The fact that the Tax-payers Committee were ordered to pay the expenses of collecting the tax from the members of the Association of Tax-payers, was because a provision to that effect is contained in Art. IX. of the same Regulations.

Finally, as the amended rate of taxation is enforced from the present year, its results cannot yet be ascertained. But the Government does not consider that it will cause the fishing industry to decline.

(Signed) WATANABE KUNITAKE,
Minister of State for Finance.

QUESTION RELATING TO OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS.

(1) In the second month of this year, at the general elections of members of the House of Representatives, official interference took place, with reference to which the House of Peers presented a Representation and the House of Representatives passed a resolution. But the Government, in spite of these things, has not yet punished the officials who interfered. What is the reason?

(2) The misconduct and lawless procedure of the Prefectural and Police Officials of Kagoshima, Kumamoto, and Ishikawa Prefectures, is altogether to be regarded as an abuse surviving from official interference in elections. Why does the Government leave these things uninvestigated and unpunished?

(Presented by) TATEKAWA UMPEI and others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

The prime aim of the present Cabinet's domestic policy is to promote the improvement of the administrative machinery by bringing its working into strict accord with the provisions of the Constitution; and, on the one hand, to strengthen the foundations of the State in conformity with the great polity of the realm; on the other, to promote the welfare of the people by protecting their rights. In other words, to secure to the people of the Empire the exercise of the privileges granted to them by the Constitution and the Law of Election, is the prime duty of the present Cabinet. The Government is resolved to proceed to the limit of the powers vested in it for the purpose of eliminating all obstacles to the exercise of the right of election, whether such obstacles are due to an improper use of official authority or to the bad conduct of other persons. On the occasion of the general election of members of the House of Representatives in the second month of this year, the fact that officials misconducted themselves being established, some of them are to this day about to receive the judgment of Courts of Law, the injured parties having themselves sought the protection of the Courts, or having been urged to do so by the police, or having had suits instituted on their account by the police, and the Government is offering all facilities for the pursuit of such inquiries. But with regard to the superintendence of administrative conduct, the present Cabinet sees no occasion to take retrospective action. The misbehaviour of policemen in Kagoshima Prefecture has already led to a judgment against them in a Court of Law, but they have appealed against the sentence and the appeal is now in process of hearing. The Governor, so soon as the judgment of the Court of First Instance was pronounced, deprived the men of their office. With regard to other Prefectures, in cases where the methods of officials have been contrary to law, or have violated the rights of the people, there has been no neglect on the part of the present Cabinet either to have them punished administratively in respect of administrative action, or to have the necessary steps taken for summoning them before Law Courts in other instances.

The President also announced the receipt of,

A Question relating to poaching Seals and Sea Otters in Hokkaido; presented by Mr. Kato Katsuya and others.

Mr. Wakabara Kanzin asked permission to introduce an urgency motion for conveying expressions of the House's sympathy with the relatives and friends of the officers and men who had lost their lives by the wreck of the *Chishima Kan*. As their obsequies were to be performed the following day, he ventured to bring forward the subject.

Several members urged that it would be more expedient to defer the consideration of this matter until the Government Bills had been disposed of, and the House, adopting that view, refused to grant urgency.

Mr. Katsuya, explaining his Question about poaching in Hokkaido, complained that the answers hitherto given by the Government to queries on this subject had been unsatisfactory. He claimed that a loss of fully three million yen annually was inflicted on Japan by the poaching operations of foreign ships in her northern waters. There could be no doubt that poaching was carried on constantly. He had collected information on the subject during his stay in America, and he submitted it to the House, expressing the hope that the Government would give a distinct and unequivocal answer to his Question.

Mr. Haseba Junko said that he had intended to press for an answer to his Question about official interference in elections, but the receipt

of the Government's Reply had anticipated his action. After due consideration of the Reply, he should have other questions to put. Meanwhile, he wished to say that the Reply was not satisfactory. The principles enunciated at the outset were beyond cavil, but the facts adduced were erroneous. Moreover, the Reply pointed out that a legal remedy always existed for persons who experienced unlawful treatment. That was true. But he claimed that if administrative measures were wisely conceived and properly carried out, the necessity for seeking legal remedies would not arise. The fault lay with the Administration.

The House proceeding to the Order of the Day,

Mr. Kanmochi Tomotsune, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to the purchase of articles for State Railways, and in favour of the Bill relating to Railway Bonds.

Mr. Matsumoto, Government Delegate, in answer to questions from Mr. Ooka Ikuzo and others, said that commissions for railway material had hitherto been given chiefly to foreigners because the latter's tenders had been the cheapest and their goods the best. Occasionally, orders had been given to Japanese, but at the moment he could not state exact details. As to the suggestion that the Railway Bureau had reduced its rate of commission from 2½ to 1 per cent. in deference to public criticism, he said that public criticism did not enter into the question at all. When orders were few and small, high commission had naturally to be paid; when they were numerous and large the rate of commission might be lowered. He also explained fully the origin and subsequent treatment of the floating and fixed capital funds.

The House voted to carry the two Bills to a Second Reading.

The Bill for taxing Official Salaries was then read:—

BILL FOR IMPOSING A TAX ON OFFICIAL SALARIES.

Art. I.—The salary, allowance, or emolument of whatsoever designation, received by any person from the Treasury at fixed times, shall be liable to a salary tax at the following rates:—

	Per Cent.
Over yen 100 to yen 200 per annum	5
From yen 200 to yen 500 per annum	6
From yen 500 to yen 1,000 per annum	7
From yen 1,000 to yen 2,000 per annum	8
From yen 2,000 to yen 3,000 per annum	10
From yen 3,000	11

Art. II.—The proceeds of the tax shall be applied to purposes of military equipment.

Art. III.—The proceeds of the tax shall be included by the Treasury in the Budget, as a special account.

Art. IV.—The tax shall be levied from the 26th year of Meiji, and shall be abolished in the 45th year of Meiji.

Presented by { OOKA IKUZO,
ATSUCHI MASATOSHI,
YASHIMA HACHIRO,
KAWAHARA MOSUKE,
Supported by YUMOTO YOSHINORI, and
39 others.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo spoke at length in support of the Bill. He said that the attention of the Diet in its first sessions had been directed entirely to cutting down administrative expenses in order to divert the money to reducing the tax on land. No thought seemed to be given to the vital questions of developing the industries and resources of the country or to strengthening its military equipment. On the contrary, proposals in this sense had been negatived. But now, happily, men began to talk of building railways, extending navigation, and strengthening the Navy. It was a most fortunate change of view, and ought to be encouraged in every possible way. Nevertheless, sufficient heed was not yet given to the vital problem of military armament. In France every unit of the population had to contribute 4.42 yen annually to the national defence; in Germany the figure was 2.23 yen, but in Japan it was only 32 sen. England had a Navy of 300 ships. Even Spain had 60 ships. But Japan had only 30. These comparisons showed the necessity for some effort to increase the funds available for military equipment. Hence the Bill which he now had the pleasure to introduce. The prin-

ciple embodied in it was fortified by precedents in other countries, and would doubtless meet with the House's approval.

Mr. Kurokawa Shuzo wished to know why the burden of increasing the military equipment should be imposed on one class of the nation only. Already rumour pointed to the Navy as a Satsuma institution. Did not this Bill mean that additional emphasis would be imparted to that view, and that, in the end, the Army would be called *Oidon no Rikugun* (*Oidon*=my, in Satsuma dialect), and the Navy, *Oidon no Kaigun*?

Mr. Ooka replied that his proposal was limited merely to one source of revenue for developing military equipment.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro was disposed to support the Bill, but desired to know whether these taxes on official salaries were to be imposed in addition to the reductions recommended by the Committee.

After some debate, a proposition to submit the Bill to a Special Committee was negatived by 110 to 101, and the House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

The Representation relating to the Reform of the Navy was then read. After a brief discussion the House decided to defer the consideration of the Bill to a future date.

The President announced that, in accordance with the House's instructions, he had placed in the hands of the Public Procurator the commission to proceed criminally against the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and had received the latter's assurance that steps would be immediately taken.

The House rose at 5.35 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
- 2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending and putting into operation certain portions of the Commercial Code.
- 3.—First Reading of the Bill for amending the Press Regulations sent up from the Lower House.
- 4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.

Prince Nijo, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, reported that 2,217 petitions had been received, and that the Committee had examined them, the results of the examination being embodied in a printed report now in the hands of the members.

On the motion of Mr. Hayashi Soyemon, the House agreed to change the Order of the Day, for the purpose of at once discussing the Supplementary Budget for the current year, which had been sent up from the Lower House some days previously.

Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported that the Committee recommended the passing of the Budget as amended by the House of Representatives.

The Minister of State for Finance briefly explained the circumstances under which it had been found necessary to submit a Supplementary Budget.

The Budget was voted item by item as sent up from the Lower House, some questions being asked and some amendments unsuccessfully proposed. In the Department of Communications Mr. Kioura, Government Delegate referred at some length to the fact that the Lower House had increased one of the appropriations asked for by the Government in consideration of having greatly reduced another. Such a course was to be distinctly condemned as a trespass by the Legislature on the domain of the Administration. The function of compiling the Budget rested with the latter, and the former's legitimate part was limited to reducing or rejecting the various items. To diminish one and on that account increase another was a distinct usurpation of the function of compilation. Such a precedent was highly dangerous. The Government, in view of the pressing character of this Supplementary Budget, did not wish to raise any definite objection, but it seemed advisable to draw the attention of the House to the fact.

Viscount Tani reminded the House that he had raised precisely the same objection in the preceding session with regard to the Lower

House's treatment of the Railway appropriations. Unfortunately, the House had not endorsed his contention, but it now appeared, from Mr. Kioura's remarks, that the Government held the same view. He deemed it very regrettable that such precedents should be allowed to stand.

Mr. Kioura said that Viscount Tani had misapprehended his remarks. The Budget was finally passed.

Marquis Saionji, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee had unanimously approved of the Bill for amending and putting into operation certain parts of the Commercial Code. A number of changes of phraseology had been made. Further, the Bill proposed that the portions in question should go into operation from the 1st of January, but as it seemed scarcely possible to carry out that programme, the Committee recommended that the date be postponed to July 1st, 1893.

Mr. Yokota, Government Delegate, expressed great satisfaction at the Committee's report. The Committee had devoted a whole fortnight, sitting for long hours every day, to the consideration of the Bill, and its decision, coming from such eminent experts, should carry much weight. With regard to the date of operation, there had been two views in the Committee; one favouring the 1st of April; the other the 1st of July. The Government thought that public advantage would be consulted by putting the proposed laws into operation at the earliest possible date, and therefore hoped that the House would decide in favour of April 1st.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, but declined to proceed with the Reading until the next day.

BILL RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF PORTIONS OF THE COMMERCIAL CODE AND THE REGULATIONS FOR PUTTING THE SAME INTO OPERATION.

Art. 1.—The portions of the Commercial Code and the Regulations for its operation shall be amended as in the following appendix.

Art. 2.—In the Commercial Code, Book I., Chapters VI. and XII., and Book III., as well as the Regulations relating to the Operation of the same, Arts 1 to 3; 5 to 27; 35 to 45; 47 to 51; and the 3rd clause of Art. 53, shall become operative from the 1st day of the 1st month of 26th year of Meiji (January 1st, 1893).

Art. 3.—In Book I., Chapters II. and IV. the regulation relating to commercial partnerships and companies only shall become operative at the above time.

APPENDIX.

(N.B.—Portions included in brackets have been excised, and italicised portions amended or added.)

Art. 67.—Partnerships and companies carrying on business contrary to public or good morals may be dissolved by order of the Court on the application of the Public Procurator [or of the police authorities] or by the Court of its own motion. Immediate complaint may be raised against such order.

Art. 73.—Every partnership and Company has its own separate property and independent rights and duties. It can [in particular, in its own name, acquire rights and incur liabilities, acquire property moveable and immovable,] sue and be sued in Court.

Art. 81.—No partnership may commence business operations until registration has taken place. Where a partnership fails to comply herewith, its operations are to be stayed by order of the Court. Immediate complaint may be raised against such order.

(NOTE.—Slight changes of phraseology have been made in this Article, but the meaning remains the same.)

Art. 82.—Where operations are not commenced within six months from the date of registration, the registration and publication become inoperative.

(NOTE.—Here again occur slight changes in the wording, but the meaning is unchanged.)

Art. 98.—[The heir or other successor of a partner can succeed to his place, unless it is expressly provided to the contrary in the contract; but he is only entitled to share in the management with the consent of all the partners.]

Art. 112.—The partnership property is, in the first place, liable for the obligations of the partnership, and thereafter every partner is [undividedly] jointly liable to the full extent of his property.

Art. 121.—The membership of a partner is terminated:—

1. By his expulsion;

Original from

2. By his death [unless his heir or other successor takes his place]. *But when by contract, or consent of the other partners, his heir or other successor takes the place of the deceased, the latter shall be exempt;*

3. By his bankruptcy;

4. By his loss of capacity, unless it is otherwise agreed upon.

Art. 155.—A joint-stock company [is to be deemed to be a commercial company] shall obey the provision of the present section as well as those of the following section, even if its object is not the carrying on of a commercial business.

Art. 176.—A certificate is to be issued in respect of each share, and such certificate is to bear the amount of the sum of money for which it is issued, the date of issue, its number, the firm name and seal of the company, the names and the seals of the directors, and the names of the shareholders.

Provided that, at the request of a shareholder, one certificate may be prepared for several shares together.

Art. 180.—The transfer of any share [upon which less than one-fourth of the amount thereof has been paid] before registration has taken place, is void.

Art. 182.—The transferor of a share on which less than [one half] the full amount has been paid up, continues liable to the company as a surety for the full amount unpaid thereon.

Art. 191.—Every company is in general meeting to elect from amongst the shareholders [at least three] not less than two inspectors to hold office for a period not exceeding two years, and who at the expiration of such period, are eligible for re-election.

Art. 192.—The duties of the inspectors are as follows:—

1. To see that the conduct by the directors of the affairs of the company is in conformity with the laws and ordinances, the regulations of the company, and the resolutions passed in general meeting [and, generally, to expose all mistakes and irregularities committed by the directors in the course of such conduct].

Art. 206.—A company may increase its capital by raising the amount of every share [or of bonds]. A company may reduce its capital by lowering the amount of every share, or reducing the number of shares; but its capital may not be reduced to less than one-fourth of the total amount thereof. [Every bond is to bear the name of its holder; with respect to its amount the provisions of Article 175 apply.]

Any company may issue bonds; and every such bond must bear the name of its holder, and the provisions of Art. 175 shall be applicable to its amount.

Art. 217.—Shares declared to be forfeited, or which have been assigned to or have devolved on the company in satisfaction of a debt or otherwise, are, within [one month] two months, to be publicly sold, and the amount realized deposited in the treasury of the company.

Art. 222.—Every company is bound to keep at its head office as well as at each branch office a list of its shareholders, and its prospectus, regulations, charter, resolutions passed in general meeting, statements of each business year, inventories, balance sheets, business reports, schemes for the distribution of dividends or interest, and a list of its mortgage creditors, and creditors having a pledge of immovables, and is on demand to allow [any person] any shareholder or creditor of the company to inspect such documents during ordinary business hours.

Art. 237.—After registration every disposition of property of the company, otherwise than for the purpose of liquidation, and all transfers of its shares are void [unless sanctioned by the Court for special reasons].

When the liquidators desire to continue the business for the purpose of liquidation they must obtain the sanction of the Court.

Art. 253.—Add the following clause:—

When the liquidators have handed over the affairs to the manager of the bankrupt's property their responsibility is considered to be terminated.

Art. 256, Section 2.—If they commence business operations before registration.

(Note.—A slight change in the wording has been made, but the meaning remains the same.)

Art. 268.—When a person participates in the commercial transactions or business of another by contributing property thereto, on the understanding that he is to share, in return for such transfer of ownership, the profits and losses without his name appearing in the firm name etc.

Art. 299.—Bills of exchange and promissory notes are instruments of credit running to order or to bearer and which provide for the [unconditional] payment of a certain sum of money and import, as of course, lawful consideration.

No condition shall be provided in Bills of Exchange.

Art. 710.—The possessor of a bill, note, or cheque, who has acquired it by lawful means and without gross negligence, cannot be required to deliver up such bill, note, or cheque, or the proceeds thereof, except in cases where (the demand so to do is based on such facts as would constitute a plea to a claim on his part for delivery up of the instrument to (him) the reason of his claim became void.

Art. 712.—Claims arising on a bill or note against the acceptor or maker, respectively, are prescribed after a period of three years, calculated (as beginning to run) from the day of maturity; the rights of recourse of the holder and of the indorsers, respectively, against the drawer and prior indorsers are prescribed after a period of three years running from the day of (protest or) notification of the claim.

Art. 717.—The drawer may draw the bill payable to his own order or (if payment is to be made at a place other than that where the bill is drawn), he may draw it upon himself.

Art. 723.—Each indorsement on the bill must contain the date and place, the signature and seal of the indorser and the names of the indorsee; a bill may, however, be indorsed (in blank) by signature and seal of the indorsee only.

Art. 730.—An indorsement for purposes of agency, where such object is indicated on the bill, entitles the indorsee to the exercise of the rights and duties of the indorser, (in particular, to the right of making a further regular indorsement, unless a prohibition to make a further regular indorsement is stated on the bill) *Provided that, unless a special condition is mentioned, no regular indorsement can be made.*

Art. 731.—In an indorsement for a guaranty [(Bill Pledge, Bill Deposit) is a regular indorsement, even where such object is not stated on the bill, with the exception that every party liable on the bill may raise against the indorser the plea of payment, or other charge of the debt which was thereby intended to be guaranteed] *if its object is stated, the indorsee can exercise the same rights and duties as the indorser. Provided that, such a regular indorsement can only be made in case no demand of repayment of debt is made.*

Art. 732.—An indorsement is only effective for the indorser where the series of indorsees up to himself is duly connected; a bill indorsed for purposes of agency or guaranty may be further indorsed by the indorser [as well as by the indorsee].

Art. 734.—The holder of a bill may, in the absence of anything therein to the contrary, present it before maturity to the drawee for acceptance, and in the event of non-acceptance [must] may protest the bill [on the day next following].

The drawer of a bill [payable elsewhere than at the place of residence of the drawee] may state therein that the same is to be presented for acceptance under pain of loss of the right of recourse. *In the event of non-acceptance he must protest the bill on the day next following.*

Art. 735.—If the drawer of such bill refuses to duly accept the bill, or to date the acceptance, the bill [must] may be protested [on the day next following]. In such case the day of protest is to be taken as the day of presentment. Failing protest, [the day of maturity is to be calculated from the last day of the period for presentment] *the last day of the period for presentment shall be regarded as the day for presentment. Provided that, when no protest is made on the day next following, the right of suing the drawer and indorsee shall become void.*

Art. 739.—Where the drawer has refused acceptance either in whole or in part, or where the acceptance is to be regarded, in accordance with the provisions of Arts. 737, and 738 as refused, the holder is forthwith to notify the drawer and the indorsers of the protest. [Failure to give such notice is attended with the loss of every right of recourse against those to whom it has not been given.]

Art. 790.—Every protest is to be made by an officer of the Court or by a notary, or where there are no such persons at the place [by the protesting party himself in the presence of two male witnesses, who have attained majority, and who should, when possible, be traders] *the Heads of Cho or Son shall make it.*

Art. 791.—In cases of necessity, protest may be made at the Court [or] at the office of a notary, or at the Office of Cho or Son.

Art. 793.—Protest may [not] be made [even with] when the consent of the party against whom it is to be made is obtained, at any place other than such as is appointed by law.

Art. 795.—(add the following clause after section 6):—

7.—In cases of Art. 793, a consent of the party against whom it was made.

Art. 798.—Officers of the Courts [and] notaries, and Heads of Cho or Son are bound to enter in full, day by day, in a register the protests drawn up by

them, and, on demand, to issue duplicates thereof to the persons protesting.

Art. 800.—Such rate of exchange must in no case, not even in the case of the successive drawing of two or more return bills, exceed the rate of exchange for a sight bill drawn at the place of payment of the original bill on the place of issue of the same. [Each of these rates of exchange must be certified by a broker.]

Art. 801.—The return bill is to be accompanied by the protest bill, and the protest [and the recourse account,] together with the two certificates of the rate of exchange.

Art. 818.—A cheque is transferable by indorsement, and [where it is indorsed in blank] by the name and seal of the indorser only, or drawn payable to bearer, by delivery.

Art. 819.—A cheque requires neither acceptance nor protest. Claims on a cheque are prescribed after the expiration of three years from its date. [In the event of a cheque not being presented or forwarded for payment within three days of the day of its issue, the holder bears the consequence of the delay.]

A cheque must be presented for payment if the place of payment is within the locality of issue within three days; if it is elsewhere, within seven days.

Art. 820.—When, on presentment in the same locality, as that of issue, payment of a cheque is not made, the holder and every indorser has, during a period of ten days, or fifteen days in case of a different locality from the date of the cheque, a right of recourse; the holder against all indorsers and the drawer, and each indorser against the parties prior to himself and the drawer, even if the period has expired, payment of a cheque is made on the following day of its issue is valid. As against the drawer [however,] such right of recourse continues even after such period has elapsed if he had no credit open, or had exhausted the same, or had countermanded payment.

In the event of litigation the drawer is bound to produce his cheque-book and pass-book in Court.

Art. 979.—The person trading who suspends payment or, in the case of a [commercial] partnership or company, the managing partners, directors or liquidators are within five days of the suspension inclusive of the day on which it took place, to notify such suspension with a statement of the causes therefore to the Court of the place of the seat of business or domicile in writing or for entry in a protocol.

Art. 910.—The adjudication rule is to contain:—
1. The date of suspension of payment. *Provided that the date shall be determined by the decision of the Court or it may be altered.*

Add clause 7:—The date of judgment of bankruptcy.

Art. 990.—Every act, otherwise legal of the bankrupt, subsequent to suspension of payment or within ten days immediately previous thereto, by which he procures out of his property [a gratuitous advantage for another is, as of course, null and void as against the estate; such are in particular, donations, burdensome contracts incurring obligations gratuitously or with disproportionate consideration], *donation, gratuitous act, or contract with disproportionate consideration, payment of debts not due and the irregular payment of debts due, as well as the giving of guarantees for obligations previously incurred.*

Art. 1002.—Together with the adjudication of bankruptcy, the Court shall order seals to be placed upon the movable property of the bankrupt [and his immediate detention or official surveillance].

[The above measures may be ordered prior to the bankruptcy adjudication by the local police authority on the application of one or more of the creditors, if the debtor has absconded, or is about to abscond, or if he secretes any portion of his property.]

In the case of [commercial] partnership or companies the [persons and] property of all members whose liability is joint and several and unlimited are subject to these measures.

Art. 1003.—[If the debtor has complied with the provisions laid down in Article 979 and there is otherwise no ground for his detention or surveillance, the same may be omitted; the Court can, however, later on at any time, and of its own motion order the same.]

When there is a fear of the bankrupt absconding, or secreting any portion of his property, the Court may order his immediate detention or official surveillance.

In the case of partnerships or companies the foregoing measures shall be enforced against responsible members or directors.

The [debtor] bankrupt may not quit the place of his residence without the permission of the Court; and the Court has power at any time to order the compulsory production of the [debtor] bankrupt.

Art. 1019.—For the following acts of the admini-

strator, so far as they relate to a subject-matter [of the value of at least one hundred yen], the hearing of the bankrupt and the sanction of the commissioner are first necessary; etc.

Art. 1034.—A wife can only enforce against her husband's [rights of property] estate such rights of claim as she is entitled to in respect of property which is exclusively her own either by law, under express agreement, or by undisputed custom.

Art. 1051, clause 5.—Not fulfilled the obligations prescribed in Articles 32, 979, and the [second] third paragraph of Article 1003.

Art. 1052.—The penal provision in the last two Articles contained, apply also to managing partners and directors and liquidators of [commercial] partnerships and companies respectively; and those contained in Article 1050 to bankruptcy administrators and to all those who have assisted the perpetrator in the commission of the publishable act or have committed it in the interest of a bankrupt.

Art. 1054.—A debtor who is adjudged bankrupt or a member with unlimited liability or [director] of a bankrupt [commercial] partnership or company respectively is disqualified, until he has obtained rehabilitation, from attending Exchanges, from trading as a broker, or as a member of an ordinary or of a limited partnership or as a director of a joint-stock company, from exercising the functions of a liquidators, bankruptcy administrator, or representative in commercial matters, from membership of a chamber of commerce, and from other mercantile posts of honour.

Art. 1055.—In the event of a composition, however, the attending Exchanges and, where it relates to a [commercial] partnership or company, the continuance of the same by members who are unlimitedly liable or [by directors] is permitted without the necessity of proving that which is in the first paragraph of this article prescribed.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, said that the Bill for amending the Press Regulations, as sent up from the House of Representatives, contained much to which the Government could not possibly consent, but, it would perhaps be more convenient if he entered into detailed explanations before the Special Committee.

The Bill was entrusted to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The House rose at 2.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—The Budget for 1893-94. (Discussion to terminate at 3 p.m.)
- 2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Tobacco Tax Regulations.
- 3.—Report of the Petitions Committee on a Petition for amending the Land Tax Regulations.
- 4.—Report of the Petitions Committee on a Petition for rescinding the Confectionary Tax Regulations.
- 5.—Representation for the Reform of the Navy.
- 6.—Representation for the Despatch of Commissioners to examine into the State of Foreign Industries.
- 7.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of Meiji.
- 8.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Government Bill relating to Exchanges.
- A Private Bill relating to the control of State Property; Presented by Mr. Inouye Hikozayemon.
- A Private Bill for abolishing Export Duties; Presented by Mr. Tsunoda Shimpai.

Mr. Kono Hironaka, on behalf of the Budget Committee, explained that the object kept in view by the Committee in amending the Budget had been to meet the wishes of the nation. The people looked earnestly for reductions of official expenditure, and the Committee believed that such reductions could be made without in any degree impairing the efficiency of the Administrative machinery. Their principal retrenchment had been in the matter of official salaries, where they had effected an economy of 2,140,000 yen. He strenuously denied that this diminution of salaries would interfere with the public service, or deprive officials of emoluments adequate to the functions discharged by them. In the revenue side, he directed attention to the fact that the item for game licenses had been eliminated. That was because of the House's decision that the Game Regulations, being unconstitutional, had no effect *ab initio*. The appropriations for building men-of-war had also been expunged, but the Committee wished it to be distinctly understood that its consent would not be withheld from these appropriations if the reforms desired by the majority of the House were carried out by the Naval Department. It might be imagined that

the reductions recommended by the Committee were too sweeping. But the Committee had been guided by the consideration that a reform of this nature had better be made boldly once and for all. Nothing was more to be deprecated than a system of perpetual paring of the Budget year after year. The Committee thought that the full reductions should be made at once, so that henceforth a firm basis for compiling future Budgets would be established. He sincerely trusted that the Government would courageously accept the suggested amendments. The Minister of State for Finance had agreed to the reductions made in the Supplementary Budget for the coming year, though they aggregated more than 14 per cent. of the total. It was to be hoped that the frank step taken in that instance would be followed by similar courage and resolution in the case of the General Budget.

BUDGET COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

REVENUE.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

	Government.	Budget Committee's Report.
1. Taxes	66,676,136.476	—
2. Licences and Fees	2,173,088.576	—
3. Receipts from Government Industries and Properties	10,625,658.641	—
4. Miscellaneous Receipts	623,977.405	—
5. Interest on Money deposited	943,750.000	—
Total	81,042,611.098	—

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

1. Donations	39,576.000	—
2. Sales of Government Properties	554,953.949	—
3. Miscellaneous Receipts	153,921.650	—
4. Amounts transferred from the Funds for preparing and issuing Consolidated Public Loan Bonds	85,450.000	—
5. Amount transferred from the Famine Relief Fund	145,300.000	—
6. Amount transferred from the previous fiscal year	3,809,642.858	—
Total	4,788,844.457	—

Grand total of Revenue... 85,831,455.555

EXPENDITURE.

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

1. Crown	3,000,000.000	—
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.		
1.—The Department proper	131,648.000	101,768.483
1. Salaries	93,408.750	74,228.750
2. Repairs	4,000.000	3,600.000
3. Travelling Expenses	3,268.000	1,268.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	9,026.250	5,670.600
5. Department Expenditures	19,445.000	14,501.133
6. Reception Expenditure	2,500.000	unchanged
2.—Legations and Consulates	557,504.688	485,656.568
1. Salaries	346,095.764	296,576.344
2. Repairs	6,891.000	unchanged
3. Law Court and Prison Expenses	1,222.184	unchanged
4. Management of Settlements in Korea	15,857.360	unchanged
5. Rents of Houses	35,434.000	unchanged
6. Travelling Expenses	32,378.700	30,337.700
7. Miscellaneous Salaries	12,020.000	10,320.000
8. Office Expenses	45,677.000	41,105.300
9. Reception Expenses	7,400.000	unchanged
10. Students Abroad	10,965.760	6,945.760
11. Relief Fund for Japanese Abroad	191.000	unchanged
12. Transmission of telegrams	1,819.820	unchanged
13. Cemeteries	200.000	unchanged
14. Secret Service Fund	40,000.000	30,000.000

15. Salaries for Foreign Employés	1,352.100	unchanged
Total	689,152.688	587,425.050
Reduction ...	—	101,727.636

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

1.—The Shrine of Ise	27,113.000	unchanged
2.—The Department proper	309,849.791	248,320.129
1. Salaries	183,005.805	135,285.805
2. Opium Expenses	10,000.000	unchanged
3. Repairs	4,762.000	4,726.000
4. Travelling Expenses	24,328.440	22,328.440
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	26,353.125	24,897.000
6. Departmental Expenses	50,132.921	39,815.384
7. Preservation of Old Shrines	10,000.000	unchanged
8. Students' Expenses	1,267.500	unchanged
3.—Shrines, etc. ...	179,696.500	unchanged
4.—Office for Superintending Publics Works	124,452.373	99,656.160
1. Salaries	81,525.250	58,133.250
2. Repairs	820.000	unchanged
3. Travelling Expenses	27,721.000	unchanged
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,260.000	3,834.000
5. Office Expenses	8,926.123	8,032.910
6. Surveying Expenses	1,200.000	1,115.000
5.—Expenses of Penitentiaries	341,642.505	320,721.383
1. Salaries	36,500.750	23,512.750
2. Repairs	9,307.140	unchanged
3. Prisoners' Expenses	187,127.937	unchanged
4. Prisoners Expenses in Fu and Ken	7,603.400	unchanged
5. Travelling Expenses	9,042.485	unchanged
6. Miscellaneous Salaries	63,822.523	59,852.711
7. Office Expenses	28,238.270	24,274.960
6.—Metropolitan Police Bureau	291,272.111	211,084.608
1. Salaries	193,439.798	132,219.798
2. Repairs	2,768.000	unchanged
3. Rewards	252.183	unchanged
4. Superintendence of Foreigners in Tokyo	3,642.333	3,478.733
5. Travelling Expenses	3,450.000	unchanged
6. Miscellaneous Expenses	31,962.797	25,000.458
7. Office Expenses	37,757.000	34,515.436
8. Secret Service Fund	18,000.000	9,000.000
7.—Police Expenses of the Seven Islands of Izu	3,543.147	3,495.147
1. Allowances for Dead and Wounded	18.000	unchanged
2. Repairs	21.000	unchanged
3. Travelling Expenses	1,365.730	unchanged
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,398.297	1,350.297
5. Office Expenses	740.120	unchanged
8.—Hokkaido Administration Board	967,753.918	891,730.735
1. Salaries	194,577.000	150,447.000
2. Conscription Expenses	508.715	unchanged
3. Weight and Measures Examination Expenses	754.314	not allowed
4. Public Works Expenses	69,253.000	unchanged
5. Wrecked Ships Expenses	236.000	unchanged
6. Reward and Relief fund	1,727.000	unchanged
7. Travelling Expenses	53,046.000	unchanged
8. Miscellaneous Salaries	141,851.264	129,534.327
9. Office Expenses	104,234.000	90,978.068
10. Management of Sailors	166.000	unchanged
11. New Works Expenses	259,061.278	unchanged
12. Sanitary Expenses	13,217.416	unchanged
13. Educational Expenses	19,787.000	unchanged
14. Relief Fund	3,721.000	unchanged
15. Industrial Expenses	8,105.575	unchanged
16. Prison Expenses	29,998.000	27,447.000

17. Prisoners' Expenses 27,555.911 unchanged	2. Travelling Expenses 745.465 unchanged	2. Repairs 775.000 697.500
18. Contingent Fund 33,010.445 unchanged	3. Miscellaneous Salaries 5,936.968 5,603.815	3. Travelling Expenses 3,500.000 unchanged
19. Hakodate Quarantine Office, &c. 600.000 unchanged	4. Office Expenses 1,942.000 1,690.920	4. Miscellaneous Salaries ... 2,620.000 2,364.560
20. Secret Service Fund 5,344.000 4,529.000	15.—Local Police Expenses of Oshima 7,501.000 7,047.013	5. Office Expenses 7,719.000 6,643.246
9.—Sapporo Agricultural School..... 26,450.000 unchanged	1. Allowance for Dead and Wounded 37.585 unchanged	9.—Administrative Court 44,589.000 20,985.460
1. Salaries 14,892.000 unchanged	2. Travelling Expenses 644.150 unchanged	1. Salaries 36,420.000 15,300.000
2. Repairs 450.000 unchanged	3. Miscellaneous Salaries 5,252.868 4,955.521	2. Repairs 445.000 400.000
3. Travelling Expenses 911.250 unchanged	4. Office Expenses 1,566.397 1,409.757	3. Travelling Expenses 371.000 unchanged.
4. Miscellaneous Salaries 643.000 unchanged	Total 7,875,096.385 6,976,900.367	4. Miscellaneous Salaries 1,853.000 1,601.000
5. School Expenses 7,602.750 unchanged	Reduction 898,196.015	5. Office Expenses 5,500.000 3,313.460
6. Expenses for Students 1,951.000 unchanged	DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.	10.—Official Gazette Bureau 195,301.420 186,941.080
10.—Hokkaido Penitentiaries..... 567,863.583 549,057.899	1.—The Department Proper 362,430.167 313,097.270	1. Salaries 15,873.000 10,685.000
1. Salaries 48,565.656 38,365.656	1. Salaries 252,482.167 219,738.167	2. Repairs 296.000 260.400
2. Expenses of Prisoners 339,507.714 unchanged	2. Repairs 4,076.000 3,610.953	3. Travelling Expenses 296.000 236.800
3. Repairs 2,537.687 unchanged	3. Publication of Rates of Exchange for Customs tariff ... 400.000 unchanged	4. Miscellaneous Salaries 5,700.000 4,681.780
4. Travelling Expenses 12,359.183 unchanged	4. Travelling 14,747.000 13,247.000	5. Office expenses 8,805.420 6,740.100
5. Miscellaneous Salaries 119,964.343 112,476.342	5. Miscellaneous Salaries 33,070.000 30,182.800	6. Expenses of Publication 164,331.000 unchanged.
6. Prison Expenses 44,929.000 43,811.316	6. Departmental Expenses..... 56,538.000 44,801.350	11.—Custom House 217,610.000 184,467.350
11.—Fu and Ken Expenditures 4,848,454.721 4,237,497.750	7. Expenses for preparing Government Bonds and notes 1,117.000 unchanged	1. Salaries 121,337.000 100,912.000
1. Salaries 2,475,082.000 2,014,052.000	2.—National Debt 20,943,750.000 unchanged	2. Repairs 9,100.000 8,190.000
2. Consumption Expenses 151,586.490 unchanged	1. Repayment of Bonds 4,890,074.235 unchanged	3. Purchase of Dutiable goods, 1,070.000 unchanged.
3. Weights and Measures Examination Ex. penses 34,470.022 not allowed	2. Interest on Bonds 14,029,415.943 unchanged	4. Travelling Expenses 3,901.000 unchanged.
4. Rewards and Relief Fund... 150,577.000 unchanged	3. Commission on Repayment of Bonds with interest ... 80,509.822 unchanged	5. Miscellaneous Salaries 46,535.000 42,312.900
5. Wrecked Ships 774.000 unchanged	4. Redemption of auxiliary Bank Notes 1,000,000.000 unchanged	6. Office Expenses 33,037.000 38,081.450
6. Management of Foreign Settlements and Repairs... 129,915.129 125,371.935	5. Interest on Deposits 943,750.000 unchanged	7. Salaries for Foreign Employes 2,630.000 not allowed.
7. Preservation of Yokohama Public Garden ... 950.000 unchanged	3.—Rewards and Pensions 1,338,939.654 1,338,639.654	12.—Expenses of Collecting Domestic Taxes... 1,741,308.063 1,529,935.293
8. Repairs of Yokohama Explosives Warehouses... 2,045.000 unchanged	1. Annual Pension with Decorations 131,272.000 unchanged	1. Salaries 1,004,765.099 818,405.099
9. Expenses for Nagasaki Foreign Cemetery..... 279.850 unchanged	2. Civil Service Pensions ... 283,766.679 unchanged	2. Repairs 889.000 unchanged.
10. Joint Police Expenses 929,872.000 unchanged	3. Military Service Pensions..... 771,186.461 unchanged	3. Expenses of Investigating Income Tax 27,840.001 unchanged.
11. Travelling Expenses 450,360.000 unchanged	4. School-Masters' Pensions 711.000 unchanged	4. Money handed to Shi, Cho, and Son 148,417.661 unchanged.
12. Miscellaneous Expenses..... 120,335.103 99,091.348	5. Pensions for Okinawa Ken ... 150,203.514 unchanged	5. Expenses in connection with arrears of tax payments and violations of Regulations..... 14,559.707 unchanged.
13. Office Expenses 249,697.000 247,277.000	6. Pensions to Foreigners ... 1,800.000 1,500.000	6. Expenses of Stamps and Licenses 82,994.786 unchanged.
14. Quarantine Office, etc..... 2,776.877 unchanged	4.—The Cabinet ... 256,939.500 157,342.187	7. Travelling Expenses 211,705.740 unchanged.
15. Public Works... 35,234.250 unchanged	1. Salaries 148,703.500 106,154.500	8. Miscellaneous Expenses 55,537.881 49,084.929
16. Secret Service Fund 114,500.000 117,250.000	2. Repairs 2,553.000 2,297.700	9. Office Expenses 194,598.179 175,138.361
12.—Local Expenses of the Bonin Islands 8,481.000 8,348.200	3. Rewards of Honour 18,266.000 unchanged	13.—Cost of dealing with Currency... 458,690.792 unchanged.
1. Salaries 1,186.000 1,120.000	4. Travelling Expenses 1,112.000 889.600	1. Expenses of exchanging defaced notes 432.356 unchanged.
2. Expenses of Prisoners 130.000 unchanged	5. Miscellaneous Salaries 13,866.000 10,620.975	2. Money paid to the Nippon Ginko... 450,000.000 unchanged.
3. Repairs 720.000 unchanged	6. Office Expenses 31,003.000 17,677.412	3. Miscellaneous Expenses in dealing with the Paper Currency 8,258.436 unchanged.
4. Wrecked Ships 27.000 unchanged	7. Expenses for Publication of Laws and Regulations . 1,436.000 unchanged	14.—Fund for Miscellaneous Repayments and for Supplying deficiencies and losses 151,327.000 unchanged
5. Travelling Expenses 127.000 unchanged	8. Secret Service Fund 40,000.000 not allowed	1. Miscellaneous Repayments.. 145,000.000 unchanged
6. Miscellaneous Salaries 209.000 194.600	5.—The Privy Council 121,978.000 46,085.415	2. Supply of Deficiencies 6,327.000 unchanged
7. Office Expenses 524.000 471.600	1. Salaries 109,024.000 37,540.000	15.—Pensions of former Officials of Senate..... 40,867.909 unchanged
8. Educational Expenses 692.000 unchanged	2. Repairs 1,241.000 1,116.000	16.—Reserve Fund of the Treasury 2,000,000.000 1,250,000.000
9. Industrial Expenses 3,295.000 unchanged	3. Travelling Expenses 741.000 592.800	1. The First Reserve 1,000,000.000 500,000.000
10. Public Works... 1,271.000 unchanged	4. Miscellaneous Salaries 3,160.000 2,437.680	2. The Second Reserve 1,000,000.000 750,000.000
11. Reserved Rice Fund 300.000 unchanged	5. Office Expenses 7,812.000 4,398.035	Total 28,586,197.005 27,263,430.683
13.—Local Expenses of Okinawa Ken... 162,300.736 158,544.076	6.—The House of Peers 240,033.750 218,116.617	Reduction 1,322,766.322
1. Salaries 27,365.200 25,941.400	1. Salaries 192,230.000 177,730.000	DEPARTMENT OF WAR.
2. Repairs 2,484.000 unchanged	2. Repairs 1,425.000 1,140.000	1.—The Department proper 202,878.727 182,751.540
3. Prisoners' Expenses 13,122.000 unchanged	3. Travelling Expenses 4,522.000 unchanged	1. Salaries 134,295.040 118,201.500
4. Wrecked ships 34.000 unchanged	4. Miscellaneous Salaries 21,546.750 18,540.617	2. Repairs 1,124.282 1,011.854
5. Travelling Expenses 3,180.400 unchanged	5. Office Expenses 20,310.000 16,184.000	3. Uniforms 887.180 unchanged
6. Miscellaneous Salaries 5,840.100 4,486.291	7.—The House of Representatives 333,107.750 316,221.350	4. Horse Allowances 440.000 unchanged
7. Office Expenses 9,465.610 8,486.649	1. Salaries 275,360.000 265,405.000	
8. Public Works... 6,176.380 unchanged	2. Repairs 741.000 unchanged	
9. Sanitary and Hospital Expenses..... 13,395.000 unchanged	3. Travelling Expenses 15,150.000 unchanged	
10. Educational Expenses 22,023.600 unchanged	4. Miscellaneous Salaries 21,546.750 18,709.350	
11. Minor Office Expenses 19,840.000 unchanged	5. Office Expenses 20,310.000 16,216.000	
12. Orphanage Expenses 9.000 unchanged	8.—Bureau for Audit of Accounts ... 139,324.000 106,933.306	
13. Expenses for Notifications, etc..... 1,918.000 unchanged	1. Salaries 124,710.000 93,758.000	
14. Industrial Expenses 3,811.600 unchanged		
15. Petty Officials' Salaries 33,635.756 unchanged		
14.—Local Police Expenses of Tsushima ... 8,722.000 8,137.767		
1. Allowance for Dead and Wounded 97.567 unchanged		

5. Travelling Expenses	13,718.440	12,893.314
6. Miscellaneous Expenses	21,452.854	unchanged
7. Office Expenses	30,960.931	27,864.838
2.—Military Expenses	11,905,195.128	11,738,122.421
1. Salaries	4,478,885.324	4,357,652.584
2. Repairs	191,736.168	18,847.015
3. Arms and Gunpowder	1,019,940.250	unchanged
4. Food	1,980,238.966	unchanged
5. Uniforms	1,628,931.850	unchanged
6. Horses	715,712.712	unchanged
7. Medical Attendance	39,121.796	unchanged
8. Survey	96,403.469	unchanged
9. Reviews and Exercises	462,503.988	unchanged
10. Pensions to Retired Soldiers	70.000	unchanged
11. Prisoners' Expenses	32,101.020	unchanged
12. Office Expenses	575,759.932	unchanged
13. Travelling Expenses	299,971.560	unchanged
14. Miscellaneous Salaries	350,603.493	322,962.483
15. Expenses of Guarding Imperial Processions	1,215.000	unchanged
16. Secret Service Fund	32,000.000	unchanged
3.—Gendarmerie	296,408.111	289,122.543
1. Salaries	190,974.440	188,777.440
2. Repairs	1,779.851	1,001.866
3. Arms and Gunpowder	8,427.013	unchanged
4. Uniforms	23,880.333	unchanged
5. Horses	11,958.494	11,418.494
6. Prisoners' Expenses	936.000	unchanged
7. Office Expenses	33,969.920	30,575.928
8. Travelling Expenses	6,969.580	unchanged
9. Miscellaneous Salaries	7,512.480	7,333.880
10. Secret Service Fund	10,000.000	9,000.000
4.—Colonial Militia	444,599.333	435,852.369
1. Salaries	109,784.262	106,740.762
2. Repairs	3,325.000	2,500.000
3. Arms and Gunpowder	14,195.831	unchanged
4. Food	164,930.223	unchanged
5. Uniforms	28,366.055	unchanged
6. Horses	7,810.216	7,640.216
7. Medical Attendance	6,703.879	6,033.492
8. Reviews	15,886.930	13,886.930
9. Prisoners' Expenses	1,824.678	1,762.052
10. Emigration Expenses	44,328.212	44,010.642
11. Office Expenses	17,778.837	unchanged
12. Travelling Expenses	16,578.810	14,920.929
13. Miscellaneous Expenses	13,077.400	unchanged
5.—Donations to the Yasukuni Shrines	7,550.000	unchanged
Total	12,850,631.299	12,653,398.864
Reduction	202,232.435	

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

1.—The Department proper	121,081.240	101,108.517
1. Salaries	83,227.400	70,782.800
2. Repairs	800.000	720.000
3. Travelling Expenses	3,280.950	2,952.855
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	16,822.890	13,455.303
5. Office Expenses	16,950.000	13,197.559
2.—Naval Expenses	5,794,505.049	5,361,271.934
1. Salaries	2,103,073.742	2,012,070.442
2. Repairs	55,141.046	46,869.890
3. Rations	661,315.575	611,315.575
4. Uniforms	231,671.467	unchanged
5. Purchases of articles for men-of-war and for Naval Stations	557,933.868	446,347.095
6. Reviews	30,000.000	unchanged
7. Arms, Gunpowder, and Torpedoes	809,871.437	769,377.866
8. Building and Repairing Ships	615,645.000	554,080.500
9. Expenses for making water courses	51,257.275	unchanged

10. Medical Attendance	15,338.550	unchanged
11. Prisoners' Expenses	1,257.510	unchanged
12. Contingent Fund	83,462.991	unchanged
13. Office Expenses	192,853.870	154,283.096
14. Travelling Expenses	135,886.700	126,889.260
15. Miscellaneous Salaries	236,456.018	212,810.417
16. Secret Service Fund	10,000.000	unchanged
17. Indemnity	100.000	unchanged
18. Salaries to Foreigners	3,240.000	unchanged
Total	5,915,586.289	5,462,380.451
Reduction	453,205.838	

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

1.—The Department proper	139,900.192	111,423.153
1. Salaries	101,360.000	84,660.000
2. Repairs	1,800.000	unchanged
3. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000	2,000.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,552.000	4,273.600
5. Office Expenses	27,339.509	17,940.870
6. Students' Expenses	748.683	unchanged
7. Salaries to Foreigners	600.000	not allowed
2.—Courts of Law	3,495,420.433	2,861,363.941
1. Salaries	2,576,066.075	2,136,610.475
2. Repairs	57,575.000	37,021.500
3. Law Courts	94,673.456	84,265.294
4. Travelling Expenses	78,584.623	68,179.335
5. Miscellaneous Expenses	224,440.500	86,066.450
6. Office Expenses	455,326.779	340,469.287
7. Settled Expenses for Gun and Kocho Registry	4,314.000	unchanged
8. Secret Service Fund	4,440.000	unchanged
Total	3,635,320.625	2,972,787.194
Reduction	662,533.531	

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

1.—The Department proper	145,974.431	116,461.373
1. Salaries	87,049.005	63,529.006
2. Repairs	2,500.000	500.000
3. Travelling Expenses	6,000.000	4,309.140
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	9,244.000	6,274.000
5. Office Expenses	14,041.425	13,909.227
6. Students' Expenses	25,340.000	unchanged
7. International Surveying Institution	600.000	unchanged
2.—Earthquake Investigation Association	18,230.000	14,412.975
1. Salaries	1,080.000	900.000
2. Repairs	150.000	not allowed
3. Travelling Expenses	2,500.000	2,000.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,250.000	3,660.435
5. Office Expenses	10,250.000	7,852.540
3.—Schools and Libraries	845,801.141	597,942.123
1. Imperial University	414,440.286	334,729.251
2. High Normal School	35,151.000	unchanged
3. Female High Normal School	27,222.000	unchanged
4. High Commercial School	32,032.000	23,665.380
5. The First High Middle School	77,875.000	unchanged
6. The Second High Middle School	41,591.000	not allowed
7. The Third High Middle School	56,300.855	unchanged
8. The Fourth High Middle School	40,753.000	not allowed
9. The Fifth High Middle School	45,885.000	not allowed
10. Tokyo Technical School	34,883.000	25,673.420
11. Tokyo Fine Art School	17,800.000	14,568.330
12. Tokyo School of Music	11,622.000	10,246.500

13. Tokyo Blind and Dumb School	2,000.000	974.217
14. Tokyo Library	8,216.000	6,017.880
4.—Salaries to Directors of Normal Schools in <i>Asu</i> and <i>Ken</i>	35,970.000	31,270.000
Total	1,045,975.572	760,086.471
Reduction	285,889.101	

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

1.—The Department proper	310,966.127	228,534.304
1. Salaries	203,238.663	153,158.663
2. Repairs	3,466.540	2,482.000
3. Expenses for International Weights and Measures	1,496.560	unchanged
4. Travelling Expenses	22,259.190	17,807.190
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	23,389.755	15,162.755
6. Office Expenses	57,121.419	38,433.136
2.—Forestry Office	573,830.342	521,169.426
1. Salaries	292,018.750	246,674.750
2. Repairs	3,008.000	unchanged
3. Travelling Expenses	73,811.240	72,993.701
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	8,546.600	8,117.000
5. Office Expenses	60,697.752	54,627.976
6. Construction of Forests and Management of Timber	135,748.000	unchanged
3.—Offices for Superintending Mines	108,248.983	61,666.978
1. Salaries	50,800.000	35,440.000
2. Repairs	1,500.000	700.000
3. Travelling Expenses	19,749.509	9,874.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	5,802.637	3,535.930
5. Office Expenses	30,396.836	12,111.040
4.—Local Agricultural Examination Offices	35,169.030	29,639.550
1. Salaries	13,320.000	13,320.000
2. Repairs	900.000	unchanged
3. Travelling Expenses	2,948.610	unchanged
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,665.500	3,246.500
5. Office Expenses	13,934.920	9,224.440
5.—Aquatic Examination Offices	33,920.000	61,877.000
1. Salaries	6,660.000	300.000
2. Repairs	50.000	not allowed
3. Travelling Expenses	2,827.000	not allowed
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	4,903.000	32,860.000
5. Office Expenses	19,480.800	76.000
Total	1,062,134.484	874,924.258
Reduction	215,167.224	

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

1.—The Department proper	224,710.684	186,426.154
1. Salaries	147,826.334	126,974.334
2. Repairs	3,134.000	2,663.900
3. Travelling Expenses	23,740.135	17,805.101
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	19,972.087	16,951.564
5. Office Expenses	30,038.128	22,031.255
2.—Railway Bureau	23,638.874	18,572.137
1. Salaries	15,593.900	12,453.900
2. Repairs	914.000	776.900
3. Travelling Expenses	2,448.000	1,836.000
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	923.975	642.579
5. Office Expenses	2,759.000	1,862.758
6. Students' Expenses	1,000.000	unchanged
3.—Expense of Communications	5,487,503.722	4,697,059.110
1. Salaries	967,129.000	877,717.000
2. Repairs	15,178.703	12,902.898
3. Works of Communication	4,095,559.709	3,490,698.139
4. Travelling Expenses	104,812.900	78,917.275
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	75,434.901	64,776.666
6. Office Expenses	229,397.509	172,048.132
4.—Expense for Nautical Signals	134,637.490	98,013.720
1. Salaries	59,441.000	36,565.000
2. Repairs	631.000	567.000

3. Construction of Nautical Signals	48,375.240	38,918.007
4. Travelling Expenses	4,801.000	3,848.000
5. Miscellaneous Salaries	18,729.250	15,909.863
6. Office Expenses	2,661.000	2,205.850
5.—Marine School Expenses	38,830.500	32,605.644
1. Salaries	13,808.000	10,928.000
2. Repairs	531.280	451.588
3. Travelling Expenses	725.120	580.062
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	3,188.000	2,709.800
5. Office Expenses	6,582.100	5,339.760
6. Students' Expenses	13,996.000	12,596.400
6.—Tokyo Postal and Telegraph School	20,295.800	15,642.568
1. Salaries	9,264.000	6,308.000
2. Repairs	500.000	455.000
3. Travelling Expenses	198.000	158.400
4. Miscellaneous Salaries	1,157.550	983.918
5. Office Expenses	6,436.250	5,301.250
6. Students' Expenses	2,740.000	2,466.000
Total	5,929,617.071	5,048,319.333
Reduction	881,297.738	
Grand Total of Ordinary Expenditures	70,595,711.416	62,599,652.671
Total Reduction	7,996,058.745	

The Minister of State for Finance said:—

GENTLEMEN,—The reasons which call for the appropriations in the various items of the Budget of General Revenue and Expenditure for the 26th year of *Meiji*, and the financial policy underlying the whole, are fully set forth in the explanatory appendix and in the documentary demands of the various Departments, I presume, therefore, that you are in the main acquainted with them. But in looking at the amendments proposed by the Budget Committee, I find that very large reductions are made in certain items. The object of these reductions, as I understand from the explanation just offered by the Chairman of the Committee, is to economise Administrative expenditures. I need scarcely say that the Government is not opposed to the principle of economizing Administrative expenditures. Not only is it not opposed, but in the past it has endeavoured to effect such economies; it may now justly be said to be endeavouring to effect them; and it does not hesitate to declare emphatically that it will endeavour to effect them in the future, provided that too sudden or violent means be not adopted. But I am unable to think that reductions such as have been proposed by your Committee would be consistent with the harmonious working of the Administrative machinery, or would promote the welfare of the nation. The several Ministers of State and the Government Delegates will lay before you in detail the essential reasons with regard to each section of the Budget, so that it will be sufficient if I invite your attention to the general question. I presume that with reference to items falling within the purview of the 67th Article of the Constitution, you will seek the Government's consent at the proper time, in accordance with precedent. I beg you therefore to understand that I refrain from entering into detailed explanations except at the necessary time.

After a brief discussion the House went into Committee of the Whole.

A great number of questions were asked by the members and answered either by the Government Delegates or the Heads of Sections of the Committee. At 4 p.m. the House resumed its regular sitting.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported unfavourably to the Bill for amending the Tobacco Tax Regulations. The purpose of the Bill, as declared by the Government, was to increase the revenue with the object of providing funds for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, but the Committee saw no reason to increase the revenue by such means, inasmuch as the required funds could be obtained by reductions of the Administrative expenditure. Further, the import of foreign tobacco showed signs of increasing, and would be encouraged by adding to the burden on the home-grown leaf.

The House, without any discussion and by a

unanimous vote, threw out the Second Reading of the Bill.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, said the House was now asked for the first time to pronounce a special decision with regard to the propriety of accepting a petition, namely, the petition for amending the Land Tax Regulations.

Mr. Kato Katsuya strongly opposed the acceptance and forwarding of such a petition. It would be, in effect, a surrender of the legislative power vested in the House, since to present a petition to the Government would be tantamount to asking the Government to frame and introduce a Bill in the desired sense, whereas the House was competent to do so itself.

The House decided not to accept the petition. Mr. Suzuki Manjiro, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, explained that since the Confectionary Tax had been transferred from the Local Taxes to the National Taxes, its burden had increased so greatly that the number of confectioners had decreased by 30,000 or more, and the number of offenders against the Regulations had augmented correspondingly. Either the tax ought to be retransferred to the Local Taxes or adequately reduced. Hence the Committee recommended that the petition be accepted and forwarded.

After some discussion, the House agreed to accept and forward the Petition.

The House rose at 5.40 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.55 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Application for leave of absence.
- 2.—First Reading of the Bill, sent up from the Lower House.
- 3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 4.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending and putting into operation certain portions of the Commercial Code.

The President announced the receipt of

- A Bill relating to Game Regulations; presented by Mr. Tsurudono Tadayoshi and others.
- A Question relating to Official Interference in Elections; presented by Viscount Nabeshima Naoyoshi and others.

Mr. Kioura Keigo, Government Delegate, said that as full explanations of the Barristers Bill had been given in the preceding session by the then Minister of State for Justice and others, and were, moreover, contained in the documents accompanying the Bill, he need not enter into details. But as considerable amendments had been made in the Lower House, information should be furnished to the Special Committee with regard to each article.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The Bill relating to the Commercial Code was then taken.

Mr. Yamawaki Gen moved that the portions of the Code referred to in the Bill go into operation from April 1st, 1893.

Some discussion ensued, Mr. Murata Tamotsu contending that, in view of commercial custom, the 1st of July would be a more convenient date than the 1st of April.

The House rejected Mr. Yamawaki's amendment by 67 to 64, and voted in favour of July 1st 1893.

The Committee's amendments of the various articles were then discussed and voted in detail.

After the mid-day recess, Viscount Mutsudaira Nobumasa moved that the Special Committee be instructed to report by the 16th of January upon the Bills for amending the Press Regulations and the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations.

The President said that the opportunity for making such a motion had been lost.

Viscount Soga and Prince Konoye objected to this ruling, and urged that such a motion should be possible whenever the necessity for it occurred to the members.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu did not consider that the Bills were of sufficient importance to warrant a special instruction to the Committee.

Viscount Soga said that these Bills had hitherto been killed by neglect whenever they came to the House of Peers. He considered such a result creditable. Let the Bills be passed or thrown out, it would be better and more straight-

forward that the House should pronounce its verdict about them.

Viscount Ogasawara supported the motion. He thought Mr. Murata's attitude towards the Bills exceedingly strange.

Mr. Komatsu Yukimasa observed that the Bills had failed to come up for discussion last session owing to the shortness of the Session. But on this occasion there was ample time to deliberate. He saw no reason to hasten the Committee.

Viscount Mutsudaira's motion was put and lost.

The discussion of the Commercial Code was then resumed, the Committee's amendments being voted in every case.

On the motion of Mr. Miura Yasu, the Third Reading was taken at once and the Bill passed without opposition.

The House rose at 2.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of *Meiji*.
- 2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for making additions to the Capital of the Central Famine Relief Fund.
- 3.—Second Reading of the Bill relating to the Capital for the material of State Railways.
- 4.—Second Reading of the Bill relating to Railway Bonds.
- 5.—Representation for the Reform of the Navy.
- 6.—Representation for Despatching a Commission to inquire into the state of foreign industries.
- 7.—Bill (First Reading) for abolishing Banks of Deposit, presented by Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke.
- 8.—Bill (First Reading) relating to Taxation of the Bank of Japan; presented by Mr. Ishida Kannoosuke.
- 9.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan; presented by Mr. Ishida Kannoosuke.

The President announced the receipt of, A Bill for readjusting certain portions of Law No. 28, of the 2nd year of *Meiji*, introduced by Mr. Konishi Jinnoosuke.

Mr. Kono Hironaka, on behalf of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the Supplementary Budget for the current year.

ADDITION TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY

BUDGET FOR 1893.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

3. Subsidies towards Expenses of Public Works	3,811,755.940	—
17. Inundation Fund for Hyogo Prefecture	824,956.544	—
18. Inundation Fund for Okayama Prefecture	1,729,325.410	—
19. Inundation Fund for Tokushima Prefecture	1,123,497.924	—
20. Inundation Fund for Yamanashi Prefecture	52,225.517	—
21. Inundation Fund for Kochi Prefecture	81,750.545	—

A number of questions were asked and answered. On coming to discuss the Supplementary Budget,

Mr. Maruyama Meisei commented in very strong terms on the absence of both the Minister and Vice-Minister of State for Home Affairs. He did not oppose the granting of these sums in aid, but he considered that a distinct undertaking should be furnished by the Central Government of its intention to adopt ample measures of supervision. They had before them the example of Aichi and Gifu. No less than 3½ million *yen* of public money had been paid out of the Treasury to relieve the distress caused in those Prefectures by the great earthquake, but inquiries conducted on the spot showed that only half the money had been actually applied to purposes of relief, the rest having gone into the pockets of *goyo shonin* (officially patronized merchants), Prefects, and members of Standing Committees. Large works had been undertaken, but in no instance had the Local Assemblies been called upon to consider the method of procedure. It had been a case of robbery on a gigantic scale. In making the present grants, he thought that the House should obtain from Government explicit assurances of full supervision being exercised, and he deemed it most perfunctory on the part of the Minister and Vice-Minister of Home Affairs to be absent on the occasion of the appropriations coming up for discussion. Were they to regard this as

typical of the conduct of a Cabinet acknowledging no responsibility to the Diet?

Mr. Tanaka Shozo said that as these fellows (*i.e.* the official merchants, Prefects, and members of Standing Committees) had perpetrated murder and arson in the days of Viscount Shinagawa and Mr. Shirane, there was no reason to suppose that they would have stopped at robbery. But was the last speaker unable to trust the present Cabinet also?

Mr. Maruyama replied that what he wished was to have no recurrence of the doings which had taken place under the last Cabinet.

Mr. Fujita Magohai moved to excise the grant to Yamanashi Prefecture, as furnishing a bad precedent, the people of the Prefecture not having borne their due share of the loss.

The motion was rejected, and the whole Supplementary Budget was voted as submitted by the Government.

Mr. Ito Sukekata, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported adversely to the Bill for making Additions to the Central Famine Relief Fund. The Committee considered such additions unnecessary, being of the opinion that, in the event of any calamity calling for exceptionally large relief from the Treasury, the money could be obtained by convening a special session of the Diet. Moreover, the sum still remaining was sufficient, judging from past experience, for the needs of the next eight years.

The Second Reading of the Bill was rejected by a large majority.

The Second Reading of the Bill relating to Capital for the Purchase of State Railway Material was then taken, and voted clause by clause, the amendments of the Committee being accepted. The House voted to dispense with the Third Reading.

BILL RELATING TO CAPITAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF ARTICLES FOR PUBLIC RAILWAYS.

Art. I.—There shall be a Capital Fund for the purpose of purchasing articles required on state Railways for defraying the various expenses incurred in establishing traffic and for constructing new lines of state Railways. A special account shall be made to include these items.

Art. II.—The capital for the purchase of Articles for State Railways shall be 1,800,000 *yen* which shall be taken from the current capital of State Railways.

Art. III.—The expenses of manufacturing, remodelling, or repairing Articles purchased with the above fund shall be disbursed from the same fund.

Art. IV.—The selling price of articles purchased with the Capital for the purchase of Articles for State Railways shall be determined with due regard to ordinary wear and tear, to cost of manufacture, of remodelling and of repairing, as well as with regard to other sundry expenses incurred in purchasing such articles.

Art. V.—When there is any surplus of the Capital for the Purchase of Articles for State Railways, after the accounts are made up, such surplus shall be included in the ordinary revenue of that year.

Art. VI.—The Government shall prepare a special Budget of Revenue and Expenditure of Capital for the Purchase of Articles for State Railways annually, and shall present it with the Budget to the Imperial Diet.

Art. VII.—Regulations relating to accounts of receipts and disbursements of Capital for the Purchase of Articles for State Railways shall be specially determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. VIII.—The present law shall become operative from the 27th year of *Meiji*.

The Bill relating to Railway Bonds was then carried through its Second Reading, and the Third Reading was dispensed with.

BILL RELATING TO ACCOUNTS OF RAILWAY BONDS.

Art. I.—The revenue and expenditure relating to Railway Bonds issued under the provisions of the Law for the Railway Extension, promulgated as Law No. 4 in the 25th year of *Meiji*, shall be separated from the Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure, and entered in a special account.

Art. II.—It shall be lawful to pay in advance the price of articles purchased for the extension of State Railways constructed with the proceeds of Railway Bonds, such articles being purchased out of the Capital for the Purchase of Articles for State Railways.

Art. III.—The second article of the present Law shall become operative from the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894).

The Representation for the Reform of the Navy was then read.

REPRESENTATION ON REFORMS IN THE NAVY.

The Army and the Navy are equally essential in the system of national defence. The Army is nearly complete in its equipment, and there being no absolute necessity to increase it, attention must now be paid chiefly to its improvement and efficiency. Much, however, remains to be done in the improvement of arms and in the construction of forts. According to a plan evolved by the Authorities some time ago, the construction of seven forts and the mounting of guns on them were calculated to involve an outlay of nearly thirty million *yen* from the 25th fiscal year of *Meiji*. The erection of above twenty forts will, therefore, require an immense sum of money—a sum for the disbursement of which no resources are now visible. The construction of forts, consequently, can hardly be expected to be carried to completion in any short space of time. But even supposing that the work were completed at an enormous cost, the coast defence of the empire could not yet be considered satisfactory. Ours being a maritime country, Naval equipment is absolutely necessary for its safety. The strength of our Navy, however, scarcely exceeds fifty thousand tons in all. Seventy thousand tons have yet to be added even to bring up its strength to the Government standard which is a hundred and twenty thousand tons. It is stated that this deficiency cannot be supplied for less than 58½ million *yen*. Thus the simultaneous construction of both forts and war vessels requires an outlay entirely beyond the resources of the country. Moreover, their construction, as planned by the Government, will be far from completing the defence of the country. Indeed, we fail to perceive any fixity of purpose in the Government's proposed method of carrying out these works. The Government adopted the hand-to-mouth method of replacing old and decrepit war-ships by new, and sought the consent of the Diet. But the Diet, for weighty reasons, refused to give its consent. Now once more, in the Budget for the 26th fiscal year, the Government has asked the Diet to consent to a "continuing expenditure fund" of about 19,550,000 *yen* for the construction of new war-vessels aggregating 26,500 tons. This scheme, too, is open to be called temporizing. In completing the Naval armament, it is necessary to fix a permanent plan in conformity with a fundamental policy which shall be pursued in perfecting the general defence of the country. The Government, however, has hitherto repeatedly changed its policy with regard to the augmentation of the Navy, and there has been no fixity of purpose in its plans for the construction of war-vessels. Such vacillating conduct is the natural result of a generally unstable policy. Unless a policy is fixed once and for all, the mere construction of war-vessels will be of little avail for purposes of national defence. The general policy to be pursued by any country in the completion of its armament has to be determined with respect to its geographical position, its general condition, and its financial resources. When a general policy of national defence has been once decided upon, it will be easy to fix a permanent plan for the increase of the Navy. Now, in our opinion, the first requisite for completing the Empire's defence is neither to surround the country with a line of innumerable forts nor to construct a large number of war-vessels. Such undertakings are more than the national resources can bear. What is most urgently needed is not a large number of small and weak ships, but a few large and powerful ironclads. Let us consider the state of things in foreign countries. Occidental Powers vie with each other in increasing their naval armament, extending their commerce and navigation, and promoting emigration and colonization. Powers which have an interest in the Eastern Question are especially active in the increase of their naval forces, and the day is not far distant when the situation in this part of the world will be completely changed and when the safety of our own shores will be affected by the altered state of affairs. It is a matter of the most urgent importance for Japan to maintain equilibrium with foreign Powers by increasing her naval forces according to a plan which will be in harmony with her general condition and within the limits of her resources. If we increase our war-vessels to the aggregate strength of 150,000 tons, our Navy will be able to maintain its ground in the East. The present strength of our Navy being about 50,000 tons, it is necessary to add 100,000 tons. The effective strength of a Navy depends, however, not upon mere tonnage, but upon the nature and dimensions of the vessels composing it. The authorities ought to elaborate a plan for the construction of war-ships by taking the above mentioned circumstance into consideration, and ought to seek the Diet's consent by forming a mature project as to the sources from which the required funds may be obtained. The Diet has hitherto repeatedly withheld its consent from the

Government's appropriations for the construction of war-vessels, because the naval policy of the Government has had no fixity of purpose; because the Navy is a hot-bed of abuses; because the organization of the Navy is defective, and because the method of its administration is not worthy of confidence. If, however, the Government decides upon a definite and permanent policy; if it sweeps away all abuses from the Navy; if it economizes the expenditures in that Department; and if, in short, its Naval administration becomes worthy of confidence, the Diet will not refuse to give its consent to all necessary appropriations for the increase of the Navy. It is to be deeply regretted that the Government's failure to eradicate accumulated abuses in the Naval Department prevents the consummation of the much desired increase of the Navy. Reform of the Navy is thus one of the most important concerns for Japan. Hence the necessity for the present Representation. The principal points of reform are as follow:—

I.—THE NECESSITY OF SEPARATING THE COMMANDING AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCHES.

The commanding and the administrative branches of the Navy are in their nature entirely distinct. The former being invested with power of moving the Navy, ought to consist of combatant officers. The Naval Administration, on the other hand, has to do with the management of business. Any person though not a combatant officer can easily conduct the administration if he only possesses the required talent for business. Consequently, in most countries the Minister and Vice-Minister of the Navy are not necessarily trained sailors. These posts are mostly filled by civilians who are responsible to Parliament and who assume office or resign it together with the rest of the Ministry. The Minister of the Navy being charged with the management of the general political business of the Department, and with exercising control over the commissariat, accounts, and personal sections, it is not at all necessary that he should be an officer of naval or military training. The control and direction of Naval squadrons, on the other hand, must be assigned to officers of proper qualifications. The mixing of command and administration is the source of all evils. In order to separate the two from each other, it is necessary to establish in the Navy a Central Naval Command Office charged with matters relating to warfare, preparations for war, maritime defence, and so forth. The present Council of Admiralty must be replaced by a High Council of the Navy, composed of the Minister of the Navy, the Vice-Minister of the Navy, the Head of the Central Naval Command Office, and so forth. This Council should be charged with deliberating on matters that fall within the scope of both the Naval command and the Naval administration, such, for instance, as the construction of war-vessels. By this arrangement, the conflict between the various sections of the Navy will be avoided. There is at present a Central Staff Office in the Navy, but as it is under the authority of the Minister of the Navy, it has no independent power of command. It is, therefore, important to establish a Central Naval Command Office, which shall be placed under the direct control of His Majesty the Emperor, and which shall be presided over by an officer of proper qualifications. The backward condition of our Navy is to be principally ascribed to the abuses resulting from mixing up the Naval command and the Naval administration. It is essential that the one be separated from the other.

II.—NECESSITY OF DISCONTINUING THE PRACTICE OF APPOINTING NAVAL OFFICERS TO CIVIL POSTS IN THE DEPARTMENT PROPER.

According to the present organization of the Naval Department, civil posts are filled by naval officers. These officers being unaccustomed to civil affairs, their appointment to civil posts has caused delay in the despatch of business and has led to an increase of officials, for, being unfamiliar with the conduct of ordinary business, these officers are unable to discharge their duties without employing as their assistants a large number of civil clerks. Moreover, in proportion as these officers become accustomed to the transaction of business on shore, they inevitably lose their efficiency for duties at sea. Devotion to civil affairs has a tendency to injure the martial spirit of an officer, and the time spent by him among official documents would have been better employed in improving himself in the science of war. Again, naval officers have certain duties to perform at sea, and cannot long remain on shore to conduct civil business. The result is that frequent changes of personnel are necessary, and this circumstance seriously interferes with the despatch of business. Consequently, the civil posts in the Department proper must be opened to other persons than naval officers, and all administrative

business must be entrusted to civil functionaries. For instance, although it is proper that on board war-vessels accountant's business should be attended to by Paymasters possessing the same status as Lieutenants, it is not at all necessary that such officers should be appointed to take charge of account business on shore. In the latter case civil officials ought to be employed. According to the existing organization, the accounts in the Department proper are taken charge of by *Shukei Sōkan*, *Shukei Taikan*, *Shukei Shokan*, and so forth, who have the status of Rear-Admirals, Captains, Commanders, and so forth. Thus the Naval Department being entirely composed of officers, it has become a hot-bed of abuses which are not easily to be swept away. Hence the necessity of discontinuing the practice of appointing officers to civil posts in the Naval Department proper.

III.—LIMITING THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS ABOVE THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT.

In every country there are certain general rules as to the term of service for naval officers, in order to prevent their indiscriminate promotion and to secure their professional efficiency. In this country, too, there are terms of service for officers below the rank of Rear-Admiral. But when compared with the corresponding terms of service in England, our terms are too short. For instance, a second Lieutenant in England has to serve for about 39 years to become a Rear-Admiral, while in this country a space of only 23 years separates these two ranks. It is an unavoidable consequence of such a state of affairs that our officers are deficient in professional efficiency. Another result of the shortness of terms of service in our Navy, is that there will soon be a superfluity of high officers as Vice-Admirals, Rear-Admirals, and Captains. There is not much difference between our practice and that of England as to the age at which naval officers have to retire from the service, but, as already stated, there is a wide difference in the length of terms of service for officers of a particular rank. Moreover, there is in our country no limit as to the number of naval officers; and promotion being made by special selection, there are cases of officers promoted regardless of the specified term of service. These promotions are obtained in most cases, not by professional aptitude, but by clan interest. It is, therefore, important that, besides fixing terms of service, the number of officers in each rank should also be limited. In the case of great Naval Powers like England and France, the number of naval officers is proportionately large, but no comparison is possible between their circumstances and those of Japan. Examining the figures relating to the number of war-vessels and officers in some of the small Naval Powers, we find that in Holland there are 2 Vice-Admirals, 4 Rear-Admirals, and 26 Captains for 117 men-of-war; and in Germany 2 Vice-Admirals, 7 Rear-Admirals, and 31 Captains for 91 war vessels. Similar proportions between the numbers of war-vessels and officers are maintained in every other country. The number of war-vessels in Japan is 35, and nearly the same figure applies to the case of Sweden. But while there are in Sweden only 1 Vice-Admiral, 1 Rear-Admiral and 20 Captains, there are in this country 5 Vice-Admirals, 8 Rear-Admirals, and 45 Captains. Even when the number of our war vessels shall have been increased to sixty, it ought not to be necessary to provide more than 1 or 2 Vice-Admirals, 3 or 4 Rear-Admirals, and 20 or 25 Captains. As Japan aspires to become the greatest Naval Power in the East, it would not be proper to take for our models the smaller maritime Powers of Europe. But in order to attain our object of increasing the Navy, it is of paramount importance to reduce the number of officials and to curtail unnecessary expenditures. That in respect of the number of officers our Navy may be compared with the great Naval Powers of the West, may perhaps be ascribed to the circumstance that naval officers have been freely promoted for the purpose of maintaining equilibrium with the promotion of officers in the Army and of civil functionaries in the other Departments of State. But Naval officers are in their nature entirely different from, and cannot be compared with, the Government officials in other Departments. In short the present abnormal increase of Naval officers is the result of the abusive system of promotion from personal considerations. The increase of our Navy in the future will involve a proportionately large number of officers. Few only of the higher officers of the present day possess professional training, being surpassed in this respect by their younger and junior comrades in the service. Now in order to promote the younger and abler officers so as to increase the effective strength of the Navy, it will be necessary to dismiss the older and the less efficient, which measure will also tend to correct indiscriminate increase of the number of

officers. These considerations point to the necessity of limiting the number of officers above the rank of Lieutenant.

IV.—EDUCATION OF OFFICERS.

The two requisites in the education of naval officers are scientific knowledge and practical training. With regard to scientific knowledge, the system of optional attendance now pursued at the Naval University will have to be abandoned in favour of a system requiring every officer in the rank of First Lieutenant and Commander to pass a term in the Naval University during the intervals of their official duties. Encouragement should be given to those who have satisfactorily passed their course in the University, while those failing to do so ought to be denied promotion. The progress of naval science is so rapid that an officer who has exclusively devoted himself to the discharge of the practical duties of his office for seven or eight years, is sure to find himself very much behind the time in point of scientific equipment. Consequently it is highly important for officers in the ranks of First Lieutenant and Commander to enter the Naval University and supply their deficiencies in scientific attainments. With regard to those of the rank of Captain, it may be left optional with them whether or not to attend the University, but those of inferior rank must be compelled to do so, except in the case of 2nd Lieutenants, who, having just finished their course in the Naval College, ought to be well versed in the latest developments of naval science, and are consequently under the necessity of devoting themselves to the acquirement of practical training rather than to attending the courses in the University. As to practical training, it is important to cause the officers to make voyages on the high seas. Such voyages must, however, be limited to the sphere within which our Navy is likely to be called upon to test its strength. Our naval officers can reap great benefit in matters of practical training by making voyages to Vladivostok, Korean ports, Newchwang, Tientsin, Shanghai, Hongkong, French Annam, Singapore, the South Sea Islands, and Australian ports, and by taking observations of the geographical situation and general circumstances of these places. The effective strength of the Navy does not depend upon the number of war-vessels alone: it depends also in a large measure upon the professional training of the officers. Hence the necessity of educating Naval officers.

V.—AMENDMENT OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF NAVAL STATIONS.

In completing the Naval armament, consideration must be given, as already stated, to the country's geographical position as well as to its financial resources. The establishment of five Naval Stations (*Chinju-fu*) in Japan is probably in imitation of the French system. But it is a great mistake. In the case of France, her squadrons in the Mediterranean and in the British Channel are in time of war in danger of being separated by the British fleets stationed under the strong forts of Gibraltar. Moreover, French seamen are recruited for each fleet from particular districts. Owing these circumstances, France is divided into five naval districts, each under the jurisdiction of a particular Naval Station. In Germany's case, too, her fleets in the North Sea and the Baltic are separated from each other, and it is difficult to maintain communications between them in times of emergency. Germany, therefore, maintains two independent Naval Stations, one in the Baltic and the other in the North Sea. Thus, in the case of these countries, the system of Naval Stations has been determined by the necessities of their respective geographical situation. Japan is circumstanced very differently from the above mentioned countries. She is surrounded on all sides by sea, and communication between the different parts of the coast is quite free and unobstructed. Consequently, there is no necessity for parceling out the country into different Naval districts under different Naval Stations. Such a system only tends to divide and weaken the strength of our Navy. For in case of war each of these stations will have to be defended and the forces required for that task would be so much deducted from the aggressive strength of the Navy. Naval Stations are institutions charged with making preparations for war, defending Naval ports, keeping watch on the sea, and enlisting and training mariners. Another important function of Naval Stations is to construct and repair war vessels. It must be pronounced uneconomical to establish so many Naval Stations in Japan, where at present there are so few occasions for the construction and repair of war-vessels. A Naval Station's functions are not confined, indeed, to the construction and repair of war-ships: it has also to minister to preparations for war and so forth. But even taking this circumstance

into consideration, it must be acknowledged that the present number of our war-ships does not warrant the maintenance of so many Naval Stations. France possesses about three hundred men-of-war, and in her case it is necessary to distribute them among five Naval Stations. In our country, on the other hand, there are only a little over thirty war-vessels, and consequently it is a grievous mistake to imitate France and go to the great expense of establishing five Naval Stations. Any increase of the number of naval stations ought to go hand-in-hand with the growth of requirements for them as a consequence of augmenting the fleet and the marine establishment. Leaving the two Stations at Yokosuka and Kure, the one at Sasebo should be abolished, though the naval stores at the latter place may be left as heretofore. In the case of the Yokosuka and Kure Naval stations (*Chinju-fu*), their names should be changed into the 1st Naval Station and the 2nd Naval Station respectively. At the Kure and Sasebo Naval Stations, there is very little business to be transacted. Nevertheless, a large number of officers are kept there. In some instance functionaries are maintained who have no business to attend to. This is a result of indiscriminate adherence to the provisions of the Official Organization. In such cases, several bureaux and sections ought to be combined, or the same officers may be made to transact the business of different bureaux and sections. In the case of the Yokosuka Naval Station, the Commander of the Port may be at the same time appointed to the office of Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Stations. In the case of the Kure Naval Station, things may be simplified to a still greater extent by amalgamating sections and bureaux and by appointing the several offices at the same time. A special bureaux of stores ought to be established in the Naval Department proper, with a branch offices at each of the Naval Stations. Provisions and other commodities, which these branch offices are to supply to war-vessels, should be previously sent to them from the Central Bureau of Stores. Such a system will have the effect of unifying and expediting the conduct of financial business. In order to increase our Navy, it will be necessary, in the first place, to alter the system of the Naval Stations, so that the money saved by curtailing superfluous expenditures may be devoted to the construction of war-vessels. It is contrary to the due order of things and exceedingly injurious to the national economy to establish a large number of Naval Stations without first providing for the increase of the fleet. The object of the Naval Loan, amounting to 17 million yen, must have been the construction of war-vessels, but the money realized by this loan has been mostly consumed in the erection of buildings for Naval Stations and so forth. The money spent during the four years from 1886 to 1889, inclusive of the cost of building offices at the Kure and Sasebo Naval Stations, amounted to 2,405,000 yen; while the sums appropriated for continuing expenditures are as follow:—2,164,000 yen for the construction of a dock at Kure; 1,622,000 yen for the construction of a dock at Sasebo; 2,331,000 yen for the construction of arsenals at Kure. These different items aggregate 8,723,000 yen. Besides this total, a sum of 1,963,000 yen is to be appropriated from the 26th fiscal year as continuing expenditure for the docks at Kure and Sasebo. If the docks at Kure are to be capable of undertaking the construction and repair of war-vessels above 10,000 tons the works now going on there may be continued, provided a definite plan be adopted for the increase of the Navy. If, on the other hand, the docks are designed for the construction and repair of vessels of only a few thousand tons capacity, the works had better be suspended. As to the docks at Sasebo, the works should be entirely abandoned, since they have not yet been carried towards completion. The present number of war-vessels is only thirty-five, and there being three docks at Yokosuka, it would be possible, at the rate of one vessel per month, to repair thirty-six vessels during the year at that place alone. Should, however, the docks there prove insufficient, repairs may be made at the Naval docks of Onolima and Ishikawajima, or at the Nagasaki private dock. Besides these, one of the docks at Kure having been already completed, there will be no inconvenience in matters of repair, even if twenty or thirty war-vessels be added to the Navy. We are informed that the arsenal at Kure has been established for the purpose of manufacturing 24 centimetre guns for the Navy. But the Artillery Arsenal at Osaka is capable of turning out 24 centimetre guns for forts, and the Naval guns in question may be manufactured there if a sum of about 70,000 yen be spent for the purchase of machines and the erection of buildings. In the face of such facts, a great sum of 2,330,000 yen is wasted by establishing a special arsenal at

Kure. The amount actually spent up to the 25th fiscal year does not exceed 290,000 *yen*, but the remaining sum of 2,240,000 *yen* is to be spent from the 26th fiscal year. The works thus far completed at the arsenal at Kure, are confined to the preparation of the ground, and nothing has yet been done towards the erection of superstructures. We, therefore, consider it advisable to stop these works. Thus the money appropriated for the establishment of the Naval Stations has been in too many cases spent on unnecessary works. Not only have funds required for the construction of war-vessels been largely applied to the establishment of Naval Stations, but even the portion employed for the original purpose of building war-vessels has been disbursed in a manner far from economical. Our Naval appropriations have hitherto been employed, not for the increase of the effective strength of the Navy, but for the purpose of mere show and ornament, the consequence being general unthriftiness of financial management. Such has been the case most conspicuously with regard to the establishment of Naval Stations. Hence the necessity of modifying the system for Naval Stations,

V.—CREATION OF RESERVE SQUADRONS.

It is the general practice of maritime countries to create reserve squadrons for the purpose of prolonging the effective life of war-vessels and at the same time economizing ordinary expenditures. In England, out of 444 war-vessels, 225, that is to say, more than one-half, constitute the reserve squadrons. In France, 185 out of 295 war-vessels, namely almost two-thirds of the whole, are on the reserve. There are only 35 war-vessels in this country, but as there is little to be done in time of peace, 18 of them should be selected for the duties of active service, while the remaining 17 should be set apart as reserves. Not only has the system of reserve squadrons not been adopted in this country, but the maintenance of war-ships has been generally too costly. If more attention is paid to economy, it will be possible to introduce large reductions in the expenses required for the maintenance of ships on active service. By putting one-half of the present war-ships on the reserve, it will be possible to save about 500,000 *yen* annually out of the ordinary expenditures. Hence the necessity for creating reserve squadrons.

VII.—NECESSITY FOR EXERCISING MORE STRICT SUPERVISION OVER THE PURCHASE OF ARTICLES REQUIRED BY WAR-VESSELS.

The bulk of the expenses required by each squadron is devoted to the purchase of various commodities. Consequently the manner in which these purchases are supervised by proper functionaries seriously affects the naval economy. The commissariat functionaries in the Naval Department proper ought to examine the manner in which the ships of war are supplied with necessities, and the promotion of such officers as may have been guilty of waste should be stopped, rewards being given such as may have distinguished themselves by economy. In this way, it is believed possible to effect no inconsiderable amount of saving. There is no denying that the method at present pursued in supplying ships with necessities is very wasteful, through the negligence of the authorities who ought to exercise strict supervision. If the duty of supervision is properly conducted, it will go far to introduce economy. Hence the necessity for more strict supervision over the purchase of commodities for war-ships.

VIII.—ABOLITION OF THE MEDICAL AND THE PAYMASTERS' COLLEGES.

The Navy is provided with a special College for the education of medical officers. But a large number of students graduate in the Medical College of the Imperial University, and the medical staff of the Navy may be very easily recruited from these graduates. There is, therefore, no occasion to educate special students for service in the Navy. It may be urged that, failing a special Medical College for the Navy, there is danger of medical officers falling behind the scientific progress of the day. But the graduates of the Imperial University will have ample means of keeping touch with the progress of science by preserving their connection with their *alma mater*. The danger in question is greater in the case of officers educated in a special Medical College under the Naval Department. There is also a Special College for the education of Paymasters, but this institution is equally unnecessary, for Paymasters may be appointed from the graduates of schools where book-keeping is taught. There is no reason why the principles of mathematics or medicine should not be the same in the Naval Department as they are elsewhere. What is necessary is that candidates for the Naval posts under consideration should be accustomed to the rules and practices prevailing in the Navy. It is the height of economical shortsightedness to establish such educational institutions in the Navy. If the candidates

are at first employed as probationers under the supervision of proper officers, there will be no occasion to maintain special institutions for their training. Hence the necessity for abolishing the Medical and the Paymasters' Colleges in the Navy.

IX.—REDUCTION OF THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE NAVAL UNIVERSITY.

One of the steps most vital to the increase of the Navy is to elevate the standard of scientific attainments among naval officers. As many officers as possible should be made to attend the Naval University. But, in 1891, the number of such officers was only 28, while the expenditure of the University amounted in all to 54,944 *yen*. At the end of the same year, the number of instructors, business officials, and employes connected with the Naval University was almost ninety. Is it not astonishing that so many unnecessary functionaries should be employed at the University? If improvement has since been effected, it is, highly desirable that all superfluous officers should be dismissed and all unnecessary expenses curtailed, so that the funds may be truly devoted to the advancement of the professional attainments of naval officers. The scope of the institution should be enlarged and its expenses increased in proportion to the increasing number of officers attending its course. Moreover, the Presidentship of the Naval University need not be filled by a Vice-Admiral or a Rear-Admiral. A Captain or a Commander will be sufficient for the post, the corresponding position in the Military College being occupied by a Colonel. At present the Naval College is conducted on too large a scale, and its maintenance is too expensive. Hence the necessity for the reduction of its expenditure.

The points thus far enumerated represent only the general features of the reforms which ought to be introduced in the Navy. As to other defects in the administration of naval affairs, they are too numerous to be specified here. To sum up, the principal points dealt with in the present Representation may be reduced to the following:—

- 1.—The fixing of a definite policy for the defence of the country;
- 2.—The reform of the organization of the Navy; and
- 3.—The improvement of the financial system of the Navy.

If the authorities will only determine a fixed and permanent policy for the defence of the country, and adopt a proper scheme for the construction of war-vessels, there ought to be no difficulty in attaining the desired object. It will also be easy to inaugurate a new epoch in the history of our Navy, if the authorities only alter the organization of the Navy so as to correct the mistake of appointing combatant officers to civil posts and so as to extend due recognition to men of talent by sweeping away the abuses of personal preferment. If, again, improvements be applied in the financial system of the Navy and strict economy be introduced, it will be possible to effect a reduction of more than 1,000,000 *yen* in the field of ordinary expenditures, and a further reduction of over 4,000,000 *yen* in the continuing expenditures. The amounts thus saved may be applied to very useful purposes for the future increase of the Navy. If the Government will take decisive steps for the reform of the Navy along the lines indicated in the present Representation, if it will fix a definite policy for the Navy, and if it will elaborate a proper scheme for the increase of the Navy by finding due sources to supply the required funds, the Diet will not refuse to give its consent. It is matter for sincere regret that the increase of the Navy cannot be undertaken for the reason that reforms have not yet been introduced. The Government should at once approve the Representation and submit a fresh scheme of Naval development for the consent of the Diet before the end of the present session. The Diet has already twice rejected the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels, because the Government has failed to effect the reform of the Navy and to fix a definite and permanent policy for that branch. But the Government has again asked for a grant of more than 19 million *yen*, utterly regardless of the clearly expressed opinion of the Diet. It is simply a temporizing measure to increase the number of war-vessels, without either fixing the fundamental policy of the country's defences or carrying out the reforms of the Navy. Such a measure is ill calculated to promote the object of Naval augmentation.

Mr. Sugita Teiichi said that the reason why the House had been obliged to refuse the appropriations demanded by the Government for purposes of ship-building, ever since the second session, was that the organization of the Navy demanded reform and no fixed plan seemed to have been formed as to its development. If

the Government expected the House to grant money for such a purpose, it ought to take steps in the direction of placing the organization on a satisfactory footing and formulating some fixed policy. To come before them again with proposals for ship-building while the Navy remained just as it had always been, was to betray singular indifference to the views of the House. The Acting Minister President had told them, in the beginning of the Session, that the Navy ought to be increased. Everybody was agreed upon that point. But to make a mere general statement of the necessity without indicating the extent to which the proposed increase ought to be carried, though it might do very well for the speech of a student at a graduation ceremony, did not at all become a Minister of State's declaration of policy. They must assume that if the Government was not more explicit, the reason was to be sought in the uncertainty of the Cabinet's views. Since the 15th year of *Meiji*, the naval policy of the Government had changed four times, and since the opening of the Diet, it had undergone many more alterations. In the first session, the plan had been to devote a sum of over fifty million *yen* spread over a space of seven years in the form of continuing expenditure. In the second session, the idea had been a period of nine years; and in the fourth session, there had been yet another change, the tonnage spoken of being 87,800 tons. Doubtless naval schemes must alter more or less with the growth of scientific discovery, but so many changes in that short space of two years, reminded them of a turkey-cock's plumage or water-weeds tossed by the current. It was wholly out of the question to grant money for any ship-building scheme which formed part of such an unstable policy. Japan was a sea-girt country. If fortresses were to be trusted for purposes of national defence, their construction must be undertaken on a scale quite beyond the resources of the empire. A strong fleet was therefore essential. He believed that a fleet of 150,000 tons would be sufficient, as compared with the naval strength of other States. Unless the officials concerned arrived at some definite estimate and received the approval of the House, appropriations for ship-building must be withheld. He then summarized the principal reforms desired in the Navy, as set forth in the Representation. It must not be supposed that because they lacked confidence in the Government they opposed themselves to measures for national defence. There was no question of confidence or lack of confidence. Their belief was simply that to build ships before a proper system existed for utilizing them would be like putting a Masamune blade into the hands of a tyro. He did not pretend to have set forth all the abuses existing in the Naval Department, but for the moment he refrained from entering into details of a more or less secret character. If the occasion demanded it, he would not hesitate to speak. The head and front of all the reforms needed was to free the Navy from the dominating influence of the Satsuma Clan. If the Government would act upon the suggestions made, he and his Party were ready to grant ample funds for ship-building. The reform of the Navy had now become the question of the day, and he called upon the House to adopt the Representation by an overwhelming majority.

Vice-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister of State for the Navy, said that, though he did not desire to intrude upon the debate, it seemed advisable to say a few words about the reforms now actually in progress, and the course which the Government intended to pursue thenceforth. It went without saying that every effort should be made to increase the technical skill of officers and men. The efforts of the Admiralty were already directed towards that object. As for the accusation that the Government had frequently changed its naval policy, he did not claim that consistency had been possible. But, as pointed out by Viscount Kabayama on previous occasions, the Government had been constrained by the financial circumstances of the nation and

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by the progress of the times. Such modifications of procedure were unavoidable, and would be necessary, however definite the basis of the policy adopted. The Representation dwelt on the advisability of keeping the combative and non-combative branches separate, but in point of fact they were already divided, the officers and officials belonging to each branch being, as far as possible, assigned functions appropriate to their qualifications. The Navy actually consisted of three branches; the *personnel*, the store, and the financial. The first constituted the fighting force; the second had to do with machinery and stores; the third with the monetary business. It was erroneous to state that the organization was purely military. Equally mistaken was the assertion that no fixed establishment existed. A glance at the Navy List would dispel such a misconception. The advisability of promotion by regular routine of service was urged by the Representation, but to follow such a method explicitly was possible only in the lowest ranks. In the upper grades consideration must of necessity be given to merit. Promotion by merit, so far from facilitating favouritism, was in truth an obstacle to any exercise of partiality, especially as such questions had always to be decided by the Consultative Promotion Board (*Shinku Kaigi*) and were entirely beyond the sphere of the Minister of Marine's control. As to the education of officers, there was nothing to be said. He noticed that the case of the *Chishima Kan* had been adduced as evidence that the officers of the Navy were deficient in navigating skill. Nothing could be more unfair. The *Chishima Kan* was a small vessel of 750 tons, not designed for such a long voyage as that from France to Japan. She had, nevertheless, been successfully navigated over thousands of miles of ocean, and had, despite of many difficulties, arrived without accident to her crew in the Inland Sea of Japan when a misfortune occurred against which, if they might judge from the experience of other countries, no amount of skill could completely guard. To construe that misfortune into a proof of want of navigating skill was most extravagant criticism. Again, the Representation urged the abandonment of all Naval Stations except two. But the Station at Sasebo was absolutely indispensable for the defence of the Western part of the Empire. Its abandonment would be a grave and perilous error. Neither could they endorse the policy of entrusting the construction of the naval armament to the Osaka Arsenal only. The Osaka Arsenal could not undertake the work, even if it could be deemed a rational policy to rely entirely upon one place for the supply of the whole Navy's vital needs. He refrained from occupying the House by entering into further details.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo inquired how it happened that the experience of the Navy ought to be developing, losses of ships seemed to be growing more frequent.

The Vice-Minister answered that casualties at sea were beyond ordinary calculation. They depended upon causes which defied analysis. Assuredly no hard and fast inference as to the competence of the Navy's *personnel* could be drawn from such happenings.

Various questions were asked. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, referring to the statement of Mr. Sugita that he and his Party regarded 150,000 tons as the proper tonnage of the Navy, inquired what time and what expense would be involved in reaching that figure.

Mr. Sugita confessed that he had only spoken in round numbers. It would be for the Naval Authorities to prepare and submit the necessary estimates.

Mr. Inouye asked whether the House was to conclude that, while declaring the Naval Department to be under the sole control of the Satsuma clan, and while calling for its wholesale reform, the proposers of the Representation were nevertheless willing to entrust the duty of planning and carrying out the details of their programme to this same Department?

Mr. Sugita said that they should trust those whom they deemed worthy of trust. In answer to another member, he said that the construc-

tion of large powerful ships in preference to small was recommended in the Representation because that appeared to be the policy of all the great Western States. The figure of 150,000 tons as a total had been founded on comparison with the effective strength of other countries. Being asked whether he supposed it possible that the large changes recommended by the Representation could be planned in detail and embodied in a Bill for submission during the present session of the Diet, especially by officials who were supposed to be having been treading a different groove for so many years, he said that if the Representation were adopted, he saw no particular difficulty.

Mr. Ushiba Takuzo agreed with the Representation in same respects, but must vote against it for several reasons. Above all, he found a grave inconsistency between the professions of its proposers and the practice advocated by them. They urged the importance of increasing the Navy, but they obstructed all progress in that direction for the sake of pushing a programme which was, in effect, impossible. The Representation fixed 150,000 tons as the total to which the Navy must be raised. He presumed that if this increase were to be of any practical use, it must be effected within the course of ten or twelve years. Silver, however, the metal in which Japan reckoned her revenue, was steadily declining in its gold price, with the inevitable result that ships and guns purchased from gold-using countries must call for larger and larger outlays of silver. It was a fair estimate that to obtain the hundred thousand tons of shipping needed to bring the Navy to such a strength, they must be prepared to spend seventy or eighty million *yen*. In other words, they must provide for an outlay of about seven million *yen* annually during the next ten years. On the other hand, they were determined to have the Land Tax reduced and the Taxable Value of land reassessed; they talked of extending maritime facilities and protecting sericulture; and they had voted for the building of a number of railways. In brief, their various schemes, unless they were to be regarded as empty words, involved an expenditure of about twenty million *yen* annually. Where was the money to come from? He did not oppose, but on the contrary advocated, administrative economy. There were limits, however, to that source of saving. No one supposed that it could afford more than a small fraction of twenty million *yen*. Hence, they would find themselves confronted by the necessity of imposing new taxes or increasing the old. But their powers in either direction were limited so long as the Treaties remained unrevised, and moreover, he did not suppose that the House would apply itself to augmenting taxation in one direction for the sake of reducing it in another. This, then, was the issue: For the sake of ventilating an airy scheme which they had no ability to carry out, the growth of the Navy, on behalf of which they professed to be working, would be suspended altogether, and programmes which at any rate had the merit of being practical and practicable, would be rejected. He could never consent to vote for such a contradictory Representation. Further, the terms of the Representation seemed in excess of the proper functions of the House. It was the business of the Administration to determine a general line of policy, and submit to the Diet whatever schemes seemed necessary for carrying out that policy. The Diet, on its side, was competent to traverse the policy of the Administration and to make Representations advising modifications of its schemes. But the Representation now before them went far beyond anything of that kind. It dictated a new policy and a new scheme for carrying out that policy, and it called upon the Administration to adopt the former and elaborate the latter. Finally, the Representation required that these sweeping changes should be embodied in a Bill and submitted to the House during the present session. If the introducers and supporters of the document considered that grave affairs of State could be dealt with in that light-hearted and summary fashion he confessed

himself unable to agree with them. That reforms were needed, he did not deny. On the contrary, he strongly advocated reform, and since he regarded the country's Navy as the chief bulwark of her safety, he wished to have its organization and the management of its affairs as perfect as possible. But even if the Government, accepting the theories of reform now submitted to it, were to make them the basis of a practical programme and embody the latter in a Bill for submission to the House in the brief space of a couple of months, he should hold the Government plainly guilty of treating the vital interests of the State with unpardonable levity.

Mr. Kawashima Jun moved that the Representation be entrusted to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei moved that the discussion be continued, and that a decision be taken without reference to a Committee.

The House voted in favour of submitting the Representation to a Committee.

The President said that he desired to decline the duty of nominating the Committee. His reason was that the Committee nominated by him for the purposes of the Press Regulations Bill had been discredited. Were he assured that nothing of the kind need be apprehended hereafter, he would make the nomination.

The House vigorously signified its resolve to endorse the President's choice, and rose at 6.35 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.
- 2.—Representation relating to the establishment of a Steel Foundry.
- 3.—Petition relating to a change in Districts.
- 4.—Petition for abolishing the export Duty on Silk.
- 5.—Petition for laying a submarine cable to the Okinawa (Riukiu) Islands.
- 6.—Petition relating to the amalgamation of Districts.
- 7.—Petition relating to the control of the Shinano River.

The Order of the Day was changed for the purpose of immediately discussing the Supplementary Budget sent up from the Lower House. Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, President of the Budget Committee, undertook to present the Committee's report on the Supplementary Budget by the following noon. The House endorsed his proposal, and proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Viscount Okabe, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee recommended the rejection of the Bill for totally abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations, as unfortunately the state of the times necessitated the existence of such a law.

Viscount Soga inquired whether the Committee thought that parts of the Regulations might be rescinded and parts preserved.

Viscount Okabe replied that the Bill related to their total abolition, and that the Committee saw no course save to recommend its rejection. In answer to Mr. Ando Sokumei, who asked whether the Committee had considered the conflict between the Peace Preservation Regulations and the spirit of the Constitution as well as of existing laws, Viscount Watanabe repeated that in the Committee's opinion the times did not permit the abolition of the Regulations. The Committee had not come to any conclusion as to a conflict between the Regulations and the laws of the land.

Mr. Ando pressed his question, and referred it to the Government Delegate, adding an inquiry as to the reasons for enacting regulations on the disquieting basis of providing against insurrection, and the reasons for including a provision with regard to a radius of 3 *ri* from the Imperial Palace.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho replied that the Regulations were, in fact, designed to prevent disorder, and that the limit of 3 *ri* had been dictated by considerations of police convenience.

Prince Konoye failed to understand what had occupied the attention of the Special Committee during the week devoted by them to the compilation of their report. He moved that the Bill be referred to a new Committee.

Viscount Tani seconded the motion, as did also Viscount Seki and Mr. Ando Sokumei. The House rejected the motion.

Viscount Tani regretted that the motion had been lost. The replies given by the Chairman of the Committee had convinced him that the Bill did not receive due attention from that body. From the moment that the Constitution went into force, it had seemed to him that a body of regulations conflicting so flagrantly with its provisions — did the Peace Preservation Regulations, must of necessity and spontaneously cease to have binding force. Such did not appear to be the case, however. A Bill had therefore been introduced, and he extended to it his hearty support. He invited the House to examine Articles 24 and 76 of the Constitution. The former provided that no Japanese subject should be deprived of his right of being tried by the judges determined by law, the latter ordained that all legal enactments, of whatsoever kind, should continue in operation after the enforcement of the Constitution in so far as they did not conflict with its provisions. The Peace Preservation Regulations did indisputably deprive Japanese subjects of the right of being tried by lawful judges. Therefore they conflicted with the Constitution, and therefore their continuance in force was constructively denounced by the 76th Article. If the House voted to continue them in force, it would be distinctly voting to violate the Constitution. He reminded them of the disturbances that had taken place at the last general elections, and asked whether it was not possible to prevent such lamentable occurrences by some better means than the Peace Preservation Regulations.

Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro did not defend the Peace Preservation Regulations on general principles. He was as anxious as anyone to see them rescinded. But he held that the state of the times did not permit such a step. Viscount Tani, referring to a state of affairs which had certainly called for exceptional control, suggested that better means of preserving order might be found. Nothing was more desirable. Were such means forthcoming, he would at once vote to rescind these Regulations. But the House of Representatives had simply sent them a Bill for abolishing the Regulations *in toto*, without furnishing any substitute. That plan of procedure could not be approved. The carrying out of the Regulations was entrusted to the police. If the police did their duty judiciously in applying the Regulations, excellent results would certainly be achieved. If the police abused their authority, then indeed the Regulations might become an instrument of tyranny. But that there was need of some means to preserve order in the peculiar circumstances of the time, seemed beyond dispute. What means were proposed by way of alternative? Viscount Tani had vaguely alluded to some means, but had left them entirely in the dark. The House of Representatives had voted to dispense with the only means offering, and had provided nothing in their stead. For his part, so long as the conditions of the era called for exceptional measures, he should vote to maintain the measures actually available until, at any rate, some efficient and preferable substitute was forthcoming.

Mr. Ando Sokumei had been one of the small minority opposed to these Regulations ever since the day, five years ago, when they were submitted to the Senate. Their supporters asserted that the present state of political excitement and party agitation rendered it necessary to expel riotous characters from the capital. There were said to be some three hundred of such characters. What were three hundred unruly spirits, and what would be effected by their expulsion? It was like brushing away flies from a bowl of rice or throwing a stone among a school of fish. The insects and minnows might disperse for a moment, but would reassemble immediately afterwards. If there were question of expulsion, then the men to be expelled were the ringleaders and instigators of the disturbers of the peace. As for these Regulations, they should never stand on the

statute book under a constitutional government and representative institutions. They violated the Constitution. They conflicted with the laws of the land. They contained a provision providing, in so many words, for the security of the Imperial Palace and the Imperial Places of Sojourn. But there was not in the whole of Japan a single person who would think of raising his hand against the Emperor. The *Japan Mail* of Yokohama had criticised this provision as a national disgrace, and he could not but regret that a foreign journal had found it necessary to use such language. Was it possible that the House could reconcile itself to preserve Regulations containing such a clause. There had been flagrant examples of the abuses possible under the Regulations if they were carelessly enforced by the police.

Viscount Sakai asked whether Mr. Ando could give any details as to abuses caused by carelessness on the part of the police.

Mr. Ando replied that, on the occasion of the first enforcement of the Regulations in 1887, many innocent persons had been expelled from the capital by the police, but at this distance of time he was unable to give details.

Mr. Miura Yasu supported the Bill. The Ito Cabinet had declared that one of the chief objects was to bring the working of the Administrative machine into harmony with the Constitution. The Peace Preservation Regulations were in frank conflict with the Constitution. No one attempted to reconcile them with it. Therefore their continued operation under the Ito Cabinet was obviously inconsistent with the principles enunciated by that Cabinet. Even the supporters of the Regulations admitted that the results of their operation were good or evil according to the conduct of the officials applying them. Laws that depended for efficacy upon the volition of the agents carrying them out could not be tolerated under representative institutions. He made an eloquent appeal to the House to vindicate the supremacy of the constitution by sweeping from the statute book these humiliating Regulations.

The closure was put and carried, and the House, by a vote of 110 to 40, rejected the Second Reading of the Bill.

The House rose at 2 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—The Budget.
- 2.—Project of Law (First Reading) for the establishment of a Bourse; presented by the Government.
- 3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 4.—Representation relating to the despatch of Commissioners to examine into the state of industries abroad.
- 5.—Bill (First Reading) for abolishing Banks of Deposit.
- 6.—Bill (First Reading) for taxing the Bank of Japan.
- 7.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Question relating to Works of Repair on the Kiso River.
- A Question relating to the Government's Policy in Hokkaido.
- A Bill relating to the Domestic Brewing of Sake.
- A Bill for establishing a Silk Conditioning Warehouse.
- A Representation relating to the Bank of Japan.
- A Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Edible Seaweed.

The House voted against going into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of continuing the questions on the Budget.

Mr. Konishi-Jinnosuke asked permission to have the Order of the Day changed, for the purpose of bringing in an urgency motion to re-submit the Budget to the Committee. In the Committee's Report it was explained that the fees for shooting licenses, to be levied under the recently promulgated Game Regulations, had been excised, inasmuch as they were entered in the Revenue under the title of Administrative Fees and the Committee decided that they ought to come into the first section of the Revenue under the heading of taxes. But such a decision seemed to distinctly conflict with the Resolution passed by the House on the subject of the Game Regulations. The House had resolved that the Regulations, being unconstitutional, were without binding force from the outset. Yet the House was now invited to say that fees levied under the provisions of these invalid Regulations could be included in the Revenue columns of the Budget. Such procedure was obviously contradictory. If the Regulations

were inoperative, no fees could be levied under them, nor could they in any way become a source of State revenue. Hence he wished to move, as a point of urgency, that the Budget be re-committed to the Committee for more mature examination.

The motion failing to obtain the prescribed number of supporters, did not become a subject of debate.

Mr. Maki Bokushin asked why no declaration had been made by the Government Delegates with regard to the trespass of competence recommended by the Budget Committee's Report. There could be no question as to the fact of the trespass. The Report advised alterations of official salaries and reductions of the Administrative establishment. In short, it was compiled on lines precisely analogous to those adopted by the first Budget Committee in the first session of the Diet, and on that occasion very explicit declarations as to an excess of power had been made by the Government Delegates. What was to be understood by their silence on this occasion?

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, said that when the time came for the House to seek the Government's consent to reductions or rejections falling under the provisions of the 67th Article of the Constitution, the Government would not fail to announce its views. Meanwhile, the declaration officially made in the first session held good.

Mr. Maki Bokushin opposed the Committee's Report. He maintained that reductions of official salaries and of the Administrative establishment could not properly be made by means of the Budget. If the House advocated such reductions, it should present an Address to the Throne or a Representation to the Government. To proceed by means of the Budget was manifestly unconstitutional. He moved that the Budget be re-submitted to the Committee, with instructions not to disturb the salaries or establishment of officials.

Mr. Iwasaki Manjiro was surprised that the last speaker should endeavour to pledge the present Cabinet to the error enunciated by its predecessor. There was nothing whatever unconstitutional in the course proposed by the Committee. The House was not invited to pass any vote interfering with official salaries or the Administrative establishment. It merely formulated an opinion on these subjects and then sought the Government's leave to embody that opinion in a resolution relating to the Budget. If the Government's consent were withheld, the action of the House must be suspended. Whether the Government introduced reforms in deference to a Representation or an Address, or whether it agreed that reforms suggested by the House be rendered operative by means of the Budget, the Constitution's provisions were equally complied with. The present Cabinet had indeed declared its inability to agree to the sweeping alterations proposed by the Committee, but had not said one word as to the unconstitutionality of the course contemplated. Turning to the general question of official salaries, he thought it must be universally agreed that the rates in Japan were too high. Whence the standard had been obtained he could not tell, but assuredly it was a standard quite out of proportion to the general scale of living in Japan. That scale might be reasonably assessed at about 5 *yen* per month, whereas in England, France and other Western countries, the scale was three or four times as high. Yet in Japan, a Minister of State drew a salary of 6,000 *yen* annually, against seven or eight thousand paid to Ministers. That reductions were called for needed no demonstration. The majority in the House of Representatives thought so, and the House of Peers had embodied the same view in a Representation. The Committee's Report contemplated a total reduction of 2,140,000 *yen* in salaries; the Peers spoke of four millions as a reasonable figure. The same considerations applied to travelling expenses and other allowances. For his own part, he was inclined to criticize the smallness rather than the excess of the projected retrenchment. The Government, indeed, called it too drastic, but he wished to

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remind the House that the total reduction proposed in the Ordinary Budget exceeded by only 610,000 *yen* the reduction agreed to by the Government itself in the first session. The present Cabinet had declared its intention of working on constitutional lines, and had laid much stress on the importance of establishing harmony between rulers and ruled. The opportunity had now come to put these excellent principles to the test. The country unquestionably desired retrenchment. Would not the Government frankly accept and give effect to the country's verdict in accordance with the true spirit of representative institutions? It did not redound to the credit of either the House or the Government that the Budget should fail to come into existence. But the representatives of the people were bound to abide by the mandate of their constituencies. If they failed once to assert the people's wishes, they must only try again and again. There could be no abandonment of their plain duty. He ventured to hope that the Government would see its way to a harmonious and happy agreement with the House's wishes.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, pointed out that no inference must be drawn as to the Government's future attitude from its silence up to the present. It was entitled to choose its own occasion for speaking. He also reminded the House that to base estimates of official salaries on the precedents of foreign countries might prove embarrassing. The President of America, who represented the head of the Government, received sixty-three thousand dollars annually.

Mr. Sasaki Shozo, though not opposed to all the Committee's amendments, was unable to vote for the Report in view of the fact that it recommended a course obviously in excess of the House's lawful competence. He moved that the Budget be re-submitted to the Committee with instructions not to disturb the portions which the Constitution excluded from the direct action of the House. In this way only could they avoid the difficulty as to the Government's refusing to grant its consent.

Several members supported Mr. Sasaki's motion.

Mr. Saito Keiji opposed the motion. He denied that the Constitution contained anything to bind the hands of the House, and thought that there was more necessity for Mr. Sasaki to re-consider his allegations than for the Committee to re-examine the Budget.

Mr. Motoda Hajime strongly supported the motion. There would be no such things as Imperial Prerogatives were the Budget employed as a means of trespassing upon domains expressly reserved by the Constitution for the control of the Sovereign. The claim that the salaries of officials could be reduced by the instrumentality of the Budget meant that the Courts of Law might be abolished by the same means. It was impossible to reconcile such procedure with the Constitution. Whatever subtleties of argument were employed, the plain fact was that the Constitution reserved to the Emperor the power of fixing official emoluments, whereas the House was now endeavouring to fix them according to its own views. No hesitation was shown. They had even dealt with the Privy Council, cutting down by nearly one half the salaries of officials who discharged the high duty of advising the Sovereign. Mr. Iwasaki had quoted the procedure of the House of Peers by way of justification. But if any deduction were to be drawn from that procedure, it was that the Peers had acted constitutionally while the Representatives were violating the Constitution; for whereas the former had limited themselves to embodying their views in a Representation, the latter were seeking to enforce their opinion through the instrumentality of the Budget.

The motion was rejected by the House. Mr. Nakano Buyei supported the Committee's Report. He pointed out that the reductions recommended were as follow, namely, in the section of salaries, 2,225,000 *yen* in round numbers; in that of office expenses, 477,500 *yen*; in that of travelling expenses, 85,500 *yen*; in that of miscellaneous salaries, 188,000 *yen*; and in that of expenses for repairs, 45,000 *yen*. It

could not be honestly asserted that these were excessive reductions, and if the Government declined to endorse them, its professions of a desire to restore harmony between rulers and ruled must count for nothing.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro was much disappointed by the speech of Mr. Nakano Buyei. Among the many able and brilliant exponents of the Popular Party's policy, he had found no tougher or more inveterate opponent since the opening of the Diet than this same Mr. Nakano. Yet now, when he had hoped to hear a string of powerful arguments, there had been nothing forthcoming except an arithmetical catalogue of the various reductions made by the Committee, and a plea for their acceptance because they were so small. Comparing the reductions made this year by the Budget Committee with the reductions made in the first and second sessions, the spirit shown on this occasion had certainly been one of moderation. On the other hand, the Government also had made plain efforts to reduce Administrative expenditures. Thus both sides showed a disposition to come together, which was matter for sincere rejoicing. The House had just discussed the question of the propriety of making the Budget an instrument for interfering with official salaries. He should not go over that ground again. But he reminded them emphatically that it would have to be traversed once more. For, as the Minister of State for Finance had told them, they would have to seek the Government's consent at the appointed moment, and then their competence to follow such lines would again become the problem of the hour. The total reduction proposed, which would come under the provisions of Article 67 of the Constitution, was 2,764,000 *yen*. They knew very well that the Government would never agree to this. It could only agree to it by utterly abandoning its administrative policy. Mr. Nakano claimed that the object of these reductions was to lighten the people's burdens and to develop their resources. Everybody endorsed these excellent objects. But the Committee recommended the excision of 3½ million *yen* demanded for purposes of Naval augmentation. Most assuredly that step was not in accord with the nation's wishes. Their own Representation, now under consideration, placed that point beyond all reach of doubt. They talked much of the people's burdens and resources, but they had the monopoly of purpose in such matters. The Matsukata Cabinet had proposed the transfer of prison expenditures to the charge of the Treasury. The Ito Cabinet had proposed reassessment of the taxable value of land. These measures, plainly directed to relieve the burdens and develop the resources of the people, showed what the Government's sentiments were. As for the so-called Popular Party, its members put up Mr. Sugita Teichi to propose a Representation which should serve as an excuse for refusing to grant any appropriations for the increase of the Navy. It was mere lip service to talk of consulting the people's welfare, and at the same time to run counter to the people's wishes. As for the reductions proposed, Mr. Iwasaki claimed that the method of striking off a percentage had not been followed. But Mr. Nakano had told them what percentage of salaries, what percentage of office expenses, and so forth had been reduced. Mr. Kono Hironaka, also, when introducing the Committee's Report, had explained that since the Government had consented to a reduction of 13 per cent. in the Supplementary Budget for 1892, it might be expected to make no difficulty about a reduction of 7 per cent. in the General Budget for 1893. It was perfectly plain that a system of percentages had been followed without any regard to the merits of each case. He could never accept such a method of retrenchment. They, however, proceeded stoutly with their reductions, crying out that they wished to diminish the Land Tax and reassess the Taxable Value of Land, which things were mere pretexts for throwing dust into the eyes of silly folks. He did not oppose all the recommendations of the Committee; on the contrary, many of them seemed worthy of support.

But the general system followed was indefensible. They claimed to be desirous of harmony between the Legislature and the Administration. The Government declared itself desirous of harmony. But their present procedure meant that they would abandon to the Government the credit of having sought to compass harmony, and would saddle themselves with the responsibility of have conspired to prevent it. He did not urge them to enter into negotiations with the Government, or to re-examine the Budget. But he reminded them that while the Government's avowed policy was one of harmony they, on their side, made a fixed habit of perpetually maintaining an attitude of hostility. For his own part he found much more to applaud in the policy of the Government than in the practice of the Opposition. The Ito Cabinet had been in office only some three months. Yet the Opposition asserted that it should already have removed the abuse of clan influence; should already have settled all questions connected with official interference in elections; should already have introduced radical reforms into the Navy. Such demands were contrary to all reason, and could never be endorsed by rational men.

The President announced that the general discussion of the Committee's Report was now concluded, and that the sections should be taken in detail the following day.

Count Goto briefly explained the general necessity for establishing a Bourse, and said that the Bill submitted to the House had been framed in accordance with the views of the various Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire.

Several questions were asked by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku and answered by Count Goto.

The Bill was finally entrusted to a special Committee chosen by the Sections.

The House rose at 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 11 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Representation relating to the establishment of an Iron Foundry.
- 2.—Petition to a Change of District in Tochigi Prefecture.
- 3.—Petition for the Abolition of Export Duty upon Cotton Yarns.
- 4.—Petition for laying a Submarine Cable to the Okinawa Islands.
- 5.—Petition relating to Amalgamation and Division of Districts in Kagoshima Prefecture.
- 6.—Petition relating to the control of the Shinano River.
- 7.—Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji.

The Representation relating to the establishment of an Iron Foundry was read as follows:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IRON FOUNDRY.

This House recognized the necessity of establishing a Steel Foundry for military and industrial purposes, but inasmuch as the Government's investigations into the subject were not thorough, we, last session, presented a Representation requesting the authorities to appoint a number of commissioners to inquire into the accessibility of raw material and into the best method of establishing a steel-foundry. The Government adopted the Representation, and a number of Commissioners having been appointed in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, investigations were undertaken and completed. Our inquiries into the result of these investigations have elicited the information that 15,600,000 tons of iron can be obtained from the mines at Kamaishi, Sennin, and Akadami alone, and that there are numerous other iron mines in the empire. Further, the ores of the above mentioned mines having been treated and steel manufactured from them, it was found to be of excellent quality, not inferior to the imported article. Notwithstanding such a satisfactory result, the Government has not sought any appropriation from the Diet for the establishment of a steel foundry, but has simply demanded a sum of 24,000 *yen* for continuing the investigation. The reasons assigned for this course do not establish any necessity for further inquiry prior to establishing the foundry. We therefore deem it more advisable to determine first that the foundry shall be established, and subsequently to vote any expenditure that may be required for farther investigation. At present, railways are about to be extended and domestic industries are developing rapidly. These will create a great demand for manufactured iron and steel. At such a time, if the establishment of an iron foundry be unnecessarily delayed, great disadvantages must result both to the defences and to the economy of the nation. In the absence of any valid reason, we must consider it a mistake that the Govern-

ment has not included an appropriation for the establishment of an Iron Foundry in the Budget. We therefore trust that the Government will apply for such an appropriation in a Supplementary Budget during the present session.

Presented by Viscount NAITO MASATOMO
Supported by Prince NIJO MOTOMIRO and 102 others.

Viscount Naito explained that he had been a member of the Committee originally appointed to investigate the question of a Steel Foundry, and that the Committee had actually assured itself of the existence of a supply of iron aggregating 15,600,000 tons at Kamaishi, Sennin, and Akatani alone, not to speak of other places. He spoke at considerable length, the gist of his argument being that there was now ample evidence of the feasibility of manufacturing steel in Japan from material obtained in the country, and that instead of delaying the establishment of a Foundry until fuller investigations could be made, the plan best adapted to the interests of the State was to establish the Foundry at once, and proceed subsequently with whatever further investigations might be required.

Mr. Ando Sokumei supported the Representation. He dwelt upon the unwisdom of depending, in these troublous times, on foreign countries for supplies of steel to build men-of-war, he pointed also to the case of the Tokyo Water Works, in connection with which so much commotion had been excited because means of manufacturing the pipes did not exist in Japan.

The House adopted the Resolution.

The Supplementary Budget for the 25th year of Meiji was next taken. Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the appropriations, and said that the Committee had assured themselves of the incapacity of the Prefectures in question to make head, without State aid, against the disastrous inundations that had visited them. The total sum asked for was 3,811,750.94 yen, and the Committee recommended that it be granted in its entirety as voted by the House of Representatives.

Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, recommended the Budget for favourable consideration, and entered into details, similar to those given in the Lower House, as to the aggregate losses of life and property caused by the inundations.

The House passed the Budget without any comment or question.

The Petition relating to a change of District in Tochigi Prefecture was then adopted, after a brief explanation from the acting chairman of the Petitions Committee.

Mr. Matsuoka Koki, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, explained that numerous petitions had been received on the subject of abolishing the export duty on Cotton Yarns, but the Committee had decided to present to the House this petition from Mr. Tamura Rihichi, of Kitakogamachi, Surugadai, in the Kanda District of Tokyo, and others, as containing the clearest exposition of the arguments on the side of the petitioners. The manufacture of cotton yarns was making great strides in Japan. During the latter half of 1888, the total manufacture had been only 20,680 bales, but in 1891 it rose to 151,215 bales. Taking the price of a bale at 70 yen, the present export duty of 5 per cent. meant an impost of 3.50 yen per bale. There could be no doubt that the removal of this duty would greatly facilitate the access of the yarns to foreign markets.

The House accepted the Petition.

The remaining Petitions were also accepted, and the House rose at 2.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—The Budget for 1893-94.
- 2.—Bill (First Reading) for postponing the operation of the Bank and the Deposit Bank Regulation.
- 3.—Representation for the despatch of a Commission to inquire into the State of Foreign Industries.
- 4.—Bill (First Reading) for abolishing the Deposit Bank Regulations.
- 5.—Bill (First Reading) for taxing the Bank of Japan.
- 6.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan.
- 7.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Mining Regulations.
- 8.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 4 of the 22nd year of Meiji.
- 9.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Question relating to the continuance in office of police officials who had been guilty of lawlessly killing and wounding Japanese subjects; presented by Mr. Tanaka Shuzo and others.
- Representations relating to the amendment of the Regulations for Middle Schools, and the Regulations for Upper Middle Schools.
- A Bill for amending the Mining Regulations.

The House then proceeded to discuss the Budget, the section of the Department of Foreign Affairs being taken first.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said that as the Minister of State for Finance would, in due time, address the House with reference to the items falling within the purview of the 67th Article of the Constitution, he should refrain from commenting on that part of the Expenditures of the Foreign Department. It was necessary, however, to say a word on the subject of Travelling Expenses and Salaries. The former item referred in part to the cost of travelling in Europe, and America, but it referred also to journeying in China and Korea, where the circumstances were not open to any question. The proposed reduction under this heading would therefore cause much practical inconvenience. As to Miscellaneous Salaries, they included the pay of printers and compositors whose services were absolutely essential to the work of the Department. The figures of the Committee, in this case also, would entail great difficulty if adopted.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, representing the section of the Budget Committee charged with reporting on the Foreign Department, said that the House would observe that considerable reductions were recommended in the first part of the Foreign Office section, namely, the Department Proper. The reason of the recommendation was that the work accomplished by the Department was not proportionate to the money spent. For example, twenty years had been devoted to Treaty Revision, but it was not yet accomplished, and Japanese jurisdiction was still unexercisable within the Foreign Settlements. Again, the power of taxing foreigners was not restricted by Treaty, yet the Foreign Office did not exercise it. With the exception of a small impost upon foreign patent medicines and the tax now proposed on alcohol, the power might as well be non-existent. Similar instances might be adduced without number. The Foreign Office had yielded one point after another, until Japan's rights could scarcely be asserted at all. To such a Foreign Office it was out of the question to allot a sum so much in excess of the work accomplished as 131,000 yen would be, and the Committee, influenced by these considerations, had reduced the appropriation to 101,000 yen, in round numbers. Had the Committee been desirous of embarrassing the Foreign Office, they might have effected much larger reductions, but as their object was only to spur the officials of the Department to a keener sense of their duties, reductions had been very moderate. As for the item of travelling expenses it had been reduced by the amount demanded for sending persons to Korea. The Committee saw no reason to send any one thither. There were plenty of Japanese in Korea who could do everything required. The fact was that these journeys were undertaken simply as pleasant summer trips and because money for them was forthcoming. No one was sent to China or Hawaii. Under the heading of Miscellaneous Salaries they had cut out the item for wages of printers to print secret documents. The only documents in question were the *Gai-koku Iho* (Foreign Reports), and these might just as well be public. In fact, it was proposed to ask the House to rule that they should be public. The secrecy observed was quite excessive, and did not at all conduce to the development of Japanese intelligence in matters of foreign intercourse. In the Section of Legations and Consulates, very trifling reductions had been made. The salaries of Ministers and Consuls not actually serving had been excised, as also had the pay of such officials in places where they were not wanted. The travelling expenses of the wives of diplomats and Consuls had also been eliminated, except in the

cases of Consuls-General and Ministers. It seemed as though the Foreign Office exercised no discrimination whatever in its choice of Ministers and Consuls. The men sent abroad were, in many instances, disgraces to Japan. The Foreign Office had often chosen men who had been convicted of treason, as though the object was to rehabilitate their reputations; for example, Messrs. Mutsu, Otori, and Venomoto. Such procedure was distinctly objectionable. They had reduced the Secret Service Allowance, because it seemed excessive, and they had eliminated the item of Consulates in Korea because they did not consider Consuls necessary in a country to which a Minister was accredited.

Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said that apparently Mr. Ozaki had made the Budget an opportunity for attacking the Foreign Office. His remarks in that sense did not call for reply. With regard, however, to the choice of diplomats and Consuls, the Department selected the men who seemed best fitted for their various posts. Mr. Ozaki, referring to travelling expenses, had asked why persons were not sent to China and Hawaii as well as to Korea. The answer was simple. They were sent.

Mr. Sasaki Zemyemon was entirely opposed to the Budget Committee's Report. Mr. Ozaki had stated that the Foreign Office had effected nothing in 20 years. That was simply because Mr. Ozaki did not know what the Foreign Office had done. He might mention, for example, the recent fact that foreigners had been placed on the same footing as Japanese with regard to the pursuit of game. Mr. Ozaki objected to the Foreign Office's choice of diplomatic officials. The Foreign Office had chosen the late President of their own House. Did Mr. Ozaki object to that? He was totally opposed to the Committee's amendments.

The House voted the Committee's amendments in the whole of the first chapter of the Foreign Office.

On coming to the second chapter, Mr. Iwakawa Saburobei made inquiries about the Consul *de carrière* in Lyons and the Honorary Consul in Milan. He wished to know whether these officials received allowances for postage and telegrams, and whether heavy losses had not been caused by their negligence with regard to the silk trade.

Mr. Hayashi said that they received such allowances, but that as to their efficiency or otherwise, he could not immediately reply. The Foreign Department considered them efficient.

Mr. Otsubo Rishin said that these amendments of the Committee having been prompted by the *Fiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*, their adoption from first to last was a foregone conclusion. There was consequently no occasion to call for show after show of hands, item after item. Better vote *en bloc* and be done with it.

The President declined to treat the Budget in such a manner unless the House instructed him to do so.

The second chapter was passed, item by item, in the form recommended by the Budget Committee.

Mr. Watanabe, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, explained in detail that the reduction recommended in that Department would entail very great difficulty and embarrassment.

Mr. Saito Keiji observed that the item for Repairs had been reduced by only 36 yen. Yet the Government Delegate spoke of this as a large reduction. How much embarrassment would it cause?

Mr. Watanabe:—"Very great embarrassment."

The House voted the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd chapters as amended by the Committee.

On coming to the 4th chapter (Superintendence of Public Works), Mr. Furuichi Kintake, Government Delegate, protested strongly against the proposed reductions. The Committee claimed to have treated the salaries of technical experts with liberality, yet while reducing the appropriations for salaries in the Department proper by 26.7 per cent., it had reduced the

salaries in the section of Superintendence of Public Works by 31.3 per cent. He pointed out the great practical inconvenience of these and other reductions recommended, and reminded the House that whereas the appropriations for this office had been 200,000 yen six years ago, they were now only 124,000 yen. The Government, in fact, was doing everything possible to reduce them, yet the House was not satisfied.

After a brief discussion, the items in this chapter also were voted as amended by the Committee.

On coming to the item "Metropolitan Police Bureau," Mr. Haseba Tanko complained of the conduct of the Police. He alleged that a close friend of his, Mr. Abe Mitsugi, who was employed in the office of the *Kokumin Shimbu*, who behaved in a perfectly correct manner and had never sought pecuniary aid from any one, had been driven out of Tokyo under the provisions of the Premonition Law, enforced the day previously. He wished to know why this step had been taken.

The Government Delegate considered that such a question should be put according to the prescribed forms and not in connection with the discussion of the Budget. An excited controversy ensued, Mr. Haseba moving that the debate of the Budget be postponed until his question was answered. Mr. Inonye Kakugoro reminded the House that the Premonition Law had been put into operation on the responsibility of a Minister of State. Yet they were now insisting on having their questions about it answered by a Vice-Minister. A few days ago they had objected to a Vice-Minister's replying to a question about the *Chishima Kan*, and to-day they were taking precisely the opposite course.

The House rejected Mr. Haseba's motion.

The President trusted that the Government Delegates would thenceforth make every effort to give full and speedy answers, so as to expedite the business of the House.

Mr. Kitagaki, Chief of the Hokkaido Administration, spoke at length against the Committee's amendments in the Hokkaido Section.

Mr. Kurata Jungoro claimed that the appropriations in this section had been treated with exceptional leniency.

The whole of the items in the Department of Home Affairs were voted as amended by the Committee.

The Bill for postponing the operation of the Bank Regulations and the Deposit Bank Regulation, issued as Laws No. 72 and 73 respectively, in the 23rd year of Meiji, until the portions of the Commercial Code connected with those Regulations should go into force, was then read, and at the request of the Government Delegate, the House agreed to dispense with a Special Committee, and to dispose of the Bill in one reading, inasmuch as the date (1st January, 1892), originally fixed for the operation of the Regulations, was close at hand.

Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke moved an amendment that the Deposit Bank Regulations be rescinded, on the ground that the existence of such Banks, while affording no special facilities, would have the injurious effect of concentrating the people's money in the three great cities only.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, urged the inconvenience of raising this question now. It could be discussed afterwards. The urgent business of the moment was to postpone the operation of the Regulations.

The House passed the Bill.

The Representation for a commission to Foreign Countries was then read:—

REPRESENTATION RELATING TO THE DESPATCH OF COMMISSIONERS TO INQUIRE INTO THE STATE OF FOREIGN INDUSTRIES.

Believing that, if a certain number of industrial experts be selected and sent to the Great Columbian Exhibition which is to be opened next year, for the purpose of examining the actual condition of foreign industries, results of great benefit will accrue to the industries of the empire, while the expense incurred would be small, this House hopes that the Government will agree with the above proposition, and will, without loss of time, present

to the Imperial Diet a Supplementary Budget providing for the necessary expenditure.

Presented by
TAKECHI YASUKANE.
SHIMADA SABURO.
NAKAMURA YAKOKU.
WATANABE KOKI.
KANMRAU TOMOTUNE.

Supported by
FUJITA TAKAYUKI, and 22 others.

Mr. Shimada Saburo spoke at length in support of the Representation, urging that such an opportunity as the Chicago Exhibition was not likely to offer again for many years. He considered that the Commission should consist of 12 or 13 persons, including an interpreter, and that its expenses should not be more than 300,000 yen.

Various trivial questions were asked and answered.

After a brief discussion the Representation was rejected.

The House rose at 5.50 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RECENT "KIRMISS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Thanks to the Press and a generous public, the result of the "Mother Goose Kirmiss" held at the Public Hall, on the 14th inst., enabled the King's Daughters to add \$225 to the fund for a free bed for women and children at the Foreign Hospital, besides reserving a small sum as working capital.

Yours faithfully,

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

December 19th, 1892.

THE GORMAN FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Having met with so much kindness from the gentlemen of the press, excuse me for trespassing still farther by asking you to insert in your paper, on behalf of my children, a few words of heart-felt thanks to the whole community of Yokohama for the great kindness and generosity to us. I read in your journal an account of the meeting held at the Chamber of Commerce, and have been told indirectly of what has been done, and in my children's name I most deeply thank every one for their great, great kindness. I also thank most sincerely the warm-hearted ladies of the community who have individually helped in so many kindly ways, and whose kindness it is impossible to repay by thanks.

From a widow's and mother's most grateful heart, I thank everyone in Yokohama.

Believe me, yours sincerely,

SOPHY GORMAN.

61, Settlement, Yokohama,
December 20th, 1892.

"LITTLE TODDLEKINS" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

A combination of the musical and dramatic talent of the Settlement gave on Tuesday one of the best entertainments that has taken place within the walls of the Public Hall for a considerable period. The programme consisted of six numbers of vocal and instrumental music, and after an interval of ten minutes, wound up with the well-known farce "Little Toddlekins." The first item of Part I. was the overture to "Der Freischütz," by Mesdames Klobukowski and Bayne, and Misses Orth and Meier, very nicely rendered on two capital grand pianos kindly lent by Messrs. Montrie, Robinson & Co., and deservedly applauded. Two *morceaux* by Terschak for flute and piano, followed, and being executed with much taste by Mrs. Bayne and Mr. de Michaux, were heartily acknowledged. No. 3 brought on Mons. Launay, who sang "Le Pardon de Pignerol" (Meyerbeer), and "Il fait bien noir, Mademoiselle" (Maquis). The latter being eminently suited to Mr. Launay's powers and style, went very well, and the audience tried hard to bring him on again, but he only returned to acknowledge the encore. No. 4 was a pretty sonata of Handel's very tastefully played by Mr. Rausch, accompanied by Mr. Griffin, and No. 5, the gem of the programme, was sung by Miss Gibbens, who was in capital voice, in her most charming manner, the audience persisting in prolonged applause with a view to a repetition, but the lady only reappear-

ed to acknowledge the warm compliment. No. 6, a quartette of Mozart's in G minor for strings and piano, by Messrs. Rausch, Ramseger, Crane, and Griffin, which was warmly received, closed the first part.

"Little Toddlekins," as was fully expected, went briskly from beginning to end, Mr. Bayne, as *Brownsmith*, being a host in himself, *Baynaby Babbicome* was capitally suited to Mr. Read, and Mr. Showler was fully equal to the part of *Captain Littlepop*. The acting and make-up of Mrs. Martin as *Amanthis*, was extremely good, Mrs. Stone was an acceptable *Annie Babbicome*, and Mrs. Read a charming *Susan*. The house was well filled.

EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOURS.

A private view was given on Thursday at the Public Hall of a fine collection of water-colours—and a few oils—by Mr. Smedley. With two or three exceptions the pictures are Japanese subjects, most of which are readily recognised and many of them are familiar scenes. With such delightful subjects as the scenery and blossoms of Japan the true artist can scarcely fail to score, and Mr. Smedley is to be congratulated alike upon the extended variety of his selections as well as the execution of his pictures. Many of the scenes depicted were sketched from nature when the maple and lotus, the cherry and wistaria, were at the height of their splendour, and there are two studies, No. 60 (Peonies), and No. 27 (Chrysanthemums), in which the colours glow with a living reality. Fuji, of course is a prominent figure, and appears partly clad in a variety of atmospheric characteristics—in mist and cloud, sunshine and snow—delicately treated from Dzushi, from Gotemba, from Otome-togé, and various other points of vantage, and always with delightful effect. Japanese temple architecture is largely drawn upon, and forms the subject of many of the best sketches in the collection, the neutral tints in several instances being delightfully delicate and restful. The sea has furnished one or two excellent examples both of drawing and colour, conspicuous among which are "Fishing Boats—Mississippi Bay" (27), and "Fisherman's Huts—Dzushi" (35). Of figure subjects there are several, and though these do not generally lend themselves so readily to the fine effect of colours as do landscape and blossoms, there is one (No. 10) "Japanese Girl serving Saké," in which the colouring is deliciously dainty and out of the common, while the pose of the figure is exceedingly graceful. Of strong colouring, No. 7, "Maples at Taki-no-gawa, Oji," is a brilliant example, as are also No. 2, "Wistaria—Kameido," No. 24, "Cherry Blossoms at Ikegami," and No. 8, "Cherry Tree and Tea-house near Miyanosita." Two highly finished and striking pictures are Nos. 15 and 17, "Bush Scenes in Australia." These were sent by Mr. Smedley to the exhibition of the Society of Arts of New South Wales, on the Council of which he served for several years.

The collection, which will be open to the public to-day and to-morrow, should be visited as early as possible, as the room in which the pictures are hung is not entirely satisfactory as regards the matter of light, especially at this time of the year. The community owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Smedley for the opportunity afforded of viewing so choice a collection of sketches, a pleasure which, we trust, will be repeated by the exhibition of the work of the Yokohama Sketching Club in the Spring. Following is a catalogue of the pictures, which are on view from ten till six o'clock:—

1. The Tomb of Iyeyasu, Nikko, the founder of the Tokugawa dynasty.
2. Wistaria, Temple of Temmangu, Kameido, Tokyo.
3. The Shrine Wakamiya dedicated to the son of the God of War, Kamakura.
4. Fuji from Gotemba (winter evening).
5. Fuji from Dzushi (winter evening).
6. The Lotus pond at the Temple of Hachiman, Kamakura.
7. Maples at the Taki-no-gawa, Oji, Autumn.
8. Cherry Tree and Tea House near Miyanosita.
9. Village of Dogashima near Miyanosita.
10. Japanese girl serving Saké.
11. The great Buddhist Temple Tensoji, Asakusa Kwanon, Tokyo, dedicated to the Goddess of Mercy.
12. Japanese Flower Seller.
13. Mausoleum Temple of Iemitsu, 3rd Shogun of the Tokugawa régime.
14. River Scene near Yokohama.
15. Bush Scenery, Illawarra, N. S. Wales, Australia.
16. The Golden Temple, Uyeno, Tokyo.
17. An Australian Settler's Clearing, Illawarra, N. S. Wales, Australia.
18. Temple and Ground, Nikko. Courtyard of the Temple of Iyeyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa dynasty.

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19. Japanese Cake Seller.
20. Japanese Corn Field, Bokenji.
21. Gateway to Temple, Shiba, Tokyo.
22. Japanese Acrobat.
23. Japanese Girl.
24. Cherry Blossoms, Temple grounds at Ikegami.
25. Maples at Oji (Autumn).
26. The tomb of Will Adams, a native of Gillingham in Kent, and his wife, who resided in Japan A.D. 1600. Gokosaka.
27. Fishing boats. Mississippi Bay.
28. Cherry Blossoms and Fête at Asuka-Yama, Oji (Spring).
29. Lake Chusenji near Nikko (morning).
30. Japanese Pepper Seller.
31. Japanese Girl.
32. Fuji from Gotemba (evening, winter).
33. The Island of Enoshima.
34. Fishermen's Huts, Dzushi.
35. Tea House, Enoshima.
36. Study: Group of Chrysanthemums.
37. Study: Cherry Blossoms.
38. Enoshima.
39. Bridge at Negishi near Yokohama.
40. Fuji from Gotemba (winter morning).
41. Temple of Keisanji, Fomioka.
42. Japanese Woodcock.
43. The Stone Bridge, Taiko Bashi—entrance to Kamakura Temple grounds.
44. Japanese Junk, Mississippi Bay.
45. Entrance Jute Temple at Ikegami.
46. Fujiyama from Otome-toge Pass (Autumn).
47. Temple of Hachiman, the God of War, Kamakura.
48. Entrance to Sydney Harbour, N. S. Wales.
49. Temple of Kusatsu, Fomioka.
50. Mandarin Ducks.
51. Old gate to Goshiki, Yedo.
52. Dancing Sweet Seller, Japan.
53. Japanese Dancing Girls.
54. The High Priest at Sugita.
55. The Great Gate at the Shiba Temples.
56. Gateway to the Temple of Iemitsu, Nikko.
57. Interior of the Great Temple of Hommonji, celebrated as the place where the Buddhist saint, Nichiren, died A.D. 1282, Ikegami.
58. The Canal Negishi.
59. Study Japanese Peonies.
60. The Gateway and grounds of the temple of Hachiman, Kamakura.
61. The Old Shinabara Theatre, Tokyo.
62. Stream and Bridge, Miyashita.
63. The Shrine, Shira-tata-juya, dedicated to Yoritomo Kamakura.
64. Interior of the great Temple of Hommonji, celebrated as the place where the Buddhist Saint Nichiren, died A.D. 1282, Ikegami.
65. Old street, Enoshima.
66. The Monastery, Honmoku.
67. Mississippi Bay.

SERIOUS FIRES IN OSAKA.

Osaka, Tuesday, 8 p.m.

A terrible disaster, which recalls the catastrophe caused by the earthquake of last year to the Naniwa Mill at Densho, has occurred to the Osaka Boseki Kaisha's mills at Sangenya, Osaka, which were destroyed by fire early this morning with a terrible loss of human life. The Osaka Boseki Kaisha has three mills at Sangenya, two of which have been completely gutted, while the third, erected comparatively recently, has escaped injury with the exception of some slight damage by fire and water to the engine-house.

Of the two mills destroyed, one was a building of three stories and the other of one storey, and between them they had about 26,600 mule-spindles and preparation supplied by Messrs. Platt Brothers. As is well known, Japanese cotton mills work continuously, there being two shifts, one for night and the other for day. About a quarter-past four this morning fire broke out in the top floor of the three-storied building, caused, it is believed, by friction engendered by a mule tin roller, which set fire to some woodwork near by, and spread with alarming rapidity. A stampede was at once made to the door, and it is said that in the mad rush for life the stair-cases became jammed and many of the unfortunate people were crushed to death before the flames reached them. So quickly did the fire spread that the walls began to collapse before those working in the lower stories knew what had happened, and many of these were killed by falling beams and bricks while endeavouring to escape.

Fire brigades were promptly on the scene, but were wholly unable to cope with a fire of such magnitude. In an incredibly short time the first building was a heap of ruins, and the adjoining mill, a one-storied building, was next attacked by the flames and completely gutted in its turn. The efforts of the firemen were successful, however, in saving the remaining building, with the exception of the engine-house, which, as already stated, is slightly damaged.

The dwellings of the workmen were not so

fortunate. These are separated from the mill by a small stream, and though they were distant about sixty yards from the building where the fire broke out, the devouring element, fanned by a strong wind, swept across the intervening space and destroyed thirty-five houses before the brigades could get control over it.

It is estimated that between one hundred and one hundred and twenty persons lost their lives in this conflagration, while many others have been injured. The fire was extinguished between eight and nine this morning, and all day long the search for the bodies has proceeded. Up to six o'clock this evening some eighty bodies had been recovered from the ruins, and it is believed that the bodies of the twenty or thirty others who are missing have been calcined by the fierce heat of the flames and will not be discovered.

The Osaka Boseki Kaisha, of which Mr. Matsumoto is president, is the largest cotton-spinning company in Osaka, having in its three mills at Sangenya some 60,000 spindles. How the disaster is likely to affect the company is not known, or whether the building is insured, but we hear that projects of rebuilding are already being discussed, and that before many months are over work is likely to be again in full swing, under, it is to be hoped, improved conditions regarding the safety of the work people.

Osaka, like Kobe, seems to be suffering from a serious number of fires. Besides the destruction of the Sangenya mill yesterday morning, a serious fire is reported to have occurred on the previous day which resulted in the loss of five lives. It broke out in the house of Takimoto Usaburo, a dealer in baskets, at No. 51, Satsumabari, Minami-dori, and, fanned by the strong wind blowing at the time, spread with alarming rapidity, destroying eleven dwelling-houses before it could be extinguished. So quickly did the fire take hold of the building where it originated that a man and four children who were in the second storey of the house had no time to escape and were burnt to death before assistance could reach them.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 17th.

Admiral Fairfax will be tried by Court-martial for the loss of Her Majesty's ship *Howe*.

In the Panama Canal prosecutions, no warrant for or against M. Ferdinand de Lesseps will be issued, owing to his age and the weak state of his health.

London, December 19th.

The Cabinet is discussing the draft of the Home Rule Bill.

The Court of Queen's Bench has dismissed the petition for the compulsory winding up of the affairs of the New Oriental Bank Corporation.

London, December 21st.

M. Guichard, Vice-President, has replaced M. Ferdinand de Lesseps in the Presidency of the Suez Canal. It has been agreed to prosecute all the Senators and Deputies proved to have been connected with the Panama Canal scandal.

[“SPECIAL” TELEGRAM TO “JAPAN MAIL.”]

Kobe, December 20th.

Fire broke out this morning at 4 a.m. in the Sangenya Cotton Mill, and two out of the three buildings of the factory have been destroyed. It is stated that a hundred persons have been killed and wounded.

(FROM THE “SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.”)

London, 1st December.

Major-General Sir George S. White, K.C.B., V.C., has been appointed Commander-in-Chief in India.

The British Government are despatching a special Commissary with an escort to Uganda to report upon the present position of the country.

London, December 3rd.

The report of the approaching betrothal of H.R.H. the Duke of York with Princess May of Teck is again revived and remains undenied.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 48.

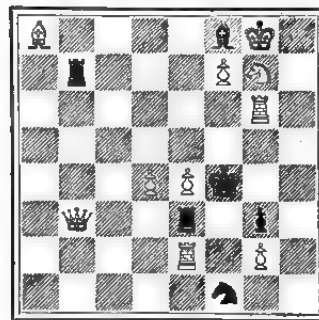
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to B 4	1—B x P
2—Kt to K 4 mate	if Kt x P
2—Kt to Kt 3 mate	if Kt x P at Q 4.
2—R x Kt mate	if Kt to Q 3
2—R to Q B 7 mate	if Kt to Q 5
2—B to K 7 mate	if B to Kt 5
2—Q to B 7 mate	if P x P
2—Q x P mate	if P to Kt 3
2—Q x B mate	if any other move.
2—P to Kt 6 dis. ch. mate	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.D., Scacchi, O. Balk, Ed. B., Omega, J.W.E., and G.S.

Correct solutions of No. 47 also received from Ed. B., and J.W.E.

J.W.E. will oblige by sending his solutions of the President's Competition Problems direct to the President.

PROBLEM No. 50. BY W. T. PIERCE. BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The Tournament in the Yokohama Chess Club seems to drag a little, some of the tardy players not having completed their heats in the first round, while the more earnest members are ready for the third round. It is to be hoped that, when the Christmas feasting is over, all will settle down to work in good earnest.

The recent journals do not give much news about Chess matters in England. The many Clubs there were all actively opening their winter sessions and Blackburne *move suo* was delighting his many admirers by numerous examples of his unrivalled skill as a player *sans voir*.

The "Sicilian defence" which used to be the great stand-by of our fathers (Staunton speaks of it as the very best answer to the first move of P to K 4) seems to be falling into disrepute in these latter days. The veteran Bird is said to be the only player of any note who now believes in its invincibility. We append a game in the late Belfast Tourney (with notes from the *Illustrated London News*) showing how he handled this defence in a contest with James Mason:—

GAME PLAYED IN THE MASTERS' TOURNAMENT BETWEEN MESSRS. MASON AND BIRD.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White (Mr. Mason)	Black (Mr. Bird)
1—P to K 4th	1—P to Q B 4th
2—Kt to Q B 3rd	2—Kt to Q B 3rd
3—P to Q 4th	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—P to Q 3rd
5—Kt to Q B 3rd	5—B to Q 2nd
6—Kt takes Kt	

Black's Bishop now comes to a very strong position, which proved fatal in the end to White.

7—B to Q 3rd	6—B takes Kt
8—Castles	7—P to K 3rd
9—P to B 4th	8—P to K Kt 3rd
10—P to B 5th	9—P to K R 4th
	10—Kt P takes P

White's attack seemed promising, but Black, who plays the whole game with excellent judgment, goes only so far in response as to open the K Kt file for his own attacking purposes.

Original from

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

- 11—P takes P
12—K to R sq.
13—P takes P
14—Q to K 2nd
15—B to K 4th
16—B to K 5th
17—B takes Kt
18—B to B 5th (ch.)
19—P to Q Kt 3rd
- 11—Q to Kt 3rd (ch.)
12—Castles
13—P takes P
14—P to K 4th
15—Kt to K 2nd
16—P to Q 4th
17—B takes K
18—K to Kt sq.
19—P to Q Kt 3rd

Apparently fearing the loss of this Pawn, and also the attack Black would obtain by B to Q 3rd if Q takes P (ch.)

- 20—Kt to R 4th
21—P to B 4th
22—P takes P
23—P to Kt 3rd
24—Q R to B sq.
25—K to Kt sq.
- 19—P to K 5th
20—Q to K 2nd
21—Q to K 4th
22—B to Q 3rd
23—B takes P
24—P to K 6th (dis. ch.)
25—Q R to Kt sq.

Obviously intending R takes P (ch.) which would win at once.

- 26—R to K B 3rd
27—Q takes B
- 26—B takes R
27—R to K K sq.

This is one of the few important tourney games in which the Sicilian Defence has recently proved successful. Mr. Bird's play is as accurate and vigorous as ever, Mr. Mason being scarcely at his best. We may point out that Mr. Mason only lost one game to Mr. Bird in this contest.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 2 (BY J. P. TAYLOR) IN PRESIDENT'S PROBLEM COMPETITION.

- White.
1—Q to B 8
2—Kt mates at B 2.
- Black.
1—K to Q 8
2—Kt to K 7
3—P on Q 7 "Queens" (ch.)
4—P on Kt 7 "Queens"
5—Same P becomes a K
6—Any move of Kt or B
- 2—Kt to B 3 (double ch. and mate).
2—Kt to Q 3 (double ch. and mate).
2—Kt to B 2 (dis. ch. and mate).
2—Q mates at K sq.
2—Kt to K 3 (dis. ch. and mate).

Correct solutions received from G.S., Shogi, Ed. Batavus, O. Balk, W.H.S., Omega, J.D., H. L. Faidel, and Omicron.

What the solvers say:—"Very good problem, but key-move somewhat obvious;" "difficult as well as beautiful;" "elegant but obvious;" "excellent;" "good enough, but not so neat as No. 1;" "difficult and very pretty;" "less difficult than No. 1, but more brilliant."

J.W.E. is credited with a correct solution of No. 1.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. V. K.	Friday, Dec. 23rd.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Dec. 26th.
From America, per O. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 31st.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 25th.
From Hongkong, per O. & O. Co.		Monday, Dec. 26th.
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed' day, Dec. 28th.
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Jan. 1st.
From Hongkong, per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Jan. 5th.

† Empress of China left Vancouver on December 15th. ‡ Belgica left San Francisco on December 15th. § Melbourne (with French mail) left Shanghai on December 20th. ¶ Galia (with English mail) left Hongkong on December 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 24th.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 27th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. V. K. Wed' day, Dec. 28th.
For America..... per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 29th.
For Europe via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd. Friday, Dec. 30th.
For Europe via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co. Sunday, Jan. 1st.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Jan. 6th.
For America..... per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Jan. 10th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co. Thursday, Jan. 12th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 17th December,—Yokkaichi 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R.

Searle, 17th December,—San Francisco 26th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tippet, 18th December,—Kobe 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 18th December,—Kobe 17th December, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tai Yuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 18th December,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Farra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 18th December,—Yokosuka 18th December, Light.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 19th December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 19th December,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 19th December,—Nagasaki 15th December, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Malwa, British steamer, C. F. Preston, 19th December,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 19th December,—Yokkaichi 18th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Katsuragi Kan (?), Japanese composite-sloop, Captain Mochida, 20th December,—Shinagawa 20th December.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 20th December,—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 1,567, Bailey, 20th December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 550, S. Tsuge, 20th December,—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 20th December,—Otaru via ports 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 21st December,—Honolulu 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 21st December,—Mojito, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 21st December,—Yokkaichi 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 22nd December,—Kobe 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 22nd December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 22nd December,—Yokkaichi 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 22nd December,—Kobe 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 23rd December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 6th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 23rd December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 23rd December,—Yokkaichi 22nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, S. Tsuga, 24th December,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Shinadzu, 17th December,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, R. Pender, 17th December,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 17th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 18th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 18th December,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 18th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 19th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 19th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 19th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Farra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 20th December,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 20th December,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,822, Ferguson, 20th December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 20th December,—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Moray, British steamer, 1,511, Crouch, 20th December,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tippet, 20th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 20th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tai Yuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 21st December,—Australia via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 21st December,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Hokumaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 678, Oka Kinjiro, 21st December,—Shinagawa, Light.—Hakodate Steamship Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Ekstrand, 21st December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 21st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 21st December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bobro (5), Russian gunboat, Captain A. R. Boyle, 22nd December,—Kobe.

Coreets (7), Russian gunboat, Captain Fulisoff, 22nd December,—Kobe.

Dimitri Donskoi (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Alessen, 22nd December,—Kobe.

Vitias (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Zarine, 22nd December,—Kobe.

Mino Maru, Japanese steamer, 555, S. Tsuge, 22nd December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Sakai, 22nd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Barstow, 23rd December,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd December,—Mojito, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Matsumoto, 23rd December,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Arai, 23rd December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi—15 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. F. W. Hopps, Jun., Mr. Leonard Elger, Rev. Warren Hastings, Miss Edna Saunders, Mr. F. F. Chretien, Mr. C. H. Hinton, Mr. H. E. Grepe, and Miss M. Snodgrass in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. M. A. Wheeler, Miss A. Ashley, and Miss W. Moore in cabin; 406 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—3 passengers in cabin; 22 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malwa*, from London via ports:—Miss Mair, Miss Casati, Miss Vikers and maid, Miss Scobell, Assistant-Surgeon Geo. Rothganger, Mr. R. de B. Layard, Captain Browne, Messrs. E. W. Brown, E. G. Potts, W. Throckmorton, P. Manton, and D. A. S. Duncan in cabin; Miss Willing (Miss Scobell's maid), Messrs. Roxburgh, Abdool Cader, J. Lime, W. Bown, W. H. Thomas, B. Allihon, A. Gee, and Silva in second class, and Messrs. W. Ashworth, M. Clancy, J. Stevenson, H. Paddick, and 3 Lascars in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. S. Wada, K. Uyemura, and M. Yamaguchi in cabin; 10 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from

Honolulu:—Consul and Mrs. T. Masaki and 2 daughters, Messrs. T. Nukuni, S. Hayakawa, M. Kawata, and N. Akisu in cabin; Messrs. G. Turner, T. G. Eylon-Walker, K. Furukawa, and Miss Kobayashi in second class, and 231 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe;—Mr. M. Yamada in second class and 26 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. Feann and 2 children, Mrs. M. C. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, Messrs. J. E. Raymond, E. F. Leeds, C. C. Paine, Percival Lowell, Fred. Maugel, J. W. Stockbridge, and Mrs. H. E. Breons and daughter in cabin. For Hongkong: Miss A. B. Hartwell, Miss Zet Burn, Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Prewitt and 3 children, Mr. Chan Pak Kwi, and Mr. J. B. Paylor in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Oppenheimer, Mr. Von der Steyer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sarsteiner, Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Bliss, Mr. Ch. E. Bliss, Miss Hone Bliss, Miss Ada Tobey, Mr. and Mrs. Boalt, Mr. Hardy Inniss, and Mr. Jourdiere in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mrs. F. L. Coombs, Miss Coombs and governess, Mr. E. H. Barnes, Master Beal, Mr. R. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Belshaw, Mrs. F. A. Cassidy and 3 children, Mr. W. A. Dibble, Mr. Frederick Freinestein, Miss Funk, Mr. I. Gee, Mr. F. Grunwald, Rev. and Mrs. C. S. Medhurst and 2 children, Mrs. W. L. Meriman and 2 children, Mrs. M. M. Miller, Mr. W. W. Miller, Mrs. J. P. Parker and infant, Mr. and Mrs. C. Parsons, Mr. M. Perolafsky, Dr. Rothganger, U.S.N., Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Saunby and 2 children, Mr. T. J. Stewart, Surgeon-Major-General and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wigmore, Mr. Yone Inouye, and Mr. Yozo Nomura in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss M. A. Snodgrass, Miss D. Fitzgerald, Miss E. A. Bender, Admiral K. Inouye, Mr. A. Maslenikoff, Mr. J. B. Davison, Mr. K. Oyagi, and Master Curtis in cabin; Mr. R. Shinachi, and Mr. K. Mitsumi in second class, and 47 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 1,139 bales; for England, 61 bales. Waste Silk for France, 631 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, \$150,000.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA. NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
Hiogo	—	—	—	261	261
Yokohama	76	—	—	—	76
Total	76	—	—	261	337

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	41	—	41
Hongkong	—	235	—	235
Yokohama	—	766	67	833
Total	—	1,042	67	1,109

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokohachi the 16th December at 5:40 p.m.; had light to fresh north and north-easterly breeze and light overcast weather and smooth sea, right way throughout the passage; passed Rock Island at 4:30 a.m. on the 17th. Arrived at Yokohama at 11:30 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Encountered a succession of westerly gales with rough sea and very heavy swell throughout the passage, with the exception of the first night out from San Francisco when we experienced a S.E. gale; crossed 180 meridian in lat. 34.43 N. 12 days out. Time, 20 days and 7 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Tiptle, reports:—Left Kobe the 17th December at 10 a.m. Arrived at Shiohatsi at 1:8 p.m. and left at 5:08 p.m.; abeam of Oshima Lighthouse at 11:16 p.m.; had strong northerly breeze and fine, clear weather; thence strong north-westerly breeze with high sea up to Rock Island, and moderate northerly breeze up to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th December at 10:10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th December at noon; had moderate westerly winds and fine, clear weather; experienced moderate-light northerly winds and fine, clear weather during the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th December at 3:30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 16th Decem-

ber at 10:15 a.m.; had gentle breeze and fine weather till midnight; thence to Hakodate, thick with light snow, where we arrived the 17th at 7:30 a.m. Left Hakodate the 18th at 8:15 a.m.; had fresh breeze and dense snow squalls; off Shiriya-saki wind freshened to a moderate gale with high sea; at 8 p.m. weather moderated and had gentle breeze and fine weather to Oginohama, which was reached the 19th at 8:10 a.m. Left again the same day at 4:15 p.m.; had light winds from N.E., overcast and drizzling rain to Inuboye; thence to port fresh breezes and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th December at 8 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Honolulu the 6th December at 3:50 p.m.; crossed the meridian of 180 on the 11th in lat. 24.26 N.; had fine weather with smooth sea till approaching the Japan coast, where northerly gales with heavy rain and head sea was met with continuing wind to Noshima; passed same at 2:25 p.m. on the 20th. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st December at 6:35 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Barstow, reports:—Left Kobe the 20th December at 4:10 p.m.; Oshima abeam the 21st at 3:25 a.m.; at 8:24 the same morning saw junk flying signal of distress, bore down upon her, her mast and rudder gone, and took her crew on board, consisting of three men and a boy; then proceeded to take her in tow, but owing to fresh wind and choppy sea, junk broke adrift, settled down and sank; gentle to moderate wind all the way. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd December at 7:30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain M. Matsumoto, reports:—Left Kobe the 21st December at 12:15 p.m.; had gentle northerly breeze and fine weather till Omai-saki which was reached on the 22nd at 10:2 a.m.; thence moderate westerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd December at 7:25 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 6th December at 4:2 p.m., to Honolulu, 5 days, 17 hours, and 52 minutes detained Honolulu, 10 hours and 40 minutes; Honolulu to Yokohama, 10 days, 7 hours, and 27 minutes; San Francisco to Yokohama, 16 days, 11 hours, and 59 minutes. Had fine weather up to 20th inst., since then heavy westerly gales and high seas.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Malwa, British steamer, C. F. Preston, 19th December, London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tartar, British steamer, 1,567, Bailey, 20th December, Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, J. R. Edwards, 16th December, Kanazawa 16th December, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Arctic, British schooner, 49, Wilson, 20th November, North Pacific, Seal Skins.—Captain.

Aurora, British schooner, 41, C. Toussaint, 15th November, Victoria, B.C., Ballast.—Captain.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 7th October, Sealing Cruise, 137 Seals, 46 Otter, and 4 Bear skins.—Captain.

Narwhal, British steam-schooner, 142, Flanders, 24th October, North Pacific 5th October, Bone of 2 Whales.—Eastern Whaling Co., Limited.

Norma, British schooner, 52, J. Conney, 14th November, Sealing Cruise, 103 Seal skins.—Jas. Pynes.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Katsuragi Kan (7), Japanese composite-sloop, Captain Mochida, 20th December, Shinagawa 20th December.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 14th December, Kobe.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Grey Shirts are firm at quotations, but with few sales to note. Quite a strong inquiry for Turkey Reds set in, and sales have been made at the advance noted below. Woollens have been slow of sale, but prices have not given away. In Cotton Yarns buyers willing to go on at quotations, but importers are very firm (asking from 50 cents to \$1 over quotations given) and trade is therefore restricted—little or nothing having been done.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.35
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.00 to 2.90
P. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Indigo Shirtings—24 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50

Cotton—Italians and Settees Black, 38 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 1/2 inches	0.62 to 0.77
Taffetas, 12 yds, 45 inches	PER YARD.
Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2.20, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.32
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.42 to 1.52
Turkey Reds—2.15 to 3 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.62 to 1.67
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.97 to 2.15

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.27 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.24 to 0.26
Mousseline de Laine—Craps, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.17 to 0.23
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.11 to 0.19
Cloths—Presidenta, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.45
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.47 to 0.57
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3 1/2 lb, per lb	0.30 to 0.65
	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

No. 16/24, Ordinary	PER POUND.
No. 16/24, Medium	\$27.00 to 39.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	20.00 to 31.00
No. 16/24, Reverse	31.00 to 31.50
No. 16/24, Ordinary	29.50 to 30.50
No. 18/32, Ordinary	30.00 to 32.50
No. 18/32, Medium	32.00 to 33.50
No. 18/32, Good to Best	34.00 to 34.50
No. 18/32, Medium to Best	36.00 to 37.50
No. 30s, Two-fold	34.00 to 35.00
No. 40s, Two-fold	38.00 to 40.00
No. 20s, Bombay	PER POUND.
No. 10s, Bombay	71.00 to 80.00
No. 10s, Bombay	70.00 to 76.00
No. 10s, Bombay	60.00 to 70.00

METALS.

Some business done at slightly advanced prices.

Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1/2 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 1/2 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.55 to 3.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

Holders are strong at prices; both buyers and sellers anticipate that consumers must soon come into the market.

QUOTATIONS.

Chester	\$1.75 to 1.77
Comet	1.72 to 1.75
Devco	1.67 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.72 to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72

SUGAR.

Rather more doing and holders are strong at quotations.

Brown Takao	PER POUND.
Brown Manila	\$4.40 to 4.45
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 3.95
Brown Canton	3.95 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	5.80 to 5.90
White Refined	5.65 to 5.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 16th instant. Since then, settlements on this market amount to 2,810 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 92 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,814 piculs; *Re-reels*, 760 piculs; *Kakada*, 143 piculs; *Oshu*, 1 picul. Direct shipments have been 229 bales, making the total export trade for the week 3,050 piculs.

The large business reported in our last issue has continued, with a very active market and heavy settlements. Still more business would have been done, but shippers complain that they cannot readily find the silk which their customers require. Arrivals are small; stocks are diminishing rapidly, and among the 7,350 piculs to which our stock is reduced there are not many desirable parcels.

As before noted, the mainspring of the trade seems to be in Lyons; at the same time, buyers for the United States have protected themselves to a certain extent, buying suitable parcels both in *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, at advancing prices.

Supplies from the interior are now very scanty the arrivals for the week not being more than 400 piculs. From the statistics given at foot it will be noticed that our present stock is less than half what it was on the same date last year and that the visible supply to date is more than 4,000 piculs less than it was at Christmas, 1901.

Exchange has still further declined in sympathy with other bullion, and stands at the lowest rate ever known in Japan. There was a temporary

firmness yesterday and further decline seems to be checked for the moment.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the American and French mails both leaving port on the 20th instant. The former, *City of Rio*, carried 833 bales for the New York trade; the latter, *Yarra*, had 1,200 bales for Europe. These departures bring the present export figures up to 33,099 piculs against 29,731 piculs last year and 11,637 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Hanks.—These have been enquired for. Fine qualities are very scarce, and it is reported that a small lot of prime *Shinshu Shibon* brought the extreme figure of \$680. Considerable business also done in Low *Hachioji* at from \$500 to \$520.

Filatures.—In this class we have had a huge business principally for Europe, although the United States have taken a fair share. Prices have to be again advanced, and there seem to be eager buyers at present quotations.

Reveils.—Considerable business in these, buyers making up their minds to accept such quality as now exists. Among the most recent sales are *Five Girl* at \$810; *Tortoise*, \$800; *Tengusha*, \$807½, with others in proportion. Medium grades, *Shorusha*, *Ichimurashu*, *Sanetsu* and similar silks have brought \$740 to \$765. Common *Bushu* have been dealt in to a considerable extent at \$650, *Akita* bringing \$590.

Kakeda.—Considerable business herein, best qualities being very scarce. No. 1 *Horsehead* are now held for \$760, \$745 having been freely paid in the early part of the week. Other grades in proportion, but with the stock list reduced to 400 piculs, mostly of the lower grades, holders are very firm, feeling sure that they will get their price by waiting.

In *Oshu* and *Taysam* kinds no business has been done beyond a solitary sample bale.

QUOTATIONS.	
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 3 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 4 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 5 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 6 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 7 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 8 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 9 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 10 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 11 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 12 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 13 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 14 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 15 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 16 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 17 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 18 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 19 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 20 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 21 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 22 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 23 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 24 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 25 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 26 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 27 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 28 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 29 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 30 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 31 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 32 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 33 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 34 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 35 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 36 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 37 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 38 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 39 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 40 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 41 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 42 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 43 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 44 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 45 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 46 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 47 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 48 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 49 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 50 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 51 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 52 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 53 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 54 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 55 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 56 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 57 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 58 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 59 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 60 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 61 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 62 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 63 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 64 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 65 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 66 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 67 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 68 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 69 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 70 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 71 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 72 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 73 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 74 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 75 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 76 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 77 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 78 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 79 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 80 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 81 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 82 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 83 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 84 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 85 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 86 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 87 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 88 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 89 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 90 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 91 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 92 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 93 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 94 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 95 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 96 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 97 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 98 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 99 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 100 (Shinshu)	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 23rd Dec., 1892:—	
Season 1892-93.	1891-92.
Europe	11,506
America	20,988
Total	32,494
Settlements and Direct	35,950
Stock, 23rd December	7,350
Available supplies to date	43,300

WASTE SILK.
Business in this branch has also been very active, settlements amounting to 3,416 piculs, distributed thus:—*Cocoons*, 54 piculs; *Noshi*, 2,634 piculs; *Kibiso*, 728 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The great run has been again upon *Noshi*, which buyers take in large quantities at present quotations, which are practically the same as those of last week. *Kibiso* has also drawn considerable attention, and stocks all round show a large reduction upon those of a week ago.

The French mail steamer, which left port on the 20th instant, took 109 bales *Cocoons* and 522 bales *Waste* for Europe. These shipments make the present export figures 21,347 piculs, against 16,391 piculs last year and 16,210 piculs at the same date in 1890.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing to add to our last. The only business done has been in Common *Najiko* at \$16 per picul.

Noshi.—Very heavy dealings in all kinds. *Oshu*, \$130; *Filatures*, \$100 to \$130; *Foshu*, \$60 to \$75; *Fine Hachioji*, \$135; *Yonesawa Tegara*, \$120. The stock is much reduced and shippers will soon be complaining that desirable parcels are scarce.

Kibiso.—A good business in *Filatures* at from \$90 to \$102; *Shinshu*, \$72½; *Zaguri*, \$60. In Low *Curles* nothing has been done.

Sundries.—No transactions this week either in *Tama-ito* or *Neri*.

QUOTATIONS.	
Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	\$120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best selected	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	60 to 70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 55
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Fair	50 to 55
Kibiso—Oshu, Middling to Common	40 to 45
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	45 to 40
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	35 to 30
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	12 to 18
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 23rd Dec., 1892:—

Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Waste Silk	18,657	14,614
Pierced Cocoons	2,690	1,777
Total	21,347	16,391
Settlements and Direct	27,400	21,600
Export from 1st July	11,500	12,600
Stock, 23rd December	—	8,800
Available supplies to date	38,700	34,200

Exchange.—The downward course continues, but latest advices would seem to indicate that the drop in bullion is checked at least temporarily. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/9½; Documents, 2/9½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/9½; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. \$67½; 4m/s. U.S. \$68½; PARIS, 60c. LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.52.

Estimated Silk Stock, 23rd Dec., 1892:—	
RAW.	PICULS.
Hanks	180
Filatures	2,300
Re-reels	3,980
Kakeda	400
Oshu	400
Taysam Kinds	30
Total piculs	7,350

TEA.
Very little done, settlements amounting to only a few hundred piculs, it being the fag end of the season. Exports to date are about 28,300,000lb. being 900,000lb. less than for the season 1891-92.

FINE.	
Good Medium	\$22 to 24
Medium	19 to 21
Good Common	17 to 19
Common	14 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange further declined during the week, but hardened somewhat at the close, and the downward movement has received a temporary check.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/8½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/8½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	2/44
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	2/52
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	66
On America—Private 30 days' sight	67½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	68½
Silver	38½

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May 14th, 1892.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 27.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 31ST, 1892.

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[Vol. XVIII.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 31ST, 1892.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ELECTRIC light is about to be installed in the Naval Department.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEMITO proceeded to Dzushi on Tuesday last.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS visited the Aoyama Palace on the 26th instant at 2 p.m.

GOVERNOR Yamada, of Osaka, has arrived in the capital on official business.

THE Minister of State for Home Affairs dissolved the Niigata Prefectural Assembly on the 23rd inst.

A KOBE telegram reports that five ships of the Russian Asiatic squadron arrived there on the 24th inst.

JUDGE KAWABARA GITARO, of the Nagasaki District Court, has been removed to the Yokohama Local Court.

THE departure of Mr. Oishi, Japanese Minister Resident in Korea, for his post, is fixed for the 15th of January.

THE Emperor's New Year's Review of the Army will take place on the 7th prox. at the Aoyama Parade Ground.

THE dividend of the Tokyo Electric Light Company for the past half-year is estimated at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

THE election of the President of the Traders' Guild of Yokohama took place on the 25th inst., and Mr. Iijima Yuzo was successful.

IT is stated that the Cabinet has decided to appoint Mr. Onoda, Secretary of the Hyogo

Prefectural Government, as successor to Mr. Gimbayashi, late Secretary of the Tokyo City Government.

THE buildings of the Chofu Town Office in North Tama District of Kanagawa Prefecture were burnt down during the night of the 21st inst.

THE *Zambes-Hokumon* collision case occupied a Court of Inquiry in the British Court yesterday and to-day. The decision will be given on Monday next.

THE total number of members of the Japan Agricultural Society is at present 5,151, of whom 86 are honorary, 524 special, and 4,541 ordinary members.

THE election to reorganize the Kawagawa Prefectural Assembly, which was dissolved by the Home Minister the other day, will take place on the 1st of February next.

AN outbreak of fire took place on the afternoon of the 24th inst. at Shibuya-mura in the Koza District of Kanagawa Prefecture, destroying 31 houses and 1 temple.

THE Premonition Law has been put into force in Tokyo against five persons since the evening of the 22nd inst. up to the Friday noon. This brings the numbers up to seventy-nine.

A MEETING of the Privy Council was held on Friday last, and was attended by Counts Higashi-Kuze and Sasaki, Viscounts Fukuoka, Tanaka, Sano, and Enomoto, and Mr. Ozaki.

THE dividends of the Dogashima Rice Exchange and the Electric Light Company, Osaka, for the past half-year are estimated at the rate of 36 per cent. and 12 per cent. respectively per annum.

MR. K. KATAOKA, Chamberlain, was despatched by the Emperor on the 24th inst. to the family of the late Marquis Date. His Majesty was also graciously pleased to grant *yen* 1,000 towards the funeral expenses.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL YAMAJI, Commandant of the First Army Division, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the New Year's Review of the Army, which is to take place at Aoyama on the 7th of January next.

THE Kanagawa Local Authorities have received an order from the Hawaiian Government to despatch a company of Japanese emigrants, consisting of 585 men and 146 women, to the Islands in February next.

MR. OTTO E. EHLERS, the famous German explorer, and Dr. Oscar Kellner, German Instructor in the Agricultural College in the Imperial University, were received in audience by the Emperor on the 27th inst. at 10 a.m.

THE total quantity of kerosene that arrived at Yokohama from Russia and America during this year, amounted to 1,760,000 cases, the number of cases forwarded to the interior being 2,100,000. Some 239,000 cases remain in stock.

MRSRS. TAKEDA SHOICHIRO, Yamamoto Shinzaburo, Miyamoto Katsu, and Kotaka Junichi, of Tokyo, propose to establish a labourers' assurance company to be called the Nippon Rodo Hoken Kaisha with a capital of *yen* 100,000.

DURING a severe storm on 10th inst. 10 fishermen belonging to Awami District of Yamagata Prefecture, who were at work off Tobishima-mura, were caught in the tempest, and are still missing. A junk was wrecked the same day

off Kamo in the West Tagawa District of the Prefecture, and 5 men belonging to Akita Prefecture were drowned.

THE officials of the Patents Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department have presented three silver cups to Mr. Okuda in recognition of services rendered by him while acting as Chief Commissioner of the Bureau.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Shidzuoka reports that during the night of the 24th inst. a destructive fire occurred at Shimada-jiku on the Tokaido, and before the firemen could get control of it, one hundred and forty-five buildings were burnt down.

A FATAL accident, by which a youth named Sagara Kenjiro, 19 years of age, shot a lad Suyeikichi, by name, aged 10 years, with a rifle, took place at Sakuragawacho, Tokyo, on the 25th inst. The incident was a pure accident.

A DESPATCH from Korea says that the father of the Emperor of Korea, who has been very ill for some time, is now determined to proceed to China for the benefit of his health. The journey is said to have been advised by the Chinese Representative.

A TELEGRAM has been received from Nagano Prefecture stating that a spinning mill in the factory of Mr. Ogushii Zenji at Suwa fell in on the morning of the 26th inst. Four persons were killed, seven being more or less severely injured, and the buildings were considerably damaged.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Kagoshima reports that Police Constable Nagata Kichinosuke was sentenced by the Local Court on the 24th inst. to four months' major confinement for having ill-treated a wounded *Min-to* partisan during the election disturbances in the Prefecture.

GENERAL LE GENDRE, Foreign Adviser of the Korean Government, who has been staying in Tokyo for some time on official business, left the capital on the 25th inst. for Kobe, whence he sails for Korea on the 27th inst. by the *Genkai Maru*. The General will return to Japan in a few months.

As usual, close to the end of the year, the Import trade has declined, and very little will be done for the next week or ten days. Deliveries of goods and the closing up of contracts has occupied most of the buyers, spot purchases having been few and far between, though prices continue to be well maintained both for Yarns and Piece-goods. Metals are dull, and nothing extensive is likely to be done in this market till after the holidays are over. The arrival of the *Harewood* with a cargo of Russian Kerosene made a further addition to the stock, though 25,000 cases of it will go to Kobe, where stocks have run very low and high figures have been paid. Quotations on this market are unaltered, and holders are exceedingly firm. The Sugar market is quiet, and dealers appear to be fully satisfied for the time. The Silk trade still continues active, and orders are on hand which cannot be filled, as the quality demanded is not forthcoming, nor will it be this season. The stock is now nearly 10,000 piculs less than at same date last year, and all the best Silks have been already exported. A large business has been done in Waste Silk at full rates, and the heavy stock of two months ago has been very much reduced. Tea has been bought on a very small scale, just sufficient to fill a few small orders that come in. Exchange has been fairly steady during the week and a slight improvement in rates is reported with firmness at the close.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT OKUMA AGAIN.

COUNT OKUMA monopolizes public attention at present. A member of the staff of the *Kokumin Shimbun* visited him on the 20th instant and asked him about his reported meeting with Count Yamagata. Count Okuma assured his visitor that the meeting had no political significance whatsoever. "Count Yamagata's recent visit," said the Progressionist leader, "was meant as an acknowledgment of the condolences which I had offered to him through my wife for the loss of his beloved son. I sympathise sincerely with him, for the anxiety and pain caused by his bereavement have made him a different man from the stout Yamagata of former days." When our contemporary's representative alluded to the possibility of the formation of a coalition Cabinet between a section of the present Ministry and a section of the Popular party, Count Okuma shook his head and regretted to observe that it was not in the nature of human beings to entirely forget and forgive each other's wrongs and shake hands as if the past had been a mere dream. Neither Count Ito nor Count Inouye, he feared, would have the courage to make such a daring attempt. To the suggestion that Count Inouye, at least, may have such courage, the Progressionist leader replied that the present Minister of Home Affairs is a man of straightforward nature, and that, though he has little learning, he possesses the faculty of forming rapid decision at momentous conjunctures. For all that men said against him, he was one of the foremost statesmen in the Government. His only defect was proneness to be deceived by others. The man who possesses the qualities of a true statesman, according to Count Okuma's view, is the present Minister President of State. Though sometimes accused of shirking his responsibilities, Count Ito can never turn his back on politics, for he possesses definite political opinions as well as ability and position to give them force. Even if he wished to assume indifference to the state of things in the political world, it is out of his power to do so. Count Okuma then delivered his opinions about each of the Cabinet Ministers, declaring this man antiquated, that unfit for constitutional Government, and so forth. Coming to Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Watanabe, he observed that they were men of considerable ability, especially Mr. Mutsu, whom he described as a shrewd man, whose interest counselled that he should make an independent position for himself, instead of consenting to be a mere assistant to Count Ito and Count Inouye. Unless a man had great independence of character, he could hardly hope to make his influence felt in a Cabinet governed by clan considerations. The *Kaishin-to* leader is then represented as leaving his seat and, with his back to the fire, proceeding to discuss the subject of the Land Tax. He thought that the Government ought to settle this vexed problem by adopting the views of the Popular Party. If the Land Tax question were satisfactorily disposed of and Administrative expenses cut down to the lowest feasible figures, it would then and then only be possible to enter upon a new epoch of progress in the constitutional history of the country. Supposing that such a new epoch had been inaugurated, the first problem presenting itself for solution would be Revision of the Treaties. Generally in Occidental countries, customs duties formed the most important part of the State revenue, and in the case of Japan, too, the revision of the existing treaties would supply her with an addition of income more than sufficient to cover the deficiency occasioned by reducing the Land Tax. He therefore thought that Treaty Revision was one of the most important questions of the day. The Diet had made a Representation on the subject, but a representation was not likely to produce much effect. The Diet ought to press the Government to explain the reasons why this question has been left unattended to during the past three years.

In another place, the *Kokumin*, on the authority of a certain member of the Progressionist

party who happened to be at Count Okuma's when Count Yamagata called there, notices that the Minister of Justice told his host, in the course of conversation, that the National Unionists were not to be relied upon. He further explained the reasons why they would actively oppose the Cabinet, should the latter try to adopt the programme of the Popular party. He even asked, in a casual way, whether the Popular party would give proper support to the Cabinet if the latter could see its way to adopt the former's views. Such is the gist of the information said to have been elicited from the Progressionist in question. But we observe that even the paper publishing the statement refrains from guaranteeing its accuracy.

Our contemporary also mentions that on the 17th instant, the same day on which Count Yamagata visited Count Okuma, the latter received a short note from Mr. Kono, Minister of State for Education. The *Kokumin* does not profess to know the contents of the note, but tells us that Count Okuma instructed his secretary to reply that he would be at leisure on the 22nd and 23rd instant. We reproduce these items for what they are worth.

THE LARGE MURDER.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a statement that the police of the Kuragi District in Kanagawa Prefecture have arrested a man who now lies under suspicion of being the murderer of Mr. Large. His name is said to be Horimoto Tei, and he is the seventh son of one Yoshiakira, who resides at No. 32 Miyashita-cho, in the Azabu District of Tokyo. Of late, however, he has been calling himself Ikenohata Horimoto-ura, and lodging with a haberdasher named Kaneko in the Shitaya district. The attention of the police was drawn to him by his lavish use of money, and by his pawning articles which seemed over-good for his circumstances. The point that connects him with the Azabu murder is said to be that among the articles pawned by him some are undoubtedly the property of Mr. Large. But to us this statement appears to have precisely an opposite significance, for the simple reason that no articles at all were carried off by Mr. Large's murderers. Had the men stolen anything, there might have been better hope of tracing them. But the solitary clue to their identity was a pipe case and tobacco-pouch which one of the dropped in his flight. We fear that this will turn out to be another of the many spurious murderers who have temporarily figured during the past two years as the perpetrators of the Azabu crime.

Vernacular newspapers persist in considering that the man Horimoto, of whose arrest we spoke in a recent issue, is connected with the Large murder. His identification as the Azabu miscreant was originally spoken of by the *Hochi Shimbun*, which mentioned vaguely that some of the articles pawned by Horimoto had been the property of Mr. Large. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is now more explicit, for it says that one of the articles in question is a ring which belonged to the murdered missionary. This is the first we have heard of a ring. Considering that the struggle between Mr. Large and his assailants commenced from the moment they entered his room and terminated only when he fell dead, it is scarcely possible that they could have taken a ring from him. At all events, since there was no question of anything of the kind at the inquest or in subsequent references to the affair, we are strongly disposed to think that the present story is altogether a *canard*.

THE SAPPORO TROUBLE.

We referred briefly in a previous issue to the raiding of the office of the *Hokumon Shimpō* in Sapporo by a party of firemen. Further particulars now published show that the unfortunate newspaper had provoked the enmity of these roughs by publishing with blunt accuracy a report of the deliberations of the Ward Headmen of the town. These officials made some unpleasant comments on the behaviour of the firemen, and charged them with extorting money

from the citizens. The habit of the firemen is to visit the houses of well-to-do folks, and perform various gymnastics on fire-ladders, after which they secure for themselves substantial "recognition" by free recourse to abusive and violent language towards any householder who declines to appreciate their doings. Such, at any rate, was the procedure attributed to them by the ward officials, and the *Hokumon Shimpō* published the charges without any circumlocution. Evidently they were true charges, for the firemen lost no time in confirming them. At 2 p.m. on the 18th instant, they went in a body to the office of the newspaper and asked to see the editor. He was absent in Tokyo, and the sub-editor, fortunately for himself, happened to be out. So the visitors, *faute de mieux*, fell upon Mr. Ureshino Tsusho, the only responsible person on the premises, and having with fists and clubs pummelled him into insensibility, they carried him out and buried him in the snow, believing him to be dead. Fire was then thrown about the office, the mats were torn up, and the alarm bell was rung, the scheme of the roughs being to create the impression that they had assembled for the purpose of quenching a conflagration. The police have arrested the ringleaders.

THE LATE MARQUIS DATE.

In the person of the late Marquis Date Muneaki, who died on the 20th instant, Japan loses one of the greatest of the ex-Daimyo who figured most conspicuously in Restoration days. His friends and co-workers, Shimazu Nariakira (elder brother of Shimazu Hisamitsu), of Satsuma, Tokugawa Reikō of Mito, Matsudaira Shungaku of Echizen, Yamanouchi Yōdō of Tosa—these personages long since passed away. In truth Date was the only remnant of the princely reformers whose noble devotion to public interests contributed so much to the success of the Revolution planned by men like Saigō, Iwakura, Kido, and Okubo. He was born at Yedo on September 1, 1818, and was the second son of Sagami-no-kami Yamaguchi Naokatsu, one of the principal immediate vassals of the Shogun. Adopted, at the age of 11, into the family as scion of the Daimyo of Uwajima in Iyo, he was named, in the following year (1829) heir to that Daimiate. It is stated that from his boyhood he showed signs of uncommon intelligence and aptitude for learning. He studied the Chinese classics under the famous scholars Kōga Doan and Sato Issai. One of his prominent traits was great fondness for collecting information about the condition of things in European countries, and unquenchable thirst for scientific knowledge. When Takano Chōei, one of the most heroic pioneers of the introduction of Western learning in Japan, effected his escape from the prison in which he had been confined by the Shogunate Government for publishing a tract on a foreign subject, he was welcomed into the territory of the late Marquis Date, where he remained several years as a sort of tutor to his generous protector. Similar protection was readily accorded to Omura Masujiro who had fled from the pursuit of the detectives of the Shogunate. The clan of Uwajima took the lead in introducing the Western mode of military tactics and in constructing ships after European models. It is also on record that Date Muneaki caused his sister to be vaccinated so as to dispel the prejudices at first entertained by the people of his territory against the introduction of this custom. Many of the improved industries to day prospering in his former fief, are said to be due to his inception and encouragement. After the Restoration, he held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs for some time, and subsequently served as Minister of the Home Department, and Minister of Finance. In 1871 he went to China as Ambassador to negotiate a treaty with that country. Shortly after his return, he retired from the Cabinet and became an Attendant in the Musk Chamber (*Takō-no-ma*). Thenceforth he led a quiet uneventful life, respected and admired by all who came into contact with him. Only when, on rare occasions, he appeared before the public in the congenial rôle of

receiving distinguished foreign visitors, did his numerous friends have an opportunity of greeting the courteous and genial nobleman, who had contributed so materially to inaugurate the new order of things, and whose declining years were spent in quiet contemplation of the progress with which his name will always be associated. The Marquis was buried on the 25th instant. His funeral was attended by a large assemblage of notables of the Civil, Military, and Naval Services, by two Princes of the Blood, by nearly all the Cabinet Ministers, by a number of his fellow-nobles and by several foreigners, the Foreign Corps Diplomatique being represented by H. E. the Chevalier de Martino, Italian Minister, and by the French Chargé d'Affaires. The burial place was the Ueno Cemetery, and the immense cortège that followed the bier constituted one of the most imposing ceremonies of the kind ever seen in Tokyo.

THE BUDGET AND THE PARTIES.

It is reported that the Cabinet has decided to reject the amendments proposed in the Budget Committee's Report. There is nothing singular in this, although the metropolitan papers allude to it as if it were something wonderful. From the first there have been plain indications that the Cabinet could not consent to the sweeping reductions proposed by the Popular party. Possibly some journals think that this newly rumoured resolve on the part of the Cabinet implies the rejection of all compromise. But that is a delicate question to decide. For our own part, we deem it too early to attempt any forecast of the final action of the Cabinet with regard to the Budget, inasmuch as that action must depend to a large extent on the attitude of the Popular Party itself.

The above report has elicited an interesting article from the Radical organ, the *Yiyu*,—interesting as serving to throw light upon the relations between the Radicals and the Progressionists. Hitherto it has been the fashion of the latter to ridicule the moderate and conciliatory tendency of the former. But the position has been reversed, and the Radicals are now returning the compliment to the Progressionists. The Radical organ, for example, expresses a fear that, should the Cabinet be disposed to approach the Opposition in a conciliatory spirit, the latter may be weak enough to agree to a compromise, "for there is now a party endeavouring to please the Government by resuscitating the expenses for the three Higher Middle Schools erased by the Budget Committee." It is scarcely necessary to add that the allusion is to the *Kaishin-to*.

It is natural enough that the *Yiyu-to* should now distrust the *Kaishin-to*, and vice versa. The split between the two parties seems to be complete. It is said that each has pledged itself to oppose any measure introduced by the other. But whether the Government can profit materially by their dissensions is another question. The *Yiyu-to*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Kokumin Kyokai* are apparently incapable of fusion at present. To enter the camp of any one of the three would be to inevitably antagonize the other two.

THE "KOKKAI" AND THE BARRISTERS' EXAMINATION.

THESE are hard times with the *Kokkai Shim-bun*. On the 26th instant it was suspended for publishing the speeches delivered at a secret political meeting, and on the following day the libel suit instituted against it was decided in favour of the plaintiff. The suit arose out of some statements made by the *Kokkai* in connection with the Barristers' Examination. They were exceedingly rash statements, and the event has proved them to have been absolutely without justification. The injured persons were Mr. Koga, Public Prosecutor, with respect to whom the article was held to constitute the crime *Kanri bukyoku*, or bringing officials into contempt, and Messrs. Naoye Morinosuke and Okawa Kinjiro, who complained that they had

been slandered. The Court gave judgment against the defendants, Messrs. Ota Kintaro and Shimoi Kakutaro, editor and publisher respectively, and sentenced them to two months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of 10 yen. The judgment has been appealed against.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the customs Returns for November, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1891.	1891.
	SILVER YEN.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	7,096,454.570	8,513,690.690
Imports	5,540,188.350	6,800,436.930
Total exports and imports	12,636,642.920	15,314,127.620
Excess of exports	1,556,264.620	1,713,253.760
	CUSTOMS DUTIES.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	189,601.791	
Imports	231,412.151	
Miscellaneous	10,472.835	
Total	431,486.777	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
United States of America	4,354,571.850	293,759.850	4,648,331.700
China	2,008,532.450	2,107,114.760	4,115,647.210
Great Britain	240,553.090	1,974,183.250	2,214,736.340
Hongkong	918,269.990	868,544.185	1,786,814.175
France	1,417,828.770	708,831.130	2,126,659.900
British India	128,741.290	385,793.700	514,535.090
Germany	80,592.860	395,307.410	475,900.270
Korea	189,301.980	530,020.020	719,322.000
Italy	157,008.500	3,326.000	160,334.500
Philippine Islands	4,480.280	128,953.540	133,433.820
Russia	75,008.070	28,420.880	103,428.950
Austria	89,150.300	809.120	90,959.420
Belgium	3,204.400	59,493.690	62,698.090
Australia	55,003.600	2,028.190	57,031.790
Switzerland	4,090.000	49,597.950	53,687.950
Canada & other British America	45,844.750	1,989.100	47,833.850
Hawaii	9,608.000	30.000	9,638.000
Holland	2,314.000	2,855.230	5,169.230
Spain	—	2,635.710	2,635.710
Norway	—	1,557.400	1,557.400
Turkey	426.000	—	426.000
Portugal	—	368.360	368.360
Denmark	335.000	—	335.000
Siam	90.000	—	90.000
Other Countries	47,470.840	50,737.180	98,208.020
Total	8,405,105.700	6,800,346.930	15,205,452.630

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Totals.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	6,280,477.570	2,645,978.590	8,926,456.160
Kobe	1,399,647.570	3,200,607.300	4,600,254.870
Osaka	170,589.810	530,914.000	701,503.810
Nagasaki	304,148.570	220,347.430	524,496.000
Hakodate	97,120.800	37,661.100	134,781.900
Niigata	—	783.160	783.160
Shimonoseki	46,869.240	43,280.300	90,149.540
Molli	50,509.000	—	50,509.000
Hakata	1,504.100	—	1,504.100
Karatsu	1,856.500	—	1,856.500
Kuchinotsu	87,288.000	—	87,288.000
Idzumi	53.280	1,412.800	1,466.080
Shishimi	1,420.850	837.350	2,258.200
Sasuna	647.950	612.400	1,260.350

Specie and Bullion { Exports

Total

Excess of imports

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

Imported by Government

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE following notice to Mariners, relating to the Buoyage of Hainan Strait, in the Kiangchow District of the China Sea has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that the under-mentioned Buoy has been laid down in Hainan Strait. Middle Channel.—Middle Channel Buoy.—A ten-foot conical Buoy, painted in red and black horizontal bands and surmounted by a black spherical cage, moored in 13 fathoms. Approximate position:—Latitude 20° 17' 35" N., Longitude 110° 58' 20" E. This Buoy marks the fairway of the eastern entrance to the Middle Channel. South Channel.—Maggie Rock Buoy.—A six-foot conical black Buoy, surmounted by a black triangular cage, moored in 8 fathoms about 2 cables to the eastward of the rock and about 1½ miles to the south-eastward of Hainan Point. This Buoy must be left on the port hand by vessels entering the Strait from the eastward. Hainan Head Bank Buoy.—A six-foot conical red Buoy, surmounted by a black inverted frustum cage, moored in 4½ fathoms about 9 cables N. 65° E. from Hainan Point. This Buoy must be left on the starboard hand by vessels entering the Strait from the eastward. Hainan Reef Buoy.—A six-foot conical black

Buoy, surmounted by a black spherical cage, moored in 12 fathoms about 2½ cables to the northward of the outer rock of Hainan Reef, which is marked on the British Admiralty Chart No. 876, "dries 4 feet." This Buoy must be left on the port hand by vessels entering the Strait from the eastward. The bearings given are magnetic and the depths are for low water of spring tides. Directions.—With the Buoys in the positions above described, the best track for vessels to follow when using the South Channel is to pass 3 cables eastward of the Maggie Rock Buoy and then steer to pass the Hainan Head Bank Buoy at about the same distance, taking care to guard against being set towards the shore, and remembering that it is safe to borrow towards the banks on the starboard hand, of which the lead, which should be kept going, will give warning, while on the other side the bottom is rocky and uneven and the lead gives no warning. The Hainan Reef Buoy may be rounded at a distance of 1 cable or more at discretion.

THE SHOEMAKERS' DEMONSTRATION.

THE shoemakers who assembled recently, to the number of 150, at the House of Representatives to emphasize their protest against the Government's intention of teaching the Army how to make its own foot-gear, have had to pay for their demonstration. The law forbids such gatherings unless due notice be given and permission obtained from the police. The shoemakers doubtless understood that their action was unlawful. But they also understood that to follow the procedure prescribed by the Regulations would have involved abandoning the demonstration, for assuredly the police would not have given them leave to march in force to the House of Representatives. At all events they have suffered for their act. Summoned before the Tokyo Local Court, two of them were sentenced, on the 27th instant, to pay fines of 12.50 yen each, eleven mulcted in sums of 10 yen each, and the rest were acquitted. Whether the demonstration was intrinsically worth 135 yen, is a doubtful question. If the Authorities have made up their minds, after due investigation, that the interests of the country will be best served by organizing boot and shoe manufacturing entirely under military control and with soldier operatives, the apparition of 150 protesting shoemakers at the doors of the House of Representatives is not likely to deter them.

COUNT ITAGAKI AND THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

ON the 23rd instant, delegates of the Radicals not having seats in the Diet held a secret meeting, at which Count Itagaki is said to have delivered his opinions on some important subjects. The proceedings being kept strictly confidential, none of the enterprising papers of the capital have been able to obtain trustworthy information on the matter. But the *Kokkai*, by instituting enquiries in various quarters, professes to have been able to procure some fragmentary facts which, being pieced together, read something to the following effect. The Radical leader, in the first place, drew the attention of his hearers to the importance of interviewing those Radical members of the Diet who are inclined to sacrifice everything for the sake of the consummation of their cherished object of re-assessment. The Count strongly condemned the proposed exchange between the appropriations for the construction of war vessels and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. On some questions, he would not object to a compromise with the Cabinet; but on the question of Naval reform, no compromise could be accepted by the Radical Party. The Navy is the hot-bed of clan influence, and a strong lever is required to effect reforms in it. Such a lever has been found in the appropriations for the construction of war vessels. Consequently, Count Itagaki thought it extremely unwise to grant those appropriations in exchange for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, much as he desires to carry out the latter reform. He requested his followers to use their endeavours to dissuade such Radicals as might be disposed to act contrary to the policy of their party. In the next place,

he called upon his followers to bring strong pressure to bear upon the members of the Upper House. The object of the establishment of the Upper House was, he is believed to have said, to secure stability and moderation in the action of the Diet. But he regretted to observe that the House of Peers had gone too far in checking the wishes of the people as expressed through the House of Representatives. Almost all the popular measures introduced by the Lower House had been either positively rejected or indifferently shelved by the Upper House. Judging from their past conduct, Count Itagaki was constrained to believe that the Peers had the interests of the Cabinet more in mind than those of the people. The obstructive propensity of the Peers had of late become stronger than ever, and if they were left unrestrained, they would prove a great embarrassment to the State. The Radicals were charged by their leader with the grave duty of giving timely admonition to the Peers. Should the latter disregard the warning and persist in their mischievous career, it would be necessary to have recourse to the final measure of presenting an Address to the Throne praying for the abolition of the House of Peers. Such a step was of course to be adopted only in the last resort. Still, the Radicals were advised to bear it always in view when they went to interview the members of the Upper House.

It is reported that in pursuance of their leader's advice, the Radical politicians not having seats in the Diet are now considering the plan of action to be followed "for teaching the Peers their proper duties." There is a strong probability that the result of their agitations may be renewed enforcement of the Premonition Law or the Peace Preservation Regulations, for the rank and file of the Radical Party have never showed themselves very circumspect in their methods of urging their views upon opposing politicians. Count Itagaki may discover, one of these days, that his responsibilities are beyond his strength. Nothing appears to check him in his career of radicalism. Should it ever be his lot to exchange the functions of an agitator for those of an administrator, the public will probably be shocked by the contrast between his necessary conservatism in office and his sweeping liberalism in opposition. Nothing could more forcibly illustrate the rash precipitancy of his disposition than to find him talking gravely of the abolition of the House of Peers as a proper subject for popular agitation within two years of the date when the Constitution first went into force. But it is possible that the *Kokkai's* report misrepresents him in this particular respect. The general accuracy of the report is challenged by the *Jiyu*, which ought to be well posted in everything relating to the Radicals.

SHANGHAI.

By last advices the weather at Shanghai was intensely cold. Much disquietude was being felt about the prevalence of small-pox, many foreign residents having been attacked; and vaccination was being largely resorted to. The death is reported of Mrs. R. W. Mansfield, wife of the British Vice-Consul. The funeral service, which was attended by large numbers of sympathisers and friends, took place at the parish church of St. Joseph, being conducted by the Rev. Father Colombelle. The departure of the *Saikio Maru* was postponed no fewer than four times before she finally got away. The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China has purchased the O.B.C. premises upon the Bund for £16,000, which is certainly an extremely low price. On the 4th January (the first issue in 1893), the *North-China Daily News* is to be permanently enlarged, to make room for its advertisement matter, with which the editor seems to be somewhat hampered.

A FEVER STRICKEN SHIP.

THE German steamer *Nanyang* (Capt. Magleby), which arrived here on Sunday last from Java, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 14th inst., appears to have had a terrible experience on her voyage to Hongkong. It is difficult to obtain any very detailed information,

but from what we gather no less than eighteen of the crew after leaving Batavia were prostrated by Java fever, which is of a peculiarly unalloyed type. The captain himself was incapacitated from duty the whole of the voyage, and is only at the present moment recovering slowly from the effects of the attack. Shortly after the commencement of the voyage two men, probably while in the delirium of the fever, jumped overboard during a heavy N.E. gale and were seen no more. One was a Manila man and the other was a German seaman. Both men deliberately leapt over the bulwarks in broad daylight and such spontaneous acts of suicide could only have been committed, under the circumstances, by men whose minds were temporarily unhinged. We believe that all the men who were stricken with the fever have now recovered, or at any rate are convalescent.

COUNT ITO AND THE DIET.

EVERYBODY is now looking forward with impatience to the day when the Minister President of State will be able to attend the Diet in person. It is generally believed that the uncertainty of the present situation will be cleared up one way or the other by his appearance on the scene. The *Nippon*, which can never be accused of partiality to the Government, seems to be disposed to think that things will be all right so soon as Count Ito is able to resume active control. Our contemporary's information is to the effect that the original plan of the Government was that Count Ito should assume in person the duty of confronting the Diet on all important questions, while the rest of his colleagues should confine their energies to carrying out reforms in their respective Departments. But the unfortunate accident that befell the premier dislocated the programme, and has led to the present unsatisfactory state of affairs. If, therefore, Count Ito recovers sufficiently to resume personal control when the Diet meets again in January, and to carry out the original scheme of action, the *Nippon* doubts not that he will be able to obtain the support of all intelligent observers.

The *Kokumin Shimbum* also believes that the situation will change when Count Ito attends the Diet in person, but refrains from predicting what direction the alteration is to take.

Meanwhile, Count Ito is progressing most favorably. We explained in a recent issue that, owing to somewhat obstinate inflammation of the gum, the physicians deemed it necessary to extract the four front teeth, which, though loosened by the accident, were not removed at first, a hope being entertained that possibly they might be saved. Relief was not immediately secured by this operation, owing to the presence of splinters of bone, which had not been anticipated. Two of these were removed, and two have since come away, so that complete recovery may now be looked for soon. Meanwhile, the Count is able to move about; his spirits and appetite are excellent and he converses without difficulty. The interval of a fortnight remaining before the Diet re-assembles will probably suffice for his complete recovery.

COUNT ITAGAKI.

THE lightning, real or fictitious, that flashes at present on the political horizon, is beginning to concentrate about Counts Inouye and Itagaki. It is very extensively rumoured that a meeting between these two statesmen is being arranged through the medium of Mr. Furusawa Shigeru, Director of the Bureau of Posts in the Communications Department, who was formerly a trusted assistant of the Radical leader. The Chu-o Dempo News Agency tries to explain the rumour away by alleging that it owes its origin to a visit which Count Itagaki recently received from Messrs. Masuda Ku, Oye Taku, and Isono Koyemon, who desired to learn the Count's views on the question of the Bourse. The relations which Mr. Masuda maintains with Count Inouye, as well as the name of Mr. Oye, naturally led some people to attach political significance to the visit; and thus by degrees talk arose of a meeting between the Radical

leader and the acting Minister President of State. Such is the explanation offered by the News Agency. But people do not seem inclined to be content with it. The *Kokumin Shimbum* at least emphatically declines to accept such a hypothesis. How, our contemporary asks, could a visit of Messrs. Masuda, Oye and Isono, suggest a story that Mr. Furusawa, who had nothing whatever to do with that visit, is exerting himself to arrange a conference between Count Inouye and Count Itagaki? According to the *Kokumin's* information, the general belief is that some person, whoever he may be, is very much interested in bringing Count Inouye and Count Itagaki together and is doing his best to effect an arrangement for their meeting. Our contemporary, however, judiciously refrains from alleging that the interview is desired by the two Counts themselves. Mr. Takenouchi Tsuna's sudden return to the capital seems to be connected with the affair some how or other. What germs of truth, if any, these rumours contain, we do not profess to say, but they indicate, at all events, the nature of the contingencies which people consider probable.

THE "KOKKAI" AND THE "JIYU."

THE *Kokkai* has been suspended for publishing matters prejudicial to the public place—the authorities do not point out the particular article incriminated, but there is little doubt that the offence consisted in publishing a speech alleged to have been delivered by Count Itagaki at a recent secret meeting of the Radicals not having seats in the Diet. The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, alluding to the subject, complains of the incorrectness of the report published by its contemporary, but does not pronounce it absolutely false. Indeed the *Jiyu's* indignation seems to have been excited rather by the fact that the secret was divulged than by the alleged inaccuracy of the manner of divulging it. Naturally, the *Jiyu* is prevented from pointing out in what respects the *Kokkai's* report is inaccurate, because to do so would involve unpermitted revelations. The speech itself, as reported by the *Kokkai*, is incomparably stronger than any utterances hitherto attributed to the Radical leader. If it truly reflects the advice given in private by Count Itagaki to his followers, the attitude of the *Jiyu* towards the Government is emphatically implacable. The Count, almost in so many words, recommends his Party to employ the Naval appropriations as a means of embarrassing the Cabinet and accomplishing the Opposition's much desired consummation, government by party. We imagine, however, that the gravamen of the offence consists, not in the strength of the language employed, but in the fact that the prohibition has been violated which forbids the publication of speeches delivered at political meetings not duly authorized. The law imposes a simple veto in such matters, and the law, whether good or bad, must of course be respected. We trust, however, the ban of suspension will soon be removed from the *Kokkai*, for the independence of its tone and the general acumen of its judgments are characteristics too rare to be conveniently dispensed with.

THE SITUATION AT ICHANG.

No fresh riots had occurred at this port up to last advices, but the air was thick with rumours. The students have taken up a threatening attitude; and one afternoon a small knot of evilly disposed persons gathered at the entrance of the residence of the Rev. G. Cockburn, head of the Church of Scotland Presbyterian Mission, shouting "Kill! Kill!" Now Mr. Cockburn, having a sick wife and five little children on his hands, was indisposed to stand any nonsense; as the correspondent whom we quote very aptly says, "there is small wonder that the saint should have given way and the man asserted himself. After bearing with it for some time, the nozzle of a revolver is said to have peeped over the verandah, and a voice behind it assured the aggressors that killing was a double-handed game, and depended for success upon more than empty words. The new argument seems to have been convincing to most of the little crowd, though their leader did not immediately follow his

retreating rabble. The frowning nozzle of the revolver, however, eventually persuaded even him that it contained a very stinging retort or reply to a battering-ram, and he decamped, leaving the mission unmolested for the remainder of the day." Our Shanghai morning contemporary, in commenting upon these outrages, uses the following very moderate and most appropriate expressions:—"This late rioting," it says, "shows what a grave mistake Sir John Walsham made in not insisting on some punishment on last year's rioters. Not a soul has been punished for that riot; a money indemnity has been secured, but that does not touch the people who did the damage. The old General, who was so overcomer last year by the rudeness of his own men that all he could do was to sit on the British Consul's sofa and be revived with champagne, is dead; and the arrival of his successor has been made the occasion for the new rioting. Our Hankow correspondent shows, how energetic the Chinese officials can be if they have to deal with a riot in which injury is done to another official's *yamen*. They sent troops from two capitals to put down what was only a village quarrel, dignified the affair by the name of a rebellion, and cut off any number of heads. "Contrast with the above," says our correspondent, "the way things are managed at Ichang. There we have a great city on a river open to steam navigation, furnished with a strong native garrison and telegraphic communication. A riot breaks out and damage is done compared with which the destruction at the Liling *yamen* was but a flea-bite. Yet no one is punished, no official is censured, but rioting is allowed to become chronic. Why this great difference?"

MR. MINAYE'S ASSAILANT.

JUDGMENT was delivered in the Tokyo Local Court on the 27th instant in the case of Susa Kakitsu, a *Soshi* of the association called the *Chuo Dantai*, who, on the 24th of November, attacked and wounded Mr. Minaye, a member of the Diet, as the latter was leaving his house to attend the opening of the Diet. The *Soshi* was found guilty and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labour. Considering that he showed so much persistence in pursuing his victim, and that he used a lethal weapon obviously carried for the purpose, his punishment of six months' imprisonment contrasts strangely with the sentence of twelve months imprisonment pronounced, a few days previously, by the same Court—the judges of course being different—against the editor and publisher of one of the best journals in Japan for inserting an article which certainly brought the House of Representatives into some ridicule, but which could not possibly be counted malicious or criminal in intention.

JAPANESE PRISONS.

AMERICA has conceived an interest in Japanese prisons. One of the great magazines which spare no expense to provide new sensations for their readers sent out to the East Mr. C. Long, with a commission to "write up" this little-explored ground. Arrangements were at the same time made for the publication of Mr. Long's researches simultaneously in France and Germany. The organizers of the enterprise were evidently under the impression that they were about to procure a real live sensation for the public. Their ideas of Japanese prisons were based on the stories circulated thirty years ago, when the lively imagination of enterprising travellers added not a little to the genuine horrors of Japanese judicial processes. They thought that Mr. Long would be able to recount histories such as those which a leading Lisbon journal published a few months ago. Especially with regard to the treatment of female prisoners his observations, if he succeeded in making any, were expected to be startling. Most persons predicted, indeed, that access to the female prisons would be absolutely denied to him, the cruelties practised there being such as must never see the light of day. Undoubtedly it is difficult to obtain entry to the female prisons in Japan, because a general rule of privacy is strictly observed there. From this

fact persons ready to be suspicious have probably been able to draw welcome inferences. Mr. Long, of course, had no difficulty. He had been preceded by Mr. Norman who gave to the world the first substantial account of Japanese prisons. But Mr. Norman merely took the prisons *en passant*, whereas Mr. Long made them the sole object of his visit to Japan, and since his researches into prison management and methods in Europe and America have been extensive, we look forward with much interest to his accounts. They will of course be very disappointing to persons who anticipate "sensations." The only sensation experienced by Mr. Long seems to have been one of astonishment at finding things so very different from what he had been led to expect. An interesting episode of his visits to the prisons was the difficulty of photographing the female prisoners. The Authorities had no objection whatever to the taking of pictures, but the women did emphatically object to being permanently recorded in prison garb, and their decidedly feminine but very respectable sentiment was so far respected that Mr. Long, or rather Mr. Ogawa who assisted him, could only obtain instantaneous pictures taken *sub rosa*. A number of prisons, both in the capital cities and in provincial centres, were placed under contribution for the purposes of the essay which Mr. Long is preparing, so that it will not be possible to read him as an exponent of the "show" penitentiaries only. Before he left Japan, a member of the staff of this journal, curious to learn the general impression made on him by what he had seen, asked him a few questions, with following result:—

What do you think of Japanese criminal laws?

Like everything else Japanese, so far as I have seen, there has been a vast improvement in the laws during the past 20 years, but of course I have not had time as yet to go thoroughly into them or to make comparisons as to the increase or decrease in crime.

How about Japanese prisons?

That is a most difficult question to answer. From a Japanese standpoint I should say that in most instances they are very good. Certainly with few exceptions they are kept clean, not too much crowded, well aired, and the work required of prisoners is not too heavy. But the system which places the different prisons under different managements I should say is bad. Then, from the foreign view, the food, while excellent for Japanese who are accustomed to it, is not suitable. The most serious objection I have, however, to the prisons from a foreigner's standpoint is non-provision of any heating during the winter months. Europeans would suffer greatly from the cold.

Are the prisoners well treated?

Too well, I should say. It is all moonshine for foreigners to tell harrowing tales about Japanese cruelty to prisoners. I don't know what was done in days gone by, but certainly to-day the prisoners are much better treated than in either Europe or America.

Their work is not too heavy, the hours for work are not too many, and, best of all, they are allowed a certain percentage of the sales of their work. This provides them with means at the expiration of their sentence and enables them to lead honest lives.

Have you been afforded every facility to inspect the prisons?

The Government has been very kind to me. They evidently had no desire to hide anything and gave me every facility to execute my work, for which I am most grateful. They were, however, somewhat tardy in granting permission to take photographs of the prisoners, from a fear I believe that the prisoners' feelings might be injured. However, I have obtained a full set of photographs of male and female prisoners and the buildings, all of which will appear next year in magazine form.

THE LATE CAPTAIN DUNN.

WE take the following notice of the late Captain of the Hongkong team, who perished in the wreck of the *Bokhara*, from the *Field* of Nov. 12:—"Cricketers will have seen the announcement of the melancholy fate which overtook the Hongkong Team travelling home from Shanghai in the *Bokhara* which was lost off the Pescadores on the night of Oct. 10. Among them was Captain J. Dunn, of the King's Liverpool Regiment, whose unusual excellence had placed him, not only in the front rank of army players, but also among the leading ranks of English cricketers. In 1879 and 1880 he was in the Harrow Eleven, and his correct but vigorous style gave great promise for the future. At Sandhurst his performances were excellent, and when he went to Ireland in 1882 his reputation

was already great. His best year was 1889 in which he compiled the altogether remarkable total of sixteen centuries, having twice topped the 200. In 1888 he went out with the team of Irish cricketers to America, where he favourably impressed all who saw him play; his best score was 126 against Fifteen of New York. The year 1889 saw him quartered at York, and he then played at the Scarborough Festival, and made fifty-five for England v. Middlesex. A distinguished career in first-class cricket would probably have been his. But circumstances led to his sailing for Hongkong in the winter of 1889, where he soon became known as the 'W. G. Grace of the Far East.' His average for the 1890-91 season was 107, with a top score of 208 not out. "Johnny Dunn" was deservedly popular among all cricketers and all his brother officers. Few who have met him or played with him will forget the cheerful keenness and activity which he displayed in all his occupations, but especially in cricket. His style was free and attractive, and his hitting often terrific; he exhibited great dash in the field, and had a very sure pair of hands. His loss will be mourned, not only by his most intimate friends at Hongkong and here at home, but also by all those who have ever met him, or can remember his unflagging zeal, constant good temper, and, above all, his modest unpretentious character.

A PLEA FOR THE SEA-SERPENT.

The contemptuous incredulity with which people are in the habit of meeting all stories of alleged glimpses of "the sea-serpent" has always appeared to us a little unscientific. When we realise the wonderful world which lies hidden from us at the bottom of the great seas,—its mountains and valleys, its strange scenery, its delicate and amazing vegetation, its rare colouring, and the infinite variety and number of its inhabitants—there is surely nothing very outrageous in the belief that there may be snake-like or dragon-like monsters there, larger and more formidable than any that mariners are known to be familiar with. It is at any rate a curious fact that scarcely a year passes in which credible and respectable witnesses do not seriously aver that they have seen something answering to the required description. Here is the latest instance. The whole of the officers, passengers, and crew of the mail-steamer *Angola*, says the *St. James's Gazette*, which arrived the other day at Liverpool, have signed a statement that they saw a gigantic marine monster in the neighbourhood of Lagos on the West African coast. One of the officers has even sketched it for the *Daily Graphic*. It is apparently as long as Oxford Street, with a head and neck which look like a cross between a giraffe and a boa-constrictor. In this head were two great green eyes, which occasionally glared at the ship. "Only the most sceptical," observes the *St. James's*, "will contest that the creature is beginning to grow tangible." We wonder it never occurred to the late Mr. Phineas T. Barnum to fit out an expedition in search of a specimen. It would have been worth a colossal fortune to him.

FIZZLE NEAR NEWCHANG.

A CERTAIN Emperor of China is dead. Not, be it understood, His Imperial Majesty Kuang Hsu, but some infatuated young villager who, through the folly of his grandfather, a member of one of those curious sects with which China is honeycombed, had been proclaimed Son of Heaven to his own exceeding disadvantage. The following notice of it, which we take from the *N.-C. Daily News*, will be found of interest. The writer, who dates from Newchang, says:—

We have just had a sort of rebellion in a teacup about twenty miles from here. A villager belonging to some unknown sect proclaimed his grandson Emperor, and with half a dozen friends, whom he declared like himself to be invulnerable, marched upon the district city some fifteen miles away. As his following did not increase, he returned home, when he had got within a mile or two of the town. In the night the *Hpaos* secretly carried information to the magistrate, who sent a *patte* of constables to arrest these madmen, as I think we may call them. The constables went to the village, but alarmed by the story about invulnerability, made no attempt to seize any one, and came back empty-handed. Next day the magistrate sent

for troops, and despatched a force of a couple of hundred men to the village. When the soldiers approached, the rebels set fire to their houses—there were only eight families of them—and marched out boldly to the fray, men and women, about twenty in all, armed with fowling pieces, pikes, and cudgels. The soldiers opened fire upon them from a discreet distance, but failing to hit any one, began to believe in their invulnerability and to feel that perhaps discretion was the better part of valour. At last, however, one of them bowled over a man, and then they made short work of the rest. A dozen or more were killed and the rest escaped into the hills.

Another Correspondent of our contemporary appears to have actually come across the dead body of the *soi-disant* Emperor. The writer was out shooting, and this is what he saw:—

The next morning, taking it rather easy, we were surprised about 10 o'clock, to see many persons running towards the brow of the hill, on the right of our road near the village of Hwaichuan-tun. As our carter and servants seemed desirous of ascertaining what was the cause of excitement, we rode across the ploughed and now deserted cotton fields, till we arrived near the object of attraction—a dead Chinaman, but from all accounts the remains of a very distinguished individual, indeed some say that he was the Emperor of China; others have it that he was only the leader of an incipient rebellion, which had just been nipped in the bud. For some time meetings had taken place, at the instigation of a Buddhist priest Li Ting-hou, and a young fellow named Li Shing-wun was proclaimed Emperor. The priest made the people believe that he possessed a medicine which rendered the body impervious to bullet or sword thrust. Well, in the evening of 28th November, a number of soldiers sent to arrest the rebels suddenly surrounded the latter, and took twenty prisoners. Li Shing-wun, who had imbued the wonderful antidote, was fired at in front without effect, but the Captain of the military, for a change, shot him in the back, which caused him to run five li, when, the effect of the medicine having, I suppose, passed away with the bullet, another Emperor of China went the way of all flesh, and his remains were found by us, as described above. We now learn that the whole family of Li, six persons, are dead, several heads being hung in baskets as customary, some on the high road, and the head-piece of the Emperor, false or not, is ornamenting a part of the city wall of Kaichow, 30 miles to the south of this.

FEMALE DETECTIVES.

THE complaint of women that there are few careers of usefulness open to them will soon become an anachronism. Steadily and surely they are corkscrewing their way into any number of professions which for millenniums have been a monopoly of the other sex. Their latest achievement appears to have been in the private-detective line. Now a "female detective" does not strike one, on a first hearing, as a particularly happy, or even pleasant, idea. It is improbable that any man would care to marry a female detective, or to know that his mother was one. And yet, if we may believe a writer in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, women are doing really good work in this direction, and some of them appear to be by no means the repulsive creatures that one would naturally suppose. "The employment of the sex in this capacity," says the writer, "is increasing largely, for it has been amply proved that a resourceful woman is frequently far more successful in solving unusual situations and mysteries than a man would be." A female detective must of course be a bit of an actress, one day masquerading as a Hallelujah lass, and another as a noisy burlesque chorus-girl. No doubt there are many women to whom all this would be attractive enough, and who would thoroughly enjoy the adventurous element in their strange calling. That women of good principle might, however, do really very beneficial work as detectives may be gathered from the two following stories, the authenticity of which is vouched for:—

Objections have been raised to women's undertaking private inquiry upon the ground that there is something sneaking and underhand about it. But against that may surely be set the opportunities they have for helping one another in grievous wrong. "I was glad," said one of the cleverest young women now engaged in the work, "to help one poor girl who came to my firm for assistance." It appeared that the girl had answered an advertisement in a weekly paper, and had been most cruelly deceived. Under promise of marriage and getting the furniture for the home, she had been induced to let the rascal have her little fund of savings, with which he promptly disappeared, leaving her absolutely destitute in her direst need, and without leaving the smallest clue by which he could be traced. It seemed hopeless, but it

struck the detective herself that from the cool deliberateness with which he had evidently acted he habitually practised this heartless form of fraud. She therefore thought she would try the effect of an advertisement in the same paper for a husband, announcing herself as good-looking, young, and possessed of a little ready money. The trap was well laid; and the very first answer she opened happened to be from the black-guard wanted. With confederates within call, if necessity arose, she had one or two meetings with him, until his intentions became quite plain enough to justify the theory she had formed; and in the end he was convicted at the Woolwich Police Court of obtaining money under false pretences.

A part often taken by the female detective is that of a servant, and it is generally in this capacity that she has some of her most tragic experiences. In the late General Election only a detective could have told the true story of why a popular county member did not seek re-election. For a long time he had been missing sums of money. The only person he could suspect was his secretary, though it was impossible to produce any evidence against him. His solicitors advised the employment of a woman as detective, and she, when consulted, stipulated that no one—not even his wife—should know her true mission. It was not long before she discovered that the real culprit was the wife herself, and that the reason of her theft was to supply a former lover with money. The detective waited until she had overwhelming evidence of both facts, and then simply put the question to the husband: "Do you know a Mr.—?" He only thought for an instant, and then the whole situation flashed upon him. He generously forebore to take any public action, but he shut up his country seat, and has left England—a disappointed, heartbroken man. On the subject of the election, too, it may be mentioned that a number of women were employed in various constituencies by both parties to trace and establish alleged offences under the Corrupt Practices Act.

THE HUANG-FU RIVER.

THE changes that are going on the bed of the Huang-pu between Shanghai and its estuary seem to be very rapid, and the consequences will probably be such as no one can accurately foretell. At the point where the river Woosung, commonly called the Soochow Creek, falls into the Huang-pu, the change has been so great as to cause a serious subsidence of the Garden Bridge, which will have to be repaired forthwith. But a far more serious event is approaching further down—nothing less, indeed, than the swallowing-up of the great island Tsung-ming. A Shanghai resident who lately visited Tsung-ming island informs our morning contemporary that the current is washing away the land in front of the principal city on the south side of the island. In the space of seven years, at least one li has been encroached upon and the occupants of the land have had to remove their houses further inland. The natives state that if the water eats away the land at the same rate that it has done, in less than three years the city walls will be in danger. A short distance from the city, there is a tract of land at least four miles square which was dry ground a year ago, but is now entirely submerged. The authorities of the island some years ago, consulted foreign experts as to the possibility of constructing a breakwater to resist the current, but the price was considered too high, the negotiations fell through. At the same time that the water is encroaching upon Tsung-ming, it is depositing accretions on Tashing Island further to the east, but the N.W. end of Bush Island is washing away.

CHRISTMAS IN TOKYO.

CHRISTMAS exercises in Japanese Churches are being observed with an enthusiasm and Christian ardour akin to the spirit of western congregations. During Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the several chapels in the city were nicely and neatly decorated, and, from reports to hand, the exercises by the children gave great credit to their ability to learn, and to their teachers for their untiring efforts in teaching them. One noticeable feature of the recent exercises is the absence of foreign labour in a greater degree than in the past, and the ability of Japanese Christians to arrange, prepare, and conduct an entertainment on strictly Christian customs and principles.

THE RADICALS AND OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS.

THE Radicals are apparently determined not to suffer the old question of official interference in elections to die in any semblance of peace.

Two of their most inveterate agitators, Messrs. Tatekawa and Haseba, have identified themselves with this particular onslaught upon the Government, and are not unlikely to rally their Party for another charge. A meeting of the Second Heads (*Bucho*) of the *Fiyu-to* was held on the 23rd instant for the purpose of discussing the propriety of renewing the programme of last session by making the subject the text of a fresh Address to the Throne. No definite decision was come to, the time intervening before the New Year's recess not being deemed sufficient to discuss the matter thoroughly. But renewed consideration will be given to it next month. Meanwhile, rumour says that a majority of the Sectional Heads are in favour of re-opening the question in the Diet.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE OSAKA LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

THE Local Assembly Osaka was suspended on the 26th instant. According to information received by the metropolitan press, the meeting of the *Fu-kwai* on that day was marked by a scene of extraordinary disorder and confusion. The subject of debate was the second reading of the clause in the Estimates relating to expenditures on account of police *dis mœurs*. All other business of the session had purposely been given precedence over this clause. The total amount of expenditure in question was originally 12,000 yen, but had been cut down to 8,000 yen by the Standing Committee. When the day's proceedings were opened, several members of the extreme party, such as Messrs. Takaoka Yataro, Mori Sakutarō and others, put several questions to the delegates of the Governor with regard to the conduct of the latter and of the police at the time of the last general parliamentary elections. The propounders of these questions alleged that when Mr. Oi Kentaro's lecture meeting at Ikeuchi in the Province of Kawachi was invaded and disturbed by 80 or 90 ruffians, the police constables in attendance left the intruders to work their own sweet will; that the same locality was vigorously canvassed by Mr. Nagaya Akikage, a clerk of the Osaka City Government, in the interest of an official candidate; that Mr. Nakahara Shobei and another individual at Imabashi, in Osaka, were forced by the chief of the police station of the District to sign a written declaration that they would not vote for Mr. Joyoda Bunzaburo, a Popular candidate; and that roughs in the employ of the official candidates were fed and entertained out of the secret service fund of the police. Mr. Yamashita, Chief of Police, in reply, declared that no interference was attempted in elections, but refused to take notice of the above questions as they did not lie within the scope of the subject then under the Assembly's consideration. One of the propounders of the questions thereupon introduced a motion for making a representation to the Minister of Home Affairs for the removal of the Governor and the Chief of Police. This proposal was the signal for a tumultuous outburst of applause, not only from the members' seats but also from the strangers' gallery. When the President, Mr. Kitada, rose to put the motion to the vote, several of the moderate members, who had by this time recovered their courage, attempted to prevent the voting by striking the table and shaking the *soroban* (abacus) which forms part of the usual paraphernalia of the members of a Local Assembly. Despite these obstructions, the voting took place, and the motion obtained the support of a majority. But the members of the Moderate party, apparently rendered desperate by the situation, challenged the President's decision. Some of them went so far as to throw at him the blocks on which their numbers are written, while a few rushed towards the platform where the President's table stood, for the purpose of dragging him down from his place. These truculent gentlemen were, however, met in front of the President's seats by several members of the Extreme Party, and a fight ensued. The noise being heard by the police constables stationed before the Assembly building, they at once hastened into the Hall. An apparition so unusual as this invasion of blue-coated officials had the effect of stopping the unsightly struggle between the members

and directing the indignation of both sides against the constables who had dared to violate the sanctity of the Assembly Hall. Appeals were addressed to the President to take strong measures against the police, and he in turn complained to the Chief of Police, who promised to investigate the matter. Order having been at last re-established, the President formally gave notice to the Secretary of the City Government, who was in the Hall, that the Representation having been duly voted by the Assembly, would be forwarded to the Minister of Home Affairs. Mr. Oura, the Secretary, then warned the Assembly, that the voting of a resolution in direct violation of the 33rd Article of the Local Assemblies Regulations would involve suspension, which warning was shortly afterwards followed by a notice from the Governor, ordering the suspension of the Assembly and informing the members that during the time of suspension they need not stay in Osaka.

Mr. Oura, the Secretary, was at once despatched to Tokyo to report the affair to the Home Minister. It is believed that the sentence of suspension will be followed by one of dissolution. A rumour is already circulated to the effect that the present Governor, Mr. Yamada, will be succeeded by Mr. Nakaye Kozo, a member of the Upper House and lately Governor of Shiga Prefecture.

THE "KOKKAI" AND THE FOREIGN EMPLOYÉS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE *Kokkai*, just before its suspension, returned to the subject of the foreign employés of the Japanese Government. Before answering to the criticisms which its first article elicited from this journal and others, the Tokyo newspaper again makes some general observations on the position and influence of the foreign servants of the Government. In early history there are many instances of Koreans and Chinese rising high in the Imperial service, but they were invariably naturalized as Japanese subjects before being admitted into the service. Moreover, even in the case of naturalized Koreans and Chinese, there were always certain limits beyond which they could not hope for promotion. In pursuance of this national custom—continues the *Kokkai*—Japan excludes foreigners from her civil as well as military services. But the high trust reposed in men like General Capron, Mr. Morley, Mr. Boissonade, Colonel Mecker, and so forth, and the treatment given to them, far exceed anything within the reach of Japanese officials of corresponding rank and position. These gentlemen were all men of uncommon ability and rendered signal services to this country. But in the case of other foreign employés of the Government, there have been some who have positively disgraced the branches of service to which they belonged. To mention a few cases, a Professor of chemistry in the *Kaisei Gakko* was so addicted to hard drinking that he was one day seen sleeping on the stone steps in front of the shrine of Shimezu at Shiba, while another professor in the same institution turned out to have been a book-keeper in a small mercantile house in his own country. Even these persons received handsome salaries, and were well treated by their employers. Indeed, everybody coming out to Japan expects to receive a high salary, and consequently Japan has been unable to obtain the services of men of real ability and accomplishments, on account of their costliness. With a few exceptions, all the foreigners hitherto engaged by the Japanese Government have been men unworthy of notice. "Thus their services," says our contemporary, "have been not only uneconomical but injurious to the reputation of our country." The *Kokkai* next asserts that foreign employés of the Government have been the means of divulging State secrets to the outside world. "Through whom did Count Okuma's Treaty Revision scheme leak out? And who again disclosed Japanese military secrets to Berlin society?" The *Kokkai* then goes on to speak of the vast influence which foreign employés are capable of exercising over the minds of the Japanese. It cites the case of Mr. Boissonade, whose Lec-

tures on Jurisprudence form the basis of the legal education of the majority of Judges and lawyers in this country. In his case, however, our contemporary confesses that his influence has been beneficial to Japan, but its purpose in alluding to the extent of the good done by him is evidently to point to the possibility of an exactly opposite instance. It applauds European Universities which, though they open professorships in pure science to foreigners, never extend similar privileges to the latter in the case of studies calculated to exercise great influence over the character of the students as Sociology, Political Economy, Politics, Science, History, and Philosophy.

The *Kokkai* questions the accuracy of a Yohohama journal's remark that life in Japan is more expensive than in Europe. That the reverse is true is amply borne out, say the *Kokkai*, by the testimony of Japanese returning from Europe as well as of European travellers in Japan. It also refers to the luxurious mode of life among missionaries in this country, and to the savings effected by the Professors and instructors engaged by the Japanese Government. These facts all point to the inexpensiveness of life in Japan, and should any doubt be still entertained on the subject, readers are referred to the London *Economist* of October 1, 1892. With regard to another assertion, namely, that the result of dispensing with the services of Englishmen in Provincial schools, has been to lower the standard of proficiency in the use of the English language among the pupils in those institutions, the *Kokkai* replies that, in its opinion, what is needed by Japanese youths is not proficiency in speaking or writing English, but ability to read books written in that language. This is an important educational question, and the *Kokkai* refrains from dwelling upon it at any length.

Replying to our own criticisms, the *Kokkai* regrets that we mentioned only cases of professors in the Imperial University, and did not allude to men like Dr. Roesler and others, who receive more than a thousand yen per month. Yet the *Kokkai* itself confesses that these employés are entitled to receive large salaries. Even in the case of the University Professors, it is to be borne in mind that, though their salaries range between 300 and 400 yen, they are allowed to occupy furnished houses free of rent. We need scarcely say that in this statement the *Kokkai* is greatly misinformed. Moreover, our contemporary asserts that the salaries offered by the Imperial University are by no means despicable in the eyes of some of even the best scholars in Europe, — is proved by the willingness of a man of a certain Doctor's standing to accept the offer of a chair. With regard to our comparison between the prospects of a foreign employé in Japan and those to be hoped for in a similar walk of life at home, the *Kokkai* remarks that men who could not easily make a successful start in life in their own countries, have been enabled to obtain good positions at home on their return from Japan by the work which they had accomplished and the position they had occupied in the latter country. In this catalogue are included Dr. Griffin, Prof. Morse, Prof. Fenollosa, Prof. Chamberlain, Dr. Cutter, and Dr. Brown. Our contemporary also mentions that the Japanese Government increases the salaries of its foreign employés. As to honours and recognition, it refers to the cases of General Capron, Prof. Lyman, Mr. Morley, Colonel Crawford, and others, who were granted Imperial audiences, were decorated with superior orders of merit, and were rewarded with other marks of honour and respect. Indeed, the *Kokkai* maintains that the foreign employés of the Government are actually enjoying respect and honour which they could never receive at home. In short, our contemporary is convinced that the majority of foreign employés in Japan establish a title to a reputation at home by their stay in this country, that they are capable of saving money while here, and that they enjoy in Japan profound respect and honour.

We shall not pursue this subject. The *Kok-*

hai's errors of fact might be cited to discredit its general argument. But to what purpose? If Japan thinks herself competent to dispense with foreign aid in educational, scientific, legal, medical, and commercial fields, let her by all means make the experiment. Nothing that we can say would materially affect a belief based on sentiment rather than on logical conviction. We do not quarrel with the sentiment. It is legitimate and natural. But we do most distinctly quarrel with the tone of complaint underlying the *Kokkai's* article. Did that journal frankly say that foreigners have served Japan faithfully and zealously, but that the time has come when the nation thinks itself capable of walking independently, we should have nothing to object. It is not for foreigners themselves to assert their own indispensability.

Looking back over the history of the past 25 years, we can recall, and do not hesitate to acknowledge cases of foreign employés who did neither credit to themselves nor useful service to Japan. But such instances were altogether exceptional, and serve only to give greater prominence to the generally zealous and efficient character of the work done by Japan's foreign assistants. It is noticeable that the good positions obtained by so many foreigners on their return to their countries, is attributed by the *Kokkai* itself to the work which they accomplished in Japan. Such an assertion is difficult to reconcile with the depreciatory tone underlying our contemporary's article. There has always been a disposition—and of late it has distinctly increased in strength—among Japanese of the junior generation to belittle the capacities and deny the usefulness of the foreign employé. He eclipses their efforts and stands more or less in their path of promotion. A sentiment so obviously dictated by self-interest is explicable enough and can easily be discounted. But we did not expect to find it echoed in the columns of the *Kokkai*, a journal whose mental horizon had not previously been limited by the jealousies of personal ambition or the envies of premature aspiration. It is not for us to appraise what Japan owes to her foreign employés. The task would be ungracious and unbecoming, and moreover, despite the utterances of the *Kokkai*, we have too much faith in the judgment of the Japanese nation to believe that it will arrive at a false or an unfair estimate. It has been shown by actual figures published in our correspondence columns, that the salaries paid by Japan to her foreign employes, so far from being, as the *Kokkai* claims, in excess of the emoluments attaching to similar positions in the Occident, are greatly inferior. But that is a point which we should not have thought of raising had not the *Kokkai's* remarks been addressed to it in such a misleading manner. We should not have thought of raising it for the simple reason that to gird at a salary voluntarily accepted does not become a man of common sense. The foreign employé serves Japan because he finds his account in doing so. Japan employs him because she finds his services worth paying for. It is a question of mutual convenience and benefit. But no one must imagine that the foreign employé lives by the banks of any Pactolus or sees before him the bays of any Parnassus when he devotes his abilities and energies to Japan's service. He is kindly and courteously treated; he receives his salary with unvarying regularity; he is even honoured, in some cases, with marks of valued distinction. But he has no career, no future. The kindest advice, the advice that we have never failed to offer to any fellow-countryman who showed a disposition to devote himself for a lengthy period to Japan's service, is to make all haste homeward, before anchors are cast which cannot easily be raised, and before the chances of winning distinction and a competence elsewhere become as slender as they have always been for foreigners in this country. We beg the *Kokkai* to note that these words are not written in any spirit of complaint. Service in Japan, as has been said above, is not compulsory; if a foreigner chooses to serve here, he has no business to blame others because his choice proves less happy than he

anticipated. Let each side be just, however. Japan has not overpaid her foreign employes, neither have they served her ill. If she thinks that she can dispense with their aid, let her try. We wish her success, and are ready to congratulate her if she wins it. All that we object to is an attempt to place the question on the false bases of excessive emoluments and inefficient services. There has been nothing of the kind in a general rule.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS AGAINST THE RADICALS.

THE *Choya Shimbun* reports that the principal members of the Progressionist Party recently held repeated conferences in the residence of their leader at Waseda. These meetings having been kept strictly secret, the particulars of what took place there are not known. But our contemporary professes to have been able to obtain trustworthy information about the attitude of the Progressionists towards the Radicals. So long as Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, continues to exercise such vast influence over his Party, the Progressionists have no hope of maintaining friendly relations with the Radicals. For the present, the *Kaishin-to* will refrain from coming into collision with the *Jiyu-to*, but will try to co-operate with the latter on minor questions. But so soon as a favourable occasion offers, they will not hesitate to declare war against the Radicals and will spare no pains to attack and humiliate them. When that moment arrives, the *Kyushu* section of the Radical party will go over to the *Kaishin-to* camp. Such is the information supplied to the *Choya*. We reproduce it for what it is worth, noting, however, that it is confirmed by the New's Agency's intelligence, which interprets the outcome of the above meetings to have been a strong determination on the part of the *Kaishin-to* to attack the Radical fortress with the utmost vigour. The conclusion supposed to have been arrived at by the Progressionists is that the *Jiyu-to* alone constitute a strong political association. As for the National Unionists, they are regarded simply as an assemblage of conservatives out of touch with the time, and of business men who have their own interests chiefly at heart. But the Radicals, rising on the crest of a tide of popularity, are foemen worthy of *Kaishin-to* steel. From a romantic point of view that may be a good reason for assailing the *Jiyu-to* stronghold, but in other respects it does not appear very intelligible.

THE "RE-ASSESSMENT PARTY."

THE so-called Re-assessment party is a temporary combination of members of the Lower House pledged to the consummation of this long cherished object at whatever cost. All sorts of rumours are spread about their doings, and it is not easy to distinguish truth from falsehood in the mass of talk. The latest story is that certain members of this combination begin to show signs of alarm lest summary treatment be accorded to them by their respective parties should they support the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels. But by way of set-off to this story, it is reported that one of the Radical members of the combination, Mr. Higashiro Heitaro, has had a secret conference with the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Furusawa Shigeru being represented as the means of bringing about the meeting.

INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL HARRISON.

THE following account sent by Mr. Sydney Gedge to *The Times* of his interview at the White House with General Harrison, gives, says the *Daily News*, an idea of the U.S. President's calibre as a statesman:—

The President began with the question, "How do your constituents (at Stockport) like the McKinley tariff?" "Not at all," was my reply. "But I doubt whether you, Sir, will keep their manufactured goods out of America, for you have corn of the value of £100,000,000 to sell to us, and certainly won't be paid for it in gold." "Why not?" asked the President. "Because," I replied, "we cannot spare it. It's doubtful whether we have so much gold in the country." "Then," said he, "I shall drive you into bimetalism, which I want to do." "But, if we do pay you in gold," I asked, "of what use will the gold be to you unless you spend it in productions or manufactures which you don't possess?" Mr. Harrison replied

that he considered it the chief commercial object of every country to hoard up as large a store of gold as possible in the national treasury. Respect for the President's position stopped the retort which rose to my lips—that in England old women like to do the same in a stocking.

The President then asked me how, in my opinion, their corn would be paid for, and was evidently annoyed at the confident tone of my reply, "With our goods," and challenged me to prove it. I said, "Well, Sir, wishing to take to my people at home some choice presents from the United States, I have been to your best shops in New York and Washington, and could find nothing suitable for the purpose except things made in England or France, and the storekeepers told me that they had no high-class article of American manufacture. 'The English goods are best,' said they; 'our rich people will have them, whatever they have to pay, and they certainly have to pay half as much again as we do.' 'Well,' said Mr. Harrison, 'free trade may be best for England, but protection is best for America.' 'I'm glad you think so, Sir,' was my reply, 'because, although if the United States were to abandon protection the trade between you and us would largely increase, yet you, with our enormous advantages, would soon undersell us in the neutral markets and drive us from them, whereas now we keep them to ourselves.' 'Neutral markets,' said he, scoffingly, 'half-savage places!' And so we parted.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

THE Japan Society of London now numbers 315 members. It has certainly had a most successful career up to the present. The Society's programme for the next few months contains an interesting series of papers. The next is to be read by Mrs. Salway on the subject of "Japanese Fans," and the following are promised:—

"Certain Instances of the Adaptation of European Designs to the Decoration of Japanese Swords," by Mr. M. B. Huish, LL.B., Member of Council.
 "The Family Relations in Japan," by Mr. D. Goh, Hon. Secretary.
 "Japanese Shipping, Ancient and Modern," by Dr. F. Elgar, LL.D., F.R.S.E., (late Director of Dockyards at the Admiralty, &c.) Member of Council.
 "Some Difficulties encountered by beginners in the Study of the Japanese Spoken Language," by Mr. A. Diósy, Hon. Secretary.
 "The Popular School of Japanese Pictorial Art," by Professor Wm. Anderson, F.R.C.S., Chairman of Council.
 "Ancient Japanese Lacquer Work and Artists in Lac," by Mr. Ernest Hart, Member of Council.
 "Wood and its Application to Japanese Artistic and Industrial Design," by Mr. George Cawley, M.I.M.E., M.J.S., &c. (late Imperial Engineering College, Tokyo).

FIRE.

A NARROW escape from a conflagration of considerable dimensions occurred on Saturday evening at No. 58, the business premises and residence of Mr. Jno. W. Hall, between six and seven o'clock. A suspicious smell of smoke led to a search, and fire was discovered in a room on the north side of the building. Here the mantelpiece was found burning, the body of the fire being at the back of it, and the portion already consumed being fully a foot above the mirror. By tearing down the mantelpiece and mirror the interior was got at, and a liberal application of water extinguished the flames. Two or three minutes later, however, the fire would have reached the roof, and been entirely beyond control. The room was heated by a stove, the pipe of which was led through a large stone, and notwithstanding that the ironwork in the stone was originally a quarter of an inch thick, rust and heat had caused holes through which apparently sparks or ignited soot had dropped between the walls and raised a fire. The lesson taught by this is that no matter how well and strongly fitted originally, all such affairs should be occasionally overhauled.

MRS. BROWN POTTER.

Wx (*N.-C. Daily News*) hear from Mrs. Brown Potter and Mr. Kyrle Bellew that the hope to visit Shanghai again before long. They have been playing Zola's realistic drama *Therese* with great success in the States, and the *Washington Post* says of them:—Mrs. Potter's *Therese* is quiet, contained, but weirdly effectively. She is an impressionist rather than an elocutionist now, and her every pose and expression carries a thought more swiftly and surely than speech. She was best in the quieter scenes, although in the third act she rose to the occasion with power, if not to entire satisfaction. Mr. Bellew's admirable methods are too well known to need additional commendation, and his *Laurent* is a perfect counterpart of *Therese*.

WOOSUNG BAR AGAIN.

THE U.S.S. *Marion* arrived at Woosung from Nagasaki having on board some of the officers

and men and stores belonging to the *Palos*. As the *Marion* could not cross the bar to land these, the U.S.S. *Monocacy* was sent down to Woosung to take the men and stores from her. The *Ngankin* was detained outside Woosung owing to want of water on the Bar. She met H.M.S. *Porpoise* bound up at 6.30 a.m. on the 13th instant off Huangchow, the German gunboat *Wolf* bound up off the Little Orphan at 5.30 p.m. the same day, and the French gunboat *Viper* bound down off Dove Point two hours later. The *Saikio Maru*, after being detained outside Woosung from the 14th inst., managed to cross the Bar yesterday (18th).

THE EASTERN WHALING CO., LIMITED.

A MEETING of the shareholders of this company was held at No. 75, Yokohama, on the evening of the 22nd to discuss as to the advisability of carrying on the company or winding it up forthwith. Mr. John Milne proposed that the company be carried on, and this proposition was seconded by Mr. H. J. Snow. Mr. Jno. W. Hall stated that the greater part of the capital had been lost, but if the affair was now wound up the company could pay its debts, and the shareholders get back a small portion of the money invested, and as an amendment to Mr. Milne's proposition, proposed that the company be wound up forthwith. The amendment was seconded by Mr. T. Abbey, but on being put to the meeting was lost.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

THERE will be no ordinary meeting of the Society in January of 1893, but the Committee are trying to arrange for a lantern meeting, to be held in Yokohama, about the middle of the month. The next ordinary meeting of the Society will be held on Friday, February 3rd, 1893, at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku-Kiokai). Nishikonyacho, Kibashi, Tokyo, beginning at 5 p.m. On the same day, and at the same place, there will be a special meeting at 4 p.m. to consider the resignation of the Japanese Treasurer, and the appointment of a new Treasurer, also to consider the appointment of two new members of Committee.

DECORATIONS.

WE mentioned some time ago that His Majesty the Emperor had been pleased to confer on Captain J. Ingles, R.N., Adviser to the Imperial Naval Department, the Second class of the Order of the Sacred Mirror. The fact is now announced in the *Official Gazette*. From the same source we learn that Major Baron A. J. von Grutschreiber, of the Prussian General Staff, has been honoured with the Third class of the same Order, as has also been the distinguished Italian artilleryist, Major Braccialini. Lieut. Baron G. de Labry has received the Fifth class of the Sacred Mirror.

THE BANKING REGULATIONS.

THE Bill for postponing the operation of the Banking Regulations, as well as the Deposit Bank Regulations, having passed both Houses of the Diet, has received Imperial Sanction and been published in the *Official Gazette*. The necessity for deferring the operation of these Regulations arises from the fact that their provisions are closely connected with those of the Civil and Commercial Codes, and since the latter are not to be enforced for some years, the former, of course, cannot be put into immediate operation.

COLLISION OFF WADA POINT.

A COLLISION took place, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 22nd inst., between the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Ajikawa Maru* and a junk named the *Minato Maru*, on her way to Kobe from Moji, off Wada Point, on Monday afternoon. Both vessels were slightly damaged, but were able to proceed on their respective ways without assistance.

THE HINDOO APPRECIATION.

A CORRESPONDENT writing on the silver question in the *Times of India* says:—The prudent Hindu originally believes that gold has touched

its highest point, that the tide is on the turn, for he has for the first time in the last fifty years, begun to sell largely of his stores. In 1891 we see the imports of gold valued at 580 lakhs of rupees; the exports at 71 lakhs of rupees. In 1892 for the first six months the figures are 54 and 210 respectively. I think the Indian holders may be trusted to have rightly gauged the financial condition of gold.

RADICALS IN CHIBA PREFECTURE.

THE Prefecture of Chiba is one of the principal strongholds of the Radical party. Out of the 9 Representatives returned to the Diet from that locality, 7 belong to the *Jiyu-to*. The local Radicals held a general meeting on the 25th instant at the Kano-ro, Chiba. The meeting was attended by more than a hundred persons, including the Radical members of the Diet from the locality as well as Mr. Kanamori who appeared as a representative of the *Jiyu* newspaper. Mr. Ito Tokutaro occupied the chair. The first business of the day was the election of the local delegates of the party, but the election was postponed to the 15th of January next, when votes are to be sent to the office of the *Tokai Shimpō*, a Radical organ at Chiba. Mr. Nishimura Jinyemon then introduced a motion for the establishment of a Radical club at Chiba, and produced draft regulations. The motion was duly seconded and passed, and the regulations were entrusted to a committee, the members of which were named on the spot by the Chairman of the meeting. This committee was also entrusted with the duty of fixing the amount to be contributed by the local Radicals towards the general expenses of the Party. This completed the business of the day, and the company sat down to a supper which was very plain, we read, but satisfactory to all present. A special feature of the entertainment was the absence of *gaiha*, which circumstance is highly praised by the *Jiyu*, our source of information. Before the company dispersed, the Committee reported that, with regard to the burden to be borne by the locality for Party expenses, the amount had been fixed at 100 yen per annum distributed in varying proportions among the different rural divisions (*gun*).

Chiba Prefecture seems to be one of the few localities in which the relations between the inhabitants and the local officials are not strained. While, in many other places, attention is distracted by serious collisions between the local assemblies and the Governor, the *Ken Kwai* of Chiba completed its session on the 24th instant in peace and harmony. On the same evening, at the instance of the President of the Local Assembly, a *réunion* was organized. It was attended by both the local officials and the principal citizens of the place.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK AS A STARTER.

A LATE resident in Japan writes from home:—"I find in a recent issue of a sporting paper a sketch of the late Lord George Bentinck as a sportsman, and I could not help being struck by the writer's description of his lordship's style of starting a large field of horses, seeing that precisely the same tactics were adopted at a couple of meetings in Yokohama with excellent results. It is fair to assume that the Yokohama starter had not heard of Lord George Bentinck's method of getting a field off well together without delay, seeing that his lordship died in 1848, but the systems adopted are so precisely similar that I attach the cutting as showing a strange coincidence which I think is worth reproduction. Notwithstanding the good results achieved at the Yokohama meetings referred to—the almost invariable level starts, and the avoidance of false starts and delays—I distinctly remember that there were not wanting persons who found fault—not with the results, but with the method—simply because their ideas of starting were not followed out. Here is the reference to Sir George Bentinck:—

"A starting-flag in his hand, and followed by eight-and-twenty racehorses, stepping like a troop of old Frenchmen, bearing a tulip-bed aloft—so brilliantly shone the silken jackets of the riders in the sun—the

observed of a hundred thousand eyes. Lord George Bentinck, as steward of the races, undertook to start the immense field for the Great Yorkshire Handicap on a plan of his own invention.

"Hitherto the functionary who had performed the office of starter, after doing his best, or rather his worst, to get the horses in line, simply ordered the jockeys to 'go!' as frequently having to recall them by a distant signal, after they had galloped over three parts of the distance, by reason of some obstinate brute—man or horse—refusing to obey the order and remaining fresh for the next essay. Lord George rectified this very inefficient plan by an equestrian trigger of his own invention, viz., the posting a man with an advance flag directly in view of all the jocks—on whom they were to fix their undivided attention and to 'go!' without fail, on pain of a pecuniary fine on seeing the colour dropped in front.

"The main duty rested with the noble starter in getting the horses in line, a manoeuvre he accomplished by great patience, and occasionally walking them backwards and forwards, till assured on his part that they were so, when he, standing on their flank—unseen by horse or rider—suddenly lowered his flag in signal to the man ahead to do the same; when, if the jockeys were disposed to act fairly, or a horse was not especially restive, a false start was next to impossible.

"On this occasion the immense field bounded off at the first signal, notwithstanding it was Lord George's first essay, and the countless throng cheered the gallant starter with deafening shouts of delight and admiration.

The foregoing sketch, it will be observed, presents Lord George also in his character of turf reformer, which constitutes his strongest claim upon the gratitude of racing men.

THE RADICALS.

It is reported that the Radical members of the Diet held a meeting on the 25th instant, and considered their policy towards other political bodies. They confessed that in some instances they had been too confiding in their attitude, and that to this circumstances they owed a part of the humiliating defeats suffered by their measures. They consequently resolved that, with the exception of questions absolutely demanding communication with other parties, no correspondence whatever should be opened, and that they should vote independently of all other political associations.

The Radicals who do not possess seats in the Diet recently elected a committee of administration. The members of the committee, Messrs. Matsuda Kichisaburo, Kadowaki Shigeo, Yamada Itaro, Nakajima Matagoro, and Sato Sadamoto, held a conference on the 27th instant, and voted the following resolutions: First, the names of all Radical members of the Diet absenting themselves from the House shall be published in the papers of the following morning. Secondly, the names of persons attending the conferences of the Radical members of the Diet shall be similarly published. Thirdly, Radicals who do not possess seats in the Diet, shall hold a *réunion* on the 11th of January next. Fourthly, a meeting of the Committee of Administration shall be held on the 3rd of January next. It will be noticed from the above that the Radicals not having seats in the Diet are bent upon exercising strict supervision over the conduct of their Representatives in the Lower House.

THIEVES IN TOKYO.

THE foreign residents in Tokyo have recently been unpleasantly reminded of the fact that there are such things as thieves in Tokyo. Outside Tsukiji, where a burglary embarrassing to its victims marked the commencement of the cold weather, there have been three crimes of robbery within as many weeks. The first occurred at the residence of Major-General Palmer, in Azabu. In this case the thieves, baffled by iron bars protecting the sitting-room window which they had chosen as their place of operations, were only able to appropriate a purse lying on a table within arm's reach of the window. But their plan of operations nearly involved a conflagration, for the taper which they thrust through the bars to direct their proceedings, set fire to a muslin curtain, and by what happy chance the flame failed to spread, it is difficult to say. The second attempt was at the house of Lieut. T. H. James, in the same neighbourhood. Here the thief was content with an over-

coat, which, being new, probably seemed a desirable acquisition in the cold weather. The third took place at the residence of Mr. Y. Duer, in Shiba Park. The burglars in this instance carried off quite a number of articles of apparel and jewelry, happily not of great value. Watch-dogs will become valuable if this kind of campaign continues.

The closing days of the year in Tokyo are usually distinguished by a marked increase in the number of burglars. It is recorded, however, that this year is an exception, so far as the Japanese residents are concerned, whatever may be the experience of the foreign. The happy result is attributed to police vigilance. It is stated that the Metropolitan Police Bureau recently instructed the Chiefs of Police Stations throughout the city to be more than usually vigilant in preventing pilfering and burglary, and that, in consequence of this instruction, about 400 detectives have been placed on watch, in addition to 350 constables on regular duty at out stations, and 353 constantly on patrol. This large force has had the desired effect. The maximum number of burglaries and petty larcenies reported on any one day this fall has not exceeded seventy, which shows a marked decrease as compared with the record of former years.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A MOST enjoyable entertainment was given by the Literary Society last evening in the Van Schaick Hall, the spacious room being crowded. The programme was exceptionally long, but its numbers comprised some sparkling gems. Among them were the violin selections of Mr. Ramseger—one of which, a Menuetto in E, was of his own composing. It was a dainty piece of writing and found full expression at its author's hand. Miss Proctor's songs were very charmingly given; while the March from "Athalia" went with vigour and good execution. The programme, which had to be altered here and there on account of indisposition on the part of some of the advertised performers, was as follows:—

Overture	"Il Barbiere di Siviglia"	Rossini.
Original Paper	"Christmas in the Olden Time"	Meacham.
P.F. and Violin	Menuetto in E	Mozart.
Songs	(a) "Good Night"	Frantz.
	(b) "The Maiden's Wish"	Chopin.
P.F. Solo	"Mazurka"	Mason.
Song	"Non è ver"	Mattel.
Quator	"March in 'Athalia'"	Mendelssohn.
P.F. Duo	"Invitation à la Valse"	Weber.
Song	"Auld Robin Gray"	Lindley.
Violin Solo	"Elegie in E flat"	Ersat.
Song	"In a Gondola"	Sullivan.
Recitation	"The Convict's Christmas"	Carleton.
P.F. Solo	"Polonaise in C Minor"	Chopin.
Song	"The Chord of Love"	Behrend.
P.F. Solo	"Tam o' Shanter's ride"	Warren.
Song	"The Chief Mate's Story"	Postel.
Song	"Rock me to sleep, Mother"	O'Donnell.
Song	"Jerusalem"	Parker.
Song	"The Children of the City"	Adams.
P.F. and Organ	Chorus from 42nd Psalm	Mendelssohn.

THE PROPRIETORSHIP OF THE "PALL MALL GAZETTE."

ACCORDING to the November number of the *Review of Reviews*, the statement we reproduced the other day to the effect that Sir Charles Dilke was the purchaser of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is untrue; the paper in question having passed into the hands of the Unionists. Mr. Stead moans and shrieks about the transference as though he had lost his head. One would think a Derby winner had been taken straight from the paddock to finish its days between the shafts of an omnibus, or some beautiful and virtuous maiden sold against her will into disreputable slavery. Listen to this:—"They"—its jealous contemporaries—"were not even able to raise a chorling chorus of satisfaction when the news came that the *Pall Mall* had been sold to a company-promoter, who was reported to be the agent of a son of Israel, who, after cooling the fever of speculation by libations of Kops's ale, desired to complete his experience by owning a paper. Here was Samson sold as bond-slave to the Philistines in good sooth, and yet the lords of the Philistines had not even the heart to laugh aloud when the purchaser proceeded to put out the eyes of his thrall."—This is surely a curious subject for complaint. Fancy a man being aggrieved because no one gloried at his expense!—"Yet a sense of fraternity

might well have evoked an expression of sympathy, if not of protest, at so sorry a spectacle as the sale of an organ of public opinion in the open market-place. Mr. Thompson had, of course, a perfect legal right to do as he liked with his own. But if the Czar were to sell St. Isaac's Cathedral to the Mohammedans, he might still be within his legal rights, but his action would probably cost him his crown. There has seldom been a more cynical and unashamed exercise of the money power in journalism, and in the interest of the profession it is sincerely to be hoped that it will prove an unprofitable investment." But after all said and done, whatever the *Pail Mail* may have been in years gone by, it has now long ceased to have much political power. When a paper goes in heavily for illustrations, and a "Children's Page," it ceases to be the organ of serious politicians.

APPALLING DISASTER NEAR CANTON.

A CANTON correspondent sends us (*China Mail*) the following particulars of a terrible catastrophe which occurred at a place about 50 miles west of Canton, some two weeks ago:—"At Kam Li in Shiu Hing district a temple had been visited by a band of robbers who demanded a sum of several thousand taels which was refused by those in charge of the temple. An immense mat-shed in front of the temple was crowded with people who were witnessing a theatrical performance then in progress. This shed the robbers set fire to, and the people rushed panic-stricken into the temple, the main entrance of which caught fire, and the result was that over fourteen hundred (1,400) people were either burned to death or smothered; most of the deaths were caused by suffocation, the wind having driven the smoke into the temple. A careful register just taken by the Magistrate results at present in 1,940 missing. On December 4th the native hospital (Oi Yuk Tong) sent over 700 coffins to the scene of the disaster, besides many that were taken from the shops. Fatsan also sent hundreds of coffins. I have never seen the Chinese so awe-struck over anything as over this disaster which has resulted in such fearful loss of life."

THE SILVER QUESTION.

We learn from the *N.C. Daily News* that

A protest signed by fourteen merchants and brokers, and the agents of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, in Calcutta, has been lodged with the Bengal Chamber of Commerce against the memorial of the Indian Currency Association. They declare that "the memorial is based upon a highly incorrect representation of facts, and its prayer to Parliament to empower the Government of India to deal with the Currency as it may deem fit, is one which, in our opinion, should on no account be granted." In regard to this protest the *Englishman* says:—"It is curious that signatories have apparently been unequal to the task of meeting the arguments of the memorialists, or of submitting reasons why their prayer should not be granted. Of the two banks with appear among the signatories, one was only established in Calcutta during the present year, while the other is the only Exchange Bank that is worked entirely on a silver capital, and is therefore vitally interested in preventing the fall in the metal which must follow the declaration of a gold standard for India. As a contribution to the currency controversy the protest is insignificant. The number of its signatories makes a poor show as compared with the sixty-six members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce who signed the original memorial."

DOG STEALING.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—"The stealing of dogs and shipping them away from the port seems to have become an organised business, and residents at the outposts are requested to note the advertisement on our front page, in which the matter is referred to." When a valuable dog is missed in Yokohama, the first thing the owner does is to communicate with friends in Shanghai with a view to its recovery.

THE PACIFIC MAIL AND O. AND O. ROUTES.

It is announced that during the winter months on the trips from Yokohama to San Francisco, the steamers of these companies will not go North of Latitude 40, thereby avoiding the cold and disagreeable weather so often experienced on the Great Circle Track, which on the route to San Francisco reaches Latitude 48 North.

THE KEROSENE OIL CASE.

It will be remembered that the appellants, Messrs. Mourilyan, Heinman & Co., carried

this case to the Supreme Court of Judicature after the decision in the appeal case which was in favour of the respondent, the Governor of Kanagawa Ken. We now learn that the former Court confirmed the judgment of the Tokyo Appeal Court and dismissed the appeal on the 22nd instant.

SERVICES DURING THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

SUNDAY, Jan. 1.—Sermon on the Saviour's Gifts for Men. The Rev. G. M. MEACHAM.
MONDAY, Jan. 2.—Humiliation and Thanksgiving. The Rev. H. LOOMIS.
TUESDAY, Jan. 3.—The Church Universal. The Rev. W. T. AUSTEN.
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4.—Nations and their Rulers. Mr. A. J. WILKIN.
THURSDAY, Jan. 5.—Foreign Missions. The Rev. G. F. DRAPER.
FRIDAY, Jan. 6.—Home Missions and the Jews. The Rev. E. S. BOOTH.
SATURDAY, Jan. 7.—Families and Schools. Mr. W. D. S. EDWARDS.
SUNDAY, Jan. 8.—Sermon on the Promised Outpouring. The Rev. A. A. BENNETT.
The sermons on the 1st and the 8th will be preached at 11 o'clock in the Union Church. The other services will be conducted in Van Schaik Hall at 5 o'clock p.m., except on Wednesday, when it will be at 8 o'clock.

HEALTH RETURNS.

DYSENTERY has made great ravages this year throughout Japan. According to official investigations, the total number of cases up to the 21st inst., was 69,231, of which 15,811 ended fatally. The rate of mortality was thus 22½ per cent.

Small-pox is prevalent in many places, especially in the Prefectures of Gumma, Yama-guchi, and Hyogo. The total number, of cases reported from these places are 75, 19, and 121 respectively. The disease has also invaded Hokkaido, where the number of cases has reached 2,469, of which 859 have resulted in death.

CHINESE GALLANTRY.

A CUSTOM House officer, while on duty at the C.N. Co.'s wharf, Shanghai, accidentally walked over one of the pontoons into the water, where he remained for a considerable time till he was rescued by a quarter-master on one of the steamers. Several Chinamen came and looked at him as he was holding on to the pontoon, but did not render him any assistance. It was a bitterly cold night, but the officer has not suffered any ill effect from his involuntary bath.

FUNERAL OBSEQUIES FOR THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE "CHISHIMA KAN."

A FUNERAL service on an imposing scale was conducted yesterday on account of the officers and men of the Imperial Japanese Navy who lost their lives by the sinking of the *Chishima Kan*. Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, the French Chargé d'Affaires, Captain Ingles, R.N., and a Lieutenant and a party of Seamen from H.B.M.'s *Leander* were among those present. The Captain of the *Leander* was unfortunately prevented by illness from attending.

ICE ON THE PRIMO.

A CORRESPONDENT gravely informs the *N.C. Daily News* that the steamer *Fu Ping*, on her way down the river from Tientsin, had to blow her whistle to warn carts to get out of her way. "This, I believe," says the writer, "is not a yarn, but it does not happen every day that land and water traffic impede one another. I suppose three inches of ice will bear carts and will yield to a steamer under way."

A TREATY WITH KOREA.

THE *Ostasiatische Lloyd* states that the heir presumptive to the Austrian Throne, who is to leave Pola on the 15th inst., will proceed from Yokohama to Seoul, to ratify the Treaty between Austria-Hungary and Korea.

SIR CECIL CLEMENTI SMITH.

A LONDON telegram in the Sydney *Morning Herald* states that failing the appointment of

Viscount Gormanstone, Governor of British Guiana, it is thought probable that Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, Governor of the Strait Settlements, may succeed Sir Robert Hamilton at Hobart, Tasmania.

DISMasted.

THE British barque *Strathmore* put into Singapore on the 13th inst. for repairs, having been dismasted while on her way from the Philippines. It appears, says the *Straits Times*, that she left Iloilo on the 17th November, bound for St. John's, Newfoundland, with a cargo of sugar and hemp. She encountered various winds up till the 30th November, when she got into a regular whirlwind in lat. 4°22' N. long. 110°30' E. Both her fore and main topmasts were carried away, and the mizenmast went by the board. Jurmasts were rigged up, with which she sailed into Singapore.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

THE *N.C. Daily News* is informed that Mr. W. H. Talbot has consented to act, on invitation, as Hon. Sec. and Treas., *pro tem.*, to the provisional local committee of the China Association; and that the committee propose to call a meeting of resident members early in 1893, at which they will submit a report and resign their offices, in order that a committee may be then elected for the year, the members hereafter electing their committee annually.

SHORT CROP.

THE Foochow *Echo* says the orange crop is very deficient this year. As compared with last year, the crop will be at least 50 per cent. short, and the price in consequence is at present \$1½ dearer than last year. At this increase of price shippers who had contracted in good time are doing but little.

HYOGO ELECTION.

ATELEGRAM from Hyogo announces that the election of a member of the House of Representatives for the Second District of that Prefecture, has resulted in the return of Mr. Okuno Koshiro, the *Jiyu-to* candidate, who obtained 993 votes, against 939 polled by his opponent, Mr. Fujii Tomojiro, the *Kaishin-to* nominee.

BISHOP BICKERSTETH.

THE Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth left on Sunday morning by the P. & O. steamer *Malua*, on a visit home. He intends staying a while at Delhi, his old mission station, and hopes to return to Japan by November.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.

DURING November 241 vessels entered at the Shanghai Customs and 17 Chinese lorchas as follows:—British 143; Chinese 53; German 19; Japanese 16; French 4; Austrian 4; and Norwegian 2.

ECCENTRIC—IF TRUE.

THE *N.C. Daily News* learns that the U.S. Consul at Amoy has officially notified that his post will be filled during his absence from the port by his Chinese interpreter.

THE BRITISH MINISTER TO CHINA.

MR. NICHOLAS O'CONOR has been received in audience by the Emperor. The audience took place in a pavilion situated in the Palace grounds, but not in the Palace itself.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The situation remains unchanged and uncertain. The *Fiji Shimp*, which last week advised the Government either to retrace its path and pursue an independent policy or to take further steps in the direction of party Government, now positively recommends it to adopt the latter course and organize a coalition Cabinet. So far as the present struggle between the Cabinet and the Opposition over the Budget is concerned, that, in our contemporary's opinion, is a comparatively insignificant affair, for there will be some means of arranging a compromise between the con-

tending parties. But the repetition of these harassing struggles years after year is highly prejudicial to the true interests of the country. Therefore, the *Yiji* is very anxious to find some method of settling the dispute once for all. It is convinced that mere compromise on the question of the Budget can contribute little to the solution of the problem. For the true motive actuating the Popular party in its opposition to the Cabinet, is not a desire to cut down public expenses but unquenchable thirst for a share in the conduct of the Administration. No arrangement will answer the purpose which does not satisfy this engrossing desire for political power on the part of the Popular party. But our contemporary does not seem to think it practicable to introduce at once a system of party Government. Its advice is that some provisional arrangement be effected between Clan Government and Government by Party. Such an arrangement may be contrived by organizing a Coalition Cabinet; in other words, by inducing men like Count Itagaki and Count Okuma to join the present Ministry. Our contemporary fears that the members of the present Cabinet and the leaders of the Opposition may feel equally disinclined to take the initiative in this matter, but thinks that, as the necessity is urgent, the elder statesmen in the Government as well as in the Opposition ought to put aside the awkwardness of the situation and join once more for the sake of the country. The *Yiji* observes that, should such a coalition Ministry be formed, it would serve as an effective respite from the present distracting struggle between the Government and the Opposition and thus lead to the smooth introduction of a system of Government by Party. Such is the gist of the *Yiji*'s opinion. It appears to be shared by no small section of the public.

Many doubts are entertained, however, as to whether such an arrangement would produce the desired effect. It is feared by some that, even if both Count Itagaki and Count Okuma should consent to join the Cabinet, the majority of their adherents would refuse to follow their leaders into the official camp. That such a *dénouement* is probable may be seen from what the *Yomiuri Shimbun* says on the subject. Our contemporary declares that the final triumph of the Popular Party is already in sight, and that the best policy for that Party to pursue is to stick to its original programme. The people at large, it says, are discontented with the Government, and are looking about for a saviour. Such a saviour, in our contemporary's opinion, will appear among the members of the Popular Party. Hence, nothing could be more unwise for the Popular Party than to conclude an ignoble peace with the Government. The *Yomiuri*, however, notices with regret that the leaders of the two parties constituting the Opposition are now inclined to moderate views. It then alludes to Count Itagaki's speech on the subject of the Newspaper Regulations, and to Count Okuma's conversation on the situation. From the former, it discovers that the Radical leader is ready to make large concessions to the Government on the questions which have figured most conspicuously in the Opposition programme, while from Count Okuma's conversation it learns that the Progressionist leader is not disinclined to join a hybrid Cabinet, composed of clan and party elements. Our contemporary wonders what had made these statesmen change their political creed so radically. A plain hint is given them that, if they mean to join the Government under such conditions, they must be prepared to part company with their present followers.

With regard to the question of the Budget, it is generally believed that some form of compromise will be effected between the Cabinet and the Opposition. Rumour goes so far as to say that Count Ito is inclined to agree to the reductions recommended by the Budget Committee. But people do not believe that. The Progressionist organs exhort the Popular Party to stand to their guns, and make no compromise with the Cabinet. A compromise would

be a virtual surrender on the part of the Popular Party, while, on the contrary, in the opinion of these papers, there would be no such humiliation on the part of the Ito Cabinet in agreeing to the Budget Committee's report, since reduction of public expenditure is the avowed object of Counts Ito and Inouye. The *Hochi Shimbun* places special emphasis on this point. It strongly recommends Count Ito to adopt the Budget Committee's report and thus fulfill one of the cherished objects of his political career. There is nothing strange in our contemporary's views, but we are disposed to think that their tone is significant. It appears to be the tone not of an enemy merely desirous of embarrassing the Cabinet, but rather of a writer anxious to find out an honourable pretext for those in power to agree to the proposed reductions in the Budget. Such inferences may, of course, be erroneous, but the impression produced by the *Hochi*'s articles is distinct. Read in this light, the Progressionist organ's recommendation to the Cabinet must be taken as an indication of a change in the attitude of its party toward those in power.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is not opposed to a compromise between the Government and the Opposition on the question of the Budget, but does not hesitate to pronounce the Budget Committee's reductions so entirely impracticable that the Cabinet can never consent to them. They have been proposed, not because they are possible, but because they provide funds for cutting down the land tax and re-assessing the taxable value of land. Reductions proposed for such ends can never be agreed to, especially when they are very unequal in different branches of the Administration. Should the Cabinet be weak enough to yield to these unreasonable changes, the *Nichi Nichi* is convinced that the whole nation, with the exception of party politicians, will strongly condemn the Government.

The Opposition journals continue to use persuasion and intimidation to prevent the House of Representatives from approving the resuscitation of the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels. The *Kokumin Shimbun* begs opposition members of the Diet who are disposed to support these appropriations in exchange for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, to bear in mind that, although Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and others pretend that the Government will agree to re-assessment if the Naval appropriations be granted, serious credit is not to be placed in the prediction. They further assert that Count Inouye himself was unable to give a definite answer, when recently questioned by a certain Popular member of the Diet, as to whether the Government would carry out re-assessment, if the Diet consented to the construction of war-vessels; and that, even if the Government were disposed to make an exchange between the Naval appropriations and re-assessment, the House of Peers might not consent to the Re-assessment Bill.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* advises Opposition members of the Diet who are pledged to support the Re-assessment Bill, to go down to their constituencies while the Diet stands adjourned and ask the electors whether they would like to have their land values reassessed in exchange for the construction of war-vessels. Should the electors be inclined to accept re-assessment at that cost, their representatives should expound the objections to such a course. Our contemporary understands very well the difficult situation in which these members of the Diet find themselves, but sees no reason why they should not be able to convince their electors of the absolute necessity of rejecting the Naval appropriations in order to compel the reform of the Navy. On the other hand, the *Yomiuri* recommends the Government to withdraw the Re-assessment Bill. Both Count Inouye and Mr. Watanabe insisted that the fate of the Re-assessment Bill must depend on that of the Bills for increasing the tax on *sake*, tobacco, and incomes. The latter Bills having been already rejected

ed by the Lower House, there is no hope, according to the Government's view, of realizing the funds for Re-assessment. Consequently, the *Yomiuri* requests the Cabinet to withdraw the Re-assessment Bill. Moreover, such withdrawal must be effected before the appropriations for the construction of war-vessels come up for discussion. For should the Bill be withdrawn, after the appropriations have been rejected by the House of Representatives, the Government will be open to the charge of sacrificing to political considerations a question of such importance as the re-assessment of the taxable value of land.

Much journalistic indignation is vented against the members of the Upper House, on account of their having rejected all the measures initiated by the Lower House, those measures being in accordance with the well expressed wishes of the people. It is reported that the politicians pledged to the reduction of the land tax have under consideration a plan for organizing a demonstration on a large scale against the House of Peers, and that a manifesto to be addressed to all the landowners throughout the country has nearly been completed. The *Kokumin Shimbun* observes that there is no truth in the remark that the Japanese are a radical and excitable people, for had such been their disposition, they would not have tolerated the existence of a House of Peers bent upon thwarting their wishes. The House of Peers during the past three years has steadily opposed the extension of liberty of speech and publication, the reduction of the land tax, and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. But the people have never raised their voice against such unreasonable conduct, neither have the press questioned the right of the hereditary branch of the Legislature to exist. Nevertheless, our contemporary does not think that the House of Peers can continue permanently in such a route with safety. "How long," says the *Kokumin* in conclusion, "are our countrymen going to bear patiently with such a House of Peers; and how long is the House of Peers going to cling to such large privileges?"

Even a paper of the *Yiji Shimpō*'s standing is inclined to believe that the House of Peers is too subservient to the Government, and recommends its members to show their independence by taking prompt and impartial measures to dispose of the question of re-assessment of the taxable value of land.

The Peers find a strong friend in the *Choya Shimbun*. That journal has no sympathy with the present agitation against the Upper House. It fails to see any reason why men of independent opinions should have acted otherwise than the Peers have acted. Their opposition to the removal of restrictions upon liberty of speech and publication, is approved by every intelligent observer outside the sphere of party politics; while their rejection of the land tax and other Bills, is based on the indisputable ground that in the present condition of things it is impossible to obtain the funds for carrying out such reforms. Thus their conduct being approved by all impartial observers, the Peers are exhorted to stand firm and do their duty fearlessly.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The press of the month just passed, gives an instructive view of the tendency of present religious thought and life in Japan. The prevailing tone among Christian writers is that of encouraged faith and hope. Among Buddhists the confidence of the Christians is markedly supported, negatively, by a general lament over the degenerate condition of the official guardians of established Buddhism, and, directly, by an explicit recognition of the persistent strength of Christianity elsewhere in the world, and the maturing among the Japanese people of the conditions which at length will favour

the spread in the empire of the great religion of the West. Closely allied with this recognition of the power and progress of Christianity, is the increasing momentum of a newly aroused ethical sense, which of late has enlisted the services of a number of earnest thinkers, and is now formulating in definite plans for influencing the general public. Several writers are urging the rebuilding of the memorable Yedo shrine dedicated to Confucius, and the re-establishment of the festival once celebrated in memory of the Chinese sage. In no direction, however, is there any clearly expressed conviction that the religious institutions of the past in Japan are able to meet the needs of the people, in their present social and political changes. The advocates of Shinto seem to feel that they are part of a forlorn hope. The leaders among the Buddhists are alternately rebuking the members of the priesthood, and appealing to the pure teachings of the saints of ancient times in aid of their cause. Even the movers of the project for reviving and magnifying the influence of Confucius, admit that the new age needs new methods and a new interpretation of the ancient maxims. The general impression made by the current literature is, in a word, that religious thought and life show a decided tendency to express in some way the progressive forces operative among the people, and, indeed, to admit that the religious influences which have come from the West, are, sooner or later, to direct the development of religion and ethics in Japan. During the month there have been no notable religious assemblies. Last month's great failure, the meeting of the Shingon sects, still evokes considerable unfavourable comment from Buddhist writers. The proposed International Conference of Religions at the World's Columbian Exposition, has been the subject of extended discussion, especially in the Buddhist periodicals.

The most noteworthy article coming from among Christians is one by that prolific and intelligent writer, Rev. J. T. Yokoi, in four successive issues of the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* (Congregational), entitled "Japan's Ethico-Religious Regeneration." Mr. Yokoi first clears his way by a critical review of the religions prevalent in Japan in the past. Shintoism, he says, is inferior in its philosophy to Buddhism, and in its general ethics is surpassed by Confucianism, but, as a system of national ethics, in its teachings concerning loyalty and filial piety, it has taught the people a glorious national ideal. Buddhism, although negative in morals and pessimistic in motive, brought the arts of civilization in ancient times to uncivilized Japan; it set forth life as having possibilities beyond and above worldly pleasure; its ceremonies are living poems; it softened the harshness of a wild people; it inculcated honesty and obedience; it had a positive beneficial effect upon general morality. Confucianism, whose Classics were the bible of the middle and upper classes, taught loyalty, filial piety, love, and uprightness. It was largely the source of the forces which brought about the last great reformation of the government. But, as living powers, these religions are things of the past. The people, deprived of their guidance, became rapidly degenerate and the nation was confronted with the serious problem of how to bring about a necessary moral regeneration. By the recent importation of material civilization from the West, the people were blinded. Various attempts have been made to remedy the evil. Christianity has been proposed as a cure. Many books upon ethics have been written and circulated. Confucianism has been recommended anew; so, also, Buddhism. But the advocates of Confucianism do not understand the new conditions and needs of society. They cannot sympathize with the minds of the young men who read Mill, Comte, Spencer, and Hegel. The servile students of the Chinese Classics thirty years ago, do not resemble at all the students of the same Classics to-day. To-day, Confucius is read critically. The Classics do not settle ethical questions by rational pro-

cesses. Nor can the sayings of Confucius be applied to the changed society of to-day. For self-culture, family and state government, they have still many excellences, but for the social status of woman, for the new relations of the aged and young, they have no authoritative voice now. Again, Confucianism has not now any great men among its exponents. It is powerless to remedy the present evil. Buddhism, too, is powerless. It is not really philosophic, however much this character be claimed for it. It is like one whose support has been cut away. In fact, continues Mr. Yokoi, the Japan of to-day is in many respects like the Rome of two thousand years ago. And as then, no religion but Christianity could meet the needs of the Roman empire, so now in Japan, Christianity only can solve the nation's problem. True, it is said that the Christian principle of individualism is not in harmony with the social organization of this people. But the Japan of thirty years ago is no more. By acceptance of the new civilization in recent times, the old relations in society are radically changed. Men and even women are no longer held by the old bonds. The principle of individualism has become dominant. Religion henceforth must become individualistic. Christianity, which has in it all that was excellent in Buddhism and Confucianism, and which can hold together society, organized as modern society is, under the principle of individualism, is the religion which is needed for the new Japan. In a Sermon on the "Creed of Christ," in the same periodical, Mr. Yokoi gives his ideal of the Christianity he advocates for the new Japan. Christ's creed was "Love to God and Love to Man." This creed should be made our own, not by external ceremony, nor by obedience to a Church, but by earnest, inward faithfulness. This subject is further illuminated in the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* by Mr. S. Sugiyama in an article on "The Mission of Christianity in Japan." The article is offered by way of protest to the declaration of the Rev. J. Barnet, of Toynbee Hall, London, that the Japanese people having become insincere and untrustworthy, should be brought under the teaching of the Old Testament and the Ten Commandments, which humble and awe men, rather than under the Gospel of the New Testament which proclaims human dignity. Against all this Mr. Sugiyama enters an earnest protest. He admits that the Japanese people now are self-conscious and critical, but that an appeal to the Old Testament will not humble and convert them. They must be met by a proclamation of the love of God, as a God of love. They must have placed before them the great message of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. This is the mission of Christianity to Japan, and only in fulfilling this mission is there real hope for the welfare of the people. In the *Fukuin Shimpō* (Presbyterian) Mr. Hyōdai Shimanuki writes as though there were now no longer any question as to the right of Christians to consider Japan as not only certain to be a part of Christendom in the near future, but as appointed to be the herald of Christianity and of Christian civilization to the whole Orient. His theme is "Two Great Missions of Japanese Christians." He is convinced, first, that God has given to the Christians of this land the task of solving the social problems of the people. He quotes largely from Henry George's "Social Problems" and from General Booth's "Darkest England," and urges Christians here, to forward the work of social regeneration. He is also enthusiastic under the conviction that Japan is the head of the countries of the East in the arts, the sciences, law, commerce, politics, and in religion. His plea is, that as Japan has received, so should she also give. Referring to the question raised in the late Osaka Conference about sending a missionary to Korea, Mr. Shimanuki says that the Japanese Christians are in duty bound to send heralds of the gospel and of the new social life into all surrounding lands, to Saghalien, Kamtschatka, Siberia, Manchuria, China, Formosa, Siam and Burmah. This should be done, not under the impulse of emotion, but seriously, and

under a clear sense of duty. In the *Fukuin Shimpō* also, Mr. S. Yuya seeks to mediate between the Conservative and Liberal Christianities, in the interests of one Christianity for Japan. He is described by the editor as a poet among Christians. His article may be taken as one among many signs that the sharp antagonisms which divide the various Christian denominations of Europe and America, are not of radical importance to the Christian bodies in Japan who bear the names of the Western Churches. Mr. Yuya declares that it is not wise to act an old drama in a new theatre. This is attempted here not only by Confucianists and Buddhists, but by Christians also. When Liberal Christianity was first brought to Japan, it was considered to be Satan by the Christians already here. When the Pentateuch was criticized, many thought that violence was done to the memory of Moses, whom God had caused to write by his own right hand. When miracles were criticized, it was to many Christians as though a castle were being besieged. Conservatives among Christians had taken the ideas received thirty years ago, and had established them as final for Christianity. But theology is a progressive science, and the true orthodoxy should be received and upheld by both Conservatives and Liberals, who should be united in their common work. Thus far Mr. Yuya. We should be glad to set forth Mr. Yuya's exposition of this true and harmonizing orthodoxy, but the writer closes his article with the mediating exhortation only. At any rate, the article is a good illustration of the larger sympathies by which Japanese Christians are moved.

As for the remaining orthodox Christian periodicals, the issues of the month do not give any especially noticeable articles. They are devoted chiefly to the "things which edify," and to ecclesiastical news. Considerable notice is made of the visit to Japan of Father Endeavour Clarke, the organizer of the first "Young People's Christian Endeavour Society," which in a few years has been followed by the organization of fellow societies more than twenty thousand in number, having a membership of more than one million workers. Christmas and the New Year festivals are brightened by many hymns, sermons, and notes which occupy a good deal of the December space.

Among the Liberal Christian magazines we notice an article in the *Fyū Kirisutokyo Zasshi* on the "Aim of Liberal Christianity," which is an exposition, especially of the purpose of the Universalist mission to Japan. The aim is practical, to cultivate man's mental and moral character by placing before him a perfect moral ideal. To this end, we should bring men into personal contact with Christ's mind. Our aim is to make men, men. The *Shiuri* (German Evangelical) contains this month very few articles by native writers. Dr. Christlieb, a new member of the mission, makes two valuable contributions in religious history and philosophy, and there is a reprint of Mr. Spinner's paper of a few years ago, on India. The *Shukyo* (Unitarian) has a large number of articles, all by native writers, some of them of considerable note, such as Ruskabe Sannosuke, who contributes a paper on the "Relation between Common School Education and the Right of Freedom of Belief," referring to the late Kumamoto school trouble. Masataro Sawayanagi, writes on "Moral Conduct;" Rev. J. T. Yokoi's English address at the farewell banquet to Mr. Schmiedel appears in Japanese form, and Jitsunen Saji begins a series of papers on the "One Divine Being." Denshichiro Tajiro continues his articles on "Why Educators are indifferent to Religion." In the Buddhist magazine *Dento*, the Editor takes the professors and officers of the Koya San school severely to task for the sympathy shown by some students there for the doctrines of the Unitarians. Some letters from several Koya San students were published in last month's *Shukyo*, expressing great admiration for the rational religion taught in the Unitarian magazine, and advancing the hope that ten thousand priests might be converted to such doctrines.

Original from

The editor of *Dento* sees great danger ahead for an institution with such students.

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In the Buddhist press we meet with a number of unusually interesting essays. Among articles of exceptional value to those who are studying the religious developments of the times, is one in the *Keiui Hakugi* by Mr. Masahiro Iwao, under the rather startling title, "A Christian Reaction is Coming." The writer says; Christianity has great power. This power lies not in its piety, in its offer of pardon through Christ, or in Church Governments. Christianity is to be feared. If royal power could suppress it, it would have been suppressed long ago by Rome. If philosophy could destroy it, it would have been destroyed by the Greeks. If Barbarism could ruin it, it would have gone down before the Northern Barbarians. If other religions could annihilate it, it would have disappeared under Mohanmedanism. If Civilization could obliterate it, it would have been blotted out by Modern Civilization. If it depended upon a nationality, it would have failed in the Middle Ages. Christianity has irresistible power. Where is this power? When Christianity came to Japan it started upon a career of rapid growth, but at the issue of the Imperial Rescript not long ago, its career was suddenly checked. It was discovered that Christianity conflicts with the fundamental principles of Oriental Society,—loyalty and filial obedience. True, Christians have a principle of loyalty and filial obedience, but it differs from that of Japan. In the East loyalty involves personal love with service; in Christianity loyalty is simply service in a political sense. It is true that in the Ten Commandments it is written, "Honour thy father and thy mother," but Christ widened this principle and placed humanity before parents. Remember how Christ behaved towards his own mother. Christianity makes God and Christ the centre of devotion. In the East devotion centres on the Sovereign as in Christianity it centres on God. Can the career of Christianity in Japan be renewed? Oriental morality depends upon the glory of the Imperial House. If that fade, there is no obstacle to the spread of Christianity in this empire. Buddhism has not the historical merits of Christianity, but in doctrine it is much deeper and nobler. Yet, Buddhists are relying upon the power of the national ideal to resist the encroachments of the foreign faith. Apparently this reliance is in vain. Christianity can be defeated only by the truth in Buddhism itself. Buddhists seek protection in the wrong direction. Events are opening the way for the dominion of Christianity. We see many evidences of the coming revival of Christianity. The spirit of nationalism is growing weak and cold. This is Christianity's opportunity. The New Buddhists, who sent for Mr. Olcott, are disappearing. This gives an advantage to Christianity. The wings for the Christian flight are already forming. Witness the many young men who have been educated in Christian schools, and the myriad changes in the political and industrial realms, under Western influence. And note too, the general weakening of antipathy to Christianity itself. Mr. Iwao thus closes his significant warning. It is a remarkable expression of the *shikata ga nai* mood into which more than Mr. Iwao have fallen, concerning the religious future of this country. Somewhat in the same vein the editor of the *Bukkyo Koron* writes in view of the near completion of the great Amida Temple of the Higashi Hongwanji. Many think, says the writer, that Buddhism is flourishing, but really Buddhism is relying for its support upon old men and women, while Christianity is finding its reliance in hopeful young men and in men of social influence. Look at the Doshisha. See its flourishing nine departments, especially its school of science. We must not content ourselves with crying, "Long live Buddhism." When we look at the Buddhist priesthood we fear for the future of our faith. Our enemy is near and our soldiers are weak. Hongwanji should not be satisfied with its achievements; all our sects should be earnestly at work. In the *Hansei Zasshi*, under the heading, "Formalism among Buddhists," the writer bewails the evident decline of Buddhism. He says, the priests have become like mere *hanashika* (story tellers), and are only servants of the cemeteries. Many of them eat meat and drink wine. Buddhism is nominally universal in Japan, but its spirit has fled; there remain only customs and ceremonies. The empire of the faith has already disappeared. The *Dento* summons believers to brave courage concerning their beliefs, since great men among Buddhists are not to be found, and there is no great hope to be placed on the young men of the day. Further, in "Some Words on the Condition of Society," the editor of the *Bukkyo Koron* is greatly distressed at the present social state. The common people could be directed into the path of truth, but those who have all the luxuries of life at command care little for their own honour and uprightness. Politics cannot unite the people. Present education cannot be trusted with young men. Law cannot declare what is just and unjust. We are in the dark age of truth. There is a mighty call for men who shall save society. Those who are now entangled in present society, cannot save it. Only superior men, living above society, can deliver society. Real religious men and true Buddhists are the demand of the hour.

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Per contra, however, some Buddhist writers are unwilling to admit that their cause is failing. In the *Gokoku*, Mr. Mokurai Shimaji sees now a great "Opportunity for Spreading Buddhism in the West." Already the *Shojo* (the Smaller Vehicle) has found many adherents in Europe and America. It has been taken there, not by priests of the faith, but by foreigners themselves. The Westerns, proud of their own civilization, are thus becoming enlightened. Religion is the only force in which the Western people know that they are inferior to the nations of the East. Buddhism in all its forms is deep in doctrine and life. But the *Shojo* is far inferior to the *Daijo* (the Great Vehicle). If, then, the *Shojo* is meeting with such wide acceptance abroad, what will be the effect if the *Daijo* can be proclaimed there? The conflict between materialism and spiritualism can be settled only by the *Daijo*. Let us wed the *Daijo* and Western Thought. Heaven has now given us the opportunity to do this. At Chicago next year the fitting time will come. Here is a gleam of light for our truth. Let us not ignore it. With the bloom of Buddhism in the West, here it will flourish but the more. In the *Hansei Zasshi*, Mr. Saishi Nakajima writes from Peking of the "Missionary in China," admiring the work of the Christian missionaries there and advising the Japanese Buddhists to send their own representatives to that country. The field is ready, and Buddhists will fail in their duty if this field is not occupied by them. The *Dento* is opposed to any stimulation of an anti-foreign feeling in Japan. What relics of this feeling there are now constitute a just reason why Japan is not great, and why Buddhism is not more prosperous. Under the heading "Influence of Civilization upon Religion," a writer in the *Bukkyo Koron* thinks he has discovered distress among Christians, conscious of the destruction of the basis of their faith by the forces at work in civilization. Here is hope for Buddhism. In the same magazine, the editors notes an interesting movement among Japanese Buddhists for the restoration of the ancient Indian home shrine of Sakya Muni, which has long been occupied by Brahmins. An office of the organization for this purpose has been opened in the Shiba Koen. Several other articles which relieve the almost universal pessimistic tone of the Buddhist periodicals of the month, might be noted were space at command.

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The commotion caused by the disturbed Conference of the Shingon sects at Toji, Kyoto, last month has not yet subsided. Its seceding members are compared in the *Dento* to *soshi* and disobedient children. The *Dogaku* characterizes the discussions as like the fight of an ape and a dog. The Conference effected nothing but a widening of the gap between the old and new

sects, when such great questions as education and the many other social reforms of the day should have received earnest treatment.

* * *

Several Buddhist writers devote considerable space to the coming International Conference of Religions at Chicago. In the *Bukkyo*, Mr. Soen Shaku encourages his fellow believers to take part in the Conference. The Chicago manifesto proclaims among its fundamental principles both theism and immortality, and seeks to strengthen opposition to materialism. Yet Buddhists should not ignore the Conference on this account. They should freely present their own opinions. Materialism may be considered the assistant, rather than the enemy, of spiritualism. The object of Buddhism is to make spiritual light bright without destroying matter. Of course we are in conflict with theism, but immortality is a problem in which all religions are concerned. The other articles of the Manifesto are of great importance to Buddhists. The fear that the Conference is to be a Christian movement against other religions should not affect us. We are not to be mere toys there. The Conference is one of our great opportunities. The aim proposed may not be reached, but the event is one of the significant things of history. No rocky mountain should come between us and it. Through it, we can send Buddhism to the West. Somewhat more generously the editor of the *Hansei Zasshi* writes on the same subject. The Conference is a light spot in the present age, through its opening of sympathy among believers. If we can not unite in theology, we can consider such subjects as temperance, labour, and the differences between rich and poor. By going to Chicago, our minds will be opened, and America will be hospitable to us all. The United States are called the heavenly kingdom of freedom, and we may look for the coming of a Washington of the spirit. And here is the opportunity to make Buddhism known to the world.

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Last, but not least, among the topics of the month is the essay of Mr. Seiran Ouchi in the *Gokoku*, on the "Revival of the Confucius Festival." This festival was established more than one thousand years ago. It flourished until the Restoration. Its chief place of celebration was at the Shohai-ko in Hongo. But with the Restoration, although in many respects the country was improved, the moral forces among the people weakened; the public morality fell away; reverence for Confucius disappeared, and the memorable festival became extinct. Although a Buddhist, Mr. Ouchi says he is seriously troubled over the impotence of the memory of the Chinese teacher in the life of Japan. He would revive that memory if possible. He would take away from the Uyeno Hakubutsukan the old statue of Confucius, now only the object of the careless sight of curiosity seekers and would reënsrine it in a worthy temple and establish anew the neglected festival. By this means he would seek to stimulate the weakened ethical sense of the people. There is now but one Confucian temple in Japan, that of the Shizutani School, in Bizen. To the shame of Tokyo, the seat of Government and the resort of scholars and educators, the old shrine of Confucius exists no longer. Let us build again this holy place, establish anew the ancient festival, and inspire the people with the morality of the sage of the East.

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Among minor notes we observe that Mr. Mokurai Shimaji, whose opinions are summarized above, has been unanimously elected by Hongwanji as its representative to the Universal Religious Conference at Chicago, and that Mr. Junjiro Takahashi has received a scholarship from the University of Oxford, the first Japanese student so honoured. It has been voted by the Hongwanji to have a Summer School next year, probably at Hakone. Mr. Nakanishi, whose remarkable concessions concerning Christianity we have several times noticed during the year past, has become editor of the *Osaka Maicho Shimbun*.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND ITS LANGUAGE.

THE President of the House of Representatives delivered a very singular ruling on the 23rd instant. The House is disgraced by the presence of some three or four members who appear to think violence of language an efficient substitute for solid argument, and who do not hesitate to pervert into gross license the liberty of speech secured to them by the Constitution. These members make themselves particularly prominent where there is question of any radical change in existing laws, as, for example, when the Opposition trots out its pet hobbies, removal of the restrictions upon newspapers and public meetings, abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, and so forth. Yet, if the plain truth be told, the most sanguine believer in Japan's moral balance and rapidity of assimilation must be staggered when he hears the excesses to which these clamorous champions of freedom are betrayed in the House of Representatives. Crying loudly for liberty, they offer in their own practice a conspicuous example of the perils of premature freedom. That the general sentiment of the House is opposed to such displays, there can be no question, and the President has more than once shown a strong disposition to check them. But on the 23rd instant, he made a ruling strangely at variance with his usual tendency. Mr. HASEGAWA TAI, explaining a series of Questions addressed by himself and others to the Government, used language of the most unbridled character. "I do not hesitate," he said, "to declare positively that the officials of the Department of Education are criminal violators of Imperial commands and criminal violators of the Imperial Ordinances (*ichoku no zainin chorei ihan no zainin to dantei suru ni habakaranu de arimasu*). * * * Why does not the Government bring such a den of ogres into subjection (*nase seifu ga kaku no gotoki bake-mono-yashiki no taiji wo shinau no de arimasu*)?" At the conclusion of the long speech in the course of which these words were used, the Government Delegate rose and inquired whether such expressions were in order, whereupon the President ruled that they were. Upon what grounds this remarkable ruling was based we are unable to understand clearly. Mr. HOSHI TORU is usually very explicit and distinct in his utterances from the chair, but on this occasion he was so vague that it remains still uncertain whether he intended to say that the phrases in question were permissible as being after a fashion, interrogative, or whether he held them in order as mere expressions of individual opinion. At all events, he allowed them to go unrebuked, and we believe that a ruling so singular must stand as the chief of the very rare mistakes he has made since his elevation to the difficult position of President of the

House of Representatives. If such language as Mr. HASEGAWA used be in order, it is obvious that no limits exist to the license exercisable within the House. Happily there is a limit, however, namely, the good sense of the members themselves. It must be recorded to the credit of the Japanese House of Representatives that with the exception of a very small coterie of professional agitators, numbering not more than five at the utmost, the members are invariably circumspect and decorous in both language and demeanour. They show no sympathy with men like Messrs. HASEGAWA TAI, TANAKA SHOZO, and so forth. But, on the other hand, they have certainly shown too much indulgence towards them, and it is a very happy episode in the history of Japanese representative institutions that arrangements are now at last made for the purpose of putting an end to this disgrace of unparliamentary language. After the wild charges preferred by Messrs. MARUYAMA MEISEI and TANAKA SHOZO, against central and local officials in connection with the disbursement of the Earthquake Relief Funds, and especially after the performance of Mr. HASEGAWA TAI on the 23rd instant, the various Parties in the House came to the conclusion that the time had arrived for decisive measures. Accordingly, on the evening of the 24th, when the Order of the Day had been concluded, the House went into secret session to consider what course would best conduce to purge its debates from this disgraceful element. The proceedings having been closed to the public, we are unable to report exactly what occurred, but there can be no doubt that a decision was reached which will greatly strengthen the hands of the President, and enable him to remove an abuse that now constitutes the only blot upon the procedure of the Japanese House of Representatives. There is no cause why the language used in the Lower House should not be just as well balanced and circumspect as that used in the Upper. When that desirable consummation is achieved, there will be one reason less for doubting the administrative capacity of the men who now set themselves up as administrative reformers.

DR. FLORENZ'S "NIHONGI"

IF it was an achievement to give to the public for the first time the *Kojiki* in a Western language, it is an achievement equally notable and perhaps of more general interest to have translated the chronicle known as *Nihongi*. Nothing can take away the honour of having laid the true foundations of Western knowledge of early Japanese mythology; and that honour is Professor CHAMBERLAIN'S. The *Nihongi*, however, has two qualities which for some time to come will add a special interest to it for Western students of Japanese institutions; it contains some of

the earliest records which can be accepted as true history; and it covers a period in Japanese annals second in interest only to the present,—the period when Chinese influences remodelled in large part the national polity. The *Nihongi* is practically our only authority for the 6th and 7th centuries A.D. Of its fifteen volumes (containing thirty Books), two deal with the purely mythological period, seven with the time from JIMMU TENNO till the end of the 6th century; and the remaining six with the seventh century. The *Kojiki* comes down nominally to 628 A.D., but for the years after 500 A.D. is given almost nothing more than the names of the EMPERORS, their residences, children, and burial places. Thus we must go to the *Nihongi* for the wants of the 6th and 7th centuries.

We have already become greatly indebted to Dr. FLORENZ for his essay on "Early Japanese Civilization," which must be considered as the *vade mecum* in the hands of the reader of the *Nihongi*; the chief value of the *Nihongi* will, for most persons, consist in the light it throws on the institutions of the earliest historical period. It would be impossible for us to generalize as yet on these results; for the portion of the work now issued covers Books 22-24 only, or from 593 to 645 A.D. But we may note some of the more interesting passages, and the conclusions which they suggest.

One of the most interesting sections is that relating to the first recorded systematic legislation in Japan—the so-called Seventeen Laws of SHOTOKU TAISHI, who was Crown-Prince and Regent in the reign of the Empress SUIKO. The translation here given is, we believe, the first ever made. These Seventeen Laws (issued in 604 A.D.) are, to be sure, largely moral precepts only, and in this respect may be compared with the Hundred Laws of IVEYASU, the feudal constitution of one thousand years later. But they are to be considered nevertheless as a genuine constitution (without attempting to anachronize the meaning of their title, *Kempo*, which now means strictly constitution), in that they aim at a delineation of the fundamental principles of State policy. They reveal some interesting phases of the times. One is, as Dr. FLORENZ points out, that the Chinese learning was then beginning to bear fruit in theories of State unity which were being applied by the chief feudal family to strengthen its political position. In his essay already alluded to, Dr. FLORENZ has shown that the dominant people at this time and earlier were divided into a number of *uji* or clans, and that the *Tenno* (a later name) was merely the head of the chief *uji*, and that his actual power over others was seen chiefly in military operations and in external relations and very little in internal matters. In these Seventeen Laws we now find no mention of the *uji*, but in their place appear "the people."

Phrases borrowed from the Chinese Classics, exalting the ruler and embodying the new theory of State, are frequently interspersed. Heaven covers all, and the Earth sustains." "In a single State there cannot be two rulers, and the people cannot have two masters." The noticeable point, however, is that the facts of government did not as yet correspond to this theory, and that it here appears as the forerunner of a condition which was not fulfilled for another century.

Another thing to be noted is the distinctness of the records pointing to systematic judicial administration. The judicial history of Japan had already begun. Japan belongs to those peoples whose law has been developed purely by judges,—ranking in this respect with England and the Germanic peoples, and differing from Arabia, India, and Ireland, where the law was developed by a priestly caste, and Rome, where, after the earliest period, it fell into the hands of the juriconsults. The Seventeen Laws devote many passages to expounding the spirit in which justice should be administered: "In litigation render impartial judgments. In one day the disputes among the people bring up a thousand matters; if then there are so many in one day, how much greater the number in many years? If the judges make it their habit to obtain material profit for themselves, and if they render judgment after accepting bribes, the suit of the rich man will be like a stone thrown into the water, and the suit of the poor man will be [as vain] as if one dashed water against a rock." (Art. V.). "Decisions should not be reached by a single person only, but consultation should be had with others. * * Yet only in case the matter is a weighty one and there is fear that one might err, must he consult with others and thus reach a clear understanding of the case." (Art. XVII.) Here we see the germ of the idea so ingrained in this people, that compromise and conciliation should ever be the path to satisfactory results.

Another interesting feature of the *Nihongi* is the records it furnishes of the gradual progress of Buddhism. In the early 7th century it was still a foreign religion and had to win its way on its merits. Many of the priests were of Korean or Chinese birth, and one of them, in a letter, so much retains his nationality as to speak of the King of Kudara, in Korea, as "my King." The Japanese nobility had given Buddhism a welcome, and had shown great willingness to listen, like the Athenians, to all that the new religion could say for itself. But its position was still an unstable one. In the year 622 a Buddhist priest seized an axe and struck his grandfather; and such was the popular commotion over this impious crime that pressure seems to have been brought upon the EMPRESS to expel the new religion *in toto*. The punishment was finally allotted to the guilty party only;

but thenceforth two supervisory officers (*sojo* and *sosun*, Archbishop and Bishop) were appointed over priests and nuns, and there began to be a strict and regular censorship over religious persons. At this time the full strength of Buddhism amounted to only 46 temples, 816 priests, and 569 nuns.

The process of subduing the East and North-east, with its hordes of *Yemishi* or (as now called) *Ainu*, is also here to be traced. In 637, for instance, is an account of an uprising of the *Yemishi*, who, it is said, neglected to come as usual to the Court to pay their homage. A romantic story is told of how the wife of a Japanese warrior, when the rebels had the victory almost in their hands, brought about their complete defeat. This was in 637, and all the rebels were made prisoners. In 642 there is another record of a surrender by the *Yemishi*, to the number of several thousand. Shortly afterwards, one of the chief nobles invited the leading men of the conquered *Yemishi* to his mansion and consoled with them over their reverses. These passages are of peculiar interest and importance with reference to the ethnological problem of the constitution of the Japanese people. They point to the conclusion, first, that the conquered *Yemishi* were not exterminated but were brought into servitude by the victors; and, second, that they were not treated with extreme severity, but were to some extent conciliated and, presumably, allowed to maintain themselves in the conditions of tributaries rather than domestic slaves. Dr. FLORENZ affirms that the conquered communities probably came into a state of servitude; and if we remember rightly, he notes those in his essay above mentioned, as probably one of the important modes in which persons became slaves. Certainly it would seem that, if from time to time hundreds and thousands of *Yemishi* were brought into subjection and became a part, but the lowest part, of the Japanese people, there is some ground for supposing that the mass of the common people, whom in later times we find emerging from serf-like restrictions, may be traced back to the original conquered communities. If this be so, it will be an instance of what is found in the history of other countries—that where a community possesses a large serf population, the serfs represent the conquered, the masters the conquerors. This was the opinion of Dr. SIMMONS, as expressed in his "Notes on Land Tenure," and the *Nihongi* evidence goes to corroborate it. Of course the key question is, what proportion did the serf population of 600-700 A.D. bear to the dominant population? That question has yet to be answered.

Dr. FLORENZ gives (on the authority of a Japanese scholar, Mr. SHIRANO) a solution to that much-discussed problem, the origin of the term *Ainu*. The solution is new, we believe, to Western readers and carries

much plausibility. The words *Yemish* and *Yebi-su* are the Japanese pronunciation of characters pronounced *kai-i* in Sino-Japanese. The *i* is the familiar "barbarian"; *kai* is an abbreviation of *kainu*, an old equivalent of *ainu*. The ideograph pronounced *kai* and *yebi* or *yemi* signifies "crab"; and thus came to be applied to the phonetically identical *kai* as abbreviated from *kainu*. The plausibility of this theory rests on the fact that the word is still used among the northern people to designate the higher classes, *Ainu* being applied to the mass of the population. Moreover, *Ainu* has no better authority for its adoption than the reports of travellers and Buddhist missionaries who brought it back with them not more than about 50 years ago.

These records show also that the path of sovereignty was not always as we have believed. Japanese writers are apt to assert, with Dr. YOSHIDA, in his "Feudal System in Japan," that "the Imperial dynasty is the oldest in the world," and that "in our history no Stuart follows Tudor on the throne, no Carolingian drives out Merovingian." If this is meant to convey the idea that there were no dynastic dissensions, then it is contradicted by the facts of history; for the contests between SAT-CHO and TOKUGAWA, IYEFASU and HIDEYADA, MINAMOTO and TAIRA, were no different in essence from those between CROMWELL and CHARLES, YORK and LANCASTER, HAROLD and WILLIAM. But even in the earlier days, as far back as the period chronicled in the *Nihongi*, the succession was by no means settled invariably without bloodshed. The incidents attending the accession of JOMEI TENNO, in 629, can only be interpreted as a violent dynastic dissension. Another indication of the same sort is the story of IRUKA's assassination in 645 on the charge that he was conspiring against the Imperial line.

Of the intercourse of Japan with the Continent there are here many records. The kingdoms of Korea—Shiragi, Mimana Koma—are frequently mentioned, and the bringing of tribute and reception of ambassadors is chronicled from time to time. Whether the Koreans regarded their presents as tribute would be another question. What is worth noting, too, is that the naturalization of immigrants from Korea and elsewhere is not infrequently recorded. Perhaps it would be worth while for certain patriotic Japanese to remember that in the epoch of the past which most resembles the present era—an epoch of copious absorbence of foreign influences—the process of naturalization was apparently much easier for the foreigner than it is to-day.

We have now noted some of the topics which a hasty reading of this interesting volume suggests. The whole work, when completed, will be a notable monument of learning and a storehouse of institutional lore. The next volume promises to be even richer than the present, and we trust that Dr. FLORENZ's labours may attain rapid fulfilment.

A CURIOUS SUB-LITERARY TANGLE.

THE easy step from the sublime to the ridiculous was taken in October last by several London journals, in passing from a discussion of TENNYSON'S early manifestations of genius to an inquiry as to the authorship of an alleged burlesque of the youthful Cambridge poem, "Timbuctoo." Column after column was occupied by letters from various sources, offering suggestions and claiming accurate knowledge respecting the origin of the droll quatrain, which is familiar to most of the public in something like this form:—

If I were a cassowary
On the plains of Timbuctoo,
I would eat a missionary,
Skin and bones and hymn-book too.

The subject was opened in *The Times* by Mr. DE LA PRYME, who attributed the doggerel lines to THACKERAY; and within a week the leading journal announced that it had been "inundated" with correspondence on the matter to such an extent that only a minute proportion of the letters could possibly be published. Those allowed to appear, however, exhibited differences of opinion that promised to result in an animated controversy. Writers of such position as Professor HUXLEY, Sir GEORGE GROVE, and Mr. W. GREENWOOD, not to speak of a host of others less noted, joined in the debate and offered "reminiscences," but in no instance was there an identity between the versions given by each contributor. It is hardly worth while to set forth the several readings, the general sense, as well as the terminal rhymes, being the same in all cases; but we may mention that every one of them varied, in greater or less degree, from what we understand to be the commonly adopted form, as presented above. What is perhaps more noticeable is the fact that no two persons were able to agree upon the question of authorship. The whole range of literature appeared to have been searched in the endeavour to fix the responsibility to popular satisfaction. The stanza was ascribed, in the first place, to THACKERAY, and afterward to SYDNEY SMITH, THEODORE HOOK, TOM HOOD, Lord NEAVES, Bishop WLBERFORCE, PORSON, the Greek Scholar, CHARLES KINGSLEY, MARY BOYLE, Professor DE MORGAN, BARHAM, of the "Ingoldsby Legends," SAMUEL WARREN, EDGAR POE, Professor CONINGTON and—*mirabile dictu*—the PRINCE CONSORT. In the absence of direct evidence, there is nothing remarkable in the supposition that the lines may have been produced by any of the recognized humorists here cited, and it is not inconceivable that writers ordinarily addicted to serious composition might occasionally relieve themselves by "falling off" into comic verse. Even POE, in an exaggerated mood of inverted fantasy, might have tried an experimental flight of this sort, without thorough consciousness that he was wandering beyond

the "Ercles vein" of eccentric magniloquence. But to find the PRINCE CONSORT included in the probable list of perpetrators sends a shock through every nerve that sympathizes with the ideals of intense respectability. Never before, so far as we can recall, has imagination been strained to the extent of associating the PRINCE CONSORT with a frolicsome pleasantry. Negatives cannot be proved, and no one can say that anything jocular is impossible,—particularly when we remember that Dr. JOHNSON is on record as having once dictated a rollicking couplet terminating with an invitation to beer. But the intellect spontaneously rejects a suggestion of jingles emanating from the latter-day embodiment of courtly decorum, precisely as it would reject a picture of MACAULAY dancing a fandango, or the late Earl of SHAPTESBURY leading the refrain in a convivial chorus.

No actual proof of THACKERAY'S connection with this bit of word-twisting is submitted,—though a recollection of his "Little Billee" might serve as a foundation on which to build a reasonable hypothesis,—and it occurs to us that his authenticated parody of "Timbuctoo," first printed in the Cambridge *Snob*, may have set afloat the conjecture that he likewise created the familiar quatrain. But the verses known to be THACKERAY'S bear no resemblance to the subject of the recent disputation. The advocate of Professor CONINGTON'S claim asserts that this gentleman delivered the lines in a burst of impromptu inspiration, before a certain gathering in the Common Room of St. John's College, Oxford. If such were really the case, corroborative evidence ought not to be lacking, yet none has been vouchsafed. To Miss BOYLE the gift of extemporaneous recital is also accredited. Her witness affirms that the lady was once challenged to provide a rhyme for Timbuctoo, and that she thus showed herself instantly ready and equal to the occasion. If the power to discover difficult rhymes entitles a candidate to enrollment in the catalogue of presumable authors, it is a wonder that the writers of the "Rejected Addresses" were not classed among the suspected; for their facility in this direction was beyond rivalry, as was shown in their successful matching of exceptional words like "chimney." It does not seem probable that the investigation will be carried to a conclusive result, or that public appreciation will have the opportunity of concentrating itself upon any individual poet. The pretensions are too positive and peremptory. It may be remarked that no person has had the hardihood to attempt encircling his own brows with the disputed laurel, and from this it might on hasty consideration be inferred that the writer, whoever he or she may be, is no longer living. But reflection will show that the ground for such judgment is insufficient. A sensitive

lyrist, remembering the fierce contests for the still unawarded honours of "Beautiful Snow," might well shrink from provoking a similar warfare in the present case. There may be a score or more of claimants, all waiting for somebody to assert his title as the signal for a simultaneous rush to seize the prize. In such a scrimmage the rightful applicant would stand a poor chance of winning his own. COLERIDGE'S experience with his little *jeu d'esprit* upon "The Ancient Mariner" must not be forgotten. He had no sooner inserted it anonymously in the daily paper for which he was then writing political essays, than he was confronted by an army of *soi-disant* epigrammatists, all affecting apprehension lest the author of the "Rime" should resent the liberty they had ventured to take with his august reputation. After the first jar of astonishment, the poet clearly saw that he should make an enemy of every man he contradicted, and, hardening his heart to temptation, silently suffered himself to be eclipsed.

Like the *Saturday Review*, which elevates the controversy to the dignity of a leader in its largest type, we fear there will be no happy agreement on the question of authorship. Our own conviction is that the stanza belongs to the category of things supposed to be bright, if not indeed particularly bright, which many persons would have been pleased to originate, and which the same persons, by hasty repetition after the first hearing, manage to convince themselves, more or less innocently, that they did originate. An incident in the quick-witted career of Mr. WHISTLER, the artist, affords an illustration in point. Having executed an ingenious *mot* in the presence of Mr. OSCAR WILDE, he was rewarded by the admiring exclamation,—"*WHISTLER, I wish I had said that!*" To which the artist flashed back the repartee,—"*You will say it, OSCAR; you will say it.*" We quote without book, and the story, however *ben trovato*, may not be literally *vero*. But it exemplifies a certain process of the human mind which it might be harsh to call piratical, yet which cannot be reconciled with a rigid conception of honesty. It lets us into an explanation why most of the clever sayings current in society can never be traced to their proper sources, and gives abundant warrant for the expectation that the Timbuctoo trifle will eventually be assumed as private property by competitors without number, known and unknown, in all parts of the globe where English is spoken. And it will not in the least surprise us to receive from one or more correspondents the most solemn asseverations that the quaint rhyme is the invention of one or more residents in the Far East,—in Japan, not to be too expansive,—whose spirits woke to song on that one brilliant occasion long ago, and have slumbered in Oriental desuetude ever since.

THE "RAVENNA"-"CHISHIMA" COLLISION.

WE are precluded at present from commenting on the verdict of the Naval Court organized to investigate the circumstances of the collision between the P. & O. Co.'s steamship *Ravenna* and H.I.J.M.'s ship *Chishima Kan*. The question is still *sub judice* in the Japanese Naval Court-martial and in the criminal proceedings instituted at Nagasaki against the pilot of the *Ravenna*. Moreover, there is strong likelihood that a civil action will be instituted for damages. The finding of the Court of Inquiry, even assuming that it be accepted in the main, which is, of course, a doubtful hypothesis, will probably be thought to justify such an action, on the ground of the clause which refers to delay in stopping and reversing the *Ravenna's* engines. Under these circumstances, it is evidently the duty of the press to say nothing that might prejudice a fair trial. But a word should be written with regard to a phase of the case that has caused much pain and some anger on the part of Englishmen. Certain Japanese journals, with a degree of precipitancy that can not be too strongly condemned, did not hesitate to formulate conclusions about the navigation of the two vessels, before any inquiry had been held and while an official investigation was pending, and one of them, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, in terms that we can only describe as disgraceful, charged the people of the *Ravenna* with brutal carelessness of human life and callous indifference to the sufferings of Japanese officers and seaman rescued from the jaws of death. This question did not properly form any part of the subject to be investigated by the British Naval Court. The function of the Court was simply to determine how the collision occurred, and whether it was due in any degree to defective seamanship on the *Ravenna's* part. But the Court, doubtless impelled by a desire to clear up a matter so gravely affecting the reputation of British mariners, allowed great latitude to the counsel representing the owners of the *Ravenna*, and he took full advantage of the privilege to elicit a minute account of the conduct of the *Ravenna's* folk towards the rescued officers and men of the *Chishima*. We are disposed to think, indeed, that undue and not altogether prudent insistence was shown in pushing this matter into the foreground of the investigation. That dissatisfaction must necessarily exist, in greater or less degree, under such circumstances was inevitable, and it would perhaps have been better to rest the case for the *Ravenna's* people on general or even negative evidence instead of challenging individual opinion in every instance. However, we can fully sympathise with the wish of the Peninsular and Oriental Company to invite the fullest and

frankest inquiry, and if the result was not absolutely satisfactory, it at any rate demonstrates how unwarranted and unjust were the cruel accusations of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Lieut.-Commander KABURAGI'S testimony alone was conclusive. "I was quite satisfied," he said, "with the treatment I received on board the *Ravenna*, and I heard no complaints from any of my men." It is true that he afterwards made a statement slightly qualifying this explicit admission, but it was a statement obviously prompted by considerations apart from the mere facts of the case, and it dealt entirely with points of etiquette which seemed farcically paltry by the side of the sweeping denunciations of the vernacular newspaper. Indeed, we are constrained to say that Lieut.-Commander KABURAGI would have served his own reputation much better had he refrained from giving publicity to the pettinesses detailed in his second statement. The main point is, however, that he himself was "quite satisfied" with the treatment he received, and that not one of his men attempted to make any complaint. Everyone sympathises sincerely with the grief and distress which the *Chishima's* survivors must have felt at the terribly sudden death of so many of their comrades and at the total loss of their ship, and everyone understands that some sentiment of umbrage or discontent was inevitable at the first moment under such circumstances. But we are persuaded that even the *Mainichi Shimbun*, after reading the evidence given by its own nationals before the Court of Inquiry, must acknowledge that anything more than the people of the *Ravenna* did for the survivors of the *Chishima* would have constituted exceptional kindness such as might, perhaps, have been exercised but certainly ought not to have been expected. Nothing remains but to bury beyond the reach of further reference this unhappy incident of a sad catastrophe. The disaster was bad enough in itself, without being suffered to inspire feelings which have no basis in truth or justice.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD.
HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.50 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—First Reading of the Bill relating to Accounts of Railway Bonds.
- 2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 3.—First Reading of the Bill relating to Purchase of materials for State Railways.
- 4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations.

The President announced the receipt, from the Lower House, of the Bill for postponing the operation of the Banking and Deposit Banks Regulations, and said that the Government desired the Bills to be discussed as soon as possible.

The House granted urgency, and after a short speech from the Minister of State for Finance, passed the Bill.

The two Railway Bills, having been briefly explained by the Minister of State for Finance and the Government Delegate for the Railway

Bureau, were entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Prince Konoye, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that, after careful investigation and deliberation, the whole Committee, with the exception of Mr. Wakao Ippel, were opposed to the Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations. However desirable a thing reduction of the Land Tax might be, it was not permissible if the times did not permit it. That the Japanese Land Tax was high as compared with the same impost in England and France, could not be denied. But they must consider the circumstances and history of the nation. Already the Tax had undergone various reductions, and to cut it down still more at the present time, seemed out of the question. Especially impractical was the project when entertained simultaneously with Reassessment of Land Value, a Bill for which had been introduced by the Government and passed by the House of Representatives. These inroads upon the revenue must be met by some corresponding compensation, whereas the Lower House had thrown out the Government's Bills for increased taxes on *Saké* and Tobacco to make up the deficiency caused by Reassessment. People talked, indeed, of obtaining the necessary funds by economising Administrative expenditure. But that was mere formula. To put it into practice was an exceedingly difficult matter. Thus, on the whole, the Committee could not see their way to recommend a measure the consummation of which was financially impossible.

Mr. Miura Yasu thought it scarcely necessary to add anything to the lucid explanation given by Prince Konoye. He might point out, however, that the persons who clamoured for a reduction of the Land Tax before the inequalities of assessment were remedied, seemed to forget that the lower the tax, the more salient would the inequalities become. Undoubtedly, if any reform were essential in the realm of the Land Tax, it was reassessment. The circumstances of the era had imperatively necessitated great haste and corresponding inaccuracy in completing the surveys upon which the present tax was levied. To remove the injustice consequent upon those inaccuracies was the first duty of the Administration, so soon as it found itself financially competent to approach the problem. Hence the Government had introduced a reassessment Bill and the Lower House had passed it. But the Representatives had also introduced and passed a Bill for reducing the Land Tax, though it was manifestly impossible to carry out the two schemes simultaneously. To correct this precipitancy was a task well becoming the House of Peers. Reforms must be undertaken in proper order and with due regard to financial conditions. Plainly the reform demanding prior attention was to correct the injustices done by the present unequal assessment of land, and until that was achieved all talk of reducing the Land Tax must be abandoned.

No other members desiring to speak, the President called for a show of hands as to whether the Bill should be carried to a Second Reading, when Viscount Saiké alone was found to support it.

The House rose at 11.50, the President having announced that the New Year's recess would commence from the 25th instant and continue until January 9th.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—The Budget.
- 2.—Bill (First Reading) for taxing the Bank of Japan.
- 3.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Bank of Japan Regulations.
- 4.—Bill (First Reading) for amending the Mining Regulations.
- 5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 33rd year of Meiji.
- 6.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Registration Law.

The President announced the receipt of the following:—

- A Question relating to Education.
- A Bill relating to Special Ports of Export.
- A Question relating to Money restored to Korea.
- A Reply from the Minister of State for Home Affairs to a Question with regard to the operation of the Fremontion Law.

QUESTION RELATING TO THE LAW OF PRE-MONITION.

Abe Michiye, a commoner of Kumamoto Prefecture, is a man of uniformly good behaviour employed on the editorial staff of the *Kokumin Shim-bun*. He has never instigated any one nor ever attempted to extort money. Yet, on the 21st instant, he was suddenly subjected to the operation of the Law of Premonition. What reason was there for this? Since the matter has an important bearing on the rights of the subject, we desire to receive as explicit an answer as possible.

(Presented) HASEGAWA JUNKO and others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER.

The chief of Police, judging that the conduct of Abe Michiye, a Commoner of Kumamoto Prefecture, fell within the purview of the third clause of the first article of Law of Premonition, issued orders, in accordance with the duties of his office, on the 21st day of the 12th month of the 25th year of Meiji, that the provisions of the third clause of the second article of the said Law should be put in force against the said Abe Michiye, for the better preservation of public peace and good order.

The reference to "instigation" made in the Question, having no connection with the orders issued, calls for no explanation.

(Signed) INOUE KAORU,

Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai, explaining the Question relating to Education, charged the officials of the Educational Department with taking bribes from booksellers and violating the Imperial Rescript, the Government with pursuing a Napoleon-the-First policy in matters of Education; the authorities with providing education for the upper classes only; and the Department of Education with being a den of ogres (*bakemono-yashiki*).

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro, explaining the Question relating to the restoration of money to Korea, declared himself dissatisfied with the answer given previously by the Government. That answer declared that the interest accumulated in the Specie Bank—namely the interest on a loan made by the Treasury to Korea—did not belong to the Treasury. But it must have been somebody's property. He wished to be informed clearly to whom it did belong?

Mr. Kubota, Government Delegate, said that Mr. Hasegawa Tai, in the speech just delivered by him, had referred to the officials of the Department of Education as "criminal violators of the Imperial Rescript (*ichoku no sainin*)", and to the Department of Education with being a den of ogres. He wished to know whether such expressions were permitted by the Law of the Houses?

The President did not consider the expressions out of order, inasmuch as they were used in a more or less interrogative form.

The Budget was then continued from the preceding day.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, spoke briefly with reference to the reductions recommended by the Budget Committee on the Section of the Department of Finance. He recognised that the spirit dictating these reductions was one of economy, and therefore deserving of all applause. But he claimed that the Government did not yield to the House in its desire to cut down administrative expenses, and that it was, in fact, making every possible effort to reduce them. No officials knew better than those of the Finance Department what was signified by the burden of taxation, and none were more anxious to lighten it. But it was quite out of the question to agree to the sweeping reductions proposed by the Committee.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, followed in the same sense. He pointed out that the item of Salaries in the Finance Department had been reduced to the extent of over 120,000 *yen*, in 1891, and that it was again reduced in the present Budget by more than 50,000 *yen*. The further reductions proposed by the Committee were altogether excessive.

With very little debate the House passed the whole of the First Chapter in this section as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio asked why no efforts had been made to reduce the high rate of interest (7.5 per cent.) paid by the Treasury on its debt to the Fifteenth National Bank.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that the debt to the Bank had been contracted in 1867 at the time of the Satsuma Rebellion, when the Government, being in financial difficulties, was on the point of further increasing the volume of the fiat currency. The Bank, which had just then been established, had come to the aid of the State from patriotic motives, and had lent the Treasury a sum of fifteen million *yen*. Six years afterwards, when preparations for the redemption of the paper currency were in progress, the Bank had consented to receive back five millions of the loan on condition that the remainder was allowed to stand at 7.5 per cent. interest for a fixed term. Seven and a half per cent. was a high rate of interest in these days, but it was by no means high nine years ago. These considerations possessed such weight in the Government's eyes that no proposal had been formulated to pay back the loan or reduce the interest before the fixed time.

After some further questions, the whole of the Second chapter in this section, as amended by the Committee, was passed, as were also the Third and Fourth chapters.

On coming to the Fifth chapter, namely, the Privy Council, the appropriation for which had been cut down by the Committee from 122,000 *yen* to 46,000 *yen*.

Mr. Hirabayashi Kuhei strongly opposed the Committee's recommendations. He denounced as a flagrant excess of competence and as disrespectful to the Throne, this attempt on the part of the House to subject to sweeping reductions the salaries of the officials appointed by the Sovereign himself to be his advisers, and constituting the highest Council in the land.

The House voted the whole chapter as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Hatano Denzaburo opposed the Committee's amendments in the Chapter relating to the House of Peers. He proposed that the salary of the President of each House be reduced to 3,000 *yen* annually; the salary of the Vice-President to 1,500 *yen*; and that the salaries of the members be changed to a daily allowance of 5 *yen* from the day of the convening of the Diet.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo denounced the proposal as a mere bid for popularity. If there were question of abolishing the allowance to members altogether, the matter might be considered. But even then, it must form the subject of a Bill duly introduced, for the Salaries of the President, Vice-President, and members were fixed by law and could not be altered except by due process of law.

Mr. Inoue Kakugoro supported the motion, though he found it no easy matter to persuade himself to do so when he remembered how the rest of the Budget had been treated by the proposer and his friends. He ridiculed Mr. Ooka's talk about bidding for popularity, and recommended that gentleman to review his own conduct.

The House rejected the motion and voted the chapter as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Hatano proposed the same amendment in the chapter relating to the House of Representatives, but the House rejected it, and voted the chapter as amended by the Committee.

The whole of the remaining chapters in the Department of Finance were similarly voted.

The Bill for taxing the Bank of Japan was then read:—

BILL RELATING TO THE TAXATION OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

When the net profits of the Bank of Japan exceed six per cent. of the paid up capital, there shall be deducted from the said profit a sum of six per cent. of the paid up capital, together with sums for purposes of reserve, rewards to officers and other expenses, and of the remainder a sum of fifty per cent. shall be paid to the Government by way of tax; such payment to be made in two instalments, namely, on the 31st day of the 8th month for the first-half year, and on the 28th day of the 2nd month for second half-year.

The present law shall go into force on and after the 1st day of the 7th month of the 26th year of Meiji.

Presented by ISHIDA KANNOSUKE.

ITO TOKUTARO.

SUZUKI SHIGETO.

KATANO TOSHIRO.

Supported by KAGEYAMA HIDEKI,

and 30 others.

Mr. Ito Tokutaro supported the Bill in a speech of some length, but his arguments did not go beyond asserting that the profits of the Bank of Japan were excessive, and that to maintain the burden of taxation and to refrain from inaugurating many useful enterprises, owing to financial difficulties while the Bank was reaping such rewards at the expense of the nation, was indefensible.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that whereas the Bank of Japan discharged many important functions for the State of which the general public had no clear perception, it was only able to pay a dividend to its shareholders of 6.5 per cent. The Government could not approve the proposal to tax it.

Many questions of minor importance were asked.

Mr. Katano Toshio supported the Bill on the ground that the Bank of Japan alone among the business enterprises of the country was not taxed. The Bank had been founded, he understood, on the model of the Bank of Belgium, but the original had not been copied in the matter of taxation, and he attributed this omission to that old abuse of favouritism.

The Bill was finally entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The Bill for amending the Regulations of the Bank of Japan, after a brief discussion, was entrusted to the same Committee.

AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

Art. X.—The words "at least ten per cent. from the remaining sum," shall be changed to "not less than ten per cent. and not more than thirty per cent."

(Original article)—From the net profit the dividend shall be subtracted, and of the remaining sum at least ten per cent. shall be reserved for the following objects:—

1. To make up losses of capital.
2. To make up insufficiencies of dividend.

The above law shall become operative on and after the 1st day of the 7th month of the 26th year of Meiji.

Presented by ISHIDA KANNOSUKE.

ITO TOKUTARO.

SUZUKI SHIGETO.

KATANO TOSHIRO.

Supported by KAGEYAMA HIDEKI,

and 30 others.

The House rose at 5.55 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.55 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—Report of the Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
- 2.—Petition relating to Local division in Hiroshima Prefecture.
- 3.—Petition relating to Pension Bonds.

Prince Nijo, chairman of the Petitions Committee, reported that 325 petitions had been received and examined since the date of his last Report, among which the Committee had selected several for submission to the House, the two most important being upon the Order of the present day.

The Petition from Hiroshima Prefecture was adopted by the House for transmission to the Government.

Prince Nijo, introducing the Petition relating to Pension Bonds, said that it came from 481 *shisoku* who had been deprived of their pensions at the time of the rebellion in the South. The petitioners belonged to the five Prefectures of Yamaguchi, Kumamoto, Saga, Fukuoka, and Nagasaki. They had been relieved from the ban of that time by the Imperial Amnesty granted in the year 1889, and they now prayed to have their pension Bonds restored to them. The Committee, deeming their case worthy of all pity, had decided to ask the House to accept and forward the Petition.

Viscounts Hayashi and Nabeshima spoke strongly in support of the Petition.

Mr. Miyamoto Koichi said that several petitions had already been forwarded by the House to the Government, but in no case had any favourable result been achieved. It was like shooting at a mark in the dark. He proposed that, since the Petition now before them had the approval of the whole House and referred to a

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really pitiful case, the Government be invited to make a reply.

Viscount Soga opposed the petition on the ground that the Government would be embarrassed if a precedent were established on the proposed lines.

Viscount Itakura opposed it on the ground that amnesty ought not to extend to restoration of the emoluments previously enjoyed by persons guilty of a crime.

After some further discussion, the Petition was adopted.

The House rose at 12.09 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

- 1.—The Budget.
- 2.—First Reading of the Government Bill, sent down from the Peers, for amending and putting into operation certain portions of the Commercial Code.
- 3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
- 4.—Bill for amending the Mining Regulations.
- 5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of Meiji.
- 6.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.

The President announced the receipt of,

- A Representation relating to a School of Sericulture.
- A Bill for amending the Conscription Regulations.
- A Representation relating to Technical Schools.

The following was read:—

QUESTION RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

We venture to ask the following questions on matters relating to Local Government:—

1. Measures to remove friction between the Local Authorities and the people.

The friction between the local officials and the people in various districts is becoming more and more serious daily; and in consequence Local Administration is much embarrassed. By what means does the Government intend to restore harmony?

2. The Government's Reply to the Petitions sent from local districts.

As the friction between the local officials and the people is so great and the local administration is thereby embarrassed, it is inevitable that the people should present petitions praying for the removal of such officials. But the Government alleges that the people are overstepping their rights. And thus it seems as though the Government intended to close its ears against the people's complaints. Does the Government consider that such a course is in accordance with its duties?

3. Delay in adopting measures to remove the friction between the local officials and the people.

The Government has delayed long in adopting measures to remove the above friction, the consequence being that the mischief has spread throughout the Empire. Does the Government think such tardiness appropriate to the occasion?

Presented by FUKUDA HISAMATSU.
Supported by HADANO DENZABURO
and 32 others.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER.

1. In some local districts harmony between officials and people is reported to be disturbed of late. The Government therefore has instituted a very strict system of supervision, and should any misgovernment occur on the part of the officials, or should the conduct of the people be considered unlawful, appropriate measures will be enforced. It is thus hoped that the Administrative foundations will be rendered firm as possible, and that local administration will become as smooth and peaceful as ever. As the Government intends to adopt suitable measures according to the circumstances of each case, it is not necessary to describe them beforehand.

2. When the people in local districts present petitions relating to local administration, the Government is always willing to hear their statements, and has never once attempted to close the doors against them. But the petitions and complaints are so numerous that the Government cannot satisfy them all in practice.

3. When any friction is found to exist between the local officials and the people, the Government investigates the question and adopts appropriate measures, either immediately or subsequently, according to the circumstances of the case. But no wanton delay has ever taken place in adopting such measures.

(Signed) Count INOUE KAORU,
Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Mr. Takata Sanaye, Chairman of the Petition Committee, reported the nature of the petitions which the Committee had decided to lay before the House, and of those which they had decided to reject.

The discussion of the Budget was then resumed.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke, Chairman of the War Office Section of the Budget Committee, explained that the Committee's amendments in this Section had been comparatively small, because the Department of War had, of its own motion, adopted approximately the amendments of the last Budget Committee and compiled the estimates accordingly. Nevertheless, the item of salaries had been reduced, in accordance with the general scheme of Budget Amendment adopted by the Committee. He then entered into a detailed explanation of the various items altered in this Section.

After several questions and explanations; and after the Government Delegate had given a long explanation about the Colonial Troops Bank in Hokkaido, the War Office Section was voted as amended by the Committee.

Mr. Noda, Government Delegate, spoke briefly with reference to the subject of foot-gear for the troops. He said that the War Office had long contemplated the establishment of a military boot-making factory, in order that the supply of foot-gear in war time might be assured. The experience of the rebellion in the south had been adduced as proving that straw sandals were better suited to Japanese soldiers than boots. But the Military Authorities did not endorse that view. Besides, it had to be remembered that the army was not intended merely to quell insurrections. Its prime function was to protect the country, and in the discharge of that duty, it might be required to fight beyond the sea. In that event, leather foot-gear would be essential. Hence the War Department adhered to the principle of supplying the troops with boots, and desired as far as possible to arrange that the army should be independent of outside aid in this important matter.

On coming to the Naval Department Section, Mr. Kato Masanosuke, on behalf of the Budget Committee, stated that the comparatively large reductions made in this section, were due to the defective manner in which the Naval estimates were compiled, and also, in some cases, to the excessively high allowances asked for.

Vice-Admiral Ito, Government Delegate, denied that there was the slightest difference between the methods of rendering accounts in the Army and Navy, and pointed out that the growth of the latter involved an inevitable increase in the item of salaries.

Mr. Hasegawa Tai asked several questions which were answered.

The House voted all the items in this Section as amended by the Budget Committee.

Mr. Kioura, Government Delegate, argued strongly against the reductions proposed by the Committee in the Department of Justice, and showed in detail that such a cutting down of the appropriations would seriously interfere with the efficiency of the Department, and impair the working of the Judiciary. In answer to Mr. Noda Shozaburo, he said that the Department would be very glad to elevate members of the Bar to the Bench, but unfortunately members of the Bar did not want to be thus elevated. On the contrary, occupants of the Bench showed a disposition to transfer themselves to the Bar.

The whole of the items in this Section were voted as amended by the Budget Committee.

The Bill relating to the amendment and operation of the Commercial Code was then taken.

After some questions had been asked and answered, Count Yamagata, Minister of State for Justice, said:—

GENTLEMEN,—The Bill submitted by the Government for the amendment and enforcement of certain portions of the Commercial Code, has received the approval of the House of Peers and now comes before you for deliberation. I venture therefore to trouble you with a brief explanation of the Government's views in submitting the Bill. Having regard to the state of affairs now existing in the country, we are persuaded that not a day should be lost in giving effect to the Law of Companies, the Law of Bankruptcy, and the Law of Bills of Exchange and Cheques. These three Laws form part of the Commercial Code, the operation of which has been postponed. To restore to a state of due order the present irregular conditions of commerce, to check and prevent the abuses brought about by fraudulent and corrupt persons who

engage in speculation for purposes of purely selfish aggrandisement, we believe that no better way offers than to enforce the two Laws of Companies and Bankruptcy, and we therefore regard the speedy operation of those laws as an urgent necessity of the time. Further, as the development of trade progresses and as the volume of transactions becomes larger, ready money is less and less used, its place being taken by cheques, promissory notes, and so forth. The marked tendency in this direction shown in the commercial business of our country is a subject of congratulation. It becomes, therefore, the duty of the country's legislators, under such circumstances, to provide a proper and sufficient Law of Promissory Notes and Cheques in lieu of the imperfect Law now in operation. I have no doubt, gentlemen, that you agree with us in thinking that a day's delay in putting these three Laws into force, means a day added to the life of the abuses I have mentioned. I feel that it would be superfluous to do more than to submit the Bill to your favourable consideration.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, introducing the Bill for amending the Mining Regulations, explained its principal points, and reminded the House that the Bill had been passed last session, but had failed to secure a favourable vote in the Upper House owing to the fact that when it came up for discussion by the Peers, only two days remained before the going into operation of the Regulations in question. The chief amendments proposed were; first, to abolish the offices for superintending mines, with the object of economizing expenditure; secondly, to abolish the system of experimental mining, which leads to many abuses; thirdly, to abolish the system of preparing estimates for works a year in advance, which entails needless labour upon officials and miners; fourthly, to entrust the police supervision of mines to ordinary instead of special police; fifthly, to eliminate all unnecessary official interference; sixthly, to amend the present method of collecting taxes; and seventhly, to bring the collection of mineral dust under the provisions of the ordinary Mining Regulations.

Mr. Nishimura, Government Delegate, said that the Government could not endorse the proposed amendments. The Regulations had been in operation only six months, and there had not yet been time to arrive at any practical conception of their defects or advantages. It was true that some complaints had been made. But careful investigations were now in progress, and if amendments were required, the Government would in due time introduce a Bill embodying them.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Ogasawara Sadanobu, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that the Committee approved the Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of Meiji, but suggested a slight modification. The original Law fixed the limits of punishment for violation of Administrative Ordinances at a fine of 200 yen, or two years' imprisonment. The Bill proposed to amend these limits, reducing the maximum fine to 50 yen, and substituting "minor confinement" for "two years' imprisonment." But the Committee, considering it essential to limit the term of such minor confinement, proposed to fix the limit at 7 days. It had been argued that since the 23rd Article of the Constitution guarantees Japanese subjects against arrest, detention, trial or punishment, unless according to law, to punish under the authority of an Administrative Ordinance was contrary to the Constitution. But it appeared to the Committee that since the Constitution undoubtedly invests the Government with power to issue Administrative Ordinances, it assuredly intends that power to enforce such Ordinances should also exist. The only question related to limits of penalties, and the Committee believed that the requirements of the case would be met by a fine of 50 yen and 7 days minor confinement, ~~maxima~~. The Government Delegate, however, had insisted very strongly that the Law must be left in its original form.

The House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading but declined to proceed with it at once.

The President announced that the House would rise on the 25th instant, for the New Year's recess, and re-assemble on the 9th of January.

The House rose at 6 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE RECENT FIRE IN OSAKA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The deplorable loss of life which occurred in consequence of the recent fire at the Osaka Cotton Mills points to the probability that certain simple but highly necessary precautions were either entirely wanting, or had been rendered inoperative by neglect or misuse.

(1.)—Every building of an inflammable nature, or filled with inflammable materials, where large numbers of operatives are employed in upper storeys, ought to be provided with external staircases open to the air, properly fitted and instantaneously available.

(2.)—The doors leading on to these staircases should open outwards.

(3.)—The doors should be secured inside with a single simple fastening or bolt fitted with a powerful lever handle, so that in no case can they get jammed or set fast.

(4.)—If it is necessary to lock them, to prevent improper use being made of them, the lock might consist of a lean rivet, clenched with a seal or stamp kept by the manager (as is sometimes done with safety lamps in mines) and so arranged as to be easily sheared by the action of a lever handle.

(5.)—The external staircases should be of iron, so as to be unflammable, and they should be kept clear of windows or other openings through which flames could play upon them or those using them.

(6.)—For the same reason, and also to avoid the converging rush of conflicting streams of fugitives, there should be at least one independent staircase for each story.

(7.)—The staircases must be strong enough to bear as many persons as can possibly be crowded upon them, with a continuous handrail easy to grasp on each side, absolutely straight without turns or zigzags (if this is impracticable, an easy spiral or a quadrilateral with central space is preferable to a zigzag) and of a gradient not steeper than 1 in 1½, or say with treads 10 inches wide and risers 6½ inches high, and they must be kept absolutely free from any obstruction or barrier, such as a pay-office, time-keeper's gateway, &c.

(8.)—The number of staircases to each floor, and their width, must of course depend on the size of the building, and the number of employes.

(9.)—Every few weeks, at irregular intervals and without previous warning, the ordinary exits should be barred, and the external staircases ordered to be used. If never brought into use, their very existence might be forgotten in a sudden alarm; and the practical knowledge that by their means the whole building could be cleared in a couple of minutes or so would go far to prevent a panic or a mad rush.

Some such regulations as the above ought to be made compulsory in the case of every factory of more than one storey high from the ground-floor where more than 20 persons are employed on any one upper floor, and should also be applicable under similar conditions to such buildings as theatres, schools, hospitals, &c.

In new buildings such external staircases might in many cases take the place of and supersede, internal staircases, which form a natural chimney for the updraught of flames and heated gases, and for the spread of a conflagration from one floor to another.

Of course I make no claim for originality in offering these suggestions, which are merely an outline, and not an exhaustive specification. On the other hand, I need offer no apology for calling attention to them at the present time.

Yours truly, W. SILVER HALL.
Tokyo, 22nd Dec. 1892.

A BRIEF GLANCE AT THE STATUS OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It has not been long since what is known as the Higher Criticism sprang up in the religious field of thought to vex the righteous soul of many Christians. This vexation is largely unnecessary, for no fundamental doctrine of Christianity has

been seriously affected. These religious comets which so suddenly appear in the firmament need not awaken alarm. Such sudden appearances set people a thinking; and the discovery of truth is the usual outcome. No field of thought has been so productive in theory as the religious field. Theories on every phase of God's word have been sown and industriously nourished till the harvest of tares appeared; then they were cast away for something else. That famous Tübingen school which attempted to radically modify some of the fundamental tenets of Christianity is an illustration in point. Prof. Harnack says of this school:—

The possible picture it sketched was not the real, and the key with which it attempted to solve all problems did not suffice for the most simple. . . . They [the Tübingen views] have indeed been compelled to undergo very large modifications. But as regards the development of the second century, it may safely be said that the hypotheses of the Tübingen school have proved themselves everywhere inadequate, very erroneous, and are today held by only a very few scholars.

The above mentioned religious school, of which Christian Baur was the founder, now has a very scanty following at the university of Tübingen.

The weakness in the rationalistic method was, that the contents of the Bible must harmonize with a preconceived idea of what would seem natural in any given case. And where any event is recorded which would, in the least, challenge the ready belief of the reader, the record of that event must be taken as an interpolation, or the event be a superstition. Of course, this was simply to destroy all prophecy and miracle in the Bible. This extreme rationalistic school has had its day, and its sun is now beginning to decline. Nothing is now to be feared from it. To grant the existence of God, which the school did, was only to allow an element in the theory which destroyed its method of excluding miracles.

But now, in more recent years, a somewhat new tendency in the study of God's word has set in, inside what is known as the Higher Criticism. This tendency is not to attack any accepted beliefs of the gospel so much as a re-examination of the gospel facts from a historical standpoint. This kind of high criticism is, more properly speaking, an historical criticism. And, in fact, this method would seem to be about the only correct way to get at the meaning of God's word. Revelation is a history; and as history, it can best be studied. It is God's history, adapted to the intelligence of man, his most exalted creature. The springing up of this historical method of study has awakened intense interest in many of the important doctrines of scripture; for instance, inspiration, imagery, dates of the various books, authorship, etc. Upon all of these questions, many of the best minds have been engaged. And the interest at this time is especially lively. But still the Book of all ages remains the Book of God, and the opposing hosts of sceptical criticism have not been able to prevail against it.

It is feared by some of the extreme conservatives that even this free, but devout, study of God's word is fraught with evil tendencies which may lead away the younger members of the church into sceptical territory. But even this fear would seem not to be well grounded, if we hear in mind the words of Bishop Eliott in reference especially to the Old Testament. He says:—

I come myself very closely into contact with young men of earnestness and intelligence; and, as yet, I have certainly met with no examples of the class in whose interest we are urged to reconsider our current views of the character and composition of the Old Testament. Four times, each year as it passes, I have the opportunity of contact with young minds; and up to the present time, I do not remember to have met with a single instance in which any serious difficulty appears to have been felt in reference to the Old Testament; nor have I been led to infer from what has been told me that doubts and difficulties as to that portion of the Book of Life prevail among the general class of the students at our Universities, to anything like the extent which it is alleged, is now to be recognized.

So far, then, as Biblical criticism is concerned, there is, at this time, a good degree of lively discussion. The work of the extreme "higher critics" has been destructive, rather than constructive. The milder class of the same school has diligently studied; but nothing very new or valuable has been produced. Their method, which, however, is not altogether new, is valuable and commendable. Anyone could adopt it with profit.

So much for historical criticism.

When we turn to the more practical phases of the gospel, we find the general interest none the weaker. The great educational and philanthropic enterprises of Christians to-day are something wonderful. The question is, where will it all end? These good works, too, break through the denominational barriers, and call into union the strength of all sects. Whether this is a condition resulting from the growing spirit of union, or causal condition of that spirit, may be considered a question. But it is evident that in no field of religious life is there wider awakened interest than in the practical. Pure religion is beginning to be understood as it never was before.

And what effect, too, will all this have on the vital question of Christian union? Much. It has

already had much. It is clearly seen that God's church, divided as it is, cannot convert the world. Christians, mistaking the addition of a few converts yearly as an indication of prosperity in the spread of the kingdom, have been content to look abroad no further than to the confines of their own fold. Such a view is now seriously regarded as unworthy the Christian. The conversion of the world to Christ is now prayed for as never before. And when Christians earnestly pray, they will soon also earnestly act. They know what an irresistible power united Christendom would be. They realize also their responsibility in this matter. And reunion of the church will simply be a matter of time. It will come when Christians of the various sects satisfactorily readjust a few ancient and inexpedient customs to a more considerate and brother-loving conscience. When Christians come to look upon the question as the late Dr. Howard Crosby did, then will the readjustment process begin in earnest. He said:—

The Christian Church is divided. Paul Apollos, and Cephas are set up as heads, instead of Christ, and the curse of the Corinthian Church rests upon Christendom to-day. Apostolic utterance and that is the utterance of the Holy Spirit, against us and we are bound to take heed on every season of reverence and safety. There can be no millennium for a divided Church. It matters little that the names that divide us are expressive of important ideas. I presume the Corinthian Church could have said the same, and certainly the names of Paul and Cephas and Apollos were as good as those of Luther, Calvin, and Wesley. The fact remains, and the trouble lies in the fact, that we are divided, when no ideas, important or otherwise, ought to divide us. It is the oneness of believers that our Lord declares to be the mighty argument to the world, that the world may believe that the Father hath sent him.

Finally, there is one more important indication which I may mention, the way the church, the congregation, is beginning to be looked upon. It was recently that the subject of the diminishing authority of the church was before the congregationalists in America. That so many organizations, inside and outside the church, were springing up and exercising authority divinely belonging to the church, was looked upon as tending towards serious consequences. And even as radical a mind as that of Dr. Briggs was led to fear that even the very foundations of the church may be undermined by these innumerable organizations. Such prognostications only add impetus to that already marked returning towards Apostolic, or New Testament, Christianity, which returning has in it the purifying, unifying, and glorifying of the church of the living God.

Respectfully E. SNODGRASS.

No. 14, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Dec. 16th, 1892.

THE PROVINCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In my last letter I referred briefly to the peculiarly difficult situation into which this prefecture had been plunged through the "patriotic efforts" of local politicians, and explained that the cause of this phenomenal occurrence was their endeavour to have the Chief of Police removed on the alleged ground that he had interfered in the last general election while discharging the duty of chief of police in Saga.

More than a month has elapsed since I wrote, but the agitation is as active as ever. Its fomenters are evidently emboldened by the recent success of the Saitama people in having their unpopular Governor removed. The enthusiasm of our politicians has resulted at last in the suspension of the Local Assembly and dissolution is not unlikely to follow.

Mr. Tanaka, the object of the crusade, is said to have remarked that he is greatly indebted to the people of Ise for bringing his name much before the public, and the Miye folks, in their turn, should be grateful to him for having supplied them with an opportunity of exercising their political ability and showing to the world that they are not so apathetic in public affairs as is generally supposed. At the same time, it is to be regretted for their sakes that the attitude they have assumed thus far toward the Chief of Police savours considerably of extravagance. The name Tanaka Konroku has become a veritable bugbear. On the occasion of the Emperor's birthday, for instance, when it is the yearly custom for local officials and people alike to hold conjointly a garden party in honour of the day, great were the difficulties experienced by the managers on account of the refusal of the citizens to join the feast so long as Mr. Tanaka participated in it. Even more comical was a sight witnessed shortly afterwards at a farewell banquet given by the leading officials and citizens to an official about to proceed to another post. Owing to some misunderstanding, just as the feasters were about to enjoy themselves, who should appear but the terrible Tanaka. At once a hush fell upon the room where much sound of merriment had been heard a moment before. The silence lasted a few seconds, until one citizen, who

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seemed to have more pluck than the rest, rose and, taking with him his tray of edibles, stalked out of the room. This example alone was needed. One after another the convives followed the leader, and marched out, no one omitting to carry off his tray laden with *gochiso*. The result was a distinct division into two distinct camps, so that the guest of the evening had a somewhat onerous task, sitting half an hour in one room and half an hour in another quite apart.

My last letter gave the programme mapped out by the malcontents for the persecution of the Chief of Police, but I have now to report that most of it was very wisely omitted, the whole of the agitators' energy being reserved for the occasion of discussing the Police Expenditure Bill in the Local Assembly. The method chosen to approach this subject was highly characteristic. It showed at once the prudence and the timidity of the people of Ise. In every Local Assembly the Police Expenditure Bill has to be discussed at the outset. But the Miye Assembly reversed this order, and postponed the deliberation of the all-important subject to the last, the object evidently being to avoid losing the chance of voting the rest of the bills, thereby bringing about the undesired result of having the budget for the preceding year carried out once more; in the event—plainly anticipated—of the dissolution of the Assembly. This device was certainly astute, but it was also much less manly than the procedure of the Saitama politicians under similar circumstances, for the latter passed a vote of want of confidence in the Governor and Chief of Police at the very commencement of the session, and were thus relieved from the trouble of discussing the bills, sentence of suspension being pronounced at once and followed by dissolution. Previous to the Police Expenditure Bill being brought in, conference after conference was held secretly by the members, to determine their procedure on this vital question, and to persuade the doubters to join the "patriotic movement."

At last all was ripe and the Bill was introduced. The assembly-room was crowded with an eager audience. The Chairman of the Assembly had agreed to play the part of spokesman. Surrendering his chair temporarily to the Vice Chairman, he took a seat among the members. The moment the Bill had been read, the ex-chairman rose and said that he had an urgency motion to bring forward. He then delivered a short set speech, proposing a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Tanaka, and that application be made to the Home Minister in the name of the Miye Assembly, to have him removed from the Prefecture. This was at once seconded by several members as previously arranged. But before there had been time for much airing of sentiments, the Governor, who was sitting on one of the seats reserved for official deputies, rose and asked the Chairman whether he intended to allow the proposed discussion to proceed. The reply being in the affirmative, the Governor declared the Assembly suspended for exceeding the legitimate powers vested in it. Every member knew perfectly well that to discuss such a question in the Assembly was entirely unlawful. But they had made up their minds that the ship, once launched, must be brought into port no matter how, and that a loud noise was the best way to promote the voyage. So the Assembly was sacrificed. It has to be noted, however, that the project of passing a vote of confidence in the Chief of Police was not unanimous. Even after repeated conferences and the employment of various means to win over those who were against the step, there remained two members, out of forty-eight, who adhered firmly to their original opinion. They said that, ready as they were to cooperate in the movement provided legal means were resorted to, they could not conscientiously join in a proceeding which was simply tantamount to prostituting to uses at once rash and illegal the Assembly which ought to be the fountain head of local good order. When the Assembly was declared suspended, these two gentlemen sent in their resignations and went home. Their less scrupulous colleagues, however, were in high spirits, and proceeded from the Assembly-room in a grand parade of *finiriisha* to a certain restaurant, where a "friendly meeting" was organized and the evening passed in revelry. There they selected two deputies to represent the case to the Home Minister.

The next day they dispersed and started for their homes.

The Governor and the two deputies were at once despatched to the capital to interview the Home Minister.

Yours, &c.,

T. Y.

Tsu, Miye Prefecture, December 20th, 1892.

A QUESTION OF SELECTION AND FITNESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the House of Representatives, on the 22nd instant, a prominent member of the Opposition expressed the opinion that the "procedine" of the Foreign Office, in sending abroad diplomats who in past years had been engaged in active hostility against the Government was "distinctly objectionable," and that representatives of this class were "disgraces to Japan." The author of this emphatic denunciation is understood to be well informed in contemporary history. If he were asked to name the particular acts of the United States Government, after the close of the Southern rebellion, which called forth the warmest acclamations of the civilized world, and were hailed as precedents which enlightened nations could not afford to disregard, he would naturally point to the almost unrestricted extension of clemency to the men who had endeavoured to destroy the Union, and the appointment of such among them as were deserving of trust to responsible positions in the public service. Is it, then, this gentleman's conviction that a course which when taken by America is universally applauded, must be considered disgraceful when followed by Japan? And is he willing to stand in the position of condemning his country on grounds which are recognized by mankind at large as constituting one of her strongest claims to approbation and respect?

The Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, in replying to Mr. Ozaki's complaint, remarked that the diplomatic agents of this Government had been chosen with a view to their fitness for the duties to be performed. Upon this principle, an example of peculiarly fortunate selection may be found in a certain Minister who successfully negotiated the most advantageous treaty ever secured by Japan—the only treaty in which the equal rights of the Empire are fully and explicitly maintained, and which is believed by the firmest defenders of the national dignity to be a model for all Conventions with foreign Powers. Yet this treaty, as everybody knows, was the work of an Envoy specified by the adverse critic as unworthy of the office to which he was assigned, and a disgrace to his native land.

Very truly yours,

Tokyo, December 23rd, 1892.

H.

THE RECENT NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY INTO THE "RAVENNA"—"CHISHIMA-KAN" COLLISION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that the finding has been rendered in this Inquiry, I venture to elicit information on a point of procedure which has struck many persons as very singular and extraordinary.

The Court in the first place examined the British witnesses belonging to the *Ravenna*, each witness before being called being allowed to remain in the Court-room and hear what testimony the other witnesses were giving as well as the questions put to them.

The Court then began to take the depositions of the officers of the *Chishima Kan*, of her French engineer, and of two of her crew. It was at this period that the course adopted by the Court seems to have been most unusual and indeed unprecedented, for of its own motion it ordered all the witnesses of the *Chishima Kan* to leave the Court-room and not to be present there during the Inquiry until their turn to depose came.

I am well aware that it is a very common practice for Courts of Inquiry as well as Courts of Justice in England and in America, before commencing to hear evidence to order all witnesses out of Court so that no witness may hear the evidence given by the others. I am also well aware that witnesses during the course of the proceedings are sometimes ordered out of Court on the application of the Counsel of a party. But I am not aware that it is proper for the Court to do so at such a period of its own motion, although it no doubt has the power, unless the witnesses in reference to whom the order is made are *prima facie* unworthy of credit or unless the nature of their evidence is very peculiar and special and different in kind to that already adduced in the proceedings.

The impression left on the minds of the witnesses with regard to whom the order was made it is not difficult to appreciate, and the sooner this impression can be removed by a satisfactory explanation in your editorial or correspondence columns the better it will be in the interests of the friendly feeling that every one must desire to see existing between foreigners and the people of this country.

I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

LEX.

Yokohama, 29th December, 1892.

THE SMALL SALARIES PAID TO EUROPEAN PROFESSORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In regard to the question of the enormous salaries paid to foreign teachers in Japan, permit me to cite the figures of salaries paid to various professors, not in the greatest, but in some of the lesser Universities of Great Britain:—

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.	Professorships.	Salary.
Humanity	£541
Greek	538
Mathematics	578
English Literature	850
Chemistry	873
Natural Philosophy	1,441
Logic	1,418
Natural History	1,084
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.		
Humanity	887
Greek	801
Mathematics	799
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.	Professorships.	Salary.
Natural History	£1,187
Chemistry	1,015
Anatomy	1,039
Logic	704
Humanity	1,233
Greek	1,256
Mathematics	1,214
Logic	850
Natural Philosophy	923
Chemistry	3,450
Anatomy	3,000

This list might be enormously lengthened. I have cited only the Scotch Universities. Let the Japanese wiseacre who imagines foreign professors overpaid, consult for himself the figures of salaries paid in the higher universities and the amount of fees exacted. He will be able to discover for himself that the salaries of foreign professors in Japan are disgracefully low—something to blush for. Yet there is but one Imperial University.

Yours, &c.,

December 28th, 1892.

THE LATE JAY GOULD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your article upon Jay Gould I read with more than interest, and with the concluding paragraph I heartily agree. But with many of the critical remarks I cannot. It appears to me that the article does some involuntary injustice to the largeness of the man. It suggests, firstly, that he was a speculator; and, although the word is susceptible of a signification much more extended than that of a financial gambler, it conveys to the general reader the idea of one who tempts chances. Secondly, it reiterates an exploded error—that one time universally credited—that Gould was assisted by men like Fiske and others, who are referred to as comparable with him,—as his equals or partners. And, thirdly, it seems to me to assume too decidedly that the career of the great operator was that of a destroyer rather than of a constructor. I may be wrong in certain points; still, I would like to express some views of my own about Gould, at variance with those of your interesting leader.

One of the happiest suggestions in that leader, I think, was that posterity may judge Gould otherwise than he has heretofore been generally judged. That such will be the case appears to me almost certain. He was far too large a character to be justly estimated during his lifetime;—moreover, the world saw little of him, and long felt his presence directly only as a dangerous force. In his case more particularly than in that of any other unpopular personage of his time, public hate was the result of public fear—a fear augmented by the long incomprehensibility of the methods and powers that made panics. For Gould worked always in the dark; and much of his wonderful career still remains mysterious, and will not be understood for years to come. The individual intellect that could master all opposition, defy all combinations, and affect the values of the world's markets as a solar disturbance affects magnetic needles,—was known of merely by the results of its will. At first, its existence was not even understood and its work was attributed to a number of common individualities, sensational characters, who were only its dupes and puppets. Gould had no real confidants, no real partners, no business friends. Those who imagined themselves, or were imagined by the public, to be his confidants, soon learned they were merely pawns in his game—pawns to be cast aside when the game had been played. Such was especially the case with Fiske; but Fiske was only one of a multitude. He was enriched by Gould, used by Gould, permitted to absorb public attention by Gould: he was a creation that crumbled down the same instant that the powerful hand which had lifted him out of obscurity was withdrawn. Hundreds of others were used likewise, like rooks! And even after they had been dropped out of public sight with a crash, the combination in which they had been utilized, remained to them as mysterious as ever. It is a total mistake to imagine that Gould was assisted to success by friendship or by patronage. He first entered New York, penniless,—as the inventor of a peculiar kind of mouse-trap. The success of the mouse trap supplied the means of making traps of a larger sort,—traps for financial gamblers; but these latter were mathematical. While the belief existed that Gould was only a silent partner of Fiske & Co., he was himself

considered only as an unscrupulous speculator. But when the amazing discovery came that all those known speculators were merely puppets;—that all the monstrous combinations and schemes by which railroads changed hands, by which vast corporations were suddenly bankrupted, by which the money-market was convulsed as by an earthquake, were the creations of one small, silent man,—then it first became known that Gould was a power to be universally feared. But even then that power was underrated. It was deemed of the moment only,—the chance of a corrupt era,—destined to vanish in bankruptcy and scorn. Nothing is more dangerous than to underrate one's enemy; and the incapacity to comprehend Gould caused utter ruin to thousands who deemed themselves able to cope with him. He was really so far beyond his time in those capacities for which he was dreaded, that it was only toward the latter years of his life that he was understood at all.

He was not in the common sense of the word, a speculator. If questioned on the subject I think he could have truthfully answered that he never trusted to chance in any single action of his life. He used speculators; he never risked an interest of his own. He was a consummate mathematician who played at finance precisely as Paul Morphy played at chess. The only occasion upon which he was obliged to disgorge—(when the English stockholders of Erie and others formed a combination to fight force with force, and scheme with scheme),—was like a game in which one champion plays blindfolded against any number of opponents. Justice should confess it was a drawn game, with all the advantage on Gould's side. He then took out of his pocket a small tin box, and threw it down upon the table;—the stockholders having bound themselves to attempt no prosecution, and to be satisfied with the return of certain values. The values were in the little tin box. They represented *seventy-five millions of dollars*. It was a large sum to toss back; yet in spite of this unloading, Gould remained a heavy winner. He never made a losing move,—a mistake in play. He felt, with the intuition of a genius, difficult for us even to understand, every weakness in a financial system, every defect in a monopoly,—and as it pleased him, instantly brought to bear upon such weaknesses an irresistible power that shattered the fabric like a wedge driven by a steam hammer. Sometimes, indeed, he assailed something too vast to break;—as on that evil day when he taught the United States that under certain conditions a "corner in gold" was possible, and something to be everlastingly provided against. But before the Government could come to the assistance of the country, the shock of that awful crash had been felt round the world. It was a horrible event for tens of thousands—but it was also a salutary financial warning; and it is quite safe to say that no other ordinary man of business would have hesitated to make a corner in gold, and reap every advantage of it, could he have found the same opportunities.

It has been customary to speak of Gould's career as a career of spoliation; it is impossible to call his methods moral; it is justifiable, from the religious point of view, to call them criminal. Yet there is much, I think, to be said in his favour. The methods used by him were the methods used by other men throughout the world of commerce and speculation—methods occasionally criticised by moralists, but for all that established by usage, and in the present industrial condition impossible to abolish. As used by other men, however, their effects are generally confined within small limits; and in regard to speculation, pure and simple, most operators are obliged to take risks, and the changes of fortune preserve a sort of even balance, which keeps the evil within endurable bounds. But Gould's genius suffered no limits; and Gould's foresight changed common speculation into absolute certainty. He not only mastered chance; he made chance. He did not seek opportunity. He created it. In the terrible fable of Swift, those deformities imperceptible in the Lilliputian, become insufferable in the Brobdingnagian;—and the common vices of speculative method appeared unendurable in Gould for no other reason than that they were enormously magnified by his genius, and were seen from the Lilliputian point of view. The methods of intimidation used by the Tweed ring and by other rings were utterly foreign to Gould's character; he would have scorned to use them; he fought his battles entirely with money,—and he used money as other men used it, but as a master-player, as a genius,—sometimes like a Machiavelli, sometimes like a Napoleon. That he had any knowledge of his own marvellous powers at first is not credible. He learned his strength only by measuring it with that of others. It was not long before he found that he could afford to despise not only any individual opposition, but even any combination. Railroad

after railroad, telegraph-line after telegraph-line, fell into his hands when he employed the ordinary means of "hearing" or "bulling" stocks to his own interest. Such work is thought clever,—(perhaps, because of the danger involved)—when confined within small limits,—such as the purely local value of a staple, the price of a manufacture in one particular market. But the same methods used by Gould were thought diabolical, because they had an instantaneous range of many thousand miles, and because they were applied to values deemed capable of resisting any pressure. Gould was denounced wholly because he was colossal—colossal beyond all precedent. He was to the ordinary speculator what a Molke or a Napoleon might be to the commonest country-recruit. He followed the systems of money-making sanctioned by custom if not by morality; but the results seemed contrary both to custom and morality because they were gigantic. He was thought cruel, because he followed the business-law that there is no friendship in business,—nor did it seem to him a reason for making any exception to that rule that his power reached from the Canadian frontier into Mexico City, and from New York to San Francisco,—and radiated through nearly every State.

It is true that at one time, people were afraid to invest in any undertaking with which his name was in any way connected. But of late years the reverse became the case; and wherever Gould was positively known to have complete control, large investments were made without hesitation. I might cite, for example, the value of stocks in the New York elevated railroads. Investments were only unsafe when Gould was not in control, and intended to get control. In any such collision, small shareholders had good reason to fear being ground to powder,—as they certainly were by thousands in various instances. But it is now, I think, justly acknowledged that every large system which fell under Gould's control was thereafter placed upon a better working basis than it had ever been before. The desire of the man does not appear to have been primarily money-making, but rather the control of all systems of communication.

Those who know much more of Gould than I, have assured me that with good health it would have been an easy matter for him in time to have obtained the control of every railroad and telegraph system in the United States. There was, however, a serious obstacle to any further strain of his powers,—feeble health. The most wonderful brain of its kind in the world, was carried upon one of the very smallest and feeblest of bodies imaginable. Failing strength made even the nervous strain of managing the enormities already in his hands, difficult to bear. One of the most sober of men in his habits, his comparatively early death was certainly due to the vast disproportion of his cerebral and physical capacity. He was so small, that no honest able-bodied man would have dreamed of striking him—not at least after seeing him face to face; and an enemy whom he had ruined, having once actually seized him, was contented, in spite of rage, with lifting him over a railing and dropping him into an area. After that, however, Gould was usually followed by professional athletes, who would have promptly checked any attempts to offer him violence.

Besides the task of managing so colossal a property, Gould had also the perpetual task of defending himself against combinations. Enormous combinations were repeatedly formed against him, with absolute certainty of success. If any combination of financial skill and capital could have ruined Gould, he would have been ruined twenty years ago. But after each battle, he left the field richer than ever; while his enemies were glad to beg for permission to bury their dead. Over and over again, week by week, month by month, year by year, such attempts were renewed, only to terminate in disaster for those who undertook them. That Gould's name became a name of white terror in Wall Street is perfectly true. Even the late Mr. Vanderbilt's gigantic investments in four-per-cents, are said to have been made solely with a view to protect himself against Gould. Doubtless no man was ever hated more in financial circles; but the hatred was the hatred of fear,—and no man had ever less reason to show mercy, than the object of that hate.

Yet he was certainly capable of generosity; and there will be many in mourning sincerely for him. He never forgot a kindness; and those who had the opportunity of doing him one, he made rich. If, however, they ventured their riches afterward in any speculation which he thought proper to break, it was vain to ask for pity. In finance he had no pity,—following the natural law. But outside of finance, he could do, and often did, gracious things. On one occasion he told a young man in whom he took an interest to buy certain stock. The man declared he could not; he lacked the means. Gould wrote him a cheque for a large amount,

which he used as directed. On the following day he found himself, after having repaid his benefactor, a rich man, and he followed the salutary advice which he then received: "*Never speculate again.*" If he had speculated afterwards and lost, I am quite sure Gould would not have helped him a second time. But in this Gould would have acted quite justly. He had no mercy on speculators,—however friendly they might have been previously, or whatever use they might have proved to him. This, however, is surely the law of business. If a merchant on the point of bankruptcy is spared by his creditors, is not the cause interest rather than kindness?

The statement about Gould's taking particular means of seizing the property of James Fiske, is, to the best of my belief, untrue. Fiske was ruined before his death; and it is said that he knelt down and wept, and begged Gould for mercy. No mercy was shown him. The friends of Fiske have accused Gould of cruelty in this refusal. Whether cruel or not, it was perfectly consistent with Gould's invariable policy. But that he ever condescended to go out of his way to seize one man's property, would seem totally inconsistent with his character. The property of twenty-thousand persons might pass into his hands as spoils of war; he thought no more of the individual sufferer than a general thinks of the late individual pangs of the enemy's dead. But as a rule, in everything that he did, whether it be called good or evil, Jay Gould was not simply large: he was colossal. The hundred caricatures of him reflected the popular impression of this fact: he was nearly always represented as Mephistopheles; and the character of Mephistopheles is not small.

That is should seem strange that Jay Gould could scoff at the obloquy which men tried to heap upon him, at the caricatures drawn of him, at the sermons preached against him, at public opinion generally, and at Society in particular, which pretended to despise him after having discovered that he could afford to despise it much better,—is because, I think, few fully understand the character of this extraordinary being. He was somewhat like Archimedes studying geometry during a siege: he paid no attention to anything which did not directly or indirectly affect his projects and plans. The good opinion of society could have been of no possible use to him; nor could its hatred hinder his course any more than a spider's web could check the progress of a railway express. Society may be useful to men needing opportunity, money, marriage—it is, to some extent, a mutual-help association; it trades upon certain conditions, which nearly all independent characters of ability have found themselves obliged to refuse at least once in a life time. Of Society Gould needed nothing: he created opportunity, and he could make Vanderbilt tremble for his wealth. Society also means to some degree sympathetic companionship, intellectual intercourse, &c. Gould was a sufficient companion to himself. He felt in his daily toil and his nightly plans the keen pleasure of a master-mathematician—he had no desire for contact with minds smaller than his own. What is not generally known about him is that he was also a scholar;—he was an adept in Greek, especially; and his library was rich in classical texts. I knew an instance of one who, stating from memory an observation of Herodotus in his study,—was confounded by the instant observation that the verb of the original sentence had a totally different meaning; and by Mr. Gould's taking down the volume and confirming his criticism by pointing to the Greek paragraph. He had a few friends belonging to the best of New York society, who visited him occasionally; but, as a rule, he had little inclination or time for visitors, and these were usually entertained by other members of his family. His various residences were museums of things beautiful: he possessed a collection of paintings worth a prodigious fortune; he had undoubted taste in art matters;—yet he had little leisure to enjoy these things. His steam yacht, the *Alalanta*—(yacht is a queer word for her, she is a beautiful ocean-steamer, as large as a Government cruiser)—made twenty-five knots an hour, normal speed; and he travelled prodigiously both in her and upon his railroads,—but his trips were always "lightning-trips," made only for business. His existence was absorbed by practical questions of the largest scope. Yet, when he spoke upon other topics, those who conversed with him were amazed by the profound penetration and immense grasp of facts which his pithy observations revealed. A man of great influence and talent in newspaper circles who had visited him more than once about financial problems then under discussion, told me this:—"No intelligent man can talk to Gould for five minutes without learning to respect him. It is true we denounce his morals in business, but it is also true that we all ad-

mere his brains." Gould's few famous public appearances in court confirmed this verdict. He puzzled and astonished judges and lawyers. On one occasion being asked whether he did not agree that a certain petty form of speculation was immoral and injurious to the business community, he replied that so far as the practical side of the question was concerned those methods were extremely beneficial. The audacity of this reply,—denying all precedent business-opinion,—proved less of a surprise, however, than his immediate and correct quotation from memory of monetary statistics illustrating the effect of the practices in question upon the volume of circulation, and totally confuting the views of those opposed to them. Whenever questioned upon his ideas of business morality, he was invariably able to confound his questioners by an appeal to solid and irrefutable fact.

Certainly his own conception of morality in business was different from accepted standards; but it was practical; and if some people imagine that Gould was troubled with remorse of conscience, it is because they have no conception of the character of the man. I feel assured he could have proved by figures and facts that his career was of incalculable value to the country of his birth—notwithstanding appearances to the contrary. I myself hold this opinion. I think of Gould as of a giant moving, and unable to move without breaking something because of his mere weight. Disasters were the dust of his steps. But he wrecked to build; and he built like a Titan and systematized like a Benham. He reached for ends out of common view, without counting the cost of the stride to what he trod upon; he thought only of the result, as justifying the means.

Such morality may certainly be questioned, although events show that there is often a blind natural morality in genius larger than that of churches. Gould did not live to accomplish all the ends of his labours; it would be hard to judge him only by his incomplete work. That he believed himself justified in all he did, is certain. In a world of financial trickery, his was the master-trickery;—and he followed the codes of that world to their utmost logical conclusion. If we judge his actions only by those of his fellow-men, we find him no worse in theory;—wherefore condemn him for being larger in practice? And if we are to judge his worst acts by their results, we must still acknowledge his usefulness, since the very evils of them were lessons which could in no other manner have been so lucidly taught. The vices of a system, vices commonly hidden, were suddenly magnified by his power as by a solar microscope: he was a great sociological revelation in himself,—a great expounder. He invented nothing; he merely utilized existing methods, and developed existing ideas, and pushed both to their logical extremes which startled the universe; yet those who most decry him, would assuredly have done likewise with the same powers and opportunities. It is a world of hypocrisy we live in, where those without ability to do what is called wrong, too often claim merit for obeying a moral code they dare not break. Gould, at least, was never a hypocrite. He bought papers, he bought judges, he bought legislatures,—because they were for sale to the highest bidder; and he frankly said so in public:—"When I want a Legislature, I always buy it!" What a colossal sarcasm! As for his politics he stated with equal plainness,—“In a Republican state I am a Republican, and in a Democratic state a Democrat; but I am always and everywhere, first a Gould-man.” People may have sneered when he gave \$30,000 to a church, to please his daughter,—who is a very pious and sweet little lady; but in so doing he certainly never thought or cared about the goodwill of the church, or about the criticisms upon his gift. He gave himself no concern at all about such matters; they neither interested nor annoyed him. He thought only about railroads and telegraphs and stocks and telephones and steamboat-lines, over the map of the world, printed upon his marvellous brain better than within any atlas. That he had no friends outside of his family, is, not surely, a blameworthy fact. The plain truth for every man who has had much experience of life is that outside the family, we have no sound reason to expect affection in the existing order of things,—that friendships are largely governed by interests which clash. We try to deceive ourselves about the common law of life with all manner of sophistries; we try to create a faith in man, like a religion. Just as keenly as he saw where to plant a railroad terminus or to stretch a telegraph line, did this man see where human sentiment and human interest lay. He made no mistakes; he was never the dupe of treachery or ingratitude. He saw life only as a great and wonderful battle of minds,—and he went into that battle single-handed, and made himself king,—able to command whatever he desired; and his

ghost can sneer at the vain imagination that he had less in his lifetime of goodwill or affection than he himself desired. And so long as the guerdon of success in this sublunary sphere is to force and cunning,—so long as we preach out of business what we do not practise in business,—so long as we applaud trivial success due to trifling with moral idealism,—we cannot, I think, judge Jay Gould with harshness. The necessity of life is to make money and to win position,—neither of which we acknowledge can be done without overcoming obstacles,—and this means in plain language, at somebody else's expense. We are all trying to do on a petty scale what Gould did upon a continental scale. There is only a difference of degree,—against which we can merely urge the question:—"Why should not a man content himself with a million or two, anyhow?" To this question, the answer is:—"Why should a man who knows himself capable of using a thousand millions, and only capable of fully exercising his talents with a thousand millions, confine himself to any lesser sum?" For one fact about Gould must not be overlooked. He used his wealth; he made millions only to employ them, and as a capitalist he was probably the greatest living force of his age.

Yours truly,

December 26th, 1892.

JUDGE MOWAT AT THE YOKOHAMA EIGO GAKKO.

His Honour Judge Mowat took the chair on Friday evening at the first prize giving of the Yokohama Eigo Gakko. The occasion was one of more than common interest, marking as it did the public recognition of a remarkable institution. There were also present Mr. James Walter, Mr. Carew, the Marquis Nembrint Gonzaga, Mr. Fardell and others. The pupils present must have aggregated more than one hundred.

After some speeches and a dialogue by the scholars, the Principal of the school submitted his report.

MR. KONDO said—Mr. Mowat, Ladies and Gentlemen: I—thought it better, before reporting on the working of this school for the past year, to give you a brief account of how this school came into existence. Perhaps it would surprise you to hear that this school (the Yokohama Eigo Gakko) has been working for one year only. I myself have been teaching English to Japanese students for nearly 7 years; but never attempted teaching on such a large scale as this, until the beginning of this year. The reason why I started this school and made it a night school only, was, because in my long experience of private teaching, I observed that a great number of parents found it really difficult to pay more than 50 cents a month; and, moreover, that their sons were unable to attend a day school as they were mostly employed in local Japanese and foreign firms; others having to attend to their Japanese studies during the day. To meet this great want, I was determined to open this night school. I need not tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that I had a great deal of trouble to contend with at first, as I had to carry on this school unaided, and entirely by the small fees paid by the students, and my own limited means, which I receive as an assistant in the Yokohama Water Works Office, and the fees obtained by out-door teaching and translations. But by degrees, the number of pupils increased, and after 3 months I found I had 104 pupils. This fact alone will show you how necessary the school was. Now, another and a greater difficulty occurred. I found that it was quite impossible to teach English conversation under Japanese teachers. The result of teaching the classes by Japanese teachers was that the students made great progress in understanding difficult words and phrases; but were very backward in speaking English and pronouncing words correctly. To overcome this difficulty there was only one way, and that was, to employ foreign teachers. Now, ladies and gentlemen, foreign teachers are very expensive articles, and to meet this extra expense I would have to sell a great many more school-tickets, as more tickets represent more scholars. To day I can proudly say that I have never received a single dollar for the support of my school, except by the teaching of students. My request has always been "please send me some students." The following gentlemen were kind enough to take tickets for students: Mr. Otani, Mr. Mogi, Mr. Asada, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Kimura, Mr. Minoda, Mr. Takeda, Mr. Ohama, and others. The total number of tickets taken by these gentlemen amounted to 60. The sale of these extra 60 tickets enabled me to employ a foreign teacher. Three months after this I found the necessity of engaging another foreign teacher, and was for-

tunate enough to secure the services of Mr. Russell, who has been with me ever since. From this time, the students made great progress both in reading and conversation; and the attendance increased to nearly 200. I may here mention that to meet the extra expense of the second foreign teacher, I was reluctantly compelled to slightly raise the fees of the three highest classes by 20, 30, and 50 cents respectively; as the additional foreign teacher was more for the benefit of these three classes than for any other class in the school. The classes in this school run from "A" to "F"; that is, "A" being the first and lowest standard, and "F" being the sixth and highest standard, the same as in English Elementary Schools. Longman's English Readers with explanations being taught to all the classes with the exception of "F" class, where Arnold Forster's Citizen Reader is taught. A. & B. classes are taught Longman's 1st and 2nd Readers with spelling, meaning, and conversation. C. & D. classes are taught Longman's 3rd and 4th Readers with spelling, meaning, explanation, and dictation; conversation, grammar, and English history forming their other studies. E. class is taught Longman's fifth reader with explanation, paraphrasing and conversation. Swinton's World's History and Grammar, are also taught to this class; while for conversation lesson each student prepares a subject about which he converses with the foreign teacher. F. class is the highest class in the school, and as I said before, is taught the Citizen Reader, Macaulay's Lord Clive, and Newspaper Reading (extracts from which are kindly supplied weekly by the Japan Mail office free of charge). The Citizen Reader gives this class a good idea of the constitution of England, as well as that of their own country, and teaches them the duties owed by them to their country, their countrymen, and themselves. In addition to these studies they are taught letter writing and advanced conversation. The lessons set by the foreign teachers are explained to all the classes by two competent Japanese teachers, who have a sound knowledge of English. This system of Japanese explanation enables the students to thoroughly understand what they are learning, not only in English but in their mother tongue. These teachers also attend to the teaching of translation (Japanese into English and English into Japanese). Lastly, a new and very interesting feature has been introduced into the teaching of this school, in which I receive great and valuable support from my foreign teachers. It is the teaching of oratory. On the third Saturday of every month, instead of the usual night classes, a general meeting of all the scholars is held at 7 p.m. in the large class room. Two boys are previously selected by turn from each class by their fellow students to represent their class at the meeting. These boys prepare a lecture, or some short story or poem, which they deliver at the meeting before the whole school on lecture day. Of course, A. & B. classes only recite small, simple poems; but the other classes all endeavour to make a lecture, however short it is, and strive to say it as nicely as possible, so as to obtain the greatest applause for their class. This not only gives the boys practice in speaking English correctly, but by it, they acquire a great deal of self-possession and the manner of speaking in public. I feel proud of this new step, as it seems to me a successful attempt to fill a gap in the present educational system of the lower schools in Japan; and moreover, it is very necessary, as this class of students could never get an opportunity of learning to speak in public with any degree of confidence. At first the students showed little or no progress, but from the time foreign teachers were engaged great progress was made in all the classes; especially after Mr. Russell joined the school. Two examinations are held yearly, one in the spring and one in the autumn. The last examination was held in November, when about 110 boys competed. The result was that from A. class 63 per cent. of the boys passed, from B. class 59 per cent. from C. class 54 per cent. from D. class 70 per cent., from E. class 15 per cent., D. class showing the largest percentage and E. class the lowest. The small percentage in E. class was due to the fact that most of the students in this class were new boys who had only been in the school a few months. So you see, gentlemen, a total average of about 60 per cent. passed the examination. The examination papers are on the table for inspection. I would like to say a few words about the class of students who attend this night school. As I said at the beginning, many of the students are employed in foreign and Japanese firms. We have boys from Messrs. Kelly & Wash, Winckler & Co., Hall & Co., Averill & Co., Tuska & Co., Retz & Co., Cocking & Co., Bagnell & Hiller, Berrick Bros., E. T. Mason & Co., W. J. Shand & Co., Samuel Samuel & Co., and many other for-

reign firms. These boys have to go to work during the day, and so find a night-school a great help to them. I feel sure that if more of the foreign firms in Yokohama knew of the existence of this school, they would be only too willing to send their assistants, clerks, and boys, for improvement to the night lessons, as the fee is so small and the advantage so great. One year's hard study could give a boy of ordinary capacity a very good idea of English, that is, he would be able to converse in English; and to understand all that was said to him regarding his office work. He would be able to attend to customers or visitors, and talk to them in English; moreover, he would be well able to make fair copies of letters, and file the correspondence of the office in good order. If he continued longer in the school he would learn a great deal more. The teachers at present in the school are:—Mr. Russell, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Murai, Mr. Ishikawa, and myself. Mr. Russell is my head teacher, and to him my very best thanks are due for his excellent teaching, and the valuable assistance I have always received from him during the past six months. Mr. Tanaka is my head Japanese teacher, and has been with me from the commencement of this school: to him also, my best thanks are due for his work during the past year. My thanks are also due to Messrs. Perrie, Walker, Wells, Gomes, and Scott, for assistance rendered during the past year. To continue the school in the present manner and retain the present working staff, some 250 students would be necessary, this number representing nearly \$150. To this I can add my own official salary, and the amount I get for private out-door teaching and the translation of Japanese letters. But we have never had more than 200 students, so that, the school has never really paid, and has always been, more or less, in debt. Not in debt, gentlemen, in the usual sense of the word; but in debt to the Principal; that is, I have received nothing for the time, labour, and money I have devoted to this school. The school was held in July last in a building in Sumiyoshicho, but from the time of the engagement of foreign teachers the number of students increased so rapidly that larger accommodation became necessary, and the school was therefore removed to the present building, which was rented for three hours a night, i.e. 7 to 10 p.m. for \$10 per month. But we now find that even this building is too small for our requirements. We cannot use the lower portion of the building, as it is engaged at night by its proprietor, so I hope soon to be able to build a school, if I get the support I expect from the Japanese residents of Yokohama. I estimate that it will not cost more than 2,000 dollars. This is all I have to say about the school, but before I sit down I would like to say a few words about the boarding-school which is held in connection with this school. At the request of some of the students and the parents of boys in the suburbs of Yokohama, I came to the conclusion that it would be a great improvement if a boarding school were opened in conjunction with the night school, and the services of a foreign resident teacher engaged. Application was accordingly made to the foreign Minister in Tokyo, and a permit received, and the services of Mr. Russell engaged as resident teacher. He resides in the boarding-school, where a room in foreign style has been fitted up for him. This I find is a great benefit, as he is constantly with the pupils and always converses with them in English. Gentlemen, I thank you for your courteous attention.—(Applause.)

Mr. Mowat, who was warmly received, said—Ladies and Gentlemen, and pupils of the Eigo Gakko—I have been a good deal surprised at what I have heard and seen since entering this room to-night. I was surprised to discover that I was expected to say something—and that I need hardly say was not an agreeable surprise—(laughter)—and I am genuinely surprised, but very delighted, to find such a flourishing school. It is evident that it is flourishing from the looks on the faces of the scholars—they are all happy and expectant. But I am more surprised at the excellent report just read by your Principal. It speaks volumes for his industry; I will go further and say that it speaks more for his patriotism.—(Applause.) He not only gives his time, his ability, and his industry, but I gather from the report that he also gives to the school, out of his private means, a considerable amount of money. It is to his highest credit. I sincerely hope that in the time to come he will be rewarded—that he will receive that reward which he would desire most—a large accession of scholars. I hope he will be enabled to send out from his school many a good man, but to do this he must receive your cordial co-operation. You must be as diligent in your lessons as he has been diligent towards your interests. I am a man of few words, and not accustomed to

deliver addresses to children and elder lads, so I will ask Mr. Walter, who is sitting near me, to say a few words to you. But before resuming my seat I must say, once again, that I hope you will take advantage of every opportunity which this school offers to you. I hope that from the New Year the institution will receive a fresh impulse and obtain extended support from foreign firms, for it is of a character not conceived of by foreigners in Yokohama.—(Loud Applause.)

Mr. JAMES WALTER said—Pupils of the Eigo Gakko—I was very pleased to accept the invitation of Mr. Kondo to appear here this evening, and, like Mr. Mowat, I am surprised at the event. I fully agree with the objects Mr. Kondo has in teaching you the English language thoroughly and giving you a commercial education. Japanese lads and men are of great use to foreign firms in Yokohama as clerks and office boys, and their numbers are increasing daily. I think there is a very large opening for you boys in commercial life. Not in Yokohama only, for this is but a small place, but in Japan generally. Commercial matters are engaging the attention of everybody more or less now-a-days, and you boys in future life may find openings for yourselves in China, Korea, and even in America. In the United States you will find in every large centre of population some Japanese employed in the stores or offices. As I said just now, the field before you is very large; you must study hard, stick to your lessons and master the English tongue; for the English language will carry you everywhere, or almost everywhere, in the commercial world. You have a splendid opportunity afforded you in this school, and it is your own look-out if you do not take advantage of it in every way.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. Mowat then distributed the prizes and at the close was greeted with three hearty cheers in English fashion. The visitors then left and the school resolved itself into its various classes.

LETTERS FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, November 21st.

The Japanese residents of this city have organized themselves into a club for "mutual benefit and support;" and have chosen Dr. M. Ikuta, of the University of Chicago, as President; T. Sasaki, a clerk in the office of *The Horseman*, as Secretary; and K. Nakayama, who is about to open a Japanese store here, as Treasurer. They will meet monthly.

The other day I visited the World's Fair grounds, and by special permission was allowed to go on the wooded island when the Japanese are at work. Mr. Kuru, the architect, and Mr. Takeshima, superintendent of construction, both happened to be absent; but Mr. S. Ota, of the Nippon Doboku Kaisha, was there, and kindly gave me such information as I needed. An architectural draughtsman of the Exposition happened to be present when I was looking at the plans, and remarked that he had never, in an experience of several years, seen such fine and beautiful work. He was, however, so worried over the apparently loose foundation and frail character of the building, that he was scarcely satisfied, when Mr. Ota assured him that structures which could withstand the high winds, even typhoons, of Japan ought to be safe here, unless a cyclone should come along!

The Japanese workmen were merrily engaged in their labours, and seemed delighted to have a foreigner address them in their own tongue. They asked about the weather, which that morning was sharp and cold; and inquired anxiously about the snow and the cold of the coming winter. They attract, of course, a great deal of attention, and have been pictured in several dailies, which also contained descriptions of their unique methods of carpentry.

The foundations of the Hōdō (Phoenix Hall) are all laid, and the frame work of the north wing (which represents the Fujiwara epoch) is standing. The main building in the centre will represent the Tokugawa period, and the south wing is to represent the Asakura age. There are 17, and soon will be 25, mechanics at work on the grounds.

I also visited that day the Equinax village in the World's Fair grounds. These people were enjoying the bitter wind more than the Japanese, and looked very comfortable in their thick fur suits. When they arrived, they were 57 in number, but now count up to 59: three babies having been born, and one died, on the grounds. Some of them come from far northern localities, where they have lived in nothing but ice-houses or skin-tents; others have been accustomed to sod-houses; and some have occupied wooden huts. Here they will

all live in wooden cottages, which are now in process of erection. They are being gradually weaned from a meat diet, and are learning to eat and to like vegetables. The oldest, however, can not be induced to eat vegetables, and are homesick: but most of them are happy in their new surroundings. They attract crowds of visitors, and are well worth seeing; and they are themselves very curious to see Caucasians. Their managers are a little apprehensive of the effect on them of summer weather, and are wondering how to keep them sufficiently cool!

The Chinese are still successful, one way or another, in evading the Exclusion Act, and have recently been entering this country from Mexico in large numbers.

This little item has been going the rounds of the newspapers:—

The Mikado of Japan has no more floricultural little country to rule over. He is the sovereign of 40,000,000 people who live in 13,000 towns and villages.

Another paragraph informs us, with how much truth I know not, that the decline of Buddhism in Japan is evidenced by the fact, that in 1877 there were 3,737 temples, and now there are only 3,256,—most 400 less.

The influence of Christianity in Japan has been pictured by the following paragraph:—

TESTIMONY OF A JAPANESE LADY.

We Christian people whose husbands are Christians, are so happy because of their lives being so different to what they were before. Instead of spending their time at the theatre, or club, or gambling house, instead of looking upon us as slaves, they treat us as equals, and have family prayers with us.

The wife of the Korean Minister at Washington has joined the Presbyterian Church, and other members of the Legation are expected to follow.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of this country will spend this year on foreign missions more than \$700,000.

The American Baptist Missionary Union, in this centennial year of missions, will send out 81 missionaries, of whom 29 return to fields of labour after vacation, and 52 go out for the first time.

The New York Presbytery, after hearing the reading of the charges and specifications, and discussing technical questions, adjourned till November 28th, when the trial will begin. At Cincinnati the trial of Rev. Henry P. Smith is now going on, and seems likely to end in his acquittal.

It is possible that absolute closing of the World's Fair is not after all an assured thing, and that a compromise may be effected. At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors lengthy resolutions were passed by an almost unanimous vote to the effect that Congress be petitioned to reconsider its vote for Sunday closing, and to allow the gates to be open, with no running of machinery, merchandising, or unnecessary manual labour. The art gallery, horticultural building and exhibits of mechanical art would also be open, and religious services would be held within the Exposition grounds.

Some wealthy Chinese residents of America are planning for an immense theatre and restaurant near the World's Fair grounds. For this purpose the Wah Yung Company has been organized with a capital stock of \$80,000 in \$50 shares. It will be built of brick, stone and iron; will be three stories high and 97 by 100 feet. It will be part pagoda, part chalet, part modern Romanesque, decorated with vermilion and gold in all sorts of salamander and dragon designs. It will contain restaurants for both Chinese and American edibles; tea-rooms, tea-rooms, and other stores; and theatre parlours.

The vacant mission to Turkey has been filled by the appointment of David P. Thompson, of Oregon, and that to Italy by the appointment of William Pollock, of Pennsylvania. Neither appointee is well known.

The indictment of Labour Commissioner Peck, of New York, for destroying public records, has been declared illegal by the Supreme Court of that State. So ends the one dramatic episode of the political campaign.

The exact number of electoral votes which will be cast for each of the three leading Presidential candidates is not yet known. The official count, which will be needed to ascertain the exact status, is proceeding very slowly. The intricate Australian ballot, which, however, proved its efficiency in the late election, retards the count. California is now very close, but will probably give Harrison a very small plurality. Wyoming will, perhaps, give Harrison a few hundred plurality. Ohio also is in the doubtful column, with the chances in favour of 22 for Harrison and 1 for Cleveland. It happened that many voters, wishing to vote the straight ticket, instead of putting a mark before the party appellation, put the mark before the name at the head of the electoral list. By law such ballots are counted only for the candidates marked. Then the head man on each electoral ticket ran ahead of his fellows by several thousand votes. Inasmuch, therefore, as Ohio is not likely

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to give more than 1,000 Republican plurality, one Republican elector is sure to be defeated by one Democrat.

The following table gives California and Wyoming to Harrison, and leaves Ohio in doubt:—

States.	Whole No. of votes.	Harrison.	Cleveland.	Weaver.	In doubt.
Alabama	11	11	—	—	—
Arkansas	8	8	—	—	—
California	9	9	—	—	—
Colorado	4	4	—	—	—
Connecticut	6	6	—	—	—
Delaware	3	3	—	—	—
Florida	4	4	—	—	—
Georgia	13	13	—	—	—
Idaho	3	3	—	—	—
Illinois	24	24	—	—	—
Indiana	15	15	—	—	—
Iowa	13	13	—	—	—
Kansas	14	14	—	—	—
Kentucky	13	13	—	—	—
Louisiana	8	8	—	—	—
Maine	6	6	—	—	—
Maryland	8	8	—	—	—
Massachusetts	15	15	—	—	—
Michigan	14	14	—	—	—
Minnesota	9	9	—	—	—
Mississippi	9	9	—	—	—
Missouri	27	27	—	—	—
Montana	3	3	—	—	—
Nebraska	8	8	—	—	—
Nevada	3	3	—	—	—
New Hampshire	4	4	—	—	—
New Jersey	10	10	—	—	—
New York	36	36	—	—	—
North Carolina	12	12	—	—	—
North Dakota	3	3	—	—	—
Ohio	23	—	—	—	23
Oregon	4	4	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	32	32	—	—	—
Rhode Island	4	4	—	—	—
South Carolina	9	9	—	—	—
South Dakota	4	4	—	—	—
Tennessee	16	16	—	—	—
Texas	15	15	—	—	—
Vermont	4	4	—	—	—
Virginia	12	12	—	—	—
Washington	4	4	—	—	—
West Virginia	4	4	—	—	—
Wisconsin	12	12	—	—	—
Wyoming	3	3	—	—	—
Total	444	330	265	49	23
Necessary to a choice, 222.					

If Ohio is divided as indicated above, the result is Cleveland 268, Harrison 152, and Weaver 24. These last figures show Cleveland's lowest possible, and Harrison's highest possible, vote. Cleveland, therefore, at the lowest estimate, has a clear majority of 92 in the electoral college, and, without New York, would have a clear majority of 20 electors. It is very gratifying, therefore, to learn, that he could have been elected without the aid of Tammany.

The post-election lessons are numerous and interesting. The "Solid South" was true to Democracy; but the "Solid West" of Republicanism was broken. Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin were lost to the Democrats; Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, and North Dakota were captured by the Populists; while Ohio (*sic*), California, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, Washington, South Dakota, and Oregon were uncomfortably close. The Prohibition vote was slightly increased; the Populists drew from all parties, particularly from the Republicans in the West, and thus practically defeated them in that section. It is also evident, that the people trusted Cleveland more than his party on the silver question, and the matter of State bank notes. His strong personality and independence won for him the victory; and his well-known stand on the question of tariff reform was an important factor. President Harrison, too, as a man enjoys the good opinion of all citizens for his sincerity, integrity, honesty, dignity, and ability; he was defeated only because he is a high-tariff Republican.

In case the Kansas legislature proves to have a Fusion majority, it is barely possible that Senator Perkin (Republican) may be succeeded by Mrs. Leese. Her name is being seriously considered in that connection.

This morning's papers brought the welcome news that the Homestead strike, which lasted almost six months and cost \$5,000,000, has been officially declared off. In the meeting of the Amalgamated Association the motion to that effect was carried by a vote of 101 to 91. The strikers, except the "black sheep," will all probably be taken back by the Carnegie Company. In the meantime the trial of Critchlow, one of the strikers, is going on in Pittsburgh; and the Senate committee of investigation is meeting in this city, but has not yet elicited any important testimony.

We have had several days of sharp cold, which some are inclined to attribute more or less to the comet (Biela's) which is careering around in close proximity to the earth.

Day before yesterday the first World Fair souvenir coin was struck off at the mint in Philadelphia, and delivered to an Exposition official. For this coin a bid of \$10,000 has been made. The four-hundredth, fourteen-hundred-and-ninety-second, and the eighteen-hundred-and-ninety-second, were also coined.

The chief of the foreign affairs department of the World's Fair has received word from Dr. H. N.

Allen, that the Korean government is actively engaged in preparing its exhibit, which will soon be shipped to Chicago.

Rev. Charles T. Wyckoff is advertised to deliver a lecture on "Japan and the Japanese" before the Stenographers' Club of this city.

Chicago, December 1st, 1892.

Minister Von Holleben is known among his associates in Washington, D.C., on account of his invariable good-humour, as "the man who laughs."

Rev. Doremus Scudder has accepted a call to become pastor of the East Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N.Y., and is now in that city.

At the close of a recent prayer-meeting of the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, an informal business meeting was held to consider the subject of the church's relations with the American Board of Foreign Missions. Dr. Lyman Abbott stated that, as the Board is a "close corporation," it was a question not so much of theology as of liberty. But yet the Board, contrary to the belief of the Plymouth Church, had declared, that there was no hope for the heathen, and that God's mercy for him ended at death. Consequently the contributions of the church had been made under protest. On the motion of Dr. Abbott, it was voted that all of the next collection, unless otherwise designated, should go to "the Noyes mission" in Japan.

There are eight Japanese students this year at Harvard, one at Boston University, and one at the Mass. Institute of Technology.

There are nearly 300 female students in the Harvard Annex.

University Extension work, especially in connection with the University of Chicago, is rapidly growing, and permeating the general public with instruction and knowledge. That branch of university instruction has been appropriately called the missionary department of education. In Chicago and vicinity there are now some twenty-five centres, at which instruction is given at least once a week. The subjects include literature, political and social science, Biblical literature, history (American, English and general), science (natural and physical), political economy, ethics, and anthropology. This relates only to the lecture-study department; the class-work (evening and correspondence departments) are also flourishing.

President E. B. Andrews, of Brown University, Providence, R.I., was added to the body of the representatives of the United States at the International Monetary Conference, now in session at Brussels. India has two representatives, General Richard Strachey and Sir Guilford L. Molesworth.

Sir John C. Abbott, on the 25th ult., resigned his position as Premier of the Canadian Government, and Sir John Thompson was at once named by Lord Stanley as successor. The new Premier once held a similar position in Nova Scotia; has served in the Dominion Parliament, and was Minister of Justice under the late Sir John McDonald.

Lieut. and Mrs. Peary, of the recent Greenland expedition, have been in this city to confer with Chief Putnam of the Ethnological Department of the World's Fair concerning an exhibit illustrative of the life and customs of the Greenland Esquimaux, especially of the tribe known as the Arctic Highlanders. The Esquimaux already on the ground are from Labrador.

An interesting ceremony took place the other day at the Fair grounds. The site of the Turkish building was dedicated by the resident Turks with Moslem rites, in which the sacrifice of a sheep was an important element.

This is a reminder that about thirty concessions have been granted for "side shows" in connection with the World's Fair. These include model villages, streets and settlements of various nationalities, panoramas, a natatorium, a volcano, cocoa company, New England clam-bake, etc.

It now seems quite likely that the exhibits of Chinese merchants will exceed the estimates, and will need largely increased space. In fact, in every department of this already immense affair, the realization is rapidly outgrowing the expectation. There will not be anywhere in the Exposition much waste space; there will be much crowding. In conception, in preparation, in management, in realization, in success and influence, the World's Columbian Exposition will stand forth as unique and extraordinary.

At the recent annual meeting of the Knights of Labor, Grand Master Workman T. V. Powderley was re-elected.

Large numbers of the strikers have been received back to work in the Carnegie mills at Pittsburgh, Homestead, Beaver Falls, etc.; but many must submit to lower wages even than those against which they struck. Thus the great strike has resulted practically in a complete failure, but may prove beneficial as a moral lesson and an incentive to devise some means of reconciling the

opposing but really concurrent interests of capital and labour.

The Economic Fuel Gas Company is now supplying natural gas in the North and South Divisions of this city. It is proving very useful for both heating and cooking purposes, and is no more expensive than coal. It is brought here in pipes from Kokomo, Indiana; and, unless the coal combine stops its extortions, may to a great extent, even totally supersede anthracite coals.

A great deal of disappointment was felt in scientific circles because clouds prevented astronomers in this country from making careful observations of the comet on the 26th and 27th ult. Before those days there were some meteoric displays, which were expected to be magnificent about the 27th. It is now pretty generally believed that the comet is not Biela's. The superstitious and the wicked are greatly relieved, that the comet did not strike the earth, and thus put end to the present dispensation!

It is, however, probable that the proximity of the comet caused atmospheric disturbances, which manifested themselves, here and there, in cold and windy weather. In San Francisco Bay, particularly, the high winds caused heavy seas, which damaged wharves and produced collisions; and all along the Pacific coast, and inland in Northern and Central California, the storm raged. But the weather has since moderated, and is now very delightful. I should have stated also, that the comet brought the first snow of the season.

The following item shows the continued prosperity of the Canadian Pacific Railway:—

New York, Nov. 29.—The October statement of the Canadian Pacific Railroad shows gross earnings of \$3,112,763; operating expenses, \$1,088,260; net earnings, \$2,024,503, an increase of \$15,838. From Jan. 1 to October 30 the gross earnings were \$17,426,784; operating expenses, \$10,328,848; net earnings, \$7,097,936, an increase of \$455,465.

Rev. John W. Scott, D.D., the venerable father of Mrs. Harrison, has been unwell ever since the death of his daughter, and finally passed away November 29th "as quietly and as peacefully as a child falls asleep." He was 92 years old. Brief services are to be held in the White House this afternoon, and interment will be made tomorrow at Washington, Penn. Dr. Scott was a teacher during the prime of his life in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Mrs. Annie Bessant, the apostle of theosophy, has arrived in this country, and will go about giving lectures on that subject. She claims that theosophy is "steadily gaining ground," as is indicated by the large space given to it by newspapers. That is not, however, a sure sign of healthy growth and purposes, but often an indication merely of notoriety and of a morbid popular curiosity.

The Briggs trial in New York City, and the Smith trial in Cincinnati, are both going on, but have not yet excited the public to any great extent. Dr. Briggs, in this own defence, claimed that the amendments to the original charges were irregular; and in several test votes he has scored victories. Dr. Smith, in defence, pleaded ambiguity in the charges.

The University of Chicago is elated over the fact that the Ogden bequest, which it was feared might not bring in more than \$300,000, will net about \$500,000. This will be a welcome assistance in founding the scientific school.

Mrs. Leese, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the Kansas Senatorship, has published the following statement:—

I shall not enter the race for the place. The office should seek the woman as well as the man. When I say I shall make no fight, I say it with this proviso: That I am not attacked solely because I am a woman. There is one very peculiar fact connected with my candidacy. I have received hundreds of letters of encouragement from men since the announcement of my candidacy, but not one from a woman. I naturally expected some encouragement from my sex. Single-handed and alone I have done more for woman's suffrage than all of them. I had a suffrage plank incorporated in the Populist's platform and I forced the Republican party to do the same thing. If the politicians see fit to attack me because of my sex, I shall fight this thing to a finish as a matter of principle.

There is a proposition to divide Kansas into two states, with perhaps a part of the Indian Territory included in the division.

President Harrison is hard at work on his message which he hopes to be able to transmit to Congress next Tuesday (6th instant).

The complexion of the next Congress is not yet accurately known. A Republican estimate cuts down the Democratic majority to about 80 with the following divisions:—Democrats 318, Republicans 128, Populists 8, Vacancies 2 (R.J.). In the two Rhode Island districts, as no candidate secured an absolute majority, there will be another election.

The official returns in Ohio elect 22 Republican, and 1 Democratic, electors. California is still doubtful; and North Dakota is so close, that Weaver may lose its four votes to Harrison. The right of Indians to vote will be a factor in the final result. Cleveland gets 7,125 plurality in Indiana, and 45,670 plurality in New York. It is a curious fact that from 1864 New York has never failed to

alternate in Presidential elections, as follows.—1864, Republican; 1868, Democratic; 1872, Republican; 1876, Democratic; 1880, Republican; 1884, Democratic; 1888, Republican; 1892, Democratic. [1896, Republican?]

The Wahi Mee Exposition Company, with a capital of \$1,500,000 in 300,000 shares of \$5 each, has been incorporated at Ogden, Utah. Its purpose is to establish at the World's Fair a Chinese village, tea-garden and café, bazaar, theatre, and joss-house.

Spain has appropriated an additional \$200,000 for World's Fair purposes; and will erect a building to be an exact reproduction of the famous exchange building at Valencia.

It is now doubtful whether the Liberal Arts Department will obtain a building for itself. It is, however, possible that the exhibits of ethnology, hygiene and sanitation will have a small building by themselves; and that the educational exhibit, then partly relieved, will have 150,000 square feet in the Manufactures Building, as originally contemplated.

The Nicaragua Canal Convention began its meetings yesterday in New Orleans, but has not yet got ten down to real work. Any report must, therefore, be postponed till the next letter.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

(FROM A TRAVELLING CORRESPONDENT.)

Munich, November 15th.

Even in a rather hurried trip around the world from Japan to Germany by way of India, we can see evidences of the influence of Japan's taste and work. In Shanghai, the first stopping point, we observe Japanese wares in the shops, and we find Japanese articles adorning the houses. If a person living there wishes to send home a beautiful gift to a friend, he chooses something made, not by the Chinese, among whom he lives, but by the Japanese. When we get farther south to Hong-kong, we come across some of the handiwork of the Chinese, but the largest and finest art store in the whole town is filled with the products of Japanese labour. It is almost one of the foreign art stores reproduced from Yokohama, and all set out and arrayed with lacquer work, and kakemonos, and pottery ware, and carvings, and pictures, etc.

There are some very pretty, and unique specimens from the workshops of the "Celestial land." The paintings on rice paper are curious and attractive. The material, I suppose, is not made in Japan at all, at least I never saw any while there, but is of a soft, snowy whiteness. The designs chiefly represent Chinese life and manners, such as the different grades of mandarins, costumes, education, marriage, punishments. The brush used is like that found in every writing-box in Japan, and the painter dashes off the figures with wonderful quickness. The smaller sizes are sent home by the foreigners as Christmas greetings. They are more strange, than, but not nearly so durable as those made in Yokohama for a similar purpose. In Canton also, I was shown large establishments for silk work, for lacquer manufacture, for embroidery, bronze productions, ivory carvings. The demand for the last seems to be very large, if one might judge by the great quantity of specimens turned out. I was indeed sceptical whether so much ivory could be found in one town, and, as the Chinese have a wide reputation for skill in imitation, I enquired if the elephants hadn't been credited with many artificial teeth. But I was assured by impartial judges that it was nearly all genuine. In needle-work also there seems a steady call, as I saw some spacious show rooms set out with screens, covers, hangings, and curtains.

I was much interested in hearing the opinion of an old Canton merchant, in comparing the Chinese and Japanese works of art. He was an American, who could easily pass for an Englishman, and he had been in the Asia for some thirty years' and showed a pretty full acquaintance with the Far East. He said each was superior to the other in one direction. The Japanese had more taste, and the Chinaman had more skill. The Japanese excelled in design and the Chinaman in execution. The Japanese creations were more beautiful and the Chinese creations were more accurate. For instance, let a Japanese ornament a screen with his needle. He puts in one tree with possibly a bird on it. Let a Chinaman symbolise this idea with his needle and he thinks if one bird on the tree is beautiful, two birds will be more so, and half a dozen or more still better, and finally each branch has a feathery mass or two on it. The Japanese gives us something æsthetic and striking in its appeal to our senses. The Chinaman's efforts result in something grotesque and barbaric. But scrutinise both in their details, and it will be found that the Chinaman's stitches are more even and

regular, and he has followed the lines of his copy with more painstaking fidelity.

This was substantially his view. I give it for what it may be worth, as I am no judge in such matters. But, on my voyage, I heard another testimonial to Chinese handicraft that is in keeping with this belief in Chinese exactness of reproduction. A marine engineer, a Scotchman, going home from Singapore, where he had superintended Chinese workmen for several years, gave the fullest credit to this imitative faculty. He said he had given out the most delicate and intricate parts of machinery in his shop to Chinese mechanics, and the Chinamen had returned substitutes for the broken prices, just as faithful and true to the original as any English or Scotch mechanic on earth could do. He also declared that if he had a model to show what he wanted done, he would defy any European to surpass the Chinaman, and, in most instances, the Chinaman is better because he is more patient. But in his opinion the drawbacks to the Celestial were two; he had no power of originating, and he was far slower than his white brother.

In Singapore there is quite a colony of Japanese, and on the whole, they are prospering, so far as I heard. As was to be expected there were also to be found beautiful things from Japan. In Penang one could also see some evidences of Japan's art productions, and the same could be observed even in Colombo, where we would naturally look for the field to be fully occupied by the East Indians. But the greatest surprise of all for me was in Aden. There in this spot, so many thousand miles away from Japan, the most pretentious curio shop in all the town was filled with Japanese work, almost to the entire exclusion of all else. With the exception of a few ibex horns, some skins, and some shells and bows from the beach, all the cases were filled with lacquer, silk, kakemonos, kimonos, pictures, carvings, pottery, etc., from Japan. The dealer tried to pass them off as local productions, but this was too transparent to deceive anyone who had been in Japan half a day even. It is hardly necessary to say that the prices were such as to bring to mind the exaggerations of the "Arabian Nights."

In Egypt, Japan's influence is not so clearly seen, as art workers here are both numerous and low-priced, and they turn out articles that are in high demand. But in spite of such strong competition, I could see in some windows specimens that must have originated in that Far Eastern land of the Rising Sun. In one of the largest hotels, the entrance hall was adorned with vases, the exact counterpart of those in the shops in Yokohama. On the dining table also, the flowers rested in vessels inscribed with Chinese characters, and pictured with figures in flowing Japanese robes, flanked with the pine and bamboo. The most of these ornaments were not of the best quality, though of course they must have been dear by time they reached Cairo.

Even in Naples and Rome, I noticed on the dining tables some specimens of Japanese taste and labour. Here in Munich, the two large show windows of a pretentious establishment are set out with objects that remind me of my sojourn in Japan. I am not sure whether the lacquer displayed in Europe is really genuine Japanese work or not, as I have heard that there have been imitations of this in some parts of Europe.

But Japan comes most vividly and numerously before your eye in the *jinrikisha* which is found bowling along at every place around to Colombo. I did not see any in Aden, though I kept a sharp look out for them. I fear the natives of that barren, rocky point are a little too lazy to wheel a man around in that way, and besides, it would be too expensive, as runners must have water, and water there has to be paid for, to every mouthful even.

But the Chinaman, with all his name for tenacious, adhesive conservatism, has widely adopted this two-wheeled vehicle, and has introduced some modifications in it. He turns many a penny as a puller, and in Shanghai he is almost aggressive in his demands for "a fare," and will follow you as persistently as a blood-hound. But he was not entirely satisfied with the style of the Japanese "pullman car," and made some slight changes. It can easily be foreseen that with all his practical ways of life, all his variations would be in the direction of comfort and usefulness, rather than of taste and beauty. All his machines are a little larger, a little heavier, a little slower, a little more comfortable, and a little uglier, than those used in Dai Nippon. The back is higher, the cushions softer, the springs easier, and you have more room to spread yourself, and to stretch out your legs, than in those for common hire in the open ports of Japan. In one respect, we can certainly say he has made a distinct improvement in his adaptation. In Shanghai, many of these carriages have rubber tired, ball-gearing bicycle wheels. They are very large, and run easily and noiselessly along the gravelled streets; the

shafts also are set differently. They are longer and stand up higher, and the whole body of the vehicle seems to swing further backward, and a more agreeable position is thus obtained for your back. But no matter what kind the vehicle may be, whether high or low, the Celestial carries you along at a smooth gentle trot, with the same calm sedateness and seriousness of countenance that he does all things. He is sure to get you there, but he has none of the dash and strapping vigour of his Japanese brother. He is also larger and stronger, and he does not have to strain so much when he comes to a slight ascent or a little glutinous mud. He has set the fashion for all *jinrikisha* outside of Japan. You will find these carts the same after once leaving Kobe on your southward voyage, and you will sit behind the "pig-tailed" son of the Middle Kingdom whenever you ride in a *jinrikisha* until you get to India. It seems with him in this, as in all industries he enters, he is slow but he will eventually drive out nearly all competitors. This patient, plodding care makes itself felt in all other branches through the East till he gets to India. There it seems an unwritten but inviolable law of trade and labour, "thus far can you go and no farther." But even among the teeming millions of that peninsula, he has thrust himself in and gathered a slight foothold. In places he is the chief reliance of the foreigner for such skilled labour as carpentering and lathe-turning.

I also learned that in India, or in the Island of Ceylon at least, Japan through one of her natural products makes a material contribution to one of the great industries of the place. In the mountains of Ceylon, I thought I observed something familiar about the boxes in which the tea was being packed at a tea factory. On enquiry, I found that the boards had been brought all the way from Japan. Large quantities of tea are shipped every year, and thus Japan gets some good out of her rival in the tea trade. I believe most of the tea drunk in America comes from Japan. I don't know how it is packed into the boxes, but I hope it is done in a nicer-looking way than in Ceylon. There it is tramped down by the bare feet of half-naked men—and not at all clean-looking feet in several instances, but of course the process has nothing dangerous in it.

It was here in Ceylon also, at Kandy, away up in the mountains, that I found some hearty sympathy with Japan in her efforts to break the bonds of extra-territoriality. An Irish gentleman, who has spent more than a quarter of a century in Ceylon, showed a full appreciation of this question and of the work of the *Japan Mail* with regard to it. He expressed his admiration for "Captain Brinkley, who always speaks so ably and fairly for Japan in the columns of his paper." He thought England had shown much lukewarmness towards Japan's proposals and attributed it all to the influence of the merchant class who have been the controlling element for so many years in the English government. It was a pleasant surprise, at that distance, to meet one who understood this chief question in the international relations of Japan, and who was so decided in his sentiments of goodwill.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

THE "ZAMBESI"—"HOKUMON" COLLISION.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 30TH, 1892.

The Court of Inquiry to investigate the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamship *Zambesi* and the Japanese steamship *Hokumon Maru*, which occurred on the 9th of December in Tokyo Bay below Tomioka, assembled to-day.

The Court was constituted as follows:—

JAMES TROUP, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, President.
ARTHUR HAYES-SADLER, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N., H.M.S. *Leander*.

DAVID STUART BAILEY, Esq., master of the British steamship *Tartar*.

E. J. LEBRAUD, Esq., Clerk of the Court.

Master-at-Arms Mr. ALFRED UNGER, R.N. H.M.S. *Leander*.

The Clerk of the Court read the various letters, documents, and log of the *Zambesi* in reference to the calling of the Court.

Mr. Lowder—I appear on behalf of the master, mates, and crew of the *Zambesi*. I have two Chinese witnesses to examine and have brought an interpreter, who attends at considerable inconvenience to his employer. I would like, with the permission of the Court, to have the Chinese witnesses examined first.

The President—The Court grants permission.

Kwong Cheong was sworn in as interpreter of Chinese.

Ah Soy, sworn said—I was on board the *Zambesi* on the 8th-9th December. I am a sailor on

board that ship. I went on watch at twelve o'clock. I was stationed on the forward bridge. I was on the lookout there. Shortly after going on watch I saw a white light. I can't say exactly at what time I saw it, but it was after the steamer had left the harbour. The light was on the port bow; when I saw it I struck the gong. I said nothing when I saw the white light, but when I said a red light I hollered: "Light on the port bow." I said this in English. I saw the white and red lights together. I looked at the lights on board my own ship then. I noticed that our own lights, the red and green, were burning very brightly. I have been to sea in English ships for three years. After I had seen these lights I saw a green light.

To the President—This was after seeing the red light.

To the Court—Soon after seeing the green light the ship was in collision.

Mr. Lowder—Very soon after?—Yes; immediately after.

The President—Did he see the red and the green lights together—all at the same time?—I saw the three together.

For how long?—A very short time.

Wong Ah Ying, sworn, said—I was on board the *Zambesi* on the night of the 9th December. I went on duty at 12 o'clock. I am helmsman-quarter-master. I was steering a course S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. when I went on duty. I did not change my course from then till the time of the collision. While on duty I heard the gong sound once. This was about a quarter past twelve. When I heard the gong strike I looked forward and saw a white light. It was forward on our port bow. Soon after this I heard a man holla, and then I saw a red light. Immediately after I saw a green light. The collision occurred immediately after my seeing the green light.

The President—Did you hear that a man was missing—disappeared—out of the steamer, afterwards?—After the steamer had been into collision the men were checked and one was found missing.

When was that?—Three-quarters of an hour past twelve.

You did not know before that that a man was missing?—No, before that I had had no time.

After the collision took place what did you do?—I still attended to the wheel.

Did the ship stop or go off somewhere else?—The ship stopped.

For how long?—The ship stopped at the moment of collision, but after the collision we were going again.

In what direction?—The same course S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E.

How long did you go on that course?—A very short time; for soon afterwards the officer on the bridge gave me orders to "steady-port," and soon after the ship ran on shore.

For how long after the collision was the course S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. kept?—For a very short time.

Could you say how many minutes or seconds?—I could not tell exactly, but it was for a very short time.

Had the shock of the collision any effect upon the compass?—Yes, the compass shook a little.

Mr. Lowder—I understand that the order "steady port" was given to him in order to prevent him from going to port. I should like to elicit from witness whether the beach upon which the ship was run lay right in front of him at the time of the collision, or whether the ship's head was turned either to the right or left in order to reach the land on which they beached her?

The President put the question and witness answered—The ship turned.

Lieut. Sadler—In which way?—To the East, but I could not tell which point.

The President—Is he quite sure of that?—The ship went on straight and then went to port. When the helm is turned to port the ship goes to starboard.

In which direction was the ship's head?—After the collision it pointed towards the land.

Ah Soy, recalled, said, in answer to the President, —I first knew that a man was missing after the ship had been beached.

Captain George Joseph Edwards, sworn, said—I am master of the *Zambesi*. I hold two master's certificates—one English and one Japanese. My English certificate is No. 504, Hongkong, which under existing rules is equal to a Board of Trade certificate. I was employed on board the *Zambesi* on the 8th-9th of December. We left Yokohama at night. At 11.34 p.m. I began to manoeuvre to turn my ship's head. I passed the light-ship at 11.47. I was in charge of the bridge myself. At the light-ship I shaped my course S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. by the bridge compass, 2 degrees of error; told the second officer of the course, and seeing Kanonsaki light, distant 12 miles, said: "Just keep that light on your port bow a degree or so." Probably a quarter of an hour afterwards I saw, at a distance of 4 to 5 miles a bright light, and half a minute afterwards, through my glasses, saw the red light.

As my red light was opposed to her red I had not the slightest apprehension that anything could occur. About eight minutes afterwards, the ship being approximately about four lengths from me on the port bow, I suddenly saw her three lights, as she turned round, then her green. I jumped to the telegraph, remarking to the second officer, "What on earth is that fellow trying to do." I stopped the engine, and seized the whistle rope and blew a prolonged blast. I had no time to do anything to get out of the other vessel's way. We were struck on the port bow, as near as possible at right angles of the striking ship. I may say, I heard the bright red light reported some time after I had seen it from the bridge.

To Mr. Lowder—I saw it through my glasses first, then seven minutes or so afterwards with the naked eye.

To the Court—I said to the second officer, "Swing out the boats." The chief officer at this moment came up on deck, and I said to him, "A fellow has run into us, go forward and ascertain the damage and sound the bell." He came back and said: "The whole bow is stove in, there is 10 feet of water; she is hit about the collision bulkhead." By this time I could see that she was sinking forward, and having a fairly good local knowledge of the coast I decided to beach her. In fact, it was the only thing to be done, so I went full speed ahead and put my helm a port. Simultaneously, I told the purser to muster the passengers on deck and get them ready for the boats, to allow them no baggage. I did not steer any regular course, but was guided by the faint outline of Graham Bluff. I looked at the compass, after I had steadied her, and saw that her head was W. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. I saw the other vessel just after the collision making towards Yokohama. Nothing passed between either of us. As I was making towards the beach the water gained so rapidly that I eased down, fearing that the bulkhead would go from the pressure of the water. I took the ground very easily, going very slow. After grounding, at which time she had 24 feet of water in the forehold, I put engines half-speed ahead for a short time, in order to ensure her not gliding off. I then mustered the crew and passengers; found one fireman missing and three hurt. I had a crew of 56 all told, and 146 Chinese passengers. The cargo was miscellaneous, principally flour, of which there was about 1,500 tons. I then sent the second officer to Yokohama in one of the life-boats; the third officer also went, as near as we could judge, to cruise round the scene of the disaster, in order to see if there was any chance of the missing man being found floating around. His name is spelt on the articles Seang Tai. I sent for a doctor to attend to the injured men. These men had been sleeping in their bunks along the side where the ship was struck and they were cut by the broken plates. The missing man had been sleeping in this place too. The doctor when he examined the injured men said that the only danger was that erysipelas might set in. I have some photographs of my own vessel and of the *Hokumon*, taken after the collision, they show the damage we received to our bows. I can identify the *Hokumon* from the photograph. I have seen the damages which she sustained and they are as the photograph depicts. The photographs were taken by an amateur and I obtained them from him.

The photographs were put in and marked. A and B were marked as photograph of the *Zambesi*, showing the damage sustained by her, C and D were photographs of the *Hokumon*, showing the damage sustained by her.

Mr. Lowder—Supposing you had put your engines full speed astern, instead of stopping them, when you saw the green light, what effect would it have had upon you?—It would have had the same effect as porting my helm. She would have paid off and I should have been struck further aft and should have gone down.

Supposing that the other vessel had held her course, at what distance would you have passed her?—About three of my own lengths.

What is your length?—333.6 feet.

What sort of a night was it?—Moonlight. I could see Sagami light over 12 miles away. It was a little cloudy. The moon was about two or three days after the full.

Were your lights trimmed?—They were burning brightly; they were fresh trimmed before leaving port.

To the Court—They are reported every half hour, and I had received one report at twelve o'clock, viz., "Lights burning brightly." I could see them from the bridge. When I ordered them to be taken in, after going or shore, I looked at them and noticed that they were burning brightly then.

To Lieutenant Sadler—I did not alter my course at all after sighting the light.

At what speed were you going?—About One

knots. There might have been a $\frac{1}{2}$ knot current with her, as it was ebb tide.

The President—Was there any other vessel near you at the time of the collision beside this one?—I saw no other.

What was the exact time of the collision?—Twelve fifteen. My knowledge of the time is taken from the engineer's log-book. The third officer when he came back three hours after I had dispatched him reported that he had seen no one.

To Lieut. Sadler—Sagami light should be Kanonsaki light. I made a mistake; I could not see Sagami light at that point. The true course would have been S. 11° E. had there not been 2 degrees of error.

Ernest Herbert Lawrance, sworn, said—I am second officer on board the *Zambesi*. I hold a master's certificate of competency—Board of Trade, issued at London—No 015924. I was on the bridge with the captain at the time of the collision. I relieved the third officer on the bridge at 12 o'clock. He reported a light ahead; it was Kanonsaki light. We were steering S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. true, 2 degrees of Easterly error, that made the course by the standard compass on the bridge S. 11° E. Shortly after 12 o'clock—about seven or eight minutes past midnight—I sighted another bright light ahead. On taking the glasses I discovered a red light right beneath it. It was on our port bow. We kept on, steering a steady course, gradually approaching, and after about six or seven minutes, when the vessel was about four lengths off our port bow, he suddenly starboarded his helm, showing all three lights. The Captain at once remarked, "What on earth is that fellow doing," jumped to the telegraph and stopped the engines and blew one prolonged blast with the whistle. Before we had time to do anything else the other vessel came crashing into us on the port bow. I received orders from the Captain then to get the life saving apparatus and the boats ready. The chief officer then went up on the bridge—he had turned out without being called, having been awakened by the shock. I got the boats swung out with the assistance of the third officer and crew, and got them lowered level with the rail. After I left the bridge I could see the ship heading for the shore, this was while I was getting the boats out. As soon as the vessel was grounded I was sent away up to Yokohama in a boat to get assistance. I called at the office, secured assistance, and returned to the ship.

To Lieut. Sadler—The course was S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. true, with 2 degrees of error.

To the President—You are sure you are correct that it was S. 11° E. by the standard compass on the bridge?—Yes, quite sure.

Captain Edwards, recalled,

Lieut. Sadler—Are you quite sure about the course, whether it was S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. or S. 11° E.?—When I shaped the course it was S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. or S. 11° E. by the bridge compass. It is really a straight course, but we keep off a point or so, so as to clear Saratoga spit.

Hardy A. Thompson, sworn, said—I was on duty as chief engineer of the *Zambesi* on the night of the collision. It took place at 12.15 a.m. by the engine-room clock.

To the Court—The third engineer stopped the engines, but I can't say whether they were stopped before the collision occurred. It seemed to me, as I was coming along the deck, that the engines stopped just as the other ship struck us. Both things happened together.

John King, sworn, said—I am third engineer of the *Zambesi*. I was on duty in the engine-room at the time of the collision. The exact time of the collision by the engine-room clock was almost 12.16 a.m. The engines were stopped ten or fifteen seconds before the collision.

Mr. Lowder said he had no other witnesses to produce. He had the chief officer in Court, but as he was not on deck at the time of the collision he did not propose to put him on the stand.

The Court adjourned at twelve o'clock for tiffin, and upon resuming,

Oka Kinjiro, master of the *Hokumon Maru* went into the box. He was cautioned and then deposed—I was in command of the *Hokumon Maru* on the night of the 8th-to-9th of December. She was from Nemuro bound to Yokohama. I know Kanonsaki light. I passed it at fourteen minutes past eleven o'clock that night. It was on my left side—port hand—at a distance of one mile. I was in command of the deck, standing at the port side of the bridge. It was not my watch at the time, but I was on the deck as I was in narrow waters. Passing Kanonsaki light my course was N.W. by N. 23 degrees westerly deviation by compass.

Lieut. Sadler—Was that your course to take you up to the Honmoku Light-vessel?—I steered for a point two cables distant of a red buoy light. I think it was a light placed there at the beginning of the year.

To the Court—A very heavy fog came on after that, and as I could not see very clearly I put the ship at half speed.

Lieut. Sadler—What was the course after passing the buoy?—I passed that buoy at two cables distant, and kept the same course until twelve o'clock.

To the Court—I was going at seven knots an hour at first, but when I went at half speed this was reduced to 3½ knots.

Lieut. Sadler—What lights did you see at twelve o'clock?—At twelve o'clock I saw the Kanonsaki light astern. At that time the weather was very variable—clearing and clouding. It was raining and clearing and foggy at times.

The President—What lights did you see ahead of you at twelve o'clock?—I did not see any.

Lieut. Sadler—What lights did you see ahead after twelve o'clock?—I saw lights ahead, first about a quarter past twelve; they were a white and a green light, and were about a point and a half on the starboard side. I did not see the lights until that time, as the fog only then lifted.

The President—Were you still steering that same course then?—I changed the course at midnight, before I saw the light, a point and a quarter W. of North. To the Court—Up to that point I had been going as before, now I changed it to N. by W. ¼ W. I did not change that course again between 12 and 12.15. At a quarter-past twelve I saw the white and the green lights one point and a quarter on the starboard bow. I was of opinion at that time that there would be no danger if I kept on my course, but as it was night and I suddenly saw those lights at intervals between fogs, I thought it better to exercise extra care, so I turned the bow of my ship one point to the left—I ported. I went on that course for some time. I thought that as I had changed my course one point in shore I was safe, but I saw these white and green lights coming in my direction as if the ship would strike me amidships. I was thinking what could be the meaning of this near approach when I suddenly saw the red and green lights of the other ship. As I was wondering what to do, I blew two blasts of my steam whistle to let them know that I was going to the left—I had no room to go to the right. I judged from the way the ship was bearing down upon me that I should be struck a little forward of amidships. At the time I blew the whistle I gave the order to the quartermaster to "hard-a-starboard," and the second mate, who was on the bridge with me, signalled to the engine-room, "stop," then "full-speed astern," at my direction. The other ship seemed at that time to be nearly stopped or going but slowly ahead. The ship struck me obliquely on the starboard side and passed on. When I gave the order to go astern, I blew three blasts of my whistle to let them know what I was doing. I think I had stopped at the time. This was at 12.20 a.m. After the other ship had struck me I sang out, saying that I was the *Hokumaru Maru* and asked for the name of the other ship. No reply came, but the other ship went off to my right. My ship's head was N.W. by W., that is, two or three points towards the N., but I could not tell positively.

To Lieut. Sadler—The starboard bow of my ship was smashed; the bow was twisted from starboard to port. The stem was broken and turned to port; it was broken and stuck to the side of the ship. I can't say to what extent, but I think it was damaged wording for 16 feet below the water.

The President at this point said that witness's statement had better be read over as some corrections were necessary he thought. The statement was accordingly read out. Some additions were made and the wording amended to the foregoing. At one point witness was about to refer to a paper in his hand, which he said was his private note of his courses, when the President asked him if he objected to producing the document for the benefit of the Court.

Witness said he had an objection to do so, as the paper was only for his private use.

Mr. Lowder—I demand the production of that document.

The President—You have no right to demand that, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I have no right to appear here?

The President—I did not say that. This is a matter for the Court alone to decide. There is only one party represented here, this is a one-sided case, and witness does not appear here as your witness.

Mr. Lowder—I submit, as a matter of law, that I have a right to demand from witness the production of that document for the benefit of the Court.

The President—I think you are not aware that the witness appears here through permission of the Department of Marine to submit such evidence to it as he was able to give is. He was not summoned by the Court to appear here; the Court had no power to do that.

Mr. Lowder submitted that as witness appeared in that Court to give evidence, he appeared as an ordinary witness before the Court, and as such should be treated in accordance with the rules of evidence prevailing in British Courts of Law.

The President—I don't think the Court has any power to compel him to produce any such document.

Mr. Lowder—I shall be content with your ruling, sir. I submit that I was quite within my rights to make the demand.

The President—If we can compel witness to produce the document then you can demand him to produce it, but as we cannot compel him to do so then you have no right to demand such a thing.

Mr. Lowder—By the rules you can compel him to produce it.

The President—What rules?

Mr. Lowder—The rules of the British Courts of Law appertaining to and in regard to evidence. That was my point.

The President—The Court cannot compel witness in this manner.

Mr. Lowder—If witness was within the jurisdiction of this Court then he would be amenable to the rules prevailing in this Court, but if witness in not within the jurisdiction of the Court then I am quite within my rights if I should ask the Court to strike out at my request the evidence which he has given. But, as I said just now, I submit to the ruling of the Court.

The President—Does witness object to produce the document.

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Might I ask if the entries were made at the time of the collision or at a later date?

The President—I don't think that it matters. He has not made any reference to the paper yet. He has not used it before.

Mr. Lowder—I thought he was refreshing his mind from it during the whole of his statement.

The President—Oh, no, he was not. He was only first attempting to do so when you noticed it in his hand.

Mr. Kenny said that he had interpreted the whole statement to the witness and it was correct, word for word.

Mr. Lowder—Has the witness a certificate?—Yes, it is on my ship.

Before the collision could you see the *Honmoku* lightship?—I could not see it.

How far could you see the Kanonsaki light on that night?—I could see it off and on that night; sometimes I could not see it on account of rain and fog.

Do you keep an official log?—I keep a diary of navigation, an ordinary log. I only keep the one sailing log.

Where is this log-book kept?—The chief mate has charge of this log. He is responsible for it.

When is it written up?—From time to time.

Are you willing to produce your log to this Court?—I can't say of my own motion whether I can produce it or not to this Court.

The President—Does he want to obtain the permission of any authority?

Mr. Lowder—Whom does he want to consult?—This log is a book which I am not able to produce without first asking the permission of the Marine Department.

If the Marine Department gives you permission have you any objection to producing the log?—I have no objection myself to produce it.

The President—Is it in possession of the Marine Department?—It is on board my ship.

Mr. Lowder—Was there any moon that night?—There was a moon that night, but it was not clearly visible owing to the fog and rain.

Would the fact of it having been rainy or foggy that night, prior to the collision, appear in your log?—Yes, I have a record of all these things in my log. Rain or fog or collision, any of these things have to be entered in that book.

Now the master of the vessel with which you collided says that it was a bright, moonlight night without any mist or fog, do you deny that?—There was of course a moon, I suppose, but I could not see it on account of fogs. What the master of the *Zambesi* said does not concern me, as I only speak of what I saw.

Are fogs very frequent in December?—In Tokyo Bay they are independent of seasons.

Are they frequent in December?—I can't say positively that they do appear frequently.

Did you hear the whistle blown from the other ship?—No.

When you saw the other vessel on which side was she?—On the right—the green and the white lights were both on the right.

Did you see any other light before you saw the white and the green light belonging to the *Zambesi*?—No, I did not.

Were you not steering for a light?—No, I was not.

I thought you said that you was steering for the light on *Saratoga* spit?—I came up with that light before twelve o'clock. I passed it two cables off.

In order to make what light?—I intended to go on my course till 12 o'clock, then take bearings by the patent log to ascertain the position of the ship.

What was the next light you expected to see?—I think that was what my question was?—If it had been clear I could, upon that course, have seen the Yokohama lightships.

If it had been clear could you not have seen that light from the place where you collided?—If it had been clear I might have been able to have seen it.

How far could you see that night?—I cannot say how far I could have seen on that night because in that kind of weather near objects often look far away and distant objects look near. The fogs destroy the sense of distance.

Why did you change your course at twelve o'clock that night?—I changed it to make Yokohama.

Did you see anything at twelve o'clock to induce you to change your course, or did you know exactly where you were?—I knew my position, and I knew by altering my course then that I should make Yokohama.

Mr. Lowder asked if the Court intended taking any more witnesses that afternoon, as he had still several questions to ask and he was afraid he should not finish that day.

The President—We do not intend taking any further witnesses to-day. Might I ask on what grounds your questions will be based? Is it upon the credibility of the witness?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, it is.

The President—Will a quarter of an hour suffice? Mr. Lowder—I think not.

The President—There are still some five more Japanese witnesses to examine, if they all take as long as this one—

Mr. Lowder—Oh, he is, I think, the most important. I should not like my cross-examination to be curtailed.

The President—The Court cannot rule how far your cross-examination should go, or go so far as say that your questions are unnecessary upon certain points. I think, under the circumstances, the Court will now adjourn till half-past nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Court then rose.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."] London, December 24th.

There is growing consternation in Paris at the attitude of the socialists and dynamiters. A Bonapartist meeting has been held, and an envoy has been sent to Brussels to see Prince Victor about drafting a manifesto.

London, December 25th.

A resolution, prompted by Mr. Cleveland, will be introduced to Congress to empower the President to suspend purchases of silver whenever it is considered that circumstances might require that course.

London, December 26th.

Mr. Davitt, who was returned in the last election for the North Division of County Meath, has been unseated on petition through proof of undue clerical influence.

A dynamite outrage, committed outside Morley's offices in Dublin, has resulted in the killing of a detective and in inflicting great damage in the neighbourhood.

London, December 28th.

In consequence of the explosion in Dublin, the police detailed to the duty of guarding the public buildings in London have been greatly augmented in numbers.

An attempt will be made to involve President Carnot in the Panama Canal scandal.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."] Kobe, December 29th.

Charles Edward Miller, put upon his trial to-day on a charge of larceny at the United States Court, was found guilty and sentenced to four years' imprisonment.

Nagasaki, December 30th.

Pilot Kichido, of the *Ravenna*, has been committed for trial by the Saibansho at this port on a charge of homicide. The officers of the *Ravenna* have been subpoenaed to appear at the trial.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at the Club Rooms, No. 86, Main Street.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 49.

WHITE. 1—R to K B 3
2—Q, Kt, B, or R mates accordingly.

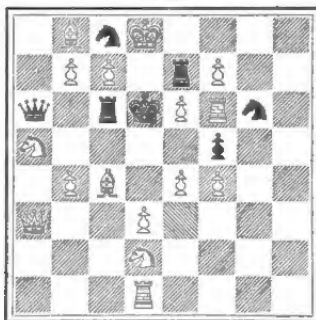
Solutions of this problem will be acknowledged next week.

Omicron is credited with correct solution of No. 48.

PROBLEM NO. 51.

By J. C. J. WAINWRIGHT.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

The problem in this issue forms the last in the competition for the prize offered at the beginning of the present year. The full score will be published at an early date.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 3 (BY A. ANDERSEN) IN PRESIDENT'S PROMOTION COMPETITION.

White. 1—R to K sq. 2—P to K 4. 3—R mates at Q sq.

Correct solutions received from Shogi, W.H.S., O. Balk, Ed. Batavus, and H. L. Fardel.

What the solvers say:—"An instructive position;" "a very neat problem;" "very simple;" "not difficult;" "obvious."

G.S.—If Black plays P to B 4 in reply to B x Kt, there is no mate.

The festive season has apparently interfered with the usual attendance at the Yokohama Chess Club and but few players have frequented the Club Rooms. New Year and its customary visiting is also a disturbing time but doubtless Chess activity will revive ere long.

The veteran master Bird (doyen we believe of the English Chess players) continues his vigorous play. He has recently been engaged in a contest at Newcastle from which we give an example of the Queen's Fianchetto. The next home journals should give us news of Herr Lasker and of his reappearance in Europe.

Game played in a match between Messrs. Heywood and Bird.

QUEEN'S FIANCHETTO DEFENCE.

White (Mr. H.) 1—P to K 4th 2—P to Q 4th 3—B to Q 3rd 4—B to K 3rd 5—P to Q B 3rd 6—Kt to B 2nd 7—Castles 8—Kt to Q 2nd 9—Kt to K B 3rd 10—P to Q 4th

This seems a little premature, as his game is hardly developed enough. Q to Q 3rd and is a more attractive move.

11—P to Q 3rd 12—P to Q Kt 4th Without the greatest care this will also tend to weaken the Queen's side.

13—Q to B 2nd 14—B takes B 15—Q to Q 2nd

Well played! For if he takes the P the Kt comes in with effect, and if P to K 5th, then Kt to K B 4th, etc.

16—P takes P 17—P to R 5th 18—P takes P

Here we think P to R 6th gave White the better position, for in answer to B to B sq.; Kt to K 5th threatening at once Q B P and Kt to K B 4th, or B takes Kt P according to Black's play.

19—R takes R (ch.) 20—Kt to B 4th 21—R to K sq.

Kt takes Kt at once shutting the B out of play, was surely more correct.

22—Q P takes P 23—P to Kt 5th 24—Kt takes Kt 25—Q to K B 4th 26—Q to K 3rd 27—B to K 4th 28—Q takes B 29—R to R sq. 30—Q to B 2nd 31—Kt to Q 2nd

This wins his best Pawn. White has not played the ending so well as the early stages of the game, and the older master now outplays him and scores in good style.

32—Kt to B sq. 33—P to Q B 4th 34—Kt to K 3rd 35—R to R 7th 36—Q to Q sq. 37—R to Q 7th 38—R takes Q 39—R to Q 5th 40—K to R 2nd 41—R to Q 7th (ch.) 42—Kt to Q 5th (ch.) 43—R to K Kt 7th 44—R takes P 45—P to Kt 3rd 46—R takes P 47—Kt to Kt 6th 48—R to Kt 5th (ch.) 49—R to Q 5th (ch.)

White Resigns.

16—Kt takes P 17—K to B sq.

18—P takes P 19—B takes R 20—K to Kt 2nd

21—P to Q B 4th 22—P takes P 23—R to Q sq. 24—B takes Kt 25—P to B 3rd 26—Kt to B 2nd 27—B takes B 28—P to K 4th 29—P to B 4th 30—P to K 5th 31—Q to Q 2nd

32—Q takes P 33—Q to K sq. 34—Q to K 4th 35—R to Q Kt sq. 36—Q to Q 5th 37—Q takes Q (ch.) 38—Kt to K 4th 39—R to Kt 8th (ch.) 40—Kt to Q 6th 41—K to B 3rd 42—K to K 4th 43—Kt takes P 44—P to R 5th 45—P takes P (ch.) 46—R to Q B 8th 47—P to B 5th 48—K to Q 5th 49—K to K 6th

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. V. K.	Friday, Jan. 6th.
From America... per O. & O. Co.		Saturday, Dec. 31st.*
From America... per P. M. Co.		Monday, Jan. 9th.†
From Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Sunday, Jan. 1st.‡
From Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Thursday, Jan. 5th.§
From Europe via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 8th.
From Hongkong... per P. M. Co.		Sunday, Jan. 8th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Monday, Jan. 23rd.

* Belgia left San Francisco on December 18th. † Peru left San Francisco on December 18th. ‡ Empress of Japan left Hongkong on December 28th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 1st.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki.....	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, Jan. 3rd.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. M. Co.		Friday, Jan. 6th.
For Hongkong... per P. & O. Co.		Saturday, Jan. 7th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Jan. 10th.
For Victoria and Tacoma.....	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 12th.
For America... per P. M. Co.		Thursday, Jan. 10th.
For Hongkong... per C. P. M. Co.		Tuesday, Jan. 24th.
For America... per O. & O. Co.		Saturday, Jan. 28th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Tippet, 24th December,—Kobe 23rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 25th December,—Marseilles 25th November, Hongkong 17th December, Shanghai 20th, and Kobe 24th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Harewood, British steamer, 1,665, R. Neverson, 25th December,—Batoum, 86,739 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 25th December,—Otaru via ports 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 25th December,—Kobe 24th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,600, W. G. Paerne, 26th December,—Hongkong 21st December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th December,—Vancouver, B.C., 13th December, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 26th December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 26th December,—Shanghai and ports 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 26th December,—Fushiki via Hakodate 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Prometheus, British steamer, 1,492, Webster, 27th December,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Matsushima Kan (20), Japanese cruiser, Captain M. Enelo, 27th December,—Tateyama.
Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 28th December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 28th December,—Otaru via ports 23rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 29th December,—Hongkong 23rd December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 642, Murray, 29th December,—Shanghai via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 29th December,—Mojji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Bunkoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 29th December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tippet, 29th December,—Kobe 28th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 29th December,—Kobe 28th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Zabiaka (4), Russian gunboat, Captain de Livron, 29th December,—Kobe.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,210, Barstow, 30th December,—Shimonoseki 27th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Lok Sang, British steamer, 963, N. Moncur, 30th December,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 24th December,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 24th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 25th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Malwa, British steamer, C. F. Preston, 25th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, S. Tsuga, 25th December,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 25th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, R. Tippet, 25th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 25th December,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, F. Brown, 26th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th December,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.
Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 28th December,—Nagasaki, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 28th December,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 28th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Aurora, British schooner, 41, P. Touissant, 29th December,—Sealing Cruise, Gear.—W. E. Pine.
Gaelic, British steamer, 2,600, W. G. Paerne, 29th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 29th December,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.
Prometheus, British steamer, 1,492, Webster, 30th December,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—2 passengers in cabin; 15 passengers in steerage.
Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. P. Benoist, Mrs. Brand and servant, Mr. Berdoulet, Mrs. Nozema Roto San, Mr. Philippe, and Mr. Doering in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mrs. Kinpo and Mr. Yokoyama in

cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 29 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Campbell and Mrs. Sog Tsi Ching and servant in cabin; 5 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Commander J. E. Goodrich, R.N., Mrs. S. Martini, Mrs. E. Remington, Messrs. G. M. Wynter, S. M. Brumagim, J. M. Twiddy, H. Hancock, and W. C. Duncan in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. A. M. A. Evans, Mr. H. Baggally, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Bowman, Mr. J. Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Dare and children, Mr. Douglas Dick, Mr. Daniel, Mr. W. Harper, Mr. R. Hosking, Mr. Innes, Mr. M. Inaba, Miss Killenby, Mr. W. L. Matthews, Mr. J. J. McGrath, Miss Robinson, Capt. Ross, Mrs. E. H. Sharpe, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Sydney and child, Mr. E. P. Thomson, Mr. C. R. Whitehead, Mrs. Whitehead and daughter, and Mr. C. D. Velie, in cabin; Miss Burford, Rev. G. F. and Mrs. Knickerbocker and child, Miss Rice, Miss Stayner, Mr. G. Yoshimura, Mr. Y. Woyeno, and Mr. G. Nagai, in second class, and 346 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. H. G. Colby, Mr. C. E. Tallman, Mr. E. B. Holmes, and Mr. S. Shibuya, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Hayashi, Mrs. S. Shibuya, Mr. A. Pearin, Mr. T. Horiuchi, and Mr. Kajimoto in second class, and 50 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. H. G. Colby, Mr. C. Churchill, and Mr. R. S. Myrick in cabin.

Per British steamer *Prometheus*, from Shanghai:—Mr. Crook and Mr. McKee in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. K. Hori in cabin; Messrs. Hirano, Fujii, and Tadatani in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nuernberg*, from Hongkong:—Lientenant Asakawa and Mr. Leonard in cabin; 7 Chinese in steerage. For Kobe: Mr. and Mrs. Eckstrand and Mrs. Mary Runger in cabin; 7 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—3 passengers in cabin; 14 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Kobe:—18 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Malwa*, for Hongkong via ports:—Right-Rev. Bishop Bickersteth, Rev. D. A. Murray, Messrs. O. N. Benton, H. G. Treadway, and R. Kirby in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Fearon and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Takei and child, Lieut. Kobayashi, Lieut. N. Minami, Lieut. H. Fukuda, Mr. M. Hashimoto, Mr. Scherer, Lieut. Sakamoto, Lieut. F. Arai, Lieut. N. Tanabe, and Mr. S. Konoji in cabin; 29 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Colgate Baker, Jun., Paymaster and Mrs. H. G. Colby, U.S.N., Mr. Frank Leyburn, Mr. and Mrs. M. Meier, Mr. R. S. Meyers, Brigade-Surgeon and Mrs. W. Miller, Mr. H. O. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Simon, 2 children, and nurse, and Mr. L. K. G. Smith in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Malwa*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 997 bales; Waste Silk, 286 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$32,550.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$142,000.00.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	TRA.				TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER.	
Shanghai	—	356	—	—	356
Yokohama	1,549	—	825	—	2,374
Hongkong	221	—	—	—	221
Total	1,770	—	1,181	—	2,951

	SILK.				TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER.	
Shanghai	—	280	—	—	280
Hongkong	—	266	—	—	266
Yokohama	—	978	—	—	978
Total	—	1,524	—	—	1,524

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain F. Brown, reports:—Left Otaru the 20th December; had light easterly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 21st at 10 a.m. and left the 23rd at 8 a.m.; had fresh N.W. winds and snow squalls. Arrived at Oginohama the 24th at 7.30 a.m. and left at 12.30 p.m.; had moderate N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th December at 1 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th December at noon; had fine but cloudy weather and

moderate breeze till 4 a.m. on the 25th; thence had strong N.N.W. winds to Rock Island; thence to port had moderate northerly breeze with fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th December at 6.15 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 21st December at 6.47 p.m.; had light N.E. winds and fine weather to Yokohama; thence to port strong to moderate N.E. wind and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th December at 6.21 a.m. Passage, 4 days, 21 hours, and 52 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Fushiki the 20th December; had strong N.W. winds and increasing with high N.W. sea; at 8 p.m. blowing a fresh gale with heavy snow squalls and increasing sea; at midnight decided to put into Yebisu Bay for shelter, which arrived at 0.40 on the 21st, blowing hard throughout the day; at 6.30 a.m. on the 23rd left Yebisu Bay had strong S.W. winds and increasing with very heavy sea running; at 8 p.m. blowing a whole gale with terrific squalls from N.W. and high dangerous sea; ship rolling and labouring heavily, shipping large quantities of water overboard; at 10.30 a.m. on the 23rd arrived at Hakodate, heavy snow squalls throughout the forenoon; at 6.20 a.m. on the 24th left Hakodate, had moderate variable winds and fine weather toward Kinkasan, which was passed at 7.30 a.m. on the 25th; thence to Imboye, strong N.W. winds and fine weather with very heavy N.E. swell, which was passed at 1 a.m. on the 26th; thence to port moderate N.W. winds and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th at 1.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 20th December at 11.20 p.m.; anchored inside Woosung Bar on account of low tide; left again next day and crossed Woosung Bar at 1.40 p.m. with 16 ft. 5 in. of water on Bar, for Nagasaki, and arriving there the 23rd at 1.45 a.m.; experiencing on the passage light southerly winds with fine, clear weather; left there again for Shimonoseki the same day at 5 p.m. and arriving there at 7 a.m. on the 24th; coaled ship and left again for Kobe the same day at 11 a.m. and arrived at Kobe the 25th at 6.50 a.m. and leaving there for Yokohama the same day at 6.30 p.m. arrived here the 26th at 9.15 p.m.; experiencing light winds from N.E. to N.W. with fine, clear weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Prometheus*, Captain Webster, reports:—Left Shanghai the 23rd December; experienced fine weather and moderate to fresh N.N.W. breezes to noon on the 25th; thence light variable winds with overcast sky and rain to 11 p.m. on the 26th; thence to port moderate N.E. winds and fine weather.

The German steamer *Nuernberg*, Captain B. Blauke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 23rd December at 6.40 p.m.; had fine weather, moderate N.E. and N. winds and sea; in Van Dieman Straits, changeable winds, smooth sea, passing hail showers, and thunderstorms; from Siwo Point fresh N.W. to W. winds and rough sea, cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th December at 6.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 28th December at noon; had strong north-easterly winds and heavy sea to Oshima; thence light breeze and smooth sea and fine weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th December at 10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Barstow, reports:—Left Shimonoseki the 27th December at 5 p.m.; passing Oshima the 28th at 11.13 p.m., strong breeze and heavy sea; at 8 a.m. on the 29th, experienced fresh gale with heavy sea and hard N.W. winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th December at 2.18 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Owing to the approaching holidays business has been almost at a standstill. Some native dealers have made extra efforts and have taken delivery of goods, thus closing up existing contracts, while others have bought sparingly but at full quotations. Little business is looked for during the next ten days, until the Japanese get thoroughly over the festive season.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.75 to 2.35
Grey Shirts—9 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 45 inches	2.00 to 2.90
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Indigo Shirts—12 yds, 41 inches	1.35 to 1.80
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.12 to 0.16
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 42 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.62 1/2 to 0.77 1/2
Taffetas—12 yds, 43 inches	—

Turkey Reds—1.15 to 2 1/2 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.4 to 2.8 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.25 to 1.32 1/2
Turkey Reds—2.12 to 3 1/2 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.42 1/2 to 1.52 1/2
Turkey Reds—3.4 to 3.8 yds, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.62 1/2 to 1.67 1/2
Turkey Reds—4 to 4.8 yds, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.80
	1.97 1/2 to 2.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.27 1/2 to 30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.24 to 26 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.17 1/2 to 23
Mousseline de Laine—Capes, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.11 1/2 to 0.19
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.10 to 0.45
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.47 1/2 to 0.57 1/2
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 1/2 yds, 44 inches	0.35 to 0.49

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
No. 16/24, Ordinary	\$27.00 to 29.00
No. 16/24, Medium	29.00 to 31.00
No. 16/24, Good to Best	31.00 to 31.50
No. 16/24, Reverse	29.50 to 30.50
No. 28/32, Ordinary	30.00 to 32.50
No. 28/32, Medium	32.00 to 35.50
No. 28/32, Good to Best	34.00 to 34.50
No. 38/42, Medium to Best	16.00 to 17.50
No. 38, Two-fold	14.00 to 15.00
No. 38, Two-fold	18.00 to 40.00
No. 208, Bombay	75.00 to 85.00
No. 168, Bombay	70.00 to 76.00
No. 10/14, Bombay	60.00 to 70.00

METALS.

Market quiet at quotations, and it is probable that little or nothing will be done till after New Year.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$2.85 to 2.90
Flat Bars, 1 inch	2.95 to 3.00
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.85 to 3.00
Nailrod, assorted	Nom.
Nailrod, small size	Nom.
Iron Plates, assorted	2.95 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.35 to 3.60
Galvanized iron sheets	6.80 to 7.20
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50 to 5.00
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.25 to 1.30

KEROSENE.

The *Harewood* brought some 87,000 cases Russian oil, of which about 25,000 are for Kobe. We hear that the stock of oil in Kobe has run unusually low, and very high prices have been realized there.

QUOTATIONS.

Chenier	\$1.75 to 1.77 1/2
Comet	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Devos	1.67 1/2 to 1.70
Russian Anchor	1.72 1/2 to 1.75
Russian Moon	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

SUGAR.

Market very quiet, dealers appearing to have enough stock to carry them over the New Year.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	\$4.40 to 4.45
Brown Daitong	3.90 to 3.95
Brown Canton	3.95 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	5.80 to 5.90
White Refined	5.65 to 7.90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated 23rd instant. Since then settlements on this market amount to 1,029 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 20 piculs; *Filatures*, 486 piculs; *Re-reels*, 435 piculs; *Kakeda*, 88 piculs. In addition to these figures direct shipments have been 161 bales, making the total business for export equal to 1,200 piculs.

The market remains active, but with less doing than during the previous week. There are many enquiries in hand for grades of silk which cannot be found, and our stock stands at 9,500 piculs less than it did on this day last year. Available supplies to date are also 4,350 piculs less, and the result is that holders of good silk are very strong; fully believing in their position, and that their silks will be worth good money after the turn of the year.

Buying has continued for both continents, and mail steamers bound east and west have good cargoes.

Prices for the higher grades have still further advanced, choice parcels and desirable assortments being at a decided premium.

Exchange has been steady, hardening a little at the close, and it seems as though we had touched bottom for the present.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English and American mails of 24th and 29th instant. The former, steamer *Malwa*, carried 997 bales for Europe,

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19.

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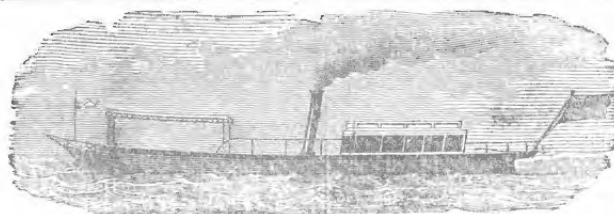
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